



American
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Association

INTERPLAN

Publication of the APA International Division

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The International Division has stepped forward, once again, with impressive new leadership. As our new leaders note, we are organized to facilitate connections. It is up to each of us to contribute, and Chris, Paul, and Jennifer will ensure the Division is responsive to our needs. This newsletter is your tool for presenting your ideas, sharing your experience, and making yourself known to all members. *Welcome, and enjoy!*

Our New Leadership



Christopher Silver, AICP
Chair

The growing interest in international planning issues within academic programs over the past decade has stimulated lots of new courses and lured many new students eager to get engaged globally. With this level of interest among future professionals, it is important that the Division help to nurture this interest and to strengthen the links between education and practice.

The Division has provided a wide range of products to its members, including this newsletter and quality sessions at the APA National Conference. We foster important linkages between international planning agency staff, academics, students and consultants—but the Division is working to create stronger links between academic programs that offer international planning courses and the vast ranks of practitioners. We are also working on strategies to better integrate members according to ►



Paul Wack, AICP
Vice Chair

Last year, I attended the Division meeting during the National APA Conference in Denver. I expressed interest in finding ways to invest in those planning students with international aspirations through scholarships and other forms of support. After all, our students will be the next generation of professionals to confront the global challenges facing our profession.

Many students outside the Division have a limited understanding of how the world works, or do not appreciate the increasingly negative image many global citizens have of our country and people. It is time to bridge this gap, to expand student membership, to take stock of the Division's many previous accomplishments, and to set course for the future.

There are more than 400 members, including 60 students, with a wide range of interests. We will be ►



Jennifer Lindbom, AICP
Secretary/Treasurer

As a planner committed to promoting sustainable and equitable development worldwide, I am pleased to be serving as Secretary/Treasurer. The Division provides a great mechanism for planning professionals to discuss issues affecting cities and communities around the world and to explore successful means of addressing these issues.

Christopher, Paul, and I are already hard at work to invigorate and strengthen the Division. We want to provide you with the information, contacts, and activities you need to stay abreast of international planning issues and to continue professional development.

Keep reading *Interplan*, respond to the forthcoming membership survey, visit our Web site (www.planning.org/international) and attend the International Division sponsored discussions at the upcoming APA Convention ►



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Interplan

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(Silver, continued)

regional interests and common planning concerns, and we are striving to reach those students and professionals not currently served. To this end, I emlore you to read and contribute to *Interplan* (see page 7) and to contact Paul, Jennifer and myself with your ideas and concerns.

Dr. Christopher Silver, AICP, has been Professor and Head of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, since 1998. Prior to that, he was Associate Dean at Virginia Commonwealth University and previously served as a Fulbright Senior Lecturer at the University of Indonesia and the Institute of Technology, Bandung, Indonesia. He served as principal or co-principal investigator of three USAID projects and organized and conducted international training programs in local government management, urban planning, and tourism development since 1992. He is author/co-author of three books and more than 20 articles and book chapters in planning and planning history. His recent work examines decentralization, democratization and social capital in development planning, with particular emphasis on Indonesia. He is past co-editor of the Journal of the American Planning Association and is currently editor of the Journal of Planning History. Since 1999, he has been vice-president of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and is currently serving as President. Christopher can be reached at silver@uiuc.edu.

(Wack, continued)

tapping into this great collection of people through a membership survey to generate a collective vision and action plan (see page 8) and then will update our bylaws, as many other divisions are doing. I am excited to serve the Division and to contribute to our rewarding profession, free of borders. I look forward to meeting many of you at the National Conference in April.

