

News



School of Urban and Regional Planning

Kingston, Ontario

Number 30

Spring 2012

SURP'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL PROJECT COURSE: SHANGHAI, CHINA

In December 2011, Dr. John Meligrana led nine SURP students and Chinese guide/interpreter Yun Zhang on an intensive two-week field trip to China's Shanghai Metropolitan Area as part of SURP's first international project course. The following SURP students comprised the project team: **Johannes Bendle, Kyle Gonyou, Kevin Jarus, Arthur Lo, Simona Rasanu, Carolyn Skoworodko, Tara Spears, Sharlad Sukumaran and Marisa Talarico.**

The Shanghai Metropolitan Area faces enormous planning challenges, including preserving some of the world's most productive agricultural land while managing rapid urban growth and a deteriorating natural environment. The purpose of the trip was to gain international exposure to land use, environmental and socio-economic planning ideas in this cosmopolitan megacity. Students had meetings with Shanghai government officials, private developers, urban planners, as well as Chinese university professors and students at three universities: Fudan, Tongji and Soochow. They also conducted site visits to demonstration projects in environmental planning, organic agriculture and new town development.

Information from field trip activities was supplemented by extensive background reading of the available literature to create professional reports and a photo album for two Chinese partner organizations, the World Wildlife Fund Shanghai Office and the Chinese Ministry of Land and Resources, as well as the Canadian Institute of Planners.

Despite similarities in scope between the planning issues facing China and Canada, the Shanghai area's rapid development is challenging conventional Western ideas regarding growth management and

environmental planning. Although Shanghai officials are very receptive to Western planning principles, students recommended that officials draw upon foreign expertise and international best practices, where appropriate, but focus on the development of "home-grown" solutions to planning problems.



December 10, 2011—SURP project team and passersby in front of Shanghai's skyline

Back Row (L to R): Kevin Jarus, Carolyn Skoworodko, Johannes Bendle

Middle Row (L to R): Dr. John Meligrana, Tara Spears, Sharlad Sukumaran, Marisa Talarico, Kyle Gonyou

Front Row (L to R): Arthur Lo, Simona Rasanu, Yun Zhang

Photo courtesy of Arthur Lo



December 15, 2011—SURP project team in front of a statue of Chairman Mao Zedong on the campus of Shanghai's Tongji University

Photo courtesy of Arthur Lo

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



SURP's first international project course to Shanghai, China was the year's highlight, but there was other good news on the international exchange front as the School continues to expand its relationships with comparable planning schools and government institutions. Our China Projects Office continues to coordinate research and training with our Chinese partners under the leadership of Professors Hok-Lin Leung and John Meligrana. We have made agreements with two of our new partners in the Matariki Network – the University of Western Australia (UWA) in Perth, AU, and the University of Otago in Dunedin, NZ. The first SURP graduate student went on exchange in January 2011, we hosted three UWA and Otago students in the fall 2011 term, with another SURP student in Perth in 2012, and four are in process for 2013 exchanges.

The School continued to revise its core curriculum, making major changes to the research proposal and methods courses that significantly decreased the completion time of our 2011 Master's students. A record number (11) completed the program in five terms, rather than the usual six. The faculty will continue renewal of the optional curriculum in 2012-13. SURP continued to recruit an outstanding group of graduate students, meeting our enrolment target (66) for the fifth year in a row despite increased competition across Canada. SURP students won four SSHRC's, three Toronto Commercial Real Estate Women Scholarships and three Society of Industrial and Office Realtors Canada Central Chapter Scholarships in 2011.

The School's offerings were diverse and multidisciplinary, aided by our excellent adjunct faculty. We were pleased that emeritus professors Mohammad Qadeer and Hok-Lin Leung returned to teach courses on multiculturalism and international urban planning, respectively, in 2011. We have an innovative relationship with The Mediation Centre

of Southeastern Ontario to deliver an alternative dispute resolution course. Former Canadian Institute of Planners President Marni Cappe taught an urban policy course, former Ontario Professional Planners Institute President Sue Cumming taught public participation techniques, CMHC analyst Dr. Patricia Streich taught affordable housing, Sukriti Agarwal taught GIS and alumnus **Dr. Clarke Wilson** ('73) taught a course on population forecasting. We send our condolences to Clarke, whose wife Jane passed away sadly and unexpectedly on January 24, 2012.

Many of these new courses benefit from collaboration with other Queen's departments. We are especially proud of our partnership with the School of Policy Studies, sharing fifteen courses over the past two years and enriching the curriculum of both schools. SURP faculty also taught courses in Queen's Geography, Environmental Studies, and Business. Additional collaboration and shared teaching began with the School of Kinesiology and Health Studies (SKHS) in winter 2012. Although SURP has no plans to offer an undergraduate planning program, these partnerships allow our faculty to interact with students outside our School, and our innovative coordinated degree programs with Civil Engineering and Geography bring us a few highly-qualified students for early admission to our graduate program. We hope to expand this program to Environmental Studies and SKHS in 2012-13.

SURP students benefited from a range of professional internships in 2011. Despite the economic recession, almost every first-year student obtained a paid professional internship, and most of the graduating classes had secured planning jobs by the end of the summer. We appreciate the loyal support of our partners from the public and private sectors, and the National Executive Forum on Public Property. Dr. John Andrew and Jo-Anne Rudachuk will continue to reach out to our partners to provide good professional experience for our students during a period of public sector constraint.

Despite the heavy load of teaching, administration and supervision, our scholars remained remarkably productive: we edited journals, wrote two books and monographs, seven chapters, 23 refereed

articles, and 14 other reports and articles in 2011. The student body contributed four professional reports and 42 master's theses and research reports over the past year.

But this small school can only continue to accomplish these amazing feats because of the level of collegiality and teamwork that is unusual in a university setting. The secret to SURP's success is a dedicated and experienced staff team - Angela Balesdent is in her 12th year at SURP and her 26th year at Queen's and Jo-Anne Rudachuk has been at SURP for 23 years now and at Queen's for just over 28. Connie Brobeck and Xu Li also kept the Forum and China Projects offices running smoothly.

Our faculty has been enhanced by our new colleague, Dr. Patricia Collins, our fourth new hire in the past four years. These new faculty positions are a remarkable vote of confidence in our School, for which we thank Vice-Provost and Dean of Graduate Studies Brenda Brouwer and former Provost Bob Silverman. The 2011-12 academic year saw the School of Urban and Regional Planning with its full faculty complement for the first time in five years. We look forward to more great teaching and research as the School enters its fifth decade of service to Queen's and the Canadian planning profession.

Dave Gordon, Professor and Director

STUDENT HONOURS AND AWARDS

Mike Dror, Lindsey Gradeen, Tony Gkotsis and Carolyn Skoworodko were awarded fellowships by the **Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC)**.

Natasha Reaney ('11) received the **2011 Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) Award for Academic Excellence**, which is given to the CIP student member with the highest academic standing in the program. Natasha also won the SURP **Ida Mmari Memorial Award**, which is given to the graduating student who completes the program in two years and has the highest grade point average.

