



The Henry Halloran Trust



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

2014 Annual Report

Director: Professor Peter Phibbs

Period: January through December 2014

About the Trust

The Henry Halloran Trust was established through the generous gift of Warren Halloran, and honours his father, Henry, an active advocate for town planning in the first half of the 20th century. Henry introduced and implemented new concepts of town planning in the many settlements he established as part of his contribution to nation building.

Henry was a surveyor, valuer, engineer and town planner as well as a flamboyant and dynamic real estate developer who promoted and created new settlements throughout coastal NSW. One of his lasting successes was the development in 1905 of the Seaforth Estate, a waterside suburb on Sydney's Middle Harbour. His other well-known settlements include Avoca on the NSW Central Coast, and Stanwell Park and Jervis Bay on the South Coast.

The Trust aims to become a leading voice and advocate for the advancement of liveable cities, thriving urban communities and sustainable development. The objectives of the Trust include:

- To promote a collaborative cross-disciplinary environment where established scholars and leading practitioners, together with industry and government partners, can engage in leading-edge research developing innovative approaches to urban and regional policy, planning and development issues;
- To support scholarly research into critical policy issues relevant to current practice in Australian and international urban and regional land management, encouraging the development of innovative approaches to the management of land and natural resources. In this regard land, natural resources and urban and regional development are to be given a broad interpretation.
- To support academic, professional and public debate through public lectures and the publication of research that can beneficially transform current practice and encourage inspirational thinking about how to better manage urban and regional development.
- To promote an inter-disciplinary international network of leading scholars and practitioners who will assist and advise the Director of the Trust in identifying critical issues and on priorities for research.

Introduction

The detailed start-up strategies of the Trust are provided in the 2013 Annual Report. Now that the Trust has been established on a firm footing at the University, this report will focus on the 2014 activities of the Trust, using the objectives of the Trust as reporting framework. A copy of the 2013 Annual Report is on the Henry Halloran Trust website: <http://www.sydney.edu.au/halloran>

Trust Activities in 2014 organised by Trust Objectives

***Objective 1:** To promote a collaborative cross-disciplinary environment where established scholars and leading practitioners, together with industry and government partners, can engage in leading-edge research.*

The Practitioner-in-Residence Program

We have two Practitioners working in this program in 2014. Ms Nyambura Mwaniki is writing a report on an assessment of the effect of planning regulation on housing delivery. In addition, Ms Julie Walton is working on a project on planning systems and corruption risks. It is expected that each of the practitioners will complete their projects in the first half of 2015.

In addition, the Trust held an event – the Urban Research Festival 2 in which the work of the initial Practitioner’s in Residence was showcased.



The cover of Yolande Stone’s Practitioner-in-Residence project showing Yolande delivering a lecture at the Urban Research Festival 2 on May 29th 2014.

Objective 2: *To support scholarly research into critical policy issues relevant to current practice in Australian and international urban and regional land management, encouraging the development of innovative approaches to the management of land and natural resources. In this regard land, natural resources and urban and regional development are to be given a broad interpretation.*

Connecting Research and Practice

The Trust has been working on a research project in 2014 building on its commissioned research project in 2013 undertaken by Dr Joe Hurley and Dr Elizabeth Taylor. This project involved two one-day symposiums featuring a group of invited participants.

The first Symposium was held on August 1 and was entitled: Increasing the Policy Impact of Research: Barriers and Strategies and included leading scholars from across Australia as well as the Trust's Academic Advisor. The Hon Craig Knowles, former Minister of Planning and the Minister for Health in the Carr Government gave a presentation to this symposium. The second symposium was held on December 16th and was entitled Packaging research outputs so policy makers use them. This symposium included two researchers from Tongji University in Shanghai, Professor David Adamson from the University of South Wales as well as the Trust's academic advisor Professor Ann Forsyth from Harvard University. A draft report has been prepared and it being circulated for comments. A copy of the final report of the project will be available on the Trust's website.



The Hon Craig Knowles addressing the Trust symposium on August 1.

