

# PLANNERS NETWORK

Your last issue?  
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July, 1996

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Resources  
guide.

Plenary sessions held during the PN '96 Conference in Brooklyn resulted in some proposals for the next steps PN should take in its role as the organization for progressive planners. Those proposals are included in this issue of the newsletter. We invite comments and participation as we begin to strategize on how to best carry them out.

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## Planners Network '96: Hope renewed, vision restored

Over 300 people participated in Planners Network '96 in Brooklyn, NY in June, helping to make the conference one of our largest and most successful ever.

Close to 40 workshops were held, covering topics from housing to transportation to historic preservation. Other highlights included an exhibit of community-based planning projects, tours of New York neighborhoods, and a party replete with a Puerto Rican band. Keynote speakers Mel King, Luis Garden Acosta, and Ruth Messinger helped inspire us to continue with the work Planners Network has been doing for more than twenty years.

If you attended the conference and still have the **evaluation form** that was in your registration packet, please fill it out and send it to us. We want to ensure that next year's conference (California is being discussed as a possible location) is even better.

The comments we did receive indicated that PN '96 was a success. "Often I lose hope and motivation when I'm in my normal 'planning' environment," wrote one person. "Meeting and communicating with progressive minded people is

so refreshing and enlightening. I suppose I can say PN '96 has changed my outlook about planning and the possibility of true progressive changes."

As so many people requested, we're working on compiling and distributing a **list of people who attended the conference**. This issue of the newsletter is being sent to everyone from the conference whose address we have, so if you know of anyone who attended but didn't receive this, please ask them to get their address to us for inclusion.

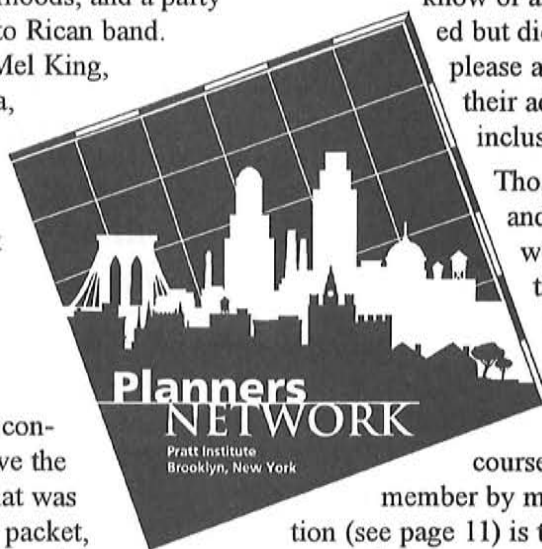
Those who attended and whose address we have are now on the PN newsletter mailing list, and will receive the newsletter for the next year. Of

course, becoming a member by making a contribution (see page 11) is the best way to ensure that the newsletter keeps coming to you.

There are still **t-shirts** available, bearing the insignia you see in the center of this page. All that we have left is XL, and they're \$10 each (that includes postage).

Finally, the **working papers and case studies** presented during the conference are available on the Planners Network Web Site at:

<http://www.pratt.edu/picced/resource/pn>



# National Urban Policy

## PN as Provider of Analysis, Organizing Urban Constituencies

Peter Dreier's presentation on Friday afternoon (see his paper in last month's PN Newsletter) was a lively start for discussions about urban policy and led, in Saturday workshops, to discussions about ideas ranging from voting rights to urban infrastructure. The focus, however, was on the economic, cultural, and social links between the cores of inner cities and their outer areas. Representatives of these suburban areas are currently numerically dominant in Congress and thus can set the urban agenda.

The Sunday plenary concluded that what was most needed, given PN's resources, were pithy analyses of national policy for

use by groups doing local lobbying. These analyses should also vividly document the effects of cutbacks and at the same time outline what is good about what is being cut. These would be useful in the context of the forthcoming presidential elections but also could be aimed at groups that were potential constituencies for urban policy such as unions, CDCs, religious groups, and civil rights organizations. Around a dozen people volunteered to work on urban policy issues. To get things started Pierre Clavel volunteered to draft some initial statements based on the minutes of the PN '96 meetings. The results of the group's discussions will be posted in future newsletters.

## Community-Based Planning

### Looking at a Clearinghouse/Resource Function for PN

More than one hundred people participated in the three community-based planning discussions at the 1996 Planners Network Conference in June. Marie Kennedy of UMASS/Boston and Mel King of MIT began the series with a brief presentation on transformative planning.

Participants were then asked to discuss the principles of transformative planning in the context of their own work.

Participants in the second session were challenged by session leader Jordan Yin from Cornell University to identify specific ways progressive planners can support the empowerment efforts of marginalized communities.

Participants were then divided into five small groups to discuss concrete proposals for how Planners Network, as a national organization of change minded activists, could support the empowerment efforts of grassroots social movements.

In the third session several activities were proposed to help PN

support the empowerment efforts of grassroots organizations.

It was proposed that PN undertake a member survey to determine information, training and technical assistance needs among members, as well as to compile useful resources in community-based planning.

It was proposed that a panel presentation featuring great community-based planning disasters be organized for next year's PN conference to highlight the challenges which this work presents. A second session describing the preliminary results of several ongoing evaluations of foundation-funded community-based planning projects was also proposed. It was also agreed

that a special effort should be made to recruit participants for next year's conference from existing citizen organizing and community development networks. Finally, PN will continue to collect case studies of community-based planning linked to empowerment.

