

- ◆ Message from the CEO
- ◆ Woman in Planning Honoured
- ◆ Town Planning and Conflict - So what is behind the green door?
- ◆ SACPLAN LinkedIn Group
- ◆ New Book Released
- ◆ Upcoming Conferences

Message from the CEO

The month of August is celebrated as Women's Month, and with this I would like to put forward this issue of the SACPLAN Bulletin to the Woman Planners that have contributed towards the profession in various ways.

In this issue of the SACPLAN Bulletin you could read more on two women in Planning that were honored for their contribution at the Women in Engineering and the Built Environment (WIEBE) 2012 Excellent Woman in Engineering and Technology Awards. You can also read an article by Charlaine Baartjes from EcoPartners with the title "**Town Planning and Conflict - So what is behind the green door?**"

A short introduction to the second edition of the book "**Planning Law**", authored by Prof Jeannie van Wyk, is provided.

Finally, there are some registration certificates that were returned to SACPLAN as "unclaimed" even after the postal address was confirmed. I would urge planners to collect their certificates as soon as you are informed that it was posted.

Woman in Planning Honoured

The Women in Engineering and the Built Environment (WIEBE) 2012 Excellent Woman in Engineering and Technology Awards is a collaboration between the University of Johannesburg and Group Five to acknowledge, recognize and celebrate the contribution that woman are making in engineering and the built environment in South Africa. This was the third year of the prestigious awards.

Two woman in Planning were chosen as finalists for the Women in Engineering and the Built Environment (WIEBE) 2012 Excellent Woman in Engineering and Technology Awards.

The one was Ms Mridulekha (Lekha) Allopi. Ms Allopi is a Senior Manager Land Use Management at the eThekweni Municipality, holds a Master degree in Town and Regional Planning from the University of Natal and is registered as a Professional Planner.

Ms Allopi was a finalist for the category "Excellence at Sector Level" for her work as a founding member of the Package of Plans approach contained in the Integrated Development Plan for the eThekweni Municipality, as well as the piloting of the implementation of the first three dimensional LUMS in the Country in Brickfield Road (Felix Dlamini Road) which is being duplicated in other parts of the city.

The second was Dr Tanja Winkler. Dr Winkler is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Cape Town and holds a PhD from the University of Columbia, Canada. Dr Winkler won the category "Excellence at Company Level — Education Sector" for inter alia her work in community-based teaching projects in which students, staff and community members worked together to solve pressing urban problems. Dr Winkler designed and led two community based studios in 2011 and 2012.

The winners were announced at a function that followed a WIEBE Summit on the 24th August 2012.

SACPLAN's VISION

To pioneer the founding spirit of innovation in the facilitation of sustainable and inclusive development in the planning profession.

SACPLAN Motto:
Reinvent Planning, Changing Lives

Town Planning and Conflict

So what is behind the green door?

By Charlaine Baartjes
EcoPartners

In the 1950's hit Shakin Stevens made popular the line, '*wish they'd let me in so I could find out what's behind the green door*'. Over the intervening 6 decades this has constantly evolved to mean different things to different people. In the 21st century what is behind the green door could refer to something as obnoxious as Hydra, the green monster with many heads, or it can refer to business as usual (or unusual) and then to a different group behind the green door we will find the winds of change. For a few unsuspecting companies this wind of change feels more like the tornados of change.

The town planner of yesteryear had the opportunity to objectively plan a town in such a way that the current and future needs of a specific region or population or industry segment was met, with the most efficient use always with limited resources. This in itself was an enormous task. Add to this field, the balancing act of the variety of needs of different stakeholder groups, the ever diminishing budgets and then bureaucracy (read *convoluted and conflicting procedures*) of government and you immediately understand why we can only admire our town planners. Today the town planner, or the urban planner, has to be able to translate design theory, economic strategy and political science into a bearable solution. This finally understood and manageable, enters the next wave of trouble from behind the green door.

