



news



HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS PROGRAM

| Edition No. 9 | September/October 2012 |

A Word from the Director

It has been another productive and exciting few months for the HBEP team, particularly with the official start of the [Co-operative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living](#). HBEP continues to contribute to the ongoing review of the NSW Planning System. We jointly sponsored a stakeholder forum and prepared a detailed submission on the Green Paper emphasising the importance of having health and wellbeing as an objective of the new planning legislation. The HBEP Literature Review Fact Sheets have been published. Read about these and other initiatives in our newsletter and please visit our website for more details!

Welcome to Vivian Romero

The HBEP is delighted to welcome Dr Vivian Romero as a part-time Research Associate with the team. Vivian takes an interdisciplinary perspective on all healthy built environment matters. For her [PhD](#) Vivian investigated what makes walking fun for children and how this can help us better understand active transport to school. Vivian is a keen cyclist and particularly enjoys beautiful green open spaces, as you can see!



Literature Review Updates

We continue to keep you up-to-date with healthy built environment research, policies and practices. We have added two new alerts to our fortnightly literature review searches: Global Physical Activity Network and SciVerse Scopus (SS). Our fortnightly literature review brings together key studies and their policy/practice implications for the three domains initially developed in the HBEP Literature Review: 'getting people active'; 'strengthening communities'; 'providing healthy food options'. All of our Literature Review updates are available [here](#).

To subscribe to the newsletter please send an email to hbep@unsw.edu.au

NSW Planning Review - Green Paper and Next Steps

As many of you know, NSW is in the midst of a major review of its planning system. Given the importance of the built environment in supporting people's health as part of everyday living, HBEP has given top priority to participating in the review. The evidence in the [HBEP Literature Review](#) affirms planning's fundamental role in creating healthy built environments. The latest stage of the planning review was the July publication of a Green Paper entitled [A New Planning System for NSW](#). As part of preparing a submission on the Green Paper, in collaboration with the Premier's Council for Active Living (PCAL), HBEP held a forum for interested stakeholders. Facilitated by Dr Danny Wiggins ([HBEP Consortium Partner](#)), participants at the forum workshopped key health promotion issues. You can read the HBEP submission [here](#) or go to the DP&I website to read [all the submissions](#).

Breaking news: HBEP is not confident that the health message is getting through – it was not mentioned at a major [DP&I forum to discuss the White Paper](#)! We need a planning system that can meet the interdisciplinary and complex challenges of the 21st Century. Keep on lobbying for healthy built environments to be part of our new planning system (we have the evidence)!

BE Healthy!

The HBEP has initiated a *BE Healthy!* campaign. While this is specifically named for Built Environment (BE) Faculty staff, *BE Healthy!* has lots of ideas to support a healthy work-place. We started by putting up signs encouraging stair use near lifts in the Faculty. We then provided information about the dangers of a sedentary working life. We have been inspired by the National Heart Foundation's [Healthy Workplace Guide](#), as well as a desire to support our colleagues and students to take every opportunity to be healthy. *BE Healthy!* has three focus areas: BE Active, BE Nourished and BE Relaxed. Download information and resources from our [website](#).

CFRC Annual Report Published

HBEP is a part of the Faculty of the Built Environment's [City Futures Research Centre](#). The 2011 Annual Report of the Centre has now been published. Read all about the Centre's work and achievements in urban related issues [here](#).

LuminoCITY Exhibition

The Built Environment Faculty will present an extravaganza end-of-year exhibition entitled *LuminoCITY*. This will be a week of free public events and exhibitions from November 15 to 22 at Sydney Harbour's Pier 2/3, Walsh Bay. It includes the work of staff and graduating students, who together are shaping Australia's cities today and into the future. HBEP is proud to be participating in the exhibition. Keep an eye on what's on offer at LuminoCITY [here](#).

Health and Density Workshop

HBEP is joining [PCAL](#) and the [Heart Foundation](#) to sponsor Professor Giles-Corti ([HBEP Advisory Board member](#)) to be the keynote speaker on her [review examining urban density levels and their health implications](#). The all-day forum will be held in Sydney on October 29 (sorry, it is over-subscribed!). It will feature a NSW-based panel of experts, as well as actively engaging participants in responding to the recommendations of Professor Giles-Corti's review.

What's New on the HBEP Website?

New Planner column: The most recent Healthy Built Environments Column in *New Planner* stresses the fundamental interdependency of human survival on the health of global ecosystems. The column introduced the International Council for Science's (ICSU) new global interdisciplinary science program on health and wellbeing in the changing urban environment. This was discussed at the Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development immediately preceding Rio+20, where Strategic Consultant Tony Capon gave an invited presentation. Read the column [here](#). You can also access the full PDF of the [special June issue of New Planner](#) on healthy built environments. A big thank you to [Planning Institute of Australia's \(PIA\) NSW](#) Executive Officer and [HBEP Advisory Board](#) member, Ms Robin Vincin, for providing the PDF for everyone to read.

Andy Dannenberg's Lecture: You can now download Andy's great public lecture *Healthy Community Design and Active Transport* about HIA and healthy built environment initiatives in Nth America from our [website's e-learning resources](#).

HBEP Literature Review Fact Sheets: You can access the [HBEP Literature Review Fact Sheets](#) from our website! The Fact Sheets are a succinct version of key policy-relevant evidence from the HBEP Literature Review for busy professionals working in healthy built environments. If you are at an HBEP sponsored event in the near future, you will probably receive a copy!

Supported by



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w: <http://www.be.unsw.edu.au/programmes/healthy-built-environments-program/about>

CRICOS Provider Code: 000980