International Summer School

RHEIMS UNIVERSITY FRANCE

21-25 JUNE 2015

SUSTAINABLE CITY REGION
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SYSTEMS

Organized jointly by

IRCS
International Research Center on Sustainability

SENSE
Netherlands Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment

Website: www.sustainability-studies.org
Contact: ircs-school@univ-reims.fr

This event is organized in the framework of the Fifth Rencontres internationales de Reims on Sustainability Studies
IRCS (International Research Center on Sustainability) at Rheims University is hosting a Summer School on Sustainable City Region Food and Agriculture Systems in the framework of the yearly Rencontres Internationnales de Reims in Sustainability Studies. This summer school is organized jointly with SENSE (Netherlands Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment).

This course is specifically designed not only for doctoral students, but also for pre-docs, post-docs and young scholars, who wish to further explore sustainable urban agriculture, discuss cutting-edge research with peers and established scholars alike and develop specific skills such as presenting their own research, developing abstracts, performing in situ observations and discussing the research of other scholars in the make.

The course will take place in an environment that favours mutual learning, exchange and conviviality surrounded by the beautiful landscape of Champagne. The summer school is composed of three modules and a high-level final conference. The specific topics of each module are the following:

- Urban agriculture systems;
- Urban agriculture planning;
- Urban agriculture controversies.

Each module lasts a full day and is composed of two sessions:

- Morning session: interactive lectures;
- Afternoon session: parallel workshops:
  
  A. Research seminars (participants present their research followed by a discussion animated by an established scholar);
  B. Abstract development (participants discuss their abstracts in small groups);
  C. Field visits (participants perform an in situ observation of urban agriculture projects in small groups).

Each participant is expected to attend the morning lectures, as well as present and discuss their research and abstracts in the afternoon workshops. The final day will be devoted to the participation in the final conference of the Fifth Rencontres Internationnales de Reims in Sustainability Studies, which this year focus on Urban Agriculture: Fostering the Urban-Rural Continuum.

Confirmed participants include Christopher Bryant (University of Montreal, Canada), Pierre Donadieu and Roland Vidal (Versailles National Landscape School, France), Eric Duchemin (University of Quebec, Canada), Ulrike Grabski-Kieron (University of Münster, Germany), François Mancebo (Rheims University, France), Michele Talia (University of Camerino, Italy), Luca Tasciotti (Erasmus University of Rotterdam, Netherlands) and Esther Veen (Wageningen University, Netherlands).

The summer school will be hosted by the IATEUR (Institute of Regional Development, Environment and Urban Planning of Rheims University). It will start on Sunday 21 June in the afternoon and finish on Thursday 25 June 2015 in the afternoon. It is planned so to allow most participants to arrive and leave Reims the same day.

The summer school fees will cover all standard expenses except travel to Reims. Participants will be hosted in a CROUS student residence (www.crous-reims.fr). Lunch will be provided at the venue. Local transport will be ensured using public transportation.
**Modules**

Three modules in the morning – four hours each with a coffee break for each module:

1. Urban and periurban agriculture in the urban social-environmental system;
2. Integrating food strategies in land use planning;
3. Feeding the planet or the happy few: kitchen gardens, local food and agro-urban industry.

**Workshops**

Three types of workshops in the afternoon facilitated by SENSE and IRCS established scholars and young researchers – three hours each with a coffee break for each workshop:

A. Presentation of the participant’s research projects and discussion by scholars and in small group:
   a. Urban agriculture systems;
   b. Urban agriculture planning;
   c. Urban agriculture controversies;

B. Abstract development: small groups of young researchers present and discuss each other’s abstracts;

C. Field visits: small groups of participants observe urban agriculture projects in situ.

**Conference**

Participation in the final conference of the Rencontres Internationales de Reims in Sustainability Studies on Urban Agriculture: Fostering the Urban-Rural Continuum at the City Hall of Reims.
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Pre-registration

If you are interested in attending, please pre-register to this summer school using the link below. Actual inscriptions will be opened approximately three months before the event. Pre-registrations help us plan the event and ensure that all those who are interested in attending are informed as soon as inscriptions are opened.


