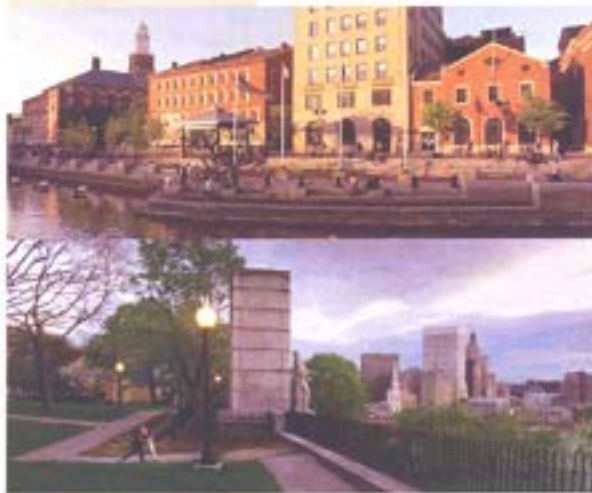


# The Urban Studies Journal

Spring 2003

Volume 1, Issue 1



## On Becoming A Rhode Islander

BY SARA DOWD '03

Rhode Island is my home. Upon entering Brown four years ago, or even just last year, I wouldn't have answered the same way.

Sophomore year, in a writing class, I was asked to write a paper on what or where I considered home. At the time I lacked a definitive response and puzzled over possible answers. I have grown up just about everywhere, and never thought of any particular city, suburb, neighborhood, or house, as a place I really liked to call home. When I first came to Brown, Rhode Island was, in my mind, only a temporary residence. Today I am convinced that I have found my home here, a place to which I can always return for comfort.

It's funny the way I found my home though. Last Spring, I was at the boathouse as usual for Saturday morning rowing practice. To my surprise, after practice Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy showed up at the boathouse. He was there to accept an oar, which was to be presented by Brown's crew team members and coaches. Upon leaving the boathouse, I approached the Congressman's car and spoke with his Press Secretary, Larry Berman. I asked Larry about working for the Congressman and was given the number for the office and told to send in a resume. Fortunately, they were beginning to put together a campaign for the Congressman's 2002 re-election to Congress and I happened to be in the right place at the right time.

I joined the campaign in May of 2002, and began as a staffer under Larry Berman, who had by then been appointed as Campaign Manager. Throughout my six months on the campaign I was able to experience and become part of Rhode Island's community and culture. I was introduced to prominent Rhode Island politicians including Senator Pell and Senator Jack Reed. I also met many, if not all, of the local politicians and was able to work with Attorney General Patrick Lynch, Candidate for Governor Myrth York, Mayor of Providence David Cicilline, Secretary of State Matt Brown, and Congressman Kennedy in coordinating a forum on college activism for the Brown Campus.

Yet what brought me home to Rhode Island was my interaction with the people of Providence and other state residents. I enjoyed picnics with the seniors, festivals with Latinos, luncheons with Portuguese, and countless conversations with supermarket shoppers. I was also seen shouting and proudly holding "Vote Kennedy" signs on I-195 and on many street corners. I can now give accurate directions throughout the First District, I know what a quahog is, and I most definitely know where to go for the best local food. I am even beginning to pick up a Rhode Island accent.

I have worked in local elementary schools, gone door knocking for the Democratic Party of Rhode Island, and have even gotten a Rhode Island license and registration for my car. I pay rent here, buy my groceries here, and have my mail sent to my Providence residence. And I know my politicians. This year on election day, I was familiar with everyone on my ballot.

But it wasn't until I was recognized by a Providence Journal reporter at a pub, and when I began to do my taxes, that I realized I was finally at home, home in Rhode Island. ■

### Table of Contents

On Becoming a Rhode Islander.....	1
Editor's Note.....	2
Life After Urban Studies.....	3
The Los Angeles of <i>Blade Runner</i> .....	4
Uncovering Housing Discrimination.....	5
Extreme Sporting Activities in Urban Areas.....	6
The Urban Studies DUG.....	7
Updates on the Department's students and faculty .....	9



