



SCARP

School of Community
And Regional Planning

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Welcome to Newsbytes.
 This issue introduces new faces and highlights some exciting changes taking place at SCARP. The School has a new faculty, visiting scholars, and a 2010-2011 scholar-in-residence. As SCARP's 60th anniversary approaches we reflect on the School's history as well as plan for a new facility which carries promising implications for our future. We encourage you to share your ideas and suggestions regarding Newsbytes and its articles (ebbird@mta.ca).
 Thank you and enjoy!

Third Annual SCARP Symposium: Metropolis: Growing Just or Just Growing?

Please join us for the third annual student-led SCARP symposium: February 4, 2010: 8:00 to 4:30

The purpose of this symposium is to explore the achievement of growth and justice through the field of planning. Growth not only refers to an increase in material size, but also to the process of developing and maturing physically, mentally and spiritually. Justice is not only social in quality, but also distributive, intergenerational, retributive and restorative. This symposium will explore the practice of planning for the many aspects of and various relationships between growth and justice, including opportunities for harnessing their synergies. Practical themes will include achieving equity in outcomes, participation in decision-making, sustainable best practices and the adoption of such ideals as core values. Achieving a just city, we believe, requires an interdisciplinary and participatory approach to areas such as urban design, public health, conflict management, urban geography, First Nations issues, the imperatives of sustainability and community activism. We look forward to discussing these issues with you in February!



Registration will open later this semester.

A New Integrated Planning and Design Facility

UBC's School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (SALA) and School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP) are embarking upon a landmark project, transcending tradition and undertaking a unique process for creating a shared research and academic facility. This project for an Integrated Planning and Design Facility is not only intended to meet the physical and programmatic needs of the schools, but also has a strong emphasis on strengthening ties between the schools through transdisciplinarity in pedagogy and practical application. Conceptualizing a space which will foster communication and collaboration within and between fields requires a whole-system approach to the project and demands that the community at large be involved in the process. The facility itself will be located near the Lasserre courtyard and will contain studio, teaching, research and office space.

Penny Gurstein, director of SCARP and one of the visionary thinkers behind this process, believes that the two schools have been given a "real opportunity for us to explore our learning environment and how a planning pedagogy can be enhanced by improved learning environments".

This summer, the university sent out a call for expressions of interest and received twenty-two responses to design the new building. A selection committee comprised of members of the Faculty of Arts, SCARP, SALA and university staff compiled

a shortlist of four submissions. Each integrated design team were required to include a local architect and a landscape architect. The teams gave courtesy presentations where they introduced their team members, presented relevant past experience and detailed their working methodology. The attendance at these presentations demonstrated the unmistakable student and community interest and excitement in the project. The presentations were well attended- so much so that despite an overflow facility with a live video feed, there was standing room only.

A group of six students, two landscape architects, two architects, and two planners were responsible for collecting new ideas and possibilities for the innovative design of the project. The result was a compilation of community feedback which identified areas of importance for the design teams to consider for the new facility.

Based on the feedback, the selection committee interviewed the candidates and reached consensus on a design consultant team for the feasibility study of the proposed Integrated Planning and Design Facility. The chosen team, announced at a gala on October 22nd, includes architectural firms Shape Architecture and Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios and landscape architectural firm PWL Partnership, with the addition of consultancy in learning environments by DEGW. The team has promised design workshops, focused charrettes and public lectures intended to conceptualize a shared vision for this innovative facility. Already community members have been invited to 'make a wish' on a postcard, to illustrate an item they would



Architects, planners and the broader UBC community attended a Gala on Oct. 20 at the Museum of Vancouver for the announcement of the winning design team for the new Integrated Planning and Design Facility. *Photo credit: David Guenter.*

like to see included the new building. The team hopes to start pulling together these ideas and putting them into motion when the design process begins in earnest this spring.