Pre-registration deadline

21 March 2015

Fees

• Tuition: 300 euros (early bird) - 350 euros (full price)
• Dining: 100 euros
• Accommodation: 100 euros

The tuition fee covers all standard costs related to the summer school, except travel, dining and accommodation. Each participant is responsible for his or her own travel to Reims. The organizers found a convenient accommodation solution and put together a convivial dining package, including a vegetarian option and a formal dinner with lecturers, at a student-friendly price. All participants are most welcome to join in, but participants are of course free to dine independently and find their own accommodation. Local transport, coffee breaks, lunches, planned drinks and the cultural program are free for all enrolled participants. The accommodation and dining packages need to be paid in advance.

Questions?

If you encounter difficulties with the inscription process or if you have any question about this summer school, the organizing team is at your disposal. Please contact us at ircs-school@univ-reims.fr, visit our website www.sustainability-studies.org or ask our alumni on Facebook!

https://www.facebook.com/events/669946779734201/
The Research School for Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment (SENSE) provides a disciplinary and multidisciplinary research programme aimed at advanced understanding of environmental problems and advanced training of PhD students in this field.

Established in 1994, SENSE has developed into a consortium of outstanding environmental research groups from eleven Dutch universities and institutes, covering a broad range of environmental disciplines, with contributions from the natural sciences (such as chemistry, biology, earth sciences, hydrology, environmental technology) and the socio-economic sciences (such as economics, sociology, political sciences, law).

SENSE was formally accredited by the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) for the period 1997–2001 and was subsequently re-accredited in 2002, 2008 and 2014. SENSE serves a total of 250 staff members and more than 600 PhD students.

The scientific mission of the SENSE Research School is to develop and promote an integrated understanding of environmental change in terms of mechanisms that cause it and the consequences that result from it.

To fulfil this mission, the combined programmes of research and education within SENSE are aimed at the development and further improvement of scientific concepts and methods that are required for an effective disciplinary and multidisciplinary understanding of environmental change.

Research and education in SENSE are dedicated to developing high quality scientific results that may be applied to practically and critically inform sustainable environmental governance and decision-making.

The four Core themes each encompass specifically focused research clusters to adequately reflect the main research efforts of SENSE with regard to environmental changes:

1. Environmental contaminants and nutrients;
2. Environmental change and ecosystem dynamics;
3. Global environmental change;
4. Sustainable development and social change: actors, institutions and governance.

Website: www.sense.nl
The International Research Center on Sustainability (IRCS) focuses on sustainable planning and development issues. Its central topic is: how can societies most effectively guide or manage human-environment systems toward a sustainability transition? Trying to combine social justice and environmental viability is the heart of the Center’s action. According to Amartya Sen, if we have obligations towards future generations, we also have obligations towards current generations.

The legitimate increase of environmental concerns provokes an increase of technical devices and of regulations. It is not rare that these responses to environmental challenges end up not considering social and spatial justice or to reinforce existing access inequalities. To be able to conceive this governance, it is essential to rethink the practices of planning. In fact, the choices and the compromises must fit within the construction of a long term democratic society that is performed at the same time from social, environmental and spatial points of view. However, since the end of the 1980s, planning has almost disappeared from public policy under the pressure of a combination of individualism, of the prevalence of urgency, of the research of short term social, political, economic profitability. Moreover, the end of the cold war gave birth to a more uncertain world, where forecasting is more difficult. It is true that planning as it was—normative and based on archaic analytical tools—had several perverse effects, which are at the basis of its failures.

Nevertheless, it is possible, these days, to conceive a new kind of planning that takes in consideration at the same time social justice and environmental sustainability, based on tools and notions such as:

- Social-environmental systems (SES);
- Participatory mechanisms of co-construction of political choices;
- New information models integrating uncertainty.

