

**SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE ECONOMICS REFERENCES COMMITTEE
INQUIRY INTO INNOVATION; ALSO ANSWERING QUESTIONS OF THE
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT COMPETITION POLICY REVIEW**

This is the interpretation Freud naturally intended. (Joke, Joyce). God's preference looks grim.

Kisses to Santa and the boys. Call in Frank and Tony. Cheers,

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This submission is to the Senate Economics References Committee Inquiry into Australia's Innovation System and also to the Australian Government Competition Policy Review in answer to some of its related questions. The Senate Committee calls for submissions into '**challenges to Australian industries and jobs posed by increasing global competition in innovation, science, engineering, research and education**'. (Strange categories indeed.) Innovation is a vague, deracinated and comparatively meaningless concept like 'social change'. To make sensible decisions about the ideal or real nature and quality of any proposed or actual practice, consideration must also be given to the aims and effects of actions in historically related environments and social contexts. Thanks to all reliable communications, these can increasingly be made visible and addressed globally and locally. (Say good-bye first to rich, secretive, confusing, lying persons, especially if they are old.)

The Senate Committee apparently also seeks policy options to: '**attract, train and retain a research and innovation workforce; develop research pathways; ensure strategic international engagement; and support emerging industries**'. This requires support for regional and strategic planning approaches based on ideal national, UN and related local directions which are not narrowly and professionally closed and led. Let open regional planning and competition serve the people. This is the global planning path begun with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which Australia has tried to follow through considering a range of Conventions for legal implementation.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang has said that reform will hurt vested interests but the interests of the vast population are the top priority of the government. He states he is ready to cut through the vested interests to carry out the much needed changes. (Australian Financial Review (AFR) 2.5.14, 5R). Why wouldn't you always seek help in the open trusting it is the cheapest way to do it? (This is a Pascalian wager with or without openly hedging your bets.)

From this ideal planning perspective which has been globally, nationally and regionally led in Australian states, the Senate Committee should not only '*consider the need to attract investment in innovation to secure high skill, high wage, jobs and industries,*' when there are so many old, disabled, unemployed and underemployed people who would appreciate more assistance. These include artists, writers, musicians, former or current business people, academics, teachers, journalists or others who may welcome simpler, less stressful, cheaper and more effective service. This is also why many people cohabit or marry. Find those who may be seeking and put them together more effectively so that trust may be based on broader, better organized evidence. Ways of doing this are discussed later, using the example of Sydney University in recent budget contexts. (See attached budget analysis.)

And so to the first Competition Policy Review Question, which is:

Q. What should be the priorities for a competition policy reform agenda to ensure that efficient businesses, large or small, can compete effectively and drive growth in productivity and living standards?

A. Think of Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, keynote speaker at the last Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), who pointed out reform of local government must begin with the recognition that the 'three Rs' of *roads, rates, and rubbish* are a limited aspect of the fundamental council role *which is about creating attractive, prosperous, healthy and safe communities; places where people want to live, work and do business*'. Consider the related state and local planning directions beyond which universities and business reach.

Relationships between urban and rural planning are ideally seen in openly related global, regional and local planning contexts. Think globally and plan regionally, strategically and openly to improve quality of life in the light of shared UN direction. Living standards are ideally conceptualised more openly and broadly as quality of life, which is social and environmental, as well as measured on price and some apparently unrealistic expectations of comparatively short term economic return. This is a global economy. Follow the lead of Barack Obama and investigate Veterans Affairs and Defence Housing Australia. Ideally we are over only caring about what happened to soldiers. If they were neglected when they came home from the Vietnam War they were lucky in my case. Rightly or wrongly, it is offensive to many to rewrite a partial history. If you glorify the return of soldiers what do you think of the people and lands they destroyed?

The professions, on the other hand, would have us believe the only way is up, until we are all amazed, apparently, by the sudden trip to the bottom of financial cycles. Australians have historically been shown to be an inquisitive, fun loving, honest, capable and risk averse people who also value their security and wellbeing for themselves and for future generations highly. Give them a go and stop making them pretend they believe in a lot of US crap for a good living.

Design funds openly, clearly and rationally in the interests of the key stakeholders, who are also the fund beneficiaries. These are the people for whom the fund has been established and the people who fund its purpose. Let others compete if they will on an open level playing field. (Play up, play up and play the game, etc.) Poets Corner Medical Centre at Redfern along with Alfred Imaging and Stater and Gordon, who seek to maximise your compensation, are addressed in related contexts later. What do you think they are doing? Any idea if it all makes any sense?

This submission and the budget discussions attached argue for support of regional and strategic planning before collegiate cultures, in openly multicultural approaches based on global and national directions. This is also the answer to Chief Scientist, Professor Chubb, who lamented the lack of a policy or strategy setting out the vision for the future, and how science and innovation could help achieve that. According to the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH 3.6.14, p. 9) he said:

You don't go out and buy your bricks before you know what kind of house you're going to build

This is true. The proposed biosecurity Framework of the Department of Primary Industries seeks to be a basis for the NSW Biosecurity Act which will apparently seek to protect our economy, environment and community better from animal and plant pests and diseases, weeds and contaminants. I guess they will need to be told this planning, fund management and competition story and so will do a submission later in the light of reading 'Stress Test' by former US Secretary of the Treasury, Timothy Geithner. (It's great to be an expert.)

Student and industrial matters at Sydney University are addressed here as models in related global, regional and local planning and development contexts. From the government and community perspectives, including students and those looking for work, learning, exercise, entertainment, or help, this advice is on how to save huge amounts of common anxiety and money. This can occur through more broadly informed, clear and open communication instead of dealing with growing multitudes of legal, financial, academic, bureaucratic and other professionally closed shops. This is the context in which regional and strategic plans should now align to fix the comparative lack of any clear and open regional planning focus, by greater cooperative openness to achieve key regional planning aims and better practice. Harness the potential of media and information technology to serve the people because it is being totally trashed by financial, commercial and voting interests in the US. Here is how.

Students currently pay for a particular qualification, supposedly related to a professional registration of competence, yet their future working life appears unknown and likely to be below their expectations. (When I left high school at 14 anybody could get a job and change it at will – not any more.) Students should at least be able to do more of the subjects that they or others who pay for them want them to do. This would be better conducted broadly and openly under the strategic planning direction, rather than having multiple academic or professional interests ruling in order to design more closed shops and lengthening queues.

Rather than demonstrating any understanding of regional planning, the Senate Committee appears blindly to be embarked on the US ideal that the only way is up at a time when many people hate risk and can probably think of nothing worse than trying to commercialise their research by betting their house on it, only to see the results taken completely out of their hands by the markets. From where I sat at Sydney University for eleven years, the waste of research capacity and its potential social and environmental benefits was huge because of the costs and risks of a patent and commercialisation. Academics are not gamblers. Many just want their research, a cut lunch and a nice banana.

As Barry Thomas of Cook Medical in Queensland pointed out (AFR 4.6.14 p. 43) there is also nothing to stop Australian discoveries heading offshore to markets with more advantageous manufacturing climates. Rather than a direct subsidy, he claims the Australian Innovation and Manufacturing Incentive is a sustainable solution that would provide tax relief where domestic intellectual property ownership and associated commercialisation is retained in Australia. He states this would help keep findings alive from medical research as well as for discoveries from across the full spectrum of Australian industries. This is ideally discussed later in the light of The NSW Government Crown Lands Legislation White Paper by NSW Government Trade and Investment and in related rural industries to provide scientists with more openly applied direction in regional plans.

It is great to have a developed welfare state. However, it is important to avoid incentives to entrench the sick roles which appear related to avoidance of anxiety and stress and which may easily lead to further breakdown combined with excessively high fat, high sugar diets and lack of exercise. What can the general practitioner do, one wonders, for the person suffering the accumulated bodily stresses of age, generalised anxiety, bad diet, smoking and lack of exercise, other than prescribe drugs or visits to more complex diagnostic specialists? The answer appears to lie mainly in adoption of better organized regional help towards more appropriate **work, exercise and entertainment combinations in related travel, education, entertainment and built or natural environment services**. The promise of information technology is ideally to assist this in organized ways beyond the social media.

The attached budget analysis argues, for example, that Sydney Uni. students, alumni and others should demand cheaper, more openly available subjects and back the Strategic Plan direction as their key focus. To improve job, housing, transport, entertainment and exercise performance through practice, and so serve students and related communities better, there should be better integration of student union information services and those of Sydney University, the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) and other groups. This is ideally to make better use of the Student Services Amenities Fee and other funds, so as to openly serve regional planning and related strategic directions more effectively and flexibly. Reveal the management structures of Sydney Uni. Sport and Fitness. Are they fitted to be leaders?

A key aim is to attract broader ranges of students and potential employers by facilitating the production of more transparent, useful and cheaper work and learning outcomes, as a result of opening the student assessment and related product and research to a wider range of work and learning placements, for the benefit of all concerned. Get free of the multitudes of narrow professional controls and costs so as to build and film a better mouse trap.

Further questions from the Australian Government Policy Review are addressed in related personal and budget contexts later. Discussion of key elements of the recent budget by the Treasurer, Joe Hockey, are attached. The budget is condemned for mainly supporting rich professional interests, apparently against warning advice from the Business Council of Australia (BCA), key research institutions, state Premiers, and the majority of Australians, as discussed attached.

The budget presents the same partial and losing US view of competition, which Hilmer and all states rejected in 1993, when his independent report 'National Competition Policy' was delivered and accepted. All would be better off locally, for example, if Sydney University supported regional and strategic planning before collegiate cultures, in multicultural planning approaches to open fund development, openly based on global and national directions. This is discussed in regard to the budget attached and on www.Carolodonnell.com.au .

Fred Hilmer of National Competition Policy fame is now Vice Chancellor (VC) of the Uni. of NSW. Australia should grow the tertiary education institution and related operations broadly and regionally, in openly strategic and related planning and job links beyond the commonly driving professional and academic placement silos, globally and locally. Students should demand much cheaper, better education that is better administered and more widely available. This is the institutional promise media and information technology make possible but which is resisted by those unwilling to see their practice tested in the light of its universal open revelation. Sport doesn't run races in the dark. Neither should academics.

Stephen Schwartz, former VC of Macquarie University has also pointed out that academic teaching practice appears unable to recognize key economic and social benefits of the social division of labour. In spite of the advent of radio, TV, computers, etc. it is still based on the medieval model of a man standing in a room with a book, to which students come to listen and take notes at a time not of their own choosing. Today's teacher writes and presents her own curriculum content in the classroom and on line, while taking on personal and computer based contact with all her students, advising them on any of their difficulties with the curriculum, the computer contact and examinations, before marking and presenting the results. (It was the computers that killed me. See my World Health Organization (WHO) and Australian risk management lectures and assessments at www.Carolodonnell.com.au under the *Learning* side bar. This site is about better project management and policy.)

