

On The Cover

social services in the Greater Providence Area. She found that current transportation methods for homeless in the area are inadequate and that homeless individuals in Providence could greatly benefit from either a shuttle system connecting different service providers or greater access to RIPTA services through Ripticks distributed at shelters and other providers.

From the Editor

It has been an exciting year for us at Urban Studies. Seven concentrators will be completing honors theses this spring under the guidance of our diverse and brilliant faculty. In September, we welcomed director Pamela Roberts and writer Edward Dobb for the New England debut of their film, Butte, America. Lizette Chaparro covers this event below. Léon Krier also came to visit. Made possible by the New England chapter of the Congress for the New Urbanism, Brown University's Urban Studies Program and Department of Architectural Studies, and the American Institute of Architects Rhode Island chapter, his December lecture was titled, "The Architectural Tuning of Traditional Settlement: The Role of the Vernacular and the Classical in Urbanism." The architectural polemic argued for the duty of architectural form to respond to community needs, a duty he believes to be ignored by the modernist tradition. On page 5, Ryan Wong illustrates how this line of thought plays out in the nearby development of Chapel View in Cranston, RI. As usual, Urban Studies students have the unique opportunity to connect theory and fieldwork by making the surrounding urban community their laboratory for exploring the diverse array of issues we cover in our curriculum. Professor Patrick Malone, our biggest proponent of fieldwork and an Urban Studies pioneer, will be retiring this year. He will greatly be missed by many on campus! His profile is on page 4.

To everyone in the Urban Studies community, I hope you enjoy this edition of the Urban Studies Newsletter!

Nika Taubinsky '10

Film Premiere at Brown From Boom to Bust: the Story of Butte, MT

Lizette Chaparro '12

In the mountains of Butte, Montana, there is a white, 90-foot statue that resembles the Virgin Mary. To locals, the structure is known as the Lady of the Rockies. She stands majestically, overlooking The Berkeley Pit, an unused open mine that has been polluted for decades. The Lady of the Rockies embodies the unity that exists among the people of Butte. The town is the only mining camp on the West Coast that became an industrial, urban area. Mining is perhaps the single thing that Butte is most known for; it has touched and connected every resident for over a century.

Since its beginnings, the city had a number of successes and tragedies. The increasing use of electricity in the 1890s made copper highly desirable at a time when Butte was the world's largest producer of the resource. Immigrants from Europe rushed to the mining town, where they settled with their families. What followed was a long history of worker exploitation and struggles among community members to make the best of difficult situations.

Film director Pamela Roberts and writer Edward Dobb visited Brown early this fall for the New England premiere of their film, Butte, America. The film is a documentary that reveals the harrowing realities behind the early successes of the large mining town. The film covers 120 years of history and draws from the personal accounts of what Roberts calls "amateur historians" in order to present a complete and compelling story of Butte. Natives of the city, including mine workers, were among those interviewed. Dobb explained that it was important to have people who "in addition to being experts, really had a passion" for Butte.

The quest for these people gave the team a lot of information, much of it in the form of historical, personal anecdotes. However, Roberts explained that there was a lot that could not be part of the film. "You can't include everything... you have to go with the theme," she said. The testimonies collected by the team that could not be in the film will be stored in public archives in Montana.

But Roberts and Dobb knew that there was one thing they could not leave out: the remarkably tense relationship between the Butte and the Anaconda Company. Anaconda owned the mines in Butte. The headquarters, as one of the former mine workers described it, "was the real city hall." At one point, Anaconda owned all the newspapers in the area. In later decades, it managed to bulldoze entire neighborhoods in Butte.

Although the film gives insight through some storytelling, it does not steer from its primary goal: exposing the lives of the working-class people of Butte. Mr. Dobb, who is a native of Butte himself, explained that one of the aims of the film was to present the story of Butte with "authority, but not [to] be sentimental."

Those who knew the smallest bit about Butte had a desire to learn more. For three shows in a row, Butte, America sold out in Montana theaters. During a discussion after the film screening, Roberts, who grew up in another part of Montana, told the Brown community that she had been fascinated by the city ever since she visited as a twelve year-old. She said that Butte was always the exception in Montana; a place that was "feared and envied by the rest of the state."

The production team, which worked on the film for about ten years, met a lot of opposition from the economic development agency in Butte. Its realistic depiction of Butte painted a less rosy picture than the agency would have probably preferred.