*Participants in the discussions discussed concrete proposals for how Planners Network, as a national organization of change minded activists, could support the empowerment efforts of grassroots social movements.*

## PN IN CYBERSPACE!

The Planners Network Web page is growing steadily, with the addition of materials from the conference. It can be found at <http://www.pratt.edu/picced/resource/pn>, or by following the "Resources" thread from the PICCED home page at <http://www.pratt.edu/picced>. Suggestions for improvements to the site, as well as articles written by members to post, are welcome. Contact Winton at [wintonp@ix.netcom.com](mailto:wintonp@ix.netcom.com).

We've also set up a listserv for PN members with e-mail to carry on discussions, share resources, post job listings, etc. To subscribe, send e-mail to:

**[pn-net-request@pratt.edu](mailto:pn-net-request@pratt.edu)**

with the subject heading:

**subscribe your-e-mail-address**

(substituting your e-mail address in the appropriate place, of course.) You'll receive instructions in response.

# Bulletin Board

## PN'ER UPDATES

- **PN'er Ayse Yonder** was featured in an interview in *Habitat Watch*, a daily publication during the Habitat II conference in Istanbul. Yonder organized an exhibit at the conference called "Our Practices" which focused on design and development by and for women. She can be contacted at Pratt Institute, Graduate Center for Planning and the Environment, 200 Willoughby Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205; 718/399-4393.
- **PN In the News.** PN Co-Chair **Tom Angotti** was quoted in the June issue of APA's *Planning*, in an article about the Habitat II conference in Istanbul. "The problem [with the declarations coming out of Habitat] is what's absent: any real government support for community based, grassroots efforts." The article also cites Planners Network as criticizing "the U.S. stance on the housing rights issue as an attempt to shirk federal responsibilities. 'It fits right in with the current political climate,' Angotti said."
- **SEND US YOUR NEWS.** Please let us know what you're up to. We'll gladly print notices of new jobs, projects you're working on, requests for information, etc. Send materials to Planners Network, 379 DeKalb Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205; 718/636-3709 (fax); wintonp@ix.netcom.com

## FUNDING RESOURCES

- **Religious Funding.** "1995/1996 Religious Funding Resource Guide" and "Organizational Development Tools" (the latter by Eileen Paul) are available (\$82 and \$29, respectively) from ResourceWomen, 4527 S. Dakota Ave. NE, Washington, DC 20017; 202/832-8071.

## JOBS

- **Housing & CD, New Jersey.** Affordable Housing Network, New Jersey, seeks highly qualified person to provide technical assistance to New Jersey CDC's. Responsibilities include assessing non-profit development organizations' needs and providing in-depth assistance in such areas as project development, property management, organization development, community planning & development. Requirements: At least 10 years experience working in/with community-based organizations. Statewide travel/flexible work hours. Competitive salary/excellent benefits. Minority candidates encouraged to apply. Send resume to Martha Lamar, AHN, PO Box 1746, Trenton, NJ 08607.

# Resources

## ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- **Neighborhood Associations.** "A careful look at the relationships between neighborhood associations and development in Albany, Schenectady, and neighborhoods across the country," *Community Builders: A Tale of Neighborhood Mobilization in Two Cities*, by Gordana Rabrenovic, is available (\$22.95) from Temple University Press, Philadelphia, PA 19122; 215/204-1099.
- **Evaluating Communities.** The first issue of *Urban Quality Indicators* focuses on Jacksonville, FL, Oregon, and the Healthy Cities 2000 program. It also includes a great "City Culture Map" of Detroit. It's available from Urban Quality Indicators, Ste. 239, 1756 Plymouth Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105; 313/996-8610.
- **Community Design Centers.** The Association for Community Design's annual report features descriptions of projects at community design centers across the country. It's available from Association for Community Design, c/o Rex Curry, PICCED, 379 DeKalb Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11205; 718/636-3486.
- **Dudley Street.** *Holding Ground: The Rebirth of Dudley Street*, a one-hour video chronicling the struggle to revitalize a neighborhood in Roxbury, MA, is available from New Day Films, 22D Hollywood Ave., Hohokus, NJ 07423; 202/652-6590. Cost is \$199, \$99 for neighborhood-based, non-profit community organizations, and \$60 for rental.
- **Tools for Transformation.** Full Moon Enterprises in New York City offers a variety of workshops, ranging from "Organizing for Community Empowerment" to "How to Conduct a Needs Assessment Study." Their summer schedule is available from Full Moon Enterprises, 324 Lafayette, 7th Fl., New York, NY 10012-2726
- **Local Exchange.** *Hometown Money*, a starter kit and video based on the Ithaca Hours model of alternative community economics, is available for \$40 from Ithaca Money, Box 6578, Ithaca, NY 14851; 607/272-4330; hours@lightlink.com
- **Lending Partnerships.** The National Community Reinvestment Coalition is sponsoring a two day training conference exploring the possibilities for collaborative partnerships between community based organizations, small businesses, religious organizations, Enterprise Communities,



elected officials, and lending institutions. "Building Community-Lender Partnerships" will be held September 27-28 in Wilmington, DE. Cost is \$150, \$50 for non-profits. Contact Bryson McCulloch, The National Community Reinvestment Coalition, 733 15th St., NW, Ste. 540, Washington, DC 20005; 202/628-8866.

