

THE FIRST SEVEN YEARS

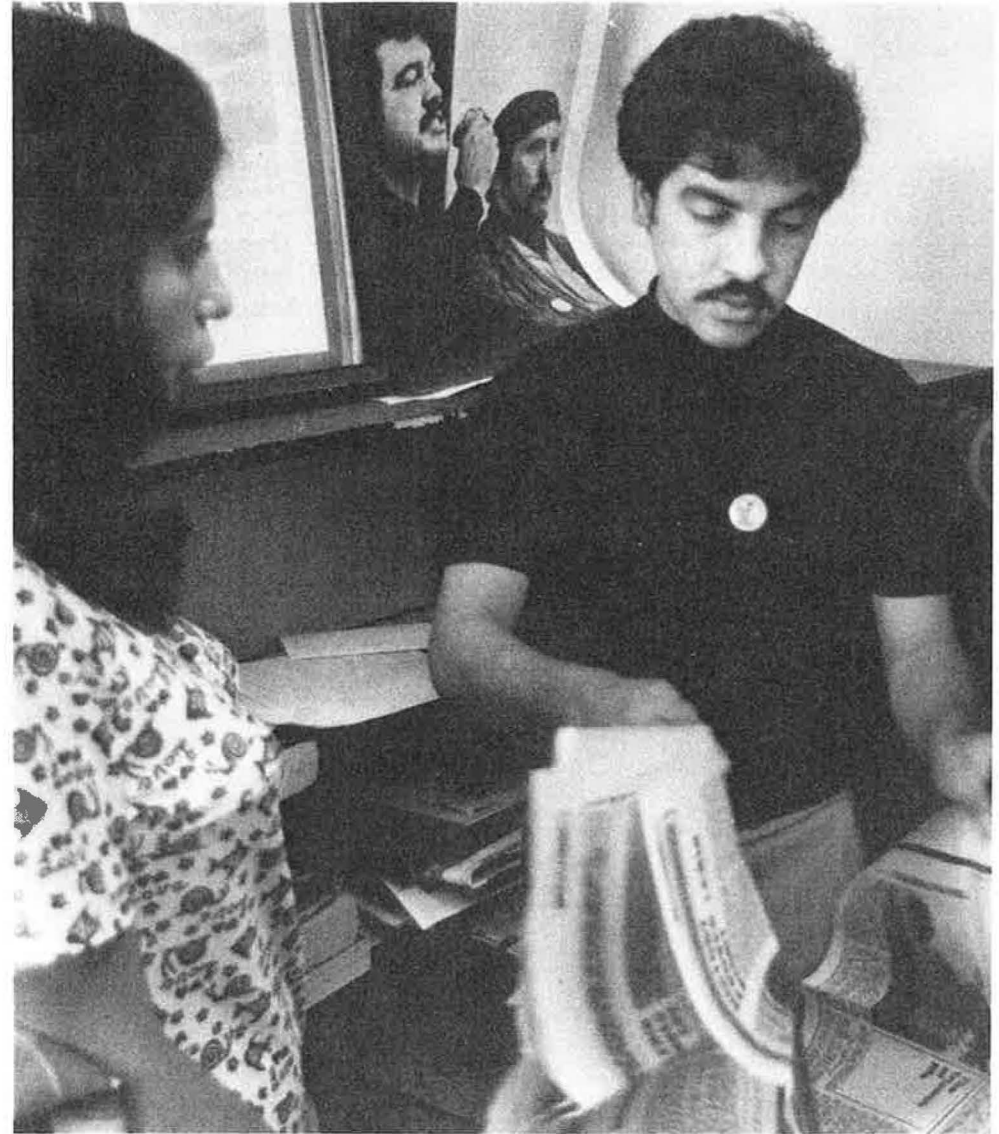
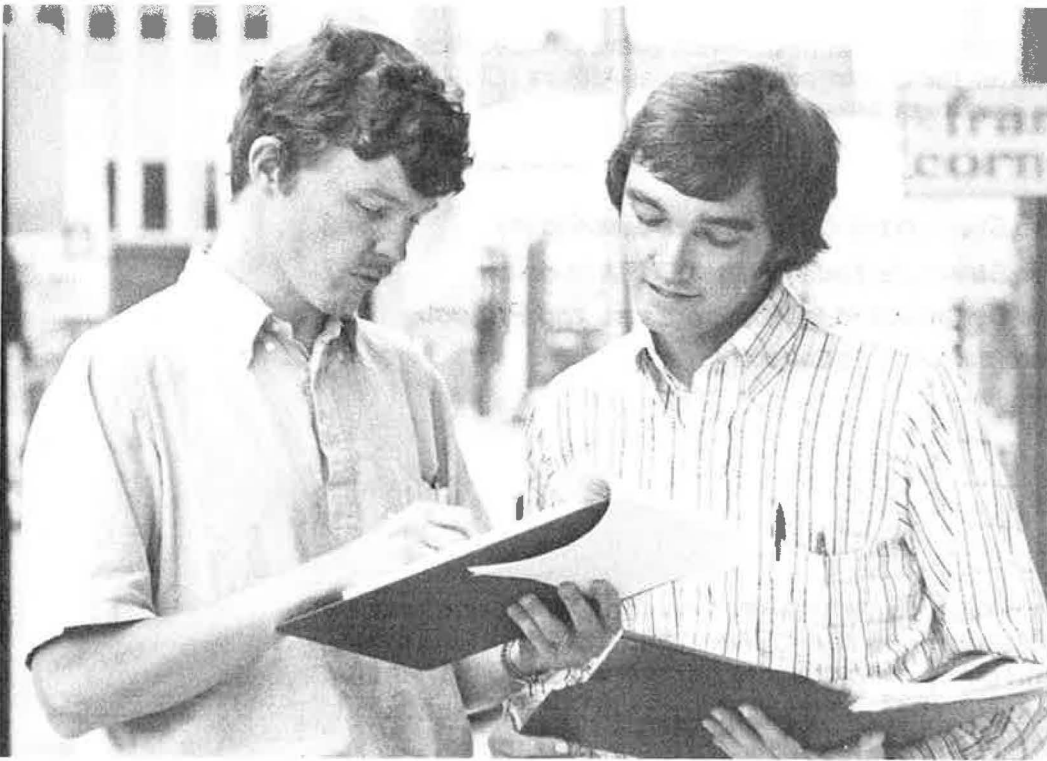
CONTENTS

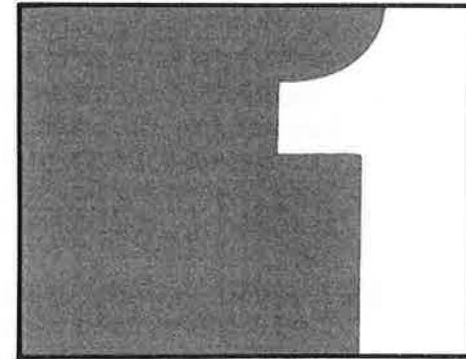
A synopsis of the first seven years of operation of the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA) at the University of Minnesota.

	Page
The Start: What CURA was created to do	3
The Structure Today: What CURA is doing	7
The Dynamics of CURA Programs and Projects	27
Summary and Prospect	37

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SEPTEMBER 1975





THE START: WHAT CURA WAS CREATED TO DO

RESPONSE TO BROAD SUPPORT

At their September 1966 meeting, on the recommendation of President O. Meredith Wilson, the Regents authorized the University administration to go ahead with plans for a Center for Urban and Regional Affairs.

The action followed statements from city and state officials and recommendations from three University faculty committees.

President Malcolm Moos restated the community needs and the challenge to the University in his inaugural address on the "Communiversity" in May 1968.

Meanwhile, in March 1968, Fred Lukermann, assistant academic vice president, became acting director, and CURA was formally functioning. The first annual budget was scheduled for the 1968-69 fiscal year.

SEVEN MAJOR NEEDS

Surveys of community organizations, professional public agencies, and faculty, established seven major needs which the University—as a part of the wider community—could help especially to meet. Lukermann outlined them in a memorandum in March 1968, in order of frequency of request.

- 1) *Information*: including newsletters, a catalogue of experts and technical resources, and a central clearing office for community requests and faculty assignments.
- 2) *Research*: conferences, seminars and short courses to "translate" disciplinary research into a consumer product that is digestible and applicable at the professional agency level.
- 3) *Counseling*: direct counseling, fellowship and remedial programs at the pre-school, school and post-school levels to keep students in the mainstream of the edu-

cational system as long as they have the ability and the aptitude.

