Sustainable food planning

evolving theory and practice

edited by:
André Viljoen and Johannes S.C. Wiskerke
Sustainable food planning
Sustainable food planning

evolving theory and practice

edited by:
André Viljoen
and
Johannes S.C. Wiskerke
Note from the editors

One overriding aim has directed our efforts in putting this book together: how to get the many people from diverse disciplinary backgrounds who are developing ideas about sustainable food planning to talk to each other, so as to better understand where common themes exist, where there is difference, and above all how we might work together.

It is true to say that most contributors come from what is termed ‘the alternative food movement,’ but it is also correct that many of these alternatives are becoming mainstream. We hope that this book is a step on the way to building the critical mass that helps to give voice to this evolving practice.

We would like to acknowledge the inspiration provided by Jerry Kaufmann, Professor Emeritus of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Wisconsin, whose work has established food systems as a legitimate topic for the planning community in the USA and increasingly within Europe. His work and its recognition within the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP) food group, under the direction of Professor Kevin Morgan, has helped to bring together the authors in this collection.

Looking ahead, we hope and anticipate that more voices and new perspectives will develop the ideas on food, planning, and communities presented here. After all, the subject is vast, challenging, and nothing short of fundamental to our shared futures.

André Viljoen and Han Wiskerke
## Table of contents

**Note from the editors**  
7

**Foreword**  
*Tom Bliss*

**Chapter 1** – Sustainable urban food provisioning: challenges for scientists, policymakers, planners and designers  
*Johannes S.C. Wiskerke and André Viljoen*  
19

**Chapter 2** – Sitopia – harnessing the power of food  
*Carolyn Steel*  
37

**Chapter 3** – The integration of food and agriculture into urban planning and design practices  
*Joe L. Nasr and June D. Komisar*  
47

### Part 1. Urban food governance

**Chapter 4** – Food and the city: the challenge of urban food governance  
*Petra Derkzen and Kevin Morgan*  
61

**Chapter 5** – Food Policy Councils: recovering the local level in food policy  
*Philipp Stierand*  
67

**Chapter 6** – How food travels to the public agenda  
*Simone Plantinga and Petra Derkzen*  
79

**Chapter 7** – Food system planning in small, buzz-less cities: challenges and opportunities  
*Melanie Bedore*  
91

**Chapter 8** – Planning for urban agriculture: problem recognition, policy formation, and politics  
*Nevin Cohen*  
103

**Chapter 9** – Urban food procurement governance: a new playground for farm development networks in the peri-urban area of greater Paris region?  
*Ségolène Darly*  
115
Chapter 10 – The role of municipal markets in urban food strategies: a case study
Georgia Machell and Martin Caraher

Chapter 11 – Traditional food markets: re-assessing their role in food provisioning
Julie Smith

Chapter 12 – Marking the boundaries: position taking in the field of ‘alternative’ food consumption
Jessica Paddock

Chapter 13 – Resilient urban community gardening programmes in the United States and municipal-third sector ‘adaptive co-governance’
Henry Barmeier and Xenia K. Morin

Part 2. Integrating health, environment and society

Chapter 14 – Integrating health, environment and society – introducing a new arena
Bettina B. Bock and Martin Caraher

Chapter 15 – Policy for sustainable development and food for the city of Malmö
Gunilla Andersson and Helen Nilsson

Chapter 16 – Meat moderation as a challenge for government and civil society: the Thursday Veggie Day campaign in Ghent, Belgium
Tobias Leenaert

Chapter 17 – The perilous road from community activism to public policy: fifteen years of community agriculture in Sandwell
Laura Davis and John Middleton

Chapter 18 – Making local food sustainable in Manchester
Les Levidow and Katerina Psarikidou

Chapter 19 – Defining food co-ops
Martin Caraher and Georgia Machell

Chapter 20 – Appetite for change: an exploration of attitudes towards dietary change in support of a sustainable food future
Anna Hawkins
Part 3. Urban agriculture

Chapter 21 – Urban agriculture in developed economies
Jan Willem van der Schans and Johannes S.C. Wiskerke

Chapter 22 – The purpose of urban food production in developed countries
Silvio Caputo

Chapter 23 – Farming in Motown: competing narratives for urban development and urban agriculture in Detroit
Erica Giorda