Butte, America premieres at a time when the city is dealing with the long-term effects of mining. Homes in Butte have been found to have high levels of arsenic and lead. A house-by-house survey is in the works and will help guide future plans to clean up the area. As for the Berkeley Pit, which at one point held 28 billion gallons of polluted water, plans are also in the works. Dobb estimated that in addition to the 20 years of work that have been put into cleaning, Butte faces 20-25 years more. Mines that are not considered harmful will be left "as is", a physical reminder of the highly industrial history of the city.

Continued on back page

Urban Studies in Action Conserving Industrial Heritage at TICCIH 2009

Gregory Anderson '10 - Honors candidate





Germany: the land of wursts and beer, of edelweiss and half-timber houses. Last summer, for Program Director Professor Patrick Malone and me, it was also the land of rich industrial heritage and of the premier international conference about its preservation. It all started in 2008 when we talked about applying for an UTRA grant to design a new freshman seminar called "Gritty Cities," a course on the rise and fall of the American industrial city. Our research for that class led us to spend part of the summer in my home state of Pennsylvania, studying the anthracite coal mining communities in the northeastern part of the state, also the subject of my honors thesis research. In the fall of 2008 Professor Malone and I had applied, along with some of Professor Malone's colleagues from Michigan Tech and the University of Pennsylvania, to give presentations at the International Congress for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage (TICCIH) in Freiberg, Germany. By March we learned that the conference planners had accepted our session, and we would be headed to Germany in August.

Professor Malone and I arrived in Freiberg via different pre-conference travels – his a riverboat tour of the Danube and mine a short stay in Berlin. I explored the spaces and neighborhoods I had learned about in courses on modern and contemporary architecture and in Professor Carol Poore's "Berlin: A City Strives to Reinvent Itself" and found that I had, in fact, learned quite a bit about Berlin's history and unique built environment.

But I was quickly on the train for Freiberg, a medieval-looking town about halfway between the cities of Dresden and Chemnitz. The streets of the old city were of cobblestones and lined with wonderfully German pubs and cafes, each serving at least three different volumes of Freiberger Pils and a variety of other local lagers and ales. The town is at the center of the Saxon silvermining district, and it is home to the Technische Universität Freiberg, or the Freiberg School of Mines, where the conference was held.

The first night of the conference featured a warm welcome from the city's mining living history group and miners' band in full regalia at the Schloss Freudenstein, the city's five hundred year-old castle. The conference organizer, TICCIH president, and town mayor gave opening statements, and with at least a few hearty liters of beer each, the conference had begun.

The days of the conference were filled with papers on topics ranging far and wide, presented by academics, developers, government officers, and industrial heritage experts from all imaginable sites. We heard about the development of the Zollverein Colliery as part of the Landschaftspark Duisberg-Nord, memorializing the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone, and treatment protocol for rusting iron and wooden beams. Presenters gave almost two hundred papers over four days of talks, an incredible wealth of knowledge and experience that was almost impossible to absorb.

Our group "Sland Traps: United States Environmentalism and the Opportunities and Challenges for Industrial Heritage" presented on the third day of papers. Professor Malone spoke on interpreting environmental history at the Lowell National Historical Park; Bode Morin, a recent doctoral student at Michigan Tech, talked about copper

smelter heritage and environmental policy on Michigan's Upper Peninsula; Fred Quivik, now a professor at Michigan Tech, argued the case for preserving industrial waste in Butte, Montana.

I went third, after Professor Malone and Bode and a nervous half-hour coffee break – coffee and pastries apparently grow on the same trees as glasses of beer in these parts of Germany. The audience of around thirty people listened, seemingly interested, to my thirty minutes on "Black Diamonds: Preserving Ecological and Industrial Landscapes in Pennsylvania's Anthracite Region." Afterward they applauded and asked questions about the specific cases I had mentioned, the Huber Colliery and Centralia mine fire among them, and seemed genuinely impressed by my presentation.

