

ILEANA APOSTOL, PhD

Urban Researcher, ETH Zurich, Switzerland

PhD in Planning, USC Los Angeles, U.S.A.

Master of Infrastructure Planning, Stuttgart, Germany

Master in Urbanism, Bucharest, Romania

Bachelor in Architecture, Bucharest, Romania

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Selected Projects - Architecture, Urban Design and Planning

WORK SAMPLES:

TEACHING AND SELECTED PROJECTS - ARCHITECTURE, URBAN DESIGN AND PLANNING

1993 - 2013

	Urban Design and Planning Projects
2011 - 2013	Research Project at ETH Zurich, PORTA: Railway Stations as Interface between the Local and the Global
2008 - 2010	Research Project at UPMC Sorbonne Universités, NetHood: Hybrid Neighborhood Communities
2003 - 2007	Research Project at the University of Southern California (PoPS) on the Production of Spaces for Public Life across the Atlantic, in Comparison - PhD Dissertation in Urban Planning
2003	Research Project on Structural Change in the Ruhrgebiet, Germany
2001	Research Project on Urban Sprawl and Sustainable Development in the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area, U.S.A., and the Ruhrgebiet, Germany
1999 - 2000	Planning Consulting with the City of Bucharest, Romania: General Plan
1999	Master's Thesis in Infrastructure Planning at the University of Stuttgart, Germany
1998 - 1999	Planning Consulting with the City of Izmir, Turkey, and the University of Stuttgart: Regional Development Plan for the Greater Izmir
1997	Master's Thesis in Urbanism at the University of Architecture and Urbanism, Bucharest, Romania
1995	Research Project on the Development and Identity Preservation of Constanta, Romania with the Regional Plan Association, U.S.A.
	Architectural and Urban Design Projects
1995	Diploma Project, University of Architecture and Urbanism, Bucharest, Romania
1994	Multifunctional Cultural Centre "Opera Square", Bucharest, Romania
1993	Exchange Student in Architecture: Le Théâtre – Marché Project at Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Architecture de Paris-Belleville, Paris, France
	Teaching Urban Planning and Design
2006 - 2008	Teaching at the College of Environmental Design, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, USA
2003	Teaching an International Planning Workshop at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA
2001 - 2005	Teaching in the Master's in Real Estate Development Program at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA
1995 - 2000	Teaching in the Architecture and Urban Planning Programs at the University of Architecture and Urbanism, Bucharest, Romania

Railways Stations as Interface between the Local and the Global

PORTA Project: 2011-2013

In the PORTA project I propose to study the social dynamics of mobility environments associated with inner-city high-speed rail stations. Previous related studies point at a tension between everyday life rhythms, and the development choices of railway stations. Currently there is a revival of railway development, with the prospective of expanding the high-speed rail (HSR) network due to HSR evolving technologies, and also based on integrated policies for spatial development and environmental protection. The prospect of these changes in Europe raises a set of spatial and governance issues that require contextual examination with respect to the various impacts of these transformations at urban, regional and continental levels. The PORTA project builds an understanding of such transformations, by means of archival and field explorations that focus on the use of urban space, and implicitly spatial quality, in and around inner-city railway stations. Paris (Gare du nord, Gare de l'est, and Gare de Lyon stations), Zurich (Hauptbahnhof station), and Bucharest (Gara de nord station) are the three cities selected for analyses, as nodes of the European rail network being currently at different stages in the development of high-speed rail. Also at more local levels, they present relatively different solutions to the rail transport integration in the everyday life, and such differences are elements of the analysis that advance the research findings. Here I argue for the inclusion of the provision for social life in decision making processes for railway stations development, as a measurable parameter of spatial quality that indicate city's potential success in the global marketplace. Based on my research experience on public space quality within the globalization process, I assess the role of mobility environments as interface between global and local scale. Rather than examining land use and urban morphology, as mostly it is done in the state of the art, I performed field participant observations of the spatial practice. Empirical research is the only way to evaluate the spatial practice, which is revealed in the association of daily reality or the everyday life, and the urban reality from urban discourses and practices. Hence I chose to experiment with the method of rhythm-analyses (Bachelard 1957, Lefebvre 2004, Edensor 2010) that does not focus on "what" but on "how" space is used in its temporal dimensions (e.g, historical rhythms, modern/linear rhythms, natural/cyclical rhythms etc). Among the disadvantages of this method of field participant observation are: a) the necessity to engage researchers capable to use their body as the measuring tool (e.g., a metronome) and integrate their perceptions into the conceptual framework b) its time intensive character, c) the need to perform reiterations of field research, and d) the risk of producing descriptive records rather than explanatory accounts. Out of this original empirical research I structure a theoretical framework that lays out mutual relationships between design and planning processes, and the everyday life rhythms of mobility environments. According to a model for urban life that integrates diversity, civility and conviviality, I identify sustainable ways for future development in the areas at the railway stations.



1 & 2: Transformations of Stations Area, Paris



3: Transformation of Station Area, Zurich



4: Transformation of Station Area, Bucharest

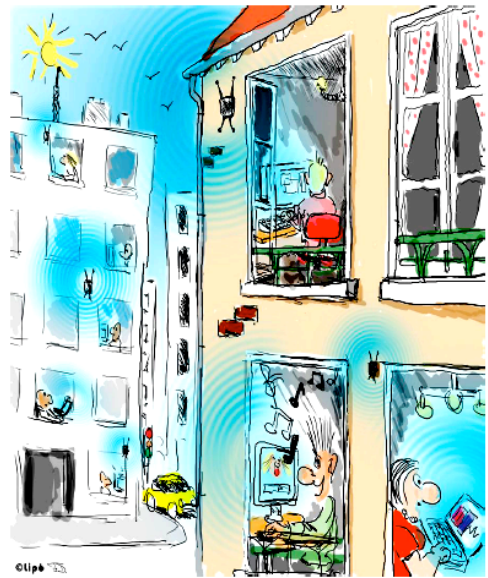


Cyberspace Design: A new Challenge for Planners

NetHood Project: 2008-2010



1: Neighborhood conviviality - dancing



2: Can ICT create convivial neighborhoods?