Chapter 24 – Why is there agriculture in Tokyo? From the origin of agriculture in the city to the strategies to stay in the city
Nelly Niwa

Chapter 25 – Recommended practices for climate-smart urban and peri-urban agriculture
Tara L. Moreau, Tegan Adams, Kent Mullinix, Arthur Fallick and Patrick M. Condon

Chapter 26 – The impact of local food production on food miles, fossil energy use and greenhouse gas emission: the case of the Dutch city of Almere
Jan-Eelco Jansma, Wijnand Sukkel, Eveline S.C. Stilma, Alex C. van Oost and Andries J. Visser

Chapter 27 – Urban agriculture and seasonal food footprints: an LCA study of tomato production and consumption in the UK
Gillean M. Denny

Chapter 28 – Growing alone, growing together, growing apart? Reflections on the social organisation of voluntary urban food production in Britain
Richard Wiltshire and Louise Geoghegan

Chapter 29 – Public space, urban agriculture and the grassroots creation of new commons: lessons and challenges for policy makers
Chiara Tornaghi

Chapter 30 – Urbaniahoeve: expanded urban agriculture
Debra Solomon
Part 4. Planning and design

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Planning and designing food systems, moving to the physical</td>
<td>385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>André Viljoen and Katrin Bohn</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Planning and the quest for sustainable food systems: explorations of</td>
<td>393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>unknown territory in planning research</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Sanne M. Broekhof and Arnold J.J. van der Valk</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Nested scales and design activism: an integrated approach to food</td>
<td>405</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>growing in inner city Leeds</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Emma Oldroyd and Alma Anne Clavin</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Architecture <em>et al.</em>: food gardening as spatial co-authorship on</td>
<td>419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>London housing estates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Mikey Tomkins</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Food, homes and gardens: public community gardens potential for</td>
<td>431</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>contributing to a more sustainable city</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Carolin Mees and Edie Stone</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>How food secure can British cities become?</td>
<td>453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Howard C. Lee</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Food seams: planning strategies for urban borders in New Orleans</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Brittney Everett</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>The CPUL City Toolkit: planning productive urban landscapes for</td>
<td>479</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>European cities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Katrin Bohn and André Viljoen</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Designing multifunctional spatial systems through urban agriculture:</td>
<td>495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the Casablanca case study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Christoph Kasper, Undine Giseke and Silvia Martin Han</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Good planning for good food: mechanisms within the English planning</td>
<td>507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>system to support sustainable food and farming</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Harriet White and Suzanne Natelson</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>The Food Urbanism Initiative</td>
<td>517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Craig Verzone</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 42 – Room for urban agriculture in Rotterdam: defining the spatial opportunities for urban agriculture within the industrialised city
Paul. A. de Graaf

Chapter 43 – Progress through process: preparing the food systems report for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning GoTo2040 Plan
Lynn Peemoeller

Chapter 44 – Slow briefs: slow food... slow architecture
Joanna Crotch

Chapter 45 – GreenEngines, a pedagogic tool on sustainable design and productive landscapes
Ana M. Moya Pellitero and Josué da Silva Eliziário

Index
Chapter 31
Planning and designing food systems, moving to the physical

André Viljoen and Katrin Bohn
University of Brighton, School of Architecture and Design, Grand Parade, Brighton BN2 0JY, United Kingdom; a.viljoen@brighton.ac.uk

31.1 Food and the built environment

What are the physical consequences of a more sustainable food system? How would cities and their hinterlands change? What types of agriculture and distribution systems are envisaged by ‘food planners’? These questions frame the discussion and positions presented by practitioners and academics in the chapters that follow.

The infrastructure for food systems in towns and cities has various manifestations including places for food trading, processing and growing. In most countries that have embraced the globalised agri-business model, local food infrastructures have been severely weakened or no longer exist. Many believe that they have got to be reintroduced, and architects and landscape architects are fascinated by the possibilities of, in particular, urban agriculture set within a productive multifunctional landscape, and the spatial, social and environmental opportunities this suggests. The reintroduction of these spaces into European and North American cities, as opposed to their retention (as is the case in many Asian cities), presents many theoretical and practical challenges. Authors in this section of the book focus on urban and suburban areas describing programmes that range in scale from the personal to the metropolitan, describing bottom-up and top-down initiatives. Theory, policy, live practice and pedagogy are covered.

