

2014 Report

September – November



TRUST ACTIVITY REPORT

Director	Professor Peter Phibbs
Period	September-November 2014
Project	The Henry Halloran Trust at the University of Sydney



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Highlights

The Festival of Urbanism October 15 th -November 6 th
The awarding of the second round of Bly Sky Grants
Discussing Trust matters with leading researchers from across the world.
John Toon's appointment as an Honorary Fellow of the University on October 31.

Trust Activities

Objective 1: To promote a collaborative cross-disciplinary environment where established scholars and leading practitioners, together with industry and government partners, can engage in leading-edge research.

The Practitioner-in-Residence Program

We have two Practitioners working in this program in 2014. Ms Nyambura Mwaniki is writing a report on an assessment of the effect of planning regulation on housing delivery. In addition, Ms Julie Walton is working on a project on planning systems and corruption.

Objective 2: To support scholarly research into critical policy issues relevant to current practice in Australian and international urban and regional land management, encouraging the development of innovative approaches to the management of land and natural resources. In this regard land, natural resources and urban and regional development are to be given a broad interpretation.

One day Symposium: Packaging research outputs so policy makers use them: Challenges and Opportunities. December 16th. This symposium will be a follow up to the August 1st event, which examined the barriers to joining up research and practice. Professor Ann Forsyth from Harvard University will lead the day. Professor Dave Adamson will give presentations from the University of Wales and Ms Amanda Lawrence, Research & Strategy Manager, Policy Online. Participants from Tongji University in Shanghai will also be participating in the symposium.

Research Grant Round

We released our EOIs for research projects in early August. We are offering funding in Blue Sky projects and strategic partnership projects. A detailed listing is available in Appendix 1.

The grant winning projects included:

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

- Community engagement for the 'hard-to reach': Trialling participatory social network mapping in Tasmania \$27,895 (Faculty of Education and Social Work)

BLUE SKY

- Assessing environmental impacts of major transport infrastructure projects: where does human health fit? \$24,291 (Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning)

- Visions of Sandstone: Reducing cost and increasing safety of heritage infrastructure inspection using aerial robotics. \$21,440 (Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning)

The final selection of the successful incubator project will occur at the Advisory Board meeting on December 9th, 2014.

Objective 3: To support academic, professional and public debate through public lectures and the publication of research that can beneficially transform current practice and encourage inspirational thinking about how to better manage urban and regional development.

The major activity in this space has been the Festival of Urbanism. The Festival ran between October 15th (opening night – the Festival was opened by the Provost of the University) and November 6th. The key event of the Festival was an event at Sydney Lower Town Hall on November 5th.

The Lord Mayor spoke at the event as well Professor Stephen Cairns from the Future Cities Laboratory in Singapore. The Festival was sponsored by the Trust in collaboration with the Urbanism Discipline at the University as well as the Cities Network.

The Festival attracted widespread media interest including two slots on commercial television, widespread newspaper coverage and a number of radio stories. The festival commissioned a number of pieces of research, which were later, submitted to Urban Growth NSW who are attempting to help design major urban renewal areas in Sydney, including the Bays Precinct. The theme of the Festival in 2014 concerned the redevelopment of large tracts of the city often referred to as ‘megaprojects’.

A full list of events is contained in Appendix 2.



Professor Peter Sainsbury, Director of Population Health in South Western Sydney Local Health District, NSW Health; and Associate Professor in the School of Public Health speaks at the Festival on the topic of Health and High-rise – Is Density Bad for You?

The Trust also hosted a seminar by Professor Dave Adamson from the University of Wales on November 27th at the University. The seminar described the work of Professor Adamson in working with marginalised communities in Wales.

The Director has also been reasonably active in making presentations at various public events. He delivered a lecture on Understanding Key Planning Issues to a seminar program organised by Shelter NSW on the 13th October in the CBD. He also spoke on the role of Local Government in the Provision of Affordable Housing at the Ryde Council, Affordable Housing Summit on 18th November at Ryde Civic Hall.

The Director has also been delivering a two-day professional development course to strategic planners across the State (PLANED – 14 courses delivered, 5 to go). This has been an opportunity for the Director to highlight the work of the Trust, especially Yolande Stone's PIR paper on planning panels.

The Director also assisted with an Executive Development Program sponsored by the Government of Brunei during November. This program involves future leaders from Brunei as well as a number of other Asian countries. The National University of Singapore ran the program in 2014. The group visited the University of Sydney on November 25th. They were interested in finding out about Affordable Housing in Australia. The Director of the Trust provided them with a briefing about current Australian policy and as part of their visit were shown a recent affordable housing development located at Everleigh developed by City West Housing.

Professor Phibbs and Ms Janelle Goulding (CEO City West Housing) with the visiting delegates



Objective 4: To promote an inter-disciplinary international network of leading scholars and practitioners who will assist and advise the Director of the Trust in identifying critical issues and on priorities for research.

