

REPORT ON FOOD SECURITY IN ASIA: AN OLD SHORT-SIGHTED STORY

Overview: Ditch traditional academic management and prefer openly coordinated strategic planning directions on shared lands and in related projects

This is a critique of the Sydney University report 'Food Security in Asia: A Report for Policy Makers', produced by the Centre for International Security Studies (CISS). The centre appears likely to be mainly driven by outdated professional theories and related narrowly specialist academic interests. This is shown in discussion of the report later.

Planning, on the other hand, ideally appeals openly to all in any relevant environment in which key strategic plans ideally coordinate the direction of operations for broadly shared social ends on common lands. This is discussed internationally, nationally, in NSW and in related Sydney Uni. and City of Sydney strategic planning contexts later.

The opportunities apparently presented by the Sydney Uni Strategic Plan and the Sports Union direction are addressed in ideally coordinated regional contexts, to assist service planning. Student services have been badly structured and managed with a big transfer of all student charges besides fees apparently going mainly to elite male sports. A threat is often best addressed as an opportunity and this is one to seize broadly, as discussed later.

The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) definition of food security is good for more openly planned, shared and effective regional management of lands and projects. Yet the CISS report rejects it, without presenting an alternative. The FAO states that:

Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life (p. 5).

The report states this definition is 'more expansive than simple supply and demand logic', as if that is a fault. It is a virtue which allows social, environmental and economic goals to be better designed and pursued in globally and regionally coordinated eco-development approaches. The FAO definition also supports the policy approach Hilmer sought for Australia, in National Competition Policy (1993), which was also supported by heads of government. He defined competition as, 'striving or potential striving of two or more persons or organizations against one another for the same or related objects (1993, p.2). This centrally challenged supply and demand professional logic, as discussed later.

Recommendations of 'Food Security in Asia' appear reasonable enough to carry out together on land or water which is ideally shared and managed more openly globally and locally. Check them out for related direction. However, the report **findings** appear driven by the usual sets of professional interests and assumptions which seek to ignore real production, its outcomes and effects in preference for endless theory driven word or number production. They thrive on it when tenured. This is discussed again later.

In regard to the presentation and findings of the report one wonders why central global health impact problems of the increasing production and sale of high fat, high sugar food and drinks, plus drugs, cars, guns, roads and what to do with waste have been ignored. Food security in Asia cannot be addressed well without addressing this market trajectory and any related waste management structures for plastic, land clearing and construction.

Regional and strategic plans are ideally coordinated by the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, instead of interests being professionally driven. The Convention describes the '*ecosystem*' approach as 'a strategy for the integrated management of *land, water and living resources* that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way'. As Australia operates in the Asian century, like Sen, we think 'human security' is the keyword to comprehensively seizing all menaces that threaten the survival, daily life, and dignity of humans, and for strengthening efforts to confront these threats. Support for the poor, freedom of speech and transparent management are essential for effective operation of markets and equality. Human health is ideally addressed in environment context.

The CISS report critique is thus followed by remedial discussion of film, research, education and development in communications, ideally designed to deliver more planned and openly shared approaches to investment and management of projects to protect the earth and its peoples. The National Human Rights Action Plan of China is also addressed later in related contexts which ideally start with shared protection and development of parks and endangered natural resources. See related discussion of eco-development plans in Wollongong and elsewhere on www.Carolodonnell.com.au

For warnings on how well meant projects can go wrong for many people, read Bob Connolly's 'Making Black Harvest' (2005) set in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. The book is about making a film which ends up being 'Black Harvest', on failure of a commercial coffee crop and on related tribal wars in the Papua New Guinea Highlands. The film makers appeared unavoidably implicated in these events by having money to give out in the course of filming community perceptions and dramatic events. Life is what happens when all in a project may appear fruitfully engaged on other plans.