It is understandable that many urban planners or architects would like to leave the stage through any available exit. Behind this door are so many new trends and some faddish ones including; green design; green services; sustainable infrastructure planning or even urban planning as environmental planning.

Adding another level of complexity suddenly is that one does not only need to consider all of the above but now the "urban edge" and the environment meets on a landscape that very closely resembles a war zone. There are pro-development factions and pro-sustainability factions and both of them are quick to advocate that this is for the progress of the nation, people, environment, business or add as you chose.

It is fair to say business as usual will not get you the next job because too many things have changed and continue to change. The green monster might not be real, but the winds of change can be used to our benefit if we could harness this opportunity. The reality is that more than 200 environmental regulations have changed during 2010-2011 and the following year a further 200 environmental regulations changes were put in place. In short all industries, not just town planning, are facing a significant growth in the change of compliance requirements. Increasingly the town planner as an expert witness is becoming the new reality of being a specialist. Invariably the town planner as a plaintiff may be a long time off but the town planner as a defendant is already here.

The question is: What does that have to do with the town planner? Previously the town planner had to be an expert on many subject matter fields. The more you knew about town planning, the better a professional planner you were. Today he or she needs to know experts in many fields, previously it was adequate to find out the zoning status of a specific area, today the zoning and the associated environmental regulations need to be met. There are currently more than 250 triggers (and counting) that spread across 7 national laws, requiring the immediate attention of the town planner. Added to this are the provincial laws and local ordinances. You need to watch your front, back and sides.

In going through the green door Shakin Stevens knew he would find an old piano. As professional planners in the modern era, what you find may not be as benign.

Do you know all the triggers that will re-

quire an EIA, waste license, air emission license, heritage impact assessment or basic assessment? Do you at least have a checklist that will protect you when you are the expert for the defense in a case against the development approved by another expert? Do you understand the risks associated with public participation and have you addressed these adequately?

We are conducting a course for Town Planners, Urban Planners & Architects to explain all the triggers in Environmental Law. If you are interested in removing all doubt please give us a call: Charlaine Baartjes at EcoPartners (011) 431 2251.

Please forward any information on Planning Positions (Full time, Internships, Experiential learning / Work Integrated Learning) being advertised in your organization, to planner@sacplan.co.za.



Job Opportunities

You can also keep a lookout on the SACPLAN LinkedIn group where opportunities are made available from time to time.

SACPLAN LinkedIn Group

The SACPLAN LinkedIn group was established and is aimed at professional networking among registered planners, to serve as a discussion forum, to facilitate the sharing of experiences, views and opinions between young and mature professionals, and as a platform for seeking advice.

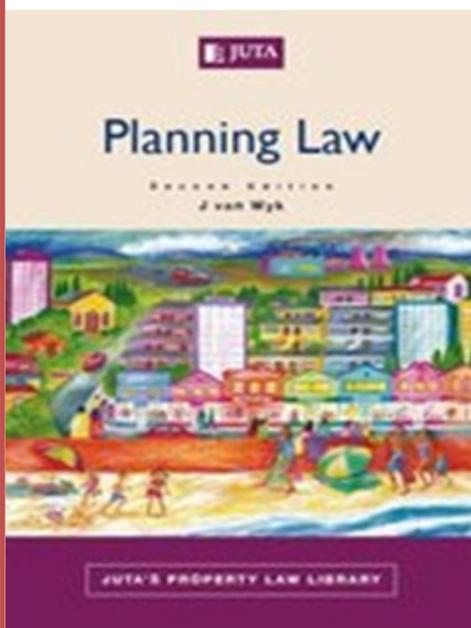
Members of this group are urged to use this forum to network with other registered planners, to discuss issues, experiences, views and opinions. This would then also help young professionals to gain from

more mature professionals. Please also use this as a platform for seeking advice.

If you are not a member yet please use the link provided and submit a request. If the email you use on LinkedIn is different from the one on the SACPLAN Database, you will be requested to provide your email address as well as registration number. This is also a way to ensure that SACPLAN has your correct contact details to enable us to communicate effectively with you.

