FROM THE CHAIR

Brian W. Ohm

Urban planning has a long history at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. In 1911, the Department of Civil Engineering first taught a course in city planning. In 1944, a pioneer in planning education, John Gaus, helped establish an interdisciplinary regional planning master’s degree program at UW, one of the first in the United States. Gaus believed that, as the role of government became greater in society, it was necessary to improve the quality of public decision-making. One way to do that was to train better planners. In 1962, the present Department of Urban and Regional Planning was created within the College of Letters and Science. The “Alumni News” section of this issue of Connections includes a contributions from Lyle E. Schaller, a 1956 graduate of the Regional Planning Master’s Program, and Gerald “Jerry” Jamriska, one of five MS graduates from the Class of 1965.

In 2012, URPL will reach the half-century mark as a formal department. This is an important milestone for the department and we need to think about ways to celebrate this accomplishment. Please send me your ideas for an appropriate way to commemorate URPL’s 50th Anniversary!

Over the years, the department has educated more than a thousand planners who have made, and continue to make, a difference in the world. We continually attract a strong student body, and this year is no exception. We have seen a strong increase in applications, making entrance into the program more competitive. The work of the department, both within and outside the classroom, has long reflected a strong commitment to the Wisconsin Idea. That commitment continues to be strong at the local, state, national, and international levels. As always, we continue to appreciate your support for the work of the department.

Best wishes for the New Year!

VISITING INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARS

Over the years, URPL has hosted a number of visiting scholars. These visitors add an important international dimension to the department. This past year has been no exception.

Professor Erwin van der Krabben of the Department of Spatial Planning, Nijmegen, The Netherlands, visited URPL for the summer, under the sponsorship of Harvey Jacobs. The focus of his visit was the study of urban redevelopment processes in American cities, asking what European planners can learn from the U.S. experience of using non-direct purchase tools to facilitate the redevelopment process. He conducted case studies in Madison, Milwaukee, and Chicago.

In September, the department welcomed URPL alum Dr. Jean-Christophe Dissart (PhD ’03) for about a six week stay. Dr. Dissart works as a senior scientist with CEMAGREF–Grenoble, a public research institution in France. He was at URPL working on issues pertinent to rural multi-functional landscapes, natural amenities, and the economics of rural tourism with Professor Dave Marcouiller and others.

Also in September, the department welcomed Professor Shang Tiancheng who will be in residence through August 2011. Dr. Tiancheng is a Fulbright Scholar from the Tianjin University (China) School of Management. While here, Professor Tiancheng will be working on integrative tourism planning with a specific interest in the development of regional ecotourism carrying capacity indices.
THE WISCONSIN IDEA IN ACTION: GETTING SERIOUS ABOUT RECREATION PLANNING

By Taylar Foster, URPL Master’s Candidate 2011

Statewide Recreation Planning

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning has a long history of working with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) on a variety of issues. Most recently, this has taken the form of recreation planning throughout the state. This collaboration is beneficial to helping solve local problems encountered in Smart Growth comprehensive planning while also providing students a set of hands-on, real-world planning exercises.

WDNR Senior Planning Analyst Jeff Prey and URPL Professor Dave Marcouiller have worked together to develop the past three editions of the Wisconsin Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). The undertaking of SCORP is a perfect example of the Wisconsin Idea, which is the concept that research and education should influence and improve people’s lives beyond the classroom. Research resources of the university serve as a two-way bridge between the university and the real world. SCORP extends recreation planning research and practice to every corner of the state. Work around the present and previous SCORPs have included state policy documents, technical reports, factsheets, and peer-reviewed articles, to name a few. Much of this work has included the faculty-student-state agency collaboration that fosters a well-balanced research, teaching, and outreach mission.

States periodically evaluate recreation resources and SCORPs provide an important linkage to Smart Growth and comprehensive planning done throughout Wisconsin. These efforts guide the state in supporting local recreation facility development. This SCROP highlighted eight goals for future recreation planning work, two of which directly addressed public health and wellness. For the 2011–16 SCORP, public health and wellness take a center stage for outdoor recreation planning. The previous SCORP identified a major problem: over 60 percent of the state’s residents are overweight. Going forward, the question to address is how can recreation in urban and rural areas be planned to more effectively meet public health and wellness needs?

Planning Workshop

All planning graduate students take a three-credit workshop course during the fall of their second year. This course provides practical planning experience as a capstone to the program. URPL professors rotate responsibility for this course. Past topics have ranged from agricultural preservation in Jefferson County to neighborhood development plans in Madison. This year, the workshop focuses on recreation planning and SCORP.

