



Why a new foundation?

The reason behind setting up this foundation is Marc Jacobs' sudden death at the age of 43, on August 24, 2008. Most unexpectedly the urban planning and design community lost a passionate professional and an inspiring colleague.

Marc dedicated himself to the development of urban planning and design in three ways. As PhD researcher he distinguished himself through a thorough dissertation: his study of multinodal urban regions contributed significantly to the scientific underpinning of regional planning and design. The results of this research project have since then found their way into practice. As professional he brought many projects of different sizes from vision to implementation in, for example, Schiedam, Rijswijk and Vlissingen; the last three years as self-employed consultant. Finally, he was an active member of ISOCARP, an international organisation of experienced spatial planners. Among other activities, every year ISOCARP organises an international conference. It is a meeting of spatial planners from 70 countries. As leader of the Dutch delegation Marc was very actively involved in everything connected with ISOCARP.

Our initiative is linked to the latter aspect of Marc's professional activities. In memory of Marc, we aim to send at least one master level student each year, for five years, to the main international conference of Isocarp anywhere in the world. A travel grant and access ticket will be awarded by an independent jury. Our aim is to give an incentive to young and aspiring planners and designers to focus on the international context of our profession and on the regional level of scale. We are of the opinion that this new grant is a useful addition to existing grants and competitions.