

# Student and Staff Profiles

## Compiled by Sarah Edwards

### Hugh Logan



Since completing an MA (first class honours) at Canterbury University, Hugh Logan has spent nearly 30 years working in the public sector. His many and varied roles have included running what is now Antarctica NZ (previously the Antarctic Division of DSIR) from 1988 to 1991, Director General of DOC from 1997 to 2006, and CEO of MfE (Secretary of the Environment) from 2006 to 2008.

Hugh recently decided to return to University and undertake study for a PhD. He chose the Department of Environmental Management at Lincoln because he wanted to study at an institution that had connections to environmental management and land based issues. His thesis, entitled “Servants, stewards or slaves? How do forces within government influence the effectiveness of New Zealand’s environmental agencies?”, seeks to explore the multitude of internal factors that affect environmental management practices in this country.

Hugh will be examining a suite of environmental issues and investigating how they have fared over time. Policies are shaped by wider forces in society and worked on through political processes. The very nature of the political system, however, means there are forces within government itself which have their own effect. The intention of this study is to illuminate the effect of these internal forces in order to help the formulation of successful environmental policy and action in the future. On a personal level, Hugh hopes that his research will also give him an opportunity to reflect on his experience in public environmental management and, more importantly, to measure this against the large body of theory and literature.

### Dr Ann Brower



Ann Brower is a senior lecturer of public policy in the Faculty of Environment, Society and Design. She currently teaches undergraduate classes on New Zealand government and policy, environmental policy, and policy and legislation for recreation.

Ann studies natural resource politics; more specifically, she studies the politics, law, and administration of publicly-held natural resources. At present she is working on a project focused on the comparative politics of state-owned land in the United States, New Zealand, and Australia. Together with a property law lecturer at the University of New England, Australia, she has co-authored a recent paper called “The Cowboy, the Southern Man, and the Man from Snowy River: the symbolic politics of property in the US, NZ, and Australia”. Ann is also researching the politics of property law reform in China with a property law lecturer at Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou, China.

Before moving to New Zealand Ann studied at a number of universities in the United States. She completed a Bachelors of Arts in political science and French literature at Pomona College; a Masters of Forest Science at Yale University; a Masters of Arts in political science at the University of California, Berkeley; and a PhD in environmental science, policy and management, also at Berkeley. Ann came to New Zealand on a Fulbright grant to undertake post-doctoral research on the law, politics, and economics of New Zealand South Island high country tenure review.

Despite her extensive academic experience Ann maintains that her best jobs have been next to the water: first lifeguarding at Eastwood Lake in North Carolina and then as swim coach for the Strawberry Canyon Aquatic Masters team in Berkeley, California.

### Del Ibabao



Rhodella Ibabao (Del) has travelled from the Philippines to New Zealand for the purpose of PhD study because of the strong Environmental Management programme at Lincoln. Her prior studies have resulted in a BA in Sociology and Psychology from the University of the Philippines, Visayas-Miag-ao and an MA in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of the Philippines, Diliman. She has also

worked in various aspects of planning, including Environmental Impact Analysis and Traffic Management.

The title of Del’s PhD thesis is “Informal strategies and spaces: Radical planning theory in Iloilo City, Philippines”. In her study she seeks to critically examine the formal and informal planning strategies used by civil society groups in Iloilo City, Philippines and their utilisation of spaces to advance their collective interests. Del contends that new forms of governance can be linked to new ways of thinking about informal strategies and that these strategies are played out in spaces in ways that influence the decision-making processes.

This study is the first of its kind to be undertaken in the Philippines. It will accord more attention to informal modes of participation; this will increase the opportunities for civil society groups to participate in the planning process, which are currently limited to formal strategies. It will also demonstrate the vital relationship between governance and the provision of better public spaces. Hopefully this will strengthen the public and private collaboration in the revitalisation of public spaces using participatory approaches.

Del also works as a course tutor and as a research assistant to her supervisor. She is keen to hear about any other projects that may be related to her own research as these will enhance her overall planning experience whilst in New Zealand.