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Editor: Elizabeth Thomson

Royal Australian Planning Institute
New South Wales Division

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PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

The year 1972/73 has been an historic one for the urban planning profession in Australia. 1972 marked the twenty first year since the Institute's foundation in 1951. This coincided with what can only be described as a social revolution in popular attitudes to the physical environment. Suddenly we found that attitudes, policies and programmes we had been advocating for decades were taken up with enthusiasm by all kinds of people. Environmental issues were discovered by the media. After being ignored for so long, urban planners and urban planning found themselves in the spotlight of public opinion and popular concern. December, 1972 brought long-overdue national government recognition of urban and regional development problems. This has imposed heavy additional demands on members of the profession working in government agencies and in consultant firms.

As professionals we are now being seriously challenged by government to perform competently the tasks we have been seeking for so long. We must perform, or risk being discredited. Traditional concepts of professionalism are being challenged by demands that we examine more critically the social and political value judgements inextricably bound up in our day-to-day work.

The Division Committee which took office in June, 1972, has radically re-organised itself and the character of the Division's activities to involve more members in new Institute activities. Twelve sub-committees were established, more than half of which had new tasks to perform. The Division has been particularly active in making statements on matters of public concern and controversy although the Division insists on being most scrupulous in its efforts to ensure that the full facts on any issue are carefully studied before public statements are made. New types of workshops, seminars and social functions have been held. Public forums and debates have been sponsored. A new Education Committee with full representation from academic staffs and students of each of the three planning courses at the Universities of Sydney and New South Wales has been established, and is investigating

the need for new philosophies and concepts of planning education.

Of major importance has been the establishment of a committee on "The Future of the Institute". Enclosed is a full-scale questionnaire survey for the attention of every member. The results will be rigorously analysed to yield an up-to-date picture of the nature, capabilities, interests and demands of the membership. The results of our work in this field will be reported not only to the Division membership but also to the RAPI Federal President's Commission on the Future of the Institute established last year by the Federal Council on the initiative of the NSW Federal Executive Councillor. I urge each and every member to take the time to fill out and return the questionnaire without delay.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Federal body to be held in Canberra on August 24th, a revised Institute constitution will be presented for consideration. As you are aware, a Referendum of the national membership is currently being held on the proposed new constitution. All Division members are urged to try to attend the A.G.M. in Canberra or at least to ensure that they are represented by proxy.

The challenges facing the profession as a whole are of such significance as to justify the personal participation of every member in the current work of the Institute and our deliberations as to its future.

GEORGE CLARKE

PRESIDENT

COMING EVENTS

The Annual General Meeting of the Division will be held on Friday 10th August next at 7.30 p.m. at 196 Miller Street. It will be followed by an address by Mr. J.P.F. Kacirek (F), Chief Planner of the State Planning Authority, on "The New Cities of Campbelltown, Camden, and Appin". On July 18th the S.P.A. released the report on its proposed structure plan for this large project to the press. We feel that our August meeting will be a most appropriate time for the matter to come before the Division.

This year the Division will hold a Weekend School at the Hotel Florida in Terrigal on 21st — 23rd September. The theme will be National Urban Policies which everyone should find topical and of considerable interest. Graham Andrews is chairman of the organising committee so if you would like to contribute in any way please contact Graham.

The next RAPI Congress will be held at the University of Melbourne in August 1974. The theme for the Congress will be Old Cities and New Policies. Since it is expected that a number of new city plans will be published by then this would seem to be a particularly interesting topic. Robert Dunster (F) has been appointed Chairman of the Congress Organising Committee and all enquiries should be addressed to him.