3: Neighborhood conviviality - barn-raising

This project is an ongoing collaboration between urban planning and computer science, in which we make one step in building a conceptual framework for planning and design practice in the hybrid space of the virtual and the physical. Nowadays cyberspace has become a commonplace environment for social and public life, and its complex uses are entwined with those of the everyday life in the physical environment. Therefore, it is argued, planners must engage in the design of the parallel realities of social and public life in these spaces. We propose to look at them in a rhizome like spatial formation, and in their future design to apply related planning knowledge on places and communities (Apostol, Antoniadis and Banerjee 2012). Based on observations of online activity, the paper illustrates a method to analyze cyberspace's quality by means of Kevin Lynch's taxonomy of images, and of William H. Whyte's method to evaluate spatial uses. Spatial elements are identified through analogies between the virtual and the physical social environments, in order to derive alternatives for future (hybrid) spatial design. Moreover, the rapid advances of information and communication technologies (or ICTs) and the mass online participation have increased the expectations for the long awaited visions of e-participation and e-democracy. However, there are still many challenges that need to be addressed related to privacy, data ownership and control, and various types of digital divides. Perhaps the most fundamental requirement is the need for information exchange between parties that do not necessarily share common interests, or education, and cultural backgrounds (Antoniadis and Apostol 2013). To achieve this ambitious objective, one needs to understand in depth the way ICT affects behavior in the evolving hybrid space of modern cities. The next step is to empower communities with sophisticated tools to help them build trust, accept diversity, and engage in productive deliberations. To provide information about places and communities that may be used in planning processes, we propose a research agenda and guidelines for specific software, for instance, facilitating the practice of flânerie in the physical and virtual space, as a method to produce representative images of contemporary social life. We suggest how planning may be instrumental in shaping a public good alternative in this emerging hybrid social space, where the practice of flânerie can stimulate engagement in deliberative planning practices. Nevertheless, we discuss some of the trade-offs and design choices for eliciting information from citizens about their localities to understand how future development may lead to qualitative changes in community life (Apostol, Antoniadis and Banerjee 2013). An emerging hybrid community may be defined as a dynamic concept of a community with roots in the cyberspace, but with a specific spatial cognate (i.e. spanning the neighborhood) that over time would facilitate the transfer of virtual exchanges into real space due to shared interests and values of its members.

The Production of Public Spaces: Design Dialectics and Pedagogy

PoPS Project: 2003-2007



1 & 2: Third Street Promenade, Santa Monica



3 & 4: CentrO shopping mall in Oberhausen



My doctoral dissertation explores the production of spaces for public life in contemporary western cities. Scholars agree that one of the consequences of modernity is a decrease in public interaction and civic life, while individual isolation becomes the expression of social independence. Yet, in the Information Age, downtown public life becomes the measure of the city's vitality and hence its potential success in the global marketplace. Although there are various initiatives to address this tension through community life revival, for instance those within New Urbanist developments, the failure to transcend bourgeois categories of thought makes this task impossible. In considering this tension within the context of globalisation I propose an institutional approach to urban design that, in contemporary modernity, I regard as a process of spatial production. Moreover, I argue that a fruitful approach to urban studies from a global perspective is comparative analysis of practices in different planning environments. My aim is to assemble a conceptual framework capable to inform the production of convivial public spaces. So in this qualitative research study, in order to compare and contrast the public realm in a relocated city centre (Oberhausen, Germany) and in a revitalized downtown (Santa Monica, USA), I integrate the theory of spatial production of Henri Lefebvre (*The Production of Space*, 1991 [1974]), and Mark Gottdiener's (*The Social Production of Urban Space*, 1994) with the theory of space quality of Kevin Lynch (*The Image of the City*, 1960, and *Good City Form*, 1981). The seminal theories on spatial production have origins in Marxist theory, but aim to expand spatial understanding beyond bourgeois values. In light of these spatial theories, and of the institutional theory in political science, I analyse decision-making processes in recent spatial productions in the two downtowns. In the comparison I focus on two dimensions: the way the public-private relation is expressed in physical form, and the role of planners in the production of space. Next I tell the story of the production of two urban spaces for public use, the Third Street Promenade in Santa Monica, and CentrO shopping mall in Oberhausen. I selected these two cases due to their composite quality. Whereas the Promenade is an example of European-like public space implemented in the USA, CentrO is an example of American-like public space implemented in Europe. As such these cases express differently the public-private relation and show two distinct political alternatives to space production (e.g. top-down vs. bottom-up). I suggest that planners' role in contemporary spatial production is to structure spatial frameworks and institutional arrangements suitable for each particular community. My analyses of these two cases reveal that, despite local particularities, the production of convivial public spaces in the Information Age depends upon a) creative solutions that include diverse sets of values, b) ongoing negotiations between several stakeholders such as planners, developers, politicians, citizens, users and managers of the space, and c) space management agencies that are interested in both financial success in the global marketplace, and civic life in the space of places.

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP ON STRUCTURAL CHANGE IN THE RUHRGEBIET, GERMANY

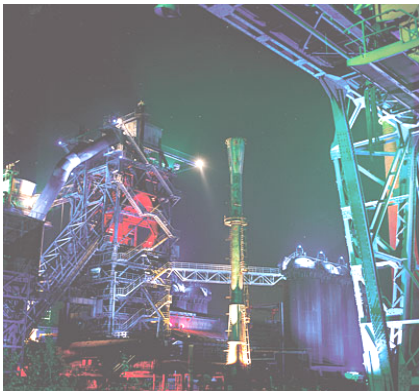
*The Role of Flagship Projects in Regional Restructuring and Urban Regeneration
 Connecting a Fragmented Region: Industriekultur Train*

March - November 2003

This research study is the result of an informed outsider's perspective on local development and spatial integration. With the sponsorship of Initiativkreis Ruhrgebiet, for nine months in 2003 I joined a group of international scientists who carried out research on structural change in the Ruhrgebiet. This was the largest industrial region of Germany, famous for its coalmine and steel industries, which nowadays is in search for new economic drivers. Regional planning in the Ruhrgebiet is still mostly informed by manufacturing and economic rationality. Despite various isolated initiatives, there is no political agreement over the region's future or identity in the global marketplace. I claim that organizational change, both spatial and institutional, is a means to foster Ruhrgebiet's identity within regional restructuring and urban regeneration. My research report proposed a leisure train that connects and spatially integrates former industrial sites along the Route of Industrial Heritage, as an interactive and sustainable tourism activity. But mainly the train project is a creative way of shaping regional identity. In linking or spatially integrating industrial heritage sites with other transportation and entertainment options already existent in the Ruhrgebiet, the project uses the synergy between city cores and former industrial locations. At the same time, by providing easy public access to the heritage sites, the leisure train stimulates regional integration. Above all, Industriekultur Train project provides a model of collaboration among local agencies, a model that is structured around development sites instead of competing administrative units. Assuming that there is a mutual relationship between physical urban form and political action, I suggest that efforts towards spatial integration are capable to stimulate collaborative platforms and coherent political initiatives in the Ruhrgebiet.



