

1 Postdoc and 3 PhD positions: Global Urbanization in Comparative Perspective

The Future Cities Laboratory (FCL) is the first research program of the Singapore ETH Centre for Global Environmental Sustainability (SEC), a joint effort between ETH Zurich and the Singapore National Research Foundation (NRF). The FCL aims to do cutting-edge research and develop guidelines directed towards the sustainable development of buildings, neighborhoods and urban regions, in disciplines ranging from engineering and environmental technologies to architecture, urban design and social sciences. It works in close collaboration with Singapore's universities.

The research module Urban Sociology of Prof. Christian Schmid will examine patterns and pathways of global urbanization in comparative perspective. The main goal of the research is the analysis and evaluation of contemporary urbanization processes in large metropolitan regions, e.g. Singapore, Djakarta, Shanghai, Tokyo, São Paulo, or Lagos. Its approach is transdisciplinary, bringing architecture and the social sciences together, and it follows a strongly comparative perspective: The main focus is on developing and testing a new methodological approach that allows an analysis of how urbanization processes are framed and determined by specific local conditions.

In Singapore you will join a vibrant research community, working in one of the best equipped laboratories for research in urbanism, while you also will participate at a Zurich-based research group working in the same field. The aims of the research are, first, to develop a methodological design for the comparative analysis and establish a typology of contemporary urbanization processes, second, to analyze the mechanisms and differences of global urbanization and, third, to examine the range of possible urban development models and explore their practical implications. Special attention will be given to the analysis of urban potentials and the framing of possible strategies for a sustainable urban development.

3 PhD Positions

You will get a full-time PhD position of 3.0 years in Singapore. The position will start on July 2011. You would be resident in Singapore and your PhD would be awarded by ETH Zurich. You should hold a Masters degree in architecture, urban design or social sciences (urban geography, urban sociology, urban anthropology or similar fields) and be fluent in both spoken and written English. The main task of each PhD project will be the analysis of one or two major metropolitan regions.

1 Postdoc Position

You will get a 90% Postdoc position in Singapore for 3.5 years. The position will start on July 2011. You should hold a PhD degree in architecture, urban design or social sciences (urban geography, urban sociology, urban anthropology or similar fields) and be fluent in both spoken and written English. Your main tasks will be to teach and coordinate the team of 3 PhD researchers in Singapore, to produce a research report on the urbanization processes in Singapore, and to prepare a joint publication on global urbanization, bringing together the results of the individual research projects.

Please apply online by March 6, 2011, to: www.jobs.ethz.ch. Applications require a brief statement of research interests and motivation, proposal for case studies, a curriculum vitae, copies of study records, a list of publications as well as names and addresses of two scientific referees. For information please contact Christian Schmid: schmid@arch.ethz.ch.