Megan Jones, Michelle Nicholson and Simona Rasanu each won a \$1,000 **2011 Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR) Canada Central Chapter Scholarship**.

The winners of SURP's **International Experience Awards** for 2012 are **Mladen Kukic** for travel to Amsterdam, The Netherlands, **Jonathan Pradinuk** for travel to Helsinki, Finland, and **Marisa Talarico** for travel to Bogota, Colombia. They will each receive up to \$1,700 toward their travel expenses.

Carl Isaak ('11) won the **2011 Stanley Lash Award**, which is given to the student who has written the best term paper in the preceding calendar year.

Tara Spears is the inaugural recipient of the **Sue Hendler Graduate Fellowship**, which recognizes SURP students who have distinguished themselves academically and are conducting research on planning ethics or women and gender in planning. This \$2,000 award will support Tara's master's research on improving women's perceptions of safety in downtown Guelph, ON.



2011 SIOR Scholarship recipients with Dr. John Andrew (middle), L to R: Megan Jones and Michelle Nicholson. Simona Rasanu was in Shanghai, China. Photo courtesy of Dr. John Andrew



Sue Hendler Graduate Fellowship inaugural recipient Tara Spears, Photo courtesy of Tara Spears

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT GRADUATES!



Fall 2011

Tony Boutassis, Carl Isaac, Amanda Leonard, Drew MacMartin, Brook McCrady, Kieran Miller, Laura Moebs, Ashley North, Jaime Posen, Sarah Stephenson, Claire van Koughnett, Ryan Jeffrey, Annamarie Burgess, Phoebe Chan, Kevin House, Mark Janzen, Jordan Lee, Devin Reynolds, Andrew Sherstone, Stephen Takyi, Paul Yeoman

*Fall 2011 SURP grads and faculty on the steps of Ontario Hall
Photo courtesy of Phoebe Chan*

GOOD LUCK TO THE CLASS OF 2012!



Photo courtesy of Carly Marshall and Anya Paskovic

Top Row (L to R): Dr. Graham Whitelaw, Dr. John Andrew, Dr. Andrejs Skaburskis, Dr. Dave Gordon

Fourth Row (L to R): Carolyn Skoworodko, Ms. Jo-Anne Rudachuk, Nick Michael, Nigel Terpstra, Ms. Angie Balesdent, Matthew Ippersiel, Johannes Bendle, Arthur Lo, Sharlad Sukumaran, Julia Cziraky, Anthony Hommik, Andrea Renney

Third Row (L to R): Sarah Bingham, Kevin Jarus, Anita Sott, Anya Paskovic, Marisa Talarico, Tara Spears, Christina Hovey, Laura Chris

Second Row (L to R): Carl Funk, Michelle Nicholson, Jennifer Wood, Anna Froehlich, Dr. John Meligrana, Megan Jones, Simona Rasanu, Brittany Hasler, Kyle Gonyou

First Row (L to R): Korey Walker, Eric Miles, Kris Nelson, Ali Ikram, Chris Callahan, Dr. Patricia Collins, Dr. Leela Viswanathan, Amy Doyle, Youko Leclerc-Desjardins, Jen Gawor

GRADUATING CLASS GIFT

The Class of 2012 would like to thank the Class of 2013 for their generous dedication of a red oak tree in Victoria Park. It's a lasting gift in one of Kingston's most treasured green spaces close to Queen's campus.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGES

Fall 2011: **Claire Boland** and **Dylan Stokes** were visiting undergraduate students from the University of Western Australia (UWA). **Claire Lindsay** was a visiting graduate student from the University of Otago, New Zealand.

Winter 2012: **Sarah Bingham**, SURP student, went on an exchange to the University of Western Australia.

In 2012, we expect to send three or four SURP students to Otago and UWA and we expect two students to come here from Otago.



Fall 2011 SURP foreign exchange students (L to R): Claire Lindsay, Dylan Stokes and Claire Boland.

Photo courtesy of Dr. David Gordon

ALUMNI NEWS

Denise Baker ('00) will be working for the firm of Townsend and Associates (Barristers and Solicitors) as of April 9, 2012.

Martin Barakengera ('01) and Christine Barakengera would like to announce the arrival of their new baby girl Sonia Barakengera on April 3rd, 2012.

David Fitzpatrick ('08) has recently moved back to Ontario from Vancouver to pursue working with DIALOG.

Carl Isaac ('11) and his wife Tamara have sent a beautiful photo of their darling daughter, Cara Marie Isaac, who will turn one year old on June 22nd, 2012.



Cara Marie Isaac
Photo courtesy of
Tamara Isaac

Emma Kozak ('00) and Adrian Kozak would like to announce the arrival of their new daughter, Isabel Kate Kozak, born on September 21st, 2011.

Ute Maya-Giambattista ('01) has recently been featured in the Ontario Provincial Planning Institute (OPPI) Journal for being appointed Head of Urban Design at Sorensen Gravely Lowes (SGL) Planning Associates. The Urban Design division will focus on all issues related to urban design and physical planning, in addition to community visioning, site planning and intensification studies.

Mark Reade ('98) and Stacey English welcomed Greyson Thomas Reade (weighing in at 3.53 kg) on May 21st, 2011. Mark, Stacey, and Greyson are all doing fine. After 12 years in planning and engineering consulting, Mark joined the City of Saint John as a Senior Planner in February 2010, and was part of the team that developed the City's new Municipal Plan, PlanSJ. Mark is currently the Project Manager for the City's Zoning By-law Review.

A number of SURP graduates have gone on to successful academic careers. Three of these grads are now with the Department of Geography at Brock University: **Chris Fullerton** ('97) received tenure and promotion in 2009. **Phillip Mackintosh** ('96) has recently been promoted to chair of the Department of Geography at Brock University, starting July 1st, 2012. He is also the author of a historical planning paper forthcoming in the *Annals of the Association of America Geographers* entitled "'Co-agent of the millennium': City planning and Christian eschatology in North American City". **Catherine Jean Nash** ('95) received tenure and promotion in 2007.

Two SURP grads are now working at the Ryerson University School of Urban and Regional Planning: **Pamela Robinson** ('94) was tenured and promoted in 2009 and **Raktim Mitra** ('07) has recently accepted a tenure-track appointment. Raktim will be teaching transportation to graduate and undergraduate students, as well as conducting their required quantitative methods course.

Raktim is also proud to announce the birth of daughter Roopkothha, born on September 28th, 2011.

At the University of Waterloo School of Planning, **John Lewis** ('96) earned tenure and promotion in 2010 and **Markus Moos** ('06) is now in his second year of a tenure-track appointment.

