FROM THE CHAIR

Stephen M. Born

We’ve finally emerged from what seemed like the longest winter in memory, but as inevitably happens, spring arrived, the campus turned green, the lakes went from solid to liquid blue, and pent-up student energies were on display all over Madison! In many ways, the long winter was just what we needed to complete the many tasks associated with an upcoming Planning Accreditation Board review of the URPL M.S. program in 2001–02, a review of URPL’s doctoral program, faculty recruitment, planning for the September 2001 “Urban and Regional Planning in the 21st Century” conference, and more. By now, we trust all URPL alumni have received their invitation to the conference — which should be a marvelous event and which will be capped with a Banquet honoring the career of Jerry Kaufman, who will retire at the end of this spring semester. It’s hard to imagine what URPL will be like without a planning icon like Jerry around. He’s been a superb teacher and advisor to generations of URPL graduates, and an even better colleague. We’ve come to accept his leaving as just part of another cycle that’s as natural and inexorable as the arrival of spring.

We’re looking ahead to initiating recruitment of new faculty to replace Jerry, as well as Ben Niemann (who retired in January 2001). We’ve also been able to capitalize on the campus-wide Madison Initiative “cluster hiring”, which will bring a new faculty member – Brian Stone – to URPL. Brian just completed his dissertation at Georgia Tech, and he will be teaching in the areas of land use/transportation/environmental planning beginning in Fall 2001. On another personnel front, I’m not happy to report that Assistant Professor Doug Jackson-Smith, co-director of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Program on “Agriculture, Technology and Society”, who has been a solid URPL contributor and good colleague, has decided to follow family roots and move to Utah State University. We wish him well. And Judy Holmes, the department’s administrative leader for so long (and “URPL-Mom” to many students over the years!) did the unthinkable and retired in January. We were very fortunate to find an able and energetic new administrator, and welcome Barbara Klein into the URPL office administrative “family”. So the change continues, and all of us here at URPL are looking ahead to the exciting challenges ahead – in the department, the University, and in the professional world of planning. We hope to see many of you this fall – it will not only be a stimulating conference event, but a grand reunion of alumni as well! See sidebar, page 5.

TROY GARDENS
—A MADISON GREENSPACE

In late January the State Building Commission agreed to sell a 31-acre parcel of land on Madison’s North Side to the non-profit Madison Area Community Land Trust (MACLT). Part of the Friends of Troy Gardens 1, organizers have plans to develop the land for low-cost housing, community supported agriculture (CSA), prairie and woodland restoration, an edible landscape project and an interpretive trail system. The site is already the location of the Troy Community Gardens, which have been in existence and supported by the local community since the mid-1980s. The community gardens will be expanded and permanently maintained at the site.

Seed monies for the community gardens expansion, the CSA farm start-up, and overall site design were provided by a grant from the Oscar and Elsa Mayer Family Foundation in Madison. MACLT will pay for the land acquisition using community development funds. See next page.

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opment block grant funds, while the housing will be built using federal grant monies.

The fight to save the 31-acre open site from typical suburban style development is documented in a video produced by local filmmaker Dorrie Brooks, called “Ours to Decide.” The video depicts the planning process that neighborhood activists and their allies engaged in to save the garden lands.

URPL involvement has been ongoing in the Troy project since 1997 when Jerry Kaufman, representing the University of Wisconsin's interest in the project, became a member of the Troy Working Group. In December 1998 Marcia Caton Campbell became involved, replacing Kaufman as the UW's representative on the Working Group. Caton Campbell also serves as staff support to the Friends of Troy Gardens, and coordinates the University Partners of Troy.

URPL student involvement with the project has been ongoing, and continues through independent study projects, service on Troy Gardens committees, and in the service learning component of the “Planning for Community Food Systems” course being offered by Caton Campbell and Kaufman this spring semester 2001.

Ground clearing began in fall 2000 for the new CSA farm, and a small planting of vegetables is planned for this spring. Construction on the housing portion of the site, which will be developed using the cohousing model of community, will probably not begin for another year. Initial meetings of the cohousing community have already begun. For more information contact Marcia Caton Campbell (mcatoncampbe@facstaff.wisc.edu) or Stephanie Weigel (sjweigel@students.wisc.edu).