- 4) "*Storefront*": courses, seminars, discussion groups, projects at the neighborhood level, especially in communication skills; social studies; drama, art and music programs; and economic/consumer training.
- 5) *Training*: training, re-training and counseling programs such as New Careers, Leadership and Citizen Community Organization training.
- 6) *Curriculum*: courses in public schools, the University and the Community to bring to the public the nature of modern problems, especially those of minorities, poverty and discrimination and cross-cultural appreciation.
- 7) *Technical Assistance*: consultant and short course-seminar programs in technical areas where the University has special expertise and resources.

POLICIES

In his memorandum of March 1968, Lukermann stated two aims:

- Work *through* organized agencies, offices, and community groups, not independently as a University competing agency. The University serves as a pool of talent and resources involved in community programs through existing community groups and agencies.
- Respond to requests to the University and try to match these requests with available University resources, to assure maximum community relevance for our pilot projects. Appoint faculty

coordinators to serve essentially as chairmen of seminars of faculty, students, and professional and community leaders who receive these requests, evaluate them, and mount projects.

From his experience as director of CURA following his appointment in July 1968, John Borchert reaffirmed and elaborated those policies in the first issue of the *CURA Reporter* in June, 1970:

- CURA projects are pilot, experimental, or short-term.
- Projects which are unsuccessful will be discarded, and the Center will help to build successful projects into an appropriate part of the academic or community agency structure.
- CURA will not develop permanent faculty or research staff, or offer degrees. It confines itself to projects for which there is no other practical administrative home.

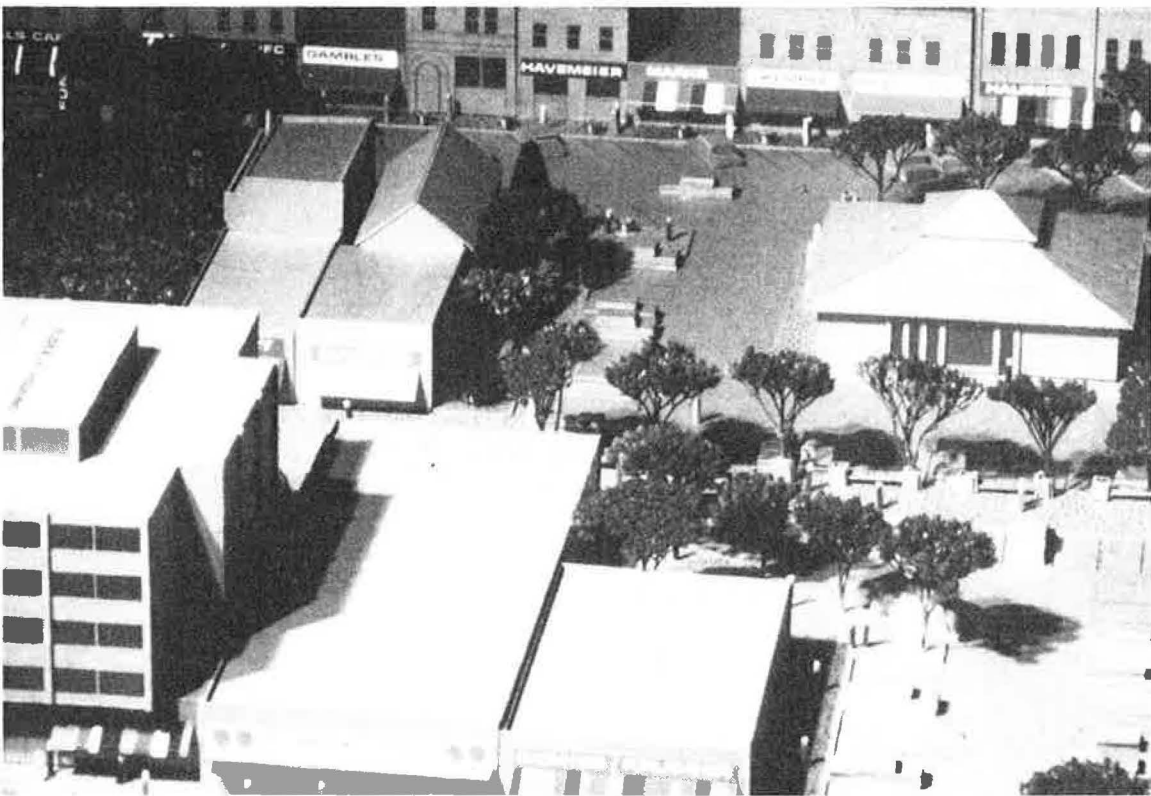
At the same time, Borchert also elaborated Lukermann's earlier aim, not to work as a University competing agency in the community, and also to preclude working as a competing or independent agency within the University.

- In one way, this Center is merely a small addition to a large, effective, long-standing community service effort which ranges from the Extension Divisions, to internships and applied research programs of the professional schools, to the varied projects and services of departments and individual faculty.
- CURA's role is to sponsor projects which
 - cross disciplinary and collegiate lines,
 - address major problems in the wider community,
 - coordinate university and community resources,

—stimulate new programs to make the University more responsive to community needs and increase the constructive interaction between faculty, students, and persons dealing directly with major public problems.

- Specific projects of the Center generally fall within a half-dozen broad problem areas. These reflect major lags in the evolution of the American urban system in this generation: housing, human relations, urban transportation, environmental management, local government organization, and the diffusion of information about these topics. These have become the program areas of the Center; they cut across a wide and changing array of disciplines and colleges.

Thus CURA's role is development, not long-term operations. The issues and needs that arise out of the urban community, while they compel the attention of University faculty and students, are so multi-disciplinary and dynamic that they can usually be best addressed by ad hoc combinations of people and disciplines, not by a structured department or bureau.





*THE STRUCTURE TODAY: WHAT CURA IS DOING**

OFFICE OF INTERCULTURAL PROGRAMS

Purpose: To expand educational and consequent job opportunities for racial minorities through the use of University and community resources.

PROGRAM

Vocational Opportunities for Ex-Offenders

Pilot project to provide vocational assessment, counseling and on the job training for ten Afro-American inmates paroled to the State of Minnesota. Prior to parole, inmates will receive vocational assessments and six-month On the Job Training Contracts.

PARTICIPANTS

Minnesota State Parole Board; Minnesota State Department of Corrections; correctional institution inmates; St. Paul Urban League; Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce; Helping Industry Recruit Ex-Offenders (H.I.R.E.); U of M Vocational Assessment Clinic and CURA.

*Note: Projects conducted during the 1973-75 Biennium or initiated in Summer 1975 are considered current projects.

PROGRAM

Afro-American History Week

Project to promote, coordinate, publicize and record Afro-American History Week commemoration in the Twin Cities area.

PARTICIPANTS

Coffman Union; Afro-American Studies Department; KUOM and KTCA radio stations; Minneapolis and St. Paul Public Schools; various community agencies; area colleges; and CURA.

Ethnic Studies Development

Program providing graduate research assistants for three ethnic studies departments to: 1) create new study and research programs to serve their constituent communities; 2) initiate pilot projects; and 3) help seek further support from private and public grants.

Afro-American Studies Department; American Indian Studies Department; Chicano Studies Department; and CURA.

International Programs

Pilot project designed to increase the participation of Afro-American, Asian-American, Native American and Spanish-Surnamed American students in International Study Programs. Exploratory work is being done with the various offices for international programs to identify problem areas and resource needs.

International Study and Travel Center; Office of International Programs; International Center; and CURA.

Urban League Program Development

Program support to enhance community service by providing access to programs of study in regular University courses designed to increase both the general education and specialized skills of the staff of the Urban Leagues as well as off-campus seminars on employment, health care, education, housing, human rights and other topics with which the Leagues' Community Service staffs are concerned.

Minneapolis and St. Paul Urban Leagues; Continuing Education and Extension Division; and CURA.

PROGRAM

Affirmative Action Study

A one-year graduate seminar offered through the School of Public Affairs studying the University's Affirmative Action Program: 1) to determine its level of responsiveness to the employment and educational needs of minorities and women; and 2) to make recommendations for improvement if necessary.

