

**The Ann Arbor City Center Park, and Civic Center Commons
Short, Medium and Long Term Program View
Geoffrey Henny - Member, City of Ann Arbor Council of the Commons
(See attached Resume)**

Vision: Evolve a “heart” of the City of Ann Arbor that has urban ecocooperative or ecovillage <https://ecovillage.org/> qualities and is managed according to “Commoning Principles www.bollier.org adopted by many cities and towns around the world <http://commoning.city/> . This heart would comprise reconfigurable physical and virtual spaces demonstrating the possibilities for deploying regenerative, and user managed resources to engender mutually supportive and caring community interactions accessible to all <https://capitalinstitute.org/regenerative-capitalism/> .

Mission: Further articulate and implement the will of the citizens of Ann Arbor as expressed in their voter-approved initiative and the subsequent city task force recommendations and City Council Resolutions calling for a City Center Park and Civic Center “Commons” hereafter referred to as the **“A2 Commons”**. See <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/systems-planning/programs/Pages/City-of-the-City-Task-Force.aspx>

Indicative Planning Ideas

Short Term (To end 2021)

- Engage with the main stakeholders associated with the Liberty Plaza community and space as a starting point for launching the A2 Commons. This should be done in consultation with the Ann Arbor City government and the various organizations that service that community. The objective would be to invite their participation in the A2 Commons Vision and Mission and gain a better understanding of their needs and wants. Timeline: Within 1 month.
- Set up working groups associated with the Council of the Commons to provide recommendations and programmatic plans to the Council. Timeline: Within 1 month.
- Engage a facilitator chosen by a city process with deep knowledge of Ann Arbor planning and design issues as well as the history of those issues as applicable to the A2 Commons. This facilitator would organize and conduct a weekend two day session with Council of the Commons Members to flesh out a productive and collaborative road forward. Timeline: Within 1 month.
- Convene meetings of all Library Lot and Liberty Plaza block partners and stakeholders to arrive at a common view of how best to use the physical and virtual spaces available to them to promote the A2 Commons mission. Timeline: Within 1 month.
- Deploy a set of removable resources - in line with recommendations emerging from the facilitation and block partners meetings - to enable people in Ann Arbor to enjoyably interact with each other on the Library Lot and Liberty Plaza Park at no or low cost around a series of safe community activities. These could include but not be limited to providing outdoor ta-

bles, chairs, benches, business and non profit stalls, temporary fountains and pools of water, raised bed green and garden areas, art works, exhibitions and exhibits, fairs, portable rest rooms, free wifi, other ancillary equipment and storage, and the provision of food and drink. Light weight and well designed Modular Structures could be acquired and configured so they can be combined and recombined to achieve a variety of purposes much like structures often found in Japanese houses and gardens. Within 2 months.

- Organize and undertake a series of design, ornamentation, messaging, and art work contests for cash prizes to engage interest and participation in the A2 Commons and motivate new ideas and visions to emerge from the community and beyond. These contests would be juried-judged by a team selected during the facilitation process. Within 3 months.
- Organize, promote and provide a series of attractive public entertainments and festivals on the A2 Commons spaces that promote civic solidarity and engagement. Within 4 months.
- Promote the Commons spaces as opportunities for community organizations and businesses to showcase their wares and activities. For example provide opportunities to explore sustainability options and regeneration projects/technologies as well as other innovations of interest and importance to city residents and their future. Schedule a continuously rotating series of events that do that, scheduling vendors and offerings from any individual or group around themes and interests arising from the community. Within 4 months.
- Continue fund raising from the private sector and via grant applications to achieve a minimum goal of \$ 400,000 by end 2021.