FACULTY NEWS

Ajay Agarwal taught four full courses and part of one course in 2011. He developed a new interdisciplinary planning and civil engineering course — SURP-884 Functional Planning: Urban Transportation. He also did significant outreach work to solicit a client for an international project course to be offered in India in the fall of 2012. Eleven SURP students have expressed interest in accompanying Ajay to work on a sustainable development strategy for Auroville located near Pondicherry in southern India. The project is being partially funded by the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute.

John Andrew taught SURP-841 Real Estate Decision Making and Commerce-309 Real Estate Management and continued to run SURP's student internship program in 2011. This summer he will begin work on his component of a collaborative research project based at Queen's School of Business' Monieson Centre, entitled "Research Partnerships to Revitalize Rural Communities", funded by a \$239,000 SSHRC Partnership Development Grant.

John spent much of his time in 2011 launching and growing the new Queen's Real Estate Roundtable, founded in 2010, a unique industry organization focused on applied research and professional development for commercial real estate companies in Canada. This involved recruiting new member companies, developing the organization and planning future events. John continued to run Queen's University's Executive Seminars on Corporate and Investment Real Estate (ESCIRE), founded in 2004. ESCIRE offered successful and well-attended seminars in May 2011 and February 2012 in Toronto. The 2011 seminar was entitled

"Recovery, Returns, Reality and Risk: Commercial Real Estate Investment and Operation in 2011" while the February 2012 seminar was entitled "Real Estate Capital Markets in Canada and the United States: Equity, Debt and Cross-Border Flows". John is well-recognized by the media and industry as a real estate expert. For example, his quotations and appearances in national and local newspapers, radio and television counted in the hundreds in 2011. He spent much time promoting in the news the Queen's brand in general, and the Real Estate Roundtable and ESCIRE specifically.

Finally, John provides facilitation and mediation services to several private and government clients, and continues his long affiliation with the Mediation Centre of Southeastern Ontario as a course instructor and roster mediator.

In 2011, **Carl Bray** was welcomed as a SURP Visiting Scholar and assisted John Meligrana in planning for the China X'ian project. In his consultancy business, Carl prepared plans for the Kingston Psychiatric Hospital property, the Old Sydenham Heritage Area and the urban design plan for Upper Princess Street/Williamsville, expanding on work completed in the 2009 SURP-848 Community Design course.

Patricia Collins commenced three research project collaborations in 2011 in her first year at SURP. First, she is working with researchers from KFL&A Public Health on analysis and dissemination of results from a survey on active transportation patterns among Kingston residents. She is also collaborating with Jim Dunn from McMaster University on designing a study that will employ a 'natural experiment' approach to test the effects of relocating to a neighbourhood of different walkability status on

physical activity patterns. The third project involves working with her SURP colleague, Ajay Agarwal, on a project examining the links between commuting patterns and mental health outcomes among the Canadian population.

In spite of his significant administrative duties as SURP Director, in 2011 **David Gordon** taught one course, SURP-840 Land Use Planning, one module and parts of four other courses; led field trips to Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa; and supervised 18 graduate students, including a post-doctoral student, and five research assistants. He developed partnerships with three community agencies to deliver project courses – the City of Kingston, the City of Ottawa and the Social Planning Council of Kingston and District. Dave participated in research conferences in Canada and around the world, and continued with his duties as coordinator for the National Executive Forum on Public Property. He is currently in the process of finalizing work supported by a SSHRC research grant on Canadian suburbs.

Professor Emeritus **Hok-Lin Leung** continued his biannual lecture tours in China (spring and autumn). In 2011 the tours were centred in Shanghai (based at Tongji University, where he was appointed Guest Professor) and Beijing (based at the China Academy of Urban Planning and Design). The third annual Planning Theory Festival was held in Beijing, March 3-6, 2011, with speakers from hydraulic engineering, stem cell research, chemical engineering (coal) and sculpture theory. Participants came from all over China. The idea was to stimulate the development of theory through the use of metaphors, analogies and associations drawn from theoretical and practical insights of other disciplines.

Hok-Lin completed his book draft entitled *Cultural DNA of Western Civilisation*, to be published by The Joint Publishing Company, the largest publishing house in China. It is expected to come out in late 2012. The training of senior officials and Party cadres on public policy planning methods continued at the Development Research Center, State Council and the China Executive Leadership Academy, Pudong. He was also appointed Director of the Research Institute on Policy Effectiveness (RIPE) of the Central University of Finance and Economics, which was built around his book *Towards a*

Subjective Approach to Policy Planning and Evaluation: Common-Sense Structured, first published in Canada in 1986 and translated and published in China in 2010. In Canada, he continued to convene the Ambassadors' Forum which he created in 2003, with three sessions held in 2011.

In 2011 **John Meligrana** taught one module: SURP-800 Research Proposal and the core course SURP-815 Legal and Governmental Processes (both the winter and fall semesters). He also organized and led a group of nine SURP students to Shanghai, China for a two-week intensive field trip as part of SURP's new International Project Course between December 8th and 22nd. Tour activities included field trips to environmental planning demonstration projects, meeting with NGOs, government agencies, professional planning firms and academic institutions. Students prepared a detailed report submitted to both China's Ministry of Land and Resources and the Shanghai Office of the World Wildlife Fund. Students also delivered three separate presentations at Fudan University, Tongji University and Soochow University. Student activities were highlighted on the Shanghai Municipal Government website: <http://planning.pudong.gov.cn/Page/Detail.aspx?id=4826>.

John also published his research findings on land use disputes in China in the journal *Environment and Urbanization*. During the summer, John organized a two-week intensive training program in land use planning for approximately 50 government officials from China's Ministry of Land and Resources. The training included 14 presentations by experts from Queen's University, Government of Ontario, Federal Government, the private sector and three field trips: 1) Canadian Wollastonite Mining Operations, 2) Toronto Stock Exchange and 3) Village of Sydenham and South Frontenac Township Government Offices and area. On a personal note, John is proud to announce that his 18-month old son is now attending Queen's University – the day care program!

Professor Emeritus **Mohammed Qadeer** taught SURP-810 Special Topic (Planning for Multiculturalism) both in the fall term 2010 and 2011. He also has a new book on multiculturalism underway. Our congratulations and thanks go out to

Qadeer who has now taught at SURP for 40 continuous years, which he says speaks as much to the continuity of the School as it does of his longevity!

In 2011, **Preston Schiller** was again welcomed as a Visiting Scholar at SURP. His book, *An Introduction to Sustainable Transportation: Policy, Planning and Implementation*, has been widely and favourably reviewed.

Andrejs Skaburskis taught four courses and part of one course in 2011. He taught SURP-842 Economics of Land Development and Planning and SURP-874 Housing Policy, as well as a significant part of SURP-819 Quantitative Methods. He supervised six students and continued his SSHRC-sponsored research on neighbourhood transitions. Andrejs continued as the Managing Editor of *Urban Studies* and sat on the Editorial Advisory Boards of *J of Architectural and Planning Research*, *Housing Studies* and *Open J of Urban Studies*. He is currently preparing an appeal to Canada's Supreme Court on an environmental damages claim.