Community College Study

An investigation of the level at which minorities are presently using the resources of five Junior Colleges (Metro-State, North Hennepin, Anoka-Ramsey, Normandale and Inver Hills).

Community Referral to Vocational Assessment Clinic

A cooperative project with the Vocational Assessment Clinic (funded through CURA) to assist minorities in determining their vocational skills and the preparation required to maximize them. Companies participating in this project provide work-release time for employees to take advantage of vocational assessment and counseling.

Minority Scholarship Task Force

The objective of this task force is to determine: 1) the number of minorities enrolled in colleges or other post-secondary institutions; and 2) the stage in their educational career when students decide upon their need for higher education and identify their vocational goals.

PARTICIPANTS

School of Public Affairs faculty and students; University of Minnesota's Equal Opportunity Office and Academic Administration; and CURA.

Peavey Company, Donaldson Company, U of M Vocational Assessment Clinic, and CURA.

Individuals representing business, industry, public schools, area colleges and the University.

OFFICE OF PLANNED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT & HOUSING RESEARCH

Purposes: To initiate and coordinate research and new or experimental courses on the subject of housing, in an effort to awaken interest in this field, which has been neglected in most parts of the University.

To bring University resources to bear on statewide and community housing problems and programs.

PROGRAM

Conceptual Model of Minnesota Housing Process

An initial attempt to describe the process of housing Minnesota's population as a "system" in order to identify more accurately the most important actions or actors and the relationships among them. This pilot project can serve to suggest and outline more detailed research projects throughout the University and order their priority. It will indicate areas of need for housing related extension service and develop recommendations as to the future direction or re-direction of housing programs.

PARTICIPANTS

Agricultural Experiment Station, Agricultural and Applied Economics Department, CURA.

Special Studies in the Metropolitan Area

An analysis of the role of mobile homes on the housing situation in the Twin Cities commuter zone; a study of the location and occupants of FHA Title 236 housing projects to assess their effect on the metropolitan housing market; study of the relationships between project designs, managerial practices and resident satisfaction and financial success in subsidized housing; and development of a computerized system to monitor and research the new housing rehabilitation programs in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Local HUD office, Minneapolis and St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authorities, Metropolitan Council, faculty and students from two University departments, CURA staff.

PROGRAM

St. Paul Historic Preservation.

An Historic preservation planning program has begun in the Summit-Ramsey Hill sections under a \$50,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts of Old Town Restorations, Incorporated of St. Paul, and a \$69,000 grant from the Northwest Area Foundation. CURA helped in preparation of the grant proposals, through both direct staff participation and support of faculty and student research in regular field classes, and continues to assist the project in the same ways.

Education of Architecture Students

The design and teaching of seminar courses in the community development process to students in architecture with special emphasis on the economic and social dimensions of major development projects.

PARTICIPANTS

Old Town Restorations, Summit Hill Association, Ramsey Hill Association, Macalester College, Portland Avenue Home Owners Association, St. Paul Planning Board, St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority, Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota Society of Architects, CURA.

ALL-UNIVERSITY COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Purposes: To serve as a source of information for faculty and students on courses, counseling and research proposals.

To facilitate educational opportunities in environmental studies.

To develop public service programs.

To assist in administration of, fiscal support, credit and evaluation for programs, courses, and research relating to the environment.

PROGRAM

University Bulletin

Since the Council was formed in response to the widespread demand for environmental studies, one of its first activities was the preparation and publication of the *University Bulletin of Environmentally Related Courses and Programs*. This was the first bulletin describing related programs throughout the University and not only within a single administrative unit, and it is the basis for sound, gradually increasing cooperative interdepartmental programs. The most recent edition, *Courses and Programs in the Environment, Urban Problems, and Planning*, includes, along with environmental courses and programs, complete descriptions of the planning and urban studies programs at the several campuses of the University of Minnesota.

PARTICIPANTS

Faculty from seventy-two departments, all college offices, from all coordinate campuses of the University, CURA.

"Common Ground"

A series of daily radio programs prepared and produced by the Council with the cooperation of University station KUOM. These programs are currently broadcast by 50 radio stations throughout Minnesota and deal with current environmental issues.

KUOM staff, faculty, graduate students, community professions and leaders, the Minnesota Humanities Commission, CURA.

PROGRAM

Research Support and Coordination

The Council is currently coordinating and partly supporting fourteen research projects, each focused on an environmental issue in Minnesota. Topics include copper-nickel mining, energy use and policy, lakeshore development in the Arrowhead Development Region, the ecology of Pig's Eye Lake (St. Paul), impact of timber cutting on lake quality, re-vegetation potential for taconite wastes, and residential energy conservation.

Contract and Grant Research

Minnesota Energy Study. A study of: 1) energy supply and demand in Minnesota; 2) fuel and power requirements of essential public services; 3) fuel requirements for agricultural production; 4) technology and its potential affect on energy use and supply; and 5) forecasts of energy demand describing various methods and assumptions used in making these forecasts. A "PRIMER" designed to provide information on energy policy issues has also been prepared.

Plutonium Project. Preparation of a report on the implications of using plutonium as a commercial fuel in fission reactors.

Contributions to an initial study of potential environmental effects of a copper-nickel smelter in north-eastern Minnesota. The study was sponsored by the Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources. Council research produced models to help assess impact on natural vegetation and socio-economic characteristics of the surrounding region.

PARTICIPANTS

Faculty and students from fifteen departments of the University, partial support from Minnesota Resources Commission and State Planning Agency, CURA.

Minnesota State Planning Agency, All University Council on Environmental Quality, CURA.

The New Hope Foundation, Inc., the National Council of Churches, All University Council on Environmental Quality, CURA.

Faculty from the Institute of Technology and the Duluth campus; Minnesota State Planning Agency (project coordinator); and CURA.

OFFICE OF LAND USE STUDIES

Purposes: To bring together the vast array of local, state, and federal government data which describe land use, ownership, value, and resources.

To develop techniques for rapid analysis and presentation of the data to help solve problems of environmental management and land-use planning.

PROGRAM

Development of Land Data Bank and Analytical System

Expansion of the data bank of the Minnesota Land Management Information System (MLMIS). Emphasis on natural resources and land development, supplementing existing data on land use and water frontage. Inventory of all Minnesota water resource data in order to select items for the "Water Information System" now required by law and make it compatible with the already developing "Land Information System" (MLMIS). Experimentation with computer programs for applying the land and water data to land evaluation and planning questions.

PARTICIPANTS

Faculty and students from four University departments, Water Resources Research Center, State Planning Agency, State Department of Natural Resources, Department of Administration, Arrowhead Regional Development Commission, National Aeronautics and Space Agency, CURA.

Pilot Applications of the Land Management Information System

Use of the data bank and analytical programs to evaluate alternative land uses in specific cases or controversies. Case studies have included location of a multi-county sanitary land-fill in suburban Washington County, alternative proposed locations of copper-nickel mining and processing, alternative possible locations for a high-voltage power transmission line across northern Minnesota and south to the Twin Cities, and alternative zoning plans for the periphery of the new Voyageur's National Park.

Faculty and students from six University departments, University Computer Center, State Planning Agency, State Department of Administration, Itasca County, Arrowhead Regional Development Commission, Agricultural Extension Service, CURA.

PROGRAM

Land Use Suitability and Priority

Experiments in the evaluation of 40-acre parcels over large areas according to their relative suitability for major classes of development or preservation, based on the location and natural resources of each parcel. Such data are essential for any systematic regional or state-wide review of land use proposals or environmental impact statements.

Research in Support of Agency Operations

As research and development are completed, operation and application of the Land Information System will gradually be taken over by state agencies. This will demand standardized records and coordinated regulation by multiple agencies and local governments. In anticipation of these needs, one project is preparing manuals for recording data on land use and resources, and another is studying the potential impact, and inter-agency coordination which would be needed, if existing land-use controls were fully used.

PARTICIPANTS

Faculty and students from three University departments, Arrowhead Regional Commission, Metropolitan Council, Washington and Ramsey County Officials, Minnesota Geological Survey, State Planning Agency, Pollution Control Agency, and Department of Natural Resources, Northern States Power Company, CURA.

Students and faculty from University schools of law and public affairs, State Planning Agency, Departments of Natural Resources and Administration, Intergovernmental Information Systems Advisory Council, CURA.

