Where are they now?

Brittany BRADLEY-CANE

SHELLEY WASHINGTON


Shelley started working at the New Zealand Landcare Trust as a Regional Co-ordinator while she was in the final stages of her thesis. The Trust is an organisation that supports farming and community groups to improve sustainable land management. In this work she covered Canterbury and the West Coast. Shelley worked there for six and a half years; since then she has worked at Environment Canterbury in a team that works with community groups and landowners. She currently works in the Christchurch-West Melton Zone, assisting the Zone Committee with its projects and priorities as well as supporting some key community groups in this Zone.

Shelley currently works part-time. She has young twins – a girl and boy – and a teenage step-daughter. Her husband also works at Environment Canterbury and they live in St Martins. In her spare time she likes to spend time with her family, go tramping, and she has recently resumed the sport of rowing.

MICHELLE RUSKE

Michelle studied a Bachelor of Environmental Management and Planning with a minor in professional planning (2010-2012), followed by a Master of Environmental Policy (2013-2014).

Since leaving Lincoln University she has been employed as a graduate planner at Aurecon NZ Ltd in the Christchurch office. In this role she has been exposed to a broad array of resource management processes, with work including audits for telecommunication network upgrades, resource consent applications for regional and district councils on a range of developments, processing consent applications for Christchurch City Council, and policy analysis and research. The wide variety of work that she has been involved in means that life is never boring, and she is consistently being challenged at work. This is great as it ensures she is continuously learning new skills and processes, and is building her confidence as a planner and young professional.

Michelle is a member of the New Zealand Planning Institute Young Planners Branch Committee. Since leaving Lincoln she has enjoyed getting used to the two day weekend, and has taken up some new hobbies, including dancing.

Michelle’s advice for current planning students is to make sure they attend relevant events, participate in young professional groups, and build up a network of peers. Not only can this assist in providing great relationships with people going through similar experiences, but professionally these people can become crucial in your role.

GEORGE ENERSEN

George studied a Bachelor of Environmental Management and Planning (2009 – 2011), after which he studied a Master of Environmental Policy (2012 – 2013) which he was awarded with Distinction.

After graduating from Lincoln, George had a number of short-term jobs before beginning work at Opus International Consultants in May 2014 in the Christchurch Environmental Team. He is a Resource Management Consultant, which involves providing planning services on leading infrastructure projects for both the public and private sectors. Some of the key projects he works on are in the education, transport, rural and heritage sectors; stormwater and wastewater management; as well as many other infrastructure development projects.

In addition to working full time at Opus, George is in the New Zealand Men’s hockey team. This requires a significant amount of time away from work to compete at international tournaments around the globe. He has recently travelled to Malaysia, Australia and Argentina.

Lincoln Planning Review 67

Volume 7, Issue 1-2, December 2015
for various lengths of time, as well as playing test series in New Zealand. Opus appreciates the need for employees to maintain a work-life balance, and has been very supportive of George’s commitment to hockey. This includes allowing him to work out of their Auckland Opus office when he has needed to base himself in the area for hockey training. Thanks to this flexibility in work conditions, George hopes that he will be able to fulfil his childhood dream of representing New Zealand at the Olympic Games.

KELLY GOVERNOR

Kelly Governor studied at Lincoln University from 2008-2013. She completed a Bachelor of Environmental Management and Planning, followed by a Master of Resource Studies.

After graduating, Kelly gained employment at Ashburton District Council as the Compliance Co-ordinator in the Assets team. She was responsible for managing the ongoing compliance requirements associated with council held resource consents, and legislation and standards impacting on service delivery assets and activities.

In May 2015 Kelly was offered a new position as an Environmental Advisor with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu. In this role Kelly’s primary responsibility is overseeing the management of the tribal properties returned to Te Rūnanga through settlement.

Since graduating Kelly has enjoyed the opportunity to apply the skills and learning gained through study. Kelly remains mindful of how the work experience during her time at university has provided her with a variety of employment opportunities.