The other parts of the conference were comprised of fieldtrips and adventures around Freiberg. One day we traveled by steam train - much to the delight of the rail and steam buffs among the group - to Chemnitz, took a bus tour of the city and its industrial sites, and had a private tour and reception at the city's regional industrial history museum. Another day we took a bus north of Freiberg to the International Building Exhibition in Fürst-Pückler-Land, a huge, mine-scarred region that was the source of much of the lignite, or brown coal, and coke that powered the East German industrial machine. We saw a huge conveyor, 500 meters long and 80 meters high, used for carrying the thick overburden at the open pit mines; we saw a power plant converted into an industrial museum; we saw kilometer-long strip mines beings slowly filled to become lakes in order to convert the post-industrial landscape into a vacationer's paradise of villas, floating homes, and water sports. And, of course, the night ended with a reception in our honor and overflowing with sausages, stew, and beer.

The TICCIH conference last summer was a truly spectacular experience, a look into the practical reality of my academic pursuits, a reassuring glance at the wide possibility for the future of the world's industrial heritage. I met a number of new and interesting people from six continents and countless countries, and I had the chance to present my honors research to an interested group of the most prominent professionals in the field.

Faculty Profile: Professor Patrick Malone Urban Studies Bids Farewell to Long-Serving Educator

Nika Taubinsky '10

This spring, the Urban Studies Program will say "goodbye" to one of its longest serving leaders and pioneers. Professor Pat Malone will have traveled a remarkable and unique professional path before his upcoming retirement. Serving in the Vietnam War before coming to Brown to pursue a Ph.D. in History, Malone has since become an indispensable figure on campus, always combining his professional experience with his academic interests. The expansion of the Urban Studies Program and the creation of the Master's Program in Public Humanities owe much to his efforts.

Anyone who has been on one of Professor Malone's walking tours of Boston will have seen the city through the eyes of a deeplyrooted local and well-versed scholar. Having received his early schooling in Boston and secondary schooling in one of the city's suburbs, Malone went on to earn a B.S. in both General Engineering and History at the United States Naval Academy in 1964. Malone drew upon his engineering and military background to complete his dissertation at Brown, titled "Indian and English Military Systems in New England in the Seventeenth Century." His first book, The Skulking Way of War: Technology and Tactics Among the New England Indians, was originally published in 1991 and emerged from the same lineage of research interests.

Professor Malone's path to Urban Studies was unusual. To some, writing on military tactics and then on "parks and promenades" may seem an unlikely mental leap, but to Malone it was a sound evolution in academic inquiry that always drew its meat from the study of technology and material objects. Malone cites his appointment as Assistant Professor of American Civilization at the University of Pennsylvania (1970-1972) as his initial seque into urban studies, since the program focused on ethnography and social sciences. At UPenn, he concentrated his research on the industrial community of Lowell. This focus later grew into numerous studies and publications on the parks, promenades, and waterways of Lowell, as well as on broader histories of American industry. According to Malone, if we felt compelled to assign a label, it would be appropriate to call him "an industrial archeologist with an urban inclination." His fourth book, Waterpower in Lowell, was recently published by Johns Hopkins University Press.



Students in Professor Malone's classes can see very clearly the link between his research and teaching. Popular lecture courses such as "Technology and Material Culture in America: the Urban Built Environment" have benefited immensely from his understanding of technology, interest in material objects, and rich collection of images. Malone has also designed courses outside of his direct academic focus, commenting that it is "always exciting to stretch yourself" and that many times a teaching venture will steer his research in a new direction. In particular, he enjoyed revising "Fieldwork in the Urban Community" and designing "Green Cities: Parks and Designed Landscapes in Urban America," both seminar courses. On many occasions, Professor Malone has collaborated with undergraduate students to design new courses. He created his latest, a freshmen seminar called "Gritty Cities," with Gregory Anderson '10 in 2008.

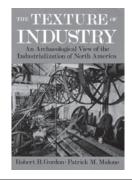
Professor Malone's teaching has also profited from his professional experience outside of the academic world. Taking an untraditional career path, he was both a faculty member at Brown and Director of Slater Mill Historic Site between 1974 and 1989. During that time, he helped to develop the Master's Program in Museum Studies, which evolved into the Master's Program in Public Humanities, by establishing a direct link between his appointments in the two institutions. The integration of academic studies, professional practice, and the community

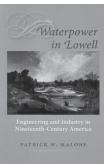
at large continued to be very important to Malone even after he came back to Brown full time. He considers it very important to encourage students to do fieldwork and to bring in practitioners to instruct seminars.

