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PLANNING

URBAN PLANNING NEWSLETTER JANUARY 19, 2018

Welcome back! Contributions or ideas for this newsletter can be submitted to Nicholas Johannes. Newsletters will be sent on a bi-weekly basis. For jobs, internships, and fellowships, please see career portal.

URBAN SUSTAINABILITY MEASUREMENT IN CHINA: FOSTERING A RACE TO THE TOP, JANUARY 30TH

Hosted by the Earth Institute's Research Program on Sustainability Policy and Management, this event will explore the importance of a standardized system to measure urban sustainability across Chinese cities and provinces. This panel event will explore the extent to which measuring a broad range of sustainability indicators can help cities progress towards their sustainable development goals, how such systems can complement policymaking, as well as sustainable development in China more broadly and how it compares to global peers.

Introductory Remarks:

- Steve Cohen, Executive Director, Earth Institute

Moderator:

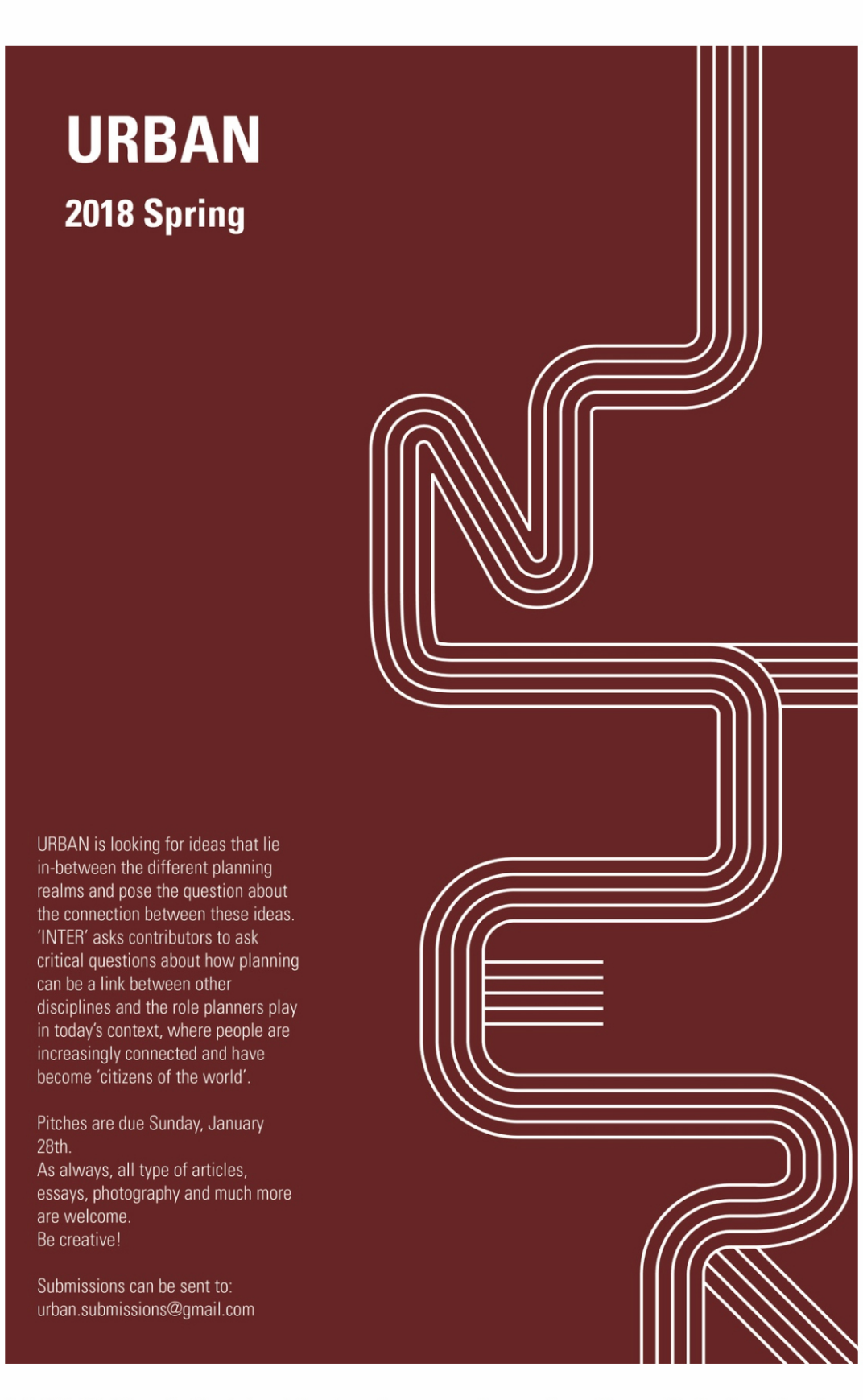
- Satyajit Bose, Lecturer and Associate Director of the Research Program on Sustainability Policy & Management