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## Editor's Note

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When asked what my concentration is at Brown, nine times out of ten the next question (following a bewildered look) is, "So, what *exactly* is Urban Studies?" From here I typically launch into a familiar spiel explaining how it means something entirely different to each Urban Studies concentrator because of its multidisciplinary focus, and how in effect, there is no precise way to define what the concentration means to the program collectively. Well, that's not entirely true. It's probably more accurate to say that within the department's general interest, passion and concern for urban issues, each student and faculty member sculpts a unique mix of what the program has to offer. As illustrated in this year's journal, the issues encompassed in the field, ranging from politics, to urban sprawl, to housing discrimination, to the urban built environment, are widely diverse. Another important aspect of Brown's Urban Studies program is the applicability of the curriculum to life beyond College Hill. The articles in the following pages, particularly those written by Sara Dowd, Ethan Horowitz, and Laura Smith, offer a small sample of the ways in which

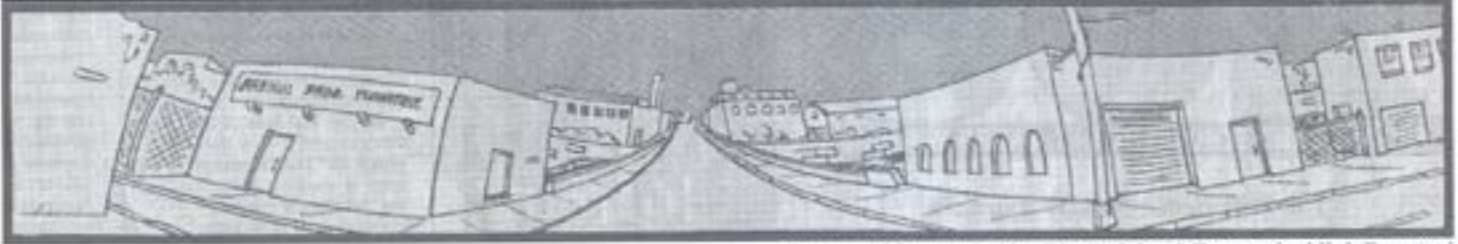
students have become actively involved in nearby communities. Finally, although perhaps most importantly, is the program's ability to function as a dynamic, welcoming, and intimate community.

This year's Journal highlights the program's fundamental features by emphasizing the multitude of interests among concentrators and the diverse ways in which they have become involved in local communities. The articles in this issue are truly eclectic. Sara Dowd '03 describes how her involvement in Patrick Kennedy's campaign has solidified her as a Rhode Islander. Next, a co-leader of the program's DUG, Ethan Horowitz '04, explores careers in municipal government and describes the role of his Urban Studies background in this field. Geoff Gladstone, a RUE student, provides us with an insightful analysis of *Blade Runner*. Laura Smith '04 examines housing discrimination in Providence through her experiences working for Rhode Island Legal Services on the Fair Housing Initiatives Program. Nathan Dahl '03 analyzes the emergence of extreme sporting activities nationwide and the significant impact this trend has had on the urban landscape. Finally, Jessica Jones '03.5, who coordinates the DUG with Ethan, brings us up to date on the Urban Studies DUG.

I want to sincerely thank those who helped make this publication possible: Sara, Ethan, Geoff, Laura, Nate, and Jess, for putting up with the incessant e-mails, and for submitting interesting, thoughtful articles, and Chris Sonderegger and Vernon Henderson for their support and guidance. Finally, I would like to thank all of the Urban Studies concentrators and faculty for four wonderful years.

- Ashley Lidman '03





Scenes of Pawtucket by Rhode Island Cartoonist Nick Bertozzi

## Life After Urban Studies

BY ETHAN HOROWITZ '04

Because of the liberal arts curricular structure and multi-disciplinary emphasis of Brown's Urban Studies program, current and potential concentrators alike fear an inherent incompatibility between an Urban Studies degree and future gainful employment. Yet, contrary to this common perception, a degree in Urban Studies does offer a unique set of occupation-specific experiences and skills that extend beyond the general critical thinking as well as analytical reading and writing skills which students develop during four years of academic work in any field. One such Urban Studies-specific job track is a career in municipal government. Although I can only speak from a limited set of experiences – internships at the Department of Public Works in Wellesley, Massachusetts and the Department of Planning and Redevelopment in Pawtucket, Rhode Island – in both of these instances, the Urban Studies program's unique blend of economics, sociology, political science, history and history of art and architecture not only helped me to secure each opportunity but also provided me with a solid base from which to address many work-related issues.

