

AESOP 2nd EUROPEAN SUSTAINABLE FOOD PLANNING CONFERENCE

Urban Performance Group
University of Brighton

CALL FOR PAPERS

Friday 29th - Saturday 30th October 2010

Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words, and e-mailed to Andre Viljoen no later than the 31st May 2010 at a.viljoen@brighton.ac.uk.

For updates and further information please visit the conference web site at:
<http://arts.brighton.ac.uk/aesop2>

Integrating health, environment and society.

Convenors: Assoc Prof. Dr. Bettina Bock (Rural Sociology Group - Wageningen University) and Martin Caraher (Professor of Food and Health Policy - City University London)

This theme departs from the assumption that food has become such a topical issue because its relation to human health and wellbeing has become 'common knowledge' in modern society. There is a growing anxiety about food safety, but also interest in the growing, sourcing and cooking of food. The public interest in healthy food may offer a promising new route of entrance into the discussion of environmental sustainability, but there remain questions about how the 'new food planning' is split along north/south, class and income related divides, and how it may in fact be a distraction from questioning the dominant industrial food chain.

In this workshop we would like to investigate how the integration of health and environment can inform a larger critique of industrial food production and how reforms might be made without widening inequalities. Papers of various kinds and direction are welcome. They could report on (academic) research, policy analysis or present new activities and projects by policymakers, activists or other practitioners.

We mention a few topics to serve as an inspiration, but it should not be considered as an exclusive or prescriptive list.

- The relevance of human health in alternative food movements
- To what extent do alternative food movements distract from changes in the dominant food system?
- Human health as new slogan for the green movement.
- To what extent is debate about agricultural policy masked by the promotion of interest in food as a "domestic pastime"?
- Sustainable environment = healthy environment?
- Is unprocessed/natural food a gateway out of the artificiality of urban life?

- Is public interest in health a way to support local food production?
- How to insure that local and regional food projects impact on the wider policy issues of food supply?
- How to integrate public health, agricultural and environmental policies?
- Is this just a new way to appeal to high and middle income groups while those on low income are left to the dominant food system?
- How alternative is alternative and alternative for whom?
- Alternative food networks - a new social capital for the middle classes?
- Experiences with food policies that aim at an integration of health and environment.
- How to plan urban policy that supports the sustainable production and consumption of healthy food?