The Friends of Troy Gardens also includes the Northside residents, the Northside Planning Council, the Urban Open Space Foundation, the Community Action Coalition of South Central Wisconsin, and several University of Wisconsin - Madison departments, including URPL.
ritual of Spring Semester around the Department of Urban and Regional Planning is the transformation of first-year students involved in the graduate planning workshop. The planning workshop provides master’s students with valuable real-world experience in planning practice.

The project this semester involves environmental and local land use planning in Calumet County, Wisconsin. Led by Professors Marcus Lane and Doug Jackson-Smith, the class is working with the towns of Stockbridge and Brothertown, located along the eastern shore of Lake Winnebago. Both towns possess significant environmental resources whose condition and existence is being impacted by development patterns in the Lake Winnebago region.

For the purposes of the project, these resources include Lake Winnebago, valuable farmland, and a geological feature called the Niagara Escarpment. The Escarpment, locally known as the Ledge, is a rock formation that is exposed at various points across North America—including parts of Brothertown and Stockbridge. The ledge provides scenic views throughout eastern Wisconsin, as well as in the location of its namesake, Niagara Falls.

As more and more land on the west shore of Lake Winnebago is converted to residential uses, the east shore is beginning to experience increased demand for open space and housing. Additionally, many people are attracted to the area because of the environmental and scenic resources provided by the lake and the Escarpment. With the passage of Wisconsin’s “Smart Growth” law, communities all over the state are beginning their comprehensive planning processes. In these two communities, the combination of development pressures and state law has resulted in a heightened interest in a wide variety of planning issues.

With this in mind, the main goal of the workshop project is to enhance the ability of the towns to account for environmental concerns, issues, and impacts as part of their overall planning process. A related goal is to ensure that the towns understand the ongoing environmental planning and regulatory efforts in other jurisdictions (county, watershed, region, and state) that might impact local land use decisions or options. The end product is a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) that identifies environmental issues associated with social, economic, and land use changes in the region.

This year’s project draws on the strong environmental planning resources in URPL and associated programs, such as the Institute for Environmental Studies. It also is a pioneering effort, in that an SEA addresses some of the shortcomings of more common environmental impact statements. In particular, the SEA focuses on integrating environmental analysis and project design with broader planning processes. Additionally, it attempts to ensure that social, economic, and environmental elements are internally integrated.

As a discipline, SEA is relatively new. This presents the students with significant challenges and opportunities. On one hand, there are few existing models that illustrate how to best integrate environmental assessment with broader planning processes, so students and faculty are presented with a difficult task. On the other hand, this task represents an exciting opportunity, both for the individual students and URPL, to be responsible for developing a workable model that will enhance the ability of other communities to integrate environmental concerns and comprehensive planning processes.
UNDERSTANDING COMMUNITY CHANGE THROUGHOUT WISCONSIN

The Center for Community Economic Development (CCED) is a unit within the University of Wisconsin – Extension which is broadly focused on economic development activities in Wisconsin. URPL’s Dave Marcouiller is one of the six staff members at CCED. Staff and affiliated researchers have a wide range of research and outreach interests, including understanding recreational impacts on communities, analysis of retail markets and trade areas, and work with leadership and organizational development programs. Connections spoke with CCED director Al Anderson, who described some of the varied approaches to economic development that the staff and affiliated researchers are involved in, and how they implement some of their outreach.

The center has been in existence for about 10 years, and has its roots in work originated by URPL affiliate faculty member Ron Shaffer (Agricultural and Applied Economics). The CCED works with extension agents and others across Wisconsin to help them understand the economic and social change taking place today.

The CCED is linked to ongoing state-level programs, such as the Mainstreet Program of the Department of Commerce, and a partnership with the Department of Natural Resources through their Basin Educators program. Leadership programs are implemented at the county level that bring local citizens together to broaden their awareness and understanding of the local issues that affect development.

The CCED publishes several newsletters targeted at specific issue areas. Community Economics provides overview articles that summarize socioeconomic policy research. Leaders, Groups & Community focuses on the development of leadership at the community level. A recent issue discussed the notion of social capital and its role in better understanding the behavior of communities. Let’s Talk Business provides ideas for expanding retail and services in a community.