However, the safer and more specialised the world gets for the wealthiest, the more anxiously we may face it. Connolly and Anderson's next film, 'Facing the Music', about the continuing failed integration of the management of Sydney Uni. Music Department and the Conservatorium of Music appeared to illustrate this. Standards need discussion openly entered into in global and regional contexts designed also to protect of those with least. Lord Mayor Clover More is leader and teacher to many of us in Sydney planning processes, through emails and letter box leaflets which encourage participation (as distinct from the donation norm). More lessons are drawn from Connolly's book later.

Risk and related fund management structures require stable, broadly conscious and open construction and monitoring of projects, so one wonders about current plans in regard to the earlier discussion in 2006 of the Threatened Species Conservation Amendment (Biodiversity Banking) Bill. According to debate in the Legislative Assembly, the intent of the bill was for landowners to be able to voluntarily establish a bio-banking site by

entering into a bio-banking agreement with the Minister for the Environment. In return for their commitment to manage and improve biodiversity values on their land they would get a number of biodiversity credits which they could sell. Paul Pearce, the member for Coogee, stated he had originally had concerns about the possible operation and impact of the scheme upon threatened and endangered species. The related high risk concept of ‘eco-system services’, commonly used by apparently key academics is addressed later.

In more openly and strategically planned approaches, also consider findings of the Inquiry into Construction Industry Insolvency in NSW about the reasons for project and company failure and the comparatively unfair nature of the management structures on those lower down many production chains. The following construction industry trust arrangements which appear useful for any related project management were suggested to the inquiry: (p. 63):

- The developer or owner has to have the funding for the project approved and money should be set aside in a trust
- A percentage amount for variations should be part of the trust arrangement
- As the builder makes claims, the owner and developer verifies that the work has been done and that payment to subcontractors and suppliers has been made before the next payment is made

Feudal concepts of trust and security depend on state sanctioned proliferation of secret associations with huge cost of breakdown at the expense of many beyond court. This state encouraged ignorance retards better expressed communication and development. More openly evidence based, empathetic approaches to trust are more consistent with democracy. They depend on producing evidence and comparing outcomes more broadly than professionally, to gain cheaper and better behaviour, services and goods.

There is confusion in the professional drivers of CISS direction which will be likely to be resolved in the interests of those professions with most power and money

As discussed later, policy making is ideally like ethics, it is everybody’s business and dependant on context, not purely on rule, so all may learn more openly together. However, at the CISS discussion on food security in Asia held at Sydney Uni, the architect of the original initiative, Alan Dupont, was like a man at war with himself. Midway through his presentation he appeared to make an epistemological break with himself and morphed from being an economist to something vaguely like a former soldier wanting to take up fishing. Should he be sent to do it in Wollongong? God knows.

As an economist, Dupont started by asking the question ‘How can we increase food production?’ Perhaps because the answer to increasing food production is so obviously ‘Keep doing what you’ve always done – rip up more forest, take more water, build more roads and kick the Bejesus out of anything living that might stand in your way’, Dupont put on his other hat for fishing, where he perhaps felt he could make more sense. He did. Christopher Baker’s more helpfully consistent emphasis on increasing local productivity, rather than increasing global production, is discussed in related regional contexts later.

Baker pointed out rural people often suffer (1) land tenure insecurity; (2) lack of access to markets and thus no incentives for production and (3) lack of technical capacity. A global tourism company like Intrepid has great assistance and development potential in this regional context and may be interested in related green projects. They have helpful and hard working guides and support some great African and other projects which could be developed more widely as models, such as in providing fresh local produce to more affluent hotels, which serve preservation of species by extending their parks and green heritage approaches. Planned and open approaches to shared management of sea, land and heritage projects are sought more broadly than Wollongong, for example in Nepal, Papua New Guinea or Samoa, etc. This is discussed later after addressing the report.

Findings of the report on food security in Asia ignore key problems of encouraging production of high fat, high sugar, highly processed foods, drinks, drugs and guns

The *recommendations* of Food Security in Asia appear reasonable to carry out together broadly. However, the report *findings* appear driven by the usual sets of professional interests and assumptions which seek to ignore real production and its effects - in favour of professional interests and related theoretical productions driven by markets. Thus the professional production of international and regional financial crises on one hand is linked to growing regulatory costs and more stupidly specialised red tape on the other.