As well as teaching as a SURP adjunct faculty member and supervising two student master's reports in 2011, **Patricia Streich** carried out numerous evaluation and research projects in her private consulting practice and contributed in various voluntary roles to the following local housing and poverty initiatives: Member of Housing Action Group, Community Committee for Affordable Housing; Advisor to Kingston Community Roundtable on Poverty Reduction; and Queen's Alumni Association Kingston Branch, Member of Executive Committee.

In winter 2011, **Leela Viswanathan** taught SURP-812 Qualitative Methods in Planning and SURP-871 Social Planning, which was delivered using a model of community service learning. In fall 2011, Leela taught in both the Geography Department and at SURP. She taught GPHY-338 Urban Political Geography to third-and fourth-year undergraduate students as well as SURP-817 An Intellectual History of Urban and Regional Planning, with David Gordon; SURP-800, a module in which students prepare their Master's Report or Thesis proposals; and SURP-823

Housing and Human Services Project Course, with Patricia Collins, and David Jackson from the Social Planning Council of Kingston and District.

Students in SURP-823 Housing and Human Services Project Course developed a tool-kit geared to businesses and various municipal and community leaders interested in implementing a model for a social enterprise in Kingston. During winter 2012, Leela developed and taught a new course, SURP-870 Program Development for Human Services. She also supervised two students conducting community practice through the course SURP-875. She was an invited guest lecturer in the Occupational Therapy program at Queen's and a panelist at the Centre for Teaching and Learning Workshop: "Growing Community Service Learning: From Ideas to Practice" in Kingston and at Queen's, held in October 2011. In April 2011, Leela received the **2011 Steven Cutway Accessibility Award** for promoting access for students with disabilities at Queen's.

In 2011, **Graham Whitelaw** taught three full courses and parts of three courses - three in SURP and three in Environmental Studies. At SURP, he taught SURP-856 Environmental Assessment during the winter of 2011 and SURP-825 Environmental Services project course with David Gordon, Daniel Shipp and Julie Salter-Keane. He was also busy supervising (or co-supervising) the research of 15 Masters students and two undergraduate students. Graham is Co-Chair of the Queen's Sustainable Development Group developing a research program on climate change adaption and urban planning. In 2011, he received five SSHRC grants, either as a collaborator or co-applicant, to continue his research in First Nations and environmental planning.

FACULTY CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Dr. Andrejs Skaburskis!** In its March 2012 Report on Business, *The Globe and Mail* cites him among Canada's top three researchers in the field of Urban Design / Planning. We are all proud to have such a prominent researcher in our field as our colleague, teacher and friend.

Congratulations to **Dr. Ajay Agarwal** and **Dr. Leela Viswanathan** whose applications for renewal of appointment were both successful for another three years.

SUPPORT STAFF NEWS

Jo-Anne Rudachuk was delighted by the arrival of her second grandbaby, Alexis Patricia Daum, on January 24th, 2012 in Kingston. Jo-Anne and her grandson, Aiden (now 3 years old), waited patiently at home for the news from her daughter, Melissa, and her son-in-law, Tim. Family is doing well.



*Jo-Anne Rudachuk's granddaughter,
Alexis Patricia Daum
Photo courtesy of Jo-Anne Rudachuk*

Jo-Anne also remains busy outside her job at SURP managing the band Rudy & Saddle Up and organizing a Relay for Life Kingston Team, "Rudy & Saddle Up BAND TOGETHER", in support of the

Canadian Cancer Society. Jo-Anne has already organized fundraising events in Kingston in support of Relay for Life Kingston and is participating in the Relay on June 1st in honour of **Sue Hendler**. Donations to her team are welcome through the Canadian Cancer Society website.

Angie Balesdent and her husband Dana celebrated with joy the marriage of their son Dana Jr. to his beautiful bride Melissa last August. A lovely wedding ceremony took place in Barriefield Gardens followed by a dinner and cruise with family and friends on the Island Queen.

Last September Angie and Dana donated a full-sized fridge to the School and we are pleased to report it is being well-used by the SURP Community.

SURP INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The economic downturn seemed to finally catch up to the SURP internship program in Summer 2011. Several of our "veteran" employers were forced to impose temporary hiring freezes, requiring considerable effort to replace these positions with new employers. The recent turnover of employers has been considerably higher than over the longer term. Nevertheless, there was a total of 31 internship positions available, compared to the 33 students moving from first to second year in the program. Four of these positions were secured by graduating students, such that 27 of the 33 returning students were placed in internships.

Fortunately, the positive trend of more students securing for their own positions is continuing, especially in their home cities outside of Ontario. Often this yields some of the best employment opportunities, ones that often become sustaining positions for subsequent SURP students. There were 10 such positions this year.

We greatly appreciate the important role played by SURP alumni/ae who hire our intelligent and hard-working students. If you or a colleague may be in a position to bring one of our finest into your organization, please contact our internship coordinator, Dr. John Andrew at 613-533-6000 ext. 75756 or john.andrew@queensu.ca.

2011-2012 EVENTS

Sustainable Transportation Principles and Planning Practices	Todd Litman, Executive Director, Victoria Transport Policy Institute
The Principles of Universal Design: Achieving Social Equity, Environmental Sustainability and Economic Viability through People-Centred Design	Howard Gerry, Associate Professor, OCAD University
Optimal Matching Analysis of Social Processes and Evaluation of Public Policy	Dr. Clarke Wilson ('73), SURP Instructor
SURP International Experience Award Presentations	Kevin Jarus and Kieran Miller ('11)
Planning for Food and Farming: Myths and Opportunities	Margaret Walton ('80), MCIP, RPP, Partner, Planscape
Vibrant and Healthy Cities for All	Gil Penalosa, Executive Director, 8-80 Cities
Adaptive Reuse of a Community Asset – Risk vs. Reward	Toby Abramsky, VP, Keystone Property Management
Professional Planners Panel	A panel of planning professionals offered advice for SURP students entering the workforce, including: David Fitzpatrick ('08), Urban Planner, DIALOG; Maureen McLeod ('06), Advisor, Metrolinx; Dan Minkin ('08) Environmental Resources Planner and Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Ontario Ministry of the Environment; Michael Nowlan ('01), Real Property Policy and Information Manager, Natural Resources Canada; Pamela Sweet ('76), Vice President and Principal, FoTenn Planning and Urban Design Consultants; and Melissa Walker ('06), Project Manager, Kilmer Brownfield Equity Fund
Canadian Institute of Planners WorldLink International Internship Program for Planners Presentation	Claire van Koughnett ('11), Community Engagement Planner, Guyana Central Housing and Planning Authority
Sustainable Development 101 and the Challenges of Green Development	Scott Demark, CEO, BuildGreen Solutions
Healthy Communities Planning in Practice	Sari Liem ('02), Associate at Dillon Consulting Ltd.