The next series of workshops will be held late in August, and will introduce planners to the use of computer terminals and computer graphics. A short explanation of how terminals work will be followed by practical demonstrations, in which groups of planners will actually use a terminal to solve a wide range of problems. Application at the local government level will be emphasized rather than "planning research" problems. Registration forms will be mailed to Division members, Councils, the Universities and government departments shortly. The registration fee for one three-hour session will be \$2.00 for RAPI Members, Affiliates, and Students, and \$4.00 for other. The Land Planning Tool Workshop, by the way, was a great success thanks to Doug Keech's enthusiastic organisation. Four sessions were held during May to accommodate the 105 who attended and another session may be held at Sydney University next term.

WHAT OTHER GROUPS ARE DOING

The Institution of Engineers has established a Transportation Engineering Branch which is holding a series of meetings this year at Eagle House, 118 Alfred St., North Sydney. Of interest to members will be the address by Mr. J. Trimmer on August 7th at 6 p.m. on "The Role and Structure of the Public Transport Commission."

The ANZAAS Congress will be held in Perth this year from August 13 — 17th and will have as its theme Science, Development and the Environment. Details of the Town Planning Section can be obtained from Mr. C. Green, School of Architecture, University of Western Australia, Nedlands, W.A.

The Conference of the Australian Institute of landscape Architects Inc. will be held on the 17th to the 19th August at Macquarie University. The theme is "Sydney Harbour; A City Environment" and Bruce Mackenzie (tel.920319) or Russell Smith (tel.9092744) are the people to contact for additional information.

Also in August, from the 14th — 17th, is the Australian and New Zealand Conference on the

Planning and Design of Tall Buildings, to be held in the Stephen Roberts Theatre, University of Sydney. Please contact Miss Anna Funnell, Department of Architectural Science, (6608849 or 6600522 Ext. 2849) if you are interested.

The Hunter Valley Research Foundation is holding a seminar at the Research Centre, Tighes Hill Newcastle on 15—16th November. The subject is Information Systems as related to Urban and Regional Planning, and it is proposed to discuss the problems and issues in the design, establishment and operation of such Information Systems for use in Urban and Regional Planning and Administration. The purpose of the Seminar is to bring together representatives of Government and Research Organisations who have already begun to develop computer based systems with applications in this field, or who are planning such development. It is hoped that guidelines may be established for a programme of co-operative research leading to the design of an Information System which can readily be adopted by Regional and Local Authorities. All enquiries should be addressed to Dr. G. McCalden, Associate Director of Research, The Hunter Valley Research Foundation, P.O. Box 23, Tighes Hill, N.S.W. 2297. Telephone (049) 614821 Newcastle.

The Newcastle Branch of the Division will be holding a seminar on Monday 6th August entitled "A Review of the 25 Years of Planning in the Hunter Valley". Details may be obtained from the Hon. Sec. of the Branch, Joan Connolly, by ringing 049 : 23818.

NEWS FROM UNIVERSITIES

A study of the future of the upper Hawkesbury River area is being undertaken by the Department of Town and Country Planning, University of Sydney and the Planning Research Centre, in co-operation with the National Trust of Australia (N.S.W.). The report on this study, which will be of considerable interest to members involved in matters of recreation and conservation, is expected to be available by the end of the year.

Macquarie University introduced a Diploma in Environmental Studies this year. It is a two year part-time course covering a wide range of disciplines ranging from biology and chemistry to sociology, geography, economics and politics. The course emphasises the management of natural ecosystems, pollution and urban ecology. This year the number of students was limited to 30. Application forms for next year can be obtained from the Registrar of Macquarie University.