Key *findings* of the Food Security in Asia report first address continuing rural to urban migrations. The shift in food consumption patterns is said to favour 'higher-valued agricultural products such as meat, dairy, eggs and horticultural products'. Surely the vague concept 'horticultural' products must be unpacked. The casual tourist sees the global impact of producers pushing high fat, high sugar, processed food, tobacco and drinks to hugely expanding populations where many wind up in towns or villages where they may live in big heaps of garbage, depending or not, on the ways of picking it up.

The processes of our daily ablutions, power, eliminations and communications are such mysteries to us at St James Court in Glebe that we have only just begun to think about it. What do those at the CISS know about pests or the disposal of bodily or green waste? What is the related water and energy potential of our current conditions, along with our neighbours? Why are solar energy products so seldom seen? How may comparatively simple and cheap green initiatives and inventions be used in land and other management approaches to reverse desertification and promote health globally and locally? In Sydney we appear most likely to find an effective operational direction from Lord Mayor Clover Moore and the strategic plans of other key institutions globally and locally. Her office emails and letter boxes us about key direction to assist whole community participation.

However, the key problems appear to be most closely faced by armies of workers unseen. To the extent that academic discourse is not open to a more grounded reality it is flawed. Many professional postures in the CISS report on food security in Asia thus appear likely to increase health care costs and destruction of the quality of life, driven mainly by the power of US and related markets. The US leads the pack in showing what this market trajectory of cheap, high sugar, high fat foods and drinks achieves in causing earlier death

and disability through heart disease, diabetes, dental decay, etc. The levels of child and adult obesity and mobility loss rise considerably with these favoured diets and cars. For producing armaments for trade and domestic purposes in killing the family - also go US. Why do academics ignore the rapacity of this norm? Have they no respect for evidence?

The CISS needs a broader management heart to attract more broadly shared and funded land and development visions. As discussed later, this seems to be a good time to try to assist global development of the National Human Rights Action Plan of China (as most of us in the West have done for years, mainly through US views on anti-discrimination.) A common US and Australian idea, is that Chinese leaders have never given any thought to human rights. Chinese leaders studied the US, French, Russian and other revolutions while conducting one in China. Our view is insular, ignorant, racist, insulting and wrong. We can correct it openly in well developed criticism and self criticism on TV, etc. US 'freedom' favours those supporting money, guns and cars against the rest. As one can refuse a breathalyser test one has rights to kill while driving drunk. Take UN approaches.

Historically, if one wants to employ the men most likely to make trouble in any society, war production is the favoured form. Bismark clearly showed the related industrial trend in 19th century Europe with the creation of the warfare/welfare state. The state insurance and welfare funds developed by Keynes were first used in supporting global war. The US inherited and continued the central European trend of growing populations for war, factory and consumer fodder while claiming to try to make the best available for all. As Latinos show in the US, one way of winning electoral power may also be to outbreed the competition. Creation of as many giant concrete buildings as possible, many of which may be useful for housing populations better, is the next big 20th century bet, along with more roads and cars. Instead of current market directions, planning ideally starts with the extension of parks and rare species protections, as distinct from creating deserts faster.

The US has by far the biggest war and domestic arms production machinery in the world and wants to sell products. China is the key banker to the US. China supports Australia through purchase of raw materials related to ongoing production of many giant concrete buildings and mass housing, often for former peasants or herders. To avoid key risks of the current unstable development trajectories and market cycles, now being addressed by many bodies like the G20, development approaches which openly seek to assist flexible implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan of China may also assist delivery of better planned goods in many regions. The plan was free in Sydney when I went to get a visa to visit China. It starts with the UN inspired Guarantee of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. These are first, the right to work and basic living conditions.