The CCED also publishes the Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy which is the academic publication of the Mid-continent Regional Science Association. This peer-reviewed journal is edited by Dave Marcouiller and Steven Deller and focuses on cutting edge research in regional science.

There are several arenas where CCED efforts overlap with URPL student and faculty interests and endeavors. For more information on the CCED, visit their web site at: http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cced or contact Dave Marcouiller at dwmarcou@facstaff.wisc.edu.

STONE JOINS DEPARTMENT FACULTY

Brian Stone joins the faculty with a Bachelor of Arts in English, a Master of Environmental Management from Duke University, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology. His research and teaching program focuses on environmental impact assessment, growth management, transportation planning, and urban design.

Stone’s interests are focused generally on the implications of urban spatial structure for environmental quality and public health. His recent work utilizes remote sensing technologies to measure the impact of sprawl patterns on surface heat island formation in the Atlanta, Georgia, metropolitan region. Stone’s work aims to isolate the spatial determinants of a range of environmental problems related to air and water quality, natural land preservation, and global and regional climate change. In addition to his work on climate-related issues, Stone is interested in issues related to sustainable land use and transportation. He will be teaching a course in the fall examining the influence of transportation and telecommunication technologies on metropolitan development trends, social fragmentation, and environmental quality.

Stone has extensive consulting experience in the areas of environmental impact assessment, transportation modeling, and project design. Through projects funded by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Centers for Disease Control, he has assisted in the development of a fully integrated model to quantify the air quality impacts of alternative urban development patterns. In collaboration with scientists at NASA’s Marshall Space Flight Center, Stone is currently developing a proposal to continue his work on land use and climate change. The results of the first stage of this project are reported in the Spring 2001 issue of the Journal of the American Planning Association.
URBAN POLITICS: 
URPL’S FIRST PLANNING SIMULATION EXERCISE

URPL got a taste of contentious headlines and politics as students and faculty participated in the first department-wide planning simulation exercise, held at UW’s Pyle Center on Saturday, February 3rd, 2001. In this WSPA-sponsored event, twenty-five students and four members of the URPL faculty used their skills and wits to battle over development in mythical Iron City, Nordsylvania.

Participants played character roles acting to maximize the interests and objectives indicated in their scripted roles.

Aside from giving students and faculty a chance to interact outside the classroom, the exercise was designed to expose students to a plausible planning challenge in a politically complex urban environment and provide an opportunity to translate theory into practice. Several contemporary planning issues were addressed, including: urban revitalization, economic development, affordable housing, brownfield redevelopment, job training, and public transit. Iron City’s “players” – politicians, civic leaders, activists, and one corporate CEO – were scripted with competing interests to provide the thrust for dynamic interplay among the role-players.

The exercise highlighted some of the most challenging issues facing America’s cities. In brief, Iron City was portrayed as a worn-out American manufacturing center whose economic glory and strength has faded. It had lost 50% of its population and jobs over the past 40 years, and faced fiscal pressures from a shrinking tax base, an increasingly service-dependent population, and aging infrastructure. In sum, Iron City desperately needed new development, good jobs, and tax base.

Advance work was done in City Hall by the planning staff to prepare for simulation day. Mayor Born, Iron City planning director Samina Raja, Deputy Mayor Dan Rolfs, and the planning staff schemed to lure the company to a site in Iron City. The planning staff consisted of Aaron Dinges, Liat Lichtman, Michelle St. Clair, Eric Stonebraker, Aileen Switzer, and Stephanie Weigel, while Eric Olson served as a planning consultant.

A one-hour review session followed the exercise, giving participants a chance to comment on their experiences and the exercise design itself. Much of the comments centered around the proper role of planners and planning in development and political processes.

Many hours were spent organizing, scripting, and running the exercise. Carrie Hirsch undertook nearly all logistical tasks, while scripting duties were carried out by Rich Felsing, Amanda Goebel, Rich Kedzior, Jenny Kirchgatter, Marilyn Leffler, Danielle Salus, and Chuck Strawser. Curt Kodl contributed his mapmaking expertise to give Iron City form and visual context. Marcia Caton Campbell and Rich Kedzior supervised the exercise.