QUEEN'S GRADUATE ASSOCIATION OF PLANNING STUDENTS

In 2011, SURP students established the Queen's Graduate Association of Planning Students (QGAPS) to represent the collective will of students. QGAPS communicates on the variety of activities and associations in which students serve and promotes the activities of its members. It is fully funded by its student members through an annual levy of \$20.

SURP Student Life

By Shwaan Hutton, VP Student Life

As always, Robert Sutherland Hall's fifth floor has been extremely busy – and not just with coursework. The SURP Social Committee kicked off the new year by hosting a well-attended screening of Gary Hustwit's documentary 'Urbanized' (2011). Snacks were enjoyed and students gave the film two thumbs way up!

On February 10th, students cheered for the Kingston Frontenacs at the K-Rock Centre while the Fronts played their arch rivals the Belleville Bulls.

On February 15th, students came together at the Market Square Ice Rink for an organized evening of skating and triple axels.

Hands down the most successful social event of the semester was the March 1st in-house trivia night. SURP Director Dave Gordon joined in for the fun as groups competed for bragging rights and a chance to win Tim Horton's gift cards.

This year, the annual year-end party was held on April 13th at Kingston's oldest surviving church structure on Queen Street, beautifully transformed into the 'Renaissance' event venue. Students, staff and guests celebrated another successful year, reflected on our time at SURP with a picture slideshow and announced the winner of our 'O-week 2012' T-Shirt design contest. The class of 2012 will be sorely missed, however, the Social Committee looks forward to September for yet another year of memorable events!



*SURP Trivia Night's winning team (L to R): Jen Gawor, Dr. Dave Gordon, Tara Spears and Marisa Talarico
Photo courtesy of Shwaan Hutton*



*SURP skating night (L to R): Megan Lawson, Jon Pradinuk, Mike Dror, Tony Gkotsis, Shwaan Hutton, Vincent Raso, John Stuart, and Cassandra Caiger
Photo courtesy of Shwaan Hutton*



*First and second-year SURP students looking happy and glamorous at the year-end party (L to R): Carly Marshall, Courtney Carr (Jeremy Johnston's friend), Arthur Lo, Jeremy Johnston, Matthew Ippersiel, Cassandra Caiger, Mike Dror
Photo courtesy of Jeremy Johnston*

EXECUTIVE SEMINARS ON CORPORATE AND INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE

With a greater emphasis on membership recruitment and planning events for the Queen's Real Estate Roundtable, only one ESCIRE seminar was held in 2011. The seminar, entitled "Recovery, Returns, Reality and Risk: Commercial Real Estate Investment and Operation in 2011", was held in Toronto in May. This successful and well-attended seminar featured 21 senior executives speaking on four panels covering retail, hotel, industrial and seniors' housing real estate. A keynote address by Jim Leech, head of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan was a highlight of the day. Another successful seminar was held in Toronto on February 1, 2012, entitled "Real Estate Capital Markets in Canada and the United States: Equity, Debt and Cross-Border Flows. The next seminar is scheduled for June 6, 2012 in Toronto on the topic "Seeking Growth, Seeking Yield: Finding the Best Real Estate Investment Opportunities in Canada"; another

seminar is planned for fall 2012. ESCIRE seminars are capped at 100 paying registrants in order to ensure their high quality and interactivity.

The series continues to receive very favourable feedback from clients regarding the choice of seminar themes, the design of the four panel sessions that constitute each seminar, and the high caliber of the speakers and moderators that we engage. In addition to the commercial success of the seminar series, since its creation in 2004 it has gradually built up the reputation of Queen's as a well-respected provider of executive development events to the commercial real estate sector. In addition to revenue, ancillary benefits to SURP continue to be guest speakers for real estate courses, scholarship funds for students, jobs for graduates and research funds for faculty. ESCIRE has been run since its inception by Dr. John Andrew.

QUEEN'S REAL ESTATE ROUNDTABLE

The Queen's Real Estate Roundtable is a national, not-for-profit organization that brings together senior executives from a variety of companies within the commercial real estate sector for the purposes of advancing and sharing best practices in the industry and discussing issues of common interest. Founded in late 2010, the Roundtable's focus is on applied research, executive development and senior executive networking. It is based on a

maximum membership of 25 of the leading companies within the commercial real estate sector in Canada. The Roundtable is based at Queen's University, but member companies play a significant role in the governance of the organization. The Roundtable builds on the strong reputation and success of the Queen's University's Executive Seminars on Corporate and Investment Real Estate (ESCIRE), established in 2004. The Roundtable is run by Dr. John Andrew.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE FORUM ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

The National Executive Forum on Public Property, founded by SURP and interested government organizations in 1998, is a networking organization for executives responsible for managing public property. The Forum, in its 14th successful year of operation, ended 2011 with 25 government Member organizations from all levels of government, eight Associate Members, three Academic Advisors and two Forum Advisors. The Forum has recently introduced an International

Associates class of membership currently comprised of five Associates. Dr. David Gordon continues as the Faculty Coordinator, **Cathie Macdonald** as the Convenor and **Connie Brobeck** as the Assistant Convenor. Funded by members and symposia fees, the Forum continues to be financially strong.

Forum Events — The Fall Members' Retreat, held in Montreal, October 27-30, 2011, saw productive discussions on current trends, including the state of

P3s, competitive dialogue, outsourcing and changes in governance. The Retreat also saw further development of the benchmarking program, as well as discussion of parameters around customer service questionnaires. In addition, Forum planning discussions covered the Research and Information program, themes for the Vancouver Symposium, and future opportunities for the Forum.

The Forum's 2012 National Symposium, "Tools for Successful Strategic Portfolio Management Today", was held in Vancouver, May 10-11, 2012. This event was an opportunity to share knowledge and experience of tools for successful strategic portfolio management to meet governments' often conflicting objectives in today's context of fiscal constraint – objectives that range from the provision of space needed for cost effective service delivery to broader public objectives of economic development, heritage protection and environmental sustainability.

Research and Information Program — The 2011 Research and Information program focussed mainly on the development of the Forum's benchmarking program but also saw the collection of Members' profiles. The Members-Only section of the Forum's web site posted all reports and survey results, as well as background information about the Retreat discussion topics. Two newsletters were distributed to Members and posted on the Members-Only section of the website, the first using summaries of discussions at the Symposium's Members' Day Meeting and the second, with information from the Retreat. The Forum's web site, www.publicpropertyforum.ca, continues to post presentations from the various Forum events.

Internships for SURP students—In 2011, nine SURP students were placed in internships with six Forum Members during the summer term between the first and second year of the Master of Urban and Regional Planning Program.

CHINA PROJECTS NEWS

In addition to SURP's inaugural international project course in Shanghai, China profiled on the cover page of this newsletter, 2011 was a busy and productive year for its China Projects. A brief summary of each project is provided below:

Training for Officials from China's Ministry of Land and Resources — During the summer, SURP organized a two-week intensive training program in land use planning for 50 government officials from China's Ministry of Land and Resources. The training included 14 presentations from experts from Queen's University, Government of Ontario, Federal Government, the private sector and three field trips.