Planning student Sam Mohamed-Khany, who has been very involved in the selection process, is excited about the precedent this project sets for other initiatives on campus and for the wider community, "I think it is vital for the wider student community to get engaged with this process and put forth their expectation of the engagement process, which they expect from the university and the consultants. Without such involvement, this will be business as usual."

Both the new facility and the process of designing it have the potential to inspire collaborative and innovative ideas within and among the fields of planning and design. As we enter the next stage of this process, we encourage students, faculty, alumni, and the broader community to participate in these discussions.

Design Consultant Team for the Integrated Planning and Design Facility

The feasibility study and anticipated facility design will be a joint venture of Shape Architecture (a Vancouver-based architectural firm), Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios (a Bath, England-based architectural firm), and PWL Partnership (a Vancouver-based landscape architectural firm), with the addition of DEGW (a strategic business consultancy focusing on learning environments).

The team's experience and talents demonstrate an impressive track record of forward thinking and creative designs. These include integrating the built environment with its landscape, complimenting indoor and outdoor spaces, creating designs sensitive to existing heritage structures, designing dynamic learning spaces and implementing structures that transcend environmental standards.

The team's theme for this project is: The Space Between. "The theme is intended to refer both to the shared interest of landscape architecture, planning and architecture and it is also intended to refer to the public space of the facility and of the arts precinct as the literal forum in which that shared pedagogy might emerge." - Alec Smith, principal at Shape Architecture.



Learning from Vancouver:

Principles of Urbanism



Coordinator:
'Distinguished Practice' Professor
Larry Beasley, CM., BA, MA, LL.D (Hon), FCIP

SCARP Summer Institute

Jane Koh

The Vancouver Laboratory on Urbanism: Principles and Practices for Great City-Building was a two week course coordinated and led by 'Distinguished Practice' Professor Larry Beasley that took place from June 14 – 25, 2010. The program attracted 31 participants -including 3 SCARP students- from 8 different countries. This greatly enriched the discussions and learning which took place during these two weeks.

The summer institute was kicked off by an opening reception at Sage Bistro sponsored by Civitas.

Throughout the two weeks participants enjoyed lectures and workshops in the C.K. Choi Building on the UBC Campus, supplemented by fieldtrips and optional meetings with various professionals in the city.

Lectures and fieldtrips were grouped into themes such as "Housing", "Region, Suburbs, Small Communities", "Transportation", "Sustainability & Green", "Development Management" and "Social Concerns & Politics". Plenary sessions were led by Dr. David Witty where participants worked in groups to formulate principles relating to each theme. These principles were then compiled and produced as a document which everyone involved in the Summer Institute received a copy of.

We received a lot of positive feedback from the

The participants came from the following cities:

- Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Auckland, NZ
- Beirut, Lebanon
- Copenhagen, Denmark
- Dallas, USA
- Fort McMurray, CA
- Kentucky, USA
- Mexico City, Mexico
- Rotterdam, Netherlands
- Vancouver, CA
- Yellowknife, CA



participants who seemed to enjoy learning about Vancouver and exploring this wonderful city. Our course was brought to a close with a graduation/closing gala was sponsored and hosted by Yale-town's Busby, Perkins & Will.

We would like to thank the IBI group for their sponsorship of the Summer Institute. Thank you to SCARP and CFIS for your support.



Photo credit: Yu Kuki

What participants took home from the Vancouver Laboratory on Urbanism:

"Vancouver has good examples and ways of 'gray-zone' and discretionary planning, which for the moment is a different task in Denmark, that has planning laws that prevent it from doing the best possible project or city development"

Jakob (Copenhagen, Denmark)

"I experienced that despite cultural differences between participants the only thing that matters is human interest"

Stijnie (Rotterdam, Netherlands)

"I found the workshop very insightful in linking theory with practice and how one can seek opportunities through the interaction of the public and private sectors in city development"

Farah (Beirut, Lebanon)

"Inspiration and ideas about what fosters urbanism when all the pieces are in place"

Wendy (Fort McMurray, Alberta)

"I learned best practices from Vancouver and saw how those practices have produced a model city. Now I can take those best practices and apply them to my city."

