

GEWOBA-AWARD

FOR SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT BREMEN 2020

I am, where I live!

Are urban quarters the social spaces of the future?

Goals of the Award and Further
Information [—————](#)



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GOALS OF THE AWARD

Every two years the GEWOBA Aktiengesellschaft Wohnen und Bauen in Bremen is awarding students of social sciences with a prize for outstanding papers on future oriented urban development. For this, an open and not anonymous collegiate Competition of Ideas is advertised, to which socio-scientific papers of different types can be submitted. Individual- and teamwork, Semester-, Project-, Home- and also Finalassignments or papers are equally welcome. To give room to a variety of creative ideas and approaches and to gather new understandings and perspectives, the assignment of the task and its wide group of participants is intentionally chosen. The goal of offering this award publicly is to encourage students of the social sciences to get more involved in the subject of habitation and to receive suggestions for the practice.

PROCEDURE

The competition is advertised by the GEWOBA Aktiengesellschaft Wohnen und Bauen and carried out in corporation with the University of Bremen, the Bremen University of Applied Sciences and the Jacobs University Bremen.

The University of Bremen as well as the Bremen University of Applied Sciences and the Jacobs University Bremen will hold events for students who are interested in taking part in the competition.

CONTACT

Ms Angelika Klemusch
Jacobs University Bremen gGmbH
Keyword: "I am, where I live!"
Campus Ring 1, 28759 Bremen
gewobapreis@jacobs-university.de

In order to decide about the submitted assignments (a project or final papers) a Jury will be appointed, consisting of a representative of the Senator for Welfare, Youth, Women, Integration and Sport, of the University of Bremen, the Jacobs University Bremen as well as a representative of the GEWOBA. Depending on the topic of the competition, more experts will be appointed to join the jury.

WHO IS QUALIFIED TO PARTICIPATE?

Qualified to participate in this competition are students of all social sciences and adjacent courses of studies (individuals, groups or whole courses), who are enrolled at a university or an academy at this particular time.

PRICES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The price-money has the overall amount of 5.000 Euro.

The price-money will be splitted as follows:

GEWOBA-Award for sustainable urban development:	2.000 Euro
3 Acknowledgements:	each 1.000 Euro

The jury will reserve its right to split the price-money in a different way or to award a paper or a project with an exceptional award/price.

SPECIFICATIONS OF THE COMPETITION

For the competition of 2020 with the headline "I am, where I live! – Are urban quarters the social spaces of the future?" analyses, new insights and perspectives with a distinct practical orientation are to be developed. Other criteria are an explicit reference to the respective program of studies and visibly provided transfer. You will find more detailed information on the following page.

REQUIREMENTS

The results should be penned in German language, in exceptional cases also in English, and can be submitted as written assignments or in a different form. A letter of motivation as well as an executive summary, which should not consist of more than six DIN A4-pages, is also expected. A number of applicants, which will be chosen by the jury, will be invited to present the results in person. The GEWOBA is entitled to deliver the first publication of the submitted assignments. The submitted and awarded assignments will become property of the GEWOBA, intellectual property rights remain untouched. Assignments that will not be awarded will be returned.

DATES AND DEADLINE

July 2019

Publication of the competition documents

September 5th 2019, 12:30 pm

Informative meeting at University of Bremen
Seminar Room, Campus Center (IRC)

October 15th 2019, 4 pm

Informative meeting at Jacobs University Bremen
Room GW2 B1150

November 6th 2019, 4:30 pm

Informative meeting at Bremen University of Applied Sciences
Room M331

September 25th 2020

Submission of the assignments until 3pm
to the following address:

Ms Angelika Klemusch
Jacobs University Bremen gGmbH
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October 2020

Preselection through the jury, invitation to the presentation

November 2020

Presentation in front of the jury
Evaluation through the jury, notification of the awardees

November 27th 2020

Public award ceremony



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FURTHER INFORMATION

The GEWOBA Aktiengesellschaft Wohnen und Bauen is an organization within the real estate industry. Core business is the management of round about 42.000 tenements – predominantly in the federal state of Bremen. The business strategy of the GEWOBA is concentrated on sustainability. Next to the economic purpose, environmental and social aspects are crucial for the success of the corporation. As a municipal organization, the GEWOBA is an addressee of multiple interests and expectations that goes beyond of only the supply of living space. For tenants and customers, shareholders, local politics and economy as well as the social and cultural facilities in Bremen and Bremerhaven, the GEWOBA is a reliable and dedicated ally.