31.2 Planners and designers

Broekhof and Van de Valk’s chapter sets the context by comparing papers in academic planning journals that argue for a continuation of the dominant agri-business model and those proposing the so called alternative food systems model. Their findings suggest a highly polarised environment, and they argue for a ‘third way’ taking elements from both approaches. The chapters that follow generally come from the position of the alternative food movement, but they are far from proposing a totally localised food system. Our impression is that there may be less polarisation amongst the design community than exists between planners and we suggest that the apparently polarised views identified by Broekhof and Van de Valk arise in part from the different approaches that planners and designers take to solving problems and to a general lack of dialogue between the two disciplines. If the views of all can be discussed more openly, then the ambiguity of meaning and assumptions that lead to polarisation may at least be reduced, if not eliminated. Finding areas of common
ground and areas for collaboration is essential if we are to achieve a more equitable and less resource intensive food system. At the risk of a gross generalisation, planners, even physical planners, deal with issues at a very large scale, so terms like ‘re-territorialisation’ associated with the reintroduction of more localised food systems, remain somewhat abstract. But once a specific site or project is dealt with the issues become very real and specific, and this necessitates a focus on the particular. It is our impression that this focus on the particular can be misinterpreted as advocating the particular as a general solution.

For example Chapter 33 by Oldroyd and Clavin, ‘Nested scales and design activism’, documents a programme called ‘Back to Front’ that encourages the use of front gardens for food growing in a relatively deprived part of England; the actual yield from this, in terms of crops will not by itself obviate the need for large scale food production elsewhere, but as Oldroyd and Clavin put it: ‘Back to Front aims to work on the interface between both the human and natural environment, between differing spatial scales and between private and municipal management structures to promote behavioral change on a personal level, which, in turn, may impact on the wider geographical area and the way it is managed.’

Projects like this represent a move from theory to practice and should be understood as one component and perhaps one stage within the evolution of a more sustainable food system.

Tomkins’ chapter continues to explore the motivations for individuals engaged in community-based food growing in London, at a scale similar to the Back to Front initiative. He concludes that participants in these programmes are motivated by a wide range of issues that go beyond food, including a desire to exercise control over their personal environments. As with Oldroye and Clavin’s work the consequences of small-scale actions, that might be dismissed if measured only by the output of food, may have a much wider and long-term impact through the building of social capacity and the ability for people to co-author their environments. Will this be enough to build the political will necessary to make larger changes to the current food system? Community gardeners in New York provide an answer, having demonstrated the resilience of local initiatives when they are grounded in a genuine desire for something better. Mees and Stone’s chapter traces the transitions within New York’s community gardening movement from an illicit activity to one that has gained recognition from the city authorities. Their chapter documents the benefits, compromises and constraints that come hand in hand with legitimisation. Food growing has always occurred within these gardens, and this is now receiving more attention and analysis as its role in food security and sovereignty is more fully recognised. Mees and Stone include key facts and figures about the controls on use, construction and food sales from community gardens and these provide useful comparisons for other cities.

### 31.3 Food and space

Lee responds directly to Broekhof and Van de Valk’s observations about the gulf between alternative (local) food production systems and global industrial agriculture, by articulating
the need for a rigorous assessment of the yields achievable by urban agriculture. Although historically cities have included urban agriculture in the form of market gardens, dairies and livestock, relearning old cultivation techniques and testing new ones makes it difficult to predict potential yields without field trials. This observation reinforces the need for practical prototypes such as those being attempted by Giseke and her partners working on the Urban Agriculture Casablanca project (see chapter by Kasper, Giseke and Martin Han). Significantly Lee’s background in agronomy provides the complimentary knowledge that planners and designers seek, when trying to assess the viability of their proposals and when briefing clients.

Whereas Lee discusses the space required for urban agriculture, Everett proposes a strategy for identifying space to sell fresh produce. Working in New Orleans, she makes a case for locating markets in zones between affluent and deprived residential areas, thereby simultaneously addressing some of the food access issues that bedevil many cities in the USA while also providing a level of purchasing power from wealthier areas that help to make markets viable for traders. Drawing on the work of Jane Jacobs and Kevin Lynch, this strategy has the potential to reduce urban segregation. How the different purchasing power of different users would be accommodated, accessibility, food diversity and the programming of ancillary activities within market space are all identified as issues critical to the success of urban markets.