Medium Term (to end 2024)

- Design and build some permanent structures and green spaces that promote the mission of the A2 Commons. These could include walkways, gardens, sculptures, murals, water features, bridges, buildings, access points, and enclosures large and small. As part of this process raise money to acquire more land and buildings as needed. To this end work with a Design Firm selected through a City of Ann Arbor Process. Target private sector and grants fund raising for this period at a minimum of \$ 5 million.
- Establish a decision making process that is inclusive, democratic and non coercive while avoiding paralysis such as Loomio <https://www.loomio.org/> , Sociocracy <https://www.holaspirit.com/blog/sociocracy> etc.
- Adapt ideas, technologies, principles, and processes that have proven successful in the cooperative, permaculture, commoning, and eco village arenas where many of our looming urban problems have been solved. Important examples to look at are Commoning www.bollier.org, the Transition Network <https://transitionnetwork.org/about-the-movement/> , Mondragon <https://www.mondragon-corporation.com/en/about-us/> , Auroville <http://www.earth-auroville.com/>, Findhorn <https://www.ecovillagefindhorn.com/> and Boekel <https://www.ecovillageboekel.nl/the-village/> . * See videos in the references.
- Build on the visions and practices of such cutting edge thinkers as John Fullerton <https://capitalinstitute.org/regenerative-communities/> and Daniel Christian Wahl <https://www.resilience.org/resilience-author/daniel-wahl/> . Fullerton's eight qualities <https://capitalinstitute.org/8-principles-regenerative-economy/> also encompass general applications of the 12

core principles of Permaculture <https://medium.com/land-and-ladle/the-12-design-principles-of-permaculture-as-rules-of-living-e9fc0176dd16> which I believe are an essential part of any future A2 Commons vision.

- Design and architectural ideas for the A2 Commons should be informed by the insights of the great Design Patterns Master Dr. Christopher Alexander <https://www.pps.org/article/calexander> and <http://www.patternlanguage.com/> .
- * The EU views Boekel as in the process of finding ways to solve key urban challenges relevant for situations throughout the world. It has provided substantial funding to the project to address urban energy, food, construction, social organization, economic viability, costs and carbon footprint issues.

Long Term (5 years plus)

- Undertake the implementation of major plans and programs developed in the medium term with a minimum target fund raising goal of \$ 20 million. In five years our center of the city should meet or exceed the qualities described by the talented young urban planner Laura Puttkammer (<https://parcitypatory.org/about-me/>) described here <https://uxdesign.cc/10-things-that-make-a-city-center-perfect-2c9204570c13> .

Geoffrey Henny Greening Urbanization Addendum to his Council of the Commons Wish List/Plans submission.

I believe part of our discussion in the Council of the Commons about a program for the A2 Commons must also include considering how our Center of the City projects - if focused on eco cooperative approaches - might help our city move us towards a greater understanding of and solutions to the fundamental dilemma facing the Urban Sustainability-Green Movement. This dilemma can be summarized as follows: Is it possible that our current urban-centered solutions to climate change and biosphere destruction are making these problems worse rather than better because we are trying to retain our high energy and nature-commodifying lifestyles via more green electrification and urban concentration with their inherent "destructive extraction" of resources from the outside? This dilemma is deconstructed very graphically and with immense factual detail in the recently published book "Bright Green Lies" by Derick Jensen et al.

https://www.amazon.com/s?k=Bright+Green+Lies&ref=nb_sb_noss_2 and the associated film documentary by Julia Barnes <https://www.brightgreenlies.com/film> discussed in this interview <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LjMWpboTxbw&t=19s> . A review of both works can be found here <https://www.resilience.org/stories/2021-05-10/bright-green-lies-review/> . The Economist and Environmentalist Kate Raworth, who co-invented Donut Economics, - which I teach in my classes at Cleary University <https://cleary.edu/staff/geoffrey-charles-henny-ba-mba-abd/> - is grappling with the inherent contradiction associated with the concepts of green urbanization and greening industrial civilization in her work with cities like Amsterdam via her Donut Economics Action Lab see <https://doughnuteconomics.org/> . The City of Ann Arbor and its A2 Commons and Sustainability initiatives will have to grapple with this contradiction too.