Research Grant Round

The EOI for our second round of research projects was issued in early August 2014. In addition to the Blue Sky projects and strategic partnership projects, we also called for an EOI for a major three-year research project (our research incubator model). The Advisory Board, at its final meeting of the year, decided to fund 3 research projects as well as a research incubator. The winning projects included:

Strategic Partnership

- Community engagement for the 'hard-to reach': Trialling participatory social network mapping in Tasmania \$27,895 (Faculty of Education and Social Work)

Blue Sky

- Assessing environmental impacts of major transport infrastructure projects: where does human health fit? \$24,291 (Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning)
- Visions of Sandstone: Reducing cost and increasing safety of heritage infrastructure inspection using aerial robotics. \$21,440 (Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning)

Incubator

- Urban Housing Lab@Sydney: Predictive analytics and policy platform for Sydney's housing market (Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning) Up to \$439,589 over 3 years. This project is being led by Professor Nicole Gurran.
- One of the gratifying outcomes of the research round is that we were able to fund projects from a number of different Faculties. A more detailed description of the funded projects is shown in Appendix 1.

***Objective 3:** To support academic, professional and public debate through public lectures and the publication of research that can beneficially transform current practice and encourage inspirational thinking about how to better manage urban and regional development.*

The year was a busy one for the Trust's public engagement program. The first public event for the year was the Urban Research Festival 1 was held on March 20th. The event was a pitch-off between three finalists of the Blue Sky funding round. We also heard from our of the scholars we funded in the 2013 Blue Sky Round, Associate Professor Marcus Foth, who presented a stimulating talk about Urban Informatics.

The Practitioner –in-Residence graduate, Ms Yolande Stone, and Dr Joe Hurley from RMIT and Dr Elizabeth Taylor from the University of Melbourne presented at the second Urban Research Festival on May 24th. Note that Joe and Elizabeth wrote up the findings of their Trust research project on

practitioners use of research outputs, as an academic paper which has been published by the Journal of Urban Policy and Research (our first “Trust” led journal article).

The 2015 Henry Halloran Lecture was delivered by our Academic Advisor, Professor Ann Forsyth on August 5th. She gave an address entitled Re-thinking Urban Infrastructure, in the Great Hall of the University.

The major activity public engagement activity of the Trust in 2014 was the Festival of Urbanism. The Festival ran between October 15th (the Festival was opened by the Provost of the University) and November 6th. The key event of the Festival was an event at Sydney Lower Town Hall on November 5th. The Lord Mayor spoke at the event as well Professor Stephen Cairns from the Future Cities Laboratory in Singapore. The Festival was sponsored by the Trust in collaboration with the Urban Planning and Policy Discipline at the University as well as the University’s Cities Network. The theme of the Festival in 2014 concerned the redevelopment of large tracts of the city often referred to as ‘megaprojects’.

The Festival attracted widespread media interest including two slots on commercial television, widespread newspaper coverage and a number of radio stories. The Festival commissioned a number of pieces of research, which were later submitted to Urban Growth NSW who are attempting to help design major urban renewal areas in Sydney, including the Bays Precinct.

A full list of the Festival events is contained in **Appendix 2**.

The Director has also been active in making presentations at various public events. He has spoken at the launch of a shared equity product by RDA Sydney, at the Australian Population event on World Population day and the launch of the Department of Planning’s NSW Population Forecasts. He also spoke in November on the role of Local Government in the Provision of Affordable Housing at the Ryde Council’s Affordable Housing Summit.

He delivered a lecture on Understanding Key Planning Issues to a seminar program organised by Shelter NSW October. He also addressed a Shelter seminar program on housing economics in March.

The Director has also been delivering a two-day professional development course to strategic planners across the State on the use of property economics in planning (14 courses were delivered in 2014). This has been an opportunity for the Director to highlight the work of the Trust to some of the State’s best strategic planners.

The Director also assisted with some training of international groups. He has assisted with the training of two groups of planners from China in the first half of the year, as well as an Executive Development Program sponsored by the Government of Brunei during November. This program involves future leaders from Brunei as well as a number of other Asian countries. The National University of Singapore ran the program in 2014. The group visited the University of Sydney on November 25th. They were interested in finding out about Affordable Housing in Australia. The Director of the Trust provided them with a briefing about current Australian policy and as part of their visit were shown a recent affordable housing development located at Eveleigh developed by City West Housing.



