Suzanne Becken – Emerging Scholar of Distinction

Congratulations to Suzanne Becken, Associate Professor of the Faculty of Environment, Society and Design who is a recipient of the 2011 Emerging Scholars of Distinction Award for the Conference of the International Academy for the Study of Tourism. Suzanne will receive her award this June in Taiwan when the Academy’s conference is held. Suzanne will deliver a research presentation at the 2011 conference. We wish her all the best.

Bob Batty NZPI Fellow

Congratulations must go to Robert William Batty (known to many as Bob Batty), who in April 2010 was awarded the New Zealand Planning Institute Fellow Award. Bob, who began his career as a planning assistant in 1958 has accomplished a great deal since then. Joining the New Zealand Planning Institute in 1979, Bob has gone on to be a well respected and deserving individual to be made a fellow. On a more local note, Bob is a member of the Lincoln University Planning Advisory Board (LUPAB) which works to advise and give support to the needs and professional needs of planners. The final paragraph of Bob’s citation sums up why he has been made a fellow of the institute. “This Fellow Award recognises over 50 years of a disciplined and focused contribution to the practice and image of planning under a variety of legislative and administrative It acknowledges the respect and reflects the gratitude of members of the Institute as well as the many individuals in public authorities, private businesses, colleagues, and students. Many of us appreciated the advice, wisdom and understanding by Bob in both his professional capacity and also his personal attributes of service with excellence. His elevation to Fellow of New Zealand Planning Institute is well deserved.” Congratulations Bob on this wonderful achievement.

LUPA (Lincoln University Planning Association) Update

The Planning Association has been relatively busy in recent months. Jess Bould has taken over from Theo and myself, as Lincoln University’s rep on the Canterbury branch of NZPI; it is great to have her representing Lincoln, bringing her passion and dedication to the role. Theo and I will remain in the role as chairpersons of LUPA for this year. So far we had a walking tour of Lincoln discussing the draft structure plan for Lincoln with the Selwyn District Council, which was a great success.

There have also been several workshops on discussing the future of Christchurch that have been generating ideas for the City Plan. Our main cause for celebration though, in amongst the discussions and chaos, has been the Lincoln Planning Review winning an Award of Merit at the NZPI conference in March. This was an enormous achievement for the Review, a lot of work goes into each issue, and it is something we really can be proud of.

Next semester should be another exciting one for us, with the release of the draft City Plan for consultation, and the Young Planners Showcase, so look out for these. All in all, we are ticking along well. A big thank you goes out with this update too, to everyone for your support and contributions to the review and LUPA.

Holly Gardiner