The competition of 2020 entitled "I am, where I live!" is concerned with the question "Are urban quarters the social spaces of the future?". Much like "region" the term "quarter" refers to a room without clear-cut borders in the first place. The beginning and ending of a quarter are being defined primarily by its residents and by outsiders who do not belong to it. Different from administrative rooms such as district or school catchment area quarters are therefore charted as mental maps only, hence proving to be social rooms.

As living spaces quarters can stimulate identities, shape life styles and opportunities. They are the close-up range to which apartments unclosed, they are spaces of leisure and encounter, they can have integrative or segregating effects, they can be deeply intertwined with the city or separated from it.

As a real estate company whose residential buildings have often been mounted (and are still located) in spatial relation to each other, GEWOBA considers itself a "provider of quarters" who aims at contributing to high quality, joint living together in a quarter. Our quarters are supposed to make affordable accommodation in a healthy and green environment possible and to be well connected to other urban areas. The quarters should stand for an inclusive society that warrants self-determination and participation, social stability and a high quality of life for everybody.

In this spirit, how can we create quarters of the future? Given changing social, cultural, societal and economic conditions, in what ways do we need to develop quarters further? Which demands do they need to supply in times of demographic change, and in the face of individualization and pluralization of life styles, changing family structures and working life? Can life make happy, within the reference-system of a quarter? What is the significance of the linkages of quarters with and within the entire city? What role does digitalization play for the social settings in a quarter?

POSSIBLE TOPICS AND QUESTIONS

- Which qualities does a quarter of the 21st century require given current societal challenges: digitalization, mobility, demography, social cohesion?
- Can (new) social networks in local social spaces guarantee inclusion and solidarity given changing family structures?
- Can more differentiated settings of social services cope with a pluralizing society with changing life styles?
- In what ways do the demands of the living environment change according to different phases of life and with newly moved in people?
- What does "development of quarters" mean, when considering constantly changing and newly emerging demands?
- What does the city for all (ages, genders, ethnicities, etc.) look like?
- Civil engagement and participation: How can be all milieus reached and integrated into sustainable engagement for the central challenges of integrated development of the city?
- How can daily grind in the city be enlivened to be more neighborly, and more aligned to the everyday needs of its citizens?
- How can neighborly ties be strengthened, neighborhoods be activated, and rooms for intergenerational encounter and activities be created?
- Where do "interspaces" exist and how can we design them?
- Which opportunities are offered by "the street as a space for encounter"?
- How can an effective opening up of a quarter into adjacent districts be realized?
- What is the significance of the linkages with the rest of the city for a quarter?
- What impact do traffic connections, the settling of institutions for the entire city as well as other infrastructures have on a quarter?
- Where are the opportunities and limits of quarter oriented work?
- Who arrives and who leaves? How can migration movements (not only statistically) be captured?
- "Cross-border commuters"- life in and outside of the quarter: Is moving necessary or an indication of the liveliness of a quarter?
- What is the relationship between personal responsibility, family support, civil engagement, professional social services and social security in a quarter? Where is this interaction of the diverse agents and resources functioning well, where is need for improvement?
- Are quarter centers an adequate way to bundle various kinds of social supply? How should they be designed to reach for instance diverse target groups?

The questions mentioned above are exemplary and should serve as a suggestion for the development of a suitable topic. The competition is also open for other forms of creative work. We suggest that you attend one of the informative meetings to gather further information.