

Preface

The international CUPUM (Computers in Urban Planning and Urban Management) conference has been one of the premier international conferences for the exchange of ideas about and applications of computer technologies used to address a range of social and environmental problems relating to urban areas. The first conference took place in 1989 in Hong Kong and since then, this bi-annual conference has been hosted in every continent of the world, although still with the sole exception of Africa (Table 1). In 2017, delegates gathered for the fifteenth time at the University of South Australia in the city of Adelaide (Australia).

Table 1 Past CUPUM conferences

Number	Year	Place	Country
I	1989	Hong Kong	Hong Kong
II	1991	Oxford	United Kingdom
III	1993	Atlanta	USA
IV	1995	Melbourne	Australia
V	1997	Mumbai	India
VI	1999	Venice	Italy
VII	2001	Honolulu	USA
VIII	2003	Sendai	Japan
IX	2005	London	United Kingdom
X	2007	Iguazu Falls	Brazil
XI	2009	Hong Kong	China
XII	2011	Lake Louise (Calgary/Banff)	Canada
XIII	2013	Utrecht	The Netherlands
XIV	2015	Boston	USA
XV	2017	Adelaide	Australia

The CUPUM Board (Table 2) has promoted the publication of a book with a collection of the scientific papers that were submitted to the conference. The papers went through a competitive review process that resulted in the selection of what the reviewers deemed the best CUPUM papers of 2017. All these papers fit the main overarching theme of this CUPUM conference (Planning Support Systems for Resilient and Smart Urban Futures) and the slightly more specific theme of this year's CUPUM book: *Planning Support Science for Smarter Urban Futures*, published by Springer. Therein, we acknowledge that the field of Planning Support Systems (PSSystems) has broadened from a focus initially on systems to one on the science underpinning the systems: Planning Support Science (PSScience). Moreover, the contents of the book reflect the growing worldwide interest in 'smart city' developments in general and in 'smarter urban futures' in particular.

Table 2 Board of Directors of CUPUM

Name	Institute	E-mail
Andrew Allan	University of South Australia	Andrew.Allan@unisa.edu.au
Joseph Ferreira	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	jf@mit.edu
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Organizing the programme of an international conference and editing a volume of scientific papers requires dedication, time, effort and support. First of all, as book editors, we would like to thank the authors for their contributions. Initially, 70 abstract proposals were submitted as potential book chapters and we finally ended up with 26 high-quality contributions.

Second, we would like to thank the reviewers for their dedication in fulfilling the difficult task of assessing the submissions and recommending the best papers for inclusion in this book. The double-blind review process was not an easy task, for sure; it is always difficult when a large number of potential authors are going to be disappointed. The group of reviewers who assisted us in this selection process and provided the selected authors with valuable comments on their drafts were the members of the Board of Directors of CUPUM and the Advisors to the CUPUM Board (Table 3), complemented with the other members of the Scientific Committee (Robert Goodspeed, Lin Meng, Sekhar Somenahalli, Sada Karuppannan, and Qingming Zhan). By fulfilling the review process double-blind and demanding at least two reviews per submission, we believe that the review process has been conducted in a fair and equal way.

Table 3 Advisors to the CUPUM Board

Name	Institute	E-mail
Michael Batty	University College London	m.batty@ucl.ac.uk
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Third, we would like to thank our scientific sponsors (University of South Australia, the Faculty of Art, Architecture and Design) for their contribution in time and resources to this publication. In addition, we would like to thank Springer Publishers for their willingness to publish these contributions in their academic series *Springer Lecture Notes in Geoinformation and Cartography*.

This is the third time that a selection of best papers from the CUPUM conference has been published by Springer. The first time was in 2013, when 26 papers were published in *Planning Support Systems for Sustainable Urban Development* (edited by Stan Geertman, Fred Toppen and John Stillwell), and the second time was in 2015, when 24 papers were published in *‘Planning Support Systems and Smart Cities’* (edited by Stan Geertman, Joe Ferreira, Robert Goodspeed and John Stillwell). We hope more CUPUM books will follow in years to come.

Adelaide, Australia
2017

Stan Geertman
Andrew Allan
Chris Pettit
John Stillwell

Planning Support Science for Smarter Urban Futures

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