Professor Peter Sainsbury, Director of Population Health in South Western Sydney Local Health District, NSW Health; and Associate Professor in the School of Public Health speaks at the Festival on the topic of Health and High-rise – Is Density Bad for You?



The Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, addressing the audience at the final event of the Festival of Urbanism at the Sydney Town Hall on November 5th.



Professor Phibbs and Ms Janelle Goulding with the visiting delegates



Professor Ann Forsyth delivering the annual Henry Halloran Lecture, this time titled "Rethinking Urban Infrastructure" in the Great Hall on August 5th.

Objective 4: *To promote an inter-disciplinary international network of leading scholars and practitioners who will assist and advise the Director of the Trust in identifying critical issues and on priorities for research.*

Emeritus Fred Collignon from UC Berkeley visited the Trust in May. He attended a Board meeting and the second Urban Research Festival. Professor Ann Forsyth provided some strategic advice to the Director during her visit in August (as well as delivering the 2nd Henry Halloran Trust lecture) and in a short visit at the end of the year. The Trust also helped finance a trip to Australia by the leading US urban design/planning scholar Professor Emily Talen. She gave an address on Density and Diversity on August 23rd (as part of the Festival of Urbanism). Professor Talen also provided advice to the Director.

As part of the Festival of Urbanism, the Director was able to hold discussions with a number of leading scholars from Europe and North America. These discussions helped identify international research trends and strategies they have been using to connect research with practice. Discussions were held with:

- Emeritus Professor Christine Whitehead (UK)
- Dr Michelle Norris (Ireland)
- Professor Kirk McLure (USA)

Professor David Adamson from the University of South Wales also visited the Trust in November. He delivered a public lecture on regional development as well as participating in the Trust symposium on December 16th. He was able to provide details of his work in connecting research with practice in Wales which was very useful in helping the Trust design its research engagement strategy in 2015.

The results of all these discussions with leading international scholars will influence the work of the Trust in 2015.

Highlights from the Trust Annual Dinner

Tuesday 9th December



Blue Sky grant winner, Dr Claudine Moutou, describing her research project RatelT: Crowdsourced real-time app to improve the passenger experience to annual dinner guests



Mr Warren Halloran and the Vice Chancellor, Dr Michael Spence with Professor Nicole Gurrans, the first recipient of a Trust Research Incubator award. She will be leading a large team of researchers in the Urban Housing lab examining the dynamics of the Sydney Housing market.

APPENDIX 1

DETAILED LIST OF FUNDED PROJECTS

2014 Funding Round

STRATEGIC

Community engagement for the 'hard-to reach': Trailing participatory social network mapping in Tasmania \$27,895

Associate Professor Susan Goodwin, The University of Sydney University
Dr Kathleen Flanagan, The University of Tasmania
Dr Julia Verdouw, The University of Tasmania

The issue of how to build community engagement and promote pathways to economic and social inclusion for the most excluded social groups is one of the most vexed areas of social policy. This project addresses this concern through an innovative approach designed to avoid 'benevolent othering' in areas where place-based stigma creates division and social exclusion that extend to within the neighbourhood itself. The project combines volunteering with participatory community-based action research to develop a system map that extends asset-based community development approaches by identifying how networks operate as enablers and constraints through relationships of power, trust, conflict and collaboration.

BLUE SKY

Assessing environmental impacts of major transport infrastructure projects: where does human health fit? \$24,291

Dr Patrick Harris The University of Sydney University
Dr Jennifer Kent, Macquarie University
Associate Professor Peter Sainsbury, The University of Sydney University
Professor Fran Baum, Flinders University

This research investigates 'How, why, and to what extent, human health is considered in environmental assessments of major transport infrastructure projects?'

There is strong evidence of the links between transport planning and human health. Environmental Assessments (EAs) are a regulated mechanism for considering health in infrastructure planning but traditionally have not fully captured health issues. This research will develop four case studies of major transport EAs, three in NSW and one in South Australia, to explain how and why health was or was not included. The project will foster collaboration between two emerging research leaders from public health and planning.