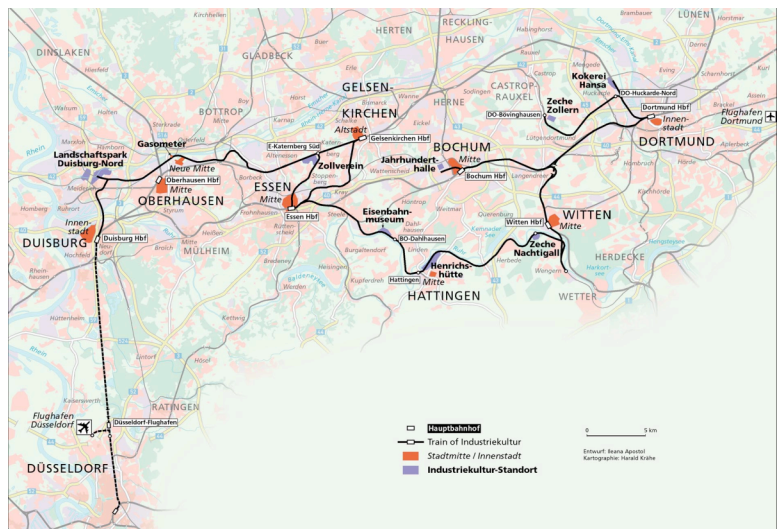
CentrO from Gasometer, Oberhausen



Landschaftspark in Duisburg Nord



Coalmine Zeche Zollern in Dortmund



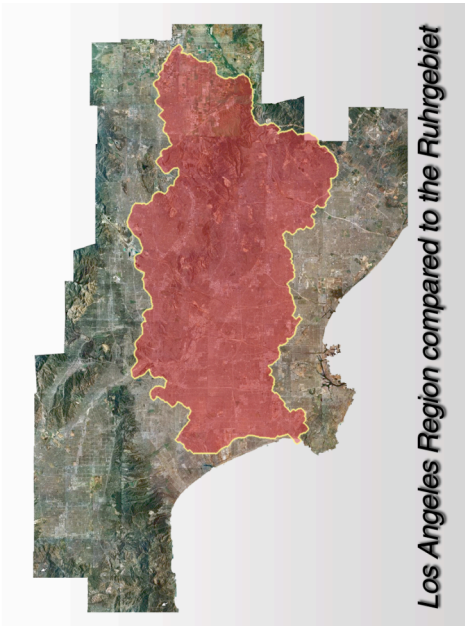
Industriekultur Train: Leisure Cruise on the Route of Industrial Heritage

COLLABORATIVE PLANNING WORKSHOP: URBAN SPRAWL AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, U.S.A. AND GERMANY

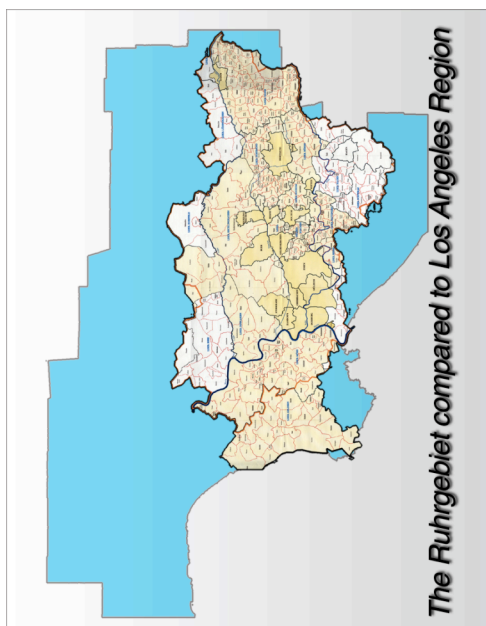
A Comparative Workshop of the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area and the Rhine-Ruhr Region
Partnership of University of Southern California, U.S.A. & University of Dortmund, Germany

January - May 2001

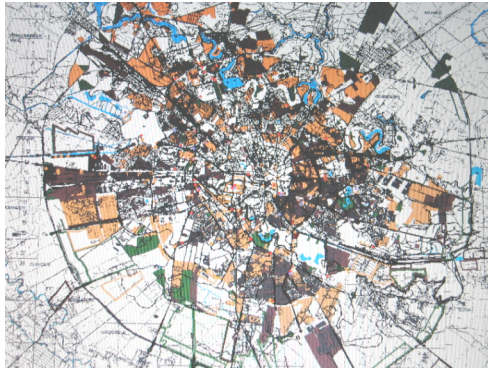
In the spring of 2001 I participated in a comparative planning workshop organized by the University of Southern California and the University of Dortmund. Prof. Tridib Banerjee and Prof. Klaus Kunzmann led the research that focused on best planning practices regarding the relationship between urban sprawl and sustainable development. Two teams of sixteen students each joined efforts in this research study that materialized in two urban laboratories, in Los Angeles and in the Ruhrgebiet, and two reports. The report produced by the USC students examined how urban sprawl is reflected in the comparison of the expansion of these two regions that are among the largest conurbations in the world. The objectives of the study were to analyse and contrast the causes and impacts of sprawl, as a prerequisite for suitable management of future growth of the Los Angeles region. The research proposed to look at the Los Angeles region in the German “mirror” in order to assess the applicability of “best practices” experimented by planning authorities in the Ruhrgebiet. It aimed to promote optimal development with respect to physical, social, and institutional aspects. Moreover, it was an attempt to determine the scope of future explicit studies of urban growth that take into account sustainability concerns. The report studies the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area that comprises five counties (Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties), which govern it together with 177 cities, and more than 1,100 special districts. Almost one third of the total population of California lives in the Los Angeles region (more than 16 million inhabitants), making it the second largest metropolitan area in the nation. The Ruhrgebiet is the biggest conurbation in Europe since the middle of the 19th century and is located in the *Land* of North Rhine – Westphalia. The *Land* has a population of around 12 million inhabitants. One third of the European Union citizens lives within a radius of 300 miles around this region, making it one of the most densely populated regions in the world. Nowadays, both regions tend to grow at the edges, creating urban sprawl, which generates the increase of commuting and car use. Both regions face similar growth patterns such as urban extension towards the periphery, concentration of services in corporate controlled areas, and the dominance of the suburb-type residential areas. Yet the land use in the Ruhrgebiet is mixed and distributed according to planned functions and trends, and benefits from an expanded public transportation network. In conclusion we acknowledged that, by comparing the Ruhrgebiet and Los Angeles through multiple frameworks such as fiscal, institutional, governmental, and regulatory, their scales and scopes are more similar than different. But given their histories and present day circumstances, there are limitations in comparing their urban outcomes such as sprawl. To find their relevant similarities and differences, we suggested transformations of both conceptions of regionalism. Yet, as this study aimed to assess, there are good lessons to be learned from the German planning approach to regional development.