- **Community Development.** *Exchange News*, Community Information Exchange's monthly listing of funding deadlines and related news, is now available online, along with other community development news updates. It can be found at <http://neighborlink.cc.duq.edu/cie>
- **Community Economics.** "Canst Thou Draw Out Leviathan With a Fishhook?" - A Community-Based Response To an Out-of-Control Economy," by Jeremy Brecher (34 pp., 1995), is available (\$6) from The Grassroots Policy Project, 2040 S St. NW, #203, Washington, DC 20009. The booklet deals with the Naugatuck Valley (CT) Project, on plant closings.
- **Faith-Based Communities.** "Higher Ground: Faith Communities & Community Building," by HUD Sec. Henry Cisneros, is a 21-page, Feb. 1996 essay, available (free) from HUD USER, PO Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20849; 800/245-2691.
- **Livable Communities.** "Making Your Community Livable: Programs That Work," by Deborah Leach, is a 32-page, free compilation of community-based programs -- under the topics Crime Prevention, Home Repair & Modification, Transportation -- available from Joan Gonda, Consumer Team, PPI, AARP, 601 E St. NW, Washington, DC 20049.
- **Community Awards.** Outstanding Community Investment Awards will be made by Social Compact ("a coalition of lenders who have joined forces to increase industry investment in America's 'at-risk' neighborhoods, urban & rural"). Submission deadline Aug. 31. Inf. from Social Compact, NHSA, 5335 Wisconsin Ave. NW, #410, Washington, DC 20015; 202/686-9190.
- **Alternative Banking.** *Fringe Banking: Check-Cashing Outlets, Pawnshops & the Poor*, by John Caskey (192 pp., 1996), is available (\$17.95) from the Russell Sage Foundation, 112 E. 64 St., New York, NY 10021; 212/750-6038.
- **Community.** The National Hope in the Cities Coalition ("an honest conversation on race, reconciliation & responsibility") has issued "A Call to Community." Info from them at 1103 Sunset Ave., Richmond, VA 23221; 804/358-1764; 102732.1363@compuserve.com

## ECONOMICS

- **Economic Security.** The Economic Security Voter Education project is a new effort being launched to inject economic insecurity and inequality issues into contested Congressional elections around the nation. Resources are available to facilitate trainings and take action steps. Contact Mark Bayard at Share The Wealth, 37 Temple Pl., 5th Fl., Boston, MA 02111; 617/423-2148; [stw@stw.org](mailto:stw@stw.org)
- **Worker Ownership.** The May/June issue of *Grassroots Economic Organizing Newsletter (GEO)* focuses on Worker Ownership of businesses. It's available from GEO, POB 5065, New Haven, CT 06525; 203/389-6194; [ksbrodie@aol.com](mailto:ksbrodie@aol.com)
- **CRA Online.** The OCC has made it's public data base on the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) available online at <http://www.occ.treas.gov>. CRA ratings for individual banks are available, as are texts of evaluations, along with other resources.

## ENVIRONMENT

- **Water.** The SouthWest Organizing Project's May issue of *Voces Unidas* focuses on the struggle for water rights and conservation in the Southwest. It's Available from Voces Unidas, 2121 10th St., SW, Albuquerque, NM, 87102; 505/247-8832.

## HOUSING

- **Housing.** The March/April issue of *Shelterforce* features an article about a new housing delivery system in Santa Fe, and an interview with former CDC director/current Pittsburgh Mayor Tom Murphy. \$5 per copy, \$18 for a 6 issue subscription. *Shelterforce*, 439 Main St., Orange, NJ 07050; 201-678-3110.
- **Housing Legislation.** A briefing paper entitled "Critical Issues in Pending Housing Authorization Legislation: HR 2406 and S 1260" is available from the Center for Community Change, 1000 Wisconsin Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20007; 202/342-0519.
- **Housing Resources.** Publications available on-line from HUD USER (<http://www.huduser.org> and [gopher://huduser.org:73](mailto:gopher://huduser.org:73)) include "Public Housing in a Competitive Market," "New American Neighborhoods: Building Homeownership to Revitalize Our Nation's Communities," and "US Housing Market Conditions, 1st Quarter, 1996." HUD USER can also be contacted at PO Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20849; 800/245-2691.
- **Housing Finance.** "A Guide to State-Sponsored Housing Finance Programs" (9 pp., Winter 1995-96) is available along with a supplement listing such programs in MI, MN, MT, ND,

SD & WI from Comm. Affairs, Fed. Reserve Bank of Mpls., PO Box 291, Mpls., MN 55480-0291; 612/340-6913.