Chinese Government Officials Internship Program—In 2011, five officials from the Ministry of Land and Resources spent four months in an internship placement with various Ontario Government agencies. This extended internship program is coordinated by SURP to provide Chinese government officials in-depth training and exposure to how provincial and municipal government departments are involved in various aspects of land and resource development.

Canadian Delegation to Beijing - SURP was the liaison institution helping to coordinate the visit of a delegation of Canadian experts to China at the invitation of the Ministry of Land and Resources. The Ministry of Land and Resources of the People's Republic of China is providing an opportunity to Canadian experts who have been helping in the training of Chinese officials/interns at Queen's University to participate in a study tour of China. The purpose of the study tour was to give the Canadian experts a closer and more intimate look at the situations and needs in China, so that they can better tailor the Canadian expertise and experiences that will be most appropriate for their Chinese colleagues. The study tour with the five Canadian delegates took place between May 16th and May 22nd, 2011, and involved meetings, field trips and presentations in both Beijing and Shanghai. In June 2012, SURP will be organizing its annual training session (now in its 16th year) for a delegation of 40 officials from China's Ministry of Land and Resources. Training will include lectures, fields trips and roundtable discussions.

China Visiting Scholars to SURP - In 2011 there was a steady stream of scholars from China visiting SURP. These included **Wavelet HSU**, Joint PhD Candidate, Centre for Recreation and Tourism Research and School of Urban and Regional Planning, Peking University; **Xiaolin Kang**, PhD Candidate, School of Public Policy and Management, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China; **Jinfeng Ding**, China Executive Leadership Academy, Pudong, Shanghai, China; **Shuaibang Fan**, Visiting Scholar, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China; and **Xiaobo Xu**, Visiting Scholar, Peking University. The visiting scholars' stay at SURP ranged from 3 to 12 months. They added a great deal to SURP's intellectual diversity and enriched the program for our faculty and students.

Student Summer Internships in Beijing

Congratulations to first-year SURP students **Morgan Alger** and **Marika Atfield** who have been accepted into the China Internship program sponsored by China's Ministry of Land and Resources. During the Spring/Summer semester, Morgan will be spending a few months working for the China Academy of Land and Resources Economics, while Marika will be working for the China Land and Surveying and Planning Institute in Beijing.

AMBASSADORS' FORUM

Started in 2003, the Forum brings together the Heads of Missions to Canada from 20 Asia-Pacific countries. It is funded by the office of the Vice-Provost (International) and the Office of Research Services. In 2010 and 2011, the following sessions were organized: "Reforming the World's Financial System: Rules Versus Principles" (June 2010), "Managing the Oceans: The Canadian Experience" (September 2010), "Declinism and America's Future in East Asia" (December 2010), "Canada and Asia: Building an Economically Strong and Mutually Respectful Neighbourhood" (June 2011) and "Making Parliament Work: From the Speaker's Chair" (September 2011). As is our tradition, the June session was held in Kingston with the Queen's Principal hosting a luncheon. The other sessions were held in Ottawa.



Professors John Andrew and Hok-Lin Leung meet with Her Excellency Dienne Hardianti Moehario, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Indonesia (above), and private sector real estate executives at a joint Queen's Real Estate Roundtable / Ambassador's Forum luncheon on foreign investment in Indonesia in January 2012 in Ottawa.

Photos courtesy of Dr. John Andrew

SURP AT THE OPPI CONFERENCE IN OTTAWA

By Will Robinson-Mushkat and Simona Rasanu

The 2011 Ontario Professional Planners Institute's Annual Conference was held this past October in Ottawa at the brand new Ottawa Convention Centre, and SURP students made their presence known! Held between October 12th-14th, the theme of the conference was "25 Years and Counting: Tackling the Biggest Challenges to Planning and the Profession". The yearly event was very well attended by first- and second-year SURP students alike.

The majority of the action occurred on the final day of the conference—Student's Day. Second-year SURP students **Sarah Bingham**, **Michelle Nicholson** and **Simona Rasanu** created a presentation entitled "Gordon Stephenson: Lessons from the Past" for the Alternative Media Café on the globally influential urban renewal work of Anglo-Australian civic designer Gordon Stephenson. His *Planning Study of Kingston, Ontario*, developed in collaboration with George Muirhead, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2010. To commemorate this event, SURP students prepared a special exhibition at Kingston City Hall and Douglas Library, along with a monograph entitled "Global Plans, Local Influences". Student's Day also provided an opportunity to have a glimpse at many of the exciting urban planning projects that are currently underway. Students had the opportunity to attend presentations that related to

their specific interests in the field of planning. While enjoying a delicious lunch, the attendees of the conference were treated to an address by the noted futurist Richard Worzel. Following the concluding remarks, students were given a unique opportunity to have an informal Q&A with a number of planners from Ontario and beyond.

The day concluded with an extended happy hour at a charming British pub in the heart of our nation's capital. The whole day was great for students because they were afforded an opportunity to network with hundreds of urban planners and get a real taste of the profession. Here's looking forward to the 2012 OPPI conference being held in beautiful Markham on September 20th and 21st!

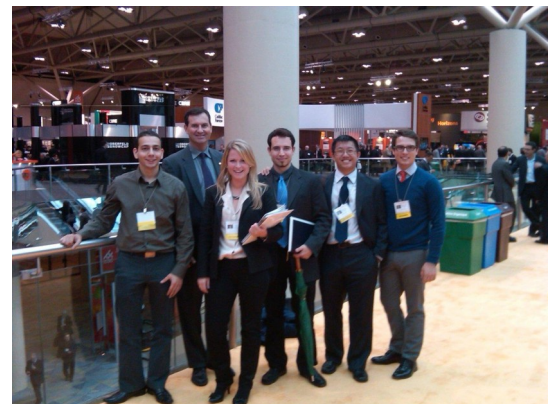


*Sarah Bingham (foreground) and Michelle Nicholson (background) at the OPPI Alternative Media Café in October 2011.
Photo courtesy of Sarah Bingham and OPPI*

SURP AT THE ICSC CONFERENCE IN TORONTO

By Kyle Gonyou

On October 20th, 2011, Dr. John Andrew accompanied students **Hossein Danesh**, **Shwaan Hutton**, **Mike Dror**, **Michael Lee** and **Kyle Gonyou** at the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Canadian Convention in Toronto. Students heard an engaging luncheon keynote address by John Griffith, Target Executive Vice President of Property Development, which discussed the company's planned expansion into Canada. Students also networked with professionals, including **David Fitzpatrick** ('08) and **Stewart Fraser** ('08).