Unless a learner's student peers are prepared to do it, which often appears unlikely, the teacher often does the production, contact and evaluation lot. The result of pre-dating Adam Smith and the chance of economies of scale, with specialisation to maximise the benefits of the production gifts of all, is that teaching is often unnecessarily costly, closed and stupid. Students with jobs and family responsibilities travel to lectures very inconveniently indeed.

Separating tertiary teaching and research is asking for more commercial and academic closure. This increases partial, complex and secret distortion of more broadly practical messages while also increasing cost. The capacities of media and new information technology to improve all research and learning are huge, and should never be discounted. This was also recognized early in the design of the Open University in Britain and in related publishing ventures, then lost. The more facility anyone has with computer technology the better. However, to reduce all teaching to those who can use their computer related technology to what others regard as best effect is wrong. It is like refusing to recognize Karl Marx or the modern barrister, solicitor or judge because these men either would not or could not type their cases themselves or find a woman to do it for them for free.

RESPONSES TO THREE MORE QUESTIONS PUT BY THE COMPETITION POLICY REVIEW

Some questions of the Competition Policy Review are answered briefly below and justified in discussion of the collegiate and budget contexts later and attached.

Q, Do you think there are laws or regulations that stop you from getting into business or running your business the way you need to?

A.Yes. I am a retired academic who has seen the financial value of her work decline to zero, in spite of having been at the forefront of introducing material change that Australian governments demanded in the light of their adoption of UN Conventions. How could this happen to me? Dead generations of the past weigh like a nightmare on the minds of the living, along with the new kids.

There are many outdated and powerful laws that drive professional rather than regional approaches to competition and the measurement of its outcomes. This also prevents planning that is ideally carried out in the interests of key stakeholder and in related community interests. Key stakeholders are those for whose benefit a programme or project has been established and funded. From this perspective one wonders how the Biosecurity Framework for protecting NSW envisaged by the Department of Primary Industries conceptualises ‘industry and stakeholders’. (Like reading about Crown lands I guess it isn’t pretty but will look at it at a future date.)

Before retirement in 2007 at sixty, when I was offered a retirement package, I taught at Sydney University for eleven years. As a former NSW public servant in the Department of Industrial Relations and Employment and the WorkCover Authority, I was also an active member of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU).

As a sociologist in the Faculty of Health Sciences, I tried to develop a teaching approach to assist the university develop the UN and World Health Organization (WHO) national and regional planning directions to which Australian governments had been committed through legislation and ideally via enterprise bargaining. I met with frustration from collegiate cultures which did not understand or seek the approach as they had modelled themselves on medicine, whereas they delivered questionnaires. Health information management, on the other hand, was at the bottom of a long professional and student pecking order, with many physiotherapists who would rather have been doctors at the top. This is not healthy.

Anyhow, the NTEU would not recognize or assist my enterprise bargaining efforts purely for myself, so as to grow the business on the work I was already doing, without affecting others. The NTEU instead wanted to drive everybody in a one size fits all agreement. Theirs is an unclear and losing direction. Guide the institution by regional and related strategic plans.

Regional planning is discussed in the attached response to the recent Hockey budget. This is the context in which competition is ideally designed, as God and His ideal natural order intended, unless we can escape the court through the devil of arbitration. I doubt it. Much legally privileged (secret) information necessary to settle is often only available in court. Will they even take themselves out of the court to look at the place in dispute to

judge? I doubt it, although they may debate endlessly and at great cost about proper jurisdiction.

The preamble of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights also states that rights are 'inalienable', which I presume means given by God as distinct from historically forged in regional democratic struggles which also entail social duties to the collective and others.

A Law School lecture I heard last week, entitled 'No Invalidities', also suggested courts are determined always to strike them down. The lecturer indicated that no law could ever be interpreted by the judges so as to deny a person their day in court in spite of any will of the legislature to put into law its inherent hatred of these confusing, feudal, wrong, adversarial principles. The lecturer did not use these adjectives, of course, he quoted the triumph of jurisdiction without suggesting why any government might not rightly want to avoid it. (This feudal crew should not put themselves above the law like this, although they always do and universities are churning them out like rabbits. They think ignoring reality is their duty.)

In an international economy, if anybody is serious about a competition policy review, it is worth remembering that the cheapest thing any government could ever do would be to get rid of courts and move on to more openly, broadly and clearly informed processes which are also less adversarial. These could rely on the use of common dictionaries for a start. The lawyer usually has none but the legal interpretations. This hinders effective practice and research, not to mention preventing common understanding and wasting public money.

When academics talk of peers they usually mean people of an apparently similar status in the discipline or in its part of an institution, often working in collusion. This also wastes time and money. It is usually more important for learning, as distinct from status enjoyment, to be put with informed or uninformed people **not** like oneself, than to meet ones who think similarly. The great thing about being in the public service was working with engineers, statisticians, financial and legal specialists, and the lot, as one learned so much about other expert views and experiences on the ground. In academia, a virtue is more often made of those with narrowly shared professional jargon and assumptions working together. This is comparatively stupid and hopeless because the usual answer to any question is the need for more funds for research. Open matters up to broader judgment in placement and teaching as this offers a product better tailored to meet community needs and problems in the light of open action.

Competition is ideally constructed in related regional contents through openly administered projects to achieve social and environmental goals and through comparatively low risk financial management strategies which necessarily should also be more open. This is the learning strategy that is most consistent with the attainment of higher quality of life for all.

Collegiate decision making, on the other hand, ensures that the disciplines with the greatest numbers of academics will also be calling the shots for students and others. One notes a former PM's view, expressed in the SMH article 'Merger with ABC means the death of SBS, warns Fraser'. He said '*For those of us in business, we know there is a very simple law that applies to mergers: the larger culture smothers the smaller*' (SMH May 31-June 1 2014). It is exactly the same with collegiate cultures. The more a type grow, the more they take over. This is dangerous because it replicates the failed US approach to providing health care.

For example, in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Sydney Uni. where I worked for eleven years, psychologists and related information technology performers smothered statisticians and sociologists while turning research into US junk which often equates perception delivered via closed questionnaires with reality. Although those working in the Faculty wouldn't worry about it, one assumes this is in conformity with price being seen elsewhere as the only true indicator of quality, as defined in market herds. Future commerce and research may then also be constructed on many related but closed and ultimately flawed questionnaire bases, without any reference at all to any associated historical, environmental or practical realities. This approach does not know or make use of the home strengths the students bring, which are often considerable and totally unlike the academic cultures with which they now comply.

This US direction has made sociology into a form of psychology for dummies, based on the accumulation of data about individuals, without noticing the broader comparative history, environment or institutional forces of their construction. There is a comparatively new but strongly held idea, for example, that research consists in talking to a dozen subjects, typing every single word into a computer as if it is precious, and torturing the lot with Nudist. This is not only a potential cause of occupational overuse syndrome and an unnecessary expense of time and money, it reduces potential product value. (New information technology is often wonderful but can also be misused and our American friends are always asking us to follow.)

The key antidote to professional domination by the many of the few is open planning to improve the potential for more free and sensible choice by current and future generations. At Sydney University this potential can only be achieved through strategic planning because collegiate cultures often resist moves to open up their closed product to public scrutiny.

In regard to publishing, on the other hand, it is socially dysfunctional and foolishly expensive, if universities employ people but buy back their product in the form of expensively closed journals or books which students will also have to buy at great additional cost to the giant fees they are forced to pay for a course which is constructed primarily to mirror the interests of the teachers, rather than their students or others. Better open planning and budget directions are suggested to students, alumni, the NSW Writers Centre, etc. in the attached.

Q. Do you think that there are laws or regulations that stop you getting into business or running your businesses the way you need to. A. Yes. The different treatment of economic and social regulations is dysfunctional for most businesses seeking to perform better

According to the Productivity Commission (PC), economic regulations 'intervene directly in market decisions such as pricing, competition, market entry or exit'. Social regulations 'protect public interests such as health, safety, the environment and social cohesion.' (PC 2008, p.5). This division into two forms of legislation with different assumptions and related rules is wrong because economic activity is undertaken with the social aim of supporting life and its associations.

Australia is a single land and economy which supports many interrelated communities and environments. The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979) was ground-breaking as it recognised the importance of an integrated understanding of relevant environmental, social and economic issues when making land use planning

decisions. Hilmer's report to Australian Heads of Government after his independent inquiry into a national competition policy was also ground-breaking in defining 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).

Such developments have usually been ignored because the basic assumption still driving government economic and 'free trade' policy is that competition is always for money and social and environmental benefits for all flow naturally and best from this. Supporters of this 'efficient market theory' think all available information about a commodity (a share or other investment) is reflected in its price. This 'free market' paradigm is outdated and leads to repeated cycles of boom and bust, increasing social inequality as the market globalises and to major destruction of the most vulnerable forms of life. It has therefore also led away from its supposed goal of perfectly informed and perfectly clearing markets. The paradigm protects secret operations, not the kind of transparency which would assist open comparison and planning by producers in the consumer or related interest.

A related critique of the article 'Decentralised energy: What does it mean?' by David Green, CEO of the Clean Energy Council is at www.Carolodonnell.com.au. Green appears to ignore the reality of an Australian history and its policy achievements of comparative wellbeing and stability, to erect a borrowed, theoretical financial edifice based on obviously untrue 'facts' about the origins of power. Compared with other OECD nations, the US provides health care poorly and expensively through its reliance on private sector price competition. There is no reason to assume that market based solutions will reduce global warming any better. One assumes that this is what the development of clean energy is ideally partly about. We should not need to hide the truth and confuse people to get ahead. Doing so increases ignorance and expense.

The UN Convention on Biological Diversity 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'. However, in 'Stocking Up: Securing our marine economy' (2011) Eadie and Hoisington, for the Centre for Policy Development at Sydney University, define *ecosystem services*, as '*the non-market benefits we derive from nature*'. This suggests humans are in a trading relationship with nature and the latter will serve us in many untapped ways which can and should be given a value, purely as price. To see untapped nature as providing services to people is anthropomorphic, confused and confusing. It encourages a view that 'invisible hands' of markets have nobody attached and '*eco-system services*' and their measurement then appear as a wildly speculative number which becomes a trading price. Numbers are not science because they wish it. (On the other hand, these free lectures put on at Sydney University are always greatly appreciated.)

However, the above direction is likely to be a claim for state support for over-fishing not for scientific practice to rehabilitate an environment for future generations. This approach to fishing clarified an earlier experience I had at the Research Symposium 2011 entitled 'Resilience: Can our Environment keep bouncing back?' organized by the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at Sydney Uni. – (also free and great.) A Professor of Economics at the ANU, who is also the ANU-UNESCO Chair holder in Water Economics and Transboundary Water Governance and Director for the Centre for Water Economics, Environment and Policy spoke about fishing. I couldn't understand a word he said and his website did little to help. Governments and others are ill advised to spend money on what cannot be reasonably clearly put. These people who apparently only speak and care about

money are the ideological front runners for many of those who take it from you in order to finally lose the lot (i.e. both fish and money – the same way the illustrious professor talked about ‘stock’).

