

EDITORIAL

Genevieve Hilliard and Bailey Peryman

Students preparing for employment is a very topical issue for those of us nearing graduation at Lincoln University and applying for planning jobs. Throughout our studies we have gained a breadth of knowledge concerning planning issues with the expectations these skills will prepare us for planning jobs. At Lincoln University both lecturers and students are involved in a large variety of research projects and through LUPR we wish to complement and contribute to relevant planning research and academic enterprise through knowledge exchange. Therefore, the theme for the second edition of LUPR is 'bridging the gap' in which the aim is to provide both academic and professional perspectives on planning issues. We wish to stimulate a wider understanding of current planning issues and outcomes of research taking place at Lincoln University and throughout the Central and upper South Island. To this end, in the LU news section of this issue, we have included the recently completed planning related theses and dissertations to enthuse students, professionals and the wider planning community about the research undertaken at Lincoln.

There is a need on both sides for better communication. All too often, students do not pursue extensive research projects because they are uncertain what topics are relevant in the professional world and how progressive their research contribution could be to the planning profession. Those in the workforce understand the practicalities of planning and those in academia are able to provide research independent of the potential limitations faced by practitioners.

This issue begins with two articles on the city centre of Christchurch. Maurice Roers from the Christchurch City Council (CCC) sheds some light on the practical realities of bringing about positive change in our cities; and Lincoln Uni lecturer Christopher Kissling presents some of the pragmatic issues of the ongoing efforts of the CCC to revitalise the city centre of Christchurch, a summary of his recent studies on the matter. Visiting academic Chul Sohn provides insight on the issues of waste management from Seoul, Korea which makes a nice contrast with Canterbury waste issues; Ali Memon, Brett Painter and Ed Weber present a prelude to a larger study (yet to be published) on the strengths and challenges posed by the adoption of integrated catchment management as a pathway to the sustainable

management of natural resources. Jean-Paul Thull writes on some of the conflicting issues surrounding transport and urban planning in New Zealand; and last, but not least, of the feature articles is an overview of some of the great work being carried out by the Lincoln Envirotown Trust, written by chairperson of the trust, Sue Jarvis.

Thank you to all those keen beans who contributed to this issue. We are very excited to be a part of the second edition of LUPR and hope the support we have received thus far continues to grow with our aspirations for this journal. We believe that increased dialogue and open knowledge sharing will benefit both planning professionals and students and hope that LUPR is a means to better facilitate this process.

* Bailey Peryman is in his 3rd year of the Bachelor of Environmental Management and Planning at Lincoln University. Genevieve Hilliard is in her final year of the Masters of Environmental Policy, also at Lincoln. Both have been employed recently as student planners at the Christchurch City Council.

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