OFFICE OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT

(See also Office of Social Service Training Projects)

Purposes: To start new educational programs to prepare qualified low-income persons to enter career jobs in human services and to advance in their careers.

To explore issues relating to working parents, and to the career and educational concerns of persons in mid-life.

PROGRAM

Community Health Worker

A work-study program to increase the qualifications and general education of para-professionals employed in the emerging system of neighborhood health centers. A special curriculum has been created using faculty and courses from three colleges and two community agencies. The program also provided instruction for students from Public Health, the Medical School, and allied health fields to broaden their perspectives on para-professional work.

PARTICIPANTS

Health Manpower Development Corporation, Neighborhood Health Centers in the Twin Cities area, metropolitan area Community Colleges and St. Mary's Junior College, Indian Health Center, Children's Health Center, Metropolitan Area Free Clinic Consortium, Hennepin and Ramsey Work Incentive Programs (WIN), U of M General College, Study Skills Center, Allied Health Programs, and Community-University Health Care Center, National Organization of Women, Project Breakthrough, CURA.

Minnesota Family Day Care Training

Project to upgrade the quality of children's day care through: 1) state-side workshops for county social service staffs and other community workers and 2) preparation of a slide-tape series as a training resource for parents and others.

U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare (Funds), State Department of Public Welfare, Family Day Care Association, County Welfare Directors and Staffs, Public Health Nurses, Community Action Programs, Head Start Program, local Day Care centers, representatives from Area Vocational-Technical Institutes, Community Colleges, State Colleges, Agricultural Extension Agents, individual parents, U of M Center for Early Education and Development, School of Social Work, CURA.

PROGRAM

Ramsey County Family Day Care Training

Project to improve the quality of day care which is available to children of working parents; and is paid for mainly through federal funds. University component emphasized two tasks: 1) Develop and test training materials for the large, heterogeneous population of women who operate day-care centers in their homes and cannot easily go to another part of the city for instruction. Modes included TV, radio, Neighborhood workshops, independent study, field trips, home-based training, and academic courses, and 2) Develop a new para-professional career—the family day-care consultant, through a special work-study curriculum.

Workshop on Mid-Life Careers for Women

Labor market information and review of counseling and placement experiences.

PARTICIPANTS

Ramsey County Coordinated Child Care Council, Ramsey County Welfare Department; Minnesota Department of Public Welfare, Family Day Care Association, Family Day Caregivers, U of M General College, Department of Media Resources, Center for Early Education and Development, Child Development Institute, School of Social Work and Department of Family Social Science, CURA.

HECC-CURA joint sponsorship, representatives of post-high school institutions and women's organizations, affirmative action officers, educational counselors, management trainers, personnel officers, public officials.

**OFFICE OF SOCIAL SERVICES TRAINING
PROJECTS**

(Formerly Office of Career Development)

Purposes: To identify issues in the social services and search out responses in collaboration with University and community resources.

To transfer experience gained through past career development projects to issues arising from cultural transformations and the demands of our changing milieu.

PROGRAM

Minnesota Child Welfare Training Project.

Development of a special curriculum in child welfare in the School of Social Work. This training project is producing a slide/tape series and sponsoring a series of Community-University seminars to address emerging and critical issues in child welfare.

PARTICIPANTS

School of Social Work, Law School, Child Development, Media Resources, American Indian Studies, Family Social Science, Psychiatry, Early Childhood Development Center, County Welfare Departments, Mn Department of Public Welfare, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, CURA.

Public Forum Series on "Title XX."

Three seminars dealing with the constraints and potential for planning social services in Minnesota.

School of Social Work, School of Public Affairs, School of Public Health, CURA.

URBAN EDUCATION CENTER

Purposes: To expand the opportunity for students to broaden campus classroom studies through field application in the community.

To help meet the need for community design and survey in low-budget community organizations.

To increase the interaction between students, faculty, and community organizations.

PROGRAM

Lincoln County Study

Two county-wide surveys: 1) the status of housing; and 2) a determination of what geographical area is served by each community and what services are provided. The surveys are accompanied by design projects to help individual communities improve their service facilities— parks and playgrounds, community center, institutional landscaping, mainstreet improvements.

PARTICIPANTS

Students and faculty from the University and Southwest Minnesota State College, with the cooperation of high school students throughout the county, Countryside Council/Lincoln County Planning and Development Committee, Lincoln County Planning Commission, local groups in four towns in the county, plus UEC staff coordinator.

“Project Rediscovery”

Short-term projects combining field work with classroom or laboratory experience for students mainly in architecture and social sciences, under the direction of faculty and professionals in the community. Projects include downtown face lifting, park and playground design, community surveys, and historic preservation.

Minnesota State Arts Council, Bicentennial Commission, Minnesota Society of Architects Urban Design Assistance Teams, UEC, local communities (including Crosby, Hoyt Lakes, Lake Crystal, Lincoln County/Lake Benton, Mora and Staples), and University departments (including Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Agricultural and Applied Economics, plus the Community Resource Development Section of the Agricultural Extension Service).

PROGRAM

Field Experience Catalog

The first comprehensive directory of field courses throughout the University. These are courses in which field survey or design work is integrated with regular instruction. Such courses provide the obvious and established means to combine disciplined University teaching with service in the wider community. The Catalog serves as an information source not only to students and advisors but also to community organizations.

PARTICIPANTS

UEC Director and Special Assistants, Undergraduate Urban Studies Program Committee, college offices and faculty. Office of Special Learning Opportunities will publish future editions.

University Year For ACTION

University students, primarily from Architecture, Design, Landscape Architecture and Home Economics, work on community problems in low-income metropolitan areas.

ACTION Agency, University faculty and students, city and county agencies, and the Minneapolis and St. Paul school systems.

URBAN TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Purpose: To encourage new and expanded opportunities for the study of urban transportation problems, using resources available in departments throughout the University.

Cooperative Research with Metropolitan Council

Support of an engineering graduate student to 1) work on metropolitan area transportation studies under the direction of the Council's transportation planning staff and 2) help to find common research priorities of faculty, graduate students, and the Council.

Metropolitan Council, CURA.

PROGRAM

Urban Transportation Library

The program continues to build a regional urban transportation library of growing size and value. Development of the library required special effort because most of the literature in this field is in special research reports and outside usual publication channels. A computerized cataloging system has been developed. Copies of the catalog are available at the Metropolitan Council, the Engineering Library, and the Documents Division of Wilson Library. A study is investigating the feasibility of integrating both the collection and cataloging into the Institute of Technology branch of the University library system.

Seminars and Special Conferences

Continuation of weekly metropolitan agency—University seminars on transportation issues and problems. Workshop in Computer Traffic Control, bringing together users, agencies and suppliers to improve research and design and to provide new teaching material. Conference on “Underground Space as an Urban Resource” to increase the understanding by officials and other community leaders of the potential for creative use of underground space in metropolitan development.

PARTICIPANTS

University Library System, Minnesota Highway Department, Twin Cities Metropolitan Council, CURA.

U.S. Department of Transportation, American Society of Civil Engineers, Minnesota Geological Survey, State and Metropolitan transportation agencies, University engineering and social science faculty and students, CURA.

CURA CENTRAL OFFICE

Purposes: Sponsor and coordinate pilot projects which do not imply clear need or feasibility for a separate program office or do not fall clearly within one of the program offices.

Publish reports of both the activities and the results of CURA projects.

PROGRAM

Regional Research and Services

A study of downtown transient residents and a community attitude survey in Duluth.

A comprehensive atlas of public programs, their office locations, overlaps and gaps in service areas throughout Minnesota, with a manual to help regional officials use the atlas to determine needs for regional coordination of state and federal services.

Partial support of new positions in University Continuing Education and Extension at Morris and Rochester, to help coordinate CEE and Agricultural Extension projects in selected development regions.

Joint support of student-public seminars on Revenue Sharing and Managing Metropolitan Growth.

Minneapolis Industrial Land Redevelopment Programs. Annotated bibliography of literature pertinent for industrial land redevelopment programs and an economic analysis of the Twin Cities economy with special emphasis on the issues of:

- 1) Industrial Land Redevelopment Programs in Minneapolis; and

PARTICIPANTS

UMD faculty and students, Duluth city offices, CURA.

State Planning Agency, University graduate students and faculty, CURA staff.

