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As the Director I have the privilege to see SCARP evolve and flourish. SCARP is a vital, dynamic school that through its talented, committed faculty, students and staff is a catalyst for change at UBC and in the larger community. We are now posed to make an even larger contribution. The major initiatives we are embarking on are ambitious and far ranging.

The Master of Community and Regional Planning (MCRP), the professional accredited degree, will be commencing in 2015-16 and it is anticipated that the restructured MA/MSc Planning research degree will commence in 2016-17. The MCRP’s curriculum has incorporated advanced pedagogical approaches in professional planning education.

SCARP is also involved in the development of a new Master’s degree jointly with UBC Civil Engineering in urban systems and infrastructure planning slated to commence in 2016. SCARP is also hiring for a new Canada Research Tier 2 Chair in Sustainable Urban Systems and Infrastructure Planning, and has just shortlisted and interviewed three candidates for the joint Civil/SCARP position in Transportation Planning. It is anticipated that the two selected faculty will start at UBC on July 1, 2015.

Concurrent with the planning for these degrees we recognize the urgency in obtaining physical space to accommodate the incoming students. We are now actively planning for the renovation of the Lasserre building to accommodate the consolidation of SCARP in one location and have had several meetings with UBC Facilities Management to identify our space needs. The building will be shared with the Faculty of Arts – 2/3 SCARP, 1/3 Arts. At this point, the University is prepared to commit close to ½ the funding required for the renovation to take care of seismic upgrades. SCARP and Arts will need to fundraise for the remaining funding.

As part of the renovation and the rethinking of SCARP we are proposing a Community Learning Forum which will occupy both a physical space on the main level of Lasserre and be a series of programmatic activities that will make SCARP an interactive convenor of common interests relating to urbanism, community engagement and citizenship. Facilitated by UBC Facilities Management, a number of UBC units have met to discuss the Community Learning Forum and it has been positively received as an important initiative that will foster greater connections between UBC and communities. The November SCARP Advisory Council meeting brainstormed on the Community Learning Forum with a wealth of excellent ideas generated.

We are organizing a mentorship program for our students with the Planning Institute of BC which will provide an opportunity for students to be mentored by professional planners during their time at SCARP and while they are going through the membership requirements. We recognize that this will be an important support for our students and graduates. An early winter term event for mentors and students is being planned.

One of the highlights of the SCARP year has become the annual student organized symposium. The February 27, 2015 event, “Contours & Coastlines: [de]constructing the Pacific Northwest” will be the seventh annual symposium and from all reports looks to be a wonderful event. I encourage all of you to attend.

As we move forward in these new initiatives, SCARP is poised to become an even more vibrant, relevant school. I look forward to working with the SCARP community in the next few years on these exciting plans.
SCARP students had a wonderful night at the 2014 PIBC Social. This event was a great opportunity for students to network with planners working both in the private and public sector, and with students from SFU’s School of Resources and Environmental Planning. There were some entertaining networking games, a bar, and some tasty appetizers.

Student met planners working for Metro Vancouver, the City of Vancouver, New Westminster, and Burnaby. At the end of the night, students compared the number of business cards they had been given by the planners, with some students having up to eleven. It looks like SCARP students made a lot of important connections!

For more information visit: http://www.scarp.ubc.ca/courses/quality-proposals-and-projects-working-effectively-non-profit-agencies

SCARP students at the 2014 PIBC Social.
Welcome Newbies: SCARP’s Annual Whistler Trip

By Sian Mill

This school year kicked off with an orientation trip to Whistler for the incoming students. After being herded onto a school bus, the students arrived at the Whistler HI Hostel in the Athletes Village. From there they headed into the village for a talk at the Squamish and Lil’wat Nation Cultural Centre with Kerry Mehaffey and David Dorans from the Lil’wat Nation. Satisfied with the glorious feast prepared by the second years upon arrival back at the hostel, the incoming students had the opportunity to get to know each other better in the evening. The trip was wrapped up with a sunny Loggers Lake lounge on Saturday.”
Wayfinding in the Greenest City

By Robert W. White

For the past 5 years UBC and the City of Vancouver have partnered together on their Greenest City Scholar program, which provides UBC graduate students a chance to conduct research in support of the City’s Greenest City 2020 Action Plan. I had the pleasure of working with mentors in the Engineering Services’ Street Activities branch to identify and evaluate future opportunities for a beautiful new digital wayfinding map.