The recurring question of which coordination mechanisms are needed at the local, regional, national or international scale is central here. Decision-making processes need to be understood on the basis of the following questions: Who decides on necessary compromises and on planning mechanisms? Which control and validation methods are possible? These questions are major issues for the theorization of sustainability and for its implementation.

The IRCS at Rheims University is in relation with numerous structures and people working on Sustainability science, such as the Sustainability Science Program at Harvard University, the CIRED (Centre International sur l’Environnement et le Développement), the CEDRIE (Centre de Développement de la Recherche Internationale en Environnement) at Montreal University and the ICIS (International Center for Integrated assessment and Sustainable development) at Maastricht University.

Website: www.sustainability-studies.org
The Institute of Regional Development, Environment and Urban Planning of Reims (IATEUR) is a member of AESOP, which was established in 1987 as an international association with scientific, artistic and educational purposes and promotes excellence in planning education and research. IATEUR celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2012. IATEUR proposes postgraduate degrees only and is directed by Prof. François Mancebo.

All doctoral candidates contribute to Rheims University’s International Research Center on Sustainability (IRCS). Master students focus on sustainability studies, sustainable cities and urban planning. Teaching languages are French and English. IATEUR’s master program is accredited by the OPQU (Office Professionnel de Qualification des Urbanistes).

IATEUR intends to provide the students with effective concepts and tools to cope with the new issues of sustainable planning (inclusive cities, edgeless cities, compact cities, periurbanization, local actions for the climate, ecodistricts, etc.) from both theoretical and practical, critical and normative perspectives.

Sustainability science addresses action on sustainable development. This presupposes a multiscale approach (temporal, spatial and functional), as well the inclusion of dynamic equilibria, not only of an economic, physical-chemical or biological kind, but also between actors and societies whose interests may be divergent. It corresponds to use-inspired research, which is based on the postulate that the greatest scientific achievements in whatever domain take place in the framework of research applied to concrete needs of human societies. This research is, therefore, at the same time “basic” and “applied.” It is about science (natural and social) and technology for sustainability.

Website: www.iateur.com
This multidisciplinary university develops innovative, fundamental and applied research. It provides more than 22,000 students with a wide range of undergraduate and graduate study programs, which correspond to society's needs in all domains of knowledge. The university also accompaniies independent or company backed students in professional development training.

URCA is situated in five different cities: Reims (main site), Troyes, Charleville-Mézières, Châlons en Champagne and Chaumont. The university largely contributes to the development of the Champagne-Ardenne region through its partnership with local and national companies and regional authorities. With 1,557 educators and researchers, as well as 1,038 technical and administrative staff members, URCA is one of the largest employers of the region.

URCA aims to appeal to international students and scholars and has consequently introduced the construction of an interregional and international cluster, which includes the main institutions of higher education of Champagne-Ardenne and Picardie regions and Walloon universities in Belgium.

URCA hosts one of the first institutes of urban planning in France (IATEUR). In 2011, it launched an International Research Center on Sustainability (IRCS), which quickly became one of the hubs of sustainability science in Europe. With a young, dynamic and interdisciplinary team, its research focuses on transitions to sustainability, climate migrations, water management, regional cooperation and time scales.

Situated in the heart of Europe, URCA occupies a geostrategic position which is favorable to European and international exchanges. The university is accessible in less than one hour by high-speed train (TGV) from Paris and from the Charles-de-Gaulle international airport.

Website: www.univ-reims.eu
ABOUT RHEIMS

Notre-Dame de Reims

Notre-Dame de Reims is one of Europe’s most important Gothic structures. A World Heritage site, the 13th century cathedral has characteristics all its own, in particular its lighting, statuary and unity of style. Notre-Dame boasts an exceptionally rich statuary. The cathedral is adorned with 2,303 statues, including the famous Smiling Angel, whose jovial expression reflects the Champagne School of the 13th century. Located in the heart of the city, the cathedral’s towers rise above the rooftops of Reims to a height of 81 m. The nave, whose triple-level design is characteristic of the period in which it was built, has a vaulted ceiling some 38 m high. The cathedral is almost 150 m long. The cathedral is also remarkable for its luminosity, making it a model of the genre in Gothic Europe. A profusion of rose windows, as well as the delicacy of the windows make this colossal structure remarkably balanced and light. The baptism of Clovis, around the year 498, gave birth to the Kingdom of the Franks. This exceptional event explains the choice of Reims as the coronation city. 13th, 20th (Chagall, 1974) and 21th century (Knoebel, 2011) stained-glass windows.