Associate Professor Michael Harris, on the other hand, referred to an approach called INFFER, which is a simple investment framework for environmental resources and a related tool for planning and prioritizing public investments in natural resources and the environment. INFFER requires decision makers to be explicit in their assumptions and start planning with regional maps in which the significant public assets are identified and simply graded in terms of their high or low significance and related threat, prior to making related recommendations for action to improve their nature and resilience. This is more in keeping with the ‘ecosystem’ approach required by the Convention on Biological Diversity (UN 1992), as discussed attached and on www.Carolodonnell.com.au

When Harris discussed the INFFER system he appeared to use the regional framework to address benefits and threats to private activity, as well as public benefits and threats related to the natural environment. He pointed out that the resilience of an environment should ideally be judged in the context of prior directions to achieve the broader ideal aims for that environment, which one assumes may be related to public and private partnerships to achieving common environmental, social and economic goals. He strongly supported the earlier view of Dr Jane Belnap, a scientist with the US Department of Interior in Utah, that the management goals for any natural environment need to be clearly understood before ‘resilience’, which she defined as ‘how easily the system bounces back’, can be effectively studied or achieved. Land use ideally supports strategic planning.

The NSW Government Crown Lands Legislation White Paper by NSW Government Trade and Investment appears, however, interested only in selling land and never in buying it, although the Foreword of the Deputy Premier, Minister for Trade and Investment and Minister for Regional and Infrastructure and Services clearly recognises that Crown Lands serve the people of NSW in ways related to protection of their health and wellbeing. Tourism also depends on beautifully kept lands and native animals. Does government intend to sell the lot? This is not the way our fathers encouraged us to perform with land, which is an excellent store of value. They are not making any more land without an enormous amount of expensive trouble and demand for it is growing. The White Paper states in regard to any conversion of Western Land leases granted for agriculture/cultivation, that the current interpretation of ‘ecological sustainability’ requirements is that at least 75% of the area of the lease has been cleared and developed. Lessees have expressed concern about the current interpretation (p. 26), as they certainly should. It is noted that the main compliance issue in the Western Division is overstocking and overgrazing. Give rare native flora and fauna a better go. Broken Hill is a fantastic and comparatively underutilised tourist and business destination.

The term ‘resilience’ was previously only familiar to me in relation to practices to achieve good human health management, rehabilitation after injury, and related risk management and premium setting. These principles are ideally used in management of occupational health and safety, rehabilitation and related compensation systems under state legislation. This approach appears consistent with Harris’s regional approach to risks to the environment. Consistency and variation in treatment, according to the particular case are both important for judging better treatment outcomes and for related system clarity and cost

containment. Production chains and individuals typically work, consume and live in related regional communities, which they affect and should help.

Under an insurance approach to maintaining or achieving greater 'resilience', managers appear advised to undertake the steps likely to reduce the major burdens of injury (in acute and chronic situations). Ideally, attempts are made to prevent injury, to rehabilitate the injured and to compensate more fairly. This is discussed later and attached to make the point that it is important to avoid providing any family or individual with substantial economic incentives for unsustainable reproduction or disability. Government, industry and related community design and support for paid work, education, exercise, travel and entertainment are ideally addressed in related contents.

The PC recently stated: *Defining 'public' infrastructure is challenging, but the essential elements are that it encompasses infrastructure where government has a primary role and responsibility for deciding on whether infrastructure is provided, and/or the source of the revenue streams to pay for the infrastructure.* The definition is great as it exists and also appears holistic and true, because governments have key influence over all construction and use of product on land and sea. This interest is currently exercised through outdated and narrowly prescriptive laws, rather than in planning principles which recognize that regional interests are ideally contained within the global interest in quality of life for all.

In this context the Westpac Bicentennial Foundation, described as the largest private education scholarship program in Australia's history (AFR 3.4.14, p.1), is ideally supported and followed by others. This appears to be a design to lead many others to the strategic plan with \$100 million put in a charitable trust. For example, the PC report entitled 'Rural Research and Development Corporations' (RDC) recommended establishment of a new RDC entitled **Rural Research Australia (RRA), intended to sponsor non-industry specific research and development (R&D) to promote more productive and sustainable resource use by Australia's rural sector.** RRA's remit was expected to broadly **encompass land, water and energy use.** One wonders what happened to this ideally shared direction because it seems ideally related openly to regional and strategic planning as well as to the concerns of Chief Scientist, Professor Chubb, who lamented the lack of a policy or strategy setting out the vision for the future, and how science and innovation could help achieve it.

The PC noted the paucity of reliable data on spending across the rural R&D framework. Consistent with the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification System (ANZSIC) the report covers R&D investments in agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries which are defined as being '*mainly engaged in growing crops, raising animals, growing and harvesting timber and harvesting fish and other animals from farms or their natural habitat*' (p.1). The PC finds there is an absence of good information on funding and spending flows within the framework and as a result it is hard to be certain about how much is spent, with whom it is being spent, and which parties are ultimately providing the funding. Fix this by openly pursuing strategic planning before all the related collegiate and cultural drivers who wrongly seek to justify more closed operations beginning with contract laws and lawyers. (Should one assume politicians know what is going on in their regions for a start? I guess so.)

This PC report pointed to better research and business directions to support international, Australian and related government and community planning. This direction also lends itself to gaining more sustainable development by being better designed and more broadly and openly informed, so as to gain more stable investment and risk management. The report made recommendations for better and fairer management and data capture by governments and business sectors, to clarify their respective research funding sources, aims, performance outcomes and accountabilities. This is to judge all performance better and to improve research partnerships further in the light of key regional, national and international goals.

Q. In areas where the government provides goods and services, do you have enough choice and are you able to access quality services?

A. The identification of quality service depends on identification of the comparative outcomes of choices. One knows more about the outcomes and hence quality of services delivered in the public sector than one knows about services provided in the private sector.

The question should not confine itself to government services when Australian competition policy ideally requires service provision on a level playing field of community standards. For this to occur private sector operation needs to be more prepared to open itself to synergies.

One wonders why the Competition Policy Review confines this question to the provision of goods and services by government when in the private sector one may perhaps buy a pig in a poke only to be disappointed much more often. Perfect information is necessary for perfect choice and one has better information through NSW Health, Medicare, etc. than in private sector services which appear more likely to hide mistakes through lack of good data capture.

What does anybody know, for example, about the practice and outcomes of dental specialists? One thinks, for example, of old people who are possibly still losing teeth one by one, in spite of the regular visits to dental specialists every three months for the anaesthetised deep cleaning of the teeth that is ideally expected to prevent this. A newly implanted 'tooth' is, however, recommended in the place of each one lost. I guess that this course of dentist and related specialist action and referral, like geriatric psychiatrists, may be a ticking time bomb of cost in nursing homes while perhaps also causing other problems and doing little good. Who knows?

I have always also guessed, for example, that the therapeutically designed sexual services of prostitutes might be more helpful to calm and assist aggressive men than psychiatric services which appear more costly. However, the professional and social identities are constructed so that this potential service comparison appears largely forbidden. To be overlooked is often women's lot other than as consumers who may then be valued in frontline marketing services.

Before I retired at sixty and was confronted with an avalanche of offers of 'preventive' medical tests supposed to keep me alive, I had mammograms and vaginal pap smears regularly. In recent years, one increasingly fears the increasing range of preventive medical specialists who appear, like the proverbial man with the hammer, to see in scans or tests what may look like to him like a nail in urgent need of preventive attention or referral. To avoid

always being at the doctor for preventive treatment, which I have also learned to regard as potentially dodgy, I have now pledged never to go to any doctor for tests in the absence of symptoms. (I guess this seems a bad idea to any health professional or to those given their diagnosis and treatment.)

In dentistry and many related fields I often can find little or nothing on the internet which looks anything like research, in comparison with an apparently shameless promotion sometimes posing as research, which also offers no potential for any consumer question. The situation in dentistry or related service provision, compared with Australian government health service, is an example. Provision of Australian health care data appears very good in comparison. I recently used it, for example, to reject having a whooping cough vaccination, as first requested by my daughter and NSW Health, when she became a new mother and this advice to both grandmothers, etc. was posted across the front of her new government birth record book.

The book generally seems excellent. I have worked with enough Australian government and related data gatherers to know that government mainstream health service providers and data gatherers try hard to provide good service and be trustworthy, as distinct from make money. I don't see much private sector research on the internet like that. However, I am frightened by the professional enthusiasm for increasing the 'preventive' test and apparently finding the life threatening disease in what was an apparently symptomless environment. I keep well away.

See the email I wrote on whooping cough later which shows the strengths of having comparatively good government health services and data. One can make an analysis in which one may feel a reasonable degree of trust which can make everyone feel less anxious and save everybody time and money. Anxiety may also be used as a medical diagnosis. Paradoxically, anxiety may increase the safer we are in comparative reality and the more we are aware of any potential risk. There are dangers in treating anxiety as a medical condition if this also increases anxious dependency and lack of awareness of alternative comparative views and situations. On the other hand, we should not have to live in a world where we have no reason to trust. Find a financial adviser I can trust? (Jesus you must be joking. Show me how it works.)

In medicine, I find that people and the public sector also continue to perform as if so-called 'preventive' medicine has no unintended consequences. The bizarre idea that many have that powerful 'medicines' have no unexpected outcomes has horrified me since the day my five year old daughter was given an asthma inhaler by a general practitioner because I had finally taken her to him so as check out her constant colds in winter. She obviously loved the puffer. It made her feel important and gave her something to give a morning talk about at school. She was disconcerted when I took it and threw it away. We have never looked back.

I also speak as one who wonders what is so great about filling teenage boys with Ritalin at the public expense, while the same boys would be pilloried for using marihuana at their own expense. I left school and got a job at fourteen as did many boys my age. Getting work was easy then as was changing one's job at will. I can understand why many young people find it difficult to sit still and shut up for hours on end every day when they can see no benefit in what they are expected to be doing and hate doing it partly because their incapacity in it makes them feel inadequate. (I feel similar about using new technology). I think the embrace of drugs paid for by the taxpayer is a socially sanctioned means of control which is

also damaging because it denies and reduces passive aggressive and hard to control behaviour to a script.

One cannot and should not wipe out aggression or domination by denying its existence either in speech or professional action. To treat all behaviour as if it has physiological rather than environmental roots is to hand over control to those who depend on the diagnosis for a living. This professional domination is the convenient but costly US route which denies the effects of the environment other than price and also seeks to strangle the cheaper and better producer. The collegiate cultures of universities reflect this growing devil's bargain. To go to the US is to see around forty TV channels awash with lying rubbish from morning till night. The budget is discussed in related contexts attached to show that more open regional and strategic planning may be antidotes to related problems. Let a broader range of services then openly compete.