The simulation appears to have been a hit with students and faculty – many have recommended that URPL institutionalize the simulation as an informal part of the URPL experience.

Simulation participants involved in planning negotiations.

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

September 28 – 29, 2001
Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center
Madison, Wisconsin

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning, in cooperation with the URPL Alumni Advisory Council, is proud to bring you this exciting event. The two day conference will include an array of significant topics including “Smart Growth,” central city revitalization, international planning, planners and their career development pathways, urban growth and development in the Madison metropolitan region, and more.

Speakers include Kathleen Falk, Dane County Executive (tentative); Professors Rick Chenoweth and Steve Ventura; George Austin, President of the Overture Foundation and former Madison Planning Director; Assoc. Professor Brian Ohm; Professor Harvey Jacobs and Asst. Professor Victoria Beard; and Jerry Kaufman, who will give the keynote address, “Looking Ahead: Major Planning Challenges in the 21st Century.” A banquet Friday night will celebrate Kaufman’s three decade career at UW–Madison. Kaufman will retire after the spring semester 2001.

Come join us at the spectacular Frank Lloyd Write Convention Center during the beauty of early fall in Madison. We look forward to seeing you there!

For registration information, call 608–263–1672.

Professors Jack Huddleston and Harvey Jacobs in character during the planning simulation.
CURRENT RESEARCH IN THE PH.D. PROGRAM

Ellen Basset, who earned her masters degree from URPL in 1991, has been studying for her Ph.D. in the Department since 1993 and will be graduating this summer — congratulations!! Her dissertation research deals with social and economic development planning in Africa.

Jean-Christophe Dissart is in his third year as an URPL Ph.D. student. His research interests involve community development and environmental planning. His dissertation research focuses on the impact of outdoor recreation facilities on rural development characteristics. Jean-Christophe (or JC as he likes to be called), his wife Isabelle, and year-old daughter, Lea, live in Eagle Heights. Originally, JC and his wife are from Toulouse, France.

Kwang Koo-Kim has been studying for his doctoral degree since 1997. With a Masters degree from the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota, Kwang is currently conducting dissertation research on the linkages between natural amenities, economic diversity, and income distribution throughout the Lake States. Originally, Kwang is from Seoul, South Korea.

Bimal Raj Bhandary earned his masters degree in URPL during 1998 and started doctoral studies last fall. He, his wife and two small children live in Eagle Heights. Originally, Bimal is from Kathmandu, Nepal. His research interests include telematics and the role of technology in transforming rural regions. His dissertation will focus on amenity-based migration, particularly that which is driven by technology.

FACULTY HONORED BY AL GORE: “SHAPING DANE” COMMUNITY DEMONSTRATION

Four former UW–Madison professors have been presented with Vice President Al Gore’s Hammer Award for excellence in government. The Hammer Award recognizes federal employees and their partners who have made a government process or program work better, cost less and get results.

Hammer Awards were presented by Gore’s National Partnership for Reinventing Government, established in 1993. The awards got their name from hammers that once cost the government $400 because of the cumbersome purchasing procedures that were eliminated as part of reinvention.

The goal of Shaping Dane is to provide local communities with the opportunity to participate in community-based, technology-linked land use decision-making.”

Last Fall, Richard Chenoweth and Bernard J. Niemann Jr, professors of urban and regional planning; Stephen Ventura, professor of soils and environmental studies; and D. David Moyer, adjunct associate professor of environmental studies, received the award for their work on smart growth planning in the town of Verona.

The four worked with Dane County and several federal participants to engage county leaders and residents in a smart growth planning effort. This supports “Shaping Dane,” which is facilitated by Dane County, UW–Madison Land Information & Computer Graphics Facility, and several federal and private partners. The project focused on the town and city of Verona.

The Community Demonstration Project in Verona engaged County Executives and over 200 private citizens in a smart-growth planning effort that introduced citizens to a process by which they could become “virtual planners” to help address land use issues. Citizens had the opportunity to learn about issues and the planning process, and gain access to maps and planning tools online so they could visualize growth management options.