Social security, health, education, cultural and environment related rights follow next. Safeguarding farmers' rights and interests and disaster relief are also goals. Supporting structures for insurance and fund management require broadly conscious construction plus communication to improve work, education and research through eco-development.

Research and development should generally be driven by UN and related eco-development direction with focus on the quality of production in situ, in shared regional

planning and project development contexts. A shared vision is best expressed openly so educational discussion and debate upon merits may be produced so as to improve or to remain content. Written, film and audio recording ideally are vital clear communications. Many professions like law and finance, on the other hand, are geared to the proliferation of mystifying, counter-intuitive, expensive, secret communications or hiding in numbers.

The FAO definition of food security is fine and should not be mangled to suit the usual collections of the top professional and comparatively closed collegiate interest

The report writers claim another short-coming of the FAO definition of food security is that it 'overlooks those issues that play a critical role in defining, controlling and shaping food system activities, processes and outcomes' (p. 5). **The reverse is true because the FAO definition invites regionally based planning in which regional players openly conceptualize their primary existence, strategic and project goals in the interests of openly shared global environments designed for current and future generations.**

The operations of Sydney University and the operations of its parts, such as the Centre for International Security Studies, are ideally centred in the related call of the NSW Government Green Paper (July 2012), 'A new planning system for NSW' for more effectively coordinated strategic planning. It is hard to plan without revealing your hand. A Centre for International Security Studies ideally takes a leadership role in show and tell. However, it appears a poor start to wish to monkey with a great FAO definition.

It is a platitude not a research finding to state that 'a situation of food insecurity faced by hundreds of millions across Asia is often the outcome of inadequate or insufficient policy planning and poor governance at the local, national and regional levels' (p. 3). Describe and name its nature in situ with remedial alternatives for taking productive action.

Contrary to what the writers claim, an emphasis in researching food security is **NOT** likely to be misplaced if it is based on the study of food production and availability. This is the real world that people live in, work in and carve up pie in. They need a broadly supporting back story. A real global environment (not a protected theoretical one) is often a comparatively difficult, complicated, expensive, stupid, dangerous or nasty place. Those students or researchers who avoid facing the realities related to production may be part of the global problem if acting as expensively divorced, confusing, drones or worse.

The ideal quality focus of business and bureaucracy is to face real (as distinct from legal) problems and help sort them out. The problem of the academic researcher is that the career game is to get funds and students, rather than to solve a myriad of real problems. Research and other services are ideally constructed and compared in linked global and regional contexts. The report on Food Security in Asia has a professional interest focus.

One has no idea what the report writers prefer to the FAO definition of food security. In the absence of a clear common dictionary definition, matters will be much more likely to be left to multiple courts addressing related theoretical specialists. They are expensive and often use pre-scientific methods paid by the particular adversarial piper who legally

keeps and follows a client's secret interests. Judgment is thus increasingly legally based on narrowly driven legal secrets and related rule bound adversarial methods. Laws have seldom stated clear social aims with related definitions and practices, in ways which could also allow law to keep pace with the extension of scientific practice, rights and duties. Open practice up to broader, better, cheaper learning, monitoring, report and film.

Legal construction reflects instead the nature and settlement of secret disputes which have suddenly burst into the open. The procedure of courts is ideally to establish 'a fair fight between equals', but the practice supposedly to achieve even this is also feudally driven from the broader perspective of any public interest ideally perceived first in global terms and related regional plans, project aims and contracts aimed to meet them. Plans to address inequality, unequal treatment and related matters are best conducted in many related place based contexts, where it is also recognised that secrecy means ignorance for everybody else. More open, clearer practice is cheaper and more educational for all.

In regard to the CISS report one may also wonder about related professional concepts like '*eco-system services*'. Eadie and Hoisington's 'Stocking Up: Securing our marine economy' for the Centre for Policy Development at Sydney Uni. clings to the concept of 'eco-system services' (services the untapped natural world provides to people) and their measurement in speculative numbers which may become trading prices. The approach to 'yield' appears driven by market cunning most prudently thought of as sophisticated mainly in its lying and confusing intent. Knowledge of 'eco-system services' may be thought of as charmed knowledge to its related circles of professional beneficiaries.