My first experience, in the Management Division of Wellesley's Department of Public Works (DPW), drew heavily from both my economics and political science backgrounds. The primary mission of the Management

Division is to keep track of the DPW portion of Wellesley's whopping \$100 million budget and develop new programs that will either more efficiently deliver services to residents or fiscally stream-line existing service delivery. The specific focus of my



work, funded by grant money from Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, was to develop a municipal recycling program for Wellesley businesses. As ex-students of EC 111 (Intermediate Micro-Economics) and EC 141 (Urban Economics) could guess, the successful resolution of the many questions involved in such a complex project is based on the cost-benefit and

cost optimization analyses that are all too common in urban economic problem solving. Another challenge inherent in working under the Wellesley system of governance, one more palatable for the less mathematically inclined, is the successful navigation of the town's nightmarishly decentralized political structure, a throwback from the Progressive Era that puts even Los Angeles to shame. Although nothing could have prepared me for the convoluted mess that masquerades as the town's official municipal power structure, a background in the political and historical foundations of urban government provided in US 21 (The City), PS 22 (City Politics) and HI 183 (American Urban History Since 1870) gave me a definite edge in understanding as well as coping with the organizational culture of Wellesley politics.

My second experience, as an intern for the Pawtucket Planning Department, encompassed an even larger cross-section of Urban Studies-related skills and experiences. This project, which I undertook with Tracy Hadden via US 100 (Fieldwork in the Urban Community), involved the creation of a "Providence Plan" for Pawtucket – a document that effectively redrew the city's twenty-year-old community area boundaries and analyzed these new neighborhoods

*(continued on page 8)*

## Not Built To Last: The Los Angeles Of *Blade Runner*

BY GEOFF GLADSTONE

Ridley Scott's film *Blade Runner* is set in a future Los Angeles (the 2019 of 1983). The city is depicted as a rainy dystopia where it is almost always dark. The film noir mannerisms, dark light, and brooding music (not to mention a visual trope of slowly rotating, ominous fan blades) seem to send an anti-urban implication – the city is depicted as dangerous, dirty, and confusing. But the message of the film seems more specific. The moody tone reflects the tragedy not only of Roy Batty and the other Replicants, but of the wasted Los Angeles presented. Both are unable to continue as they are and face the end of their lifespan. Rather than serving as a warning against the dangers of "the city", *Blade Runner* seems a warning against poor design and hasty abandonment. In a sense, it can be seen less as "anti-urban" than as "pro-planning".

The opening panorama of the future Los Angeles is extraordinary – scattered lights, menacing structures, and belching flames. There seems to be no coherence or even separation of land use, only an out-of-control extrapolation of eponymous "L.A. School" patterns – non-radial organization and uncentered sprawl. The city's structure has apparently failed. While the housing and living needs of the future are unspecified, many residents are clearly heeding the advertising blimp's perpetual exhortations to jump ship and "make a new start in the off-world colonies" (even better than the suburbs). There seems to have been significant depopulation, judging from the empty high-rises in which the characters live.

Rising above the disorganized chaotic cityscape is the Tyrell Corporation's gigantic pyramid. This

megastructure is perhaps the most realized version of Paolo Soleri's arcology concept. Claiming that "life is coerced by the environment man has produced and lives in", an arcology is meant to avoid the "scattered life" outside (as exemplified in *Blade Runner*'s cityscape) by locating all needs in one structure, a true machine



for living. Looming darkly over the landscape, one wonders whether the occupants of the Tyrell arcology really find the attempt at order inside preferable to their surroundings.

In the first scene we are presented with a clue to a missing (and seemingly lost) guide out of *Blade Runner*'s urban chaos. Replicant Leon's address is given as "1187 Hundertwasser". Friedensreich Hundertwasser was, like Soleri, an outsider architect with a unique aesthetic. Reference to his work in the film is subtle but unmistakable. The film's repeated images of eyes were a focus of Hundertwasser's art and architecture, where he noted the centrality of windows as eyes mediating between inside and outside

life. Even *Blade Runner*'s omnipresent drizzle would be appreciated by Hundertwasser, who noted "the importance of every single drop of rain falling on a city" as a vital and organic process of growth.