Continuing Education and Extension, Cooperative Extension Service, CURA.

University Continuing Education-Extension and School of Public Affairs, Amherst H. Wilder Foundation, twenty-three community organizations and public agencies and CURA.

Geography faculty and students, Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority, CURA.

PROGRAM

- 2) The Multiplier effect of jobs added to Minneapolis industries. Prepared for the Minneapolis Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

Child Care for Urban Native American Families. A demonstration project to initiate a program of training, technical assistance and service concerned with the prevention and treatment of child abuse and neglect in the American Indian community of greater Minneapolis.

PARTICIPANTS

School of Social Work; the Dept. of Indian Studies, CURA; Hennepin County Welfare Dept; Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare; Native American Family Services Association; South High Independent Community Housing Program; United Indian Group Home; Boys Group Home; Native American Center; Heart of the Earth Survival School.

Development of New University Research and Services

A pilot study of locally based major corporations and a sample of comparable firms based elsewhere to determine work programs and objectives of corporate public affairs officers; to be followed by conferences and seminars. Goal is greater interaction between University and business firms in development of instruction, research and policies in the area of social responsibility of large corporations.

Support of the pilot *Vocational Assessment Clinic* to assist individuals in career planning. The clinic provides an entirely new kind of service to match an employee's personal abilities and needs to job requirements and rewards. The service was offered initially to University counselling and placement agencies serving minority persons, but its use has spread rapidly to other similar agencies.

Corporate officials, faculty and students in School of Business Administration, CURA.

University and community career counselling agencies, Northwest Area Foundation, local corporations, psychology faculty and students, CURA.

PROGRAM

Program Evaluations

A comprehensive study of higher education offerings by Minnesota schools in the state's correctional institutions, with an analysis of accomplishments, problems, and alternative policies.

A comparison and evaluation of Minnesota projects which have been funded through Title I of the federal Higher Education Act since its inception in 1967. Funds have been intended to enlarge and improve continuing education and community services by colleges and departments with limited experience in those fields.

Computerized Information Systems

Continuing development of Rapid Analysis Fiscal Tool (RAFT). This is a computerized model of the state-local government fiscal situation in Minnesota—existing laws and formulas affecting revenues and expenditures, and regularly updated data on valuations, tax rates, revenues, expenditures, and selected social and economic indicators for local governments, school districts, and the state. The system permits rapid analysis of the effect of proposed changes in tax laws on both local governments and representative taxpayers. Examples of RAFT utilization: evaluation of potential property tax relief produced by changes in homestead credit; test of the impact of 12 different proposed property tax classifications in each county and selected cities.

PARTICIPANTS

University academic administration and participating colleges and departments; Minnesota Department of Corrections; CURA.

Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Commission, Title I program faculty at participating institutions; CURA.

Citizens League, Minnesota Tax Study Commission, Minnesota Analysis and Planning System (MAPS), Senate Research Staff, Intergovernmental Information Systems Advisory Council (IISAC), CURA.

PROGRAM

Support of computerized studies on other CURA programs:

Data on minorities in the criminal justice system and in the labor market, for the Office of Intercultural Programs.

Development of the Land Management Information System.

County Housing Profiles, for the Office of Planned Residential Development and Housing Research.

Survey of community needs for the Urban Education Center.

Support of computerized studies of other projects:

Analysis and displays for the Limnological Laboratory's lake water clarity survey.

Study of alternative enrollment projects in the AVTI system for the Department of Education.

Projections of enrollment in other institutions of higher education for HECC.

Analysis of disparities in the reapportionment plan of the 1971 legislature for the Senate Counsel.

Statistical and mapping analysis of price fixing for the Attorney General's office.

Statistical and mapping work as part of an analysis of the 1970 Census for the Upper Midwest Council.

Staff work for IISAC and its predecessor, State-Local Data Systems Council, especially development of geocoding standards for the state.

PARTICIPANTS

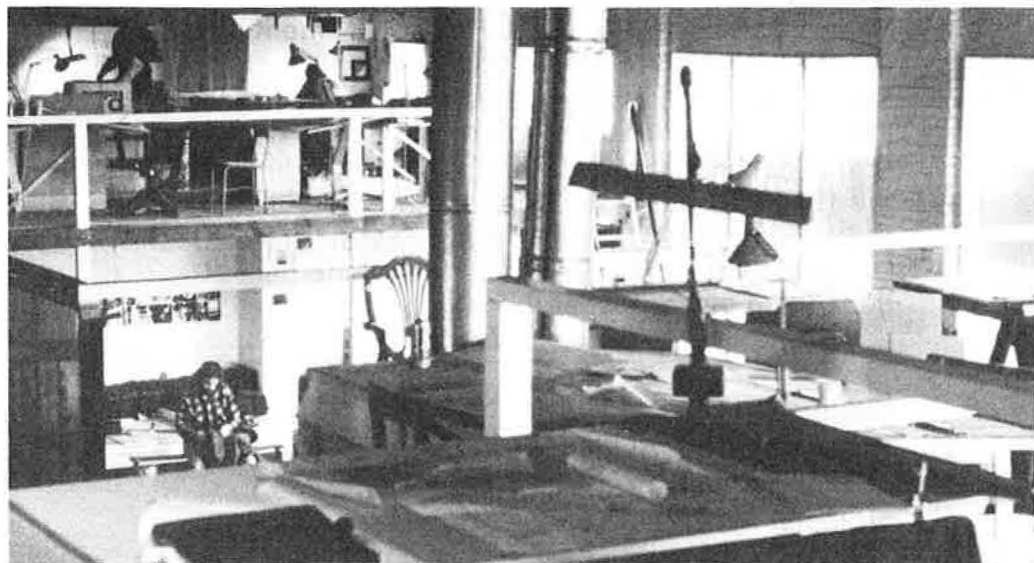
Agencies and organizations noted in preceding descriptions of these programs.

Same as above.

Publications

CURA Reporter (bi-monthly newsletter).

Research Reports from CURA programs and projects.





THE DYNAMICS OF CURA PROGRAMS & PROJECTS

CURA was created to help facilitate change.

Projects are therefore experimental. Some are dropped after a trial period, with no problem of residual administrative structure.

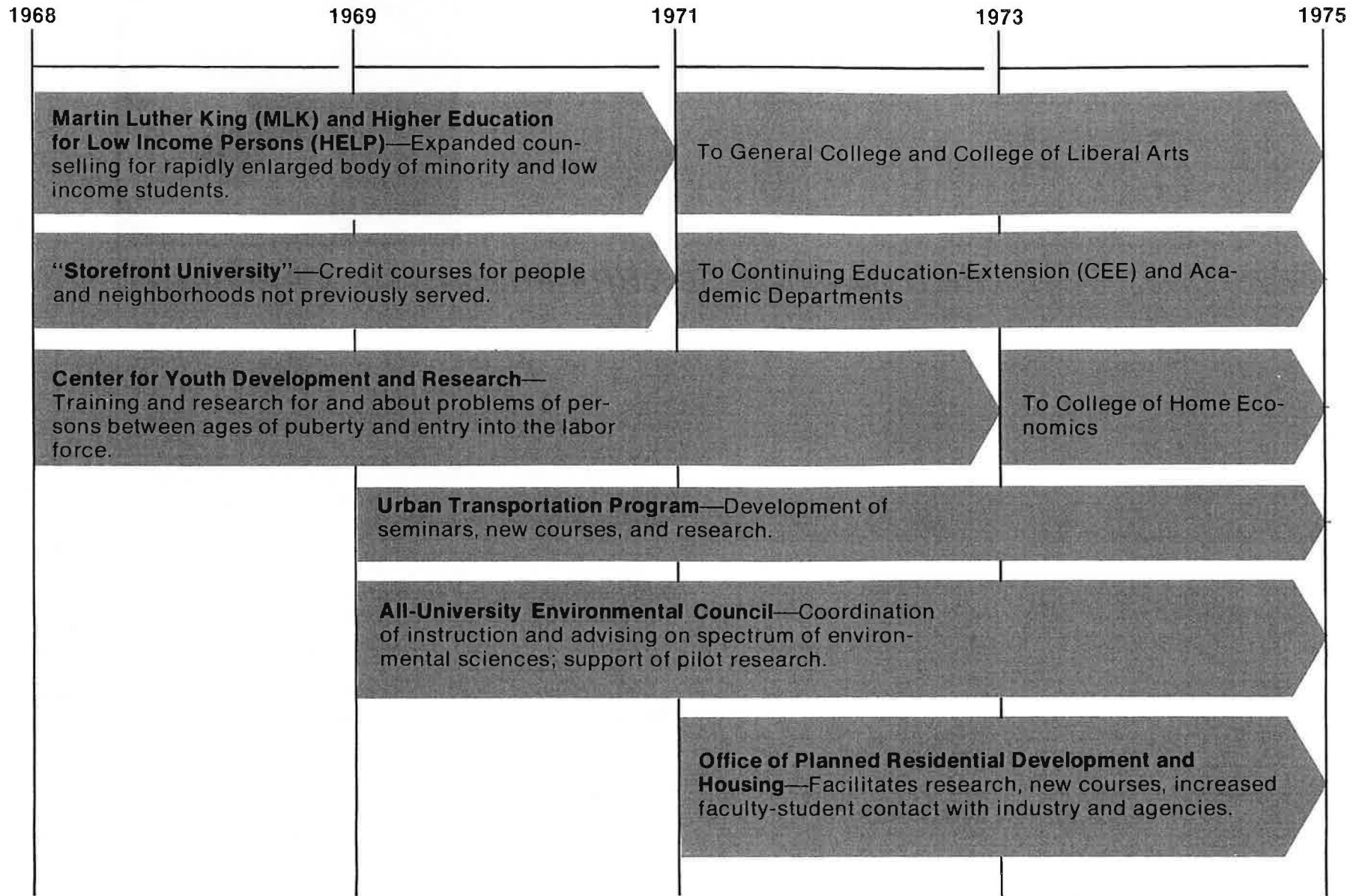
Among those projects that thrive, most are incorporated into either regular academic units of the University or permanent agencies of the wider community.