### 31.4 Food and place

Everett’s proposition and case studies can usefully be compared to another two successful and innovative markets in the USA, the relatively modestly sized Fondy Market in Milwaukee ([http://www.fondymarket.org/](http://www.fondymarket.org/)) and Detroit’s large Eastern Market ([http://detroiteasternmarket.com/index.php](http://detroiteasternmarket.com/index.php)). Both of these long established markets are leading innovative practice to ensure greater food security for local populations, while also providing social space and facilities for citizens, and significantly, they are partnering in new ventures to pilot economically viable urban and peri-urban agriculture projects. The degree to which fresh fruit and vegetables are unobtainable within the less affluent parts of cities in the USA is extreme, but a similar trend, of small local stores selling only processed food and alcohol, is becoming more and more evident within parts of Europe, in particular the UK. Working, accessible and affordable markets represent another component of a more sustainable food system, but not all markets are successful or financially viable, and so finding out what does work is a priority. Dan Carmody, who oversees Detroit’s Eastern Market (and has a background in planning, urban regeneration and food retail) puts it like this:

> You can’t have a food system where 20 percent of the people at the lower end of the economic totem pole eat only one-seventh of the amount of fresh fruits and vegetables that the people at the top eat. Society can’t afford the health care costs of treating diabetes and hypertension and coronary disease after they’re contracted because of their poor diet. We as a society have to figure out a way that people of all incomes can afford and can access healthy eating (Broder, 2011).
Carmody goes on to suggest that the social environment created by the market is as important as the access it provides to healthy food;

*The Eastern Market is much loved in this region because it’s where food and place come together. So the conviviality is every bit as important in that engagement as the good food is here is [sic] to changing that mix as it affects our diet, as it affects the health of the region, and as it affects the country in terms of what people eat* (Broder, 2011).

The contributors to this section would recognise this notion that food and place can come together to create better urban spaces. Bohn and Viljoen have for some time made the case that spaces for food production and distribution can beneficially enhance cities as part of a wider landscape strategy, and believe that enough knowledge and experience exists to be able to sketch out the multiple actions and interactions between individuals, organisations, communities and disciplines that together can achieve the infrastructure required to support a more sustainable food system. In our contribution to this section based the concept of Continuous Productive Urban Landscapes (CPUL) we outline a proposal for the CPUL City Toolkit, a four stage action plan for planning and implementing urban agriculture as part of a coherent productive urban landscape. Ideas proposed in the CPUL City Toolkit are being tested in extensive multi-disciplinary, multi stakeholder research and planning programmes in many regions and cities, and examples follow from Greater Casablanca, Switzerland, Rotterdam and Chicago.