Perhaps the main concept Hundertwasser advocated was that architecture must not be fixed, that buildings should change with time and the seasons. "The house must grow like an organism," he insisted. Much of this concept was expressed in his architecture by such dubious elements as grass roofs and "tree-tenants" sticking out the windows. The Los Angeles of *Blade Runner* clearly has no such integration with the natural world (indeed the production release of the film ends

with the main characters escaping across rolling green hills "out there"). The residents portrayed seem to feel this disconnection subconsciously; certainly empathy for animals is a central part of the Voigt-Kampff test and there is an odd penchant for acquiring artificial pets. An often-advocated goal for ensuring sustainable urban development is to balance the built environment with the natural environment. One wonders where the Los Angeles of 2019 gets its water – although depopulation is a novel way of mitigating this dilemma.

But Hundertwasser's focus on a "natural" environment also suggests the importance of the capacity to grow

(continued on page 6)

## Uncovering Housing Discrimination - A Look at Local Neighborhoods

BY LAURA SMITH '04

When Professor Silver of the Sociology and Urban Studies departments offered me a job last semester I eagerly accepted, knowing very little about the time commitment or what it would entail. Luckily, it turned out to be a wonderful opportunity to apply knowledge and ideas I've gained at Brown to a field I knew little about – housing discrimination. I learned firsthand about housing discrimination, an urban ill that affects residents nationwide. Through her referral, I met with members of Rhode Island Legal Services, specifically lawyers working for the Fair Housing Initiatives Program. The Rhode Island program is funded by the federal organization designed to eliminate housing discrimination. Although discrimination is obviously illegal and there are many safeguards to prevent people from unfair treatment, the study has proven how prevalent it still is. Providence is one of many cities around the United States helped by the Initiatives program in an attempt to eradicate discrimination and allow everyone a fair chance at housing.

Working with data compiled by Rhode Island Legal Services, I analyzed complaints of housing discrimination made by residents of Providence and the rest of the state. A team of lawyers had gathered over 1,500 surveys filled out by people who claimed to have been victims of discrimination in their search for housing. The lawyers wanted to determine who was most at risk for

being discriminated against, and why. With Professor Silver's help, I organized the data and categorized the subjects' claims of discrimination



encountered in their housing search by type: racial, disability, or family-structure related discrimination. I also sorted the subjects by race: white, black, or Hispanic. I transferred the data from Excel onto SPSS, a computer program that aids in statistical analysis, which allowed me to quickly compute frequencies, cross-tabulations, and other values useful in determining relationships between the factors and results.

Few of the 1,523 subjects filled out the survey to completion, which left many gaps in the data. For

example, in trying to arrange subjects by their zip codes, I found that many didn't include theirs in the survey.

This made it difficult to conclude which locations had high housing discrimination rates and which had low ones. However, there were some clear "hot spots," often located at the borders of typically white neighborhoods in Providence, Pawtucket, Woonsocket, and Central Falls. Recognizing these trends will help Rhode Island Legal Services target and implement anti-discrimination awareness programs where they are most needed. Working for Rhode Island Legal Services was my first experience at applying classroom methods of statistical analysis to real data. The Urban Studies courses I've taken at Brown have helped define my views of city dynamics, and it was wonderful to relate these ideas to previously unfamiliar facets of urban life. I learned a tremendous amount about

housing and discrimination trends, along with more practical skills related to research and gathering data. It was fascinating to study trends which affect urban areas so close to Brown – I can point out the "hot spots" on a map and visit them myself with ease. The project gave me a broader perspective on the benefits of effective research and was a wonderful complement to my urban studies concentration. ■

## The Emergence of Extreme Sporting Activities and Its Influence on Urban Parks and Culture

BY NATHAN DAHL '03

In the past two decades the phenomenon of extreme sporting activities has emerged and changed the way people use the urban environment for recreational purposes. Extreme sports, which began with the invention of the skateboard over forty years ago, are individually challenging as well as highly competitive, matching sports patrons' abilities with scenarios and obstacles typically found in the urban environment. Extreme sporting patrons, such as skateboarders, rollerbladers, and BMX bikers pursue the urban terrain in search of that perfect obstacle - a bench, curb, rail, trashcan, jump, or anything that will give the riders a chance to test their skills and courage. The usage of the urban landscape as an arena for sporting activity where patrons defy laws and risk serious injury is a relatively new problem for urban cities, but luckily extreme sports activists, communities, and city councils have been able to cooperate in producing

designated parks and paths for extreme sporting activity. Skate parks can now be found in every state, in suburbs and the inner city alike, providing the extreme sport community with both



public and private facilities, which are designed specifically for extreme activity.