Meanwhile, new projects are proposed from both inside and outside the University.

Numerous projects make up each Program.

Hence there is a continuous flow of projects, and CURA programs are always evolving.

PROGRAMS have evolved gradually.—Examples:



PROJECTS change more frequently within the Programs

—Examples of the changing mix:

		1968-1971	1971-1973	1973-1975
<p>Office of Intercultural Programs</p> <p><i>Early Projects</i> Tutoring of school students and adults, preparation of instructional materials for students and parents, in cooperation with public schools, agencies and neighborhood organizations. Serving minority or low income populations and neighborhoods and correctional institutions.</p> <p><i>Trends</i> Increasing emphasis on applied interactive research and seminars, with agencies and organizations, to increase their effectiveness and improve the University's training and research effort on racial problems.</p>	School without Walls	■		
	Black Communiversity Project	■		
	Migrant Tutorial Project	■		
	Way Pre-School	■		
	Youth TutoringYouth	■		
	American Indian Educational Development	■		
	Model Cities Alternative School		■	
	Special Education/Math-Sciences		■	
	College Certification of adults		■	
	Afro-American Studies Laboratory		■	
	Business Education for Minorities	■	■	
	Affirmative Action Studies			■
	Affirmative Action Seminars			■
	Ethnic Studies Program Development			■
	Joint Minneapolis-St. Paul Urban League Project			■

		1968-1971	1971-1973	1973-1975
Office of Career Development <i>Continuing Responsibility</i> New combinations of University courses and experimental work-study programs to further the education of para-professional workers. Goal: to open new career opportunities to minority or disadvantaged persons. <i>Trends</i> Increasing emphasis on midlife education and career development, especially for women; increasing statewide scope.	Careers in Urban Planning	■		
	Public Service Careers		■	
	Emergency Employment Program—U of M		■	
	Community Health Worker Program		■	■
	St. Paul Family Day Care Center Training		■	■
	State-wide Family Day Care Training			■
	Women's Mid-Life Careers Workshop			■

		1968-1971	1971-1973	1973-1975
Urban Education Center <i>Continuing Responsibility</i> Community survey and design projects done by University students as part of their educational program. Joint direction of faculty and community leaders. <i>Trends</i> Earlier projects were local, small-scale and confined to the Twin Cities. Later projects have been larger-scale and more commonly located outside the metropolitan area.	Model Cities community planning and residential remodeling design (Mpls)	■	■	
	Oxford Playground design project (St. Paul)	■		
	Renville County community design and service areas survey		■	
	Lincoln County community design and service areas survey (with Southwest Minnesota State College)			■
	Historic preservation planning and design			■

		1968-1971	1971-1973	1973-1975
<p>Land Use Program</p> <p><i>Continuing Task</i> State, local and federal governments each year probably spend several million dollars collecting data on land resources, use, ownership and value. Although that information is basic for analysis and projection for planning, it is not assembled in a way that permits such use. The Land Use Program is developing a system for standardizing, storing, and analyzing that mass of data.</p> <p><i>Trends</i> A series of pilot projects has been carried on in cooperation with state agencies, regional commissions and county governments. The system is becoming increasingly applicable and operational, and the data bank grows in areal coverage and detail.</p>	Lake Shore Development Study	■		
	State Land Use Map Project	■	■	
	Land Management Information System —Development work		■	■
	Applications of Land Management System			
	Itasca County pilot project			■
	Arrowhead Development Region pilot			■
	Washington county landfill study			■
	Special Studies			
	Minnesota Land Use-Settlement 1985	■		
	Ramsey County lake study		■	
	Land Use control powers-legal study		■	
	Faculty-State agency seminars		■	
	Perspective on Minnesota land use			■

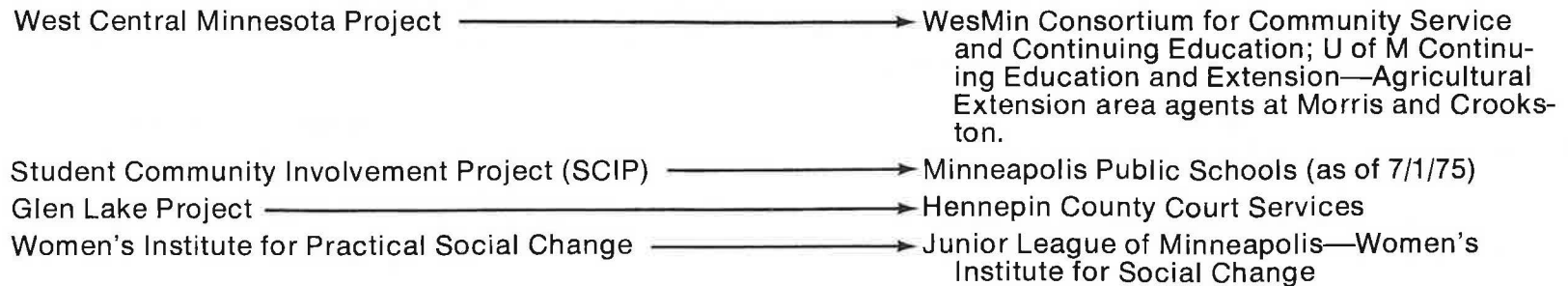
CURA Central Office

Projects outside existing programs, with potential for new program development within the university or spinoff to other organizations		1968-1971	1971-1973	1973-1975
<i>TYPE OF ACTIVITY</i> Experimental projects combining college instruction with community research and service	Service-Trade Area studies: Wadena-Fergus Falls	██████████		
	Training and Consultation for minority small business (BEAM project)		██████████	
	Urban Studies undergraduate program development: Twin Cities campus	██████████		██████████
	Minority business and marketing studies	██████████		██████████
	Survey and conference on social responsibility of business corporations			██████████
	Atlas of public programs and manual for use by public officials			██████████
	Community Housing, Attitude surveys in social science instructional program: Duluth campus			██████████
Evaluation and coordination of University community service projects	Experimental regional community service office in cooperation with Fergus Falls Community College	██████████		
	Survey of higher education projects in state correctional institutions		██████████	
	Survey and evaluation of projects conducted with U.S. Office of Education "Title I" funds through state Higher Education Coordinating Commission			██████████
	Support of Continuing Education and Extension offices at Morris and Rochester to develop pilot projects jointly between CEE and Agricultural Extension Service			██████████
Pilot projects to help develop computerized information systems for state and local government	State and Local Government Data Systems Council—drafted legislation leading to creation of Intergovernmental Information Systems Advisory Council (IISAC)		██████████	
	Rapid Analysis Fiscal Tool System Development Applications (Tax Study Commission; Senate and House Research staffs)		██████████	██████████

MANY WORKING PROJECTS HAVE BEEN TRANSFERRED

The following chart shows some examples of CURA projects that have been transferred to University academic programs, community organizations or public agencies.