31.5 Context and strategies

Casablanca, in marked contrast to Detroit, is projected to increase in population size to the extent that it can be defined as a mega city. Working in this dynamic situation, the ambitious Urban Agriculture Casablanca project, described by Kasper and colleagues, aims to bridge theory and practice using an action research strategy to explore the potential of productive green infrastructure, with urban agriculture at the centre of a proposal for climate optimised multifunctional urban landscapes. Elements of the Casablanca project have been tested elsewhere, and the practical field work projects described have resonances with the exemplary work of the Dutch organisation RUAF (www.ruaf.org), but as far as we are aware this is the first and most comprehensive designer led attempt to research, at a range of scales, a more sustainable food system, taking full account of its spatial, social and administrative impact. As with other propositions for large comprehensive urban strategies incorporating productive urban landscapes, such as those that have been proposed for Detroit, implementation is unlikely to be straightforward (Gallagher, 2010). A major obstacle in the case of Detroit and Casablanca appears to be access to land. In the case of Detroit, within its vastly depopulated suburbs residents who do remain, and highly articulate not for profit organisations working from within communities, are fearful of large scale top-down approaches, especially from financially motivated corporations, that disregard the will and established initiatives of residents. In Casablanca, the context is completely different, as it appears that agricultural land is being ‘banked’ on the assumption that its value will increase once the city expands (Stollmann, 2011).
Detroit and Casablanca are examples at opposite ends of the spectrum of shrinking and expanding cities. In other relatively more stable situations planners and enterprising individuals are working together in an attempt to develop more environmentally sustainable and equitable proposals for food production and food security. Economic uncertainty, recognition of the impact of peak oil and a changing global power balance are all driving this reappraisal. Rocky Marcoux, commissioner for city development in Milwaukee, with strong support from the city’s mayor, is clear that visions for a new urban model including productive urban landscapes are necessary if cities are to become resilient and ‘prosper’. He believes that city officials and planning policy should support a range of well thought-out prototypes that individuals and organisations wish to establish (personal communication, 2011). In Milwaukee’s case Will Allen’s highly publicised food and social justice organisation ‘Growing Power’ and other ecologically driven urban agriculture initiatives inspired by Growing Power, such as Sweet Water Organics (http://sweetwater-organic.com/), provide evidence of a city’s attempt to remove barriers and positively support urban agriculture initiatives by, for example, providing access on reasonable terms to land controlled by the city. Elsewhere, where land is scarce, in for example New York City or Berlin, enterprising individuals are setting up experimental rooftop farms that aim to be financially viable, as Brooklyn Grange Farm (http://www.brooklyngrangefarm.com/), Gotham Greens (http://gothamgreens.com/) and Urban Aquaponics Berlin (Reuters, 2011) demonstrate.

White and Natelson, in their chapter about the English planning system and how it can support more sustainable food and farming provide more details about the types of policy and control mechanisms that may be used in this field. Their chapter makes clear that planning legislation can provide a framework to support future actions, but has limited impact on the status quo without a directed vision, reinforcing the same point made by Rocky Marcoux in Milwaukee. White and Natalson also believe that the planning process can become ‘a mechanism through which a more equal balance can be established by enabling less powerful sectors of society to have an influence’, especially important in a sector like food, where a relatively few powerful ‘big players’ have the resources to exercise considerable influence.

Working in a very different context, but with a similar scope to Urban Agriculture Casablanca, Verzone’s chapter on the Swiss Food Urbanism research programme presents further evidence of the rapidly increasing demand for knowledge and evidence about how a more sustainable food system would impact on the physical form of cities. Of particular note is the Swiss National Science Foundation’s title for the funding programme under which Food Urbanism falls: ‘New Urban Qualities’. The evolving paradigms for integrating productive landscapes in cities will certainly bring about new qualities, and many have been arguing for, and trying to articulate, these through a variety of means including installation, exhibition and event. Verzone’s chapter, like the Urban Agriculture Casablanca chapter, helpfully articulates the cross- and interdisciplinary collaboration required for projects attempting to develop a comprehensive regional model. While the Swiss context is particular, especially when compared to less wealthy nations, the attempt to articulate environmental benefits
accruing from urban agriculture, which in the Swiss case may release payments for urban farmers, will in all cases provide a useful evidence base for other nations.

De Graaf and Peemoeller present targeted studies each in different ways aiming to facilitate the development of more resilient local food systems in Rotterdam and Chicago. De Graaf presents what he calls a ‘top down’ review and assessment of opportunities for introducing commercially viable urban agriculture into Rotterdam; this results in a number of opportunity maps that provide guidance for ‘bottom up’ initiatives. He describes this work as an illustration of how planners can contribute to the co-creation of a more sustainable city. This process is highly replicable and suggests a number of useful parameters within which such a study can operate and provide useful guidance without getting into a site-by-site analysis of current opportunities. The result is a resource-efficient guide for potential urban farmers in their search for sites and the selection of appropriate types of urban agriculture. As with other contributors, the Rotterdam study introduces the idea that urban agriculture should beneficially tap into resource and waste streams, thus ‘closing loops’ and reducing the costs and requirements of other urban infrastructures.

Peemoeller’s chapter critically assesses the methodology used to produce the first food systems report, which she led, for the Chicago metropolitan region. In common with the Casablanca, Swiss and Rotterdam studies the Chicago report which was commissioned as part of an official planning study looking forward to 2040, recognised the need for top-down and bottom-up approaches. It worked directly with community organisations in a participatory community planning process. Peemoeller articulates the difficulties in convening such a large group of professional and community contributors and the difficulty of arriving at a consensus. The outcome of the nine-month-long study did not result in an action plan, but it did get a diverse range of people talking, and it did produce a shared vision for a desired future food system while embedding food planning within the regional planning process.