Panelists:

- Weiping Wu
- Jonathan Krane, Founder & CEO of KraneShares
- Dong Guo, Associate Research Scholar and Director of the Earth Institute China Initiative

The event will be held in the Faculty Room in Low Memorial Library on Tuesday, January 30th from 6 to 8 pm. Open to all but registration required. More info

URBAN SPRING 2018 - CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS



URBAN is looking for ideas that lie in-between the different planning realms and pose the question about the connection between these ideas. 'INTER' asks contributors to ask critical questions about how planning can be a link between other disciplines and the role planners play in today's context, where people are increasingly connected and have become 'citizens of the world'.

Pitches are due Sunday, January 28th.
As always, all type of articles, essays, photography and much more are welcome.
Be creative!

Submissions can be sent to:
urban.submissions@gmail.com

URBAN is delighted to invite you to submit a pitch for their upcoming Spring 2018 issue, INTER.

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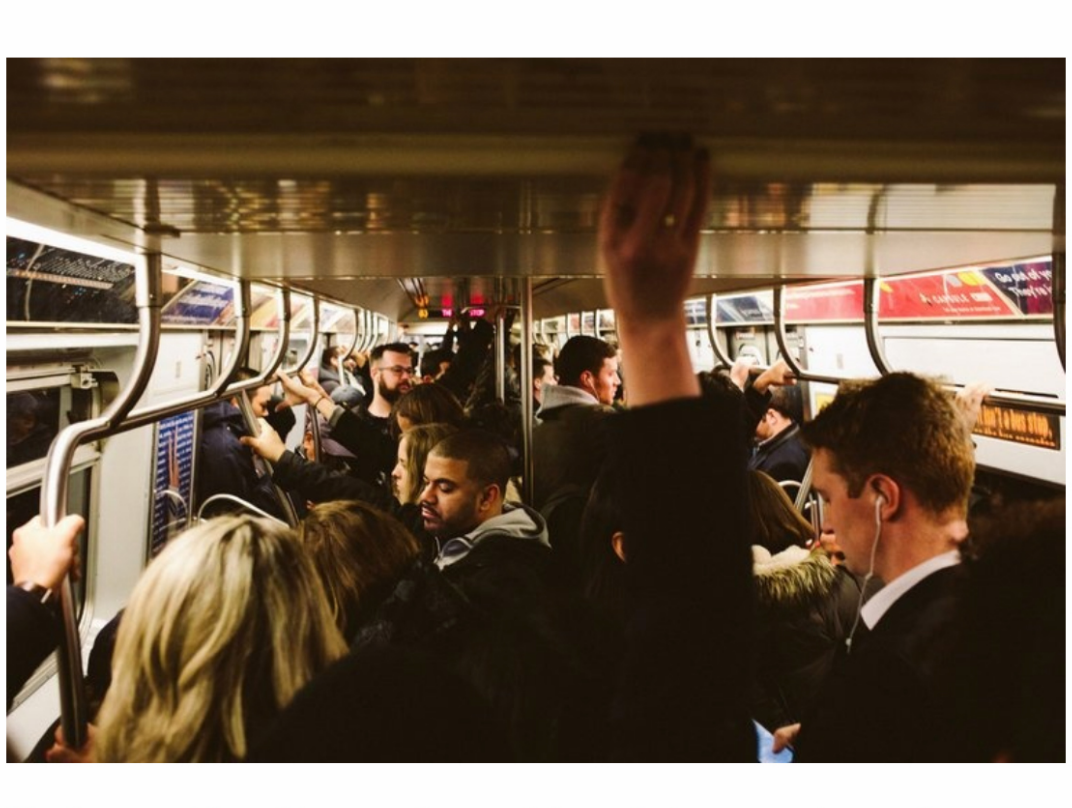
Additionally, we are thrilled to announce that (almost) all past editions are available online in the following site.

TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING: IGNORANCE IS HARD AT WORK! BY DR. FLOYD LAPP

The following is an excerpt from an updated reprint of an article published in the Fall 2017 Issue of URBAN Magazine.