- **Housing Discrimination.** *Closed Doors, Opportunities Lost: The Continuing Costs of Housing Discrimination*, by John Yinger (416 pp., 1996), is available (\$32.95) from the Russell Sage Foundation, 112 E. 64 St., New York, NY 10021; 212/750-6038.
- **Public Housing.** The Public Housing Reform Bill (HR2406), in Sec. 508, would allow housing providers to limit occupancy to no more than 2 persons per bedroom. While on the surface a good step, it will have the effect of limiting opportunities for low- and moderate-income households to find affordable, sufficiently large units. As of mid-June, the Bill still has not passed. For info and what action to take, contact Ellen Pader, Stanford Humanities Ctr., 413/545-6620; pader@larp.umass.edu, or Jim Morales, Natl. Ctr. for Youth Law, 415/543-3307.
- **Housing and Education.** "In Pursuit of a Dream Deferred: Linking Housing & Education" is a Forum in the April 1996 Minnesota Law Review, with Kenneth Clark, Nancy Denton, Gary Orfield, Deval Patrick, John Powell, Theodore Shaw & Michael Sussman. Reprints of the 168-page Forum might be available from any of the contributors -- Powell is at the Univ. of MN Law School, 229 19th Ave. S., Mpls., MN 55455; Shaw is at the NAACP LDEF, 99 Hudson St., New York, NY 10013.
- **Rising Rents.** "Out of Reach: Can America Pay the Rent?" is a new study from the National Low Income Housing Coalition, showing that in every metropolitan area renters are having a difficult time finding affordable housing. \$25 from the Coalition, 1012 14th St. NW, Washington, DC 20005; 202/662-1530, x234.
- **Rental Assistance.** "Rental Housing Assistance at a Crossroads: A Report to Congress on Worst Case Housing Needs" reports that the number of households with worst case housing needs (very low-income renter households that pay at least half of their income for rent or live in severely inadequate housing) is at a record high -- 5.3 million in 1993. Available (\$5) from HUD USER, PO Box 6091, Rockville, MD 20849; 800/245-2691.
- **Fair Housing.** "The Fair Housing Advertising Manual," by Niki Kuckes, and an accompanying "Fair Housing Advertising Curriculum," are available (no prices listed) from the Fair Housing Council of Greater Washington, 927 15th St. NW, #600, Washington, DC 20005; 202/289-5360.
- **Rural Housing.** The Housing Assistance Council is preparing to publish a revised edition of their 1992 Guide to Housing Organizations in Rural Areas. Organizations that wish to be included in the guide should contact Housing Assistance Council, 1025 Vermont Ave., NW, Ste. 606, Washington, DC 20005; 202/842-8600.
- **Oops.** A May listing entitled *Women's Housing* listed the Center for Community Change as the publisher of the report, when it should have been the Community Information Exchange. The report is \$7 from CIE. Address and phone number were correct. Sorry.

## NATIONAL URBAN POLICY

- **National Urban Policy.** The July/August issue of *The Neighborhood Works* takes a look at President Clinton's urban policy during his first term. It's \$3.50, or \$30 for a year, from The Neighborhood Works, 2125 W. North Ave., Chicago, IL 60647; 312/278-4800.
- **Policy Alerts.** The Center for Community Change offers a weekly fax service consisting of updates on legislation affecting housing, development, employment, and other issues of interest. They're available by fax for one year for \$25 from the Center for Community Change, 1000 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20007; 202/342-0567. They're also available for free via e-mail (contact above address), or on line at <http://www.pratt.edu/picced> or <http://www.nhi.org>.

## POVERTY / WELFARE

- **Poverty.** *The War on the Poor: A Defense Manual* by Randy Albelda, Nancy Folbre and the Center for Popular Economics, is a compendium on poverty and programs that serve poor people. It's available for \$11.95 (\$3 for review copy on school letterhead) from New Press, 450 West 41 St., New York, NY 10036; 212/629-8802.
- **Homeless Voters.** A Voter Registration Packet is available from the LA Coal. to End Homelessness, 1010 S. Flower, #216, LA, CA 90015, 213/746-6511, HN 1674. Their aim is to register 100,000 homeless people/low-income people/tenants in Calif. A similar "You Don't Need a Home to Vote" voting rights/non-partisan registration campaign is gearing up for the 1996 elections, via the Natl. Coal. for the Homeless, 1612 K St. NW, #1004, Washington, DC 20006-2802; 202/775-1322; [nch@ari.net](mailto:nch@ari.net).
- **Teens.** "The Age of Confusion: Why so many teens are getting pregnant, turning to welfare and ending up homeless" is a 4-page, April 1996 report by Homes for the Homeless, 36 Cooper Sq., 6th flr., NYC, NY 10003; 212/529-5252; their Jan. 1996 report is "Homeless Families: Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow".
- **Homeless.** "Using the HUD Conplan Process & Federal Civil Rights Laws on Behalf of Homeless People: A Handbook" (35 pp., 1996) is available (\$17) from the Natl. Law Ctr. on Homelessness & Poverty, 918 F St. NW, #412, Washington, DC 20004; 202/638-2535.
- **Hunger.** The Harry Chapin Self-Reliance Awards, from World Hunger Year, are "cash grants to grassroots organizations judged outstanding for their innovative & creative

approaches to fighting domestic hunger & poverty by empowering poor people & building self-reliance." Last year's 11 awards were \$2,500-5,000. Applications, postmarked by Aug. 15, from WHY, 505 8th Ave., 21st flr., New York, NY 10018-6582; 212/629-8850.

