

From the Editor/Van die Redakteur

The responsibility for this journal arose from despair as nobody had indicated that they were prepared to perform this task. The motivation for this decision was that academics required a journal to present new developments in the field of Town and Regional Planning for publication. This leads to academic discussion and contributes to the publication of research results. The profession also requires a publication in which problems pertaining to planning theory, practice and policy can be debated and stimulated. Additionally such a journal must be accredited by the National Department of Education and a new journal takes about three years to be accredited. If it is not accredited articles are difficult to attract. The journal for Town and Regional Planning is still accredited and the Department of Urban and Regional Planning of the UOFS is continuing therewith under its registered title. The numbers are ordinal and include the number issued under the title of South African Planning Journal (No. 42, June 1997).

After only a few months of labour to produce this first edition it was realized that success would only be achieved if contributions were received from interested parties and hard work could make the journal a success. Stellenbosch are commended for excellent work performed over a number of years to enable publication of the journal. All readers are invited to present articles for publication in one of the categories of the journal. It depends on you how regularly the journal will be published, if enough material is available we would like to have at least two issues per year. You are also invited to comment on this issue.

During the Rio conference an agreement was signed to protect the bio-diversity of plant and animal species. In the same manner this journal strives to accommodate the diversity of views and approaches in the discipline. Furthermore, cultural diversity will also be extended through the multilingualism of the journal in which contributions in English, Afrikaans or any other of the official languages are published. In the event that your point of view or language is not sufficiently propagated, it is your responsibility to publish therein or thereon.

Without the assistance of a number of colleagues attached to universities, technicians and from the public as well as the private sector who evaluate articles free of charge, this publication could not be possible. We convey our sincere gratitude to them and other colleagues who have made the publication possible.

Die Departement Stads- en Streekbeplanning het uit nood die verantwoordelikheid vir hierdie tydskrif aanvaar nadat niemand aangedui het dat hul bereid is om die werk te doen nie. Die motivering hiervoor was dat akademië 'n tydskrif wat nuwe ontwikkelinge in die veld van Stads- en Streekbeplanning publiseer nodig het. Dit lei tot akademiese gesprek en help om navorsingsresultate te publiseer. Net so het die profesie ook 'n tydskrif nodig om die problematiek ten opsigte van beplanningsteorie, praktyk en beleid te debatteer en te stimuleer.

Verder moet sodanige tydskrif geakkrediteer wees by Nasionale Departement van Onderwys. 'n Nuwe tydskrif neem minstens drie jaar om die nodige akkreditasie te verkry. Indien dit nie geakkrediteer is nie, is dit moeilik om artikels te werf. Die tydskrif Stads- en Streekbeplanning is nog geakkrediteer en gaan ons gewoon voort daarmee onder die geregistreerde naam. Die nommers volg met insluiting van die uitgawe onder die naam South African Planning Journal (No. 42 Junie 1997).

Ons het na enkele maande se gespoek om hierdie eerste uitgawe te laat verskyn, besef dat alleen harde werk en die bydraes van alle belanghebbendes hierdie tydskrif 'n sukses sal maak. Ons dank Stellenbosch vir die onbaatsugtige werk wat hul vir jare gedoen het om die tydskrif te laat verskyn. Ons nooi alle lesers uit om in een of ander kategorie van die tydskrif te publiseer. Ons gaan poog om twee uitgawes per jaar te laat verskyn. Dit hang van u af hoe gereeld die tydskrif verskyn. Stuur gerus ook u kommentaar aan ons oor hierdie uitgawe.

Tydens die Rio-beraad is 'n ooreenkoms geteken om die biodiversiteit van plant- en dierspesies te bewaar. Net so poog hierdie tydskrif om die diversiteit van standpunte en benaderings in ons vakgebied te akkommodeer. Verder sal die kulturele verskeidenheid ook uitgebou word deur die meertaligheid van hierdie tydskrif wat bydraes in Afrikaans, Engels of enige ander amptelike taal sal publiseer. Indien u standpunt of taal nie voldoende aangespreek word nie, is dit u verantwoordelikheid om daarvoor én daarin te publiseer.

Sonder die medewerking van vele kollegas aan universiteite, tegniconas asook die openbare en die privaatsektor wat gratis artikels evalueer, sou hierdie publikasie nie moontlik gewees het nie. Ons dank hulle en ander medewerkers wat hierdie publikasie moontlik gemaak het.

Das Steyn