How does any proposed biodiversity banking legislation and practice in NSW address such issues? I asked Christopher Baker about his CISS project goals and management accountabilities first, as one must know what one wants, and be able to monitor and question project implementation effectively, or one is more likely to be ripped off.

Take human rights and eco-development, communications, education and research directions forward with China in openly related global, regional and local projects

The report *Financing and Coordination* of the Consultative Expert Working Group on Research and Development of the WHO first notes health is 'one of the fundamental rights of every human being without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition' (p. 2). However, 'the incentive offered by intellectual property rights fails to be effective in correcting market failure' (p. 1). In 'Screw Business as Usual', Branson discusses how Victoria Hale realized on her way to a New York pharmaceutical conference that there is no vehicle to accept donated intellectual property to maximise its utility for assisting everybody (2011 p. 175). Take up broader, more open strategic directions in health and environment planning with Sydney Uni.

In this context, the ALRC/NHMRC report 'Essentially Yours: The protection of human genetic information in Australia' (2003) is also vital reading. On the other hand, as a writer of *Food Security in Asia: A Report for Policy Makers* also noted, 'Where the writ of the government is already weak, these trends may add to the problems of instability'.

One cannot plan where winning elections and related loot is the only plan. Having seen the destructive effects of 'democratic' elections in the poorest nations, and having also been through the effects of the latest global financial crisis, many of us know what poor government means and hopefully will not forget. We want planned and openly shared approaches starting globally with protection and outreach from parks to protect and enhance the potential of endangered and other species, to attract tourists and others.

Many UN and WHO definitions are well thought out and it is galling to see them changed on more recent professional whims which suckle long on the public teat. For example, in the Sydney Uni. faculty of health sciences, where I taught for eleven years, academics helped screw up holistic UN and WHO definitions of health by dreaming up crazy alternatives related to the concepts 'upstream' and 'downstream' practice they thought suited their professional interests better. See this, for example, in 'Understanding Health: A determinants Approach' (2004) from Oxford University Press. Many professionally driven theoretical interests which appear demonstrably rubbish easily become prescribed texts which are very far from cheap for students to purchase, thus adding insult to injury.

Open professionals up for more open debate. The old academics should also step down so others may live better, in more broadly and openly informed work communications instead. This may be done in pursuit of strategic plans, discussed later. Put them on TV for judgment. As a Sydney Alumni member I'd be happy to cooperate as I've spent my life trying to do it. Why hide the way forward? Check out www.Carolodonnell.com.au

After WW II, the Nuremberg trials produced a vital Code which expressed the new international awareness that narrowly driven views of scientific experiment may make total destruction as likely as improved wellbeing. The Nuremberg Code stated all those involved in research must be properly informed and have the power and moral responsibility for autonomous speech and decision. The first principle of the Code states:

The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential.
The duty and responsibility for ascertaining the quality of the consent rests upon each individual who initiates, directs or engages in the experiment. It is a personal duty and responsibility which may not be delegated to others with impunity.

Code principles should be applied in any broadly scientific approaches to individual or community management, as well as in medical experiments. Yet we remain manipulated in secret for many professional ends. Broader community education and open project management rather than professionally driven ethics committees are needed. The latter may narrowly produce costly red tape which misses many central issues of production. Communication, education and research are ideally pursued in related media contexts.

The WHO definition of sexual health appeared capable of uniting those of many religious faiths as well as those seeking to stand for broadly secular community interests, when described by Nutbeam and Blakey, in the journal Health Promotion International, 5; 1990, as:

'the integration of physical, emotional, intellectual and social aspects of sexuality in a way that positively enriches and promotes personality, communication and love'.

