

INVITATION to

“WORKING COURAGEOUSLY WITH STAKEHOLDERS”

A Master Class with Bruce Glavovic,

Associate Professor,

Resource & Environmental Planning Programme,

Massey University

TALL POPPIES



When: 9.30am – 12.30pm, Wednesday August 13th, 2003

Where: Tall Poppies, Ground Floor, St John House, 114 The Terrace, Wellington

Cost: \$300 plus GST, An invoice will be sent on confirmation of registration.

RSVP: To Steph on 04 385 3838 or e-mail steph@tallpoppies.co.nz by Wednesday July 30th, 2003

Have you ever set out enthusiastically to consult stakeholders on an important issue, but afterwards wondered if it was worth the effort?

Have you ever had the 'irreverent' thought that stakeholder consultation is a hindrance to effective decision-making?

Do you long for simple guidelines to make the task of working with stakeholders easier?

Explore these vexing issues with Bruce, drawing on his experience in designing and managing participatory processes in South Africa.

Picture the setting: *South Africa in the early to mid-1990s, when the promise of democracy was emerging from the ashes of apartheid, but levels of uncertainty, mistrust, bitterness, and anxiety were at a height.*

Imagine the challenge: *Design a process that enables all South Africans to participate in the formulation of a coastal policy for the country. But how on earth could one get the apartheid Government, liberation organisations, community based organisations, environmental NGOs, business, labour and others to work together on the obscure issue of coastal management?*

Reflect on the experience: *By the end of the 1990s, a consensus based coastal policy was enshrined as Government policy, with unprecedented stakeholder support. If negotiation, public deliberation and collaboration can be demonstrated to have made a difference in South Africa, with its history of conflict, deep poverty and inequality, surely the potential exists for a transformational practice of consensus building to work in other settings?*

Tall Poppies are thrilled to have Bruce join our master class series. Meet with Bruce and hear about his experiences in working with stakeholders to forge new sustainability partnerships. Engage with him in deep questions and discussion on the challenges and opportunities you face in working more courageously with stakeholders.

Master's Profile

Bruce has a multi-disciplinary education, with degrees in agricultural economics, environmental science, and urban and environmental planning, and nearly 20 years of work experience in private consulting, Government and academia. He joined Massey University in 2002. He is currently a member of the Steering Committee of the Sustainable Development Forum initiated under the auspices of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Bruce seeks to translate sustainability rhetoric into practical action. A particular focus of his work is advancing knowledge and understanding about the theoretical and practical aspects of participatory process design and management. He draws on experience in North America, mainly through his work over a five-year period with the Institute for Environmental Negotiation at the University of Virginia. This included completing his PhD dissertation on the role of dialogue, negotiation and collaboration in advancing sustainability, as well as teaching, research and third party interventions in participatory processes and resolving environmental disputes.

More recently, from 1996 to 2001, he was a founding partner in a consulting organisation that was responsible for designing and managing a wide range of participatory and conflict resolution processes in South Africa. He was responsible for leading and managing these processes in consulting projects ranging from the formulation of a national policy to manage South Africa's coast, to conducting the Strategic Environmental Assessment of Cape Town's Bid to host the 2004 Olympic Games, to a wide variety of project-specific environmental impact assessment projects. Much of this work was centred on facilitating dialogue and building consensus amongst people with a wide range of interests, including decision-makers at the highest levels of Government, business leaders, non-governmental and community-based organisations, academics and citizens from many walks of life.

Bruce has been called upon to review a variety of participatory and conflict resolution processes in South Africa, and has taught on these subjects at several universities in the U.S.A. and South Africa. He has travelled extensively in southern Africa and North America.

Bruce and his wife Janine and two kids, Christopher and Julia, have adjusted well to life in the 'Metropolis of Palmie'. They are enjoying the opportunity to live in New Zealand, with its rich natural and cultural history presenting a life-time of learning and new experiences. Other than the outcome of the 1995 Rugby World Cup, Bruce prefers not to talk about rugby ...