Paul Wack, AICP, is a principal with the National APA award-winning consulting firm of Jacobson & Wack, which specializes in the preparation of development codes, zoning ordinances, subdivision regulations, and related plan implementation techniques. He has been an active planner and educator for more than 30 years and is currently Associate Professor in City and Regional Planning at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and a adjunct lecturer in environmental planning with both the Environmental Studies Program and Bren School of Environmental Science and Management at the University of California, Santa Barbara. His current range of diverse educational and professional interests includes sustainable communities, international planning education networking, agricultural land preservation, and innovative zoning techniques. Paul is a co-founder of the International Sustainable Indicators Network (ISIN) and returned to New Zealand last summer to continue his research of both the Resource Management Act (RMA) and the Big Cities Quality of Life Project. Contact Paul at pwack@calpoly.edu.

(Lindbom, continued)

(see pages 3-4). If you have any ideas how the Division can serve you better or would like to volunteer for Division activities, please do not hesitate to contact any of the officers. I look forward to an exciting year ahead.

Jennifer Lindbom, AICP, currently is a planner for ACP-Visioning and Planning, Ltd., where she focuses on integrating public participation and physical planning in communities throughout the United States. In April 2003, she was part of the team awarded the first-ever national APA American Vision Award for Imagine New York, a vision for the World Trade Center site and the New York Metropolitan Region post-9/11. Prior to her current position, Jennifer spent over five years working in the U.K. and on local development planning in the Philippines with the Peace Corps and the Asian Development Bank. She has also worked for the International Rescue Committee, USAID, and New York University's Taub Urban Research Center. Jennifer holds a Master of Urban Planning and a BA in Anthropology, both with honors from New York University. She can be reached via email at jlindbom@acp-planning.com.

National APA Conference 2004 Washington, D.C.

Saturday, April 24 - Wednesday, April 28

<http://www.planning.org/2004conference>

Final Registration is March 26. After that, you must register onsite in Washington, D.C.

Conference Site: Conference sessions will be held at both the Hilton Washington (1919 Connecticut Avenue, NW) and the Omni Shoreham Hotel (2500 Calvert Street, NW).

Registration Hours: Registration will be held at the Hilton Washington

Saturday, 7:30 a.m.– 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Monday and Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, 7:30 a.m. – noon

International Attendees: Travelers coming to the U.S. for tourism or business for 90 days or less from qualified countries may be eligible to visit the U.S. without a visa. Visit the APA Website at <http://www.planning.org/2004conference/international.htm> to read about the Visa Waiver Program and to find out if you meet the visa waiver requirements.

Register Online for the APA Conference Save \$30!

Go to <http://www.planning.org/2004conference/registration.htm>

The Final Registration is **March 26**—After that, you must register onsite in Washington, D.C.

Email your questions to confregistration@planning.org or call 312-786-6703

International Division APA Conference Events

International Division Meeting

All members and interested Conference attendees are invited!

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

International Approaches to Balanced Development

Tuesday, 10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (Hilton)

Find up-to-date information at www.planning.org/2004conference and watch for notices posted at the Conference regarding location or schedule.

Exploratory Workshop B: The Urban Dimension of USAID Assistance

Monday, 9:15 a.m. – noon

Join the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) staff and urban planners for a lively discussion at the USAID office. Hear about policies and programs related to urban development and management such as Sustainable Urban Management, Resource Cities, and Making Cities Work.

Understand if and how U.S. solutions can be transferred cross culturally to less developed countries.

Advance security clearance and photo ID required prior to entering USAID office. Preregistration required. No cost. Sponsored by the International Division.

A few other sessions of interest:

Serving Resort Community Populations (S077)
April 26, 10:15 a.m.

Celebrating the Canadian City (S099)
April 26, 1:00 p.m.

Mobile Workshop: Symbols of Cultural Diversity (W30)
April 26, 1:30 p.m.

Influence the Outcome of Base Closures (S116)
April 26, 2:30 p.m.

Managing the Regional Industrial Land Supply (S110)
April 26, 2:30 p.m.

Embassy Crawl and Reception
April 26, 6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
(\$65/includes cocktail reception; the event is limited, so sign up early)

Ground Rules of Regional Planning (S142)
April 27, 8:45 a.m.

International Approaches to Balanced Development (S153)
April 27, 10:15 a.m.