This definition appears a mechanism for uniting many in more broadly shared and openly connected ranges of simple, healthy, useful, informative, entertaining, cheap, action, service and learning. The directions and processes initiated purely from professional interests have major costs partly as their ideas are comparatively bottled up and hidden.

A discussion paper on the protection of human genetic information by the Australian Law Reform Commission and the National Health and Medical Research Council (2003) concluded ethical inquiry is consistent with scientific inquiry, as it is centrally concerned with the kind of procedures or discussions that allow all relevant sources of information and viewpoints on a disputed matter to be taken into account in coming to a decision.

Ethical judgment, like scientific inquiry, is ideally an ongoing activity for all, since community life is continually developing, along with knowledge and related conceptions of truth. This inclusive approach to ethical judgment also requires greater recognition of the need for informed participation of communities in service design and provision. It also requires educational approaches which recognize the subjectivity of all, including that of researchers who prefer to pretend to be beings above all the frays gripping others.

In response to a recent question from a Salt representative, on PBS Newshour, 'Why would you take this job and take any less than a man would take?' let me boil it down in a few hundred hours or at \$1 AUD per Powerpoint – her choice. Insurance! Ben's father told him plastics – what a jerk. Let them take the mobile phones and weekend or all-night emergencies for a start, as I used to say to the guys in the state public service. I would be useless there anyway, for I have no such skills. Let's talk about the virtual you and I instead, along with de-identified data. How useful for treatment is that? It seems a waste. Danielle may or may not be a black snob and she certainly seems prepared to demand those grades but she looks as if she may be too fat to do the practical work to me. Am I wrong? Help her find her own way out. Many mobility issues must be addressed effectively in relation to managing the National Disability Insurance Scheme well.

However, a moral of the book 'Making Black Harvest', may be that plans, especially in foreign cultures, may be fraught with dangerously ingrained cultural misunderstandings and related goals which may be fuelled by anybody's money. Perhaps the film-makers might best have filmed football or preparations for the ceremony of the 'Kor' and related cultural activities instead, rather than tribal wars which happened partly through vagaries of international coffee prices on the Highlanders' crop. Communication is ideally understood and treated in related environment contexts. This is naturally easier to state with hindsight. Perhaps have another go as discussed again with hindsight later.

Much Australian government policy appears to support development of an internationally planned approach to health and sustainability, at least at the level of government and related service ideology, if not in its professionally driven conceptions of appropriate

research development and ethics. The latter appear, as usual, far too narrowly driven by the traditional professional incentives for occupational closure and advancement, often in secret. More broadly planned and effectively coordinated practical approaches to service in Australia are necessary, to support nationally planned approaches to health service delivery, health promotion and sustainable development which we sincerely hope are capable of emerging better in many regional community contexts and internationally.

Locally, for example, at St James Court where I live in one of eighteen town houses, an owner wants the body corporate to pay for a phone land line, which Telstra previously ripped out, leaving a big mess for the body corporate. On the body corporate executive we wonder how the related national broadband roll-out debate, which questions whether fibre should go to the street node or to the individual house, may be ideally related to individual and collective situations. I have a phone land line. As I understand the situation, Telstra hates phone land lines because they depend on copper wire which Telstra wants to get rid of and others may wish to sell, in the name primarily of bringing faster speeds to all. However, to put broadband fibre to our houses may involve horrendous digging up of everything we hold dear. Recent broadband discussion on Business Sunday appeared to overlook the end user. What to do?

Starting at home and Sydney Uni. because I used to work there and live in Glebe

Whatever one's background, it is ideally a source of learning and wonder. Along with the multiple choice questions supposed to test some specified theory and knowledge, rather than practice, it has become fashionable to see questions regarding a person's background as rude and possibly being a source of unfair 'stereotyping'. Insurance, on the other hand, is ideally about category and related probability assessment. We need knowledge of ourselves and others in situ to develop effectively together. Neither can trust be effectively based on secrecy. In God or in love we trust, all others bring data. Those encouraged not to face apparent truth also appear likely to be the victims of lies.