John (Dallas, Texas)

Susan Fainstein: Scholar-in-Residence

SCARP will be welcoming its 2010-2011 Amacon-Beasley Scholar-in-Residence, Susan Fainstein, to Vancouver January 31 – February 2 this year. We look forward to hearing her insights regarding urban planning during her presentation at SCARP's lunchtime lecture series on February 2nd at noon.

Susan Fainstein received her AB from Harvard, AM from Boston University, and Ph.D. in political science from MIT. She is now a professor of urban planning and design at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design. As an urban planning leader, Fainstein has authored several books including *Readings in Planning Theory* (Blackwell, 2003), *The City Builders: Property, Politics, and Planning in London and New York* (University Press of Kansas, 2001), and recently *The Just City* (Cornell University Press, 2010). In 2004 she received the ASCP Distinguished Educator Award in appreciation of her service and contribution to the field of planning.



The SCARP longboat team placed 2nd in their division at UBC's Day of the Longboat Competition on October 3, 2010.



Field study SCARP class on land use planning in Costa Rica 2010.

Introducing Dr. Jinhua Zhao, Assistant Professor at UBC

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Jinhua Zhao, our new jointly appointed Assistant Professor in UBC's School of Community and Regional Planning and the Department of Civil Engineering. Dr. Zhao studied Urban Planning at Tongji University before earning Master of Science, Master of City Planning and Ph.D. degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research interests include urban development and planning in China, urban transportation systems in China, transportation economics, public transportation management, and urban information systems. Dr. Zhao recently won the Barclay Gibbs Award for the Best Dissertation in Planning for the 2009/10 academic year, attesting to the excellence of his research in transportation planning. Dr. Zhao is also the Commissioner of China Planning Network, a think tank focused on China's urbanization process and its implications in Chinese cities. I had the pleasure of interviewing Dr. Zhao as a way to introduce him to the broader SCARP community.

What attracted you to this teaching position at UBC?



Jinhua Zhao

The joint nature between planning and engineering makes this a very unique position. My Ph.D. was in planning and my research has been in civil engineering -both are important perspectives to use when approaching transportation problems. This position is a good fit for me because I characterize myself as a planner within and an engineer without –in other words I use very solid technical and mathematical methods but fundamentally I am a planner at heart.

Secondly, I like the city. I'd heard good things about Vancouver and wanted to experience this livable city. It is particularly good for my 2 children as the city and campus are very child-friendly.

In addition, one of my key interests is transportation in China. I was attracted to UBC's large and diverse group of scholars studying China as they will be great resources to provide context for my research.

I'd like to congratulate you on receiving the Barclay Gibbs Award for your dissertation. Can you tell me a bit about your past and present research?

Thank you. When I was working at Transport for London in England, I was exposed to the quote that reflected the situation for public transit in the 1980s, "A

man who, beyond the age of 26, finds himself on a bus can count himself as a failure". As a promoter of public transportation, I was shocked by this attitude and saw that it contrasted the current situation –it was 2006 at the time – where I saw people young and old, rich and poor riding the bus without too much concern for social image. I realized that not only do social perceptions of public transit influence behaviour, they evolve over time and planners have a role to play to influence them.. In my dissertation I recognized the importance of attitudinal factors and asked: how do we identify these factors and incorporate them into the planning process? One of the key flaws I observed in the planning process is that planners discuss these 'soft' factors but don't incorporate them into behaviour models.

My research now focuses on developing countries – in particular, China. I suspect that these attitudinal factors will play a role -if not more so- in Chinese cities. This is based on 2 trends: 1) fast urbanization and a shift from non-motorized to motorized transportation, transforming urban mobility patterns and 2) increasing income has led to a change in life aspirations, redefining what a successful lifestyle is. As planners we should understand to what extent social status and aspirations influence owning a vehicle. Once this is understood we should ask: do we have a more progressive role to play? If everyone strives to have a car as part of their success, then whole cities will be parking lots -no engineering solution will be able to satisfy this need. If it doesn't make sense, can we design an instrument to influence people's decision making and redefine life ideals? This is the basis of my current research.