*Students at the ICSC conference: accompanied by Dr. John Andrew (L to R): Hossein Danesh, Shwaan Hutton, Mike Dror, Mike Lee and Kyle Gonyou.
Photo courtesy of Dr. John Andrew*

SURP AT THE CAPS-ACÉAU CONFERENCE IN VANCOUVER

By Simona Rasanu

The Canadian Association of Planning Students (CAPS) Conference was held at Simon Fraser University's downtown Vancouver campus and various locations across the city from February 2nd to 4th, 2012. The CAPS Conference is an annual national affair and provides an excellent opportunity for students from planning schools across the country to highlight their work and meet each other.

The theme of this year's conference was "Planning Horizons: The Edge, Future, and Potential of Planning". Students enjoyed the tours, professional development workshops and presentations highlighting planning innovations from the West Coast and across Canada.

On the second day of the conference SURP's **Anya Paskovic** and **Sarah Bingham** gave a presentation on their land use project course design proposal for a major interchange of the proposed Ottawa light rail transit system entitled "Hurdman Station Area Redevelopment Plan". The design concept applies transit-oriented development (TOD) and site-specific best practices to overcome many natural and physical barriers to development. The students were particularly inspired by the presentation of one of the keynote speakers, Larry Beasley, the

retired Director of Planning for the City of Vancouver and now the "Distinguished Practice Professor of Planning" at UBC and founding principal of Beasley and Associates, an international planning consultancy. He highlighted how Vancouver's attention to planning and design details, particularly its sidewalks, streets and public spaces, is responsible for its international planning reputation.

The last day of the conference featured a presentation by two members of the social project course team, **Jennifer Gawor** and **Megan Jones**, called "Toolkit for Social Enterprise and Innovation: A Primer for Social Entrepreneurs". The purpose of the Toolkit is to act as a 'one-stop-shop' and primer for Kingston and area social entrepreneurs to implement their ideas and innovations to benefit the community. Following the conference events, students enjoyed Vancouver's beautiful sights and sounds, including the redeveloped Woodward's Building and Southeast False Creek.

The Simon Fraser University School of Resource and Environmental Management is to be congratulated for organizing and hosting an amazing conference, especially since students took on hosting duties for the first time. We can't wait to hear where next year's conference will be located!

MONTREAL AND TORONTO FIELD TRIPS

By Will Robinson-Mushkat

One of the best traditions at SURP, made possible by Kingston's convenient location, is the field trips to Montréal and Toronto for first-year SURP students. Led by Dr. David Gordon, these trips offer incoming students the chance to observe and experience Canada's two largest cities through the lens of an urban planner, while making fast friendships and connections with fellow classmates.

The first field trip this past school year took place over Halloween weekend. Dave took a bus filled with SURP students to Montréal, Québec. The first stop was at Benny Farm in the famed Notre-Dame-de-Grâce district. Originally developed in the late

1940s by the Government of Canada for veterans returning from the Second World War, Benny Farm was redeveloped beginning in 1997 by the Canada Lands Company. This redevelopment project focused on converting buildings and space to suit the needs of aging veterans, as well as constructing additional apartment buildings for new residents. After checking into a hotel, students were led on an excellent tour of downtown Montréal by McGill professor Nic Luca. This was followed by a group dinner, socializing and a sample of the famed Montréal nightlife. The next day we headed to beautiful Parc du Mont Royale, designed by Fredrick Law Olmstead; SURP students meandered through

the park to the famed Kondiaronk Belvedere. On the way back to Kingston, a visit was made to Bois Franc, a fine example of “New Urbanism” found in the suburbs of Montréal.

The second field trip was to Toronto for a jam-packed day in mid-November. Students toured the suburban neighbourhood of Don Mills designed by Macklin Hancock. This visit allowed students an opportunity to experience a community based around many of the neighbourhood unit principles covered in the core courses being undertaken at the time of the site visit. After Don Mills, students ventured into the heart of Toronto to visit notable developments, including St. Lawrence, the Distillery District and Regent Park. This latter site visit was of particular importance as the neighbourhood is currently undergoing a major revitalization and it

provided students a first-hand opportunity to see urban revitalization and social melding. This was followed by a tour of downtown Toronto and a group supper.

The field trips that SURP and especially Director Dave Gordon offer are a really unique and special opportunity for students. They provide a first-person glimpse into many notable urban planning projects that have occurred in Canada’s largest cities. This provides a direct link between what we study in class and examples in the field. Aside from the educational and academic merits of these trips, they are a great way for new students at SURP to get to know one another and have some fun as a group. Cheers to Dave for taking us on these trips and enlightening us with his planning expertise and humour!

SURP PROJECTS IN THE COMMUNITY

SURP-823 Housing and Human Services (Fall 2011)

A team of six students worked as student consultants for David Jackson of the Social Planning Council of Kingston and District to create a “Social Enterprise and Innovation Toolkit – A Primer for Establishing a Social Enterprise”. Academic direction was provided by Drs. Patricia Collins and Leela Viswanathan. This toolkit is a comprehensive resource for both aspiring and existing social entrepreneurs within the Kingston area. It includes information on a variety of topics including how to get started, feasibility study creation, social business planning, implementation techniques and monitoring and evaluation. The students recommended that the Council formally adopt the document and post it on their website. The toolkit would then be adopted by the City of Kingston, surrounding municipalities and organizations and available for use by entrepreneurs in early 2012. The students were honoured to work with the Social Planning Council and develop a resource that can potentially contribute to Kingston’s economy. The concept of a social enterprise toolkit is relatively new to Canada and is capable of providing a template for other communities across the country.



*SURP-823 Housing and Human Services Project Course Team
Fall 2011*

*Back row (L to R): Megan Jones, Claire Lindsay, Jennifer Gawor,
Mr. David Jackson (Social Planning Council of Kingston and
District) and Dr. Leela Viswanathan (SURP)*

Front row: Fran Wiles, Amy Doyle, Jennifer Wood

Photo courtesy of Dr. Leela Viswanathan

SURP-825: Environmental Services Project Course (Fall 2011)

Under the academic supervision of Professors David Gordon and Graham Whitelaw, the course team partnered with the City of Kingston led by two staff, Julie Salter-Keane, Accessibility Compliance Project Manager, and Daniel Shipp, Sustainable Initiatives Coordinator, to produce a set of sustainable best practices for potential implementation in Kingston. The overarching aim of the project, “Sustainable Kingston: Best Practices and Policy Recommendations”, was to build upon the existing work of FOCUS Kingston and provide the background, framework and rationale to support the vision: “Kingston - Canada’s Most Sustainable City.”

The project team created a set of 15 best practices and policy recommendations that would build on the *Sustainable Kingston Plan* and four pillars of sustainability - economic, social, cultural, and environmental sustainability. An additional goal was to create policies that would endorse physical and mental health, support changing demographics and encourage diversity in Kingston.

While the 15 best practices profiled did not focus solely on the built environment, they were all indirectly related to a city’s built form. The community programs and initiatives aimed to bring vitality to a centralized downtown core. The environmental services, in encouraging a reduction in energy use, promoted high-density, compact and efficient buildings, streetscapes and city services. The transportation policies centered on endorsing active transportation modes, which inherently require a compact or well-connected built form. The objective was to leverage Kingston’s existing advantages, such as its high-density, heritage-rich downtown core, and provide a comprehensive set of best practices and policies that would continue to promote a healthy, diverse and integrated community.

