Arendt as Educator

His more than 1000 workshops and conference presentations across this country and Canada inspired and educated a generation of government, industry and civic leaders as well as design and development professionals.



In a Variety of Classrooms, both Formal and Informal

When asked as to his profession. Arendt sometimes replies that he is involved with Adult Education. As he puts it, rather than teaching English as a foreign language to immigrants, he teaches planning as a foreign concept to local government officials, who often equate zoning with planning, and whose design vocabularies are nearly as limited as the English vocabularies of many newcomers to this country.

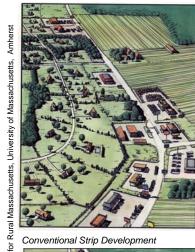
Arendt's role as an educator spans a very wide range of activities. He has taught traditional university courses in his role as Adjunct Professor within the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at the University of Massachusetts. He has guest-lectured at major universities across the continent (listed in the sidebar on p. 4), the most recent being delivering the 2003 Isadore Candeub Lecture at the Edward Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University. He has taught Continuing Education courses for various land-related professions in a number of states, including land surveyors in

Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, and realtors in Delaware and Maryland. And he has led or participated in special courses regularly offered by the Urban Land Institute ("The Practice of **Environmentally Sensitive** Development" series) and the National Trust for Historic Preservation (the "Your Town" series). For the ULI, he is one of three permanent co-instructors for this intensive two-day course for professional planners, developers, and local officials. In January 2003 that course went online in a new distancelearning initiative of the ULI, as a supplement to their traditional "inperson" courses. And he was selected to be a Lecture Fellow at the Bloedell Reserve, Bainbridge Island, WA, where he delivered the Virginia Merrill **Bloedell Memorial Lecture** entitled "The Declining Quality in the Experience of Landscape" in 1992.

His educational outreach efforts also extend to writing articles for national publications (often responding to publishers' requests) in diverse periodicals such as Land Development (NAHB), the Journal of the American Planning Association, Civil Engineering News, Landscape and Urban Planning, the Planning Commissioners' Journal, American Farmland, and Environment & Development. In addition, Arendt has published on-line for Terrain magazine www.terrain.org/articles/7/a rendt.htm).



Before Development



Conventional Strip Development

Center

Dealing With Change in the Connecticut River Valley,



Creative Development With Commercial Clusters

Workshop Presentations

Since 1989, Arendt has conducted over 1000 workshop presentations in 46 states and five Canadian provinces to a large variety of sponsoring groups, but principally involving municipal, county, and state planning organizations, but also including such diverse groups as homebuilder associations, engineering societies, conservation land trusts, realtors, and environmental agencies.

He has also been a featured speaker at conferences of national organizations, including the American Planning Association, the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Urban Land Institute, the American Farmland Trust, the Land Trust Alliance, the National Association of Counties, the National Association of Towns and Townships, the National Association of Home Builders, and the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

It should be noted that, in conferring Fellowship on Arendt last year, the Royal Town Planning Institute specifically referenced his tireless efforts to bring better information to local boards and commissions. In its news release, the Institute noted that "two elements of his work are of particular distinction:

- His creative response to the limitations presented by the planning and landowner rights frameworks of the New England states; and
- His extensive commitment to promotion and dissemination in an environment dominated by relatively small communities, many with limited access to professional planning support"

Description of Workshop and Hands-On Design Exercise

Using a dual-image slide show for comparison and contrast, Arendt's workshop session presents a practical, easy-to-use technique that enables developers and local officials to work together to accomplish their different objectives, namely the construction of full-density residential subdivisions (developers' goal) in such a way that helps to build a community-wide network of permanent conservation land (officials' goal).

This program is extensively illustrated with numerous financially successful examples of "conservation subdivision design", together with a straight-forward four-step methodology of laying out residential developments around the central organizing principle of open

space conservation. Developments of this nature are "twice green" simultaneously achieving both economic and environmental goals.

Together with the varied examples of conservation subdivisions that have been designed, proposed, reviewed, ap-

proved, financed, built, sold, and lived in, this program describes a simple four-step design process through which this kind of development can be easily laid out. In addition to illustrating several case studies in which this four-step process has been successfully followed, the program describes some additional design enhancements that improve marketability and bottom-line profitability (through lot premiums and faster absorption).

Lastly, the program describes how this design process can fit into the local regulatory framework through specific provisions in comprehensive plans, zoning ordinances, and subdivision regulations. As each conservation subdivision is completed, another link in the community-wide network of open lands is expanded until, ultimately, an interconnected network of conservation areas is preserved.

"The local newspapers and e-mail have been buzzing ever since your inspired commentary. Thank you for being such a key contributor to the success of our gathering in Coeur d'Alene."

- Prof. Wendy McClure, Dept. of Architecture, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID



"He has worked collaboratively with me, our other consultants, and more than 200 community leaders and planning officials in Cattaraugus County through workshops ... on open space conservation, subdivision design, and rural planning, a Visual Preference Survey, and our "Saving Our Villages" initiative to bring new ideas into older, declining villages... Randall Arendt's work with us has been exceptional."

- Terry Martin, Cattaraugus County NY Department of Economic Development, Planning & Tourism "Your visit with us served as a vital catalyst in the reformulation of our master plan. You have launched us into a new planning orbit."

-- Richard Hull, Sugar Loaf Community Foundation, Sugar Loaf, NY

This workshop also contains a segment describing how these principles can be applied to higher-density infill projects in serviced locations, and in situations involving incremental growth around the community's outer edges. This part of the program showcases the design insights provided by the New Urbanist movement, which takes a more formal, mixed-use approach to creating compact development in areas with utility connections -- complementing conservation design that is typically applied in more outlying areas.