> *Since the Highway Act of 1916, the federal government has taken the policy and financial lead in infrastructure funding complemented by funding at the state and local levels. This intergovernmental approach makes sense as an appropriate way of promoting interstate commerce.*
>
> *The current transportation fiscal challenge is to provide support for maintaining a state of good repair while also supporting extensions and expansions of the existing systems. However, with the advent of gridlock government in Washington D.C. and responses that merely "kick the can down the road," diminished resources and increased needs have resulted in an infrastructure deficit estimated at more than $4 trillion!* Read more

WISE (AND NOT SO WISE) SUBWAY FIXES



Professor Floyd Lapp shares his opinion on wise subway fixes for the New York Times Letters to the Editor.

> *To the Editor:*
>
> *The political and financial agreements to run the city subways have largely been broken since the Metropolitan Transportation Authority was created more than 50 years ago.*
>
> *The mayor wants to tax wealthy residents in New York City, and the governor wants to create revenue from new congestion pricing that requires state legislative approval. Both approaches have many slippery slopes.*
>
> *Until a unified funding program agreement occurs and the management merry-go-round stops going in circles and promotes consistent, long-term planning, the system will not move forward.*

Professor Lapp invites reactions from faculty and students. All contributions can be submitted to Nicholas Johannes and will be featured in the next newsletter.

UP VISION: LUNCH WITH FLORES FORBES, FEBRUARY 6TH

Flora Forbes is an urban planner who focuses on economic development in Columbia's local community, particularly Harlem. He identifies obstacles to market growth, consults on how Columbia can help meet the community's needs and works with local groups in Upper Manhattan. He works closely with the Columbia-Harlem Small Business Development Center, which supports local businesses and entrepreneurs. The center recently organized a fair that connected food producers with buyers, such as Whole Foods and Columbia Dining. Other programs he oversees include job training in hospitality and healthcare for those in the local community, networking events and business competitions.

There are 2 to 5 spots available to join the Ph.D. students in the doctoral student lounge with Flores Forbes after his LiPS lecture. This is a great opportunity for anyone interested in community development, small business development, Harlem, food justice, criminal justice and civil rights.

The spots are first come first served, please email Stephanie Chan to reserve your seat!

VISIT TO IDB URBAN LAB COMPETITION

On November 28th, students from the Introduction to International Development class attended the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) UrbanLab competition in Washington, D.C.

The IDB UrbanLab is a student competition aimed at finding creative and innovative solutions to urban problems in Latin America and the Carribean. Students participating in this excursion also sat down with IDB representatives to learn more about the organization and projects they are working on in Latin and South America. The trip concluded with students socializing with competition participants and IDB professionals at the McCormick House.

FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Yufi Nabila Priadi

Where are you from?
Jakarta, Indonesia

What and where did you study for your undergraduate degree?
I studied Urban Planning at Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia

Why did you choose to study at Columbia University?
At first, I wanted to go to the U.K. for school, then I realized all the books and urban planning books that I've read, the figures that I look up to are all Americans and I know little about U.K., not to mention London as a city and all. The familiarity guided me. I came to the U.S. summer 2016 and did a Columbia campus tour alone, and I saw people were laying on the grass, talking, reading, and enjoying their own time. I was hooked. Yes, the people and grass inside the campus. Here I am now.

What is your interest in the urban planning field?
Community development, I think it's one of the fields where I can strongly leverage disadvantaged families in Indonesia and an opportunity to implement small and medium enterprises from that unit. Also, I have been exploring the urban analytics field with all the practicality and the advancement that the U.S has.

What is your dream career?
Build a social enterprise that empowers low-income families on building businesses in Indonesia, by providing them access to capital, knowledge about management, and financial literacy. And, not closing my door for politics in the future.

Tell me something that most people don't know about you.
Have been dreaming about shark since JAWS, I really want to feed them in the middle of the sea in South Africa. From the steel cage of course. Anybody?

SECOND-YEAR STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Charlie Romanow

Where are you from?
Plainville, Connecticut, near Hartford

What and where did you study for your undergraduate degree?
Psychology, Political Science and Holocaust History at Clark University and Brandeis University; Urban Studies at The New School

Why did you choose to study at Columbia University?
It's close to my apartment, has a name more recognizable than where I went to undergrad and provided a comprehensive curriculum that didn't pigeonhole you into one sector of planning.

What has been your favorite urban planning class so far and why?
Writing the City. It's already been helpful in writing assignments for other classes, thesis and cover letters (and responses to this survey). Professor Euchner taught us a lot of straightforward, easy to use tactics to improve our writing.

What is your interest in the urban planning field? What is your concentration?
Transportation. My concentration is the Built Environment.

What is your dream career?
A television writer and part-time transportation planning consultant.