Transport for London, Online Source



What do you hope to contribute to SCARP students while here?

From scholarship side, I want to promote a more active role of the planner, particularly for developing countries. Over time we have shrunk our role as planners to be facilitators; I want to encourage students to think about campaigning for what they believe is right –for example, active transportation. We have a place in these discussions as well.

I'd also like to attract more planners and scholars to pay more attention to developing countries where we can make an even bigger contribution. City structure and transportation systems have developed over centuries in western cities, defining which problems they are faced with today and in the future. In many developing countries we are now in that period when major investment to infrastructure is happening and occurring at a rapid speed. I hope that what we've learned from western cities will be useful for developing infrastructure in developing countries like China; I encourage scarp students to pay attention these events and to become involved.

Finally, I think my multidisciplinary background is an important aspect I bring to SCARP. It's harder and harder to be a good planner if you only know planning and I think SCARP is a good example where several faculty members are cross-appointed with other departments.

In concluding my interview with Dr. Zhao, he explained that the China Planning Network is a good example of merging two fields -in this case, bringing western scholarship and Chinese planning practice together. He wants to encourage students and the general public to become involved in collaborations of this kind. If anyone is interested in learning more about the CPN or joining the network, please visit www.chinaplanningnetwork.org and get involved.

Visiting Scholars

SCARP is pleased to be hosting two visiting Ph.D. students this 2010-2011 academic year. We welcome Naomi Bartz from the University of Chicago and Hossein Maroufi from Politecnico di Milano and look forward to learning from them during their stay.

Visiting Fulbright Scholar: Naomi Bartz

As a PhD student in the Department of Comparative Human Development at the University of Chicago, I served as a research assistant for a MacArthur funded study examining the experiences of residents and stakeholders living in three mixed-income developments in Chicago.



I am now beginning my dissertation research; a 12 month comparative case study of a unique mixed-income development in the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver, British Columbia. I suspect that an international lens will shed light on the distinct approaches of each nation and the ways in which different modes of implementation, and contextual features, produce varied but potentially comparable results. My affiliation with the University of British Columbia's prestigious School of Community and Regional Planning is a critical instrument for my success in this endeavor. Most importantly, Canada provides a vital point of comparison with US social policies. I believe that there is great potential for the reciprocal exchange of "best practices" in social housing, particularly the recently popularized practice of developing mixed-income housing.

Visiting PhD Scholar: Hossein Maroufi



I was born and raised in a middle-class family in north-east part of Iran. Having completed my BSc. (Architecture), I moved to Milan-Italy in 2005 where I earned a Masters degree in Urban Planning and Policy Design at Politecnico di Milano. My thesis involved urban history and urban morphogenesis with a focus on social and physical changes resulting from religious conversion in Iran about 650 A.D. Having worked for a year in Milan after my master's degree, I returned to Politecnico for its PhD program in Spatial Planning & Urban Development. This program is the first multidisciplinary doctoral program with international approach at Politecnico Institute; it includes introductory courses, international semi-

nars and workshops, and a minimum six month mandatory research experience at other institute with high profile in planning education and research.

Throughout my journeys, I've met experts from academia and other sectors who had important roles in defining my interests and shaping my professional profile. In one such meeting I was advised to contact John Friedmann and join the School of Community and Regional Planning at UBC. In March 2010 I submitted my application as a Regular Visiting Student and in September I joined SCARP as a Visiting PhD Student.

My PhD research focuses on the relationship between planning and citizenship from the perspective of "right to city". Particularly I'd like to understand how spatial transformation can affect social justice (inclusion and exclusion) and contribute to social inequality. I am focusing on Tehran metropolis and studying different cycles of spatial changes to see how these spatial changes affect the citizens' right to city.