Ruhrgebiet on the Los Angeles Region Map
Graphics: Jesus Lara, 2001



The Ruhrgebiet Map on the Los Angeles Region
Graphics: Jesus Lara, 2001



Bucharest Altimetry Plan, 2000



Central Area Zoning Plan, 2000



Bucharest Zoning Plan, 2000

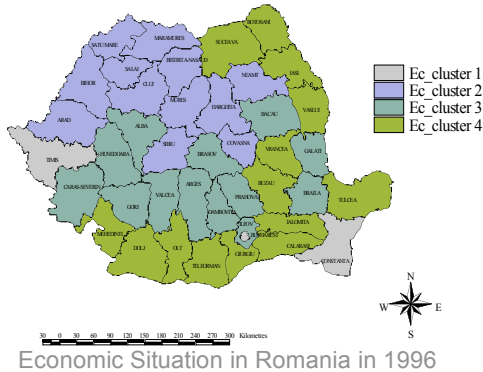
For almost a year I was a member of the urban planners and scholars team that conceived the Master Plan for the City of Bucharest, *Planul Urbanistic General*. In this project I had the opportunity to join forces with professionals from the Research Centre of the University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest. Project manager was Prof. Alexandru M. Sandu. This research study built on the experience that the planning team acquired through Master Plan projects for a variety of cities in Romania. My collaboration with this team extended nearly a decade long, while working on projects such as the Master Plan for the city of Iasi, the Zonal Plan for the historic centre of Targoviste, or the *Bucharest 2000* urban study that concerned the destructured central areas around the House of Parliament in Bucharest.

Bucharest is the capital city of Romania. The Master Plan vision is the actualisation of the city of Bucharest as one of the European metropolises. The Master Plan planning horizon is 2015. During this timeframe city's population is assumed to remain constant: 2.5 million inhabitants. In the 1990s, the first decade of transition from a centrally planned to market economy, Bucharest built up areas extended territorially despite the lack of demographic growth. The city developed to the edges, expanding mainly towards the northern part of the city. The research studies within the Master Plan developed four different growth scenarios. The preferred alternative was the scenario that suggests expansion to the northern as well as to the southern areas, based on equity and balanced growth principles. In the Master Plan of Bucharest I have been involved as planning researcher in a series of preliminary studies with respect to the assessment of the historic core, and city's central area. Prof. Doina Cristea and Prof. Constantin Enache led these studies. At the same time I worked as planning consultant with the team in charge with the *Altimetry Plan*, led by Prof. Rodica Eftenie. The *Altimetry Plan* took into consideration a comprehensive set of criteria that included the main natural features of this location, namely Dambovitza River on which Bucharest's historic core had been founded, the lakes on the Colentina River, and the natural reserves in the northern area of the city. Among other criteria were main access and urban nodes, major urban axes, the altimetry of certain established city districts, or particularities of the historic centre.

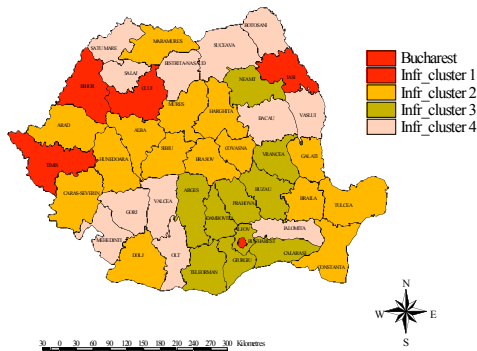
MASTER'S THESIS IN INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF STUTTGART, GERMANY

Transportation Planning in Romania with respect to Integration in the European Union
Dissertation Co-Chairs: Prof. Peter Treuner & Prof. Wolfram Ressel

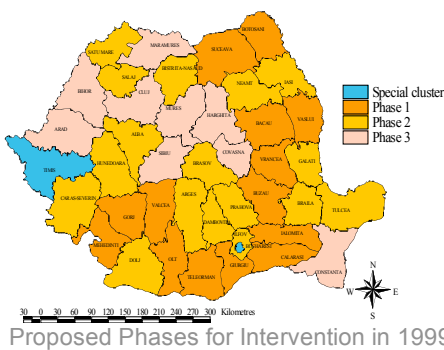
August 1999



Economic Situation in Romania in 1996



Infrastructure Situation in Romania in 1996



Proposed Phases for Intervention in 1999



Priority Transport Corridors, Central Europe
Source: TRACECA 1997

In my master's thesis in infrastructure planning I linked regional development policy initiatives with proposals for improved accessibility on the Romanian transport network. I was interested in transport networks due to their potential to facilitate organizational partnerships that extend beyond networks' physical manifestation. This potential was particularly relevant in Romania, where planning authorities did not always collaborate effectively. In the past that led to obstructing the application of an integrated vision of regional development to transport network development. In this study I focused on potential strategies for transportation planning within the context of the European Union, which was timely due to the current policy window for Romanian development from the perspective of its 2007 EU accession. I used this study to illustrate the argument that the stability of the nation's economic system would increase Romania's capability to integrate successfully in the EU. Furthermore, I proposed the assimilation of the European equity approach, which brings forth two preconditions for economic stability: the promotion of balanced growth and the minimization of regional disparities. In this study I assume that enhancement of physical accessibility on the Romanian transport network will have a direct positive impact on economic development. To assess the correlation between accessibility and economic development I performed multivariate regression analyses on socio-economic indicators recorded between 1990-1996. Due to the recent transition to market economy, the indicators were collected for a short period of time, and did not show significant correlations. My recommendations were that Romanian policies for improved accessibility have to be inspired by best practices in better-developed systems. However, prior to the adoption of external solutions, I recommended an appraisal of the extent of change that the nation's system could tolerate without causing negative consequences like environmental distress or misbalance of social and economic policies. A thorough understanding of the existing conditions at national level must precede also the definition of goals for regional development, and the concern to align them to broader goals at continental level. In order to identify differences in regional development I used cluster analysis of socio-economic indicators on the 42 Romanian counties. My analyses suggested that there are regional disparities in Romania. Thus, I identified priority areas for improved accessibility based on a multi-criteria analysis of regional development prospects. The proposed axes for development at national level coordinate with the main European transport corridors. According to the assumption of this study, road network development would stimulate economic activities that have the potential to alleviate regional disparities. To planning authorities I recommended the preparation of organizational frameworks for collaborative partnerships. At present, six years after the completion of this study, collaboration is a solid practice within the Romanian planning environment.

PLANNING CONSULTING: REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE GREATER IZMIR, TURKEY

Centre for Infrastructure Planning at the University of Stuttgart

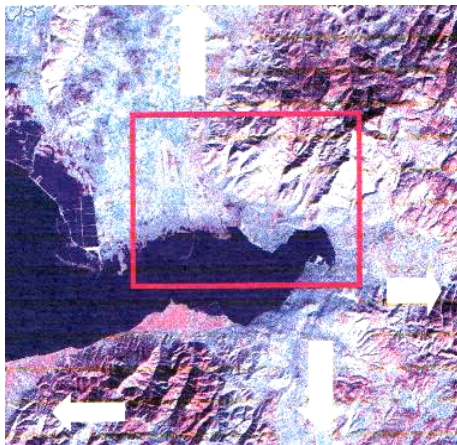
April 1998 – February 1999

While studying Infrastructure Planning at the University of Stuttgart I participated in an international multidisciplinary team at the Centre for Infrastructure Planning, which offered consultancy to the Municipality of the City of Izmir. The Regional Development Plan for the Greater Izmir comprised four scenarios. I have been involved in the production of the scenario that planned a major urban expansion to the northern metropolitan region, and required the allocation of 1,320,000 inhabitants by the year 2020. I was responsible for coordinating the planning activity of a team of seven professionals including a geographer, a regional planner, two architects and urban planners, a finance specialist, and two engineers. My task as an urban planner was to allocate land and distribute land uses, including the location of major infrastructure facilities, according to socio-economic, environmental and technical requirements. The first phase of the project materialized in the Structure Plan, which is the outcome of all stakeholders' consensus within the frame of an integrated development policy for the whole region of the Greater Izmir. We prepared the Plan in agreement with the planning guidelines established during the workshop in Izmir. The workshop was the final stage of the field research, which concluded with team presentations to the Municipality of Izmir of the first sketch for the Structure Plan.

