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Brian McLoughlin Postgraduate Award

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Award

The recipient of the Brian McLoughlin Postgraduate Award will receive a cash amount of AUS\$1,000 and one year's free subscription to *Urban Policy and Research*.

In addition to the main prize *Urban Policy and Research* can award the designation of high commendation, with a year's free subscription to UPR, to those submissions that come close to the level of the award winner in a given year.

Scope

This award is aimed to encourage new and emerging scholars in fields such as urban-focused human geography and urban focused [or similar] housing studies to submit work to *Urban Policy and Research* for consideration in the Brian McLoughlin Postgraduate Award.

Conditions

To be considered for the McLoughlin Award for postgraduate students the paper must be based on work undertaken for a higher degree at a university in the Asia-Pacific Region. The paper can be submitted during the period of enrolment but no later than one year after the award of a higher degree. All papers must be single authored. Papers should be submitted to the Editors of *Urban Policy and Research* before the 15 October of each year.

Manuscripts must not exceed 8000 words, including abstract, references, tables, figures and footnotes and should be submitted to the editors of *Urban Policy and Research* stating that the paper is to be considered for the Brian McLoughlin Postgraduate Award. Three hard copies or one electronic copy of the paper should be submitted and must follow the style conventions of *Urban Policy and Research* (see "Notes for Contributors" in the journal).

The papers will be reviewed independently by at least two anonymous referees and considered for publication in the normal way. The editors will judge which paper receives the award although all papers deemed acceptable by the editors will be published in *Urban Policy and Research*. The Editors of the journal will have sole discretion as to whether the paper will be published.

Papers can be submitted either by post to:
Urban Policy and Research, School of Global Studies, Social Science and Planning, RMIT
University, GPO Box 2476V, Melbourne VIC 3001
Alternatively by email to upr@rmit.edu.au

Urban Policy and Research reserves the right not to make an award in any year.

For more information about the journal, please visit the website at: www.tandfonline.com/cupr

Biography

JOHN BRIAN MCLOUGHLIN

1932 – 1994

Brian McLoughlin arrived in Australia in 1983 as a scholar of international standing for his planning policy research and academic publication in the United Kingdom and Europe. In the 11 years he held the Chair of Town and Regional Planning at the University of Melbourne until his death in 1994, he made substantial and lasting contributions to the study of urban studies and urban planning in Australia. This included his role on the Board of *Urban Policy and Research*.

Brian was born in Bradford in 1932 and was educated in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, where he also studied Town and Regional Planning at (the then) King's College of the University of Durham, graduating in 1954. He served his National Service with the Royal Engineers stationed in Hong Kong.

On his return to England, for the next five years he worked as a local government planning officer in Newcastle, Northumberland and Caernarvonshire, and in 1962 was appointed to a lectureship in the Department of Town Planning at the University of Manchester. Brian adopted Manchester as his 'home town' (and Manchester City as his football team).

At this time, the Manchester planning course was undergoing significant changes from a design and engineering base to a more process-oriented and, in effect, social science-based view of planning, and Brian's influence contributed to shaping the new course. These experiences, his work on major policy-focussed regional planning projects and his involvement in ongoing debates about the nature and role of town planning in relation to the changes taking place in British society in the 1960s, all helped shape the views of planning espoused in *Urban and Regional Planning: A Systems Approach* (1969). This text came to be one of the most significant and widely-used planning texts of the time, and indeed for the next two decades or so.

In 1971, Brian was appointed Deputy Director of the Centre for Environmental Studies under the Directorship of David Donnison, where he undertook further policy related studies. Five years in the intellectually stimulating environment of the CES lead to Brian's rethinking of a systems view of planning, and he moved towards a political economy framework as a way to understand urban processes and the role of urban planning in those processes.

Leaving CES in the late 1970s, Brian variously: lectured at (the then) Liverpool Polytechnic; carried out ESRC funded research into planning education (another of his abiding concerns); and worked on planning policy research and held Visiting Fellowships in Germany, Italy, Hong Kong and Australia.

Never afraid to speak his mind, his critical observations probably cost him a Chair in Planning in the UK. But the UK's loss was Australia's gain, and on his arrival at the University of Melbourne, he immediately began research into the nature of planning in his new home country. As well as obtaining Australian Research Council funding to study the effects of planning in Melbourne, he visited all Australian planning schools to acquire an overview of the field; he co-edited *Urban Planning in Australia: Critical Readings* (1986); he helped form the Melbourne Urban and Regional Seminar Series; and worked with characteristic energy on the Board of *Urban Policy and Research*.

This research and activity culminated in what was to be Brian's last book, *Shaping Melbourne's Future? Town Planning, the State and Civil Society* (1992), which presents a theorised and empirically-grounded study - still-unequalled in Australian planning literature - of the effects of planning policies and practices and their unintended consequences for urban spatial form. His posthumously-published paper, 'Centre or periphery? Town planning and spatial political economy' (1994), is a fitting summary of the views on planning education he had espoused for so long.

Both book and paper pose questions that Brian intended to continue exploring - intentions that were cut short by his unexpected death. Without doubt, these unachieved studies would have made further significant additions to urban and planning scholarship in Australia, and to our understanding of urban processes more generally.

The questions Brian posed continue to be at the heart of the research and enquiry encouraged and sustained by *Urban Policy and Research*, and the Brian McLoughlin Award is therefore a fitting tribute to the work of someone who, from its very early days, was an unstinting supporter and critical friend of the Journal.

Margo Huxley
December 2006

Note:

To my knowledge, there has not yet been a full evaluation of Brian's contribution to urban studies and planning scholarship in Australia. An appreciation of his earlier UK and European work can be found in a special issue of *European Planning Studies*, 5, 6, 1997.

References

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