



## EDITORIAL

This 2017 issue of the Lincoln Planning Review has been put together during what can only be described as the most exciting general election campaign held in New Zealand. Exciting, not just for the potential for significant change but also for the difference in the policy agenda being seriously debated on core issues such as inequality, environmental sustainability, concrete action on climate change, and potential changes to the regulations around planning, particularly in larger urban centres where housing availability and transport congestion have grown significantly in recent years. The result, once coalition and confidence and supply arrangements were finalised, signals that a new policy agenda is on the way, an agenda that encompasses much of the research and teaching that occurs here at Lincoln University. Most of these issues are an ever present part of the everyday lives of those who are part of the Lincoln campus, whether as lecturers, researchers, managers or as students. Science, research, policy and planning are all dependent on the political environment and the decision-making process, however this occurs.

Many of the papers in this 2017 issue of the Lincoln Planning Review reflect the political nature of the issues and policies that have been vigorously discussed by both politicians and voters over the last few months. They also demonstrate clearly the quality of the research that is being undertaken at Lincoln University by staff and students alike. It is particularly exciting to see the work produced by those who will be our future leaders, whether as academics, or politicians or whatever the myriad of opportunities offered to them.

The first three papers, all peer reviewed, relate to planning historically and today. The old adage that we can always learn from the past is certainly the case here. We begin, most appropriately, with an historical account of the growth of the Lincoln township by Roy Montgomery, Shannon Page and Nancy Borrie, who emphasis the durability of the suburban residential subdivision despite a series of substantial political shocks and seismic shifts.

Lin Roberts, in analysing the international competition run to design and build an urban village in the city centre to stimulate residential development as part of the Christchurch rebuild (the Breathe Urban Village), provides us with an in-depth account of the government's ultimate failure to support this development, despite substantial evidence of the success and benefits of urban regeneration ventures (underwritten by public funding) elsewhere.

And Ben Baird and Hamish Rennie take us into the use of visualisations or images as part of the resource consent process, suggesting that the potential to mislead calls for greater accuracy in the use of such tools as part of the planning process.

New Zealand's environmental sustainability, water quality and the impact the dairy sector has here prompted Ronlyn Duncan's research into the impact this ongoing political debate has on farmers. Her findings suggest farmers intent on improved farming practice continue to be 'stigmatised' due to a 'lag-effect' that operates across the considerable period of time needed to see the impacts here.

The five papers in the Field Notes and Case Studies section are all student contributions. Not surprisingly, they range from policies on the international stage to local political decisions alongside the nature and ideas around planning. Chloe Ney points us to the structural inequality that perpetuates the impacts of climate change globally and undermines international climate agreements such as

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the Paris Climate Accord. Her argument is that a world environmental agency is needed to deal with regional adaptation strategies, particularly resettlement programmes for climate-displaced migrants. In focusing on New Zealand's freshwater debate, James Ranstead outlines the issues behind the proposed Ruataniwha dam and points us to the tensions exposed here and the precedents that could be set through government action. And Mandille Alcee, an international student from Saint Lucia in the Caribbean, looks at the key environmental and social issues surrounding wind energy generation in New Zealand. The two planning related papers included here provide first an assessment of the different planning approaches that have emerged over time in this discipline: modern, collaborative and spatial planning. In looking at the key differences here, Pippa Huddleston suggests an amalgamation of the strengths in all three models. The second paper, by Richard Sheild, takes us into the role of justice in planning and challenges professional planners to consider how they deal with such issues.

Next, the political theme continues through interviews with two previous Lincoln students who have gone on to pursue political careers – Nicky Snoynink and Nicole Reid. Both talk about the role that their time as post-grad students at Lincoln University played in this decision.

This is followed by a look at the work currently being done by Lincoln's environmental planning team along with the University of Canterbury on disaster risk and resilience. While Hamish Rennie describes the papers now on offer in this field, Alex McCormack provides a most enlightening illustration of the learning gained as a graduate of the Master of Environmental Policy and Management programme alongside the actual experience of being a council planner and active participant in the Kaikoura earthquakes in November 2016.

A conference report follows along with information on past students, awards and scholarships granted and the many publications of Lincoln staff over the 2016/2017 period. This list of publications shows a healthy level of contribution to the academic field within which we all work.

This issue also includes a book review by Mike O'Connell. It is important to state that due to my being a co-editor of this publication, Mike's review was edited by Hamish Rennie.

Over recent years, those teaching planning related papers at Lincoln have worked closely with the public and private sectors, especially local authorities across the broad Canterbury region, and many involved in the earthquake recovery process and the now current focus on increasing resilience within our communities. Very good relationships have been established as part of this process that are very valuable for our students' learning and their potential work opportunities. I am often more than surprised by the amount of work done by those who come into our campus to share their knowledge and strengthen our teaching. We are grateful for the huge amount of input provided. I am not sure we say this enough but our academic community is greatly strengthened by support so willingly given.

Jean Drage  
Acting Editor-in-Chief