The map, an update to a wayfinding strategy implemented prior to the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympic Games, is currently rolling out citywide on physical map stands in order to help residents and visitors orient themselves, find directions, and discover the city on foot.

Working with engineers on a project many might not consider directly relevant to planning, I was reminded that the joy of planning, in my eyes, is the embracing of a mix of different disciplines; each contributing to a more beautiful city, and an improved quality of life for its people. I felt encouraged to explore my interaction design background, even delving into augmented reality mapping futures, while translating findings and recommendations through a health and walkability lens.

In the end, the program was the perfect chance to experience working in a municipal government setting, to produce grounded and relevant research, and to meet and work alongside some of the friendliest people in the City.

If you’d like to read my report, or browse other Scholars’ work, visit the UBC Sustainability Initiative website here: http://sustain.ubc.ca/greenest-city-scholars-projects-library
Creative Community Engagement at Musqueam First Nation

By Megan Herod

This past summer I spent two months at Musqueam First Nation working on a project to identify community perceptions of sustainability. I developed a range of methods to creatively engage the community. These included: a weekly sustainability question posted in the community newsletter, a survey conducted at the community movie night, a garden party for youth, an elder’s luncheon, a youth photo scavenger hunt, informal and formal interviews and activities at various other community events. Sustainability is a worldview woven into the very fiber of the culture and tradition of the Musqueam people.

The project was completed in partnership with UBC and Musqueam First Nation as part of the Sustainability Scholars program. The program provides graduate students with placements working on community projects that have a sustainability focus. My results will be used to shape the direction of future sustainability projects at Musqueam and to further the sustainability objectives outlined in the Musqueam Comprehensive Community Plan. It is research that works to identify key issues and priorities from the perspective of the community.

One Credit Courses W2014/15

PLAN 548A: Financial Tools for Planning Implementation
January 9th - January 30th (Fri 14:00 -17:00)

PLAN 548F: Sustainable Planning and Governance Approaches to Whole Region Change
January 26, 31st and February 1st

PLAN 548D: Affordable Housing Policy
February 6 - March 6 (Fri 14:00 -17:00)

PLAN 548J: Plan Implementation By Zoning
January 8th - February 12th (Thu 18:00-20:00)

PLAN 548L: Participatory Planning and Budgeting
March 2 - March 23, 2015 (Mon 14:00-17:00)

PLAN 548U: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
March 13 - April 3rd, 2014 (Fri 14:00 to 17:00)

SCARP is on Social Media!
Follow us on Twitter at @ubcscarp, and Like our Facebook page at facebook.com/ubcscarp for the latest SCARP updates and discussions on current planning issues!
What does Vancouver look like in 2100 when faced with climate change? This was the question that Alix Krahn, Evan Hammer, Neal Abbott, and I had agreed to answer when we set out to participate in Simon Fraser University’s “RISE” ideas contest. The premise of the contest was seemingly simple: ‘how can we design Metro Vancouver communities to adapt and thrive in the context of a one-metre rise in sea level by 2100?’ But as we began to disentangle the subject of that sentence, one-metre in sea level rise, from all of the various associated consequences and factors, we began to realize how complex a problem it is – and how difficult it will be to face it.

Our team settled on the idea of a Climate Charter as a way to respond to this challenge. The Charter would serve as an additional level of governing material overtop of BC’s Community Charter and the Local Government Act. Similar to the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, our Charter aimed to set the rules of the game for all government action. Drawing on the idea of ‘nested governance’ we laid out a system where local governments would first have to ensure their ecological sustainability, then societal equity, and finally, provided those first two conditions had been met, their economic stability. We used the City of Richmond as a case study and re-mapped the city in one-hundred years time and used beautiful drawings by Shirin Karubi to help visualise this. Its diked-areas were far smaller, as water overtook some older houses and farmland, yet it produced 60% of its own food, and had a vibrant, human-scale urban fabric supporting 400,000 people. It was an epicenter of the regional sharing economy, having invested heavily in training its residents in climate adaptation technologies and it, along with the wide Metro Vancouver region, helped accommodate the many climate refugees making their way to the Pacific Northwest.