Marcouiller and Prey are leading nineteen students in developing the outline for the 2011–16 SCORP. Recommendations formulated by the participants will be used to develop the final draft of recreation facility development. This SCORP highlights eight goals for future recreation planning work, two of which directly addressed public health and wellness. For the 2011–16 SCORP, public health and wellness take a center stage for outdoor recreation planning. The previous SCORP identified a major problem: over 60 percent of the state’s residents are overweight. Going forward, the question to address is how can recreation in urban and rural areas be planned to more effectively meet public health and wellness needs?
JOIN URPL’S “LINKEDIN” SITE

The department has launched a networking group for alumni, faculty, students and friends of the department on the professional networking site “LinkedIn.” Alumni can (re)connect with friends, colleagues and faculty. The group can be found at: www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=3342766 or by searching “Wisconsin urban planning” on the LinkedIn site.

Research, Extension, and the Wisconsin Idea

Prey and Marcouiller have written collaboratively for the past 15 years. Often, this is accomplished with URPL graduate student involvement. In the past, URPL alumni involved in SCORP have included Eric Olson (1998), Susan Fox (2001), Peter Herreid (2004), Jamie Radel (2005), Toby Ruttan (2005), and Ian Scott (2006). Currently, URPL graduate students Colette Hershey, Austin Out Havong, Josh Donaldson, and this author (Taylar Foster) are helping with day-to-day SCORP tasks.

In addition to technical reports, planning analysis, and factsheets, SCORP work has been published in several peer-reviewed journals. These include the Journal of Parks and Recreation Administration, CAB Reviews, and the Journal of Regional Analysis and Policy. Indeed, the two-way bridge representative of the Wisconsin Idea has firm roots within both solving local problems and informing those responsible for conducting applied research.

This formal responsibility for the Wisconsin Idea is a part of all URPL faculty work. For more information about SCORP, see the WDNR website, dnr.wi.gov/planning/scorp. Information on this fall’s workshop can be found at urpl.wisc.edu/academics/Workshop2010.php. Of course, Professor Marcouiller can be reached at dwmarcou@wisc.edu.
Assistant Professor Asli Göçmen’s ongoing research on environmental merits of conservation subdivision design has led to several talks and the development of a GIS-based toolkit to help with the ecological design and site evaluation of proposed conservation subdivisions. Most recently, Asli presented a paper titled “The Role of Land Use Regulations in Natural Resource Protection in Conservation Subdivisions” at the 51st Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference held this year in Minneapolis. For several occasions, including the Smart Growth Seminars organized by the Department of Urban Planning at the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee, she has been invited and has given talks on this research. These prior talks have concentrated on the comparative assessment of environmental outcomes observed in conservation and conventional subdivisions in Waukesha County, Wisconsin. The GIS-based toolkit for conservation subdivision planning is now available for download at no cost for interested practitioners at urpl.wisc.edu/people/gocmen/projects.php.

In October, Assistant Professor Ken Genskow presented a paper titled “Using Social Indicators for Watershed Planning and Evaluation” at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference.

This fall, Ken is teaching URPL/Environmental Studies 865, Water Institutions and Policies, and continuing emeritus professor Steve Born’s tradition of applied class projects. Students in the class are developing three separate projects exploring institutional issues related to Great Lakes Planning, Wisconsin’s new runoff management laws, and planning requirements in the Clean Water Act. Previously, students in the 2008 class published an URPL report on Wisconsin water conservation and efficiency options, available through URPL’s publication website, urpl.wisc.edu/extension/reports.php.

Ken continues to conduct research that integrates social science into environmental planning and management through projects with USEPA and state water quality agencies. His recent publications in Society and Natural Resources and Journal of Planning Literature address this work. Both are available through his URPL website.

Professor Harvey M. Jacobs continued his participation in the activities of the International Center for Land Policy Studies and Training in Taiwan. In May he taught a one-week short course as part of its 113th regular session on land policy for sustainable rural development; his students were 25 mid-career professionals from 25 different countries from around the world. While in Taiwan, he was also invited to give a lecture at the National Chengchi University Department of Land Economics and to facilitate a faculty roundtable on comparative international research at the university’s College of Social Science.

In June, Harvey was a featured speaker at the biennial meeting of the International Center for Research on Environmental Issues (he is a member of the center’s scientific advisory committee), held in Aix-en-Provence, France. Harveychaired the opening plenary session and presented his paper “Non-Regulatory Approaches to Sustainable Resource Management: 20th Century Lessons from the U.S.”

In October Harvey traveled to University of Santiago de Compestela, Spain, to teach a one-week short course—Principles and Rationales for Planning. The course helped to initiate a new master’s program in sustainable land management and planning begun under the leadership of his colleague and URPL friend Professor Rafael Crecente Maseda.