Currently I enjoy being a PhD visiting student at SCARP and living in Vancouver which I believe will enrich my life as well as my professional experience.

of WMAX 150's chairs, but thanks to the newly launched **SCARP Film Festival**, watching great films (related to planning, of course) with friends – and popcorn – is now possible on a regular basis.

The film festival was inspired by Tanya Fink and Maggie Baynham's attendance at the Planner's Network *Just Metropolis Conference* in San Francisco last June. Amid numerous academic panels, keynotes and schmoozing sessions, there was a great smattering of film-screenings related to planning. While neither Tanya nor Maggie has any experience with film-as-a-tool-to-catalyze-change *per se*, both were struck by the power of film to convey stories and deepen the conversation around pertinent issues. Many folks at the conference were quite amazed to hear about the abundant support and resources already dedicated to film-making and alternative media at SCARP, including the Cosmopolis Lab and Jon Frantz's digital video course. Tanya and Maggie decided it was time to extend and celebrate the culture of film by having an ongoing film festival at SCARP.

The films chosen for this year's festival explore a broad range of subjects, including homelessness, First Nations' issues, disaster recovery and displacement, planning history, reclamation of suburbia, and more. Discussion will take place after each film, led by the filmmaker when possible.

The films screen **every second Thursday from 12:15-1:30pm in WMAX 150.**

For comments or suggestions please email maggie.baynham@gmail.com or tanphoto@hotmail.com. Hope to see you there!

SCARP Film Festival

Who doesn't love curling up and sharing a good movie with friends?! Well... "curling up" may be a tad challenging due to the cushion-deficient state

Date	Film	Description
January 6, 2011	Land of Opportunity Luisa Dantas, Jolu Productions	Rebirth of New Orleans, post-Katrina told by diverse perspectives in an interweaving story.
January 20, 2011	Return to Regent Park Directed by Bay Weyman	Canada's first large scale public housing project. 40 years later: a paradigm of city-planning failure
February 3, 2011	Cedar and Bamboo Diana Leung and Kamala Todd	Inter-community histories, shared experiences, and cultural heritage of Chinese Canadians and First Nations in BC.
March 3, 2011	The City (1931)- Lewis Mumford 1930s Lewis Mumford	Illustration of the populist, utopian principles of its writer, Lewis Mumford after the Depression. Mumford saw cities as ultimately de-humanizing, but had faith in the redemptive powers of technology.
March 17, 2011	Making Sense of Place - Portland: A Quest for a Livable City OR Phoenix: the Urban Desert Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and Northern Light Productions	Documentary portraying the challenges Portland has in aspiring to be a more sustainable metropolis with a smaller carbon footprint.
March 31, 2011	Urban Goddess: Jane Jacobs Reconsidered Produced by Bliss Pictures Inc.	A look at the legacy of Jane Jacobs, a champion of neighbourhood activism, through two redevelopment disputes in neighbourhoods in New York and Toronto.



**Congratulations to
SCARP's
Fall 2010 Graduates:**

*Family, friends and the
SCARP community are invited
to SCARP's Graduation Re-
ception to be held on November
26th at WMAX 150 from
11:00-1:00pm.*

Silas Archambault
Rebecca Bateman
Claudia Bialostozky
Laura Castrojon-Violante
Paul Cheng
Lindsay Clark
Maira De Avila
Heather Fehr

Daniella Ferguson
Waleed Giratalla
Callista Haggis
Adam Hyslop
Vanessa Kay
Ellen Larcombe
Farzine Macrae
Paris Marshall Smith

Matthew McDonagh
Jason Owen
Stacy Passmore
Nancy Pepper
Andrea Procyk
Anjali Varghese



Photo credit: Yu Kuki

Urban Design class embarks on a Chinatown field trip.

PIBC Annual Social

Lauren Klose

Speaking as a first year student, the SCARP/PIBC annual social was a welcome break. The first few weeks of orientation and courses were filled with an abundance of opportunities to get involved, attend lectures, develop a graduate career path, get acquainted with SCARP, familiarize ourselves with UBC, and anything else to get the year rolling. All these opportunities are valuable and exciting, but a casual opportunity to discuss planning with other students, faculty and planners demonstrated how well rounded the SCARP really program is.

