Carolina Planning



Summer 2005 vol. 30, no. 2

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Carolina Planning is a student-run publication of the Department of City and Regional Planning, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

From the Editors

Green building is a topic of growing interest for a variety of professionals from architects and builders to planners and engineers. Green building seeks to promote energy efficient, environmentally responsible, and cost-effective buildings that improve the health of their occupants through the use of innovative building materials, architecture, energy sources, and urban design. We hope this issue improves your understanding of green building within the context of urban planning.

Introducing the green building theme of this issue of CPJ is Chris Wedding, a Ph.D. candidate in Environmental Sciences and Engineering at UNC-Chapel Hill, whose article defines and evaluates green building. In particular, he discusses the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification program. Next, renowned planner Randall Arendt discusses the shortcomings of the not-so-green building practices and the regulations that govern contemporary housing subdivisions. Kelly Lowry, a recent graduate of the UNC Department of City and Regional Planning (DCRP), reviews the Cleveland Eco-Village, focusing upon green building in the context of urban infill and affordable housing. Her case study provides a good example of one city's efforts at implementing green building. Next, Isaac Savage of Home Energy Partners discusses ways to increase the perceived value of homes through high performance building practices and describes how developers and planners can facilitate green building. We also present an interview with Giles Blunden, a Carrboro architect and proponent of "co-housing" and building green. A green building feature by Holley Henderson highlights the Interface, Inc. Atlanta showroom as a LEED-CI pilot project achieving Platinum status.

We conclude this issue by honoring the winner of the DCRP 2004 Best Master's Project Award, Robynn Moraites. An excerpt from her Master's project describes how historic rehabilitation can spur economic development in North Carolina.

As ever, we invite readers to respond to our content and design. We are considering expanding or shifting to a web-based format, and we value any comments readers may have concerning this idea. Also, our readers are encouraged to submit articles for publication in future issues. Thank you for your interest and continued support.

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Carolina Planning welcomes comments, suggestions, and submissions. We are currently accepting articles for our Fall/Winter issue. Please contact us at:

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