Examples of communities that have preserved hundreds (sometimes thousands) of acres of open space within a five-year period without spending a dollar of public money are cited, all involving situations where developers have achieved their full density objectives at a lower production cost, and where the original equity of landowners has not been disturbed.

For instance, the planning approach advocated in Arendt's Growing Greener program has conserved more than 500 acres of prime farmland in a single township (Lower Makefield, Bucks, County, PA) in just five years, and that figure continues to rise as new conservation subdivisions are proposed and approved. At an average land value of \$7,000 per acre, this represents approximately \$3.5 million worth of conservation, achieved without spending public funds, without controversial down-zoning, and without complicated density transfers (TDRs). A similar peracre saving has also occurred in Hamburg Township, Livingston County, Michigan, where more than 1,500 acres of land have been protected through conservation subdivision design over the last ten years. And 2,000 acres have also been saved through this same technique in Calvert County, Maryland during the first two years of the new land-use techniques. The combined value of those lands is in the



Commerce group told developments should reflect community's character

neighborhood of \$15 million, which makes this technique probably one of the most cost-effective planning tools available to growing communities on the metro edge.

Optional Workshop: Hands-On Design Exercise

As a follow-up to the slide lecture, Arendt offers a participatory workshop to provide conference attendees with an opportunity to learn first-hand how to design a subdivision around the special



features of any given property. This workshop gives everyone the chance to internalize what they have seen and heard during the previous slide lecture by applying the four-step design process to a real parcel of land, selecting house sites in relation to the preidentified conservation areas, aligning streets and trails, and finally drawing in the lot lines. Participants typically say that this exercise really helps them understand exactly how the conservation design principles illustrated in the slides actually work on a piece of ground, and makes the lecture even more meaningful. It is especially recommended for those without a background in creative design, such as local officials, architects, engineers, surveyors, and most land-use planners.

Praise From Workshop Sponsors

"Thank you so much for your contribution to the Your Town workshop -- and what a contribution it was! We witnessed a remarkable difference in the workshop participants after your presentation."

-- Lisa Vogel, University of Georgia School of Environmental Design, Athens, GA

"The evening workshop was such a success that we are already seeing results. On Friday a developer came into our office and said: 'I want to redesign my subdivision using principles that Randall Arendt talked about at the lecture last night."

-- Karen High, Jefferson County Dept. of Planning and Environmental Management, Louisville, KY

"Your ideas will have a lasting impact on the town. Already one developer is proposing to devote part of a major project to an extremely creative cluster design."

-- Benjamin Frost, Town Planner, Kittery, ME

Teaching, Lectures and Workshops

Arendt taught the Advanced Rural Planning in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts, between 1988 and 1990, while also serving as Director and Planning and Research at the Center for Rural Massachusetts:

Advanced Rural Planning was a course for second-year postgraduate students covering a variety of approaches to planning and development controls relating to farmland preservation, natural resource area protection, preventing and rehabilitating highway commercial ribbon development, affordable housing, river corridor conservation, etc.

In addition, he also taught the following "studio courses", supervising teams of postgraduate students working with individual communities to help them address and solve vexing land-use problems:

- Route 6 Corridor Management for Eastham and Wellfleet, Massachusetts
- Innovative Planning Techniques for Barre, Massachusetts
- Open Space Zoning for Williamsburg, Massachusetts
- Farmland Preservation for Hadley, Massachusetts



Towns can save rural character, expert says

- Route 7 Zoning for Great Barrington, Massachusetts
- The Practice of Environmentally Sensitive Development, an ongoing course sponsored by the Urban Land Institute (ULI), and conducted in major cities around the country, three times per annum. Arendt is one of three permanent co-instructors for this intensive two-day course for professional planners, designers, developers, and local officials
- Continuing Education course in conservation subdivision design, provided to the State Associations of Realtors in Delaware and Pennsylvania, and to surveyors in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin.

Awards

- APA New England Chapter Outstanding Planning Program Award, 1989
- ASLA Professional Award, 1988
 - For "Smart Development for Quality Communities"
- New York State Governor's Quality Communities Award for Excellence, 2002
- Livable Community Award, Partners for a Livable Western New York, 2002
 - For "Dealing with Change in the Connecticut River Valley"
- Boston Society of Architects Award, 1990
- National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1989 Preservation Honor Award

University Speaking Engagements

University of California (Berkeley), Princeton University, Cornell University (Ithaca, NY), Brown University (Providence, RI), Bates College (Lewiston, ME), University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), Pennsylvania State University (State College, PA), University of Virginia (Charlottesville), University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill), Purdue University (Indiana), Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond), North Carolina State University (Raleigh), Appalachian State University (Boone, NC), University of Pittsburgh (Pennsylvania), University of Massachusetts (Amherst), University of Connecticut (Storrs), University of Rhode Island (Kingston), University of Maine (Portland and Orono), Antioch College (New Hampshire), Oberlin College (Oberlin, OH), Ohio State University (Columbus), Kenyon College (Gambier, Ohio), Utah State University (Logan), Arizona State University (Tempe), University of Montana (Bozeman), University of Idaho (Moscow), University of Montana (Bozeman), University of Washington (Bellingham), University of Eastern Washington (Spokane), University of Kentucky (Lexington), University of Kansas (Lawrence), Kansas State University (Manhattan), Texas A&M University (College Station), Stephen F. Austin University (Nacogdoches, TX), University of Florida (Miami, Gainesville, and Tampa), Clemson University (South Carolina), University of Georgia (Athens), Washington & Lee University (Virginia), University of Kentucky (Lexington), Northern IL School of Law, Michigan State University (East Lansing), Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo) University of Wisconsin (Madison and River Falls), Dalhousie University (Halifax, Nova Scotia), Guelph University (Ontario), Trent University (Ontario).