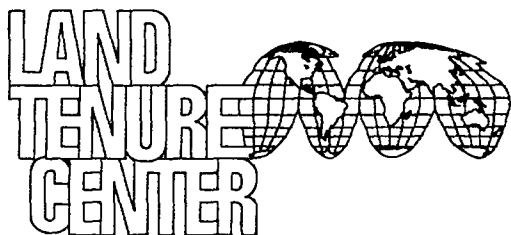


JAMES A. GRAASKAMP COLLECTION OF TEACHING MATERIALS

II. CLASSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN--MADISON

Q. Examples of Multidisciplinary Coursework

5. Correspondence Concerning Urban Land Issues,
A Two Week Course, Organized in Conjunction
with the US Agency for International
Development. Mentions Graaskamp on Page Two.



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Telex: 265452—Attn: Land Tenure

November 30, 1986

Ms. Barbara Barrett Foster
Training Officer
Office of Housing and Urban Programs
U.S. Agency for International Development
Washington, D.C. 20523

Dear Ms. Foster:

I am writing in response to your request for preliminary proposals for training programs to take place in the summer of 1987. The Land Tenure Center would welcome the opportunity to organize and conduct a course dealing with urban land issues in developing countries, and I believe that the Center and its parent institution, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, have both the staff and the resources that would enable us to provide an excellent training course. As you suggested in a recent telephone conversation with one of our staff members, this is a very preliminary statement of interest, one that describes the Land Tenure Center and its facilities rather than proposes a specific schedule of topics and activities we would include in the course.

In the almost twenty-five years that the Land Tenure Center has been working with AID on land tenure issues, we have had the opportunity to look into many aspects of land tenure in Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa, and, to a lesser extent, Asia. Much of our work has been centered on rural development, but we have also had occasion to focus on urban land tenure and have become increasingly impressed by the importance of land questions in the provision of urban shelter and services and as part of the wider context of urban development.

Urban land issues are not, of course, identical from one country to another, but there are many similarities even across continents, and these complementarities can be usefully addressed in the context of a training program that brings together participants from a variety of fields and countries. The Land Tenure Center has designed a number of successful short-term, non-degree training programs for AID and other international donors that focus on land issues and prospects for their solution, and this experience would enable us to be effective in putting together a course on urban land issues. Our programs have been attended by trainees from a wide range of countries, including Nepal, Turkey, Nicaragua, Ecuador, Swaziland, and the Dominican Republic, and have been carefully planned to provide the specialized instruction appropriate for each group of trainees. In organizing and teaching these courses, we have been able to draw upon not only the staff and facilities of the Land Tenure Center but also those of the broader University community. One of our major advantages has been our ability to provide, even for relatively brief training programs, a remarkably broad range of expertise.

Several of the staff members at the Land Tenure Center have had the opportunity to focus on urban land issues, and their experiences would be very pertinent for a training course. Dr. Carol Dickerman, an economic historian by training, is a specialist in urban land issues, and her work in Bujumbura, Burundi, has included a close look at changing patterns of urban land use and legal regulation. Another staff member, Dr. Peter Bloch, is an economist who has looked at, among other issues, urban employment and investment patterns in both Asia and Africa. Dr. Randy Stringer's special area of expertise is also economics, and he is at present undertaking research on land titling in St. Lucia in the Caribbean with regard to the creation of a land registry. My own training is in law, and I have recently done work for AID/Botswana on land tenure issues and housing policy in secondary urban centers in that country and a consultancy on a World Bank team looking into land administration in Banjul, The Gambia. We would all be very interested in participating in the training course.

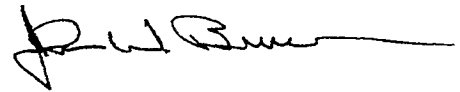
In addition, I have spoken with a number of faculty members of the School of Law, the School of Business, the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, the Department of Civil Engineering, and the Center for Land Information Studies who have expressed interest in the proposed two-week training program. Their collective knowledge of urban land issues and international experience is very wide indeed, and I am sure that their participation would make for a very successful program. In the School of Law, I have spoken with Dean Cliff Thompson, Professor Charles Irish, Professor Joseph Thome, and Mr. Zebron Gondwe. Dean Thompson has been a member of the law faculty at the University of Khartoum in the Sudan, a co-founder of the Faculty of Law at the University of Zambia, and Dean of the School of Law at Haile Sellassie University in Ethiopia; among his fields of research and teaching are property law and comparative law. Professors Charles Irish and Joseph Thome are particularly knowledgeable about land law in Latin America and the Caribbean. Professor Thome has worked for the Center planning a research and training program in Nicaragua and, most recently, has headed an LTC project in Panama; Professor Irish has just returned from a consultancy in the eastern Caribbean, where he looked into tax issues with regard to urban land. Mr. Gondwe, who is from Tanzania, has recently received his LL.M. degree from the School of Law and is completing a dissertation on housing problems in Dar es Salaam and the range of possible solutions.

I have also contacted Professors James Clapp and Alan Vonderohe of the Department of Civil Engineering and the Center for Land Information Studies (CLIS), which focuses on the technical and institutional problems associated with the development of land information systems. Professor Vonderohe has recently been associated with the LTC in a titling and registration project in Honduras. Professor James Graaskamp of the School of Business and Professor Ved Prakash of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning have expressed their willingness to participate in the training course as well. Professor Graaskamp's particular expertise is in the area of urban land appraisal, while Professor Prakash has concentrated on the fields of public finance and public investment planning in urban areas in developing countries. I am enclosing resumes, which provide further information on the research and teaching interests of all the people I have described, and several pamphlets which describe special programs of the University of Wisconsin.

In addition to the professional capabilities of these faculty and staff members, a training program at the Land Tenure Center would be able to draw on other resources of the University of Wisconsin such as library and conference facilities. The Land Tenure Center's own library has collected material on land issues in developing countries for over twenty years; many of the materials it contains are unavailable elsewhere in the United States. Other collections on campus are similarly rich, the reflection of the University's strong area studies programs in Latin America, Africa, and Asia. All of these facilities would, of course, be available to program trainees, as would the use of residential and dining facilities on campus. Madison in summer is an especially pleasant venue for such a training exercise.

Let me conclude by saying that the Land Tenure Center would be delighted to have the opportunity to design a two-week program on urban land issues and that I believe we could organize a very successful program. We would welcome the opportunity for the exchange of information and insights which such a course would provide. Carol Dickerman will be in Washington on December 4th and 5th for the seminar on urban land issues at USAID and will call you then to discuss this proposal further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John W. Bruce", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John W. Bruce
Director