Harvey’s recent publications include an article in Housing Policy Debate (vol. 20, no. 3, pp. 329–349) titled “Social Conflict Over Property Rights: The End, A New Beginning, or a Continuing Debate?” and an invited commentary on the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision made in June, Stop the Beach Renourishment, Inc. v. the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, that appeared in Planning and Environmental Law (vol 62, no. 9, pp. 7–9).

Professor Jim LaGro is part of a team that was recently awarded a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The grant provides nearly $2 million over a three-year period in which the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission and its partners will advance numerous sustainability initiatives, including promoting best practices in transit-oriented development, stormwater retention and infiltration, and greenhouse gas emission reduction.

Over a two-day period in October, Jim taught a continuing education course for licensed architects, engineers, and landscape architects in the tri-state area of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Invited by the Institute for Design Professionals, he taught his course Open Space Systems for the Built Environment in Manhattan and Syracuse.

In September, Professor Dave Marcouiller was invited to speak at the Southwest University for Nationalities in Chengdu, China. As a visiting expert, Dave continued the three-year-old collaborative relationship with URPL’s 2008–09 Visiting Scholar Haiyan “Heidi” Zhong working on research that compares developmental characteristics of the U.S. lake states with the Chengdu-Chongqing and Szechuan region of Southern China. During his 10-day visit, Dave coauthored an article with Heidi, in both English and Mandarin, for the Tourism Tribune that promotes a more integrative approach to tourism planning.
On other news, Guangqing Chi (PhD ’07) and Professor Marcouiller have been publishing their work on rethinking the role that natural amenities play in migration decisions. Together, they have recently published three peer-reviewed articles—one in Regional Studies and two in the Canadian Journal of Regional Science.

Also, Dave served as the site visit chair for a recent planning accreditation board that reviewed the Ohio State University planning program.

Assistant Professor Alfonso Morales’ research on marketplaces and urban agriculture has been featured in five interviews over the last six months: the Associated Press; KSCN Public Radio at California State University, Northridge; South Florida’s Sun Sentinel; Madison’s Wisconsin State Journal; and UW–Madison’s online magazine The WHY Files. His recent publications include an URPL working paper with recent URPL graduate Lindsey Day-Farnsworth titled “Scaling up for Regional Food Distribution” and “Social Currency: A Tool to Empower Marginalized Populations,” which appeared in Progressive Planning Magazine (Summer, 184: 17–19).

He continues to work in the area of community economic development by examining food systems and business formation. In terms of the latter, his work with EDCO Ventures is under review for presentation at a Federal Reserve conference. Since 2006 that nonprofit has created more than 10 companies and 60 jobs in economically marginalized areas.

He presented a paper at the 51st Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning in Minneapolis on community participation in public service provision. The paper will appear in the Journal of Planning Education and Research this December.

His students in URPL 590, Food Systems and Marketplaces, will take a field trip to a dairy farm near Madison and to various locations in Milwaukee. He is particularly thankful to alumni and friends whose contributions help make these trips a vital part of the URPL educational experience.

Professor Brian Ohm was invited to speak about billboards and zoning at the 2010 National Alliance of Highway Beautification Agencies Conference held in Madison in August.

In October, Brian was invited by The Rights Practice, a London-based human rights organization, to participate in a conference in Beijing on the reform of China’s eviction and demolition process, China’s equivalent to the eminent domain process in the United States. Brian was present as the U.S. expert on eminent domain. He was joined by an expert from the United Kingdom on the compulsory purchase process used in the UK. The conference was hosted by the Constitutionalism Research Institute at the China University of Politics and Law in Beijing, one of China’s leading law schools. The Chinese participants included prominent legal scholars from around China, journalists, and governmental officials. Brian also wrote a paper that was translated into Mandarin on the theory and practice of eminent domain in the U.S. for use by the Chinese scholars in their reform efforts.

In addition to this work in Beijing, Brian has been involved in the outreach programming of the East Asian Legal Studies Center at the UW Law School. In fall 2009, Ohm presented a one-day session in Madison on the legal structure for planning in the United States to a group of about twenty planners from Shanghai as part of the Urban Planning and Real Estate Administration seminar, organized by the center, Shanghai Jiaotong University Koguan Law School, and the Shanghai Municipal Housing, Land and Resources Administration. In November 2010, he presented a similar session in Madison for a group of Chinese municipal officials as part of the center’s Shanghai Minhang District Seminar on Municipal Government Administration.

Assistant Professor Kurt Paulsen presented a paper at the 51st Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning in Minneapolis, titled “The Effects of Growth Management on Density and Land Consumption Revisited.”
**ALUMNI NEWS**

**Ralph “Cash” Beardsley** (MS ’73) retired in summer 2009 after a 35-year career in various sectors/capacities within the health care field. He stays busy these days as a director on the board of the local Lions Club and as a Democratic precinct committee member within a township organization. He is also spearheading a job search/career development outreach program at a local church and enjoying lots of travel within the U.S. with Mary, his wife of 29 years, who is a retired Chicago public school teacher.