### MISCELLANEOUS

- **HS Cuts.** Early Warning Signs ("documenting the impact of state & federal cuts to human services") is a new periodical from the Conn. Assn. for Human Services & the Connecticut Alliance for Basic Human Needs. Available from CAHS, 880 Asylum Ave., Hartford, CT 06105; 860/522-7762; hn3158@handsnet.org.
- **Technology.** "Human Services in the Information Age" is the theme of Volume 12, Nos. 1-4 of *Computers in Human Services*. Articles include "Facilitating Citizenship," "Computer Access for People with Special Needs," and "A National Registration System for Youth Assistance." Available from The Haworth Press, Inc., 10 Alice St., Binghamton, NY 13904-1580; 800/342-9678.
- **UN Conferences.** The June 30-July 15 issue of *The Earth Times* takes a look at "Those UN Conferences" and offers up a variety of views on their value. The Earth Times, PO Box 3363, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163; <http://www.earthtimes.org>.
- **Sprawl.** *Alternatives to Sprawl*, a 32-page publication by Dwight Young, compiles the ideas of the 15 speakers who participated in a March, 1995 conference cosponsored by the Brookings Institution, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. It's available (\$14) from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Publications Group, 113 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA 02138-3400; 800/526-3873.
- **Cultural Development.** Issue 24 of *Cultures and Development: Quid Pro Quo*, the Journal of the South-North Network Cultures and Development, features articles (in French and English) on "Cultural Dynamics in Development" and "Europe's Future: What Culture for which Social Model?" It's available for \$7 from South-North Network Cultures and Development, 174 Rue Joseph II, 1030, Brussels, Belgium.
- **Telecommunications Legislation.** Librarians for the Future has published *The Library Advocate's Guide to Telecommunications*, which provides useful and timely information on how library advocates, as well as public interest advocates of all stripes, can understand and influence telecommunications legislation. It's available from Librarians for the Future, 521 5th Ave., Ste. 1612, New York, NY 10175-1699; 800/542-1918.
- **Mel King.** "Mel King: Love, Leadership, Community" is the special May 1996 issue of *Peacework*, published by the New England Office of the Amer. Friends Service Comm. The 12-page issue features an overview by King's MIT colleague Louise Dunlap, a conversation with King and a collection of comments from his students & colleagues. \$1 from AFSC, 2161 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140, 617/661-6130.
- **Journal of Planning Literature.** The quarterly *Journal of Planning Literature* is offering an introductory rate of \$39.60 for a one-year subscription. Each issue is full of abstracts, bibliographic listings, and review articles on a wide range of city and regional planning issues. Contact SAGE Publications, P.O. Box 5084, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359; 805/499-0721.
- **Minimum Wage.** The June issue of the National Neighborhood Coalition's *Information Report* features an article entitled "The Federal Minimum Wage: What it Means for Neighborhoods." It's available from the National Neighborhood Coalition, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW #710, Washington, DC 20009; 202/986-2096.
- **Voting.** The May issue of the National Neighborhood Coalition's *Information Report* features an article entitled "Voter Registration and Education for Neighborhoods." It's available from the National Neighborhood Coalition, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW #710, Washington, DC 20009; 202/986-2096.
- **Litigation Services.** Gray Smith's Office publishes *Precis*, a quarterly digest of news and information regarding legal issues within the planning and construction fields. It's available from Gray Smith's Office, Penthouse, 1324 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA 19107; 215/546-4985.
- **Planning.** The May issue of *Landlines* from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy features articles entitled "Effects of Urban Density on Rail Transit" and "Have American Planners Lost Their Values?" It's available from the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 113 Brattle St., Cambridge, MA 02138-3400; 617/661-3016; [lincolnpubs@lincolninst.edu](mailto:lincolnpubs@lincolninst.edu)
- **Information Technology.** The *Planning Commissioner's Journal* web site has added "Shaping Our Communities" to its already impressive array of resources. It's primarily a guide to resources available that deal with the impact of information technology and telecommunications on communities. Also being developed for the site: An On-Line Planning Encyclopedia. Check it out at <http://www.plannersweb.com>
- **Demographics.** "A Test of Methods for Collecting Racial & Ethnic Information" reports the findings of a special Bureau of Labor Statistics survey to examine the effects of possible changes in the standards for the classification of race & ethnicity in federal government surveys. Questions included respondents' preferences regarding racial and Hispanic-origin terms. Copies of the report, "A CPS Supplement for Testing Methods of Collecting Racial & Ethnic Information: May 1995," are available from BLS at 202/606-7375.



- **Mentoring.** "Early Childhood Mentoring Programs: A Survey of Community Initiatives" (87 pp., 1996) and "The Potential of Mentoring: An Assessment of the Calif. Early Childhood Mentor Teacher Program," by Marcy Whitebrook & Laura Sakai (67 pp., Spring 1995), are available (\$15 for the former, \$20 for the latter -- an exec. summary of the latter is \$5) from the Natl. Ctr. for the Early Childhood Work Force, 733 15th St. NW, #1037, Washington, DC 20005-2112; 202/737-7700.
- **Publications.** Avebury publishing offers an extensive catalog of titles in urban studies and planning. Their catalog is available from Ashgate Publishing Company, Old Post Rd., Brookfield, VT 05036-9704; 802/276-3162; <http://www.scribo.com/avebury>
- **Census.** *Understanding the Census: A Guide for Marketers, Planners, Grant Writers & Other Data Users*, by Michael Lavin (545 pp.), is available (\$53.95) from Epoch Books, 22 Byron Ave., Suite P374, Kenmore, NY 14223; 716/837-4341.