Visions of Sandstone: Reducing cost and increasing safety of heritage infrastructure inspection using aerial robotics. \$21,440

Dr Rob Saunders, The University of Sydney University
Dr Simon Weir, The University of Sydney

Developing an advanced visual inspection tool for assessing the quality of ageing sandstone in public infrastructure. Applying off-the-shelf quad copters equipped with high-resolution cameras to the problem of inspecting the built fabric of ageing infrastructure, we can increase efficiencies of maintenance work.

The project was developed after discussions with sandstone section of the New South Wales Department of Public Works, and has been tailored to the specific needs of sandstone inspection, but many of the project details can be readily adapted to similar surveillance conditions.

INCUBATOR

Urban Housing Lab@Sydney: Predictive analytics and policy platform for Sydney's housing market \$439,589 (over 3 years)

Dr Nicole Gurrán, Urban and Regional Planning, FADP
Dr Somwrita Sarkar, Design Lab, FADP
Dr Jennifer Kent, Urban and Regional Planning, FADP
Ms Catherine Gilbert, Urban and Regional Planning, FADP
Ms Stacey Miers, Design Lab, FADP
Mr Hanley Weng, Design Lab, FADP

Housing is a central component of urban infrastructure, yet provision of appropriate and affordable housing near transport and jobs remains a key challenge. Addressing this challenge depends on better understanding the mechanics of the housing market and how policy interventions – like urban planning – might enhance housing outcomes. Building on the big-data capacity of UrbanLab@Sydney, this Incubator constructs a research platform for examining housing market dynamics in Sydney and potential levers for change. Research fostered within the Incubator will connect to wider scholarship on planning, infrastructure, the market and big-data analytics while distilling key implications for urban policy and practice.

APPENDIX 2

PUBLIC EVENTS 2014

- Festival of Urbanism 1- 20th March Pitch off of Research Proposals plus Professor Marcus Foth describing developments in Urban Informatics.
- Festival of Urbanism 2 -29th May - Yolande Stone on her PIR project and Dr Joe Hurley and Dr Elizabeth Taylor present the findings of their Trust commissioned Research project.
- 2nd Annual Henry Halloran Trust Lecture- 5th August. Professor Ann Forsyth on Re-Thinking Urban Infrastructure, Great Hall.
- Professor David Adamson - 27th November. Regional Development strategies: Ideas from the UK.

Festival of Urbanism List of Events

15 OCT - Festival of Urbanism Launch Event

Join the Festival of Urbanism launch event, featuring the launch of The Sydney University Master of Urbanism degree. The University of Sydney Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Stephen Garton, Director Henry Halloran Trust, Professor Peter Phibbs, Associate Professor Rod Simpson.

16 OCT- Health and High-rise – Is density bad for you?

Two expert panellists address health issues related to increased density. Join Associate Professor Stephen Corbett, Director of the Centre for Population Health in the Western Sydney Local Health District and Dr Jennifer Kent, Urban Planner, Macquarie University.

17 OCT - Alternative approaches to urban infrastructure funding

A structured Q&A with Martin Payne, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning on value capture to benefit city making. Submit a question to info.urbanism@sydney.edu.au

20 OCT - What's the Plan? The Bays Precinct panel

The Hon. Craig Knowles, President Planning Research Centre in conversation with panellists Dr Kate Shaw University of Melbourne, Associate Professor Kurt Iveson University of Sydney, Neil Macindoe, community member and Angus Dawson, Dawson James P/L.

21 OCT - Melbourne Docklands – where it went wrong and why Australian governments don't learn.

Presented by Dr Kate Shaw, Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellow from the University of Melbourne. Using Docklands as a starting point, Kate examines the motivations for urban renewal in Australia and draws lessons from more nuanced practices elsewhere.

23 OCT- Emily Talen on Design for Social Diversity

Emily Talen teaches planning and geography at Arizona State University. Our inability to deal with social difference at a localised, neighbourhood level has been blamed as the root cause of intractable urban problems from sprawl to environmental degradation and insufficient affordable housing. At the same time, there is widespread agreement that cities ought to be denser to support environmental, health, economic, and social objectives. With reference to experiences in the USA, this presentation asks: How do the goals of diversity and density interact, and can they be achieved simultaneously? How should we evaluate often-elusive planning goals in light of increasing social-spatial separation?

