Welcome!

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization Newsletter “CSU NEWS”. While the CSU has had an online presence for many years, we now want to give you more opportunities to share knowledge and information. We feel that this newsletter is the appropriate vehicle for this and hope that all will benefit from it.

Among our very active board and team members, we have an impressive list of CSU correspondents located around the world whom we have mobilized to share thoughts and activities pertaining to the CSU Mission both locally and globally. In addition, we will have regular columns written by our Board and CSU members, and this first edition has a special message from Advisory Board Chairman H.E. Dr. Talal Abu Ghazaleh. We are pleased that CSU Director of Programs, Ludivine Cornille, has accepted the invitation to serve as our newsletter editor.

The CSU has had a very busy season: we participated at the 68th Civil Society Conference in Salt Lake City; we co-organized a Conference on Public Space in the Digital Age at the UN in New York, and a Urban Thinkers Campus at Columbia University. We are actively working on our role at the upcoming WUF 10 in Abu Dhabi and planning programs for 2020-2021 in accordance with our theme “What will make it possible to absorb 3 billion people in cities in the next 25 years?” How can we, the combined communities and constituencies of the CSU, help to bring about and sustain the balance necessary to insure a healthy, happy, and resilient urban future.

Right now, we are looking forward to the spring. We are pleased to be honoring four outstanding individuals at our upcoming Second Gala on March 18, 2020 at the Century Association in New York: Shaun Donovan, the past Commissioner of the NYC Department of Housing, Preservation and Development and the 15th of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development; Helena Durst, of the Durst Organization; Alexandria Villaseñor,
the 14-year-old Founder of Earth Uprising; and Claire Weisz, FAIA, founding principal of WXY.

Please see our upcoming events for details and join us if you can! Once again, welcome to CSU!

Sincerely yours,

Lance Jay Brown

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**Message from**

H.E. Dr. Talal Abu Ghazaleh

Chairman & Founder of TAG Global

and Honorary Chairman of

CSU Advisory Board

It gives me great pleasure to welcome this first issue of the CSU News, an initiative that came out of discussions with CSU President, Professor Lance Jay Brown, and members of its Executive Committee last May.

I am equally pleased to note that CSU has now become CSU Global. This is an important step toward turning CSU Global into a truly professional organization with the goal of promoting sustainable urban development worldwide.  

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**Articles**

**New and Emerging Technologies for Smarter and Sustainable Cities**

*Sarbuland Khan, CSU Advisory Board Member*

Secretary General Guterres was so right in expressing his frank "disappointment” with the failure of world leaders to reach an agreement on how to move forward in meeting the challenge of the “climate crisis” at the 25th Annual Conference of Parties... 

**Rio de Janeiro's Sustainable Favela Network and Its Take on the SDGs**
Theresa Williamson, CSU Advisory Board Member
Rio de Janeiro's favela communities, over 1000 of them, provide shelter to some 24% of the city's population. Rather than perceive of these neighborhoods as a nuisance or temporary solution neither of which is based in objective fact. (read more)

Hope and Hazard in the Development of Pakistan’s Tourism Sector
Leylac Naqvi, CSU Correspondent Singapore and Pakistan
Somewhere between what seems to be near-universal excitement over the potential for growing Pakistan’s tourism sector and near-universal acknowledgement of the environmental degradation and other negative effects tourism can bring … (read more)

News from Mexico: Metropolitan Planning in Guadalajara
Antonieta Castro-Cosio, PhD. CSU Fellow
It will be interesting to follow the initiatives and lessons that emerge from this thriving city, which is also home to one of Mexico’s best-known industries, tequila, as well as an important technology and manufacturing sector… (read more)

A Workshop on Urban Resilience: Proposals for Ankara
Feyzan Erkip, CSU Correspondent Turkey
The concept of resilience became one of the recent academic interests of researchers working on urban issues as it provides the opportunity to discuss cities’ complexity in a holistic way… (read more)

News

The International Conference on Public Space in Transition, Cluj, Rumania. (read here)

The SDGs at Columbia University: A Day for Reckoning and Resolute Optimism. (read here)

Urban Machines: Public Space for a Digital Culture. (read here)

The Ratensky Lecture by James McCullar, recipient of the 2019 Thomas Jefferson Award. (read here)

Upcoming Events

CSU at WUF10, February 7-13, Abu Dhabi
CSU Gala 2020, March 18, New York City

CSU Inaugural TAG Lecture: Claire Weisz, March 19, New York City

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First Edition of CSU Newsletter

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