CV
Geoffrey Charles Henny
1402 Henry Street Ann Arbor, MI 48104
geoffhenny@gmail.com Cell: 734 355 0512

Summary

Experienced consultant, professor, academic administrator and business development executive with significant project management, education/training, entrepreneurial, and marketing/market research skills. MBA City Business School, London University <https://www.cass.city.ac.uk/> ; UK. BA Economics and Political Science double major from the University of California Berkeley <https://www.berkeley.edu/> . Successful history of achievement - including important value and innovation creation for employers/clients - in the following capacities:

- Professor Economics, Business Studies and Sustainability Innovation, Cleary University www.cleary.edu .
- CEO Henny Associates Innovation Systems Consulting, Ann Arbor.
- Vice President Business Development Threefold Sensors, Ann Arbor.
- Vice President Business Development Triada (Expert Sys.), Ann Arbor.
- Director Healthcare Technology Transfer at the University of Michigan.
- Entrepreneur - Cofounded venture funded companies Sonetics Bio-medical Ultrasound LLC, Medical Tricorder Application (META) LLC, and Universal Machine Intelligence Ltd (UMI) – Robotics and AI for healthcare, and education.
- Director New and International Business Development Diversified Chemical Technologies. (Automotive Sealers and Adhesives) Detroit, Michigan.
- CEO Universal Machine Intelligence Ltd. (Robotics and AI) London UK and Ann Arbor, MI.
- St. Cross College, Oxford University and InterMatrix Senior Consulting Manager Global Risk Assessment. Main Clients: IBM, Various Banks, Deputy Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, EU.
- Member Leadership Team Far Eastern Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Projects Shell International Petroleum Company – Shell Group.
- US State Department Program Officer Francophone Countries.
- General Director Aid and Development Project in Bangladesh for Church World Services (CWS) and the World Council of Churches (WCC).

Domain Interests: Sustainability Innovation, Mutual Aid Economies, and System's Thinking.

Current Positions

9/1990 – Present, CEO Henny Associates Innovation Technology Systems Consulting, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Accomplishments:

- Helped numerous high technology startups, academic institutions, governments (local, state and national), non- profits and established companies with business development, strategic innovation, project management, training, and fund raising.
- Conducted extensive and highly innovative market research – including the creative use of data analytics - for customers leading them to find and develop exciting new markets.
- Helped develop, manage and launch a variety of companies, products, services and grant funded projects for associates and clients.
- Sold over \$ 50 Million in products and services for clients (nationally and internationally).
- Received two cash awards from the Great Lakes Entrepreneurship Quest (GLEQ) for starting two innovative new medical device company businesses.

8/2012 – Present, Professor Economics, Business Studies and Sustainability Innovation, Cleary University (Business School) www.cleary.edu - Ann Arbor and Howell, Michigan teaching and tutoring - in person and online (Currently online).

Accomplishments: Very good student and administration evaluations. (See attachment for an example). Developed a variety of unique new simulation features, cases and special exercise/game offerings for my courses that to my knowledge are not provided by anyone else. Applied for and received 2 Helen's Circle Grants from the University to develop new training programs for the faculty in innovation, design thinking,

leadership, strategic thinking and computing/mathematical literacy. Was the faculty member responsible for redoing and rewriting the entire core curriculum for Cleary University during the period 3/1/2018 – 9/30/2018 to provide a uniquely innovative approach to teaching and learning focused on the integration of sustainability innovation, business and the arts, and the business of science and technology innovation. Courses I currently teach or have taught: Introduction to Financial Management, Managerial Economics, the Business of Science and Technology Innovation, The Culture of Ethics, Quality Management, Strategic Management, Strategic Thinking, Creativity and Innovation, International Business Management, Leadership for Adaptability, Business Management in the Arts, the Economics of Environmental Sustainability.

Other Relevant Recent Activities

Co-founder and Member the Initiating Committee of the Ann Arbor Community Commons <http://www.annarborcommunitycommons.org/>

Commissioner City of Ann Arbor Council of the Commons
<https://www.a2gov.org/departments/systems-planning/programs/Pages/Council-of-the-Commons.aspx>

Former Trustee Episcopal Diocese Of Michigan (www.edomi.org)
Worked on community economic empowerment in the IslandView area of Detroit deploying a unique eco-village and entrepreneurship training/startup creation concept in collaboration with the Episcopal Church Of The Messiah.