24 OCT- Urban Community Renewable Energy Networks: opportunities and challenges

Professor Tony Vassallo Delta Electricity Chair in Sustainable Energy School of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and Elizabeth Tomc from the same school. Leading researchers and practitioners discuss new developments in renewable energy, and their potential impacts on neighbourhoods and communities.

27 OCT- Housing markets the Global Financial Crisis, and city planning: perspectives from three countries

Luci Ellis, Reserve Bank and Professor Mike Berry, RMIT respond to three international experts (the United Kingdom, the United States, and Ireland) on potential learning's from the Global Financial Crisis, for housing markets and the policy frameworks governing housing supply: Professor Christine Whitehead London School of Economics, Professor Kirk McClure Kansas State University and Dr Michelle Norris University College Dublin.

28 OCT -The city everyone's business, but the city is not a business

In conversation with University of Sydney Associate Professor Rod Simpson panellists Dr Marcus Spiller and Adjunct Professor Helen Lochhead discuss how important it is how to define the objective of major urban renewal projects and the effect of different delivery models on the end result, using both Australian and international examples.

31 OCT- Documentary Film Screening 1

Jan Gehl – The Human Scale. Watch an exclusive student screening and post-film discussion with University of Sydney lecturers.

04 NOV -Documentary Film Screening 2

William Whyte – The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces. Watch an exclusive student screening and post-film discussion with University of Sydney lecturers.

05 NOV - The future of the Bays Precinct with Professor Stephen Cairns on 'open-city' Design

Professor Stephen Cairns, Future Cities Laboratory, Singapore – ETH, KCAP. Professor Cairns reflects broadly on the principles of the 'open-city' and how these might apply to urban renewal projects. He outlines the principles underlying the master planning and delivery of Hamburg's Hafencity. Joined by an expert local panel exploring application to the Bays Precinct. Lord Mayor Clover Moore will also deliver a public address.

APPENDIX 3

THE ADVISORY BOARD

Members

- Dr Gary Cox – Associate Director, Elton Consulting
- Dr Deborah Dearing – Executive Director of Place Development, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
- Professor Roland Fletcher – Professor of Theoretical And World Archaeology at the University of Sydney
- Mr Glenn Grimshaw – Recently resigned from a role as principal advisor at the NSW Treasury to return to full-time study
- Associate Professor Kurt Iveson, School of Geosciences, University of Sydney
- Professor Corrine Mulley, Founding Chair in Public Transport at the Institute of Transport and Logistics, University of Sydney.
- Martin Payne, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, the University of Sydney.
- Ms Jill Reich, Deputy Director-General, People, Culture and Business, NSW Planning and Infrastructure (resigned December 2014 after leaving the Department).
- John Toon, Honorary Associate Professor, Faculty of Architecture, Design and Planning, University of Sydney
- Professor Tong Wu (Chair), Emeritus Professor, Office of the Vice Chancellor, University of Western Sydney.

2014 Advisory Board Meetings

- Meeting 1: 11th March
- Meeting 2: 29TH May
- Meeting 3: 23rd September
- Meeting 4: 9th December
- Strategic Plan Review Meeting: April 30th

APPENDIX 4

Income and Expenditure Statement 2014

Income

Carried Forward from 2013	179,152
Interest Income 2014	249,902
Donations	100
Other Income (international training)	5,445

Total Income	434,599
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Expenses

2013 Funding Round research projects*	211,548
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Salaries

Director's salary	43,693
Casual salaries (Beecroft and Organiser Festival of Urbanism)	34,101

Total Salaries	79,587
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Other

Academic Advisor	4,400
Research project (symposia)	7,900
Printing	360

Contractors

1 commissioned project, training and Practitioner-In- Residence	18,477
Research dissemination	19,642
Utilities and Communications	2,054
Other	233

Total Non Salary Expenditure	53,066
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Total Expenses	344,201
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Balance at end of period	90,398**
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Notes:

*These projects are a commitment by the HHT and will run into the 2015 period.

**As of the final meeting of 2014, has Advisory Board has committed to fund research projects in 2015 totalling comprising \$73,626 from its 2014 Blue Sky and Strategic Research Funding round and a research incubator valued at up to \$439,589 over 3 years. The incubator project has been made possible by the generous support of the Vice Chancellor who has contributed \$225,000 to the HHT in 2015.