Mike Breakell (M) is now Senior Lecturer responsible for short courses at the Department of Town Planning, Oxford Polytechnic. He is currently organising a series of short courses which will act as an introduction to current British planning techniques at Oxford during the summer of 1974. This could be of interest to any of our members who are planning to be in Britain next year. Additionally, Mike sends news of a one year course at the Polytechnic for graduates in architecture,

GENERAL NOTES

The North Sydney road closure controversy has brought basic planning principles before the public in a dramatic way. At the time of writing the roads are closed and peak hour traffic on main routes has speeded up considerably mainly because a number of right hand turns have been eliminated both into, and out of, the main traffic flow. The North Sydney experience clearly demonstrates how these relatively simple expedients can maximise main road capacity and restore residential streets to their proper status. It is a matter of concern therefore that moves are afoot to alter the legislation so that Councils cannot take such action. It should be noted that Lane Cove and Willoughby Councils closed roads nearly two years ago without all the fuss that has accompanied North Sydney's move and these streets are still closed. Comment in the press has been largely ill-informed and emotional. We believe that it would be a retrograde step if the wishes of a few were to remove this useful planning tool from the hands of local councils. Dr. Nielsen please note!

A National Population Inquiry is underway under the chairmanship of Professor Borrie, the well known Australian demographer. The aim is to establish the best possible size, composition and distribution for Australia's population to the end of the century. We believe that the findings of the Inquiry should be published for full national discussion and that the National Government and the various State Governments should co-ordinate on a national strategy for the future distribution of Australia's population and workforce.

The State Planning Authority has recently produced two audio-visual programmes (slides with taped commentaries). One is based on the Authority's Technical Bulletin 3, "Planning Control of Residential Development", the other on the publication "Town Houses". Both programmes give easily understood summaries of the Authority's ideas on residential development, and last just over twenty minutes each. The Authority is happy to lend them to any interested organisations. Bookings may be made by contacting the Publicity and Information Officer, Mr. Robin Poke, at 211 0966. A projector is available for loan with the programmes.

We are all only too aware of the many imperfections in the Local Government Act. Members may be interested to hear of the following publication: *Sanctions Against Illegal Erection of Buildings under Part XI of the Local Government Act 1919 (N.S.W.)*: Research monograph by K.E. Lindgren, Professor of Legal Studies, University of Newcastle.

This work is of considerable interest in pointing up the various anomalies and ambiguities which exist in Part XI of the Act as it stands at present. It is available from the Local Government Shires Association of N.S.W. (Local Government House, 235 Clarence St., Sydney, or Box 1557 G.P.O. Sydney 2001).

NEW FELLOWS

J.M. Bourke	J.P.F. Kacirek
D.A. Briggs	S. Lipson
E. Duek-Cohen	Erica Rathgeber
Judith Fitz-Henry	J. Toon

NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS

A. Brook	M. Majarich
J.R. Caldwell	R. Nichols
P.D. Day	R.G. Wyatt

NEW STUDENT MEMBERS

R.K. Bardsley-Smith	S. Morrison
R.J. Bennett	S.J. O'Connor
R.K. Birtles	R.J. Oxley
R.P. Cole	D.P. Quin
R.W. Davidson	R.J. Starr
L.D. Edgar	J.R. Stone
Petula Gemenis	Peta Toop
B.T. Goldsmith	S.J. Webb
D.R. Howlett	G.D. Wilmoth
R.I. Johnston	R.K. Woodward
Yu Cheung Lee	Maria Zannetides
Leonie Luke	

NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS

J.M. Agius	H.K. Marelli
K.J. Blume	T.N. McLean
A.H. Jakubowicz	L.J. Tooby
P. Lund	H. Shiu-Lung Tsang

TRANSFERS TO N.S.W. DIVISION

J.H. Gilmour	G. Roberts
J. Shrimski	

FOUND: a red mohair stole was left behind in the Housing Commission's Theatre after Professor Denis Winston's address on 23rd March. Please ring June Jones (92 1124) if it is yours.

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town planning, landscape architecture and related disciplines leading to a Diploma in Urban Design. Those interested should seek information from S.D. Atkinson, Urban Design, Oxford Polytechnic, Headington, Oxford OX30BP U.K.