The social, which was held in the evening after the SCARP/SALA new building design presentation on Thursday, September 23, was hosted by PIBC and our Planning Students Association who provided light fare for the attendees. The event was held at Thea's Lounge in the Graduate Student Society building -a relaxed atmosphere for students to meet planning practitioners.

For myself, I found the social to be a great opportu-

nity to learn about the planning profession in British Columbia. Knowing very little about the planning feild in British Columbia, or about British Columbia in general, the experience taught me a great deal. Through simple dialogue with several of the PIBC council members I learned more about the area and the technicalities of a practicing planner in BC than an entire summer of research had taught me.

Others found the event to be a key networking opportunity. Kerri Elizabeth, a first year masters student at SCARP had a chance to meet a planner and PIBC council member from Coquitlam. The two talked about Kerri's research interests at SCARP and how those fit into the province's planning context.

Kerri wasn't the only one exchanging ideas and interests around the room. Thea's was filled with planners, students and faculty enjoying a relaxing evening while sharing ideas and interests. As a new student, I think this night was a great success and hope it will be followed by many more. Some of the best ideas come from casual events like this, outside the classroom or workplace. A special thanks to the PIBC for taking the time to meet with students, we truly appreciate it.



SCARP students attend the Sala Gala Masquerade on November 5, 2010.

SCARP History Project

Maíra Avila

Did you know that SCARP students in the '70s used to hang out at a pub in Marpole because it was the closest one to campus? Does the name Craig Davis sound familiar to you? Do you know the story behind our reading room being named after him?

There are factors and characteristics that shape our school and make it what it is. Your own presence within the school, for instance, is an essential element in defining what the School is and how others perceive it. SCARP has been shaped by a collection of experiences and actions played out by students, academics, staff, alumni, and friends.

The past few years have been especially highlighted how important SCARP's history is:

- SCARP is about to celebrate its 60th anniversary
- Our dear Peter Oberlander, founder of the school, passed away in December 2008
- The construction of a new facility has been announced
- The academic curriculum is going through an intensive review process
- Many of faculty who were around to witness the school's trajectory since the beginning are starting to move on, leaving their marks and legacies, and taking with them valuable memories of the past

Currently underway is the SCARP History Project which will develop a collective narrative of SCARP's

trajectory. Through oral history interviews, the project aims to understand the values that have shaped our School and as a result, the planning reality around us. It will highlight the relevance of individual actions and contributions to our environments, and to capture the value of these experiences as a means of transferring meaning, a sense of identity, and informing future decisions about what we want for the future - especially in light of all the changes ahead.

The first phase of this project will be completed by SCARP's 60th anniversary celebrations in February of 2011 and will be displayed for attendees. I am working with Jose Fernandez, Rohit Mujumdar and Benita Menezes in developing a website that will bring together a diversity of perspectives, historical accounts, and personal memories associated with both the School and the planning context. Using a timeline as a framework, the website will juxtapose different layers and interpretations of history by combining personal memories and chronological events. A compilation of student and faculty work will also be linked to the timeline and will highlight the impact we have had on communities inside and outside of the university.

Soon you will be able to contribute to the story and to find out about many more facts and perceptions that make SCARP... SCARP. Our school has a big story to tell: a story that is organic and continuously changing. I look forward to seeing what it looks like.

For more information on the project, email me at: mairafsa@interchange.ubc.ca

SCARP 60th Anniversary Gala:

WHO: All SCARP Alumni, Current and Former Faculty and Staff, and SCARP supporters

WHAT: SCARP 60th Anniversary Gala

WHEN: Thursday February 3 - 5:30 - 7:00 Reception; 7:00 - 10:00 - Dinner and Program

WHERE: Four Seasons Hotel, 791 West Georgia Street, Vancouver

WHY: Come out to celebrate SCARP's achievements as we look to our future