Pain is a symptom which appears to be increasingly turned into a medical diagnosis at a time when diagnostic testing is increasingly also assumed to show the real deal and symptoms are comparatively glossed over in most medical discussion. However, pain is not a diagnosis and neither is stress. Pain appears to be a symptom of some stress which is known (e.g. trauma or tissue damage) or unknown. Janssen's free promotional booklet in chemist shops 'Coping with persistent pain: A guide for patients, partners, family and carers' appears wrongly to treat pain as a diagnosis, just as medicine appears increasingly to gloss over the nature and importance of related symptoms in preference for major increases in routine medical testing. This is an immediate invitation to more ignorantly thoughtless and expensive routine use of drugs by all.

As a result of being employed for a decade in the WorkCover Authority I have little confidence in clear relationships between the particular test, diagnosis and experience of pain, (especially when a general practitioner asks me to get a cholesterol test and then misreads the results. One the other hand, one is always grateful for the informative government websites). Others, however, may be grateful for an apparent diagnosis which can be treated. It would be good to know how Alfred Medical Imaging and Slater and Gordon operate together at Poet's Corner Medical Centre at Redfern in relation to motor vehicle claims, insurance claims, compensation and negligence claims and wage loss and workplace disputes. Slater and Gordon in particular promote themselves as champions of change so should be happy enough to prove it.

The sick role and its related clinical approaches now replace religious authority as the dominant handling approaches to all pain and stress, with diagnostic responses towards anxiety, depression (and less commonly anger), supported by legally sanctioned drugs or surgery. This is not empowering for many who may be better off placed in new environments to support more useful exercise, work, learning and entertainment. One wonders what kind of health people expect when they eat so much rubbish and exercise so little. In the Sydney Uni. gym I heard somebody state an exercise program was designed to increase strength, flexibility and endurance, which promotes balance. If one sees mental health in a linked relationship for quality of life rather than for social and occupational status and success, one ideally will also see many as more normal rather than sick, with some of us being more normal than others.

See related discussion below, attached and on www.Carolodonnell.com.au .

WHOOPIING COUGH, GRANDMAS, ETC: A RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH

Hi

I'm writing this because it is what I truly think at this stage about what seem to me a related range of issues for all families. I'd be happy to change my mind for a better view. Cheers
Carol

By looking at the most reputable (mainly NSW health) data I gained the followed information.

Whooping cough is highly infectious and most serious in babies under 4 months. Dose 1 at 6 weeks; Dose 2 at 4 months. Dose 3 at 6 months. Boosters at 3 and in high school.

If the mother has had a vaccination before the baby is born this reduces the risk of infection by half. "A few weeks after birth is too late to protect vulnerable young babies". (NSW govt. promotion of free vaccine finished in 2013). The vaccine is suggested for fathers and anyone else close to the baby (grandmothers, etc). An adult booster is suggested every 10 years.

Whooping cough requires GP and hospital notification to NSW Health. It is suspected that the incidence is higher than the figures below for May 2013 – April 2014. (On the other hand, it superficially seems from the data that nobody died.)

0-4 years: M. 205 notifications; F. 165 notifications; Persons 307.

65-69 years: M. 33 notifications; F. 31 notifications; Persons 64.

Argument:

The immunized baby is presumably not at risk from anybody around him, close or not. (If he is at risk the immunization isn't working.)

The likelihood that Louis will be infected by me or anybody else with whooping cough in the time before he begins immunization himself is infinitesimal.

It does not seem much sense for me to be immunized unless I want to protect myself from whooping cough which I don't, any more than I want to protect myself through some kind of supposedly preventative screening for bowel cancer, vaginal cancer, skin cancer, breast cancer, diabetes, heart disease, osteoporosis, dementia or anything else likely to kill old people which health professionals are promoting to me already. I'll take my chances. Their enthusiasms scare me.

In regard to Louis we are presumably looking at the same set of grandma questions at least for TB, Polio, Diptheria, Tetanus and measles. (No idea about mumps, rubella, meningococcal, etc.)

From a realistic health perspective, I guess the best thing one could do to protect Louis' health during winter would be for those close to him to wear masks if they have a cold. If I were a mother I would not personally recommend this to anyone but will wash my hands more often.

AFTER THE BUDGET: FIGHT BACK WITH STRATEGIC PLANNING (ADVICE TO STUDENTS, ALUMNI AND RELATED OTHERS)

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SUPPORT REGIONAL AND STRATEGIC PLANNING BEFORE COLLEGIATE CULTURES IN AN OPEN MULTICULTURAL APPROACH BASED ON GLOBAL AND NATIONAL DIRECTIONS

Student and industrial matters at Sydney University are here addressed as models in related global, regional and local planning and development contexts. From the government and community perspectives, including students and those looking for work, learning, exercise or entertainment, this advice may be thought of as being about how to save huge amounts of common anxiety and money, by preferring broadly informed, clear and open communication to dealing with a multiplicity of legal, financial, academic, bureaucratic and other professional closed shops. This is the context in which regional and strategic plans, such as that of Sydney Uni, must now align to fix the comparative lack of regional planning focus, by greater cooperative openness to achieve planning aims and better practice.

(You shoot yourself in the foot if you go down this road with lawyers, as I said to the man with disability at the demo. Others become frightened to take you on. We need planning.)

One learns from a recent edition of the student newspaper 'Honi Soit', in an article entitled 'Students should pay more, earn less: Commission of Audit', that the Vice Chancellor (VC) of Sydney University has offered to write a related opinion piece for Honi Soit. One hopes he wants to promote the strategic plan to readers. This may be seen as the key alternative to Joe Hockey's *prosecution* (sic.) of his recent budget. Students should support it.

Sydney Uni. should grow the business broadly and primarily through the strategic plan, by forging related links far beyond the commonly driving professional and academic placement silos, globally and regionally. Students should also demand much cheaper, better education that is better administered and more widely available. This is discussed later.

I taught at Sydney University for eleven years. As a former public servant and active member of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) I tried to develop a teaching approach to assist the university to develop this United Nations (UN), national and regional planning direction, to which Australian governments have been committed through legislation and via the enterprise bargain. The NTEU would not recognize or assist this, but wanted to drive everybody in a one size fits all agreement. Theirs is losing direction. One wonders what it is. See global and national planning ideal on www.Carolodonnell.com.au This is ideally put into practice in regional planning and projects for earning and learning.

Hillary Clinton thinks there is a giant right wing conspiracy and I believe it's global. (Bring in the Jews?) The Australian Leader of the Opposition appears right in seeing the Treasurer's recent budget as based on systematic and wilful lies akin to right-wing US direction, although the Treasurer denies it. There remain, however, many 19th century British drivers as well. The Business Council of Australia (BCA) is worried families and young people trying

to work could be hit too heavily by changes to health and social security arrangements in the budget. The Canberra-based National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM), as well as ANU public policy experts Peter Whiteford and Daniel Nethery, plus the polling analysis by both sides of politics, appear to support this BCA concern, according to the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) and the Australian Financial Review (AFR). Fix it.

Youth fight back is vitally necessary. However, the collegiate cultures and the NTEU appear to share related interests, which often appear unfriendly to youth and to cheap and good education. (Believe me, I worked in the Faculty of Health Sciences.) However, young people also never knew how far we have come in how short a time in the provision of the welfare state since 1975. Today it is important to avoid incentives to entrench the sick roles which appear essentially related to avoidance of anxiety and stress and which may easily lead to further breakdown combined with excessively high fat, high sugar diets and lack of exercise. At Sydney Uni. students should demand cheaper, more openly available subjects and back the Strategic Plan direction as their union focus. Related directions are addressed later.

From honest development and democratic perspectives, reliable information is a pearl beyond price. (Think of mother love.) However, market and collegiate cultures appear committed to the view that the ideal competitive way is comparatively closed and up, rather than reaching out broadly first. This increases financial instability, cost-shifting, inequality and budget cost without reducing the effects of these key global problems.

In its Action Plan for Enduring Prosperity the BCA states *over the next 20 years the rate at which supply of water and land is added globally would have to increase by 140 percent and 250 percent respectively, compared to the past 20 years* (p. 34). Support broader planning to prevent competition designed in the interests of financial and professional elites through associations which also bring environment degradation for all. (Gun culture is an obvious example. Try breeding rare natives that are not human instead in related parks or gardens.)

From the ideal post war UN and Australian perspectives, ideal welfare directions are reflected in new conventions or laws that are related to equal treatment of certain groups and to expected minimum standards of living or quality of life for all. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights began this regional planning approach after World War 2.

Openly related rural and urban planning directions appear a necessary part of more stable development in the developing and developed regions. Treat desertification and water problems first because they are central to the management of populations and borders. In the article 'How Australia can benefit from Asian momentum', Changyong Rhee, head of the International Monetary Fund's Asia and Pacific Department said (AFR 1.5.14, p. 53):

We are poised to benefit from increased demand by Asia's emerging middle class for higher education, tourism, business services, health care, and financial services.

In the Asian century, Australians should also take most seriously the words of Premier Li Keqiang in the article 'People's Express' (AFR 2.5.14, 5R). He said:

The key is to reap a reform dividend. We need to make public finances more transparent, liberalise interest rates, cut wasteful government spending and allow

small businesses to flourish. Reform will hurt vested interests but the interests of the vast population are the top priority of the government. I am ready to cut through the vested interests to carry out the much needed changes.

When key men in suits say things like this it is only sense to take them seriously and help. Land, construction and property management are key supporting drivers. (In the Asian Century I am also tipping Marx and Freud will come back as supports for Mao and Dylan.)

In Australia, potentially related aspects of the Hockey budget appear to present a partial vision of regional planning, communications and competition. Hockey invites rebuttal and is getting it first from state premiers. Australians must grasp and ground this to assist people in the private and public sectors to work more effectively and fairly in the broader public interest, rather than separately and against each other, or in secret collusions which may or may not be corrupt. Perfect information is necessary for perfect competition.

Competition on price alone led to the global financial crisis of 2008 and will again.

Universities can openly pivot the society on good strategic plans but not on closed collegiate cultures (e.g. law and the multiple brethren). Students, alumni and others should meet vice-chancellors to demand this and a much better, cheaper education discussed later.

THE BUDGET DEMANDS BROADER REGIONAL UNDERSTANDING FOR GOOD RESPONSES

The Hockey budget may be understood as a blindly partial strategic case for regional and organizational planning, to which other affected states should respond with modifying strategic plans, the more openly, broadly and flexibly developed the better. This budget also seems an ambit part of the broader regional way to combat problems of vertical fiscal imbalance. This is where Commonwealth, state and local governments and related public, private or voluntary organizations may drive their funded functions in any shared region comparatively blindly and narrowly with much ensuing red tape across and inside borders.

The importance of supporting university and related strategic planning direction, rather than professional and related collegiate cultures, is addressed in relation to the budget and to education, health care and aboriginal services later, using Sydney University as a model site.