CURA	TRANSFERRED TO
Business Education for American Minorities (BEAM)	Metropolitan Economic Development Association (MEDA)
Service to American Indian Residents (STAIRS)	College of Education—U of M
Upward Bound	College of Education—U of M
Model Cities Mini-School	College of Education—U of M and Minneapolis Public Schools
Youth Training Youth/Black Communiversy	St. Paul Model Cities
The Way Pre-School and Exceptional Learning Educational Center (ELEC)	College of Education—U of M
Antioch project (development assistance funds for degree program)	Antioch—Minneapolis University
Migrant Tutorial Program	St. Paul Public Schools
Project Technology Power	Minneapolis Public Schools
Agency Certificate Program	Continuing Education & Extension—U of M
Careers in Urban Planning	Urban Studies/General College—U of M
Urban Studies Program	College of Liberal Arts—U of M
Special Elementary Education for the Disadvantaged (SEED)	College of Education and Institute of Technology —U of M, and Minneapolis Public Schools
State and Local Government Information Systems Advisory Committee	Intergovernmental Information Services Advisory Council
Community Health Worker Project	General College—U of M
Family Day Care Project (Ramsey)	Ramsey County
Careers in Public Service (PSC)	Civil Service—U of M
Lincoln County Project	Lincoln County Planning Office
Lakeshore Development Project → Shorelands Development Act	Department of Natural Resources Shoreland Management Program
Developed portions of Minnesota Land Management Information Systems Project	Arrowhead Regional Development Commission Information System State Planning Agency Information Systems Section, under Natural Resources Division



Transfer of successful, working projects to on-going agencies illustrates two important characteristics of CURA.

- CURA's role is development, not operation. CURA stimulates, facilitates and helps develop new activities to meet new needs but does not become the operator of specific long-term programs.
- The transfer process is difficult and sometimes protracted. In most cases it requires changes in institutional priorities for allocating money and hiring people. Hence joint funding and relatively long transition periods appear to be necessary.

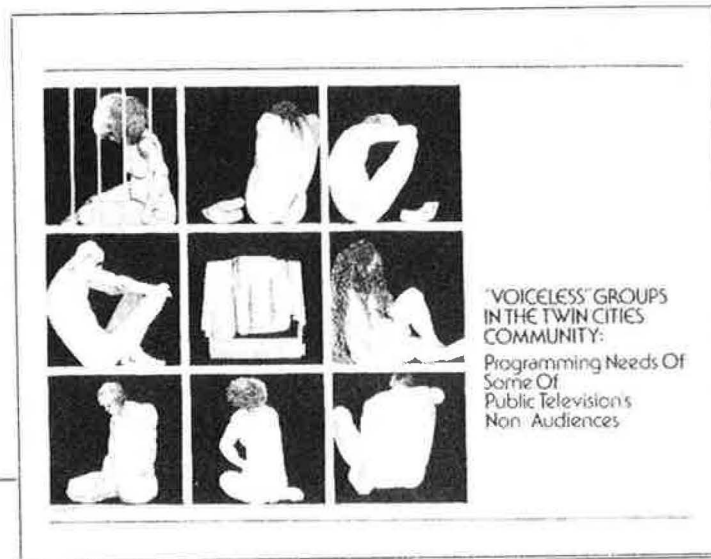
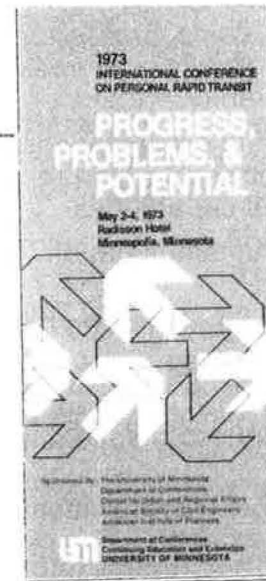
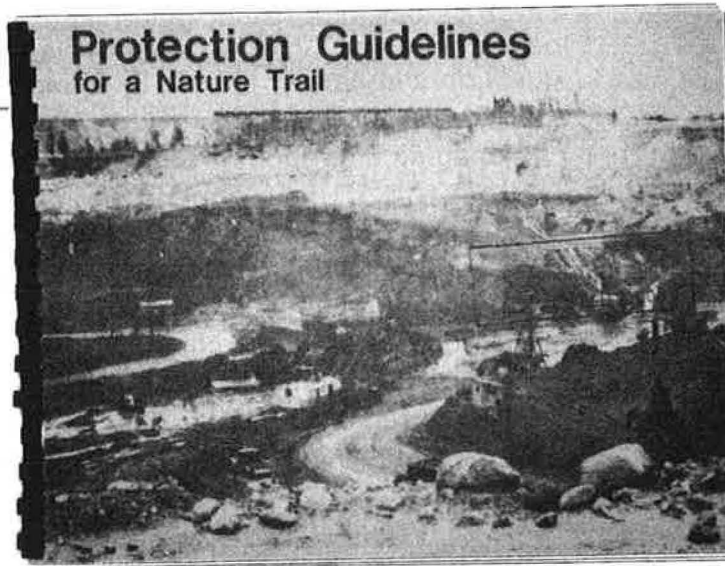
To continue to serve its purpose, CURA must keep in touch with the faculty, students, professionals and leaders who comprise the basic resources of the University and wider community.

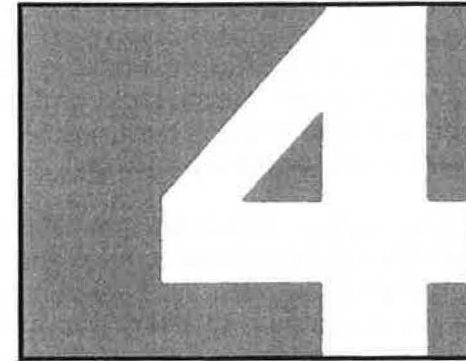
From that network of people and organizations come the ideas, requests and proposals which reflect both real needs and practical capabilities.

CURA has sought to promote communication and interaction in three ways.

- The *CURA Reporter* goes bi-monthly to 2,200 individuals, and carries information about
 - what CURA projects are doing
 - related programs in other Minnesota colleges and universities, and
 - actions outside the educational establishment which affect our plans and programs.
- *Research Reports* from CURA programs and projects. Published reports go immediately to mailing lists of, normally, one hundred to five hundred persons or offices in appropriate interest groups. Additional copies—typically one or two hundred to one or two thousand—are distributed in response to requests. Topics have been in the broad fields of
 - Minority Education,
 - Youth Development,
 - Regional and State Planning,
 - Housing,
 - Minority Business,
 - Transit,
 - Higher Education enrollments.

- *Seminars* of two main types.
 - Large groups, open to the general public, broadcast on radio or TV, using a panel discussion/question-and-answer format. Examples:
 - Revenue Sharing,
 - Managing Metropolitan Growth,
 - Urban Use of Under-Ground areas.
 - Small study groups of faculty, students, community leaders and professionals. Examples:
 - Land Use planning,
 - Environmental Research,
 - Higher education enrollments,
 - Housing research needs,
 - Equal employment opportunity and affirmative action,
 - Social responsibility of large corporations,
 - Urban transportation.





SUMMARY AND PROSPECT

CURA was created in a tempestuous time of unrest in the cities and on the campus. Yet it also came from long gestation in community and faculty groups concerned with the University's contribution to understanding the festering problems which have emerged in such stark outline in urban areas.

During the subsequent years, changes in CURA programs have reflected changes in the times. The first projects were aimed almost entirely at getting instruction to individuals, in "storefronts" and other neighborhood meeting places. Gradually, new organization and new order have grown out of the unrest of the 1960s. Hence new programs have been developed more commonly in conjunction with organized community groups and agencies. Also, out of the failure of some early projects the need for research to provide a better understanding of both the system and the problems became increasingly apparent.

In the years since the frenetic "storefront" days, accomplishments in all of the problem areas ad-

dressed by CURA programs have been considerable inside the university and throughout the wider community.