As part of the Festival of urbanism the Director was able to hold discussions with a number of leading scholars from Europe and North America. These discussions helped identify international research trends and strategies they have been using to connect research with practice. Discussions were held with:

- Professor Emily Talen (USA)
- Emeritus Professor Christine Whitehead (UK)
- Dr Michelle Norris (Ireland)
- Professor Kirk McLure (USA)

The results of these discussions will influence the work of the Trust in 2015.

APPENDIX 1

DETAILED LIST OF FUNDED PROJECTS

STRATEGIC;

Community engagement for the 'hard-to reach': Trailing participatory social network mapping in Tasmania \$27,895

Associate Professor Susan Goodwin, The University of Sydney University
Dr Kathleen Flanagan , The University of Tasmania
Dr Julia Verdouw, The University of Tasmania

The issue of how to build community engagement and promote pathways to economic and social inclusion for the most excluded social groups is one of the most vexed areas of social policy. This project addresses this concern through an innovative approach designed to avoid 'benevolent othering' in areas where place-based stigma creates division and social exclusion that extend to within the neighbourhood itself. The project combines volunteering with participatory community-based action research to develop a system map that extends asset-based community development approaches by identifying how networks operate as enablers and constraints through relationships of power, trust, conflict and collaboration.

BLUE SKY;

Assessing environmental impacts of major transport infrastructure projects: where does human health fit? \$24,291

Dr Patrick Harris The University of Sydney University
Dr Jennifer Kent, Macquarie University
Associate Professor Peter Sainsbury, The University of Sydney University
Professor Fran Baum, Flinders University

This research investigates 'How, why, and to what extent, human health is considered in environmental assessments of major transport infrastructure projects?'

There is strong evidence of the links between transport planning and human health. Environmental Assessments (EAs) are a regulated mechanism for considering health in infrastructure planning but traditionally have not fully captured health issues. This research will develop four case studies of major transport EAs, three in NSW and one in South Australia, to explain how and why health was or was not included. The project will foster collaboration between two emerging research leaders from public health and planning.

Visions of Sandstone: Reducing cost and increasing safety of heritage infrastructure inspection using aerial robotics. \$21,440

Dr Rob Saunders, The University of Sydney University

Dr Simon Weir, The University of Sydney

Developing an advanced visual inspection tool for assessing the quality of ageing sandstone in public infrastructure. Applying off-the-shelf quad copters equipped with high-resolution cameras to the problem of inspecting the built fabric of ageing infrastructure, we can increase efficiencies of maintenance work.

The project was developed after discussions with sandstone section of the New South Wales Department of Public Works, and has been tailored to the specific needs of sandstone inspection, but many of the project details can be readily adapted to similar surveillance conditions.



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Festival of Urbanism



15 October – 6 November 2014

A series of talks and conversations about planning and making our cities. This year's theme focuses on proposals for the redevelopment of large consolidated portions of cities often referred to as 'Megaprojects'.

The festival is a platform for a range of views, academic reflection and critique, international expertise and experience and community discussion on urban renewal (megaprojects) to define approaches that maximise the public interest and benefit.

Megaprojects

Photo: Rod Simpson

Festival of Urbanism



15 October – 6 November 2014

www.festivalofurbanism.com

Festival of Urbanism Launch Event

15 OCT

Join the Festival of Urbanism launch event, featuring the launch of The Sydney University Master of Urbanism degree. The University of Sydney Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Stephen Garton, Director Henry Halloran Trust, Professor Peter Phibbs, Associate Professor Rod Simpson.

Date: Wednesday 15 October

Time: 6.00 – 7.30pm

Venue: Tin Sheds Gallery
Wilkinson Building, Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Design, 148 City Road, The University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online



Health and High-rise – Is density bad for you?

16 OCT

Two expert panellists address health issues related to increased density. Join Associate Professor Stephen Corbett, Director of the Centre for Population Health in the Western Sydney Local Health District and Dr Jennifer Kent, Urban Planner, Macquarie University.

Date: Thursday 16 October

Time: 6:30 – 8.00pm

Venue: New Law Lecture Theatre 101
Eastern Avenue, Camperdown Campus
University of Sydney

RSVP: online

Alternative approaches to urban infrastructure funding

17 OCT

A structured Q&A with Martin Payne, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning on value capture to benefit city making. Submit a question to info.urbanism@sydney.edu.au

Date: Friday 17 October

Time: 1.00 – 2.00pm

Venue: ALT 1 (Lecture room)
Wilkinson Building
Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Design
148 City Road, The University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

What's the Plan? The Bays Precinct panel

20 OCT

The Hon. Craig Knowles, President **Planning Research Centre** in conversation with panelists Dr Kate Shaw University of Melbourne, Associate Professor Kurt Iveson University of Sydney, a community member and Angus Dawson, Dawson James P/L.