The Hockey budget champions deregulation of university fees and cuts government subsidy. Besides offering loans to university students, it extends loan funding for technical and further education in government or private colleges, and for sub-bachelor degrees, at a projected cost of \$820 million. Related funds appear to be potential competitive drivers for regional state planning and related services, with the aim of broader industry and job development, lower student fees and costs, and for generally more stable, cost-effective development and risk management. Ideally this occurs through shared planning and funding direction, as Hilmer and the states intended in national competition policy. They saw competition as designed for social and environment objects, not just commercial ones.

These social and financial regional fund directions were begun in Australian industry and government plans in rehabilitation and workers compensation insurance, in health care and in non-profit industry superannuation funds in the 1980s. Their public and personal benefits and differences from the many other government, investment, commercial, or related

charitable and collegiate funding structures and interests must be grasped. One wonders in this context how any money in the budget for education will be tapped. I guess it should mainly occur in clearly related regional and strategic planning contexts; in matching bequests such as those made by Westpac at Sydney University and in open funds earmarked for related projects. This is discussed again later, using Sydney Uni. as an example.

It is more difficult to provide services designed in the interests of service consumers as individuals and taxpayers, rather than as service providers. However, services need to be clearly defined in place and person based contexts to vary and compare their outcomes in ways consistent with democratic rights and scientific development. Health care provision led a UN and Australian regional planning direction discussed later. In the Australian Financial Review (AFR), one notes warnings of the chair of the strategic review of health and medical research in 2012, and of significant others, that while they welcomed the Medical Research Future fund announced in the budget there is plenty of detail to thrash out.

The budget promised this new \$20 billion medical research fund. Whether it should come from a \$5 contribution by patients when visiting the doctor, with each visit costing the health care consumer \$7 with the other \$2 going to the doctor remains a moot question. The states will respond to this. What can the general practitioner do, one wonders, for the person suffering the accumulated bodily stresses of age, generalised anxiety, bad diet, smoking and lack of exercise, other than prescribe drugs or visits to more complex diagnostic specialists? The answer appears to lie mainly in adoption of better organized regional help towards more appropriate work and exercise combinations in related travel, education, entertainment and built or natural environment services. The promise of information technology is ideally to make this possible in organized ways beyond the social media. Is a medical record central?

When I began working in the Department of Industrial Relations and Employment under the Wran government, hardly anybody knew what anybody in the organization was doing, even on that bit of the building floor directly serving the minister and the court. We need to know what current government and related key functions are undertaken, in order to integrate them and their funding more rationally and effectively into regional and strategic planning.

In 2000, Australia began a coordinated health and disability management process with the development of regional health plans based on population profiles, including socio-economic indicators and a focus on the needs of the aged. This is a health service context in which all related service provision, (e.g. for crime prevention) may be addressed. Coordinated place management, community housing and crime prevention strategies are ideally implemented to achieve planning direction. Shared regional funds must be administered effectively in place and person based contexts. Dispute management and insurance ideally support this.

From national and regional planning perspectives, Queensland legislation appears likely to have the more inclusive and therefore the more efficient, equitable and comparable definition of 'health services', according to the Australian Health and Medical Advisory Committee consultation paper on the proposed terms of the National Code of Conduct for Health Care Workers. It captures Queensland services for 'maintaining, improving, restoring, and managing people's wellbeing' (p. 36). This usefully supports the World Health

Organization (WHO 1946) definition of health as '*a state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity*'. The broadest possible open reach is desirable in the context of global and related regional planning, research and insurance for improved and flexible treatments, to meet individual and community need and choice. Taxation and investments are ideally addressed in related regional contexts.

The budget provides an interesting possibility in regard to the open design of a regional rather than race based approach, in regard to aboriginal affairs, where more than 150 programs will be consolidated into 5, to be run out of the Prime Minister's Office. Total spending of \$4.8 billion will focus on the streamlined areas of jobs, land and the economy, children and school, safety and wellbeing, culture and capability and remote Australian strategies (SMH, 14.5.14). The construction of regional operations ideally requires openly multicultural approaches to fund management and related service delivery. Who are the potential service providers and how are they likely to be best used in regional rather than purely collegiate delivery contexts?

With the proposal to deregulate university fees, the Hockey budget appears likely to see continuation of the bulk of the Student Services Amenities Fee (SSAF) spent on sport for comparatively wealthy males at expensive colleges. Fight back with the Sydney University strategic plan against the rich, closed collegiate cultures this Commonwealth budget will represent unless sharply redirected by as many students and other communities as possible.

To improve job, housing, transport, entertainment and exercise through practice, and so serve students and related communities better, there should be better integration of student union information services and those of Sydney University. This is necessary to make better use of the SSAF and other funds, so as to openly serve regional planning and related strategic direction more effectively and flexibly. A key aim is to attract broader ranges of students and potential employers by facilitating the production of more transparent and useful work and learning outcomes, as a result of opening the student assessment and related product and research to a wider range of work and learning placements, for the benefit of all concerned.

One wonders what those in charitable organizations could add to this regional planning direction and ideally pose the related question to sporting, religious, political and other clubs and societies on campus and beyond. Commonwealth, state and local plans are now ideally managed more openly and cooperatively with related strategic plans grounded in places and in related universities and elsewhere. This is primarily a place and person rather than a race and profession based approach to development. It is ideally conducted with many associations that are encouraged to be more openly and thus more honestly competitive. Taxation, insurance and superannuation planning are ideally undertaken in related place, industry, community, fund and risk management contexts to meet goals which are social, environmental and economic. This is in contrast to the closed professional, collegiate or related market races.

The alternative is to be driven blindly by the exclusively financial and professional price interest that has repeatedly driven financial instability and cost; regional social inequality; environment destruction and related species loss. The World Health Organization (WHO), UN, Australian government and charitable directions try vainly to address this against the earlier colonial, professional and related government, market and military or tribal odds. Health care,

aboriginal and education services ideally appear as drivers of change to serve the *key budget stakeholders* better. These are the current Australian populations and future generations in which the local community and the typical and unique individual are also represented. University strategic plans ideally bear open pivotal relationships to earning and learning.

STUDENTS, ALUMNI, AND OTHERS SHOULD DEMAND CHEAPER, BETTER EDUCATION THROUGH UNIVERSITY RESTRUCTURE TO SUPPORT STRATEGIC AND REGIONAL PLANS

Students, alumni and related community interests should seek deregulation of collegiate and professional closed shops in many universities and in related educational and research institutions, with the aim of seeing more open educational product made available more broadly and delivered far more cheaply and flexibly. This product is ideally constructed more clearly and openly in the service of the university strategic plan and related strategic plans in global, regional and local arenas. Collegiate cultures resist this because it brings the potential for cross border judgment and debate when they prefer to feed more heavily and narrowly in shadow. It is also offensive to construct aid programs for people reproducing in the desert like rabbits, while poaching the top end to make their futures abroad, whether or not via the old traditional networks of bums on incredibly and unnecessarily expensive seats. (See later letter to Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie about Nigeria before Boko Haram.)

At Sydney Uni. for example, *students should demand their education be clearly related to the strategic plan and administratively treated to make it far cheaper, more conveniently available and better quality, by also being open to the theoretical and practical judgment of all.* Students should demand education be *made much cheaper through better delivery of its product (lessons, books, articles and related assessment and research, entertainment or exercise products).* This should occur in better organized administrative contexts than collegiate ones, using more flexible, open teaching methods (press, websites, films, TV etc.) (Consider the history of the British Open University, radio, TV and tutors in the community.)

Before retiring at 60, after attending a meeting of students in the School of Geosciences who were angry because subjects they wanted to do were suddenly cut, I realized student choice should be maximized in regard to subjects they are allowed to gain credit for across the organization and beyond. Students are paying for a particular qualification, supposedly related to a professional registration of competence, yet their future working life appears unknown and likely to be below their expectations. (When I left high school at 14 anybody could get a job and change it at will.) Students should at least be able to do the subjects that they or another person who pays for them wants them to do. This would be better conducted broadly and openly under the strategic planning direction, rather than having multiple academic or professional interests ruling closed shops and lengthening queues.

If the university can't be administered better than it is, to bring down the costs of collegiate driven education to students, while also improving it mightily, I'll eat my hat. Also eliminate many truly stupid multiple choice tests and related assessment practices which students may or may not hate but staff love as it quickly gets them back to research. This is not even to start on the virtues of more open, accessible and flexible product for making things better

and cheaper through the related encouragement of more broadly learned debate. Construction, for example, hosts ranges of men. Test and place more of them in practice.

In typically closed professional shops, student assessments appear increasingly likely to be theoretical and marked by computers as this saves so much of the teachers' time and students can't argue with a number. As I pointed out in response to the 'Vocational Education and Training (VET) Workforce' report of the Productivity Commission (PC), Instead of requiring Certificate IV in Training and Assessment for the VET workforce, certify the capacity to openly demonstrate specified industry skills and related key quality and risk management requirements of law and contract. Current review of the Australian Government Building and Construction occupational health and safety accreditation scheme should examine options such as 'recognition' and 'provisional accreditation', with a related view of measures to improve access to Commonwealth-funded projects for all relevant producers and their workers.

A quick instructional film to be picked up for free with a national newspaper, might also have seen deaths and fires avoided during the government funded roof insulation scheme after the global financial crisis of late 2008. My experienced guess is that key trades and trainers would have resisted this obvious approach to worker and public safety. The closed shop which hides or cannot express its knowledge clearly is dangerous to many. What is true in the case of tradesmen is true for lawyers, financial advisers and their mates in spades. If it can't be put openly in plain English cut them out of the picture. Intelligent open operation saves money as people know roughly what they are doing, which is fitting into the strategic planning direction, or something else they may openly justify as useful. Colonization of many professional arenas by psychologists contributes too much to trust. Give history, literature, real statisticians and the movies a chance or we will all go blind.

There is a common need to improve information and related communication and administrative flows to benefit university alumni, staff, post-graduate students, undergraduate students and related communities through their community offices, such as those of the City of Sydney Council, in government departments and in communities beyond.

Regional and strategic planning ideally incorporate work and compliance openly as aspects of communications, development, learning and research, in line with achieving the ideal aims of competition which are social and environmental as well as commercial. In this context, the NSW Office of Fair Trading Home Building Contract seems a clear and helpful product which could be used more broadly. It must be completed properly for quality management. Clause 11 of the contract is the prime cost items schedule. When completed it should clearly display the required inputs and amounts related to the step by step achievement of the key conditions which led to the contract agreement and its expected production outcomes. Clause 12 provides the progress payments schedule, related to the staged and approved completion of work. This may relate also to the schedule for inspections. This ideally ensures work quality, the resulting periodic payment and any related accreditation of skills development on the job.