## — Conferences and Workshops —

- **Domestic Violence.** The 7th National Conference of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence will be held **Aug. 4-7** in Charleston, SC. Info. from the Coalition, PO Box 18749, Denver, CO 80218; 303/839-1455.
- **Eco-Cities.** The Institute for Bioregional Studies, located on Prince Edward Island, Canada, will host "Eco-Cities Design Colloquia: Designing Sustainable Communities," **August 18-21**. A group of facilitators will work with participants to develop a model eco-city along the Charlottetown waterfront, on lands the city is currently soliciting proposals for. For more information contact Phil Ferraro, Dir., Institute for Bioregional Studies, 449 University Ave., Ste. 126, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada, C1A 8K3; 902/892-9578.
- **Public Participation.** The International Association of Public Practice Practitioners will hold their annual conference **August 24-28** in Denver, CO. The theme of the conference is "Expanding Participation: A World of Opportunity." For more information contact Penelope Canan, Dept. of Sociology, University of Denver, Denver, CO 80208-0209; 303/871-2049; [pcanan@du.edu](mailto:pcanan@du.edu).
- **Women and Economic Development.** Ms. Foundation for Women presents its 8th Annual Institute on Women and Economic Development, **September 5-8**, Peachtree City, Georgia. This training brings together grassroots women experienced and new to the field of economic development. Choose from 14 different classes, network informally with peers from throughout the United States, celebrate and relax. Contact Dana Veerasammy to receive a brochure and registration form. 212/742-2300, x317.
- **Neighborhood Revitalization.** The "Vital Communities Conference," highlighting Minneapolis' revitalization efforts and featuring workshops on models of neighborhood planning, designing community safety initiatives, and laying the foundation for housing options, will be held **September 12-13** in Minneapolis, MN. Pablo Eisenberg, Executive Director of the Center for Community Change, will be the keynote speaker. For more information contact Hillary Freeman at the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), 105 5th Ave. S., Ste. 245, Minneapolis, MN 55401-2585; 612/673-5140.
- **Community.** "Defining Community, Reexamining Society," to be held **September 20-21** at the University of Michigan in Flint, MI, seeks to examine, reflect on, and respond to the growing crisis in American Civic Life both by exploring the idea of community and the realities of communities in the United States and by imbedding these explorations in an understanding of economic, social, cultural, and political forces. Information is available from Dr. Nora Faires, Chair, Conference Committee, Dept. of History, University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, MI 48502-2186; 810/762-3366; [comconfer@umich.edu](mailto:comconfer@umich.edu).
- **Universal Employment.** The National Jobs for All Coalition has issued a call to Jobs For All Week, **October 13-19**. Communities nationwide are being asked to hold events focused on the problems of joblessness and the available solutions. Contact Benjamin K. Hunnicutt, Jr., c/o National Jobs For All Coalition, National Council of Churches, 475 Riverside Dr., Room 554, New York, NY 10115; 212/870-3449.
- **Physical Environment.** "Communities and their Physical Environment," the 12th Conference on the Small City and Regional Community, will be held **October 24-26** in Louisville, Kentucky. The conference will focus on the physical environment of small cities and their regions, and on the local pursuit of sustainable development. For more information contact Peter B. Meyer, CUER Building, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292; [pbmeye02@ulkyvm.louisville.edu](mailto:pbmeye02@ulkyvm.louisville.edu)
- **Technology and Communities.** The Southern California Conference on Technology, Employment and Community will focus on the impact of this rapidly growing revolution on our social, economic, and cultural experience. The conference will be held **November 21-23** in Los Angeles, and information is available from Impact of Technology on Society Project, c/o Dept. of Economics and Statistics, California State University, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA 90032; 213/343-2941; [jmarti@calstatela.edu](mailto:jmarti@calstatela.edu)

# Confronting Globalization

## PN Conference Attendees Address International Planning Issues

The Globalization workshops during PN '96 began with a presentation by Tom Angotti of his working paper "Confronting Globalization: The Role of Progressive Planners." The initial discussion focused on the issues raised by globalization and on six key points Tom raised in response to his experiences and observations at Habitat II in Istanbul. Discussion of these points can be summarized as:

- 1) Planners Network is interested in working/linking with progressive community-based organizations (CBOs) both nationally and internationally.
- 2) Self-help and grassroots activism is important, but not when it is used to let governments abdicate their responsibilities to the poor; government aid is still sorely needed.
- 3) Decentralization and local control is also needed, but not

when it is used "as a cover for national governments' downsizing, privatization and withdrawal of assistance to low-income communities."

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*Given that planners have little influence over the mobility of global capital, what can progressive planners do? Planners Network can contribute a critical analysis of the issues and a sharing of this analysis with a broader audience; e.g. with local community-based organizations, with labor groups and environmental groups, and with school and church groups.*

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4) Urban growth and development is only supportable if it takes into account issues of distributional and environmental justice.

5) Issues of gender and racial inequality must be understood within their structural context – gender and racial equity are not simply cultural issues, but are tied to the socio-economic and political structure of global capitalism.

6) Housing must be seen as a fundamental human right.

Subsequent discussions focused on issues of strategy.