What is one advice that you have for the first-years?
Don't take classes solely because you think it will be helpful for your career; no class will make you an expert on a topic. You can always read books about topics you haven't taken a course in. An overwhelming amount of planning is learned on the job. Take classes you're interested in and would like to learn/think more about.

Angela Li

Where are you from?
Nanjing, China

What and where did you study for your undergraduate degree?
I studied accounting at Nanjing University of Finance and Economics.

Why did you choose to study at Columbia University?
I took a summer semester previously at Columbia, fell in love with both the city and the university. That's when I decided that I have to be back and spend more time here.

What has been your favorite urban planning class so far and why?
Planning Law. It is really fun to read through different cases, think about how and why they were ruled in that way, especially cases that share similar scenario but have opposite rulings. It has been a struggle to understand all the legal terms and follow up, but Professor Scherer was patient and encouraging. I developed a better understanding of both planning law itself and the overall legal system thanks to the class.

What is your interest within the urban planning field? What is your concentration?
My interest has been changing as I'm completely new to urban planning and still exploring, to be honest. But housing is the field that I'm interested in the most. My concentrations are community and economic development and urban analytics.

What is your dream career?
Still deciding. Hopefully, something that falls between planning, marketing and consulting. (Yes I know it sounds unrealistic.)

What is one advice that you have for the first-years?
You're in New York City! Enjoy the very best the city can offer. Don't just end up at school all the time like what I did last semester. Good luck guys!

STUDENT COMPETITION

APA-TPD Student Paper Competition, January 26th Deadline
Notice of call for papers APA-TPD Student Paper Competition Deadline: Wednesday, January 26, 2018 Prizes Awards will be given as follows for the three best papers: Grand prize - $1,000 Second place - $ 750 Third place - $ 500 The Transportation Planning Division (TPD) is looking for outstanding student papers on current trans¬portation planning or policy issues. The purpose is to recognize and reward work completed for courses in accredited graduate planning programs. Winning schools receive recognition and acclamation. Winners will be announced at the APA National Conference in New Orleans, April 21-24, 2018. More info

IDeA International Development in Action's 2nd Annual Place & Displacement Competition, February 1st Registration Deadline We are writing to inform you of IDeA's second annual Place & Displacement Design & Policy Competition: Integrating Refugee Populations within Urban Cities. We have launched the competition on IDeA's website which you can find more information here. Registration is on rolling basis running until February 1st. All information can be found on the website and updates will be posted on our Facebook page.

OTHER NEWS

Build Better Cities with Real Estate Equity Crowdfunding, January 24th
We have entered the age of cities. Yet developers are often faced with numerous financing hurdles in delivering urban-oriented projects. Too often, given the hesitancy of banks to lend to innovation, form follows finance - and change-making projects intended to make cities better languish or are perverted to meet financing constraints. Could real estate equity crowdfunding help developers meet market demand? More info

The Arsenal of Exclusion & Inclusion: New York Edition!, January 26th
The Arsenal of Exclusion & Inclusion: New York Edition presents 153 "weapons" utilized by architects, planners, policymakers, developers, real estate brokers, activists, and other urban actors to restrict or increase access to urban space. It inventories these weapons, describes how they have been used, and speculates about how they might be deployed (or retired) to create more open, accessible cities. More info

Regional Conference for Sustainable Development, New Canaan, Connecticut, February 7th
Thought leaders from around the world will discuss wide-ranging strategies for sustainable development, with regional case studies demonstrating how some of those strategies have been implemented locally. More info

Ways of Knowing Cities, February 9th
Technology increasingly mediates the way that knowledge, power, and culture interact to create and transform the cities we live in. Ways of Knowing Cities is a one-day conference which brings together leading scholars and practitioners from across multiple disciplines to consider the role that technologies have played in changing how urban spaces and social life are structured and understood – both historically and in the present moment. More info

American Planning Association, Planning and Black Community Division Student Fellowship 2018, Deadline: February 9th
Named after committed planners and long-standing PBCD members, The Robert A. Catlin/David W. Long Memorial Scholarship is designed to foster an increased interest in the profession of urban planning among African American students. The goal of the scholarship is to encourage the pursuit and achievement of the growing number of African American graduate students entering the urban planning profession. The goal is to create a critical mass of African American planning professionals who support one another and to provide new perspectives on issues facing the communities that they serve. More info

AICP Candidate Pilot Program
Students and recent graduates of PAB-accredited programs can now enroll in the Program any time during the year, register in December–March (for the May exam) or in June–September (for the November exam), use the payment program for exam fees, and take the exam prior to earning professional planning experience. More info

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Planning and Preservation
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