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## Editorial

*Urbe* closes its second year during an important period of becoming more mature and gaining more experience in the Brazilian and international fields of academic publications. This is a result of the support we have been receiving from all direct and indirect collaborators, who are helping us to make the space of this publication a meeting point for discussions about the new frontiers of urban management. We have created a plural space, which involves the contribution of several authors, readers and reviewers from different backgrounds and nationalities, all with a common ground: the search to broadly understand space and urban management through their own peculiarities. In this sense, it is important to highlight the recent inclusion of *urbe* in two of the most important Latin American indexes, Latindex (<http://www.latindex.unam.mx>) and RedALyC (<http://redalyc.uaemex.mx>). The journal's acceptance in the thorough and difficult evaluation systems of these two indexes valorize the quality and seriousness of *urbe*, which are the basis of this publication since the first discussions about its creation in the Post-Graduate Program in Urban Management at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná. Our colleagues in the program understood and have all been supportive to the mission of opening another space for the dialogue between researchers from different institutions and origins, following the multidisciplinary character of the field of urban management.

Corroborating this critical and multidisciplinary characteristic, the journal brings together different but relevant themes to discussion, which on one side take us to a critical view of the transformations in space triggered by information and communication technologies, and on the other side take us to discuss secular problems such as housing and the economic growth of cities and regions. And yet, in this issue, we also have the opportunity to reflect upon other themes like the effectiveness of public participation in certain scenarios as well as the tools to improve forms of participation, and restrictions of the use and occupation of urban land.

Space and urban transcend limits with the use of communication media, reconfiguring patterns and experiences in the urban milieu. The two first papers bring about this discussion. First, André Lemos tries to understand the relations between urban space and the new information and communication technologies through a discussion of mobility, in the article "Mobile phones, postmediatic functions, city and mobility", picturing urban limits through the new media. On the other hand, César Rocha Muniz, in the paper "Ethical and political implications of information and communication technology use in monitoring public spaces" argues about the ethical uses of technologies in public urban spaces, discussing the difficulties in establishing reasonable limits in the overlaps between notions of quality of urban life and individual/patrimonial security. With this, argues Muniz, technologies are able to expand the notions of space and mobility, just as well as they leave open the limits for the use of surveillance and control.

Mobility and the restrictions to use urban space are also the subject of the third article, titled "Vehicular restriction and taxation: the congestion charges as urban solution and kind tax" by Christiano Piccioni Toralles and Nicole da Silva Paulitsch. The authors treat the challenge posed to researchers and practitioners in contemporary urban management to create mechanisms to deal with traffic congestions and pollution related to motorization. For this, they bring the discussions around congestions charges as powerful tools for vehicular restrictions in cities, and use the examples of Singapore and London.

From the challenges of new technologies and mobility in urban centers, we move on to more secular problems such as housing and economic growth, together with the important issue of environmental restrictions and limits. The following three articles pick up from there to built their research cases. In the paper

“Socially-organized housing, a new approach to urban structure I: design that establishes emotional ownership”, Nikos A. Salingaros, David Brain, Andrés M. Duany, Michael W. Mehaffy and Ernesto Philibert-Petit substantiate the discussions about typologies for social housing with several examples as a way to structure a social housing praxis that can be applicable and generalized to many different situations. With this, authors intend to overcome traditional models implemented by governments for years, and that proved to be inhumane and unsustainable. Besides, this paper also brings to *urbe* a novelty in terms of editorial process: as a consequence of its complexity and the need for space to discuss all questions involved in the topics, this article was approved to be published in three different but complementary parts, and therefore, it will occupy the pages of three subsequent issues of *urbe*, being the first part in the current number and the others in the following two issues.

The article by Juliano Geraldi, titled “Between the actual and the perceived: housing and environment in the Metropolitan Region of Curitiba – the case of the New Guarituba Project” exposes one of the most important problems related to urban sustainability, illegal occupations of water sources areas. The author uses a study carried out in the region called Guarituba, in the metropolitan region of Curitiba, which stands out for the number of residents involved in an area of strategic value for environmental protection and water supply. Geraldi highlights multi-justification as an ability to negotiate in these situations of conflict between the right for a healthy environment and the right for a place to live, and points out the lack of public participation and the role of the press in this process.

The sixth article studies the process of public participation in municipal councils. The paper “Political representation in Public Policies Management Councils”, by Julian Borba and Lígia Helena Hahn Lüchmann, discusses the possibilities for a pluralization of representation in the cases of public policies management councils in some municipalities in the Brazilian state of Santa Catarina. The authors carry on some important piece of analysis about the quality and typology of representations exercised in such councils. They do so by identifying the profiles of the representatives, and looking at the mechanisms of authorization, accountability and the alleged legitimacy of the representatives themselves in such democratic spheres.

Public management has as one of its principal challenges the improvement of servicing citizens as efficiently as possible, but there are limitations to offering public services with quality. The paper “Performing the citizen relationship management: proposition and assessment of a model based on the citizen relationship management”, by Leonardo de Oliveira Leite and Denis Alcides Rezende, analyses a functional model of management for government-citizen relationships, adapting the entrepreneurial concept of Customer Relationship Management (CRM) to municipal and city management.

The final two articles deal with different perspectives to understand the historical organization of urban space and landscape. In “Urban landscape as a product of power”, João Henrique Bonametti approaches the relations between power and space as structuring factors of the urban landscape and speculates about the meanings and roles of architecture and urbanism in the process of production of space, under the influence of power in society. Bonametti brings us a historical retrospective account to build his argument on the construction of urban landscape as the product of power.

At last, the article by Caroline Brandão Andrusko, titled “The armatures of the city: trams and urban territorialities in Curitiba”, shows how the implementation of technological networks and grids in some urban areas are capable of transforming its relevance to the city as a whole. Andrusko studied a specific technological network, the old tram system, to recount Curitiba’s history by showing its linkages with the constructions of certain inner-city territorialities within a socioeconomic process. The author shows how a certain hegemonic transportation system can create what she calls privileged spaces in the city, as well as the decline of a specific modal can be a barrier for new socioeconomic activities.

This is *urbe*: a plural space for contemporary or secular topics in the field of urban management, which gain maturity through critical and historical studies enriched by examples and case studies that contribute to the understanding of the multidisciplinary area of knowledge. It is a space in consolidation through your participation as the journal’s reader, author, reviewer or critic. We take this opportunity to thank all contributions during these first two years of existence of *urbe* and ask you to continue to participate in this endless process of construction of a good-quality academic journal. Have a good reading!

**Rodrigo Firmino, Christian Silva and Tomás Moreira**

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