The School of Town Planning, University of New South Wales conducted a Summer School for students doing the Ordinance 4 exams. Sixty people attended the course, the majority being engineers, health inspectors, building inspectors and planning assistants from local councils. Although the Ordinance 4 exams commenced in 1947 this is the first time that such a course has been presented. Apart from formal lectures and a special seminar on medium density housing, those attending had access to library facilities, films, etc. As well the students had an opportunity to exchange views on their professional experience which also provided a valuable feedback to the School. It is hoped that this course will become a regular event.

INSTITUTE NEWS

* The Division Committee is putting up a case for the retention of the Supreme Court complex. Drawing on the considerable knowledge and expertise of certain of our members who willingly formed themselves into a special sub-committee for the purpose, the Committee has now approved a submission which has been sent to all Commonwealth, State and private organisations that are in any way involved in the revocation or otherwise of the decision made back in 1962 to demolish these buildings. In the eleven years that have passed, public attitudes to the preservation of historic buildings have changed and make it essential that the proposal to demolish this group of buildings be re-assessed before it is too late. The submission analyses the reasons for the retention of the Supreme Court buildings and puts forward proposals for their preservation and replanning, thereby creating an historic legal precinct of which the legal profession and indeed the people of Sydney can be justifiably proud. Only a few spare copies of the submission are available but interested members may view it at 196 Miller St. at any time during office hours. We suggest that if time permits you take a stroll in and around the buildings themselves to convince you, if such is necessary, that the Supreme Court complex is part of Sydney's heritage. Changing the official mind is no easy process and we would welcome members' interest and support in this stand we have taken.

Following the publication of the report of the Federal Visiting Education Board an Education Sub-Committee was established under the convenorship of Dr. John Roseth who is our representative on the Federal Board of Education. Membership of the Sub-Committee was arranged as follows:

University of New South Wales:	
Academic Staff Representative	Mr. J.L. King
Under Graduate BTP Course	
Student Representative	Miss L. Jakier

University of Sydney:	
Academic Staff Representatives	Mr. J. Toon Mr. G. Browne
Graduate MTCP Course	
Student Representative	Mr. A.W. Kerr
Graduate Dip. TCP Course	
Student Representative	Mr. J.B. Sheehan
Consultant Representative	Mr. A.J. Powell

The Education Sub-Committee's first task was to examine the Report of the Visiting Board. The Sub-Committee found that the Report was disappointing in relation to the planning schools in New South Wales. It saw the major weaknesses of the Report as a lack of any statement of a coherent philosophy of planning education, the lack of judgement criteria (good or sufficient is just not good enough), the lack of a comparison between schools which may have led to an interesting discussion of the course characteristics of the different schools. One of the Institute's tasks is to ensure that graduates from the various courses are academically fit to practise planning and to become Corporate members. This Division, on the basis of the Sub-Committee's report has recommended to the Federal Body that the Visiting Board should not undertake another expensive round of visits until it has established a coherent brief setting out its terms of reference, the basic educational philosophy of the Institute and a series of specific criteria for the assessment and judgement of the quality and character of the education offered by each school in comparison with other schools.

In the last few years a number of applicants for Corporate Membership have been refused by the Federal Council although the applications were recommended by the New South Wales Division. Eligibility for Corporate membership is fully set out in the Institute Calendar and generally involves the attainment of a specified planning qualification and experience in certain fields of planning. Under Clause 6(d)(iv) of the Institute By-Laws the Institute may, at its discretion, admit as Corporate members people who have clearly demonstrated their planning expertise although they may not have completed the necessary courses. This Clause reads as follows:

"Having given due regard to the objects of the Institute set out in the Constitution, the Council may at its discretion admit to Corporate membership persons who because of their age, planning experience, qualifications and achievements have demonstrated their fitness for such membership."