The link to the SACPLAN LinkedIn Group is http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3851414&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr

New Book Released



Planning Law (Juta's Property Law Library)

Edition: 2nd

Published: 29 May 2012

Author: Jeannie van Wyk

ISBN: 978-0-7021-9420-7

Format: Soft cover

Extent: 762 pages

Retail price: R680 (incl. VAT, excl. delivery).

Valid until 31/12/2012)

About this publication

Now part of the *Juta's Property Law Li-*

brary series, the 2nd edition provides a comprehensive discussion of the core aspects of South African planning law.

This edition has been revised and entirely reworked to reflect the major changes in planning law. It not only focuses on values and equity, but also on the development of an entirely new vision and structure for planning in all three spheres of government. It gives detailed attention to spatial planning, land use management and land development management. The effect of the new constitutional dispensation is discussed, as well as landmark Constitutional Court decisions that were handed down in early 2012. The foreword concisely explains the new Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill 2012 and refers to the relevant chapters where it is discussed at length. The book also deals with related administrative, environmental, local government, housing and informal settlement issues. It introduces some basic principles, addresses the roots of planning law in South Africa as well as some of the results of its apartheid history.

Since planning law is multi-faceted, the book also deals with related administrative, environmental, local government, housing and informal settlement issues. The relevant legal principles and legislative provisions are amplified by discussions of the major court decisions.

Contents include:

- Principles and devices underpinning planning law;
- Place of planning law in the legal system;
- History and development of planning law;
- National and provincial planning administration;
- Removal or amendment of restrictive conditions

- Enforcement of restrictive conditions Planning and the environment;
- Explanation of the new Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Bill 2012: and
- Landmark Constitutional Court Decisions.

Contact:

JUTA CUSTOMER SERVICES

Email - Orders: orders@juta.co.za

Email - Service-related Enquiries:

cserv@juta.co.za

Tel: (021) 659 2300

Fax: (021) 659 2360

17th till the 19th September 2012 at the International Conference Centre in Durban, South Africa.

Upcoming Conferences



Planning Africa 2012

GROWTH, DEMOCRACY AND INCLUSION:
NAVIGATING CONTESTED FUTURES

The World Town Planning Day Online Conference Committee topic for the 2012 conference is **Smart Communities Connect**. This theme is all about learning how

Call for Articles

SACPLAN Bulletin urge all registered persons to contribute to this newsletter and to share interesting news, dates, facts, happenings, projects, etc. regarding planning and development issues.



14-15 NOVEMBER 2012 • EMPERORS PALACE • GAUTENG

technological advancements impact on our communities, how we can better plan ahead to prepare for this 'knowledge revolution' and improve our awareness of the challenges and opportunities that are presented to our communities by advances in technology.

To learn more about this exciting experience visit www.planningtheworld.net or email to planningtheworld@gmail.com.



World Town Planning Day Online Conference
6-7 November 2012

A blue banner for the 'smart cities summit & Exhibition | JHB | 30-31 Oct'. The dates '30 - 31 October' and location 'Sunninghill, Johannesburg' are also displayed. On the right, it says 'Endorsed by' with the logo of the Department of Environmental Affairs, Republic of South Africa.

The second Smart Cities Summit will focus on strategy, planning and implementation. Presentation topics include "Urban principles for a low carbon world," "Intelligent water management for smart cities" and "Environmental sustainability and green initiatives in cities" to name a few. To attend contact Haley Fletcher on 086 000 9590, email: haley.fletcher@topco.co.za.

For Contributions to the SACPLAN Bulletin

Please contact Martin Lewis at planner@sacplan.co.za

To contact SACPLAN

International Business Gateway Office Park

Cnr New Road & 6th Street

Midridge Office Park

1st Floor, Block G

Tel: 011 318 0460 / 0437

Fax: 011 318 0405 / 086 549 4802

Email: planner@sacplan.co.za

PO Box 1084

Halfway House

Midrand

1685

www.sacplan.org.za

The individual opinions raised in the newsletter is not that of SACPLAN or its Council Members.