

# Preface

This edited volume has been produced in conjunction with the 2015 Computers in Urban Planning and Urban Management (CUPUM) Conference, held in Boston, Massachusetts, on 7–10 July 2015. For more than 20 years, CUPUM has been one of the premier international conferences for the exchange of ideas on the use of computer technologies to address a range of economic, social and environmental problems. As interest and adoption of these technologies have been spread worldwide, so has the conference, and CUPUM 2015 in Boston marks the largest gathering yet.

We have chosen the title ‘Planning Support Systems and Smart Cities’ for this book with the intention of covering research and practice in two fields. Planning Support Systems is a relatively well-established sub-discipline, whilst Smart Cities is a new area of research where interest has burgeoned in recent years. Although many of the chapters involve research areas of long-standing interest to the CUPUM scholarly community, such as spatial analysis, urban modelling, simulation, public participation GIS, visualisation, and the quantitative analysis of urban phenomena such as demographic migration and energy consumption, a few contributions take up the challenge of linking the two fields.

The call for submissions for this book received an enthusiastic response, producing 84 abstracts of potential chapters for inclusion. After an extensive screening process, we invited 46 out of these 84 potential contributions to submit a full chapter for the book. The full chapters that we received were submitted to a further double-blind review, in which we, as editors, gratefully received help from the CUPUM Board of Directors and Advisors in the process of review and assessment. This process resulted in an invitation to the authors of 25 chapters for inclusion in the book.

We would like to thank the CUPUM Board members and advisors for their efforts in helping us to review the initial set of abstracts and the draft chapters that were submitted, and Lisanne de Wijs who provided able administrative support.

The book would not be possible without the contributors who have chosen to share their research here, and through their efforts helped us meet the tight deadlines required to bring this volume to fruition in advance of the conference.

Utrecht, The Netherlands  
Boston, USA  
Ann Arbor, USA  
Leeds, UK  
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Stan Geertman  
Joseph Ferreira, Jr.  
Robert Goodspeed  
John Stillwell

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Geertman, S.; Ferreira, Jr., J.; Goodspeed, R.; Stillwell, J.  
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