This Division has recommended a number of applicants under the provisions of Clause 6(d)(iv). Each applicant has been known to members of the Division Committee and has had a long and responsible role in town planning. Nevertheless, the Federal body has not seen fit to accept a certain number of these applications. The Division Committee has decided therefore that in future it will not consider any more of these

particular applications unless they are accompanied in the first instance by full documentation by the applicant of his experience and achievements in planning, that is a detailed work history including examples of work and documents for which the applicant was fully responsible. Citations prepared by the proposer and seconder which confirm and support the applicant's claims must also be included. If the application is supported by the Division Committee all of the supporting documentation will be forwarded to the Federal body for its consideration. The Federal Council meets in March and August of each year. In order that applications may be fully considered by the Division Committee they must be lodged no later than 1st May and 1st December otherwise they will take an extra six months to be processed.

Application forms can be obtained from Mrs June Jones our full-time secretary. The telephone number is 92 1124 and the postal address is Box 541 P.O. North Sydney 2060. The office is at 196 Miller Street, North Sydney. It should be noted that admission to Student and Affiliate membership is decided by the Division Committee and does not require ratification by the Federal Council.

For some years the Federal Council has made moves to abolish the grade of Affiliate membership, and the matter is to be discussed at the August Meeting of the Federal Body. New South Wales is the only Division with a significant number of Affiliate members, almost one quarter of all members. We believe that Affiliate members help to broaden the outlook of the Institute and that their participation in Institute affairs is of great value to the interests of planning. As well, this grade of membership enables people without specific planning qualifications but with interests and skills in planning to attach themselves to a professional body. Because the core of planning is the co-ordination of many skills, the understanding of related fields and the involvement of various levels of government, the contribution of Affiliates in this Division has been valuable. For these reasons our representative at the August Federal Council Meeting will be arguing against the abolition of Affiliate grade membership.

Federal Council is also discussing the matter of centralising all activities, including the collection of subscriptions. This would mean that each Division would receive an allowance from the Federal body each year to cover the cost of operating. We believe that the disadvantages far outweigh the advantages at this stage and since this Division has the largest membership we would be subsidising other Divisions, possibly to the detriment of our own activities. This matter will also be aired at the August Federal Council Meeting and if any members have strong views on the matter we would be glad to hear from you.

As a result of the recent elections there is a new Committee for 1973-74. The Student and Affiliate Representatives were nominated unopposed so an election was only necessary for the Corporate representatives. Why is it, we wonder, that only a third of those eligible bothered to vote.

DIVISION COMMITTEE 1973-74

Graham ANDREWS
David BRIGGS
Gardner BROWNE
George CLARKE
Judith FITZ-HENRY
Samuel LIPSON
Robert MEYER
Frank O'NEIL
Erika RATHGEBER
John ROSETH
Gustav SPIELMAN
Elizabeth THOMSON
Peter YEOMANS (Affiliate Representative)
Alexander KERR (Student Representative)
Malcolm BLACKSHAW (Newcastle Representative)

Retiring members were Jim Colman, who has given much of his time in latter years as Honorary Secretary and Vice President, Mike Llewellyn-Smith and Henry Wardlaw.

THE 1973/74 BUDGET

It has been decided to raise subscriptions in the coming year. Fees have been constant for several years and during this period the Federal Levy has been raised (now \$16.50 per member) and of course costs have risen considerably. The fees which have been adopted are:

Fellows	...	\$55.00
Corporate Members	...	\$50.00
Affiliates	...	\$30.00
Students (part time)	...	\$15.00
Students (full time)	...	\$ 5.00
By-law 34(c)	...	\$30.00

It is a matter of some concern that at the close of this financial year some 20% of members had not paid their subscriptions and 5% had fees outstanding from the previous year. Action to strike off these latter members has now been commenced.

NOTE: The Local Government Appeals Tribunal has approached the Division concerning the matter of representation at hearings of the Tribunal. Members who are interested in having their names on the list of prospective advocates which is given to applicants seeking a representative are invited to contact the Tribunal (323 Castlereagh St., or Phone 2 0982 Ext.9447 for Mr. J. Short, Registrar.). We have already provided the Tribunal with a copy of our member consultant's list.