Former Chair Entrepreneurship Advisory Committee, Washtenaw Community College and adjunct faculty member Entrepreneurship.

Relevant Publication: ‘Technology Change And Transfer In The 1980’s’, Geoffrey Henny, International Financial Management Handbook, Kluwer, London, UK, 1984.

Prior Professional Experience

1/2008 – 6/2015 Chairman and Cofounder Medical Tricorder Applications LLC (META), Ann Arbor, Michigan – Patented multipurpose

hand-held medical device that did diagnostics, treatment and prognostics using ultrasound and iontophoresis.

5/2004 – 9/2007 Contract Vice President Business Development IA/Threefold Sensors Inc. - Ann Arbor, Mi (Point-of-Care lab quality diagnostic devices).

Accomplishments:

- Developed a network of strategic alliance partners to manufacture and market the product.
- Undertook in depth product usability assessments leading to a more marketable design.
- Helped raise and oversee \$ 4.5 Million in early stage funding from state and federal sources.

5/2001 - 4/2004 Commercialization Executive Michigan Life Sciences Corridor Core Technology Alliance – CTA (University Of Michigan, Wayne State University, Michigan State University, Van Andel Research Institute) - Ann Arbor, MI.

Accomplishments:

- Helped start four companies In Bio-It, Bioinformatics, and Biomedical Simulation.
- Helped raise and oversee \$ 6 Million in federal and state funding.
- Member of the University of Michigan leadership team working on the National Library of Medicine (NLM) and DARPA “Visible Human” And “Virtual Soldier” Projects.
- Set up and ran training programs to help companies in the region get into life sciences, innovative healthcare delivery systems, Data Analytics and Bio-IT.
- Assisted 50 companies and non profits with education, training, prod-

uct development, fund raising, interactive web communications and marketing. Also helped them interact with the University of Michigan.

4/1997- 4/2001 Senior Vice President, Business Development Tri-ada Inc. (data mining & process monitoring) - Ann Arbor, Silicon Valley, & London, UK.

Accomplishments:

- Sold \$ 10 Million in software licenses and services to major healthcare organizations (for fraud, waste and abuse monitoring) and quality monitoring.

- Recruited, trained and managed the company's sales and marketing organization and strategic partners. Brought in a team of product development experts to develop a new pattern recognition product line.

- Helped raise \$ 8 Million in venture capital.

9/1992 - 3/1995 Founding Director, (Assistant Dean Equivalent) Technology Transfer (Innovation, Commercialization & Entrepreneurship) University Of Michigan Medical School & Health System (UMHS) - Ann Arbor, MI.

Accomplishments:

- Set up the Office of Technology (Transfer), recruited staff and doubled the number of disclosures, patents, licenses and startups in the system over a three year period.

- Helped raise and oversee \$ 15 Million in government (mainly NIH) and private sector grants and contracts. Areas of activity: Genomics, diagnostics, biophysics, medical devices, medical imaging and visualization, medical lasers and ultrasound, healthcare IT systems and decision support, online medical training, alternative medicine to improve wellness and cut costs.

- Established commercialization training for faculty, staff and students.

Introduced the leadership of the health system to new types of electronic health record products, IT decision support systems, alternative medicine, behavioral health & virtual reality.

- Worked with the current NIH Director - Francis Collins MD, Ph.D. - on University Of Michigan Genome Center intellectual property.

- Established collaborative relationships with healthcare organization in Michigan, throughout the country and abroad.

- Worked closely with major corporations in Michigan and beyond on improving healthcare quality and reducing costs.

Education

City Business School, London University, UK: MBA - Finance and Insurance/Risk Management (Student Body President).

UC Berkeley, California: BA - Economics & Political Science (Dbl. Major). Alumni Scholar.