Kingston Centre site plan showing a vision for a complete neighbourhood that reconnects the city’s traditional past with its innovative future. Some highlights are the large central public square, the stormwater management area and the landmark tower on the east end of the site.
Photo courtesy of Jeremy Johnston

SURP-826: Land Use and Real Estate Development Project Course (Fall 2011)

In January 2010, Ottawa City Council approved a plan to convert portions of their existing Transitway from bus rapid transit to light rail transit (LRT). This LRT conversion is anticipated to stimulate land-use intensification and support transit-oriented development (TOD) in areas surrounding future stations. In anticipation of such intensification, ten graduate students led by City of Ottawa planner Cheryl Brouillard and academic advisors Drs. David Gordon and Ajay Agarwal, were requested to prepare a redevelopment plan for the area surrounding Hurdman Station, one of the future LRT stations. Hurdman Station is currently Ottawa’s busiest transit hub and land surrounding the station is primarily undeveloped, presenting the City with a significant opportunity to capitalize on transit infrastructure and meet growth management goals. The Redevelopment Plan offers three design concepts differentiated by the removal of constraints that currently affect the site, offering practical options for the City of Ottawa to implement as resources become available.

SURP-848: Community Design (Winter 2012)

The students proposed a redevelopment strategy for The Kingston Centre. The challenge was to redevelop the site as a pragmatic Transit Oriented Development. The class of 14 students was divided into three groups and each group developed a unique design solution. Final presentations were made to a panel of experts comprised of **Ms. Sonya Bolton** (’03), a senior planner from the City of Kingston; Dr. Carl Bray, an eminent heritage conservation and community design practitioner; Dr. David Gordon and Dr. John Meligrana from SURP. The panel considered all three proposals to be of high professional standards. The course was taught by Dr. Ajay Agarwal.



INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE AWARDS

Waterfront Development in Barcelona and Cadiz

By Ali Ikram

Having grown up in a city by the sea, I have always had an interest in the design of waterfronts. This interest was further developed during my internship in the Maritimes working for the City of Saint John. SURP's International Experience Award gave me the ability to further study waterfront development models within an international context.

In February 2012 I spent a week in Spain studying the design of the waterfronts in Barcelona and Cadiz. Both these Mediterranean cities have thriving waterfronts that attract large numbers of tourists every year, but were developed using two very different models: Barcelona's waterfront was developed as part of a large urban renewal project prior to the 1992 Barcelona Summer Olympics while Cadiz has maintained its rich maritime heritage by preserving its historic seawalls, forts, and cathedrals.

While Barcelona may have had a thriving port in the earlier part of the twentieth century, by the 1960's existing facilities could no longer handle modern container ships, as a result of which decline set in. Like many other cities experiencing a decline in port activity around this time, Barcelona could not easily repurpose old industrial sites and warehouses. Nor could the waterfront, cutoff by a busy highway and other transportation infrastructure, be easily integrated into the urban fabric.

It would take a major catalyst, such as the coming of the Summer Olympics, to kick-start redevelopment along the waterfront. The old industrial port was transformed into a thriving urban waterfront with museums, restaurants, six man-made beaches, new cruise terminals, a grand hotel, artwork by Frank Gehry and Gaudi, and underground parking. Neighbouring areas that had long experienced decline suddenly became highly desirable residential areas as gentrification set in. While most of the Olympic facilities were located away from the waterfront on nearby Mountjuí, the event served as an excuse for the port authorities to rally support and funds for the project.

On the other hand, Cadiz, located near the Rock of Gibraltar in the south of Spain, has been an important port since ancient times. The city was founded by the Phoenicians around 1100 BC. Greek mythology used it as the setting for Hercules' tenth and final task. The city was the third most important in the Roman Empire at the time of Augustus. Many of Columbus' expeditions also set sail from here, and the city became the home of the Spanish treasure fleet. History is thus a very important tourist attraction for the city, and Cadiz has strived to maintain its maritime heritage. The original seawalls still run around the city, and its historic maritime fortifications have undergone extensive renovations. However, the city's waterfront is not simply frozen in time. The city has incorporated a modern port and has also built underground parking along and under the waterfront to alleviate congestion. Large sections of the waterfront are continuously being renovated without comprising the character of the city's heritage.



*Barcelona—an urban waterfront
Photo courtesy of Ali Ikram*



*Cadiz—historic seawalls wrap around the city
Photo courtesy of Ali Ikram*

Winter Cities Planning Perspective: Reykjavik, Iceland

By *Kieran Miller* ('11)

The Winter Cities movement began in Canada in the 1980s as an attempt to generate a climate-responsive northern urban form. Design elements address issues such as snow removal and storage, sunlight exposure, safety, wind and darkness in the built environment. Situated at latitude 64°08'N, Reykjavik, Iceland is a northern city. The average winter temperature is -15°C and the annual frequency of precipitation is 146 days per year. In September 2011, I travelled to Iceland to examine Winter Cities design elements in the capital city of Reykjavik.

Winter Cities design theory recognizes the need for better practical design and planning in northern cities. While in Reykjavik, I examined biking, walking, seating and lighting elements in the downtown and how they were adapted to the colder climate. Here are some of my observations:

Biking: Reykjavik has a network of bike trails around the city which are used by locals and tourists. Paths remain clear of snow during the winter and the number of people who ride year-round is increasing.

Walking: Pedestrian walkways are emphasized both visually and texturally using different coloured materials and paving techniques. Public squares are generally flat to make snow clearing easier.



*Outdoor seating in downtown Reykjavik, Iceland
Photo courtesy of Kieran Miller*

Seating: Benches and seating are located throughout the downtown and utilized throughout the day and seasons. Many restaurants have outdoor seating and offer blankets to customers for extra warmth.

Lighting: Streets, squares and intersections are well-lit at night to encourage pedestrian activity and create a vibrant streetscape. Many restaurants and shops accent their entrances with gas or electric lights.

These design elements help residents and visitors in Reykjavik enjoy the city throughout the colder months. A large portion of Canada has a northern climate, and lessons learned in Reykjavik can be transferable to northern communities in our country. The winter months have a lot to offer, and their advantages and opportunities can be enhanced through careful design and planning.



*Streetscape in downtown Reykjavik. Planters at the end of the street can be moved for snow clearing and other activities.
Photo courtesy of by Kieran Miller*

SOME SURP STUDENT PHOTOS — “THE STREETS” THEME



Windsor, England
Photo courtesy of Radhika Brown



Alexandria, Egypt
Photo courtesy of Tara Spears



Centre Place in Melbourne, Australia
Photo courtesy of Sarah Bingham

**We hope you enjoyed this edition of the
SURP Newsletter!**

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