



As Chair of our newly branded society - The Sustainability Society - it gives me great pleasure to present the annual report for the year 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011.

Two feature events of the 2010-2011 year for The Society were the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference – Transitions to Sustainability. Held in December 2010 and the rebranding of NZSSES to The Sustainability Society in July this year.

The calibre of keynote speakers at the 2010 Conference was again of a very high standard with speakers like Arup's Peter Head, Hans Schreier, David Hood, and Darlene Schuster of the AiChE Institute of Sustainability. Other speakers included Martin O'Connor from REEDS in Paris, Roger Blakeley, Auckland Council, Sir Peter Cluckman Chief Science Advisor, and Maggie Lawton in addition to returning speakers, Ian Lowe, John Peet and Jorge Vanegas. The conference also presented 77 academic papers, of which ten papers were selected for publication in the International Journal for Sustainable Development due out shortly. A further ten papers are undergoing the same process for inclusion in a second special edition for late 2012. The conference attracted sponsorship from twelve organisations and businesses and was given significant media coverage, some of which can be viewed on our new look website. We thank the sponsors for their support and patronage.

All presentations from the conferences, forums and lectures are available on our website. I would urge you to take some time to look at it.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Winter Workshop Series, held in Auckland, Hamilton, Wellington and Christchurch, was presented by Professor Hans Schreier of the University of British Columbia. The topic was Water Resource Management and covered both

urban and rural water issues. The Society is proud to have been able to work in conjunction with Auckland Council to provide Professor Schrier as the keynote speaker to the June Auckland Conservations public meeting with the Mayor, Len Brown.

Three Friday Forums held in Auckland involving ten speakers attracted in excess of 350 people on topics including:

The Future of Buildings

Sustainability and the Spatial Plan for Auckland

Peak Oil – New Zealand’s response

A further forum on Peak Oil was presented in Christchurch. Two previously planned forums in Christchurch were cancelled as a result of the earthquakes.

The Society has worked in partnership with Auckland Council, IPENZ Auckland Branch and the University of Auckland and we thank them for their support in providing venues and speakers to achieve greater numbers attending these events.

In August an evening lecture was presented by Professor David Hood, then National Deputy President of Engineers Australia, *on Climate Change, Sustainability, and Your Business*. The event was video recorded and is available from our website.

A members and sponsors event was held in July in conjunction with the launch of our new name and new look. Two other member only events were held during the year and the Executive Committee met ten times.

During the year, as Chair I made a presentation to the ACHEMA International Congress on Sustainability Science and Engineering in Arizona in January and gave a keynote to the Asia Pacific Cities Summit in Brisbane in July.

In addition, one of our committee members, Caleb Clarke, attended the one day conference on Sustainable Economy for New Zealand in Wellington with David Suzuki as the opening speaker. Mark Smith attended the official launch of the Passive House Institute of New Zealand and Dr McDowall continues with presentations to St Cuthbert’s College.

Submissions were made to the Auckland Annual Plan and to the Auckland Plan-Auckland Unleashed, with a presentation to the Future Visions Committee on the need to use sustainability as the overarching policy from which all other policy decisions and actions emanate.

The 2010-2011 year was again a very busy and sometimes challenging year for us and the forthcoming year looks to be even busier.

I would like to especially thank the committee members for their work this year:

Deputy Chair Yasenko Krpo, CPG, and Treasurer, Ron McDowall, plus

Caleb Clarke, Morphum Environmental,

Sue-Ellen Fenelon, also of Morphum,

Dan Hikuroa, University of Auckland,

Mark Smith, Tse Architects,

Richard Taylor, Thomas Civil & Environmental Consultants,

and our Secretariat, Vicky, for keeping it all together. I thank you, the members for your support and loyalty and welcome the new members who have joined during the year.

Dr Carol Boyle

Chair

15 December 2011