In the beginning of the extreme era, starting in the early 1980s the culture and rebellious nature of extreme patrons was dejected by society and was viewed by cities as a menace to society. The culture and activities, which included graffiti crews, punk music, and reckless skateboarding maneuvers in urban spaces, gave the activities an image of defiance and rebellion. This new form of sporting activity caused a lot of concern in cities and communities across the nation as the extreme genre of sporting activity became increasingly popular. By the early 1990s participation in extreme sports had skyrocketed and a great deal of money and interest had been invested in the industry. The extreme sports culture expanded through the commercialism of clothes, shoes, video games, magazines, and of

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## Not Built To Last...Continued

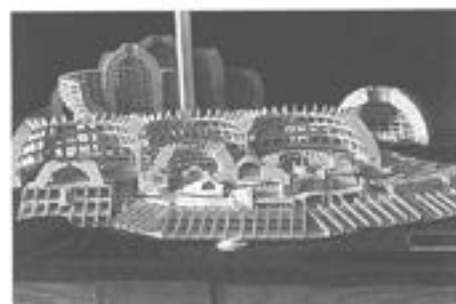
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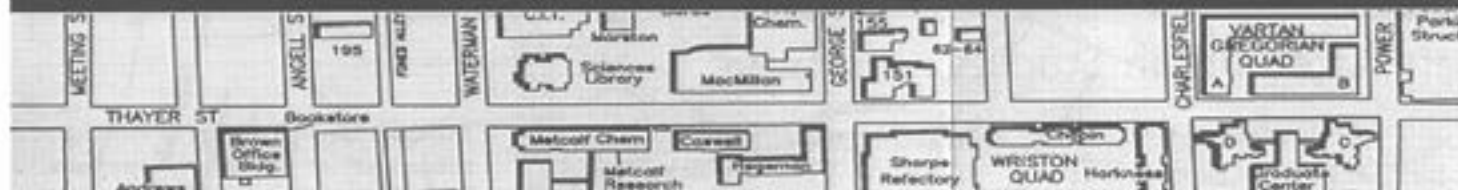
and adapt, an ability lacking in *Blade Runner*. Replicants, with their limited lifespan and emotional underdevelopment, cannot change or grow. Their central frustration is their inability to live beyond their original design. The city of Los Angeles seems likewise to have outlasted its original parameters and to be incapable of adapting to the new patterns of the future.

Paolo Soleri speaks of the city as ideally incorporating "the wholeness of a biological organism". He is clear

that it is a creation of people and declares "man must make the metropolitan landscape in his own image". The "strategic advantage" of humans is of course our ability to adapt over time to new conditions. An environment truly designed in our image must include this capacity or it will become as decrepit and unwanted as the Los Angeles of *Blade Runner*. The central tragedy of the film mirrors this process of urban decay due to poor planning. The Replicants are also created in man's image, "but not to last". The central implication of *Blade*

*Runner* is that capacity for growth and change must be foreseen in the design of any living environment or machine built to last. ■





## The Urban Studies DUG

BY JESSICA JONES '03.5

Meeting frequently for lectures from professors and speakers, movies, discussion, and food, the members of the Urban Studies Program (of) Undergraduates (DUG) had an active year.

The fall semester began with an ice cream social kick-off in which the department's concentrators and potential concentrators got together during shopping period to discuss in the ins and outs of urban studies classes and requirements.

Next was an informal panel about life after graduating with an urban studies degree. Students heard from Professors Marion Orr (Political Science), Dietrich Neumann (Architecture/History of Art), David Meyer (Sociology), and Vernon Henderson (Economics). The professors spoke of their own career paths and decisions to become professors in their respective fields, as well as what undergraduates considering graduate work in each field should be thinking about. Many students thought the best part of the event was the opportunity to ask professors specific questions after the formal discussion concluded.

