Current issues in management and development of regional airports

Wed, 14 Feb 2018 // 4.00 – 5.30 pm
Curtin University, Bentley Campus, Building 410, Room 209

4.00 pm  Welcome
Dr Michael Volgger, Curtin University

4.05 pm  An update on the Busselton Margaret River Airport project
Emma Heys, City of Busselton

4.30 pm  The importance of regional air traffic: How to develop and maintain regional airports
Dr Mirjam Wiedemann, Wiedemann Consultants GmbH

5.00 pm  'Agentisation' of airports and regional development in Poland
Dr Piotr Niewiadomski, University of Aberdeen

5.25 pm  Conclusion
Dr Tod Jones, Curtin University

Please RSVP by 9 Feb to trc@curtin.edu.au
Presenters will link in via videoconference. Participation is free of charge.
An update on the Busselton Margaret River Airport project  
Emma Heys, City of Busselton

Emma Heys will provide an overview of the BMRA Redevelopment Project, focusing on the importance of the overall development for the local tourism industry, as well as the wider regional implications. She will discuss the importance of the partnerships between the Local Government (and Airport owner) and local and state tourism organisations as well as how the City is ensuring the Airport remains a viable commercial business unit in its own right.

The importance of regional air traffic: 
How to develop and maintain regional airports  
Dr Mirjam Wiedemann

In this skype presentation, European-based airport consultant Dr Mirjam Wiedemann will talk about the importance of regional air traffic for tourism and about financing options for regional airports. Different options to increase aviation and non-aviation revenues will be discussed and new business models for airports such as Airport City and Aerotropolis introduced.

Emma Heys is Project Manager - Business Development for the Busselton Margaret River Airport Redevelopment Project and recently appointed Economic and Business Development Project Officer for the City’s ED Business Unit. She previously held the position of Economic and Land Development Manager for the Shire of Ashburton and was involved in the Onslow Airport Project (Landside Development), as well as land development & business development across the towns of Tom Price, Paraburdoo, Onslow and Pannawonica.

Dr Mirjam Wiedemann is Managing Director at WiedemannConsultants GmbH and an Adjunct Professional Fellow with the Curtin Tourism Research Cluster. Since foundation of WiedemannConsultants, Mirjam helped numerous international airports and regions with their strategy. Mirjam is also an advisory board member of an EU project in aviation and a regular speaker at international conferences such as CAPA’s Airport Leaders’ Forum. In 2016, Mirjam conducted research in South-West Western Australia on Niche Tourism and travelled the area extensively.
‘Agentisation’ of airports and Regional development in Poland

Dr Piotr Niewiadomski

In this skype presentation, Dr Piotr Niewiadomski will explore the impacts of the airport industry on regional development. Using examples from Poland, Piotr will discuss how some airports are being transformed by their owners from passive assets into active agents of regional growth, and how the effectiveness of these processes hinges on a range of place-specific and path-dependent factors.

Dr Piotr Niewiadomski is a Lecturer in Human Geography in the School of Geosciences at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Piotr’s research draws from economic geography and focusses on international tourism and air transport and their impacts on economic development.