31.6 Back to planning and design

It might be concluded that this approach, of working with an extremely wide and diverse group of stakeholders is effective at generating a vision, or goal, but not the best way to generate particular propositions for achieving that vision. The number of participants engaged in trying to reach a consensus would of itself be challenging if such a large and diverse group where trying to arrive at consensus about about particular projects. This brings us back to an earlier point about the difference between generating general ‘planning’ solutions and particular ‘design’ solutions. An action plan will require a number of specific propositions, related to particular places and contexts. Trying to achieve a consensus about specific proposals is probably more realistically done with a smaller number of stakeholders, be they a community or individuals directly associated or affected by the proposal. A two-stage approach, in which a shared vision is arrived at collectively and then as a separate task, particular proposals are developed by smaller groups of stakeholders, might provide a better model. As Peemoeller notes; ‘It would be a valuable contribution to the professional
or academic field to survey different food systems planning methodologies and compare outcomes. This would help to further establish guidelines for the practice of food systems planning and expectations from the process.

Despite Peemoeller’s disappointment at not achieving an action plan, the city is developing planning policy in support of urban agriculture. Within two years of the report’s instigation the city’s zoning code has been amended to remove certain barriers to urban agriculture (The City of Chicago, 2011). Erica Allen, the noted urban agriculture activist based in Chicago, considers these to be significant changes,

> It legitimises urban agriculture as an enterprise or a business that hasn’t been on the books before. Chicago always had farms within the city limits, but the new ordinance creates a space where we can begin to create economic opportunities within our communities, especially in areas where food deserts are a direct result of unemployment and little economic opportunity (Nemes, 2011).

### 31.7 Pedagogy: design education and food systems

Elsewhere in this book Nasr and Komisar describe the process by which teaching within schools of architecture is resulting in a new generation of practitioners committed to integrating productive landscapes into their practice. The final two chapters in this section address pedagogy with respect to undergraduate students. Crotch describes a programme run for third year Bachelor of Architecture students at the Macintosh School of Architecture in Glasgow, while Moya Pellitero and da Silva Eliziário describe an ambitious European cross-disciplinary and cross-institutional travelling summer school that they have established.

The Glasgow programme is underpinned by a strong polemic, drawing from the slow food and slow city movements, and one of its graduates achieved the accolade winning the Royal Institute of British Architects Bronze Medal for the best undergraduate design project in 2010.

Moya Pellitero and da Silva Eliziário’s summer schools set intensive and highly structured weeklong workshops using principals derived from concepts of Landscape Urbanism and Continuous Productive Urban Landscapes. These two chapters demonstrate the challenge of introduction multidisciplinary topics like food systems planning to undergraduate students who are still mastering their own disciplines. Undoubtedly students benefit from being exposed to the complexities of designing for more sustainable food systems, but judging the right balance of the general, to the particular, so that students are not overwhelmed remains a challenge. Nasr and Komisar’s chapter makes clear that integrating this relatively new and compelling challenge into design and planning education is appreciated and does result in real change.

To repeat a common theme in this book, the chapters that follow do not yet provide definitive answers to the question of how alternative food systems will impact on future cities, but they do provide models for approaches and experiments that may be replicated, critiqued,
modified and tested elsewhere as planners and designers contribute to the definition of a
more sustainable and equitable food system.

References


Gallagher, J., 2010, Reimagining Detroit, opportunities for redefining an American city. Wayne State
University Press, Detroit, USA.

Reuters, 2011, Urban farming brings the country to the city. Available at http://www.reuters.com/
2011.

Stollmann, J., 2011, Douar Ouled Ahmed – A Future Urban Landscape as a Framework for Traditions,
Aspirations and Business Opportunities. Urban Agriculture Casablanca, Design as an Integrative Factor


Nemes, J., 2011, Green Scene: New Chicago ordinance encourages urban farmers to start planting. Available at
http://www.cityfarmer.info/2011/09/22/green-scene-new-chicago-ordinance-encourages-urban-