Given that planners have little influence over the mobility of

**Globalization / continued on page 9**

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## PN Makes waves at Habitat II

The Planners Network contingent, though small in number, made its presence felt at the Habitat II UN conference on human settlements held in Istanbul this past June, holding four workshops at the NGO Forum, participating in a Housing Rights Demonstration march, and receiving good coverage in the daily press covering the conference. Starting with the first workshop, "Housing as a Human Right," organized by Tom Angotti, PN established itself as a vocal opponent of the official position of the US delegation, which refused to recognize housing as a right unless the position was temporized by language stating it was to be "progressively realized." In the words of one participant at the workshop, an African-American activist from Chicago, this language recalled civil rights legislation where the phrase "with deliberate speed" provided a caveat that justified slow progress on the civil rights agenda a decade ago.

The other workshops were "Community Planning from a Global Perspective," with presentations by Angotti, Ron Shiffman, and Ayse Yonder; "Housing Segregation and Ghettoization," with presentations by Peter Marcuse, Tony Schuman, and Seref Yazicioglu, and a session on "The U.S. National Housing Policy," led by Prentice Bowsher. *Habitat Watch* featured an interview with Yonder in which she compared her experience working in poor communities in her native Istanbul and in

Brooklyn's East New York neighborhood, where she works in community development with the Pratt Institute. Angotti was quoted in several articles in *City Summit Agenda*, critiquing both US housing policy and the official delegation's position at Habitat, which set the US apart from both the industrialized north and the group of 77 nations of the southern hemisphere.

The Housing Rights Demonstration was one of several dramatic confrontations between demonstrators and the police that occurred during the conference. Organized to coincide with the arrival in Istanbul of three French Cyclists who pedaled from Paris to publicize the *Droit au Logement* movement there, the demonstration featured giant banners and costumed dance performances by the Korean and Japanese NGO contingents. The PN group was a major part of the disappointingly small US delegation on the march, which was halted midway through the route on the pretext of a dispute over parade permit credentials. The more likely reason for the police intervention was the presence in the march of a group of Kurdish women. The repression of Kurds at the conference and in the street was a source of contention throughout the conference between the police and NGO organizers, who protested the heavy police presence and their intervention in the halls of the conference.



# What's Wrong with Planning Education?

## PN'ers take on academia, confronting inequality and racism

Recently, a new group emerged from a forum on planning education held in early 1996 by the New York chapter of Planners Network. The group, tentatively titled The Planning Education Group (PEG), was joined by other interested people for a two-part discussion entitled "What's Wrong with Planning Education?" at the June PN conference.

In brief, PEG's focus will be upon issues of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, class and gender as they relate to planning education, as well as planning practice. The group hopes to address how to increase diversity among faculty and practitioners (particularly at the policy-making level), while making planning education and resources more available to a broader, multi-ethnic/cultural community. We must discuss more fully the nature and impact of planning education on the emerging local, national and global trends and changing power relations. Through such discussion we can create new paradigms that confront the inequities perpetuated by these trends and power relations.

Discussants expressed concern about whether the planning profession is actively moving society forward in terms of social justice and equality issues. To exemplify their dilemma, participants shared stories of overt and covert racism, gender bias and classism expressed by faculty members and planning practitioners. Thus, planning education should integrate these issues formally into their curricula in order to generate dialogue and ultimately create solutions that will improve these arenas.

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*We must discuss more fully the nature and impact of planning education on the emerging local, national and global trends and changing power relations. Through such discussion we can create new paradigms that confront the inequities perpetuated by these trends and power relations.*

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Some were puzzled by the scarce participation of college professors (only two self-identified professors) and questioned whether academia is uninterested in the subject at hand. Education is not a one-way street – reserved only for those designated as students. All of us – despite our various roles of student, professor, practitioner, mentor, community activist, parent, etc. – can mature via shared learning experiences.

The following proposals were made: create a network of planning schools around the United States to focus on these issues; set up a web site; create a bibliography or resources to enhance planning curricula; survey relevant parties regarding the issues and publish the results; sponsor roundtable discussions; and lobby for reform on planning accreditation.

The Planning Education Group seeks participation from those related to the planning profession representing all races, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations, and class-

es. Why not take the time to discuss these important topics with us? Please send us examples of syllabi, individual citations or any other relevant materials or suggestions.

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### Globalization / from page 8

global capital, what can progressive planners do? And where should Planners Network put its energies? There was some debate about whether local, national or international organizing was more important to address. There was general agreement that what Planners Network could contribute was a critical analysis of the issues and a sharing of this analysis with a broader audience; e.g. with local community-based organizations, with labor groups and environmental groups, and with school and church groups. There was also a long discussion about using the internet for this purpose and a recommendation was put forward for PN to continue to develop its Web Page. Other recommendations were voted on in the final conference plenary. In order of popularity, these were:

- 1) that Planners Network become a member of the Habitat International Coalition (HIC), a progressive coalition focusing on and mostly led by non-governmental and community-based organizations in Africa, Asia and Latin America;
- 2) that Planners Network explore participation in other progressive international networks, such as Fair Trade;
- 3) that Planners Network develop an on-line skills bank (similar to our current PN roster but done in conjunction with the Web page and kept more up to date).