Bring your phone to vote on key topics throughout the conversation.

Date: Monday 20 October

Time: 6:30 – 8.00pm

Venue: New Law Lecture Theatre 101, Eastern Avenue, Camperdown Campus, University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

Dr Kate Shaw: Melbourne Docklands – where it went wrong and why Australian governments don't learn.

21 OCT

Join Dr Kate Shaw, Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellow from the University of Melbourne. Using Docklands as a starting point, she examines the motivations for urban renewal in Australia and draws lessons from more nuanced practices elsewhere.

*Limited seats 100

Date: Tuesday 21 October

Time: 1.00 – 2.00pm

Venue: ALT 1 (Lecture room)
Wilkinson Building, Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Design
148 City Road, The University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

Emily Talen on Design for Social Diversity

23 OCT

Emily Talen teaches planning and geography at Arizona State University.

Our inability to deal with social difference at a localised, neighborhood level has been blamed as the root cause of intractable urban problems from sprawl to environmental degradation and insufficient affordable housing. At the same time, there is widespread agreement that cities ought to be more dense to support environmental, health, economic, and social objectives. With reference to experiences in the USA, this presentation asks: How do the goals of diversity and density interact, and can they be achieved simultaneously? How should we evaluate often-elusive planning goals in light of increasing social-spatial separation?

Date: Thursday 23 October

Time: 6:30 – 8.00pm

Venue: New Law Lecture Theatre 101
Eastern Avenue, Camperdown Campus
University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential

Urban Community Renewable Energy Networks: opportunities and challenges

24 OCT

Professor Tony Vassallo Delta Electricity Chair in Sustainable Energy School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Elizabeth Tomc from the same school. Leading researchers and practitioners discuss new developments in renewable energy, and their potential impacts on neighbourhoods and communities.

*Invite only

Date: Friday 24 October

Time: 10.00am – 2.00pm



Housing markets the Global Financial Crisis, and city planning: perspectives from three countries

27 OCT

Luci Ellis, Reserve Bank and Professor Mike Berry, RMIT respond to three international experts (the United Kingdom, the United States, and Ireland) on potential learnings from the Global Financial Crisis, for housing markets and the policy frameworks governing housing supply. Professor Christine Whitehead London School of Economics, Professor Kirk McClure Kansas State University and Dr Michelle Norris University College Dublin.

Date: Monday 27 October

Time: 6.00 – 7.45pm

Venue: New Law Lecture Theatre 101, Eastern Avenue, Camperdown Campus
University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

The city everyone's business, but the city is not a business

28 OCT

In conversation with University of Sydney Associate Professor Rod Simpson panellists Dr Marcus Spiller and Adjunct Professor Helen Lochhead discuss how important it is how to define the objective of major urban renewal projects and the effect of different delivery models on the end result, using both Australian and international examples.

Date: Tuesday 28 October

Time: 6:30 – 8.00pm

Venue: VSCC Webster Lecture, Room 208
University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

Documentary Film Screening 1

Jahn Gehl – The Human Scale

Watch an exclusive student screening and post-film discussion with University of Sydney lecturers.

*Limited seats available

Date: Friday 31 October

Time: 6.00pm

Venue: Old Geology Lecture Theatre, Edgeworth David Building
Science Road, University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

31 OCT



Documentary Film Screening 2

William Whyte - The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces

Watch an exclusive student screening and post-film discussion with University of Sydney lecturers.

*Limited seats available

Date: Tuesday 4 November

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: Old Geology Lecture Theatre, Edgeworth David Building
Science Road, University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

04 NOV



Have your say

The Bays Precinct is currently being considered for a large scale urban redevelopment project.

Join the online conversation.

www.festivalofurbanism.com/onlineforum

Tweet
[#FestUrbanism](https://twitter.com/FestUrbanism) [#megaprojects](https://twitter.com/megaprojects)

The future of the Bays Precinct with Professor Stephen Cairns on 'open-city' Design

05 NOV

Professor Stephen Cairns, Future Cities Laboratory, KCAP, ETH Singapore instigator of 'open-city' with Kees Christiaanse (Hafencity Hamburg master planning process)

Professor Cairns reflects broadly on the principles of the 'open-city' and how these might apply to urban renewal projects. He outlines the principles underlying the master planning and delivery of Hamburg's Hafencity. Joined by an expert local panel exploring application to the Bays Precinct.

Date: Wednesday 5 November

Time: 6.30-8.00pm

Venue: Lower Town Hall
483 George Street, Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online

Listen.Talk.Think.Write: a Festival reflection.

06 NOV

Writing the Festival Communique

Date: Thursday 6 November

Time: 4.00 – 6.00pm

Venue: ALT 2 (Lecture room)
Wilkinson Building, Faculty of Architecture, Planning and Design
148 City Road, The University of Sydney

RSVP: Registration essential online