

Improving the Environment...Improving the Community

DATE: Tuesday, March 30, 2004

TIME: Registration begins at 5:30pm, panel discussion starts at 6:00 p.m., followed by Q&A session

LOCATION: Prairie Avenue Bookstore, 418 S. Wabash, Chicago, IL 60605

MODERATOR

Sunny Sonnenschein, Ph.D., *Director of Information Technology, Chicago Metropolis 2020*

PANELISTS

Eugene Goldfarb, J.D., AICP: *Midwest Environmental Officer, US Department of Housing and Urban Development*

Martin S. Jaffe, J.D.: *Assoc. Professor, Urban Planning and Policy, UIC College of Urban Planning & Public Affairs*

James Patchett, ASLA: *President and Founder, Conservation Design Forum*

DESCRIPTION

Join our panel of environmental experts, moderated by a longtime advocate for the environment, to learn what planners, policy makers, government officials, businesses, and citizens can and are doing to tackle current environmental problems and prevent future deterioration of our valuable and irreplaceable environment. The moderator and panelists will provide specific solutions from their direct experience in development, landscape architecture, civil engineering, and environmental law, research, and management.

Environmental issues pervade our surroundings. From poor air quality, polluted water, and flooding, to invasive species and temperature extremes, environmental issues directly affect all people, as well as governments and businesses, and will continue to do so for generations to come. They are the result of years of inefficient building practices, sprawling development patterns, water intensive landscapes, and excessive consumption of natural resources and manmade products. Not only does the destruction of our environment cause health problems and higher costs, it also lowers our quality of life.

But these problems have not gone unnoticed. Through the years, government regulations, programs, and mega projects have been implemented to manage, prevent, or reverse environmental damage. Additionally, communities, individuals, and professionals have made strides through volunteer clean-up and restoration efforts, the development of new design standards, and the advocacy for energy and emissions regulations. While many of these efforts are helping to reduce and prevent further problems, others are simply managing the problems. Further, some state and federal programs that led to major improvements, such as the Clean Air Act, the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, and the State of Illinois Open Space and Land Acquisition and Development Fund are at risk of losing their positive impact due to cuts in funding or contradictory new rules, such as the Mercury Reduction Rule and the Interstate Air Quality Rule.

Locally, there are several major environmental issues that the public and private sectors need to address. In Chicago, the Chicago River is cleaner than it was even a decade ago, but is still nowhere near as clean and active as it should be. Likewise, Lake Michigan is routinely closed throughout the summer from high bacteria levels resulting from stormwater and sewer overflows, and losing water and valuable shoreline each year. Original prairie lands are rare in Illinois, except where they have been specifically restored, and several species are in decline or extinct. In terms of air quality, a good public transportation system helps reduce pollution, but Chicagoland still suffers from ozone action days each year.

Registration Fee:

Students-\$3

Alumni Association members*-\$5

Other-\$10

*Current members of the CUPPA Alumni Association. Non-members who join while registering for the event receive a special discount on admission, Please call or e-mail for details

**For more information or to register,
please contact Cathy Sanders at csande4@uic.edu or 312.996.2161.**

This is the second panel discussion in the three-part CUPPA Alumni Association Annual Spring Speaker Series. The final panel in this series will be held on April 20 (Better Development) at the Prairie Ave. Bookshop..

Moderator and Panelist Profiles

Sunny Sonnenschein, Ph.D.: Director of Information Technology, Chicago Metropolis 2020

Carol "Sunny" Sonnenschein is Director of Information Technology and manager of the GIS (Geographic Information System) program for Chicago Metropolis 2020. She is currently working on regional mapping projects that illustrate changes in land use, demographic composition and economic trends in the Chicago region and is manager of the Metropolis Regional Learning Game project, which will create a computer game to engage residents of the Chicago region in learning about issues related to land use and transportation.

From 1991-1996 Sonnenschein taught urban sociology at Loyola University and worked with community groups on neighborhood development projects. Her primary research focus has been the impact of rapid population growth on communities on the fringe of metropolitan regions. Sonnenschein holds a masters degree and doctorate in sociology from Loyola University Chicago.

Eugene Goldfarb, AICP, J.D.: Midwest Environmental Officer, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Eugene is responsible for ensuring environmental compliance for a broad range of programs administered by HUD, local governments, and public housing authorities. Eugene is a certified planner (AICP) and licensed attorney (Illinois). Eugene has spent much of his HUD career in the environmental area, preparing environmental impact statements (EIS), noise, historic and other environmental reviews. He has also worked for HUD's Office of Housing on mortgage insurance, subsidized and public housing programs, and was the leader of the region's 1985 office automation effort (microcomputers). He has worked for a single-family homebuilder, the New York City Housing Authority, the U.S. Post Office, and has even driven a New York City taxicab.

Eugene has been active in environmental training for almost 30 years. In the late 1970s and early 1980s he organized environmental training for local governments administering HUD programs and lectured at various universities (UIC, IIT, University of Chicago), U.S. Civil Service environmental workshops, and the American Planning Association's Institute of Zoning (1977). More recently he has helped organize HUD training at UIC's Great Lakes Center for local government officials and lectured at various environmental conferences sponsored by the Energy Resource Center, IEPA, USEPA, Northeast Midwest Institute, and others. In 2000 the Great Lakes Center training received a Best Practice award from HUD and Eugene was named a USDOE Energy Champion, while in 2002 he was named HUD's "brownfield guru" in American Planning Association's *Planning Magazine* (June 2000).

Martin S. Jaffe, J.D.: Associate Professor, UIC College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs

Marty received his J.D. degree from Wayne State University Law School in 1973 and his LL.M. in 1984 from the DePaul University College of Law. In 1992-1993 he was a Visiting Associate Professor of Law and in 1993-1994 an Adjunct Professor of Law at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, teaching in the law school's program in energy and environmental law. Prior to joining UIC's faculty, Marty was a research program administrator and Senior Research Associate for the American Planning Association's research division in Chicago. He has also worked as a local government and regional planner in New York and Massachusetts. Marty currently serves as the Coastal Business and Environment Specialist for the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant College Program and is a Research Associate in the Great Cities Institute. He also serves on the Historic Preservation Commission of the Village of Wilmette.

During the 2003-2004 academic year, Marty is a Faculty Scholar at UIC's Institute for Environmental Science and Policy, where he will be researching how bio-assessment and ecological modeling can be used to adjust the stringency of local regulations to manage non-point sources of water pollution.

James Patchett, ASLA: President and Founder, Conservation Design Forum

James Patchett received an undergraduate degree in Landscape Architecture, and master's degrees in both Landscape Architecture and Civil Engineering (water resources) from Iowa State University. He has also completed course work requirements towards a doctorate degree from the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources. In over twenty years of practice, Jim has worked for a public conservation agency and both large and small private sector design and environmental consulting firms. Jim combines his training as a landscape architect and hydrologist in the development of natural resource-based site planning and design techniques that involve the integration of innovative stormwater management and ecological restoration strategies into built environments.

Mr. Patchett currently serves as Chair of the American Society of Landscape Architect's Professional Interest Group in Water Conservation, and is one of seven members of the ASLA's National Continuing Education Committee. In 1998, Jim was appointed an Associate Professor in Iowa State University's Department of Landscape Architecture, where he is serving as a Collaborative Member of the Faculty. Prior to forming Conservation Design Forum in 1994, Jim held the position of Environmental Services Manager in the Chicago office of Johnson Johnson & Roy, Inc.