Geographic information system maps were employed in the planning effort to identify environmental corridors, farmland protection zones and land-use densities for a projected 85,000 new county residents by 2020. A “Planning facilitation website” was developed to support citizen participation (http://www.lic.wisc.edu/shapingdane)

This is part of a national community-demonstration project, one of six such projects nationwide. The teams were an outgrowth of the National Spatial Data Infrastructure, established by executive order in 1994 to promote common standards and shared use of geographic data throughout all levels of government, private business, non-profit organizations and academia. Although much digital data exists, it is often hard to find, frequently undocumented and in incompatible formats. Accurate geographic data is critical in planning quick responses to natural disasters, industrial accidents and environmental crises.

This pilot project may be linked to the question of how Wisconsin is going to go about implementing Smart Growth requirements for comprehensive planning. This pilot project contributes to exploring how citizens can be assisted in the planning process.
The department proudly recognizes its graduating masters students.

**Tim Dienger**  
Interested in New Urbanism, land use planning, brownfield redevelopment and remediation, as well as wild land and water ecosystem preservation/protection.  
tdienger@students.wisc.edu

**Atsushi Hirokawa**  
Interested in urban redevelopment projects, land readjustment projects, and land use planning.  
ahirokawa@yahoo.com

**Carrie Hirsch**  
Interested in community development planning.  
cjhirsch@students.wisc.edu

**Curt Kodl**  
Interested in community development, with room for innovation in Wisconsin, including education of both staff and the general public to new ideas, planning/land use policy mechanisms and changing preconceived notions about existing problems and conditions.  
cjkodl@students.wisc.edu

**Marilyn Leffler**  
Interested in natural resources planning with a focus on water resources.  
mleffler@facstaff.wisc.edu

**Thomas J. Nee**  
Interested in community development, land use, urban design, and neighborhood planning.  
tjnee@students.wisc.edu

**Arun Rao**  
Interested in land use and transportation, & downtown revitalization.  
arun.rao@doa.state.wi.us

**Daniel Wesley Rolfs**  
Interested in land use planning, redevelopment projects, and alternative transportation methods.  
dwrolfs@juno.com

**Danielle Salus**  
Interested in community development, affordable housing, and housing finance. Joint LaFollette/URPL degree.  
dsalus@hotmail.com

**Charles Wade**  
Interested in land use and transportation planning.  
cjwade@students.wisc.edu

**Carmen Wagner**  
Interested in environmental planning, shoreland zoning, and shoreland/wetland restoration.  
wagnec@dnr.state.wi.us

**Michael Wenholz**  
Interested in developing and implementing Smart Growth strategies, New Urbanist and Traditional Neighborhood Design strategies, more realistic/more appropriate water quality and other environmental standards and criteria, effective solutions to multiple uses of land (especially recreational uses), and ecologically meaningful land preserves.  
mlwenholz@yahoo.com
URPL ALUMNI
MAKES MARK IN CHICAGO

In January of this year, an URPL graduate, Alicia Mazur Berg (M.S. 1990), was named commissioner of the Department of Planning and Development in Chicago, Illinois. Mayor Richard M. Daley said at a news conference that Berg "is an excellent leader with a real understanding of how planning and development decisions contribute to the overall quality of life in Chicago."

Berg, who received an undergraduate degree from Tufts University, is currently a member of Lambda Alpha, the steering committee of the Urban Land Institute's Chicago District Council, and a board member of the Three Arts Club and the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs. Prior to becoming commissioner, she served as Deputy Commissioner and coordinated the city’s central district, with responsibility for planning implementation in an area covering the Loop, River North, Streeterville, North Michigan Avenue, Cabrini-Green and the Near South and Near West neighborhoods.

She has also guided the preservation of the city's Medinah Temple and Tree Studios. As a project manager in the Landmarks Division, Berg has been involved in many preservation efforts across the city, including the Martin Luther King Drive renovation and the creation of a county-wide property tax incentive for rehabilitation of landmarks.

The staff of Connections, as well as all the faculty, staff, and students of URPL, congratulate Alicia, and wish her well in her new position. Her story is another proud addition to the long list of achievements and successes of URPL graduates across the country, and the world.