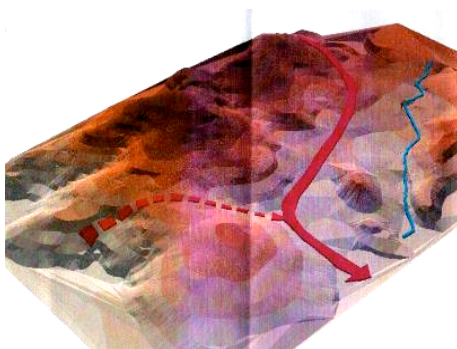
The second phase of this project included the development of the Implementation Plan for a new 50,000 inhabitants neighbourhood in Northern Izmir, between Harmandali and Ulucak. In this phase I contributed as urban designer, and below is one of the land use plans that our team proposed for this neighbourhood.



View from the North of the Izmir Bay, 1998



Aerial View of the Izmir Bay, 1998



View and Topographic Elevation of the Implementation Site, 1998



A 50,000 Inhabitants Neighbourhood: Proposed Implementation Plan, 1999

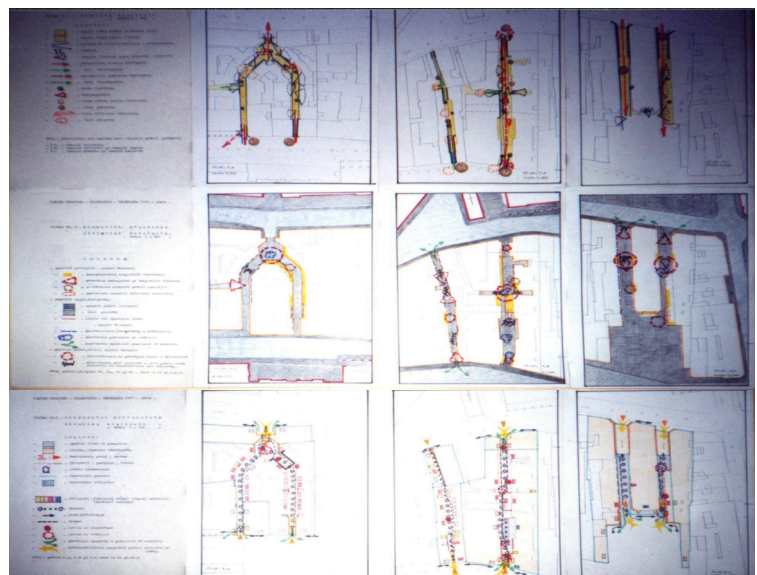
The Pedestrian Gallery: A Joint in the System of Urban Open Spaces

September 1996 - February 1997

My Master's thesis in urbanism is a qualitative study of the effects of developing pedestrian galleries and shopping arcades within the pedestrian system in Bucharest. For the case study I selected five galleries and arcades on the Victory Avenue in Bucharest, which is the oldest avenue in the city. The built environment of this avenue best documents the transformations of the social and physical urban space. I was interested in the arcades, as they represent one of the first spatial materialization of a global approach to urban design. Walter Benjamin's *Arcades* ([1982] 1999) and J.F. Geist's *Passagen* (1983) inspired this study's theoretical background. According to Benjamin, shopping arcades are the physical expression of bourgeois ideals, of the concept of progress, and of the western domination of the modern metropolis throughout the world. They represent "the precise material replica of the internal consciousness, or rather, the *unconscious* of the dreaming collective" (Benjamin in Buck-Morss 1989). Historically, galleries and arcades were developed on private properties and were open to public use. A key condition for the success of shopping arcades is their location between two equally animated avenues and/or areas of activity. In addition to that, the competitive advantage of that location is enhanced by the successful appropriation of the retail development. As such they optimise the value and use of the estate, and establish in their immediate context a spatial hierarchical order. To analyse users' perception of urban space coherence, I performed sensorial and morphological analyses of the public space configuration. Moreover, I analysed this real estate approach from the point of view of urban policy, space management, and experience of space, in order to assess the role of the pedestrian galleries in the system of urban open spaces.



Galleries & Arcades in Bucharest



Mapping of Sensorial Analysis: Five Pedestrian Galleries in Bucharest

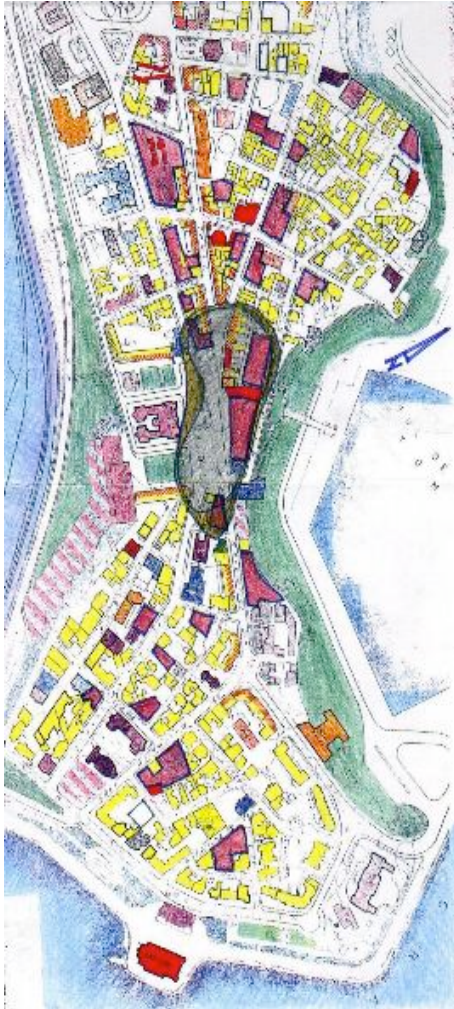
URBAN PLANNING WORKSHOP: DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVATION OF IDENTITY, CONSTANTA, ROMANIA

*International Development Institute for Organization and Management, USA
Regional Plan Association, New York, USA
Foundation for Local Development and Public Services, Romania*

November 1995

Report on Strategic Planning

While studying urbanism at the University of Bucharest I participated in a strategic planning workshop for practitioners. The workshop focused on the development and preservation of identity in the Peninsula, the historic core of Constanta. One of the main characteristics of the Peninsula is its ethnic diversity, which manifests itself in the built environment of this dense urban core. The workshop dealt with urban regeneration, policy formulation, financing, land use, and real estate development. We structured the brainstorming sessions within the group of planning professionals according to SWOT analysis techniques. I also contributed to the workshop by participating in field research and surveys, interviewing with local authorities and business representatives, and writing one chapter of the final report on strategic planning.