Film is great. Like the Student Assembly at Sydney Uni, I have often wondered what the library and administrative staff can do to obtain the greatest value for the institution from the historical product of the staff, students, alumni, and others. They appear historically bound by

multiple poorly expressed scholarly interests, so that rather than helping the strategic planning direction, they are keeping their riches locked up. Academics traditionally operate like collegiate knights round many tables, wrongly assuming the expression of their individual interests reflects the interests of all. They are ideally included democratically instead, with reference to their particular strengths and weaknesses. Make better use of the old discarded like myself who are prepared to offer information services free. See www.Caroldonnell.com.au Mothers take a related view of a lot of key waste. (Zero waste my foot. Help us understand it.)

In the absence of a related strategic planning direction, academics will be pushed in more secret production driven by sectional interests, like government or markets. The institution also seems doomed to be captured by professional and academic interests so that closed and expensive academic journals dominated by US institutions send our students piles of harmful ideology and practice by associates who must first champion the practices that led to the last global financial crisis. Yet these expensively closed US academic publications are usually also cheaper than the English language rest, as a result of the international economies of scale that such collegiate and related interests command through their duchessing power. Go open as the Australian democratic development trajectory is demonstrably a key strength to promote.

To improve job, housing, transport, entertainment and exercise through practice, and so serve students and communities better, there should be better integration of student union information services and those of Sydney University. This is necessary to make better use of the SSAF and other funds, so as to openly serve regional planning and related strategic direction more effectively and flexibly. A key aim is to attract broader ranges of students by facilitating the production of more transparent and useful work and learning outcomes, as a result of opening the student assessment and related product and research to a wider range of work and learning placements, for the benefit of all concerned. One wonders what those in charitable organizations could add to this regional planning direction and ideally pose the related question to sporting, religious, political and other clubs and societies on campus.

In general, the budget claims the need to deregulate student fees but ignores the need to deregulate the professional, academic and student silos hiding the value of their wares from any judgment beside those they have lured to the outer fringes of their particular, expensive, theoretically closed clubs. Open operation and justification is the best and cheapest protection of funds as well as the best motor of learning. Any individual or group could offer it.

Universities are in powerful positions to help others fix many of the problems which account for the increasing inequality between rich and poor communities; for the degradation of the earth; and which brought us our latest global financial crisis. However, they do comparatively little to tackle these problems as they serve as the traditional nests of powerful, secretive, professional and research interests who often pretend many of the comparatively obvious remedies and practical skills that solutions may rest on are beneath their notice. Adopt strategic planning direction to reduce these problems.

OPERATE COMMON FUNDS OPENLY WITH CLEARLY RELATED CONTRACTS

Open operation and justification are the best and cheapest protections and educational strategies. In this context, the Westpac Banking Corporation establishment of a \$100 million

education fund to give 100 university scholarships each year in perpetuity appears a welcome initiative, following a bequest of \$20 million to the University of Sydney by former Worley Parsons chief, John Grill, and others. The Westpac Bicentennial Foundation is described (AFR 3.4.14, p.1) as the largest private education scholarship program in Australia's history. This appears to be a design to lead the rest to the strategic plan and should be openly followed by others. The \$100 million will be placed in a charitable trust.

The regional environment, work, health and insurances are ideally addressed in related place and service categories, (paid work or not) according to the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC). Ideally this system enables better planning and data gathering for work and related land, community development and risk management purposes globally and locally. This state direction was designed in workers' compensation insurance and in related injury, rehabilitation, maintenance and re-employment systems. It is also logically addressed in Medicare and related health and industry superannuation plans.

Currently in NSW the environment direction is now also being addressed in Crown Lands and in other lands and housing, as well as in related regional plans. Lord Mayor, Clover Moore, keynote speaker at the last Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), pointed out reform of local government must begin with the recognition that the 'three Rs' of *roads, rates, and rubbish* are a limited aspect of the fundamental council role *which is about creating attractive, prosperous, healthy and safe communities; places where people want to live, work and do business*'. Relationships between urban and rural planning are ideally seen in openly related global, regional and local planning contexts.

Since the 1960's, the development of the Australian national reserve system has been based on the biodiversity related principles of comprehensiveness, adequateness and representativeness (CAR). In 1992 the UN Rio Declaration on Environment committed governments to producing healthier environments. Its first principle is that humans are at the centre of concern for sustainable development and entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. More openly stable investments and related markets are ideally constructed in this global context. These international scientific principles are directly related to the development of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalization of Australia (IBRA) system which divides Australia into 85 distinct biogeographic regions and 403 sub-regions. IBRA provides a scientific land planning framework and tool to aid regional development and related research practice consistent with the realization of the CAR biodiversity principles.

The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (UN 1992) described 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'. This requires planning and the 'whole-of-ecosystem' approach of the Convention on Biological Diversity is ideally addressed in strategic planning contexts. The Convention goals are to:

- Maintain viable populations of all native species in situ
- Represent, within protected areas, all native ecosystem types across their natural range of variation
- Maintain evolutionary and ecological processes

- Manage over periods of time long enough to maintain the evolutionary potential of species
- *Accommodate human use and occupancy within these constraints*

The profit motive underwriting public or private funds alone, has been linked with increasingly ignorant, costly and high risk practices for all related businesses, in comparison with more open and stable fund designs. For good insurance, instead of paying an insurance premium to an insurance company; which then owns this money and thus underwrites the risk; with the purely financial interests of its shareholders primarily in view; the premium is ideally paid into a jointly owned government and industry fund. Organizations are then contracted to invest the fund on behalf of those who own the fund, and to meet related aims of the fund for its ideal beneficiaries (key stakeholders), outlined in legislation and contract.

From any perspective, the type of professional indemnity or other insurance required; who pays the premium to whom and for what; may depend on whether the worker is a subcontractor, employee or engaged in some mixed or other type of practice. Competition should be designed, as Hilmer (1993) and governments intended, to drive better quality of life for all. This often seems to involve more broadly realistic assessments of what the individual seeks most from an environment, and what appears possible under the circumstances, to try to gain it. In the absence of clear approaches to delivering services, medical forces are often driving. Although these are more open and impartial than lawyers there are related risks. In the AFR article, 'AMP Chairman calls for tight scrutiny of medical fund', AMP chairman Simon McKeon joined the country's leading scientists to question how the fund is ideally scrutinized and spent. It is easier to see how to protect the fund than allocate it more effectively.

The first NSW Government Strata and Community Title Law Reform Position Paper, 'Strata Title Law Reform' appears to offer good direction but is untested. The NSW Fair Trading pamphlet dated November 2013: Responsibilities of the owners' corporation in a strata scheme', states the insurances the scheme should now have are: Building insurance; Public liability insurance; workers' compensation insurance; Voluntary workers insurance. This appears to be a new and good development for regional planning and quality management of projects. However, it is still unclear how this or the national disability insurance scheme will be delivered.

Although the National Code of Conduct for Health Care Workers appears to give good guidance in many professional indemnity insurance related areas, this is not so in relation to point 3: *Appropriate conduct in relation to treatment advice* where it states (2) *A health care worker must not attempt to dissuade a client from seeking or continuing medical treatment.* It should state: (2) *A health care worker must not UNREASONABLY attempt to dissuade a client from seeking or continuing medical treatment.* This is not a small point but goes to the heart of the commonly unequal relationship between two people for very good reason.

The current statement under the Code is an invitation to abrogation of the personal responsibility which appears central to the open and honest practice of any person, let alone of one who appears to be comparatively knowledgeable, skilled and experienced in the treatment of a particular health problem apparently being felt by another individual. They have or haven't

seen it all before. (I make this point because the conduct recommended in the code is typical of many occupational practitioners and wrong. They don't care if you fall on your face?)

The realization that the client has a right to make their own decisions about their own life, does not mean that the facts of life should not be clearly put to them by anybody with reason to think they may have a better handle on them. (Surely any parent of teenagers would be able to tell you this. Get a life.) I was greatly impressed, for example, when Westpac Head Office put big red warning stickers on parts of a contract sent to me by property managers, their lawyers and a regional office of Westpac in Queensland. Head Office pointed out the linked trailing commissions. Since the global crisis of 2008 the sheer decency of this atypical behaviour has come back repeatedly to my memory. How did people running big banks get to be so nice?

HOW ARE REGIONAL PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND PROJECTS BEST ACCESSED AND DELIVERED?

The aging of the population is highly related to increasing disability. Clarify the ideal aims and design of insurances applied to the home, its environment and to any related services provided to particular persons located in particular places, which may also be logically grouped for research, service and policy development. The ideal is for clearly related and equitable service designs to meet individual and community need as effectively as possible. This is a place based approach rather than a race based approach. It is also multicultural rather than collegiate.

The society should beware of having reproductive, medical and pension incentives reinforcing each other through housing availability, drug manufacture and related specialist payments, if anxiety, poor diet and sedentary behaviour appear to be the key drivers of disability problems. To go to the US, in my experience, is to be horrified by how much bad food people eat and the advertisements and related rubbish they watch on TV on every channel, no matter how many channels there are, which is heaps. To accompany this consumer culture race to the bottom with obsessions about the need to go into big debt to go to college, creates more bad financial news. Collegiate cultures are increasingly strongly defined in such commercial associations. Develop more openly managed jointly owned regional funds invested in planned direction.

Australians should adopt more openly related international and regional directions for place-based service delivery and competition. 'Sustainable Sydney 2030, for example, is a plan produced as a result of consultation since 2004 which involves *'the full range of economic, social and environmental issues confronting us'*. Implementation requires actors working more openly together, using competition to achieve common and individual goals more broadly. Stop narrowing, lengthening and multiplying closed occupational fields while also encouraging higher debts for those waiting to get in the door to some mythical higher employment.

Health care, education and other service provision for regional and data driven approaches to improving the quality of life, also depend on strategically addressing the nature of an environment, and of the persons, institutions, risks and services related to it openly, to improve them. These essential place and person based services, administrative processes and records are ideally related to future policy and planning within global and regional contexts.

Australian governments see this but are constructed primarily as political forces rather than as effectively data driven servers of the whole population. Operating more openly and justifying

performance is the greatest and cheapest protection against ignorance and corruption. Good media of all kinds are priceless and should not be trashed in multiple races to the bottom, which also have bad consequences in building societies based on lies. On the other hand, the best ways to hand out regional funds to create services and jobs outside the norm of multiple government and departmental silos is far from clear to me. Any ideas? (I guess local elected politicians, big four banks, local councils, post offices, key retailers and real estate agents are central to development if they have well-grounded local information systems along with libraries, schools and higher education institutions, as well as general practitioners.)

From any ideal regional perspective the proof of the human pudding is ideally in its eating, not its certification, if it seems the latter may discriminate against better performers or particular taste unnecessarily. Quality management relates also to ideas of fairness which have been historically constructed whether we like it or not. In regional community contexts it is vital to consider the regulatory and business potential of government to help make all related business operation more effectively open and able to be utilized more broadly. The SBS Code of Practice (2014) provides an excellent guide for many related professions. It also notes, for example, that SBS Radio is the most linguistically diverse radio network in the world. Information and translation ideally perform vital global services also related to development. Universities and related communities appear placed to help a lot of regional service delivery via strategic plans.

