In the past eight months the Lincoln University Planning Association (LUPA) has made such progress that it can now be regarded as a legitimate member of the Canterbury planning community. When Clare Sargeant’s tenure as a student at Lincoln and sole LUPA advocate drew to a close, she initiated movements to generate renewed interest. As it turned out, a unanimous decision was made to appoint both an undergraduate and postgraduate Chairperson to share the role and ensure balanced representation.

Before anything could proceed with any sense of purpose, LUPA needed first to build identity and direction. During the final meeting of 2008, the current mission statement and objectives were drafted collectively. Although this was an important milestone, I perceive this as merely a foundation for the development of a full constitution. However, an enduring document requires due consideration and therefore remains a work in progress at this point in time. The next stage of LUPA’s development was to pursue affiliated club status with the Lincoln University Students Association (LUSA). In addition, we were awarded essential funding needed to support the proposal to host a professional networking event. With the fundamentals in place, the schedule of events for Semester 1 kicked off with an excellent presentation from Ivan Thomson, Christchurch City Council, speaking on planning career paths and employment avenues. In Term 2 Paul O’Neill and Marisha Dorrance came along from Canterbury Community Law to re-establish the relationship with Lincoln planning students and offer them the opportunity to train as case workers and assist with the Resource Management service. The highlight of LUPA events in Semester 1 was the successful conduct of the inaugural professional networking evening. The event involved students and planners getting together over a few drinks at the MOA Club and taking the opportunity to discuss pertinent issues about planning careers. The early ground work paid off with 20 fabulous planners attending to share their knowledge, stories and enthusiasm with an eager crowd of Lincoln students.

LUPAs achievements could not have materialised without the support of a great many people. I wish to take the time to acknowledge those who have made a difference. Firstly thank-you to the LUPA executive, Terri Craig (Co-Chairperson, UG), John Raven (NZPI Rep), Bailey Peryman (NZPI Rep) and Sarah Hunt (Treasurer) for all your support and input to key events throughout the Semester. Thank-you to Nancy Latham and Sarah Hunt for your contribution to the planning and conduct of the professional networking evening. Thank-you to the hardworking team on the LUPR editorial led by Adrienne Lomax and Suzanne Blyth. Thank-you to Hamish Rennie, Ali Memon and Geoff Kerr for all your encouragement. Thank-you to the Canterbury Westland Branch of NZPI, especially Kim Seaton (Chairperson), Andrew Willis (Treasurer) and Clare Sargeant (YP Rep) for your outstanding support and financial assistance to student initiatives. Thank-you to the MOA Club and CCC for the use of your facilities and also Janine Sowerby for assisting with the logistical arrangements. Thank-you to all those invited guests who attended and contributed to the professional networking evening. Finally, thank-you to all those students who have been a part of LUPA meetings and events this year.

Although this semester has been full of considerable challenges for me, I was always sure it would be a success and I am proud for all those who have been a part of LUPA, now with over 60 members and growing. I look forward to returning in the second half of the year refreshed and ready for the opportunities that await. Onwards.

Abbie Bull
Chairperson (Postgraduate)

Lincoln University is fortunate to have several fine sculptures and other features of interest on campus. The fountain featured on the cover of this issue is situated between Ivy Hall and Memorial Hall and is a refreshing water feature, enjoyed by students, staff and visitors.

Despite an extensive search LUPR has been unable to ascertain the citation details for this fountain, which illustrates the fragility of our heritage. What we have discovered is that it is believed to have been constructed as part of the centenary celebrations of Lincoln College in 1978. If you have any further information about it please contact us. Hopefully we will be able to fill in the details in a later issue.