Since his first appointment with Urban Studies in 1993, Professor Malone has witnessed the program expand and contributed considerably to its development. The number of concentrators, affiliated faculty, and course offerings has increased significantly. Furthermore, Malone believes the program is enriched by students who are able to do spatial analysis through programs like GIS and who expand their horizons with study abroad experiences. Surely, the program owes some of its rising popularity to the many fieldwork opportunities and interesting new courses Malone introduced into the curriculum.

What will Professor Malone miss most about teaching? Putting together slide shows for lectures is something he has always savored. Malone derives the structure of his lectures from the slides themselves, allowing the narrative power of images to steer his account. Over the course of many decades, he has dedicated himself to collecting images and "documenting what things look like." Malone will continue to add to his collection post-retirement as well as to convert existing materials into digital format. He wants his collection to be easily accessible through an online database. Thanks to the Brown University Library's Center for Digital Initiatives, this dream has already begun to be realized. The legacy of Professor Pat Malone will persist not only through the academic programs and courses he has initiated at Brown, but also through his rich collection of images that will shape, inspire, and enrich paths of scholarship for years to come.

Books by Professor Malone:





Lessons from the Urban Community: New Urbanism and Theming in Cranston's Chapel View

Ryan Wong '10

In Cranston, Rhode Island, Carpionato Properties picked up an abandoned reformatory school and converted it into Chapel View, what the company calls a "dramatic lifestyle, retail and mixed-use development." The site must be understood within the context of the nation-wide trend of themed "lifestyle centers": mixed shopping, dining and living spaces. Scholars tend to decry the Disney- and mall-ification of American urban environments as emblems of rampant commodification. At the same time, the development's appeal lies in its recreation of a largely lost type of community, a mix of nostalgic architecture and the goal of selfsufficiency and walkability.

The development has generated much positive buzz from local business interests and politicians. The project is one of the largest ever in Cranston - a recent *New York Times* article estimates the cost at \$90 million. The project is estimated to generate about \$1 million in tax revenue each year.

One article from the *Providence Journal*, cited on Carpionato's website, characterizes the development as "New Urbanism," reminiscent of "Main Streets of the past—apartments, small shops, restaurants and offices in close proximity, tiny pockets within larger communities that become mini town centers in their own right." But the development, like other self-proclaimed experiments in New Urbanism, treads a fine line between authentic and fabricated, village and mall, personal nostalgia and past as-told-by-Disney.

Unlike core rehabilitation projects, Chapel View does not restore an existing urban center, but creates a new one on a site of abandoned buildings. While this adds an element of authenticity, the original buildings had a "creepy, ghost-like nature" (Art in Ruins). Nowhere does the website mention their original use, which was in the popular imagination the place where "rough-and-tumble boys in trouble with the law were sent" (Lewis). Chapel View elides the original Victorian Gothic style of the buildings—thought then to be morally uplifting—into a themed, re-vamped medieval town look.

The geographic isolation of Chapel View is essential to its fulfillment of what scholar and architect Michael Sorkin sees as an "obsession with security" typical of themed and commodity-driven developments.



Rendering of Chapel View from the website: <http://www. chapel-view.com/>

This often takes the form of "parallel, middle-class suburban cities growing on the fringes of old centers abandoned to the poor" (Sorkin, xiv). Cost and distance effectively remove it from the poor and carless. Despite the economic downturn, the developers have yet to lower the pricing options of their residences; Carpionato advertises them as "luxury residences." The median value of housing units in Cranston is \$122,500, and \$133,000 in Rhode Island overall (2000 Census). In Chapel View, the smallest one-bedroom goes for \$389,000. Though the development itself prides itself on being an alternative to a suburb, the two share a target audience.

Kelly Coates, senior vice president of Carpionato Properties, cites the fact that most of the tenants come from downtown Providence, where one might not be "comfortable taking a walk at 10 o' clock." In Chapel View, you are "never worried about your car," but one still gets the "action of downtown," appealing to those who "don't want traditional suburbs."

One fundamental question is the New Urbanist ideal of walkability. Coates is confident that, at least during the daytime, an employee in one of the offices will dine at one of the restaurants downstairs instead of driving somewhere else for lunch. While the developers stress the presence of a supermarket, the relatively small number of dining and shopping options will likely result in residents using their cars frequently. Chapel View is centered around a large parking lot of 250 spaces, abutting a massive 1,131 space lot. Clearly, no one is expecting tenants and shoppers not to drive. The parking lot creates a lacuna where, according to

New Urbanism, this should be a 'town center' or gathering place.