FINAL WORDS ON WHERE OPEN FUNDS COULD SAVE AND TACKLE KEY LIFE PROBLEMS

The current budget cost trajectory appears to be the result of key problems which also appear ignored by the Treasurer. As a result of the same forces that brought the last global financial crisis, many people who have retired with superannuation will rapidly lose it as financial 'planners' take it away from us poor old souls who are completely unused to dealing with opaque, lying, twisting, rubbish advice, before falling back on the old age pension. I retired in 2007 after a working life spent mainly as an academic and public servant. I then experienced the sudden effect on my UniSuper retirement capital of the global financial crisis of 2008. I have only recently begun to learn about practices in the financial and strata title housing and related fund management sectors, although the government pretence is that pig ignorant consumers and owners like ourselves are able to be effectively in control of funds others may also think are theirs. This nonsense is going to be very expensive for government in future.

Australian government developments appear to offer the opportunity of far more stable and cheaper support for regional planning and related investment but require broader cooperative understanding. This is necessary to follow regional planning, insurance and taxation models pioneered in occupational health and safety, rehabilitation and in health care provision under Medicare. Recent government developments in regard to industry superannuation and strata title housing insurances; in regard to Crown lands; in recent Commonwealth and health care codes of practice and in related professional indemnity insurances appear encouraging. The administrative steps for related quality management should be understood by those shaping national and regional budgets. What are they? Those of us used to being seen as ignorant are frustrated because it seems we are always expected to guess, while others shut up or may lie.

It has been estimated that two thirds of the expenditure on health care throughout the life time occurs in the last two years of an old person's life. Keeping alive old people who want to die, instead of helping them die at a time of their own choosing, is not only dismissive of their democratic right of choice but hugely and unnecessarily expensive from an ideal Treasury view.

Government also firmly ignores the potential of the well managed death to make satisfying environmental and social contributions in choosing to be killed. This denial of human rights will ensure health care costs keep rising dramatically, with an ageing population captive of health professionals and governments who will not help them to die when they wish. Old people have a right to avoid pain and loss of control or burdening their family members and others. We have a right to help with problems of the end of life, including death. This is productive. The trouble with people like Hockey is that they are ideologues pretending to be otherwise.

Some nations have planned and delivered a broad welfare state. In most nations, however, the majority of souls are left to the mercies of the family in the dwindling lands of increasing numbers of former hunter gatherers and farmers. The city absorbs some in growing slums. In developed welfare states especially, it has seemed obvious to many families that one needs to have fewer children for a good start in life. To discourage contraception and family planning is to ask for related trouble from any government budget perspective. The only welfare state in many countries mainly serves the rich through hugely expensive legal and bureaucratic wages and related social support. As a result the world is full of millions of comparatively blameless people living in shit and trying to cross borders to get away from the conflict and desertification they may or may not have created with others or had forced upon them. One cannot understand the huge increase in global health and wealth in many areas but not in others since 1960, without understand the importance of a one child policy in the rise of China.

Develop commonly owned state and community funds which call for competitive services to the place in the interests of *key stakeholders* and others, so many service providers and advanced manufacturers may flourish as the extension of parks and improvement of lands and heritage are carried out. *Key stakeholders* are those who fund a project and for whose benefit it is intended. There is no good alternative to planning, with competition to assist it as openly and broadly as possible. We wish to move beyond a blaming culture, without being told to shut up. This has many implications for the improvement of related communication, development, research and fund management which should be better understood. New state views of insurances necessary for owners or managers of places where people live and work are ideally part of transitions to funding regional plans and schemes which are openly driven by people and related evidence, rather than designed in closed systems for profit.

Go out there and knock them dead. Carol O'Donnell, St James Court, Rosebank St. Glebe.

See related letter below that I wrote to Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie after seeing the movie 'Half of a Yellow Sun' and buying the book at Gleebooks in Glebe, Sydney, Australia.

Carol O'Donnell, St James Court, 10/11 Rosebank St., Glebe, Sydney 2037

I guess my bottom line question is: CAN YOU USE ANY OF THE TEACHING OR OTHER MATERIAL ON MY OPEN WEBSITE www.Carolodonnell.com.au? (I have PhD; M.Ed. (Hons); B.A. and Dip.Ed. degrees and am a Marxist feminist and a retired academic and public servant with international publications) See related letter below:

Dear Chimamanda

I saw the wonderful movie 'Half of a Yellow Sun' and was vividly reminded of my past as a new Arts graduate teaching English at Government Boys College Kano for two years. I began in 1971 under the auspices of the Australian Volunteers Abroad program, after the Biafran war and the Peace Corps was thrown out of Nigeria. Boko Haram and much else was totally unknown to me then. I came from the Anti-Vietnam War and anti-imperialist new left, from Queensland University, in Oz. After Nigeria my husband and I broke up and I joined the Communist Party of Australia. In Australia the latter dissolved itself.

I found your book 'Half of a Yellow Sun' a truly great piece of work which I could hardly bear to put down and I admire it deeply. I loved Ugwu's dedication of his book 'The World Was Silent When we Died' – For Master, my good man'. I wrote on the inside cover that the book was about the childish and unprotected nature of faith, and laughed when I read your statement at the back that if you weren't a writer you would be a professor teaching whimsical, anecdote-filled, anti-establishment courses about which the university administration would have suspicions. I was an academic and public servant writing like that for most of my life before they sacked me again in 2007. I never made professor for obvious reasons. (See me at Govt. Boys College in Kano on www.Carolodonnell.com.au)

'Half of a Yellow Sun' made me go back for the first time since 1974, to the first and only novel I've ever produced, which was rejected by every publisher who saw it at that time, probably as it is not good. It is called 'An Empty Gesture' and was a therapeutic novel about a volunteer teacher being thrown out of the country. Call it a wish fulfilment dream if you will. I ignored it since. What amazes me on reading it again, after your book, is that I evidently had little idea of how a lethargic work climate might be related to conflicting demands of military, colonial, Islamic and tribal cultures in which I became an increasingly unwilling volunteer, identifying distantly with an elite like Ugwu. I had 'followed' the Biafran War and had the volunteer sensitivity training but it had somehow never occurred to me that the locked school library I was opening up and buying for was locked for any reason unrelated to teacher lack of interest. Nobody pointed the obvious out. I couldn't see it.

As a result of seeing and reading 'Half of a Yellow Sun', I again experience the strong desire to bring historical and emotional truths to regional screens anyway I can help, which would also be fun for me. If you ever want to read 'An Empty Gesture' for this purpose ask me to send it, warts and all. I fear I do not have the capacity to write a novel or film and am condemned to my constant bureaucratic and related academic forms of communication even though no longer paid to do it. This is real freedom. I recall introducing the Penguin African Writers series to the Govt. Boys College library and how popular they were with many students. It is sad to see so many wonderful second hand books apparently being burned today when many people like Ugwu across the world would

still read them or could set up a useful small business. I am pursuing this issue locally through all the usual closed shops.

In a more serious vein for me, in the Asian Century I predict Marx and Freud must also be coming back. CAN YOU USE ANY OF THE TEACHING OR OTHER MATERIAL ON MY OPEN WEBSITE www.Carolodonnell.com.au? (I have PhD; M.Ed. (Hons); B.A. and Dip.Ed. degrees and am a Marxist feminist and a retired academic and public servant with international publications)

I spent my youth in the Communist Party of Australia and became a university teacher before joining the NSW public service for ten years to implement government programs for women, followed by programs to support the Australian occupational health and safety, rehabilitation and related risk and fund management directions. I then taught in the Faculty of Health Sciences at Sydney University until I retired at the age of 60 in late 2007. Since then I have followed related interests.

When I retired from Sydney University I put all my subject outlines, lectures and assessments on www.Carolodonnell.com.au (under the side bar Learning) because they demonstrate the United Nations, World Health Organization and related regional project management directions for sustainable development, which Australian governments are increasingly attempting to follow.

If you have any interest in using any of the free information on this website in any way I'd be grateful to hear from you. I live close to the University of Sydney. Anything I can do to promote the regional planning, related project and risk management directions at www.Carolodonnell.com.au in more institutional or community settings would please me a lot. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any views or ideas. If you ever have business in Sydney feel free to stay at my place for the week.

Yours truly

Carol O'Donnell, St James Court, 10/11 Rosebank St., Glebe, Sydney 2037

Hi Robert, Michael et al.

AN OPEN LETTER ABOUT WRITERS, PUBLISHING, EDUCATION AND CHARITY IN THE CURRENT AUSTRALIAN BUDGET CONTEXT

It was great to meet you and others recently at the Writers and Publishing in 2014 event organised by the NSW Writers Centre. I suggest a related open planning and budget direction below and attached and look forward to any potentially related contact or suggestions.

Before retirement in 2007 I taught at Sydney University for eleven years. As a former public servant and active member of the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) I tried to develop a teaching approach to assist the university to develop the UN and World Health Organization national and regional planning directions to which Australian governments have been committed through legislation and via the enterprise bargain. The NTEU would not recognize or assist this, but wanted to drive everybody in a one size fits all agreement. Theirs is losing direction. One wonders what it is. Ideally it should be guided by the relevant strategic plan.

See global and national planning ideal on www.Carolodonnell.com.au which is ideally put into practice in regional planning and projects for earning and learning. Sydney Uni, for example, should grow the business broadly and primarily through its strategic plan, by forging related links beyond the commonly driving professional and academic placement silos, globally and regionally. Students should also demand much cheaper, better education that is better administered and more widely available. This is discussed in the attached budget response.

It is dysfunctional and stupidly expensive, for example, if universities employ people and then buy back their product in the form of expensively closed journals or books which students will also have to buy at great additional cost to the giant fees they are forced to pay for a course. It is mainly in order to challenge this system and find better ones that I write to you for help.

Australia is often driven in the US direction. However, in globally comparative terms, new entertainment technologies and products may be expensively unreliable or difficult to operate and so lacking for many of the old, the disabled and poor. I count myself among the first two, but being an old teacher and public servant I have disposable income and financial security. Being retired I have time on my hands so read and travel as I wish. (There are others like me.)

I speak as one identified by John Purcell, the Booktopia head of marketing and author, who has seldom been much moved by popular genres. For example, I spent \$50 in the State Library on

remaindered books before the event 'Writers and Publishing in 2014', at which John Purcell, Michael Rowbotham and others spoke. I was delighted to find the remaindered letters of BA Santamaria, as I was kicking myself for having weeded Santa's auto 'Against the Tide' from my shelves long before the election of the Abbott government, to give to the local Vinnies shop. (Santa always had a wife and a secretary to clean up his stuff. I have nobody and feel the loss.)

I read about what interests me at the moment, sometimes in order to write, as is the case in the example, 'After the Budget: Fight back with strategic planning (Advice to students, alumni and others)'. A related proposal to the Catholic Society of St Peter and others is below.