Tau Palace

Transformed at the end of the 17th century by Jules Hardouin-Mansart and Robert de Cotte, the Tau Palace still holds rooms that have retained their medieval aspect. This is the case with the Palatine Chapel (13th century) and the Tau Room, in which the coronation banquet was held. Decorating the walls are 15th century tapestries which tell the story of «Mighty King Clovis». The royal treasury’s most remarkable objects are Charlemagne’s talisman (9th century) and Saint Remi’s chalice (12th century). The Sainte-Ampoule, or «holy flask», contains the holy oil with which new kings were anointed during the coronation ceremony.

Foujita Chapel

After is conversion to Catholicism and his baptism in the Cathedral of Rheims. The Japanese painter Léonard Foujita designed a Neo-Romanesque chapel in 1966. The 200 m² large iconographical program is inspired by the Christ’s life but also by a refined Japanese tradition. You can discovered a lot of Foujita painter in Museum of Fine Arts.
Closely linked to the monarchy, Champagne became the wine of coronations, then the wine of kings. Its success spread to the aristocratic elite of the world in the 19th century thanks to the energy of the Champagne Houses, which made it the symbol of French spirit. After 1945, the Champagne frenzy reached new social circles. The current annual production exceeds 300 million bottles.

The geographical area which carries the term “Champagne” is made up of several soil types of different characteristics. According to an age-old tradition, each Champagne House chooses during the wine harvest the “crus” (particular vineyards) and the wine-plants which make up their supplies of grapes.

In spring, the wines from each vineyard are analyzed and tasted in order to define their particular characteristics. The Head of the Champagne House and his oenologists can then determine the proportions in which the new wine is assembled and (except for the “millésime” vintage wine) completed by adding reserved wines from previous years.

Once bottled, the wine becomes effervescent, then ages slowly in deep wine cellars which guarantee to the wine peace and quiet, constant temperature, darkness and humidity required for perfect maturation. The world-wide renown of a famous brand of Champagne devotes its attachment to the respect for these traditional rules of Champagne-making. This has safeguarded the constancy of the characteristics and subtleties which the Champagne lovers are accustomed to enjoy. Therefore a great brand of Champagne brings to both the connoisseur and novice alike the certainty of being fully satisfied.

Listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Saint-Rémi Basilica is a collection of history and art which should not be missed. The 11th century Romanesque nave was lengthened by two transepts at the end of the 12th century to render it accessible to a greater number of pilgrims. At the same time, the facade was reconstructed, while a choir ambulatory and radiating chapels were created. While the Gothic style is apparent in these transformations, they in no way altered the homogeneity and serenity of the church. It contains Saint Rémi’s tomb, a collection of 12th century stain-glass windows and a Cattiaux grand organ, inaugurated in the year 2000...Open from 8am to 7pm. Music and Light inside the basilica every Saturday in July, August and September at 9.30pm. All the year round lighting available by a coin-operated machine.

The existence of vineyards in Champagne dates back to the beginning of our era. The Romans were the ones to introduce grape-growing in the Champagne region. They had already identified the originality of the soil that gives Champagne its specificity, a transitional oceanic climate, chalky subsoil and sloping landscape. From antiquity to the 16th century, the history of our region was intimately associated with the production of still red and rosé wines. Champagne only appeared in the 17th century, once people began mastering the natural effervescence of the local wine and pruning the vines and blending crus and grape varieties, as did the monk Dom Perignon.