At the same time, the feel of community is essential to the development's success commercially. Not only is this a shopping destination, but a social one: as "people crave a public experience, because true public space is disappearing...malls, theme parks and large themed casinos fulfill this need" (Gottdiener, 180). Of course, like a mall, these spaces are not public in the sense of being government-run and maintained. Fabricated thematic pasts replace historic centers from which they draw their populations and resources by replicating the same feel with the addition of security.

The developers and commercial tenants are, in fact, banking on the synergistic effects of commodity and community, as evidenced by store owner Lois Hollingsworth-Eagan, who "admitted she was reluctant about going into a "planned area," but decided to sign a lease last spring after being convinced the area will attract customers seeking a different experience from a strip shopping center. "I think it's going to be a friendly area, a friendly walking area, a friendly shopping area. It's going to be nice" (Lewis). By replicating community feel, Carpionato can attract the sort of 'authentic' boutique stores a mall might not.

Former Mayor of Cranston Stephen P. Laffey told *Providence Business News* "that while many view the mixed-use concept" as something new...it takes us back to the more community-based concept that helped Cranston develop" as a city with "charming, distinct neighborhoods where businesses, retail shops, and residences coexisted."

Continued on back page

Honors Theses



Scott Middleton

"This year I've been preparing my thesis on the topic of deindustrialization in the United States. At the beginning of the century, mills and factories represented the ultimate American landscape, one that evoked the rhythm of an industrial economy and the precision of a cultural order. But today America's industrial landscape symbolizes something very different. The broken shells of Detroit's decayed assembly plants and the dormant smokestacks of Fall River's mighty cotton mills symbolize the painful transition away from an economy that drew its strength from manufacturing and an urban society that oriented itself around its industrial might.

I've found that while downsizing and plant closure may have reached critical dimensions in the 1970s, the textile towns of New England experienced a remarkably similar crisis during the flight of their cotton mills to the Piedmont South beginning in the 1910s. The collapse of the New England textile industry is by no means separate from or incidental to the more recent calamity wrought by the flight of manufacturing from American cities. My argument is that the disappearance of the New England cotton mill must be seen as more than just a harbinger of an impending national crisis. Textile relocation was, in fact, the first step of a process that would constitute the dark side of the American Century."

Sarah Baker

"My thesis recommends that the City of Providence overhaul its current, outdated zoning code and adopt a new code. I propose the adoption of a code that is organized according to form and design, rather than strictly by land-use. I examine the city's historical zoning ordinances, placing them in context with wider American trends; this demonstrates that the current code has changed little in the past 40 years, and has lost touch with contemporary urban trends. Next, I examine a new type of zoning code – the Form-Based Code – and explore a couple of case study cities that are experimenting with FBCs. Finally, I connect this new zoning tactic back to recent comprehensive plans published by the Providence's Planning Department and Mayor's Office, arguing that embracing a code based on desired urban forms and involving heavy citizen participation could play a crucial role in realizing the progressive plans of the city.



A wider framing argument of my thesis is that the projects of Providence's "Renaissance" have mostly been completed, and that now is an appropriate time for the city to step back and rework the zoning code into a modern document that speaks to current planning practices."



Jose Loya

"My thesis project focuses on the relationship between subprime lending and fore-closures in Latino Communities in Providence. The idea behind the project came from the numerous interviews I conducted dealing with foreclosure experiences in Providence. In order to fully gage the foreclosure experience, my thesis will focus on a quantitative analysis using Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data and foreclosure data gathered by the Providence Plan to investigate the various characteristics that doomed so many residents in Providence. The analysis will include a regression that will predict foreclosure rates in communities as well as a descriptive analysis of sub - populations within the city of Providence and describe their part within the mortgage market.

The disproportionate growth of foreclosures in minority communities is putting pressure on struggling communities. As homes become abandoned and families are being forced out, the economic viability and community infrastructure is being challenged and in many cases is letting down the residents. The paper will also include a portion on the effects of foreclosures and will show how interconnected a foreclosure is to crime, educational attainment and social mobility. With the help of Professor Silver and the many housing organizations throughout Providence, we hope this project will help educate and foster a discussion with city officials and policy makers on the need to address foreclosures in Providence."