Plan of the Peninsula in Constanta, 1995



Views of the Harbour and the Palace Marina, Constanta, 1995

DIPLOMA PROJECT, UNIVERSITY OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

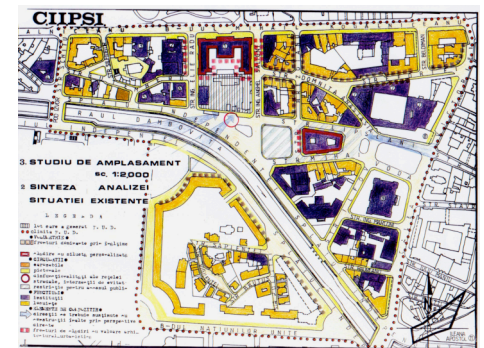
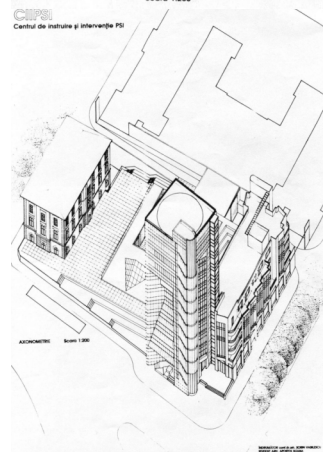
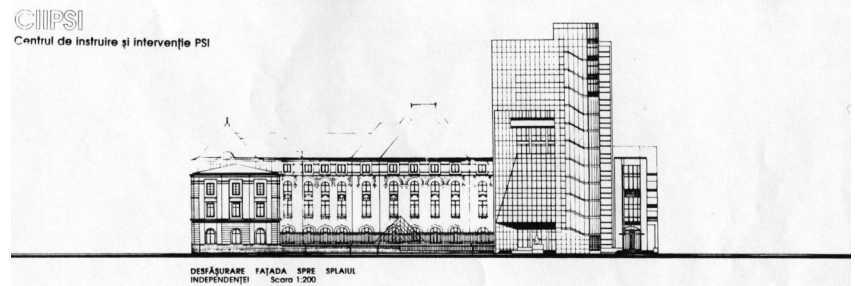
Bucharest Fire Department: Centre for Instruction and Intervention

February – July 1995

My architecture diploma project was the urban insertion of Bucharest fire department's centre for instruction and intervention. The program included a new office tower, a multifamily residential building, a training centre, exhibition and conference halls, as well as specific technical requirements such as garages or large independent water and gas supplies. The main challenge of this project was to harmonize the unusual functional program and the site location in the historic core of Bucharest. That implied the preservation of an existing building on the lot, and also the integration of the new development with the historical monument in its immediate vicinity. The diploma project included three main research phases: urban analysis, architectural design, and design development including structural and interior details. The diploma jury evaluated the project with the maximum grade and honoured it "cum laude."



Facades and View of the Gallery



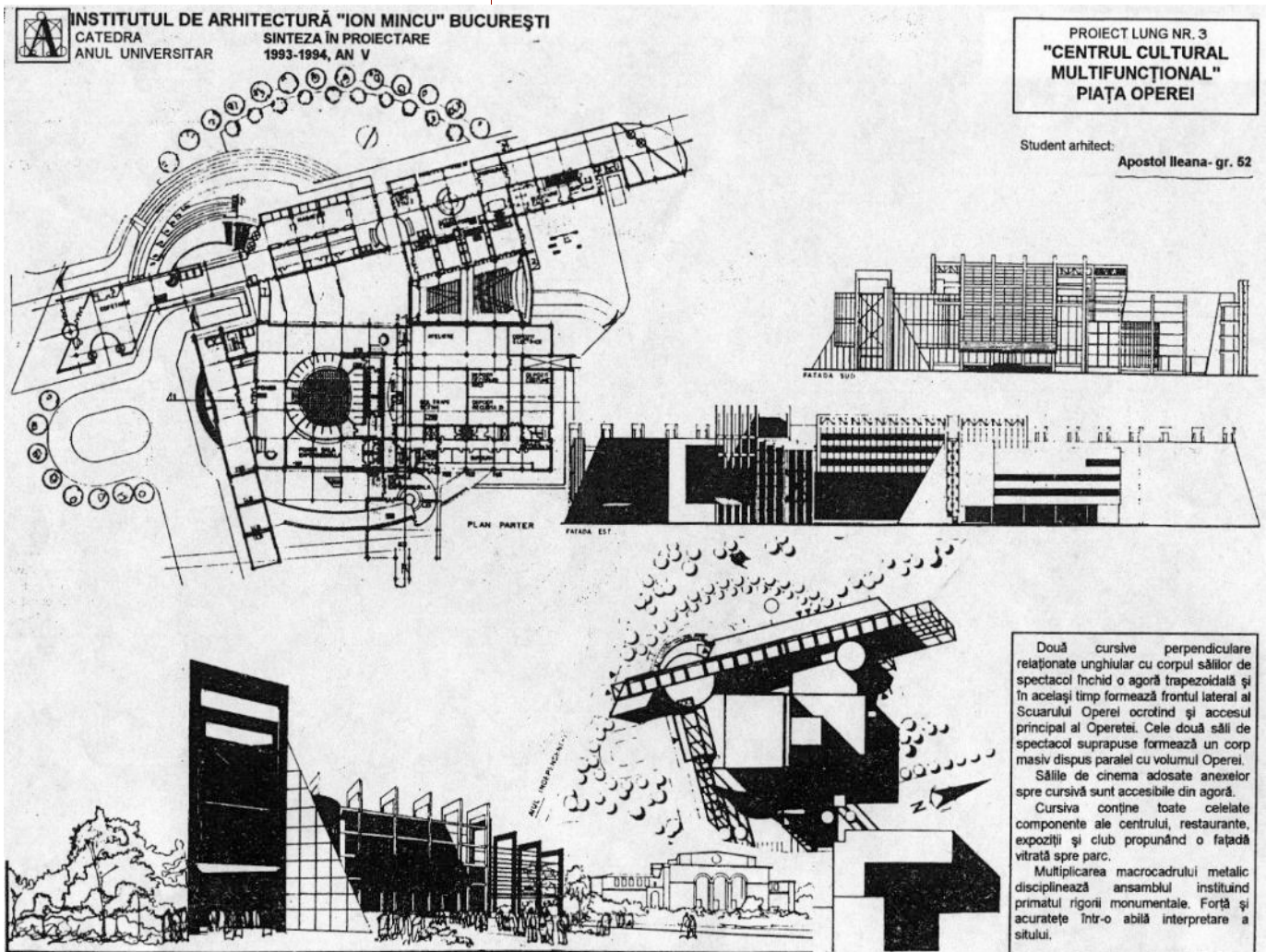
Context Analysis: Site Plan and Urban Insertion

ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN: MULTIFUNCTIONAL CULTURAL CENTRE "OPERA SQUARE", BUCHAREST

"Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism, Bucharest

May – June 1994

Below is my proposal for the comprehensive student project of the tenth semester in the BA in Architecture that required the integration of a multifunctional cultural centre within downtown Bucharest. This retail and entertainment program included a musical theatre house, three movie theatres, exhibition halls, commercial galleries and an agora for outdoor artistic activities. The project imposed deference to both built and natural environment, as it is located in a public garden next to the historic Opera House in Bucharest. For my proposal the jury evaluation stated: "force and design accurateness in a particularly skilful interpretation of the implementation site".



School of Architecture Yearbook, UAUIM 1994: Comprehensive Project, Student Proposal by Ileana Apostol

EXCHANGE STUDENT IN ARCHITECTURE: ECOLE D'ARCHITECTURE DE PARIS-BELLEVILLE, PARIS, FRANCE

European Union TEMPUS Program

February – July 1993



Design Studio at School of Paris-Belleville



School of Architecture Paris-Belleville, Paris

In the spring of 1993 I spent a semester-abroad in one of the Parisian architecture schools that specialize in urbanism: Paris-Belleville. While there, I took courses in history of architecture and urbanism. I also worked in the architecture studio of Prof. Bernard Paurd, where I've been involved in the project "Le theatre-marché" in Place de l'Eglise du Pantin, Paris. The project proposed a dual function for the building. During daytime the structure would be utilized for the farmers' market, and during evening time it would host theatre performances. I designed and modelled a structure on a circular plan that allowed for a completely open facade during daytime, and also created a multipurpose enclosed space. Depending upon the type of theatre performance, the internal configuration accommodated either a central or a side stage. The project implied five study phases: urban analysis and insertion in the built environment context, study of crowd behaviour, assessment of the technical structure, building materials, and interior design and acoustics. The School of Architecture Paris-Belleville encourages workshop-type approaches to design, similar to those of the Bauhaus School. All study phases used mainly models, but also film footage (e.g. for flows or crowd behaviour) and a variety of graphic techniques.



"Le Theatre-Marché" Proposal's Public Defence on a 1:200 Scale Model

TEACHING AT THE COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN, CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

2006 – 2008



Project 1. Exploration of a Convivial Place



Project 1. Boardwalk in Venice, California



LA Downtown Fieldtrip: Los Angeles City Hall



LA Downtown Fieldtrip: California Plaza

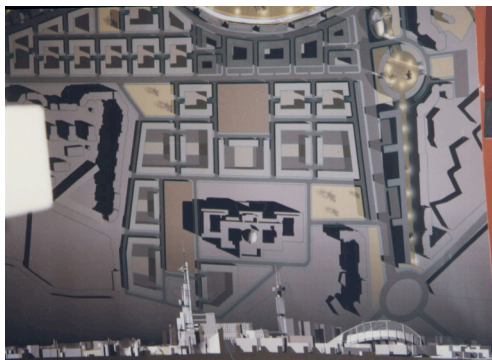
Selected Planning & Design Projects - Ileana Apostol - 2013

In September 2006 I joined, as Assistant Professor, the faculty of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, College of Environmental Design at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. The College's programs integrate art, architecture, landscape architecture, urban and regional planning, and regenerative studies, "to provide an outstanding academic and professional learning experience within a multidisciplinary structure." The College focuses on the polytechnic "learning by doing" philosophy, and encourages the convergence of theory and practice within teaching, research and community outreach, as to advance the principles of environmentally sustainable living.

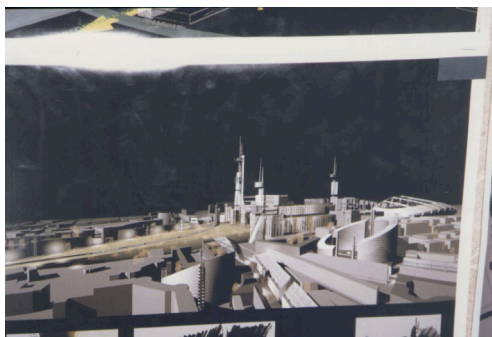
Here I illustrate my pedagogical experience with the introductory courses and studios such as *Foundations of Design*, and *Introduction to Cities and Planning*. In these activities I applied learning centered and learner centered teaching. As educator I advocate adapting teaching to individual skills, aptitudes and needs, and empowering and inspiring students to be proactive in their learning. The urban design studio gathers students from all three areas of the Environmental Design major namely architecture, landscape architecture, and planning. The studio is meant to acquaint students to techniques of spatial exploration, documentation, graphic representation, spatial transformation and innovation through urban design. To achieve that we pursue fieldtrips, lectures, individual and group presentations, studio crits, and one-on-one desk crits. As for presentation techniques, students are encouraged to experiment with a variety of graphic software, free-hand sketching and 3D models. In the introductory course to planning we use similar visual methods in order to complement the activity sections' main emphasis – the expression in writing. Through papers and quizzes students in the Urban and Regional Planning major learn how to translate into narrative form their knowledge and experience of space. In a taught course *Cities in a Global Economy*, which is a general education course for undergraduate and master's students, the objectives were twofold. On the one hand, the course was meant to provide an initial understanding of the globalization process, and of its various aspects that impact planning practices in a global economy. On the other hand, the course created opportunities for students to employ a multitude of research techniques, in order to develop dynamic discussion sessions for each topic. The course was based on readings, class discussions, and online activities, which were organized around literature reviews, video screenings, and PowerPoint presentations. The course was structured according to the aspects of globalization that have a significant impact on the practice of planning such as philosophical, spatial, social, economic, and institutional aspects that include urban politics and governance.