Our project was ultimately unsuccessful in the final round of presentations at the SFU event, with the final winners set to be announced on October 22nd. Of the thirty participating teams there was wide variety present, including professional architects and engineers, masters and undergraduate students, and members of the general public. Many of the responses focused on large-scale engineering or architectural solutions to the problem – building vast walls, or, in one case, piping excess water out of urban areas – and so as SCARP students we were proud to have focused on the ecological, social, and economic consequences of our plan, and of the challenge, right from the start. We are all incredibly grateful to the school and to our colleagues for their support during the process. 😊
The conference encompassed both lectures surrounding previous research and working groups to propose ideas for future projects. The workshop portion of the event included four breakout groups surrounding: mobility & physical functioning, mental health & cognition, physical activity & diet, along with bio markers & epigenetics.

The lectures included talks from:

- Dr. Susan Kirkland (Principal Investigator of the 50,000 participant Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging), spoke about the CLSA and innovations in interdisciplinary health and aging research
- Dr. Abby King (Professor from Stanford University), spoke about pathways to physical function in aging
- Dr. Kristen Day (Professor from New York University), highlighted urban design impacts on equity and well-being
- Dr. Brian Saelens (Professor from the University of Washington), outlined micro-scale pedestrian environment attributes and the impact on older adults’ physical activity
- Dr. Mike Kobor (Associate Professor at UBC and Senior Scientist at the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Therapeutics) spoke with the participants about the new and promising field of epigenetics, the study of relationships between the environment and our genes, demonstrating that our lifestyle can impact the expression of our genes.

The two-day workshop resulted in new pathways for research to advance understanding of the built environment’s impact on health. The conference brought about excitement for future interdisciplinary collaboration and research opportunities.

More information about the event can be found at The Health and Community Design Lab website:

http://health-design.spph.ubc.ca
SCARP Students Tour
Port Metro Vancouver Facilities

*By Eric Fox*

In October, several SCARP students were provided the opportunity of touring the Port Metro Vancouver facilities on the southern shores of Burrard Inlet. We were greeted by Lillian Chau, Manager of Planning for the federally operated Port Metro Vancouver which is the port authority for 28 marine cargo terminals in Vancouver Harbour, along the Fraser River and at Roberts Bank.

As the largest port in Canada and the third largest by tonnage in North America after Long Beach and New York by tonnage, Port Metro Vancouver is strategically positioned as the gateway to international trade in Asian markets. After two overview presentations of the Port’s activities, terminal and industrial land use planning efforts, students embarked on a tour of the cargo terminals aboard a patrol boat. Accompanied by Senior Planner, Gord Tychr and Port Authority crew, students got a unique view of various terminal activities, types of cargo including container goods, break bulk and dry bulk material as well as cruise ship facilities. To wrap up the tour, SCARP students got a rare look inside the Port Metro Vancouver state-of-the-art Operations Management offices where the staff monitor vehicles and rail entering and exiting port property in addition to tracking truck traffic throughout the region.
Fall 2014 Masters Graduates

Christa Brown, MAP
Evaluating Local Capacity for Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction: The Case of Pulilan, Bulacan, Philippines
Supervisor: Nora Angeles

Chia Eliana, MAP
Connecting Immigrant Communities to Local Government: The Case of Richmond, BC
Supervisor: Nora Angeles

Melanie Harding, MAP
GUD GA IS: Being Together to Talk Collaborative Planning in the Haida Village of Skidegate An Indigenous Community Planning Practicum in Haida Gwaii
Supervisor: Jeff Cook

Daniel Iwama, MAP
GUD GA IS: Being Together to Talk Collaborative Planning in the Haida Village of Skidegate An Indigenous Community Planning Practicum in Haida Gwaii
Supervisor: Jeff Cook

Alexandra Lesnikowski, MAP
Adaptation to Urban Heat Island Effect in Vancouver, BC: A case study in analyzing vulnerability and adaptation opportunities
Supervisor: Maged Senbel

Spencer Lindsay, MAP
Seabird Island Band: Phase 4 Sustainable Community Plan
Supervisor: Jeff Cook

Ashley Lowcook, MScP
Inclusive Community Gardens: Planning for Inclusive and Welcoming Spaces in Vancouver
Supervisor: Stephanie Chang

Niall McGarvey, MScP
Stormwater Management Trade-Offs for Portland, Seattle and Vancouver, BC
Supervisor: Maged Senbel

