PROJECTIONS 11: Planning Sustainability in Global Ecologies

CALL FOR PAPERS
Deadline for Abstracts: November 30, 2012

Engagement in sustainability planning is growing globally. Yet we continue to see environmental conditions worsen. Much attention has reasonably centered on the capacities of national actors and policies, but corresponding issues of scale(s), space, and agency have been largely unaddressed. Such deficiencies include the efficacy of institutional relationships between state, private, and civic organizations, the role of global processes in shaping local political action, and the critical interface between urban and ecological spaces. As a result, the complexities and possibilities of state/local agency, global networks, and spatial ecologies as a system remain under-theorized. This is particularly important in a time of global ecologies, where worldwide processes now actively transform society and nature everywhere. This issue of Projections attempts to directly address this critical space at the intersection of politics, globalization, and built and “natural” environments. Our objective is to unearth the political and spatial dimensions of our environmental crisis, and to reassert the physical and environmental aspects of the study of urban politics and processes. We look for theoretical concepts and critical practices in sustainability planning that address the dynamic interrelationships of global urbanization and ecological change – the emerging hybridities of society and nature.

Potential article topics included in this volume of Projections include: political economy of environment and development; global negotiations, local actions; urban theory and sustainability; urbanization and/or nature; the nexus between ecology, politics, and planning; infrastructure and nature; global environmental change; environmental identities and citizenship; social inequity and environmental justice; design and spatial politics; multilevel political interactions and influences; urban economic transition and the environment; and, technology and sustainability. We envision these topics to contribute to interdisciplinary understanding and collaborations between planners and theorists of urbanization and globalization, researchers in earth and environmental sciences, and scholars of polity and governance.

As a peer-reviewed publication, Projections welcomes original high quality submissions at the vanguard of planning theory and practice. Amy Glasmeier, Professor of Geography and Regional Planning, MIT, is the faculty advisor for this volume of Projections. The editorial board comprises leading scholars whose work focuses on political ecology, environmental governance, sustainable development, urbanization, and globalization, including JoAnn Carmin (MIT), Gabriella Carolini (MIT), Michelle Addington (Yale University), Nazli Choucri (MIT), Roger Keil (York University), David Pellow (University of Minnesota), Dianne Rocheleau (Clark University), and Erik Swyngedouw (University of Manchester).

Please submit an abstract of proposed papers. Abstracts should be limited to 300 words and include paper motivations, methods, and conclusions. Submissions should include keywords, name of author(s), institutional affiliation, and contact information (phone and email).

Deadline for submission of abstracts: Friday, November 30, 2012

Submissions should be made electronically to: projections@mit.edu

We will notify authors of accepted abstracts before January 10. Full papers for accepted abstracts will be due March 15, 2013, and will be submitted to a peer-review process.

For more information please contact the editors of Projections 11 at projections@mit.edu.

Kian Goh & Eric Chu
PROJECTIONS 11: Planning Sustainability in Global Ecologies

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About the Editors

Kian Goh, AIA, LEED AP, is a doctoral student in the Department of Urban Studies & Planning at MIT. Her research is on the built environment, politics, and urban ecologies.

Eric Chu is a doctoral student in Environmental Policy & Planning in the Department of Urban Studies & Planning at MIT. His research focuses on the multilevel politics of development planning and climate change adaptation.

About Projections

Projections, the Journal of the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning, aims to provide the most in-depth, innovative treatment of cutting edge ideas in planning. Each volume is devoted to a different topic of interest to planning scholars, students, and professionals. Projections is a unique collaboration between graduate students in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT and an editorial board composed of leading scholars in the areas most closely linked to the topic under discussion.

About MIT DUSP

The Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP) is a department within the School of Architecture and Planning at MIT. Since its inception in 1933, the Department of Urban Studies and Planning has consistently remained one of the top planning schools in the country. Now totaling close to 60 teaching faculty members (more than half of whom are full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty), it has the largest planning faculty in the United States. The Department is organized around the following core questions of engagement and progressive change: “Can we make a difference in the world? Can we design better cities? Can we help places grow more sustainably? Can we help communities thrive? Can we help advance equitable world development?”