**Merritt Bussiere** (MS ’88) is Ironwood, Michigan’s new community development director. The Community Development Department is responsible for managing community development, planning, economic development and redevelopment, housing rehabilitation, grant administration, and zoning review, along with the promotion of private sector development. As director, Merritt acts as staff liaison to the City Commission, Planning Commission, Downtown Ironwood Development Authority, Park and Recreation Committee, Economic Development Corporation, and related boards, and also provides technical guidance, research, education, and other support. Projects on the department’s priority list include updating the city’s Comprehensive and Park/Recreation plans, and continuing implementation of the 2009 Downtown Blueprint Plan.

**Denny Coleman** (MS) was elected to a one-year term as chairman of the board of directors of the International Economic Development Council (IEDC). Coleman is president and CEO of St. Louis County Economic Council in St. Louis, Missouri, effective in January. IEDC is the premier membership organization dedicated to helping economic development professionals create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities, and improve the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,500 members, IEDC represents the largest network of economic development professionals in the world.

In his 20-year tenure at the helm of the Economic Council, Coleman has overseen a multitude of economic development initiatives that have earned St. Louis County national recognition for outstanding progress in the areas of community revitalization, business development, and job creation. Prior to leading the Economic Council, Coleman was director of development for the City of St. Louis and managed the city’s neighborhood, housing, and economic development efforts. He also served as vice president for community development at Mercantile Bank (now U.S. Bank) when the bank’s community development corporation received the National Fair Housing Award and a Private Sector Initiatives Award from the White House.

**Todd Dary** (MS ’96) began working as a planner for Sarasota County, Florida, in 2000 and has been the county’s development of regional impact coordinator since 2006, coordinating the local, regional, and state review of large scale projects. He is currently on sabbatical, deployed in Afghanistan with the Army’s Special Forces, 2010–11.

**Adam Goodberg** (MS ’08) passed the State Department’s Chinese Conversational Exam after a summer in Middlebury, Vermont, studying intensive Mandarin. While continuing with the Foreign Service Officer application process, Adam traveled around the Midwest building wind turbines and is currently conducting educational testing in Ukraine for the FLEX program, which invites top students from the former USSR to study in the USA for a year for free. A graduate of URPL’s Masters International Program, Adam will return to India for a third season of Buddhist philosophy study before returning to Wisconsin in April.

**Joan Huston** (MS ’08) is a city planner in Hannover, Pennsylvania.

**Gerald “Jerry” Jamriska** (MS ’65) is looking to contact graduates of the class of 1965. There were five of us! His e-mail is gjamriska@gmail.com.

**John LaMotte** (MS ’80) married his ice-skating sweetheart, Jennifer Castle, at Passo’s Wintergarden in Chicago on September 19, 2010. Attendees of the gala event included alums Stephen Friedman (1971) and Gary Gutterman (1980), as well URPL professors Jerry Kaufman and Jack Huddleston. As the saying goes, a grand time was had by all!

**Richard O’Hara** (MS ’80) retired last year after a 30-year career in the environmental field. He lives in Boise, Idaho, with his wife of 24 years and his son, who will be entering college in Eugene, Oregon, this fall. Upon graduating in 1980, Rich was hired for by Wisconsin DNR. In his tenure there he developed and implemented the state’s hazardous waste regulatory program and its...
environmental cleanup initiatives. He joined private industry in 1987, working for Waste Management as the company’s director of environmental compliance before becoming the director of environmental remediation. In 1998 he became vice president for project management for Sheaffer International, and subsequently joined American Ecology Corporation in 2004 to lead that company’s environmental, health, and safety programs. In his spare time, he now works with the Boise Parks Department to organize music camps for teenagers.

Lyle E. Schaller (MS Regional Planning ’56) worked initially as a planner for the City of Madison and later graduated from the seminary and served as a parish consultant in American Protestantism for more than four decades. He has published more than fifty books that together have sold more than a million copies.

Danielle (James) Yancey (MS ’10) is a Community services specialist with the Bureau of Environmental Equity Services in the Civil Rights Division at the Wisconsin Department of Transportation.

IN MEMORIAM
Raymond Jackson (MS ’70) of Madison. He was a retired traffic planner for the State of Wisconsin.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING
University of Wisconsin–Madison

URPL’s faculty and staff continually strive to enhance UW–Madison’s credentials as a great place for graduate education in urban and regional planning. Gifts to the department help us enhance the student-learning experience that our state-budgeted funding simply cannot support.

Please consider giving a gift of any size. Your donation will help to educate the next generation of planning professionals.

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   ■ publication of the Connections newsletter.

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