Wilson Mendes, MAP
A Collaborative Indigenous Community Planning Project with the Tobacco Plains Indian Band
Supervisor: Jeff Cook

Allison Savigny, MAP
Evaluating the Accessibility of Center Based Child Care in Vancouver and Montreal
Supervisor: Penelope Gurstein

Jason Youmans, MAP
Supervisor: Mark Stevens

Announcing the 2015 SCARP Symposium

By Matthew Shields

We are pleased to announce that current students have chosen “Contours & Coastlines: [de]constructing the Pacific Northwest” as the theme for the 2015 student symposium. The event will be incisively and intimately connected with the land and people of this region. At turns, we will celebrate and interrogate our politics, myths, resources, communities, and spaces.

We ask that you reserve Friday, February 27, 2015 for this event.
Affordable Vancouver?

By Aaron Lao

It is widely acknowledged that affordable housing is one of the biggest issues facing Vancouver. On Thursday, October 23, SCARP, in partnership with the Housing Justice Project and The Vancouver Sun, SCARP invited candidates from Vancouver City Council to a debate on that very topic. Over 200 people attended the debate at UBC Robson Square, with many watching online.

As the moderator Penny Gurstein, Director of SCARP, stated in her opening address that affordable housing is critically important to the civic election, but that there is often a lack of clarity on the issue. Candidates RJ Aquino (OneCity), Lisa Barrett (COPE), Adriane Carr (Green Party), Glen Chernen (Cedar Party), Geoff Meggs (Vision Vancouver) and Ian Robertson (NPA) had a chance to state their positions, and respond to questions from the public and a panel of housing experts. The topics covered were incredibly diverse, varying from homelessness to public consultations, densification to building permits.

Despite some heated exchanges, the candidates did reach some general agreement on several issues. It was clear that all parties believed that mid-rise development was preferred over high-rise development, government should limit renovations, and that affordable housing meant rates at less than 30% of one’s income. What was less unanimous, however, was the approach the city should take to achieve affordability. At various points in the debate, candidates sparred over the role of Community Amenity Contributions, homelessness initiatives, community-based participatory planning, acceptable density, and the effectiveness of current government policies.
The School of Community and Regional Planning (SCARP) at the University of British Columbia (UBC) is seeking an outstanding academic at the Advanced Assistant or Associate Professor level for a Tier II Canada Research Chair in Urban Systems and Sustainable Infrastructure Planning. The successful candidate should demonstrate excellence in applied research in complex adaptive urban systems, infrastructure and smart city planning, and approaches to coping with climate change in urban areas. Interest or research experience in the rapidly urbanizing countries in Asia would be especially welcome. Demonstrated capacity for bridging the fields of engineering, applied social sciences, and the environmental/ecological sciences is sought. The ideal candidate should also be able to address such planning issues as local governance, the regulation of public infrastructure, community engagement and public policy.

Applicants must have a PhD in planning or related discipline in addition to several years of research and teaching experience, and a substantial track record of relevant research publications. An undergraduate and/or graduate degree in engineering or one of the sciences is required in order to be eligible for eventual Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) funding.

SCARP (www.scarp.ubc.ca) is a fully accredited (Canada and USA) graduate planning program within the Faculty of Applied Science. The School’s explicit pedagogical mission is to advance the transition to sustainability through excellence in integrated policy and planning research, professional education, and community service. Sustainability is understood broadly to encompass social, economic, cultural and environmental dimensions, and the School’s teaching and research orientation places emphasis on the development of participatory, community-oriented planning methods. The successful candidate will be expected to play a major role in the new professional SCARP Master’s program. In addition, the candidate can also expect to teach in the proposed Masters of Engineering in Urban Systems program to be offered in the Faculty of Applied Science.
New Master of Community and Regional Planning (MCRP) at SCARP

The School of Community and Regional Planning is happy to announce that the Master’s in Community and Regional Planning degree program has received approval from the Ministry of Advanced Education.

The MCRP is a professional degree in Planning. It is an innovative and flexible program that anticipates and responds to rapidly changing urban, regional, and global environments.

The MCRP curriculum begins with a strong core sequence of 18 credits that is tailored to the evolving demands of the profession. Students will additionally undertake concentrated study through a sequence of courses customized for their interests and professional aspirations. In their second year, students will be required to take a studio course that integrates theories and methods covered throughout the curriculum into a single team-based project with a real or simulated client or community group.