Sustainability in Resort Communities (S216)
April 27, 10:15 a.m.

Landcare Worldwide (S180)
April 27, 2:30 p.m.

International Forum (S262)
April 27, 4:00 p.m.

Mobile Workshop: The Airport as an Economic Tool (W60)
April 28, 8:00 a.m.

Redeveloping South Africa's Rural Centers (S190)
April 28, 8:45 a.m.

Planning in China (S232)
April 28, 10:15 a.m.

Go online www.planning.org/2004conference/sessionsdocument.htm to search sessions by date/time, event type, topic, sponsor, track or keyword!

Feature Articles

Sustainable Futures: An Interdisciplinary Studio in a Costa Rican Cloud Forest

By Dr. Stacy Harwood

Sustainable Futures is a ten-week course that provides an opportunity for graduate students and interested professionals from the fields of urban planning, landscape architecture and architecture, to live and work in a rural, but rapidly developing region in Costa Rica. The projects are concerned with creating futures that are ecologically and socially just. This course has a long tradition of working with community organizations, including the local cooperatives, schools, chamber of commerce, and the recently formed district government. The Monteverde Institute provides a home for the program, and works year-round with local leaders and community members on issues related to sustainable development through other educational and research programs.

The course unfolds at an altitude of 1400 meters (about 4,593 feet) in the Tilaran Mountains, where the clouds blow over the continental divide from the Atlantic side into the town of Monteverde, creating a unique set of microclimates along the Pacific slope. Students and faculty find themselves surrounded by a diverse array of flora and fauna, including 450 species of orchids, 200 species of ferns, 500 types of butterflies, and spectacular birds, such as the Quetzal and Bell Bird along with nearly 850 others. The region has long been promoted as an international model for sustainable development and attracts a diverse variety of people, including Costa Rican nationals, as well as biologists, students, tourists and artists from around the world. This popularity, however, challenges efforts aimed at both addressing the region's growing economic and social disparities while also protecting the natural environment.

The work of Sustainable Futures often spurs community discussion about land use and helps generate ideas for future community projects. In addition to the more site-specific projects, students develop alternative scenarios for the communities in the region. This development of scenarios began two years ago in an effort to better understand the region's growth and development, as well as to create a baseline of information about existing conditions, including the number of structures, population estimates, land-use patterns, traffic, and water quality. Now in its third year, the scenario-planning team continues to collect and analyze data as well as to create plausible scenarios that explore what might happen if things continue "business as usual." Students develop two alternative scenarios, one based upon an economy dominated by eco-tourism and the other with a more diversified economy, exploring ways to balance the competing interests in the region. Through these efforts, the Institute hopes to contribute to the community discussion about the future and participate in the development of conservation and growth guidelines for the region.

The Monteverde Institute is always looking for interested students and faculty to participate in the program. For more information contact Dr. Stacy Harwood at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Department of Urban and Regional Planning: sharwood@uiuc.edu.

Structural Adjustment and Urban Planning and Development Patterns in Africa

By Stephan Schmidt

During the 1980s, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD or World Bank) began a series of economic development programs coupled with structural adjustment loans. These structural adjustment policies (SAPs) have affected African cities' planning processes and the resultant urban patterns.

It is IMF policy to loan money to countries to whom no other institution would lend money, and along with the policy, IMF has imposed conditions upon recipient countries intended to guide developing economies from debtor status to stabilization and finally to economic growth.¹ This structural adjustment entails privatization, the removal of regulatory barriers, currency devaluation, trade and foreign exchange liberalization, and the exploitation of a country's comparative advantage through the export of primary products. While the original mandate of IMF policies was meant primarily to affect the macro-economic situation at the national scale,² the policies have had secondary and tertiary affects with impacts on the urban environment. Local and regional policies have had to be adjusted to meet this new situation, while the urban landscapes have been reshaped.