Honors Theses

Amie Darboe

"My senior thesis looks at how early support networks in education have the potential to increase Black male admission to and retention in college. I focus specifically on Black males from Providence Public Schools. My interest in this topic centers on the fact that, as a graduate of Providence Public Schools, I saw too many of my Black male peers either drop out of high school or fail to gain admission to colleges. In my thesis, I look at explanations for the reason why Black male enrollment and retention numbers in college are lower than that of most other groups, suggest reasons why increasing Black male admission to and retention in college can be beneficial to the American educational system, and make recommendation on how we can begin to eliminate some of the factors that cause Black male college admission and retention numbers to be so low."



Samira Thomas



"Afghanistan has been ravaged by war over the last thirty years, the evidence of which is seen visibly in the urban and rural landscape of the country, and also in its population. Walking around Afghanistan today, it is not uncommon to encounter people who have lost limbs, their sight, or their hearing from landmines that still today dot the country. But in the 1400s when Babur, the founder of the Mughal Empire, began his conquest, Afghanistan was a very different place. Afghanistan was a center of intellectual pursuit and artistic endeavor. Kabul was dotted with tea houses and home to many poets. Babur loved this city, so much so that he wished to be buried there, in a park he designed. Since then, however, Afghanistan has seen many atrocities, and Baghe-Babur, or Babur's Park, fell into disrepair. In the last five years, however, it has been restored.

I want to understand how the revival of the memory of Babur through the restoration of his garden, can impact not only the cultural memory of the Afghan people, but also the social and economic development that is so desperately needed today. Can it be a source of national pride and unity? Can it act as a catalyst for peaceful relations between ethnic groups living in Kabul? Or is it "just" a green space?"

Kaileigh Callender

"My thesis examines historic and contemporary racial and socioeconomic dynamics of middle class black suburbs. Contemporary spatial discourse often examines suburbs as white spaces with varying levels of integration, but through my experiences in the South I began to question this view. My research has revealed that black Americans struggle to live in communities reflective of demographic factors other than their race, and experience the highest levels of residential segregation of any other group of color. While segregation is arguably problematic from a moralistic view point, what makes the persistence of black segregation most troublesome is the vast inequalities predominantly black communities experience compared to otherwise similar predominantly non-black communities. Middle class blacks are largely torn between two opposing forces largely reflected by the state of their communities.



They are both privileged by their class and disadvantaged by their race. This distinguishes theirs from the traditional suburban experience. Most American suburbs are able to engage in the politics of "conservative localism" which emphasize local autonomy and are able to disengage from larger social issues like poverty and poor quality public education facing cities and other communities. Predominantly black suburbs are less equipped to engage in such politics because the systematic devaluation of their property prevents them from ever reaching levels of social and economic homogeneity necessary for such politics. My thesis examines how the racial and class dynamics within black suburbs impact how these communities seek to advance their interests."

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"Butte," Continued from page 2

It was the damaging effect of mining that drove the laid-off mine workers in Butte to build the Lady of the Rockies in the 1980s. The statue was a contribution that exhibited the skills of the mine workers, as well as their dedication to the city.

After the film reveals the story of Butte, Montana, it ends with a narrated list of world-wide cities that are currently large mining areas. From Afghanistan to South Africa, to Brazil, cities have alarming similarities with Butte. Mr. Dobb explained that the film should force viewers to make "informed, though not necessarily different" decisions with regards to the resources they use.

Butte, America was first broadcast on PBS on the 20th of October.

"Chapel View," Continued from page 5

Promotional praise and scholarly criticism sound strikingly similar. No one is trying to play down the theme and its stated intentions; one is left to decide whether to take the developers' word or be skeptical of it, to give in to the charm of the 'lost past' or decry the inauthenticity of its resurrection.

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Urban Studies Apparel

No better way to be urban chic than in your Urban Studies T-shirt! The shirts contain the Urban Studies logo (pictured below), designed by our very own Amy Kendall '10. The t-shirts are white and available in S, M, L, XL and are 100% cotton. Available with a \$10 donation to Urban Studies (Brown University, Box 1833, Providence, RI 02912). Cheques should be made payable to "Brown University."