Cumulative program requirements provide students with real world experience and prepare them for entry into a wide variety of planning jobs. The program also features an internship/work experience, and a mentoring program. The capstone to the MCRP program is a professional project; there is no thesis option.

The Master of Arts (Planning) and Master of Science (Planning) degree programs are not accepting applications for admission to the 2015 Winter Session (September 2015). The research degree program, leading to a Master of Arts or Master of Science in Planning, is being re-designed for admissions starting in September 2016.

PHOTO: ERIC FISHER, "LOCALS AND TOURISTS #11 (GTWA #12): VANCOUVER, "-- FLICKR, USED UNDER CREATIVE COMMONS LICENCE (HTTPS://CREATIVECOMMONS.ORG/LICENSES/BY-SA/2.0/LEGALCODE) THE PHOTO IS A FADED VERSION OF THE ORIGINAL.
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SCARP Alumnus Honored at PIBC
World Town Planning Day Gala

SCARP faculty, students, and alumni attended the annual Town Planning Day Gala on Saturday, November 8th. Everyone was very pleased to see that SCARP alumnus, Gerard Farry, was awarded with PIBC’s certificate for Life Membership for his great contributions to the field of planning in Vancouver and British Columbia. Gerard Farry graduated from SCARP in 1952. Farry worked for the city of Vancouver for 19 years coordinating various projects. He then went on to work as an independent consultant. The School for Community and Regional planning is honored to have one of its alumni recognized. Congratulations Gerard Farry!
Your Crazy-Utopic Planning Idea

By Aaron Lao

In the summer, the city should convert one street into a massive public runway. As you enter one end of the street, you get your choice of fashionable clothing and accessories to borrow from nearby retailers. You also get to choose your runway music. And then as you walk down the runway, there are fireworks going off on either side, speakers blasting, laser lights, smoke machines, glitter cannons, etc. Also, massive, Beyoncé-level wind machines will line the entire length of the road for maximum hair-flipping (extensions and wigs will be made available at no cost to those with short hair). A hoard of photographers will be at the end of the runway to take photos and a super slow-motion video. Finally, a panel of professionals comprised of Tyra Banks, Heidi Klum, and Beyoncé herself, will evaluate each participant, and the best runway walkers will be allowed to keep their loaned clothing items free of charge. The photographs and super slow-motion video (the footage will be available only in super slow-motion) will be made available to each participant at no cost.

This is my Crazy (In Love) Planning Idea. 🎉

SCARP Transpo Nerd Club 2.0 - Transport Planning Seminar Series

By Alex Olajide

In an effort to preserve their passion and enthusiasm for all things transportation-related during this busy semester, transportation planning students at SCARP – under the aegis of the UBC SCARP Transportation Students Forum (TSF) - organized four seminars exploring key areas in transportation planning. The seminars were led by Dr. Patrick Miller, a young transportation consultant who works with Steer Davies Gleave (SDG), a British multinational transportation consulting firm. The seminars covered key transportation planning areas and concepts including:

- Sustainability and Rapid Transit Principles
- Generalized Planning Approaches for Rapid Transit
- Rapid Transit Concepts
- Benefits Analysis of Rapid Transit
- Transit Mode Selection
- Origins and Destinations (O-D)
- Transit stations siting
- Sustainability Analysis Framework for Mass Transit Systems
- Transformative Transportation Planning ideas for North American Cities from Japanese Cities
- Transport Demand Management (TDM)

During the seminars, interactive class exercises were conducted and real life case studies were explored, such as the UBC-Broadway corridor. For more information, please contact, Alex Olajide at: alexo.utpl@gmail.com 🎉
NewsBytes is SCARP’s tri-annual newsletter highlighting current announcements, recent accomplishments, events, research, and broader planning movements of interest to staff, faculty, students, and alumni, as well as prospective students and members of the community.

Opinions expressed in NewsBytes are not necessarily those of UBC, SCARP, or the NewsBytes Editor.

If you have questions or comments, or would like to make a submission to a future edition of NewsBytes, please contact NewsBytes Editor and Outreach Coordinator, Maria Trujillo directly at scarp.news@ubc.ca, or contact the School of Community And Regional Planning at the address provided below.