Sydney Uni and others should work more effectively and broadly with all media to meet its scholarly obligations and pursuits. Do not let good newspapers die as journalism still appears as the principle historic foundation for democracy. Resilience and development of understanding of the other also depend upon being safely exposed to ideas, whatever they may be. The program 'Insight' on SBS TV and Sydney Ideas have provided excellent forums to assist public inquiry and related development direction. The alternative is much more narrowly and secretly focused and censorious fear or anxiety. This may be met by resentment or medical allocation of diagnoses, legal drugs and blame which may also result from ignorance of past historical views or constraints. Knowing a little about history, one fears cultural amnesia, much more than one fears dementia.

Because they are often primarily established to serve the interests of academic and professional colleges and those also dependant upon their continuing maintenance, university and Student Union communications are poorly organized in terms of saving students money or helping them get work, accommodation, garages, books or any related assistance in this very expensive city of Sydney so many appear to have to inhabit. For example, check out the long list of books students have to buy for Health Science, Exercise Science/Human Movement and Medical Imaging. This is on top of huge

mandated course fees. Some of the problems and related costs of comparatively dysfunctional, mandatory, closed, self-perpetuating professional shops on top of giant fees are discussed later to gain more integrated and broadly service oriented structures.

The National Union of Students has come up with an unhelpful questionnaire based on a survey on the Student Services and Amenities Fee (SAFF). It apparently shows Sydney Uni. topped a league table rating universities on their use of this student fee 'dedicated to improving campus life and providing student services'. This means Sydney Uni. collected most money from students on top of its giant fees. In 2012 the SSAF collected around \$9.3 million from all the students at Sydney Uni., where women students now predominate. The overall gym attendance, on the other hand, appears tiny comparatively speaking and largely male. In 2012 Sydney Uni. Sports and Fitness got \$3.1 million, a third of the SSAF total. Is this balanced budgeting? I shouldn't think so. Budgets need to be shaped more fairly to support all students' interests. This can also be undertaken through better coordinated implementation of Sydney Uni. and other strategic plans.

Sydney Uni. Plan Strategy 14 is to 'develop, coordinate and implement a university-wide framework for local and rural community engagement'. Local and rural community engagement will be much broader and more effective if related skills and services can be openly engaged outside the institution as recommended and necessary. Strategy 14 © is to 'identify a sustainable number of projects that include opportunities for education and research activities (in consultation with external groups) that will directly engage local residents, students, staff and alumni'. Strategy 15 is 'to deepen our engagement with a supportive network of alumni and friends'. 15c. is to develop a university-wide volunteer program including recruitment management, training and recognition for volunteers.

Alumni action to openly assist development of this direction is discussed later. The Sydney Uni. Sports and Fitness mission is to be the leading provider for University-based sport, fitness and recreation services in the Asia-Pacific region. However, I guess that's largely code for men's college football, cricket or athletics. The current SAFF allocation does not serve key goals of the 2013 SAFF allocation proposal such as enhancing the capacity of the University's independent student-run organizations. Transfer funds to get fairer and more effective implementation of strategic plans to help students and others.

The Harvard Library Director wrote in 'Harvard backs open access to cut journal bill' (AFR, 30.4.12):

We all face the same paradox. We faculty do the research, write the papers, referee papers by other researchers, serve on editorial boards, all for free.....and then we buy back the results of our labour at outrageous prices (p. 30).

Margaret Thornton's UK publisher charges 85 pounds for her book in hard cover and 75 pounds to buy the e-book. Who is going to pay so much money for a pig in a poke, with the exception of the captive student who buys another prescribed text? On the other hand, one wonders how any serious film makers in NSW will ever make a living.