Also see the open letter attached to Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, author of the great book and movie 'Half of a Yellow Sun' about Nigeria, where I taught at Government Boys College, Kano, after the Biafran War but before Boko Haram. The boys loved the Penguin African writers' series. They had never seen such books before I opened up the library. It is hard to avoid the view, however, that aid may be as much part of the poverty problem as a solution to it, for reasons discussed briefly below and attached. (I wrote to World Vision but got no response.)

As a former Phd student who became a public servant in the 1980s I published three books on Australian public policy with Allen and Unwin and one with Longman Cheshire during a decade. At that time I think they did an initial print run of 2000 and I can't remember any reprinting although the Australian Government Lending Rights Scheme still delivers a small yearly cheque.

With many of the new books I often read today, I would be surprised if the author made a living wage from books alone, as they are often based on long research, rather than on the creative imagination which repeatedly works well enough to support itself, let alone others. I guess most writers are able to write because they have been supported by others elsewhere.

My more recent writing is on www.Caroldonnell.com.au. It is there as I couldn't get another publisher since I left government, (aside from closed academic publications which are very expensive for universities to purchase; read by a few; closed; and often part of very particular and dysfunctional rat races getting worse and coming to a theatre near you, no doubt). In 1976 I was also a founding member of the Radical Education Group which religiously produced for free and sold the Radical Education Dossier on a non-profit basis four times per year, before I became a public servant in the NSW Department of Industrial Relations and Employment.

How well I remember the major British academic publishers' salesmen vainly trying to flog their wares to academics when I was teaching at Sydney University for eleven years before I retired in 2007. To get a book contract since the 1990s one has often had to be able to promise to

deliver a large number of captive student bums on seats. This is something that professors and related colleagues often do best for their own, as publication (either as articles or books) is central to the points one gets for climbing the collegiate pole to which one has been wedded.

With the proposal to deregulate university fees, the Hockey budget appears likely to see continuation of the bulk of the Student Services Amenities Fee (SSAF) spent on sport for comparatively wealthy males at expensive colleges. Fight back with the Sydney University strategic plan against the rich, closed collegiate cultures this Commonwealth budget will represent unless sharply redirected by as many students and other communities as possible.

To satisfy everybody better, the conceptualisation of books and related communication seems ideally to be undertaken first with more broadly shared historical discussion of openly related and shared values, assets and key administrative processes, in order to guide all pricing better.

University strategic plans ideally bear open pivotal relationships to earning and learning, as discussed attached in regard to the Hockey budget. Publication and film should be constructed in related regional planning contexts in which publishers are not driving, as much as openly cooperating with other key parties to manage shared values, assets and interests. This case should be made for books in regard to management of the Student Services Amenities Fee (SSAF), as discussed in passing in analysis of the budget and related arenas which are ideally designed more openly as cooperative arrangements to support strategic and regional planning.

Key stakeholders in the management of out of print; new and remaindered books; appear to be *tertiary student organizations; universities; booksellers; publishers with some serious historical and intellectual cachet and backlog publications (e.g. Penguin, Allen and Unwin, university presses); writers and their organizations; charitable organizations, etc. etc. etc.*)

The alternative is to be driven blindly by an exclusively financial and professional price interest that has repeatedly driven financial instability and cost; regional social inequality; environment destruction and related species loss. Globally, the UN, WHO, UNESCO, Australian government and other charitable directions try vainly to address this against the earlier colonial, professional and related government, market and military or tribal odds. The attached budget discussion primarily addresses health care, aboriginal and education services which ideally appear as key drivers of change to serve the *key budget stakeholders* better.

These are the current Australian populations and future generations in which the local communities and their typical and unique individuals are also represented as discussed attached. Following George Orwell in Catalonia as usual, this is considered to be a new world

order where we are all considered normal but some are more normal than others. (I am a bit special.) If you are interested in a related direction I'd be more than happy to hear about it.

Cheers Carol O'Donnell, St James Court, 10/11 Rosebank St., Glebe, Sydney 2037
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Hi Sister Mary (Others for information and related invitation)

SHOCKING ME RIGHT OUT OF MY BRAIN: ANOTHER CONSUMER EXPERIENCE OF THE CATHOLIC SOCIETY OF ST PETER AND MAHSOC IN HEALTH AND WELLBEING WEEK, 08-10 APRIL 2014

BEST PERSONAL LEARNING AWARD SINCE 2007 GOES TO THEM AND ME: I MAKE A PROPOSAL

Following our short discussion with a student last Wednesday at the Catholic Society of St Peter, about the priest and speaker on 'Five Roads to Repentance', I put this in writing as I think it may be important for our joint and several understanding of mental health and human rights, to make the most of the university and our related community and individual experiences. I argued on related regional planning themes to Patricio Campos, ADP Manager, World Vision Ecuador, copied to you. (Related potential of the Westpac Bicentennial Foundation for strategic planning is addressed later.)

Apparently 8-10th April is Health and Wellbeing Week and I had found the enlightening MAHSOC Mental Awareness and Health Society photograph and messages exhibition and talks on available services and practices very positively stimulating. (I hope the young woman whose head I bit was not permanently damaged. Tell her it's the quiet ones you have to watch. If another woman or young person ever again says to me questions about money are illegitimate I swear I may strangle her.)

Anyhow, the Catholic priest who spoke this week, if I understood him correctly, believed that if somebody wrote a letter slandering you to the heights and widely, including to your face, you need not respond directly to his allegations in writing, if you feel yourself right with God as a result of a series of actions. These boiled down to internally questioning one's relationship to God and sin with priestly help. This must be followed by putting good habits in the place of bad and greater charity.

These seemed more like five steps than five roads to me. This is not some mere quibble because roads are regional concepts in ways steps are not. (Wasn't there also something about restitution in kind and number? – always good for research?) Before last Wednesday I had absolutely no idea that for the Catholic priest and his flock death is ideally conceived as the fruit of sin and that God never intended death. The definition of sin appeared historically also to relate to the Ten Commandments and to ten earlier (Old Testament?) statements related to Catamites, Sodomites, etc. etc. etc.

When that nice young man asked me what I thought, I said the priest's view was like that of Michael Corleone in the Godfather, and that any moral or related accusation must be responded to for open judgment before the appeal to God. Even if you think your accuser is mad, from my viewpoint, you should face him and reply to keep faith with ideal human morality and God. He may not see himself as mad. These issues appear related to the ideal regional conceptualization, management and treatment of mental health, human rights and other matters. They also seem issues for theology, science and technology which have long relationships ideally bent on serving better more broadly.

An Asian girl beside you whispered an apparently very interesting question to the priest, but she whispered so softly I didn't have a clue what it was. Perhaps you heard it. His response related to the relationship of repentance with charity. One assumes this relationship is highly relevant in treating death, insurance and related services in theory and practice on Crown lands and beyond. (One has just received a hard copy of the Crown Lands White Paper from Trade and Investment. Whacko the diddlo. It is a cracking story. I'll tell you more about it after reading 'It Takes a Village'.)

As Malcolm Turnbull recently pointed out at a Chinese dinner, 40 years ago, Australia and China did not recognize the existence of each other in diplomatic relations. Now anybody who speaks both languages can chat openly together and with others about such matters to the mutual benefit of all communities. I am also looking forward to Bob Carr talking about his budding relationship with Hillary Clinton on April 15 at the USyd. Law School in 101 your usual room. At what time God knows. (I hope he talks about Hillary before he gets to Henry Kissinger or I fear I might throw up and leave.)

Anyhow, I cannot say how much I have enjoyed the presentations of the Catholic Society of St Peter since I retired in 2007 and also found out about Lilith in museums in Vienna and Berlin. (I had also forgotten about 'East of Eden' until reminded later by Margaret and David on TV). The Catholic Society of St Peter have often shocked me to the core many times since, although Father Lanzon, speaking on 'Jesus and the Adulterer', in which he first read from the Bible about how Jesus met the woman at the well, was riveting. I thought him the winner in all respects and not just because he reminded me so strongly of Julien Sorel in 'The Red and the Black'. How might his view of the institutions of the church and marriage help George Pell and the Pope to reform Vatican finances, one naturally wonders? (You recall he denied his was an unconventional view of the institutions of the church and marriage. It seemed to me, however, to be the opposite emphasis of Pell. Was it?)

Earlier Catholic Society of St Peter highlights have been hearing about the meaning of natural law; hearing three priests speak on how they took the cloth; and hearing about how God seeks babies above all else - from two women. Thus I realized the commonality of His views with the Business Council of Australia. (Too much sport is never enough indeed. It also explains Murdoch, the man who underrated typists. Today does this happen to graphic designers who are skilled engineers?)

LET ME MAKE A PROPOSAL WITH FUNDS (HOW OPEN IS MANAGEMENT?)

In regard to any potential for joint community development operations, I have a lazy \$39,000 in a six-monthly NAB fixed term deposit (3.15% is the indicative rate). I wouldn't like to lose it because I might need it before I die. However, it surely could be put to better use with others in a manner more related to achieving state, local and other regional planning and strategic goals better, as earlier discussed. I would love to fund land and health related development in Vietnam, starting with the removal of land mines if necessary. However, I'd also be happy to consider anything else for a longer fixed term. I often assume desertification is the primary global problem and that joint activities with many other regions related to this first could also help Australia manage Crown and related lands better. I have no idea how Sydney University develops the funds to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan, but will attempt to find out from Bequests, etc. (Funny how nobody ever seems to lack money whenever they want to put up new giant buildings or renovate.)

In this context the Westpac Bicentennial Foundation, as described in the Australian Financial Review (AFR 3.4.14, p.1) appears a model for related regional community development focused first on greener and simpler development need in the village and in related rural and urban planning. Apparently it is the largest private education scholarship program in Australia's history. The scholarships would promote innovation, technical and design expertise, engagement with Asia and leadership skills. It will be focused on graduates seeking to study in Asia and develop skills in technology and innovation. The \$100 million will be placed in a charitable trust, and investment in markets to provide income to fund annual scholarships in five areas which appear to be science, technology and community development related. Bank leaders said the Asia focus was smart given 'that is where our trade and investment has gone' (AFR 3.4.14, News 6). How open is management?

The Vancouver Agreement referred to by Clover Moore and the SBS Codes of Practice (2014) were addressed previously in related contexts of regional and local place development. A critique of the article 'Decentralised energy: What does it mean?' by David Green, CEO of the Clean Energy Council was earlier also attached as a strong warning of how some people are prepared to overlook the bleeding obvious historical fact of Australia starting as a penal colony, to erect a stupid theoretical edifice to confuse and profit from it instead. (Sister there are a lot of men around like that and I have met more than my share.)

Anyhow, as mother used to say, let us get cracking. There is no alternative before the Lord from my view, that of JP Sartre and others with an opportunity/cost view of time, like Becker.

Cheers

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