

31.07.2024

Call for Participation

## **Symposium Design-Related Research 2024**

### **— Research *on / through / by / about / for / as* Design —**

October 09 – 11, 2024

at the TUM School of Engineering and Design, Department of Architecture, Königssaal.

We invite doctoral candidates and researchers who apply methodologies dedicated to research *on, through* or *for* design in the fields of

- landscape architecture
- urbanism
- city planning
- architecture
- construction
- product or object design

The symposium's mutual ground is the interest to create knowledge fruitful to the practice of designing, exploring the methodologies and techniques of designerly ways of working and a knowledge gain that informs the practice and creation in the abovementioned fields on different scales of designing practices.

#### **Research *on / about* Design**

- investigating processes and results of designing
- reflecting existing designs and the work of others as a basis of research

#### **Research *through / by* Design**

- gaining new insights through one's own design work
- reflecting interdependencies of design processes and knowledge creation.

#### **Research *for / as* Design**

- providing knowledge for design through transdisciplinary research methods
- transferring research findings into design

**Technische Universität München**  
TUM School of Engineering and Design  
Department of Architecture

**Chair of Architectural Design and Conception**  
Prof. Uta Graff, Dr. Katharina Voigt

**Professorship of Green Technologies in Landscape Architecture**  
Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Ludwig

**Professorship of Landscape Architecture and Regional Open Space**  
Dr. Julian Schäfer

## Theme

We are looking for research positions striving to reflect upon and inform the processes of designing, creating and making in the above-mentioned fields. The *Symposium Design-Related Research* serves as a format to connect researchers at the TUM School of Engineering and Design, who address design as the core of the discipline, as stated in Mission Statement of the Department of Architecture.

Methodologically, these works can either be conducted in versatile manners, as their mutual basis is the investigation and exploration of design-related research questions and interests, results and knowledge-gain. The media-based dissertation (*Mediendissertation*), as it is newly introduced as one specific format to include the researchers artistic and designing practice, is one specific format, which we would like to support and encourage. But the symposium is not exclusive dedicated to that and is open to all forms of research approaches, applying quantitative or qualitative methodologies to address aspects of design processes and outcomes are evenly welcome.

For all contributions we are particularly interested in their methodologies and formats to tackle design-related research. At the center of debate will be the question how techniques, manners of working and media from the design practice at all scales. The focus of debate at the symposium is on the process, on the procedural developing and the defining of methodologies and ways of working. For research-approaches that include techniques and media genuinely used in the design-process – like sketches, drawings, plans, visualizations, models, prototypes, material samples, mock-ups etc. – *with* and *on* which research is conducted and the format of the work is of particular interest.

The key question we encourage you to address is:

*How does new knowledge emerge through the genuine ways of working in these design-related disciplines and how can it be communicated through the diverse media associated with them?*

An essential part of contributing to this symposium is to explain and discuss how the 'designing part' becomes an inherent part of the scientific way of working.

## Addressee

This *Call for Participation* invites doctoral students and those interested in doing a doctorate to present their work for discussion, to connect with colleagues of different levels of knowledge and experience, and to use the context of the symposium as a frame to exchange ideas, provide insights and impulses for their individual work as well as the general knowledge discourse in this research field.

## Format and Program

The *Symposium Design-Related Research* takes place October 09 – 11, 2024 at the TUM School of Engineering and Design. It provides a framework for the exchange of well-established, emerging and prospective scholars, whose mutual interest lies in the dedication of their research work to the better understanding, improvement and reflection of the design process, its techniques and media, as well as its results – and are in this respect design-related.