Soon an online alumni database will be available through the urban studies website, which can be used as a networking device by current concentrators and alumni. If you are an alum and have interest in being a part of the network, please fill out the online questionnaire in the Alumni Network section of the urban studies website ([http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Urban\\_Studies/index2.html](http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Urban_Studies/index2.html)) or contact

Daniel Restuccia, alumni coordinator, at [danr@alumni.brown.edu](mailto:danr@alumni.brown.edu).

Another highlight of the fall was when Mike Levien from an organization called Equity Trust came to speak to DUG members about community land trusts, not only as a model of affordable housing, but also as a revolution in property ownership and a means towards the restoration of democracy in urban communities. Equity Trust is a non-profit organization that deals with principals of equity and their practical applications. Essentially, a community land trust is a model of property ownership in which parcels of land are purchased and placed into a land trust that belongs to and is governed by members of the community. When a homeowner purchases a home from the land trust she does so by acquiring a ninety-nine year renewable lease, releasing the property back to the land trust at an un-inflated rate if she decides to move, and assuring affordable housing in perpetuity.

DUG members also attended a reception with Kathryn Kerrigan, a Brown urban studies alumnae (class of 1999) who is now serving as a special assistant to the president of the Alliance for Downtown New York -- an organization heavily involved with the development of lower Manhattan, in the area of the World Trade Center site. The reception followed Kerrigan's guest appearance in Professor Meyer's "Downtown Development" seminar.

Throughout the semester DUG members were invited to attend the weekly films that were shown as a part of Professor Silver's "City In

Film" series. With such classics as *Blade Runner* and *Metropolis*, *American Beauty* and *Chinatown*, as well as the distribution of popcorn and film reviews at each viewing, the film series was not to be missed.

The big event in the works for the spring is a conference on community organizing. The DUG plans to invite leaders from four or five national community organizing associations including the Association for Communities Organized for Reform Now (ACORN), National People's Action, Gamaliel, and The Center for Third World Organizing and the Applied Research Center. Representatives from each organization will participate in a moderated panel discussion, addressing different approaches to community organizing, the potential for organizing to restore democracy in our urban centers, the frustrations they face, and the future of community organizing. These are fiery, passionate people; the discussion should be great. Following the discussion will be a series of workshops, led by the representatives of each organization, in which students will have the opportunity to garner activist advice and more details of the philosophy of each organization. These workshops will also be used as a recruiting tool by these organizations. This conference is funded primarily from the Harriet David Goldberg endowment, a fund established by her family in memory of Harriet Goldberg, a 1956 Alumnae who had a strong interest in urban issues. ■

## Life After Urban Studies...Continued

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using 2000 Federal Census data. In order to examine, categorize and analyze Pawtucket's neighborhoods, Tracy and I drew heavily from our Urban Studies education, ranging from Professors Malone's and Neumann's courses concerning the urban built environment to Professors Silver's and Chudacoff's treatments of historical as well as current implications of urban population interactions. Tracy and I also relied heavily on technical skills that we had developed in Urban Studies classes – the most notable of which was our ability to manipulate census data, create maps and conduct spatial data analyses with Geographic Information System software thanks to Professor Kumar's SO 187 S33 (Introduction to Geographic Information Systems).

These two brief vignettes only scratch the surface of the potential careers found within municipal government. Although the bedroom community feel of Wellesley may not appeal to many of you, for every Wellesley there are hundreds of large cities, small cities and blue-collar suburbs that are struggling to maintain or expand municipal services in the face of shrinking budgets, obstinate

politicians and various forms of corruption. While Pawtucket Planning's primary challenge, at least according to Tracy and my report, is to shape urban development so that new non-white immigrants will become integrated into the traditional white working/middle-class fabric of the city, urban and suburban planning departments across the nation are attempting to cope with a wide variety of post-industrial transition issues that range from ethnic segregation to economic development. Furthermore, Planning Departments and Departments of Public Works only represent a small fraction of the diversity found within municipal government, which encompasses such fields as local school administration, healthcare provision, transportation planning, etcetera.

