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Berkeley Planning Journal

Title

Editor's Notes

Permalink

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Journal

Berkeley Planning Journal, 20(1)

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Publication Date

2007

DOI

10.5070/BP320111904

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Editor's Note

Welcome to Volume 20 of the *Berkeley Planning Journal* (BPJ 20).

For this milestone issue, we have chosen to exclusively showcase the excellent work of planning students. Alvaro Huerta provides a ground breaking ethnographic exploration of the informal economy of Mexican contract gardeners in Los Angeles. His essay is followed by three historical pieces. Kristin L. Perkins critically examines the origins and implementation of the Greenbelt Towns program of the Roosevelt administration and discusses the short-lived program's long-term impact on subsequent planning policy in the U.S. Marissa Ellis Plouin presents a detailed case study of the development of the *Grands Ensembles* in suburban Paris, which adds much nuance to an often simplistic consideration of post-war public housing. Brooke Ray Smith looks back on the concomitant evolution of municipal sewerage systems in San Francisco and London to look forward to the interjection of more scientific and innovative thinking into urban environmental planning. These historical essays are followed by two current policy pieces. Deirdre Pfeiffer focuses on the key political processes that enabled the successful passage of mandatory inclusionary housing ordinances in San Francisco and San Diego to offer guidance for advancing similar policies elsewhere. Jean Eisberg reviews the recent multi-jurisdictional Blueprint initiative to foster the creation of truly regional planning in the Sacramento area. She finds that the policy, still in its early stages, has been able to lay a new foundation of trust among stakeholders. Alex Schafran has spearheaded the return of a feature from the first decade of the *BPJ*, the Urban Fringe. This section is designed to ensure a place within the journal for the inclusion of ideas and voices that might otherwise face marginalization in the planning literature. *BPJ 20* offers three Urban Fringe pieces. Wendy Tao extends the realm of planning to nomads on the peripheries of Mongolian cities. Nadir Kinossian questions the policies in Russia that encourage American-style suburbanization. Naja Marot identifies the need for increased attention to planning for small towns overwhelmed by the rapid urban growth in Slovenia. Both Mr. Kinossian and Ms. Marot originally presented their work at the very successful inaugural Young Academics meeting of the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) in Bratislava, Slovakia in February 2007. Their participation in this issue reflects the long term objective of the *BPJ* to incorporate planning research from around the world.

Milestones are also times for reflection and rededication. During the preparation of *BPJ 20*, several institutional innovations were made to restructure student participation. The goal of these changes is to simultaneously focus and enhance the experience of the student editors on

the core tasks of reviewing articles and books, making editorial decisions, and working closely with authors to shepherd selected submissions through to publication. All the editors participate in all of these tasks with the result that responsibility is shared, quality is improved (and more consistent), and execution is decentralized. The learning mission of the journal is better achieved and the knowledge of how to produce the journal is more widely spread. Already, this new structure has resulted in exciting initiatives led by individual editors. For example, Kristin L. Perkins has re-energized the book review section and, as noted above, Alex Schafran has revived the Urban Fringe. These examples represent our ambition as planners to create situations where creativity and vision can blossom for the greater good.

This restructuring was made possible by the support of the Department of City and Regional Planning in sponsoring a student-led class in the Spring 2007 semester, by Professor Michael Teitz as our active and engaged faculty advisor, and by the Institute of Urban and Regional Development's commitment to permanently handling our subscription management and journal layout and printing. We are also grateful to the College of Environmental Design for assuming a leadership role in the marketing of the journal. While the success of these innovations can only be assessed over time, I am leaving my editorship confident and thrilled that the journal is well poised for the future.

Finally, and most important, we would like to note the tremendous sadness suffered this year with the sudden death of our beloved student affairs officer, Kaye Bock. Kaye was the heart and soul of our department and an untiring advocate of her students. Her warmth and wisdom made her presence so inspiring and her office an oasis. Kaye's generosity extended to the *Berkeley Planning Journal*. She offered us meeting space and her advice on all matters. We dedicate *BPJ 20* to her eternal memory and our eternal gratitude. We present tributes to Kaye written by Ener Chiu, John Landis, and Alex Schafran. We also inaugurate the Kaye Bock Award to be presented every year for the best journal article written by a student or team of students. This year's Kaye Bock Award is granted to Marissa Ellis Plouin's insightful essay on Paris's *Grands Ensembles*. We initiate a second tradition of having the Kaye Bock Award essay subject provide the focus for our gaze out the campanile on our cover.

Thank you and enjoy, Gregory

L. Newmark, Editor

June 2007