Morris panned Thornton's book 'Privatizing Public Education: The Case of Law', which apparently mourns the replacement of direct state funding of higher education from general taxation by systems of deferred student payment which has also encouraged commercial discourse to infuse every aspect of life in law schools. Morris indicates that Thornton's book voices the discontent of practicing legal academics in 40 law schools where 'learner earners' apparently 'choose educational products by reference to the reputation of a university, rather than by judgments about what they might learn'.

Morris makes the obvious point that 'If we want to maintain the public university, perhaps we need to find ways to let the public into the comment and critique'. An obvious way is to help people to give each other more information, filmed action, related debate and more open certification of practice which is relevant for daily living and working, rather than having media that is overwhelmingly driven by advertising and related financial, commercial and professional interests. The University of Sydney White Paper states the Sydney University Senior Executive Group:

....will agree with the divisions what, if any, learning and teaching resources should be developed on a university-wide basis for example to meet the needs of particular groups such as international students (p.30)

What does anybody suggest? How is it done? How are film, radio, etc. best supported?

Learning from Bob Connolly's book 'Making Black Harvest' (2005) and others

Greenpeace has a campaign about deforestation and certification of wood on its website with pictures from Papua New Guinea, although what is recommended in this regard is incomprehensible to me. With hindsight, however, it seems Bob Connolly and Robin Anderson should have made a film about what more key people in the Highland community besides Joe Leahy wanted, rather than planning to make a film mainly on the commercial coffee crop venture, which then failed for many of the usual reasons, global and local, with disastrous consequences for many involved. We all appear as simple folk, not much brighter than Victoria Treole at the Australian Film Commission, who wrote of an earlier film made by Connolly and Anderson, 'Joe Leahy's Neighbours':

Despite its excellence, the film's extensive subtitling militates against its broad appeal. (Connolly 2005, p. 113)

The woman seems crazy. What kind of documentary film, one wonders, does she favour? SBS TV was set up to assist with translations in languages often needed and used all over the world. It should be the jewel in the Australian crown and they trash it as usual instead of building something lovely and valuable to please many people, including those of the book. Communications direction ideally should support film and many related community ventures. Wagaba, on the other hand, was so angry when the film makers chose his younger brother, Thomas Thyme, to be their translator, that he hit Connolly then punched his own mother in the face much harder. To avoid further trouble from the angry man the film makers were persuaded to buy him off with a present of 100 kina.

Joe Leahy's brother, Popina, who regretted that he could not read and write in English, wanted to organize the performance of the Kor, at which thousands would be expected to gather in four months time, after having decorated themselves. Proposed preparation involved clearing the ground getting decorations ready, bringing out the drums and practicing dances for three months before finally getting all the pigs together in order to perform the Kor in the fourth month. (One may perhaps think of the Australian Schools Spectacular, a festival of singing, music and dancing organized by teachers for ABC TV, or of the related benefits of the performance for tourists. Football takes care of itself?)

George Pindipia, who could read and write well in English as well as keeping good accounts, also sent the filmmakers a present of bananas from his wife and asked for 4 or 5 kinas for seedlings and fertilizer to add to the cleared area made beside his newly planted cabbages and potatoes. He also offered them a share of the produce in four months time. Developments proposed by Popina and George appear more likely to meet the health and welfare needs of locals and international tourists more effectively than would the normal commercial developments in plantations under the normal global and local constraints.

Put this direction to a man like Vijay Lama in Nepal. You can see him speaking to Dianna Kenny from Sydney Uni. if you Google her. Dianna has been closely involved since 2002 in developing and maintaining aid to 25 villages in Nepal through a self-sustaining village focus. This begins with school development committees and related village scholarship programs for gifted children. Related small scale rural development is encouraged for the schools and the village, including the operation of savings and credit schemes. Vijay Lama appears obliquely to suggest that if you ever go to someone else's country you may also be putty in their hands. Bob Connolly may know the feeling.

Sydney Uni. can be organized and managed much better to help the organization, students, the Alumni and related communities get jobs and to shift or keep them. Openly implementing, as distinct from ignoring key strategic plans is the ideal joint solution.

Cheers, Carol O'Donnell

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