The triptych structure of the symposium enables exchange and insights at different levels:

1. The university public **COLLOQUIUM** provides the opportunity for selected doctoral candidates to present their work, to discuss it in the plenum and to acquaint the feedback of a panel of peers from the disciplines of landscape architecture, urban planning, architecture, and product design.
2. The public evening session of the **FORUM** – composed of an exhibition in the character of an atelier insight and lectures – particularly addresses prospective doctoral candidates and master graduates interested in research and working in the academic field and grants insights to a spectrum of different approaches, processes, and formats of research. Here, the doctoral candidates are invited to provide insights to the material – media, work-in-progress, proceedings – and processes of their research at the exhibition, accompanied by a tour with short statements on the respective material. In lectures, the peers from the colloquium's panel and invited post-doctoral researchers present their research with particular emphasis on their design-relating nature.
3. The **ATELIER** encourages the reciprocal feedback and networking amongst the doctoral candidates and post-doctoral researchers. It is a discursive space for debate and exchange, which allows prospective scholars to refine their research interest, pose their questions and learn from the sharing of experience from post-doctoral researchers, who offer workshops to address the challenges of how to approach the first steps of turning an overarching interest in a field to a specific research interest and who share their advice on how to enter the formal process of a doctorate.

Further information on the respective formats will be provided once the contributions are selected.

## Selection Procedure

The contributions selected by the symposium's Curatorial Board. On the basis of the submitted documents, works will be chosen either for the exhibition during the symposium, or to be both exhibited and presented by the authors during the colloquium.

## APPLICATION

**SUBMISSION September 08, 2024 at [katharina.voigt@tum.de](mailto:katharina.voigt@tum.de)**

Please apply with an abstract, which should be structured as follows. Supplementary graphics are permitted – and highly encouraged to support insights into your design process and media.

<b>Title</b>	Title of the work, name and affiliation, short bio 350 characters max.
<b>Abstract</b>	Brief description of the work, 1.500 – 2.000 characters including spaces, oriented at the following structure and answering the following guiding questions:
<b>Theme: Context and Framing</b>	What is the context and subject of your research? What is the focus of your consideration?
<b>Intro: Research Interest and Questions</b>	Which of your interests is reflected in the work? What is the overarching research question?
<b>Approach: Material and Methods</b>	How do your work and what are the tools you work with? Which methodologies and manners of working do you apply? How do you proceed the insights of your research?
<i>If applicable:</i>	<i>What media accompany your process? (sketches, drawings, plans, film, sound, ...) Which artifacts are part of your research process? (results from design-practice, prototypes, objects, models, ...) Which (artistic or aesthetic) practices do you use in your research?</i>
<b>Process: Genesis or Results</b>	How is your research process organized? Do you work toward a pre-conceived aim or an open end? How are the proceedings of your investigation included?
<b>Design-Relating: on, through, for ...</b>	How does your research relate to designing – the processes, methodologies, quests ... of design on versatile scales? How do the insights and findings of your research contribute to the body of design-knowledge? How does your expertise in the design practices – landscape, urban landscape, architecture, object, product... – reflect in your research?
<b>Reflection: Discussion and Conclusion</b>	Which are the essential (intended/gained) insights of your research? How do you evaluate the proceedings of your research process? How do you mediate the findings and knowledge resulting from your investigation?

## Submission

Please send one PDF file (total max. 10MB) and please name it as follows: Symposium\_Surname\_FirstName  
Submission Deadline: Please send the complete documents by **08.09.2024** to **katharina.voigt@tum.de**

## Schedule

Call for Participation	01.08.2024
<b>Deadline for Submission</b>	<b>08.09.2024</b>
Feedback	20.09.2024 (latest)
Symposium	09. – 11.10.2024 at the TUM School of Engineering and Design, Munich

## Language

The symposium will be held in English and so shall be the submissions.

## Curatorial Board

Prof. Uta Graff, Chair of Architectural Design and Conception  
Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Ludwig, Professorship of Green Technologies in Landscape Architecture  
Dr. Katharina Voigt, Chair of Architectural Design and Conception  
Dr. Julian Schäfer, Professorship of Landscape Architecture and Regional Open Space

## Advisory Board

Prof. Uta Graff, Chair of Architectural Design and Conception  
Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Ludwig, Professorship of Green Technologies in Landscape Architecture  
Prof. Dr. Katja Thoring, Chair of Integrated Product Design  
Prof. Annette Diefenthaler, Chair of Professorship Design and Transdisciplinarity  
Dr. Katharina Voigt, Chair of Architectural Design and Conception  
Dr. Julian Schäfer, Professorship of Landscape Architecture and Regional Open Space