# Local Organizing

## PN Encourages Local Groups to Start Chapters

A discussion of local PN organizing was held at the conference. The workshop featured a presentation of the work of the New York local chapter, strategizing with others interested in planning new chapters, and an outline of the Steering Committee's plan to support local PN chapters.

The New York *Network/Forum* was organized twenty years ago by Tony Schuman and Bruce Dale with the support of a group of New York-based PN colleagues. An amalgam of the Forum on Architecture, Planning and Society (whose origins were in the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians – the architects' union of the 1930's) and the *Network/Forum* featured movies and videos. In 1985 the group received an award for "Exemplary Use of Media in Education" at the first National Housing Film and Video Festival. The *Network/Forum* became an important resource for progressives to meet and participate in discussions and presentations on issues facing the city. City College's Graduate School, Baruch's School of Liberal Arts, and most recently the Pratt Institute, offered support for mailings and space. In the last five years the local Network has reseeded its organizing group and continued to organize workshops and dis-

cussions on a range of topics from environmental racism, immigration, empowerment zones, and planning education.

Other PNers interested in organizing local groups came from Claremont, CA, Albuquerque, NM, Charlottesville, VA, Washington, DC, and Boston, MA. Thoughts on what those groups might do included university-based organizing among students and faculty promoting alternatives to curriculum emphasizing top-down approaches planning; dinners and job-search support; policy analysis and forums; and workshops featuring case studies on progressive planning "best practices."

The steering committee has decided to provide seed funding of up to \$500 for the development of local chapters. PNers interested in support for local organizing should send a proposal and a budget request. PN will provide a "started kit" with copies of the roster and PN mission statement, a listing of videos and movies, and background on the New York local from the national office.

## *Greening Cities: Finding the Environmental Links*

We can foster local economic development and social justice by changing laws, regulations, and/or practices to require that municipalities and public institutions examine the social and environmental impacts of their purchases. This might include the environmental costs of long-distance transportation, pollution, labor conditions, and many other factors which contribute to apparent 'cheapness.' This process should be an educational one, so that taxpayers understand why the lowest bid is not necessarily the best one. Ideally, community research institutions would be involved (perhaps making videos and sharing them with a network of such research centers). One purpose of this is to make vivid the extent to which the standard of living in affluent places depends on oppression elsewhere--not only the 'third world' but the third world inside our country, such as prison industries.

If it becomes apparent that toxic production processes are inherent, a decision might be made to substitute with a different item. The social and environmental costs should be locally internalized. The social benefits of local suppliers could also be examined. For example, taxpayers might see advantages to paying more for school furniture if their cousins, uncles, and aunts were employed with good wages and benefits in the factories.

Something like this is being done in Freiburg, Germany, where Green Party members have strong representation on the city council, and one serves as Mayor for the Environment. The Environment Department has an Ecological Procurement Officer, and every product used by the city is judged by its social and environmental costs, including embodied energy. A private non-profit research organization (used by many municipalities), the Eco-Institute for Applied Ecology, carries out much of the evaluation. One purpose of this is to educate consumers; another is to change production processes.

Such strategies are discussed in my forthcoming book, *Greening Cities*, (Apex Press). It contains actual examples of innovations from various parts of the world, and is based on Green Party principles, with high value on a bioregional economy, for environmental protection and social justice. (For more about the book, see my home page:

<http://academics.keene.edu:8000/users/jroelofs/home.html>)

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# PLEASE WRITE!

The surest sign of an effective network is as much participation as possible. As we strive to fill *Planners Network* each month with information and resources, we can only do so much without your help.

## Send us your:

Resource listings • Job Postings  
Article ideas (or articles, even) • Suggestions, comments, critiques of the newsletter.

## The Planners Network

The Planners Network is an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in physical, social, economic, and environmental planning in urban and rural areas, who promote fundamental change in our political and economic systems.

We believe that planning should be a tool for allocating resources and developing the environment to eliminate the great inequalities of wealth and power in our society, rather than to maintain and justify the status quo. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, jobs, safe working conditions, and a healthful environment. We advocate public responsibility for meeting these needs, because the private market has proven incapable of doing so.

The Planners Network Newsletter is published six times a year as the principal means of communication among Network members. Annual financial contributions are voluntary, but we need funds for operating expenses. The Steering Committee has recommended the following amounts as minimums for Network members: \$15 for those with incomes under \$25,000, students and unemployed; \$25 for those between \$25,000 and \$50,000; and \$45 for those over \$50,000. Organizations may subscribe for \$30.

Enclosed is my check payable to

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## Moving?

Please make sure to let PN know if you're moving. It saves us money and helps ensure that you don't miss an issue!

## *Your last issue?*

**Check the date on your mailing label.** That's the last time we heard from you. If it's pre-1995, this will be your last issue unless we hear from you in the next two months. If there's no date, this will be the last issue of the one-year subscription you received for attending the 1995 conference in East St. Louis, unless we hear from you. Financial contributions are still voluntary (though much appreciated, see sliding scale suggestions on page 11), but in order to help keep our costs down, we do like to hear from members every couple of years so that we know they're still interested.

## NEXT ISSUE

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All materials should be sent to:

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As always, our thanks to those who can type their notes. It reduces our chances of misreading what you write. Feature articles of 500-1,500 words are always welcome; a diskette is greatly appreciated.