

Magic, Myth and Local Economic Development (EGRG4)

SESSION DETAILS	
Research Group Affiliation	Economic Geography Research Group
<p>Understanding the drivers and dynamics local economic development is central to exploring the interactions between development, environment and sustainability. Inter- and intra-regional variation driver variation in local economic development impacts on the quality of life and opportunities of people across the globe. Regional economic policy is constructed through translations by policy-makers and consultants of knowledge created by academics and gurus. Key policies include cluster development, hi-tech corridors, technology strategies, creative classes, knowledge-intensive firms, learning regions and polycentricity. This session will explore the interactions between local economies, development and environment in two ways. First, through papers which explore the drivers and dynamics of local economic development (growth or decline) by drawing upon qualitative, quantitative, GIS or multi-methodologies. Papers are especially welcome that explore interactions between industrial sectors and the environment. Second, papers are invited that explore the interface between policy knowledges, rhetoric, action and local economic development. Translations of knowledge by consultants and policy-makers create forms of myth and magic which are applied to develop local economies. Papers are especially welcome that identify and explore conflict between the myth and magic of policy solutions and local economies.</p>	
Session Convenors	John R. Bryson (University of Birmingham) and Michael Taylor (University of Birmingham)
Session Chair	John R. Bryson (University of Birmingham)

SESSION RUNNING ORDER	
SESSION 1: Chair - John R. Bryson (University of Birmingham)	
Paper 1	
Paper title	Economic Development beyond the City: Economy, Enterprise, Environment and Innovation and the rise of the E3 I belt surrounding the Birmingham conurbation (UK)
Presenter	Michael Taylor
Co-author	John Bryson
Paper 2	
Paper title	Clusters, Hi-Tech Corridors and Polycentricity: Regional Policy and Practice in the West Midlands Region, UK
Presenter	John R Bryson
Co-author	Michael Taylor
Paper 3	
Paper title	Learning Networks of Local Economic Development Agents
Presenter name	Neil Reid
Co-authors	Bruce Smith; Michael Carroll
Paper 4	
Paper title	Misplaced Expectations? Evaluating the Record of Applied Local Economic Development in Post-Apartheid South Africa
Presenter	David Bek
Co-authors	Nel Etienne; Tony Binns
Paper 5	
Paper title	Theories of local economic development in policy discourses: Empirical evidence from Auckland, New Zealand
Presenter	Richard Le Heron
Co-author	Christine Tamasy
SESSION 2: Chair - John R. Bryson (University of Birmingham)	
Paper 1	
Paper title	Policy as Project and Product: Project Teams and Local Economic Development
Presenter	John R. Bryson

Co-author	Richard Le Heron
Paper 2	
Paper title	Magical Academic Knowledge: Knowledge Exploitation in Welsh local economic development policy
Presenter	Tamsin Davis
Paper 3	
Paper title	Development concepts for rural peripheries - Findings from three European case studies (2001-2005)
Presenter	Yvonne Brodda
Paper 4	
Paper title	Clustering up the View – State strategies of local economic development in rural Southern Chile
Presenter	Dorothea Kleine
Paper 5	
Paper title	Policy Myths, Development Discourses, and Normative Values in Cochabamba, Bolivia and Mexico City
Presenter	J Carlos Dominguez