There is a need for renewed stock-taking. Virtually every individual and institution is reviewing the situation and seeking a new perspective that will better explain what is happening and lead to a renewed sense of mission. The university is a participant in the search.

Yet there is no feeling of victory or even satisfaction. What seemed to many to be basic problems and issues less than a decade ago are clearly turning out to be only symptoms of much more fundamental and perplexing adjustments that must be made within the local communities, the national society, and the world order.

Thus, it seems that interactive studies, involving faculty, students and the wider community, have more importance than ever. Many successful CURA programs continue to be needed and must go for-

ward. Basic program areas will probably continue to change gradually. Headings such as environment, land use, transportation, housing, human services, intercultural education, local government, and information systems will continue to embrace many timely and important projects.

Meanwhile, new programs will continue to evolve. The effort will continue to seek the greatest possible exchange of information between the University and the wider community. Programs are likely to place increasing emphasis on the following broad items of unfinished business:

- Determination of community understanding and perception of major issues and problems,



- Determination of faculty research and teaching priorities related to community problems,
- Clarifying the importance of the private individual and local community in a society of evergrowing scale and complexity,
- Documentation and evaluation of social and economic experiments conducted by both public and private groups,
- More systematic determination of information needs: what people need to know about themselves and their environment to make the system work better.

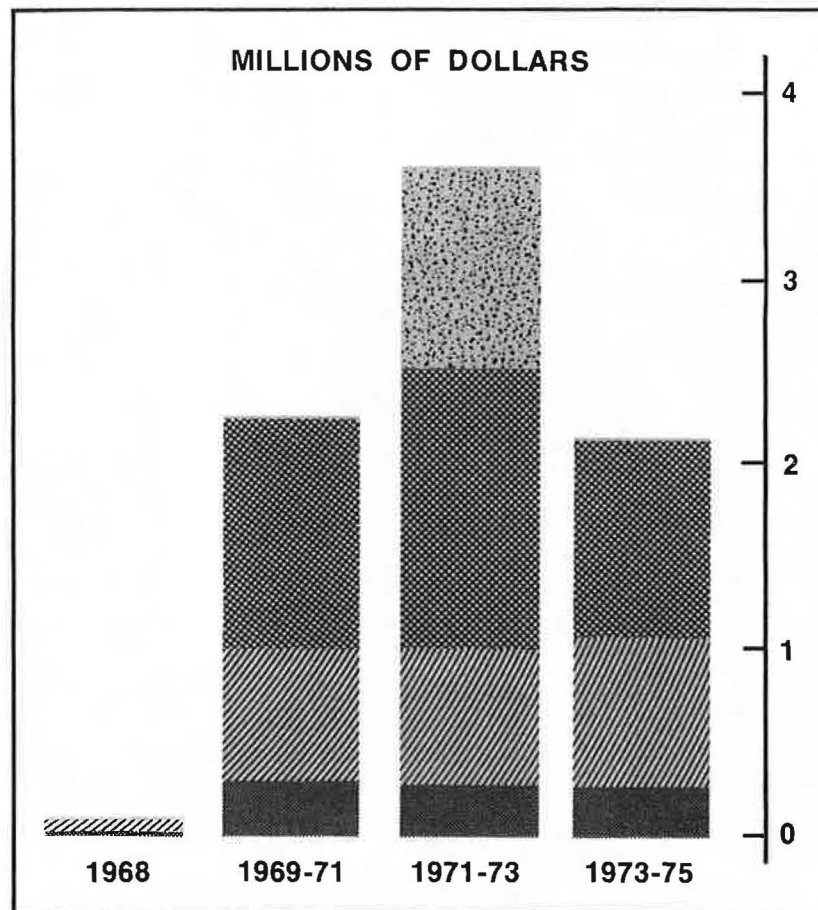
SYNOPSIS OF CURA BUDGETS Dollars (in thousands)

Source of Support	1968	1969-71	1971-73	1973-75
Legislative Special	75	671	719	844
Other University	13	331	296	277
Grants and Contracts	—	1308	2611*	1054
Total	88	2310	3626	2175

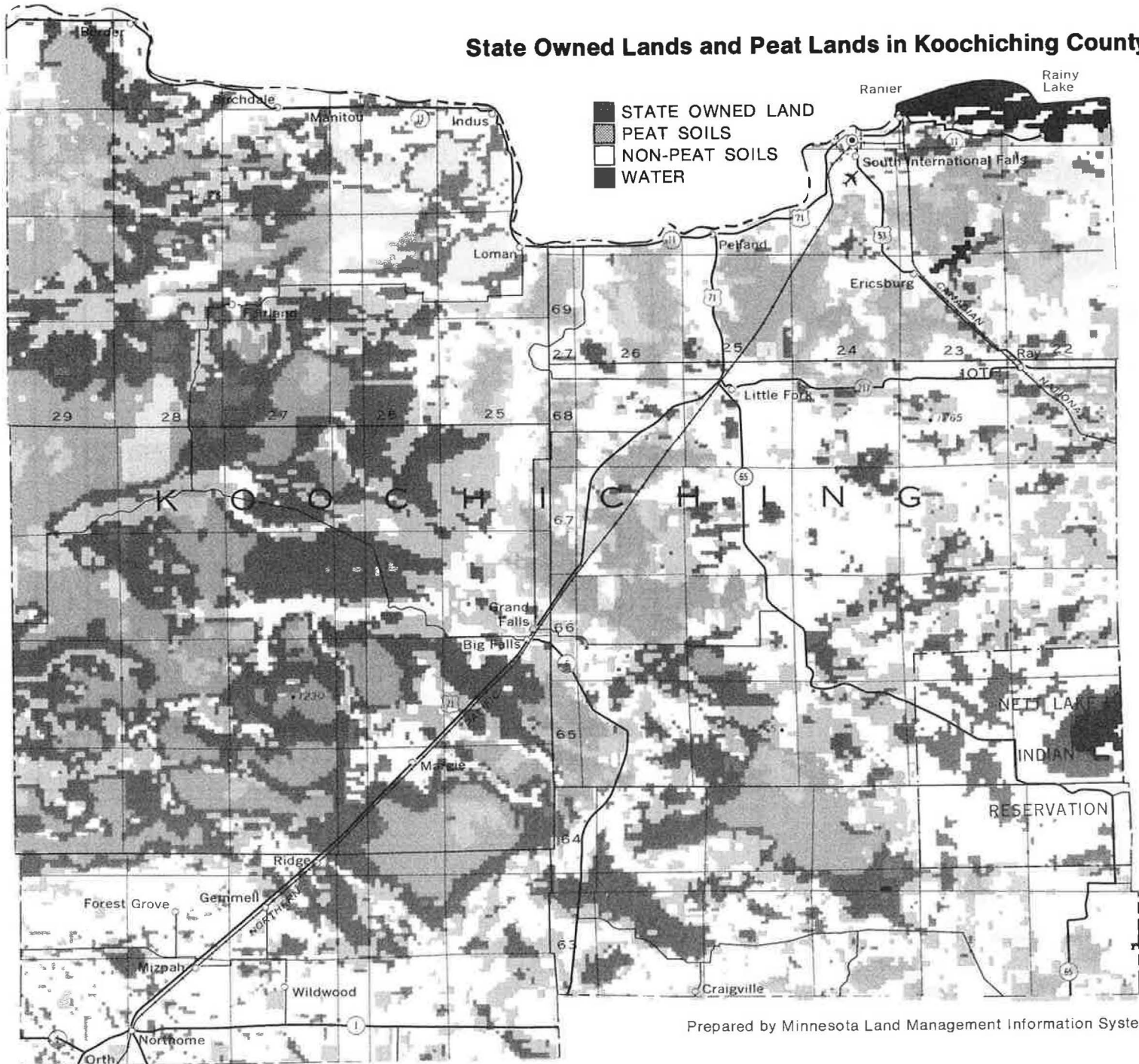
*Included administration of one-time grant of 1116 thousand dollars under Federal Emergency Employment Program. Other grants and contracts (comparable to other numbers in same row) total 1495 thousand dollars.

SOURCES OF CURA SUPPORT

-  One-time
Emergency Employment
Program grant
-  Contracts and Grants
-  Legislative Special
-  University Support



State Owned Lands and Peat Lands in Koochiching County



Prepared by Minnesota Land Management Information System

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