

“From Space Syntax to the Generic Functions of Space and Back”

March 23, 2012
12:30 - 2:00 pm
Room 7-431

John Peponis

Professor of Architecture, Associate Chair, Advanced Studies and Research, Georgia Tech

Abstract:

The expression “space syntax” originally referred to the generative principles that underlie observable typological variation in spatial arrangement. It has since become associated with a set of analytical techniques used to measure generic properties and functions of layouts including the creation of an intelligible and searchable environment, the distribution of movement, patterns of co-awareness and serendipitous interaction, or informal learning. In what ways does the study of generic properties and functions inform the generation of designs? The tentative answer is: syntax is about the manner in which spatial interfaces are constructed and presented to perception.

Bio:

John Peponis was born in Athens, Greece in 1955. He is Professor of Architecture and Associate Chair for Advanced Studies and Research in the School of Architecture at Georgia Institute of Technology, USA. Additionally he collaborates with Kokkinou + Kourkoulas Architects. Prof. Peponis' research-journal publications address the geometric and computational foundations of space syntax; the cognitive and organizational performance of museums, work environments, healthcare environments and environments for learning; design formulation and design languages; urban layout and its functions. He also published "Χωρογραφίες, ο Αρχιτεκτονικός Σχηματισμός του Νοήματος" (Alexandria Publishers, Athens, Greece) in 1997.