Although it may not be the sexiest job prospect at first glance, the world of municipal government is full of important challenges that will draw heavily from your Urban Studies background and provide you with an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of many people. While developing a municipal recycling program may not seem like the most efficient way to make a positive difference in peoples'

lives, the implementation of this badly needed service would not only divert tons of waste from the Fall River landfill but would also generate substantial additional revenue for the town through the sale of the recyclable materials, revenue which could be spent to enhance education or other important public programs in Wellesley. Similarly, analyzing census data and drawing imaginary neighborhood boundaries in Pawtucket may not seem to be the most effective way impact peoples' lives; but an enhanced understanding of a city's demographic and spatial characteristics will only improve the local government's ability to respond to the needs of its constituents and plan effectively for future development. Well, even if I have not convinced you that municipal government is a meaningful and interesting career path, you should definitely consider the fact that public sector benefits tend to be very good and you will be able to live pretty much wherever you want, as a local government exists just about everywhere in the country. At least you now have something to say when your folks drop the big, nagging question: "So, what the hell do you intend to do with that Urban Studies degree anyway?" ■

## Extreme Sporting Activities...Continued

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course the sports equipment. As participation increased, the defiant attitude manifested into a collective voice which demanded that cities provide recreational facilities for extreme activities. Cities were already grappling with issues of safety, insurance, and liability for extreme sporting activities and now additionally

had to negotiate places and regulations for skate parks. While twenty years ago skateboarding, roller skating, and biking were merely variations of transportation, today's X generation has transformed the urban environment into an open playground arena. The movement to provide extreme activists with skate parks has been a compli-

cated but successful one. So far it has been the answer for centralizing extreme activities and providing patrons with a sense of place and belonging. ■



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The Urban Studies Journal

Spring 2003

## What's Happening In The Department...

### THE STUDENTS:

**Sasha Polakow-Suransky '01**, a double concentrator in Urban Studies and History, was named a Rhodes Scholar for 2003. He plans to use the scholarship to pursue a doctorate in South African History at the University of Oxford.

### THE FACULTY:

**Professor Chudacoff** is preparing new editions of three history books: *A People and a Nation* (7th edition); *The Evolution of American Urban Society* (6th edition); and *Major Problems in American Urban History* (2nd edition). In addition, he is continuing research on his book-length project on the history of children's play in the United States.

**Professor Henderson** is teaching one grad class this year, in urban economics. He is researching where headquarters (HQ) locate (big cities versus small) and what draws them to particular locations. He is also looking at the determinants of city growth rates worldwide over the last forty years, focusing specifically on China and the cost of migration restrictions, which sharply limit rural to urban growth.

**Professor Malone**, who is on sabbatical leave, is spending the year in residence as a senior fellow at the Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology in

Cambridge, Massachusetts. He is researching waterpower in Lowell, MA and producing a book manuscript on Lowell under a contract with Johns Hopkins University Press.

**Professor Meyer's** book, *The Roots of American Industrialization*, will be published by Johns Hopkins University Press in late spring. It is an interpretation of the agricultural and urban-industrial transformation of the antebellum eastern United States. He is also currently researching Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Taipei as financial centers for China and will be giving a lecture at an international conference in Hong Kong in early June on that topic.

**Professor Morone's** new book *Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin in American History* has just hit the bookstores. He has also recently written articles on: welfare, national health insurance, why obesity is the newest prohibition craze, and Harry Potter. In addition, he is designing a new Urban Studies lecture course, "Bright Lights, Mean Streets: Urban Political Culture in the US", which will investigate urban culture through novels, films and cultural studies.

**Professor Neumann** is currently working on a book about the German Skyscraper

Movement in the 1920s and a biography of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe for Phaidon Press. He is also involved in the preparation for the annual meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians, which will take place in Providence in 2004. His fall semester seminar class worked on a webpage about Providence architecture and an exhibition project called "Unbuilt Providence", which will coincide with this event.

**Professor Orr** is on leave this semester and is currently conducting research on three community-organizing groups in three different cities: Memphis, TN, Brooklyn, and Baltimore. He will return next fall and teach two new courses: "The Changing American City", which is a senior seminar, and a lecture course, "Urban Politics and Urban Public Policy."

**Professor Silver** is currently serving as a co-organizer with Jose Itzigsohn of a conference on "New Immigrants in Urban New England" scheduled for April 25, 2003 at CSREA. She has also recently written several articles and given lectures on topics such as: "'Social Exclusion: The European Approach to Social Disadvantage", "Social Exclusion and Basic Income", and "Non-profit institutions in the fight against social exclusion in France and Germany".