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EDITORS' INTRODUCTION TO VOLUME 12

Chris Benner, Annette Kim, and Matthew Zook

As the final days of 1997 tick away and we ready ourselves for the New Year and the approach of the millenium, we are struck by the coincidence of two important planning anniversaries. The Department of City and Regional Planning (DCRP) at the University of California, Berkeley, founded in 1948, commemorates its jubilee anniversary this year. DCRP celebrates a proud history of readily evolving and changing with the planning discipline as well as provoking changes to it.

Even more intriguing, DCRP's anniversary is echoed by the 100 year anniversary of Ebenezer Howard's book *To-morrow: A Peaceful Path to Real Reform* later re-published under its more familiar title, *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*. In many ways Howard's book marks the beginning of the modern era of western, city planning. Howard is most remembered for his vision of garden cities, which have been critiqued for romanticizing the countryside and paving the way for a faceless suburbia. What is often overlooked in these critiques is that for Howard the physical layout of the garden city was not necessarily a goal in and of itself but was the manifestation of a radical reorganization of the productive and reproductive processes of society. This theme — linking increased production with equitable distribution — has been a constant refrain throughout planning thought, as well as in the DCRP tradition.

These two anniversaries offer the opportunity for this volume of the *Berkeley Planning Journal* to examine the roots of planning and possible visions of what is to come. Thus, in the first section of this issue, four professors from the department reflect on the history and future of planning and planning education. For the second section the editors took the unusual step of providing a theme in the call for papers. The result is a series of articles which analyze the increasing interdependency of the global economy and the rising importance of the Pacific Rim region.

Webber and Collignon trace the intellectual trajectories of the Department of City and Regional Planning (DCRP), since its founding in 1948 until the present day. Their piece places the changing conceptions of planning within the context of

historical changes taking place in the nation. Planning's orientation evolved from a focus on physical place, through the concern for social policy in the 1960s, to an emphasis on professionalism and land use in the 70s and 80s and now to environmental planning in the 90s. However, this evolution has stretched the realm of what constitutes planning more than replaced any definitions. For the DCRP, the wide range of issues and intellectual styles pursued has led to a remarkable alumni and faculty who are united by their goal for social betterment. The strength of students graduating from the department was not in any particular set of technical skills, but in their ability to think — to ask the critical questions, to search for responses to those questions, then to formulate policies and actions that would accomplish explicit aims. **Violich** provides a personal account of the pioneering intellectual community that founded and built the department. Tracing the grassroots origins of the DCRP, his comments give a greater understanding of how the local environment — in both its natural beauty and social creativity — formed an invaluable milieu for the development of city planning education in those early years.

Castells provides a challenging and far-reaching look into what the future of planning education should look like in the next fifty years. The information age has brought dramatic changes in spatial structures and processes of urbanization and increased the importance of cities over nation-states. However, the social and political institutions that have governed cities and regions in the past 50 years are unsure how to respond. The challenge to city and regional planning is to reconstruct its analytical tools to fit the changing socio-economic context. The challenge for planning education is to be flexible — able to adapt to changing circumstances and the diverse needs of students. The core of this flexibility is creating building blocks emphasizing methodological skills from various disciplines. This should include an emphasis on writing and speaking skills — perhaps based on 'rhetoric seminars in the classic Greek tradition' — to ensure students have the necessary communication skills to be effective in their professional work.

In facing the future, the second section of this issue seeks to address the ongoing changes in the Asia-Pacific region and their implications for urban planning in the 21st century. The spectacular development of the four Asian NICs during the 1980s, the emergence of China into the world economy, and

the growth of linkages between economies which blur national boundaries have all combined to make this region one of the most dynamic and important in the world. Urban areas in the Pacific are undergoing a restructuring to adapt to the emerging global system resulting in cutting-edge technological development as well as low-wage sweatshops which are often integrally and intricately linked to one another.

The first two articles provide a clear picture of the divergent impacts of globalization by presenting two dramatically different windows into the development of Silicon Valley. **Saxenian and Edulbehram** provide an analysis of immigrant entrepreneurs. In contrast to the large literature on immigrant entrepreneurs confined to low-end ethnic enclaves, they powerfully show the strategies Chinese and Indian immigrants have used in starting successful and cutting-edge high-tech firms. In so doing, they help us understand the importance of social networks that span the entire Asia-Pacific region. **Benner** focuses on another aspect of Silicon Valley, highlighting the bifurcation and vulnerability of the labor market and strong race and gender divisions within the workforce. Amidst growing inequality, expanded levels of outsourcing, and highly mobile production processes, he examines a number of recent labor and community organizing strategies and draws lessons for employment relations and worker organizing in the information age.

Our third article examines what cities can do to integrate and compete in the global economy. In her case study of the garment industry in San Francisco, **Chapple** argues the need for diverse economic development strategies within the same industry. She challenges the conventional wisdom of recent economic development strategies which focused on developing a 'high-road' within the garment industry by increasing the skills of the workforce and helping firms produce for higher-end customized niche markets. She details the structural reasons why the dominant portion of the local industry is still producing for mass markets, particularly in women's and girls' wear, and highlights the threats to this sector of the industry. Demonstrating the importance of employment in this sector to large portions of the recent immigrant population — work that is better paid than the primary alternative available in the hotel and restaurant sector — she argues that San Francisco cannot afford to entirely lose the lower end of the industry. Instead, she argues the need to complement these newer strategies with more traditional economic development strategies aimed at

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preserving low factor prices for the many local contractors and subcontractors in the area.

The next two articles in this issue focus on globalization's impact on specific areas in Asia. **Clark** examines the multiple and contested senses of place that are being built in Shenzhen. In one of the fastest growing regions of the world, and with the majority of the population officially only 'temporary' residents of the region, Shenzhen provides a particularly interesting study for examining the effects of global capitalism at the local level. Despite official attempts to build a sense of cohesion out of the seeming chaos of the region, the various processes of urbanization remain largely outside of official purview or control. The result, Clark argues, is not the absence of a sense of place, but the development of multiple, overlapping senses of place shaped by an individual's class, registration status, and place of native origin.

The theme of multiple, contradictory, and largely informal process of urbanization is also developed in **Susantono's** presentation of transportation and land-use dynamics in Jakarta. Transportation development in the last twenty years has facilitated a dramatic expansion in the '*Jabotabek*' metropolitan area, but has given rise to processes entirely beyond the control of authorities in the area. Conversion of surrounding rural land to urban uses threatens the city's water supply, while the expansion of informal settlements and fragmented project development in the core continues to increase congestion. In Susantono's presentation, Jabotabek with all its overlapping and conflicting government bureaucracies and rapid processes of population and economic change, truly presents a crisis for planning in the 21st century.

In the final article in this issue, **Cowert and Serow** review demographic trends in nine countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The public policy problems related to an increasingly aging population, which these countries will inevitably face, are often overlooked during the single-minded pursuit of national economic development. They highlight the dilemmas planners will face in trying to balance competing demands for scarce resources between generations.

In putting together this volume of the Berkeley Planning Journal, we have benefited greatly from the intellectual exchange with authors and peers. The editorial collective has been exceptional, and our most heartfelt thanks must be extended to all those who helped this year.