TEACHING AN INTERNATIONAL PLANNING WORKSHOP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

January - June 2003



1

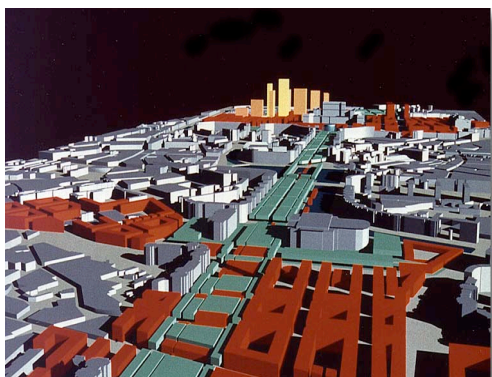


2

1&2: Bucharest 2000, Richard Rogers Project



3



4

3&4: Bucharest 2000, von Gerkan Zeiss Project

“Romania, Summer 2003

Instructors: Niraj Verma, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Ileana Apostol, Ph.D. student

A group of fourteen master’s and doctoral students participated in an international lab in Bucharest, Romania this summer. The lab studied institutional reform efforts to move Romania to a meaningful democracy after a long period of communist rule. Collaborating in the lab were the urban planning faculty at the University of Architecture and Urbanism in Bucharest as well as several Bucharest based NGOs, including the World Bank created Social Development Fund, the Civil Society Development Fund, and faith-based organizations, such as World Vision and Bethany Services. Student interests spanned exploring and developing public participation and institutional cooperation among stakeholders, their link with open space and urban design issues, institutional reforms connected with EU membership, and the role of faith-based initiatives in development. While deeply interested in and influenced by their surroundings, participants were able to take advantage of their USC training in identifying institutional incentives and constraints and proposing some related urban planning and public management strategies. These findings and recommendations were the topic of presentations at the University of Architecture and Urbanism in the final days of the lab. Some follow up activities are planned to study development initiatives in Romania and Armenia. Some of the students’ findings will also be published in a local English language publication in Bucharest.”

<http://www.usc.edu/schools/sppd/programs/masters/mpl/curriculum/lab.html>

The topic of this workshop was “Urban Icons and Institutional Change”, and we chose to study an area in the historic city centre in the proximity of the House of Parliament. As the second largest building in the world, its insertion in the late 1980s distressed the coherence of the city core. At present the international urban design competition “Bucharest 2000”, sponsored by the City of Bucharest, and international private investment initiatives imagine future development plans.



Baneasa Development “A Fully Integrated Community”, TriNation Corp.

ILEANA APOSTOL

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TEACHING IN THE MASTER'S IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

August 2001 - December 2002 & January 2004 - December 2005



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2



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1,2&3: Fieldtrip 2005 "Sky Lofts" Grand Ave, LA

Tutoring in architecture and urban design in the Master's in Real Estate program at USC was an enjoyable challenge and great opportunity. The students had diverse backgrounds such as business, law, finance, engineering, architecture, fine arts, planning, etc. Through the language of urban design, we developed a common understanding of how to approach real estate development. For four years I worked as a teaching assistant in two design courses. One class was based on architectural design, *Building Typologies* (Instructor: Johannes van Tilburg, FAIA), and the other class was an urban design laboratory, *Community Design and Site Planning* (Instructors: Carl F. Meyer, FAIA; Steve Kellenberg, and Christopher Hecker). My tasks included managing class and fieldtrips, coordinating online communication among students and instructors, grading exams and assignments, as well as contributing to group or one-on-one desk crits in the urban design studio.



4

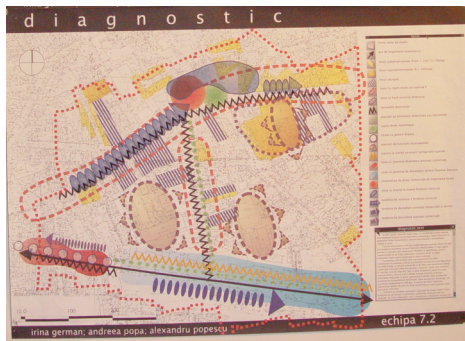


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4&5: Fieldtrip 2005 "Alexan Savoy" Alameda St, LA

TEACHING IN THE ARCHITECTURE AND URBANISM PROGRAMS AT "ION MINCU" UNIVERSITY, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

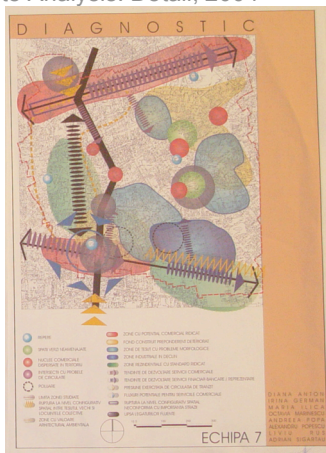
October 1995 - July 1997 & October 1999 - July 2000



Project 1. Site Analysis: Force Diagram



Project 1. Site Analysis: Detail, 2004



Project 2. Diagnosis, 2004



Project 2. Planning Vision

At "Ion Mincu" University of Architecture and Urbanism I've been working full-time in the Department of Urbanism, for two years as Teaching Assistant (TA) and for a year as Assistant Professor in Urban Design. My TA responsibilities included group or one-on-one desk crits in the urban design studio, and tutoring seminars of two of the core courses in Urbanism: *Infrastructure Planning* (Instructor: Prof. Laurentiu Stoenescu) and *Topography and Site Preparation* (Instructor: Prof. Doina Cristea). In the urban design studios, undergraduate students in the Architecture program learned how to approach urban planning and design projects at different scales, for instance: a *Community Master Plan* for 30,000 inhabitants, a *Town Centre Structure Plan* in one of Bucharest's suburban developments, a *Large-Scale Project Implementation Plan* in one of the civic and business centres in the Bucharest metropolitan area, or a *Landscape Architecture Project* for a park development on a reclaimed brownfield.

During the academic year 1999-2000, as Assistant Professor I led two urban design studios in the BA in Urbanism program. The studio *Experimenting Urban Space* was the practical application of the core course on *Practical Methods in Urban Design* (Instructor: Prof. Angela Filipeanu). It was meant to acquaint students to urban spatial scale, and to experiment practical methods in integrating topography, infrastructure, and built environment requirements. We employed field research such as participant observation, visual recording and mapping, as well as studio work through models, graphic communication techniques, panel presentations and peer crits. The studio *Land Use and Management* was the practical application of *Urban Law and Management* courses (Instructors: Prof. Peter Derer, and Prof. Liviu Ianas). The main studio project required densification of *Banu Manta*, a central neighbourhood in Bucharest. During the last decade this neighbourhood experienced significant increase in land value, mainly due to its favourable location. However, land parcels' configurations are not always appropriate for high density built up, and land consolidation solutions are kept to a minimum due to miscellaneous private ownership. The project's challenge was to imagine, under these circumstances, densification proposals that respect requirements of lot coverage, floor area ratios, height limits, and the percentage of green areas. In addition to that, underground structure solutions depended upon financial viability, as in Bucharest the water table level is high, and in the study area also the foundation ground is unstable. Zoning allowed for residential, commercial and mixed-use developments. As for study methods, this studio required archival and field research, communication graphics (e.g. CAD, hand sketches and mapping), panel presentations and public defence. The photographs illustrate similar student planning projects from the 2004 University Online Gallery at <<http://www.iaim.ro/galerie>>