Trinity College, Oxford University, Oxford UK: Development Economics & International Relations – graduate studies – Thesis Supervisor Paul Streeten http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paul_Streeten. Advisors: Professors Alistair Buchan and Wilfred Knapp. Cofounder Oxford University Society for Public & International Affairs.

K - 12 Education in the UK, Switzerland, France and the USA.
Languages: English, French, German.

Association Of University Technology Managers (AUTM) - Washington DC patent and licensing training program certificate of completion.

Earlier Work Experience

Director New and International Business Development Diversified Chemical Technologies-Coat It. (Automotive Sealers and Adhesives) Detroit, Michigan. <https://www.dchem.com/>

Set up strategic alliances with companies in Japan, Taiwan, Germany, France, UK, and Malaysia.

CEO Universal Machine Intelligence Ltd. (Robotics and AI) London UK and Ann Arbor, MI.

With the assistance of then Unimation CEO Joe Engelberger https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Engelberger and the science fiction writer Isaac Asimov https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isaac_Asimov , created and ran a company for five years that designed and built smart robots for the education, research, light industry and healthcare markets. Funding was provided through Cazenove's [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cazenove_\(stock_broker\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cazenove_(stock_broker)) in the UK, Venrock <https://www.venrock.com/about-venrock/> in the US and the State of Michigan Department of Commerce.

St. Cross College <https://www.stx.ox.ac.uk/about-st-cross-college> , Oxford University and InterMatrix Senior Consulting Manager Global Risk Assessment. Main Clients: IBM, Various Banks, Deputy Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia, EU.

Member the Leadership Team Far Eastern Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Projects Shell International Petroleum Company – Shell Group.

General Director Aid and Development Project in Bangladesh for Church World Services (CWS) and the World Council of Churches (WCC).

US State Department Program Officer - Francophone Countries.

Attachment

From: **Emily Barnes** <ebarnes@cleary.edu>
Date: Mon, Apr 12, 2021 at 5:21 PM
Subject: Dawn Fiser Service to Cleary Award Winner!

To: Geoffry Henny <ghenny@my.cleary.edu>, Grace Farley <gfarley@cleary.edu>, David Hayes <dhayes@my.cleary.edu>, Lynne Golodner <lynne@yourppl.com>

Congratulations Geoff!!!!

You are the winner of the Dawn Fiser Service to Cleary Award!!!

The Dawn Fiser Service to Cleary Award honors Dawn Fiser, who worked at Cleary University for over 30 years before retiring in 2019. Over that time, she served in a variety of positions at the university and was always willing to help faculty, staff, students and alumni to be successful. She consistently went "above and beyond" in her service to the Cleary community.

The award recognizes a Cleary faculty, staff, student or alumnus who has gone "above and beyond" in service to the institution. The selection is made by the awards committee. The recipient is recognized at the annual commencement ceremony in May.

Your nomination:

Geoff Henny has been in service to Cleary for many years. He played a critical role in the development and actualization of The Cleary Mind™ and The Business Arts™ Curriculum. His creativity, innovation, thought leadership, and years of expertise produced courses such as the Data Integration Toolbox, the Business of Environmental Sustainability, the Ideation and Innovation, the Economics and Economics, the Business of Artificial Intelligence and Information Technology, and many many more during his time at the university.

Geoff is a true innovator and his mind is absolutely brilliant. His inquisitive mind allows him to see far beyond today and the barriers and walls of any box. He is truly a passionate and profound professor. His many accomplishments far supersede any level of expectation and he continues to provoke thought and intellect among our students. Geoff is a true inspiration and his limitless ability to invent and reimagine higher education is truly remarkable.

For these reasons, and many many others, I nominate Geoff for this award.

Our marketing guru, Lynne Golodner, will reach out to both of you to promote your achievement.

Thank you so much for your dedication!

Dr. Emily Barnes
Interim President &

Provost

(she,her,hers)

3750 Cleary Drive, Howell, MI 48843

800-686-1883

ebarnes@cleary.edu

www.cleary.edu

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