By drawing African states more tightly into the global capitalist system, spatial development patterns in African cities have altered in response to the changes implicit in SAPs. The urban periphery, long defined as zone of survival for rural migrants, has become a zone of investment. The privatization of transportation has led to a change in the growth pattern, from "ribbon" development along transportation corridors to a pattern marked by urban in-fill. Increased accessibility has also led to a rise in spontaneous and unplanned development in these areas. Peripheral growth has been augmented by the relaxation of import/export controls, making foreign exchange more readily available for real estate investment, while home construction has been seen as a means to provide some measure of social security in a time of unreliable government support. Much of the capital accumulation, investment, and deployment has taken place in urban areas, which in Africa still exhibit a degree of urban primacy, remnant of colonial days, as opposed to the multi-nodal urban development of other nations.

The implementation of SAPs by African states at the insistence of the IMF has unleashed a number of policy paradoxes. First, the concurrent implementation of decentralization and liberalization has ironically required state intervention and the transformation of the role of the state into that of an "enabler" within the state-market relationship.³ This process requires political intervention and has manifested itself in an elite team of technocrats working closely with finance ministries, within a politically and spatially centralized context. Second, the promotion of economic liberalization was often not accompanied by political liberalization. In fact, the imposition of politically unpopular SAPs is easier under one-party rule, and "economic reform" is

often accompanied by an authoritarian political system. The IMF's tacit approval of African "strong men" who impose adjustment underscores their desire for the successful implementation of structural adjustment, no matter the cost. Third, SAPs tend to be sector specific, emphasizing export production, and in doing so tend to fragment, as opposed to integrate, the national economy. This has affected the planning process by marginalizing local planning efforts in the drive for centralization, as well as the implementation of adjustment policies separate from other planning efforts.

This article is excerpted from the paper, "Structural Adjustment and Implications for Urban Patterns and Processes in Africa," by Stephan Schmidt, an Urban Planning student at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. He can be reached at Stephan1@eden.rutgers.edu.

¹ Riddell, B., Structural Adjustment Programmes and the city in tropical Africa, *Urban Studies*, vol.34, no.8, 1997.

² Stiglitz, J., *Globalization and Its Discontents*, W.W. Norton & Co., New York, 2002.

³ Mohan, G., Neoliberalism and Decentralised Development Planning in Ghana, *Third World Planning Review*, 18 (4), 1996.

Contribute to *Interplan*

As the International Division of APA, we cover a broad range of interests. Not only are we living and working throughout the world, we are also working on a variety of assignments. Some of us work for international non-governmental organizations, some for consulting firms, others work directly for communities. We are academics and activists and practicing planners. We are citizens representing many nations, and we may not be working in our native lands.

What we have in common is our interest in sharing our knowledge, speaking of our experiences, and our desire to learn about the challenges and opportunities faced by fellow planners throughout the world. How do our problems and solutions differ? What are the contexts in which we work? Whom do we serve? How do we know when we are successful?

We want your contributions—essays, anecdotes, book reviews, reports on research underway or recently completed. We want representative variety—short articles, and lots of them. To inspire potential contributors and to best present certain complementary topics, we will also plan a major theme for each issue, such as "international organizations," "environmental planning and impacts assessment," and of course some geographic themes. More details will follow in future newsletters, but in the meantime, **send us your ideas and abstracts.**

We want to hear from you.

Cade Hobbick, AICP, Editor hobbick@pbworld.com

Coming Soon!

Watch for the email announcement and link to the online member survey. We want to hear your opinions, comments, and suggestions, so be sure to respond promptly. We'll be discussing the results of the survey at the International Division business meeting during the APA National Conference in Washington, D.C., April 27.

APA International Division *Membership Application*

☐ I wish to join the APA International Division

Name _____

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Address _____

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E-Mail _____

- ☐ APA Member \$25.00
☐ Non-member of APA \$45.00
☐ APA Student \$10.00

☐ Check enclosed payable to APA (US dollars)

☐ Charge my MasterCard / Visa

Signature _____

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