

KANSAS PLANNING



American Planning Association
Kansas Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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Conference Sponsors!



May 2014

President's Message

Lisa Koch, AICP

Summer is beginning, which means our conference planning is in full swing! You have and will continue to receive requests for many things - the call for sessions, awards, and sponsorships being our main requests to the membership. We need your assistance to make this conference a success! Please take the time to consider nominating a project you have completed this year or a colleague for an APA Kansas award. If you are doing something great (and we know you are), please consider telling us about it at the conference and submit a session proposal. And if you do business with our members, please consider a sponsorship. We have rates to fit all budgets and you will have the opportunity to reach our great membership!

May 18th was graduation day for our planning students at the University of Kansas and at Kansas State University. One of my favorite roles as president has been the opportunity to get to know the student planners and I can report that we have an exceptional group graduating from our two planning schools in 2014! Best of luck moving forward!

Student Attendance at the APA Conference in Atlanta

Several students from the Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association attended the national APA Conference in Atlanta last month. Here is what they had to say:

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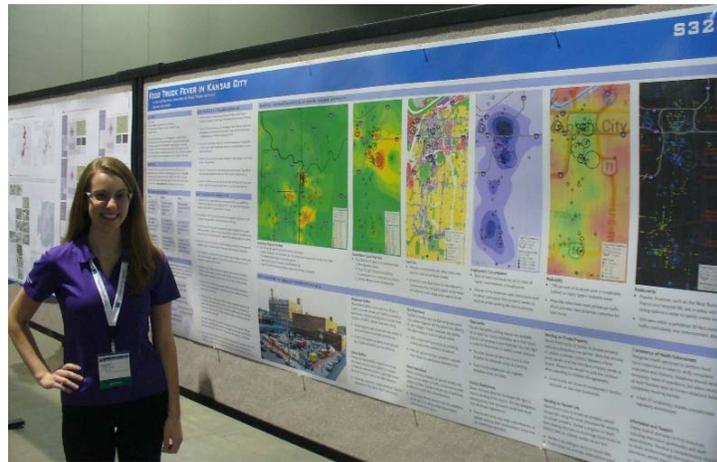
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I was fortunate to not only attend several National Conference sessions as a student, but to present my recently completed Master's Project research during the poster session as well. My Master's Project looked at the benefits of food trucks and how cities can improve their policies to encourage food truck activity. Not only did the experience provide a great networking opportunity, but it was also exciting to share my research and provide practical applications related to an up-and-coming topic in the planning field. - *Deanne Peterson, Kansas State University*



One session in the conference that particularly drew my attention was "Foreclosures, distress and neighborhood response", which recorded the market and neighborhood response in the face of large-scale foreclosure crisis. I was interested in this session because I wanted to know more about the resiliency of "low-income and distressed" neighborhoods in the case of economic emergency. What I learned from the session proved to me that a collaborative initiative is needed to help distressed neighborhoods take advantage of potential available resources from private investors, community development corporations (CDCs), and local government. - *Wei Li, University of Kansas*

One of the best sessions focused on the 1733 Savannah, Georgian, plan. Atlanta is one of many cities that have experienced tremendous growth and sprawl in recent decades. The workshop pointed out that land use planning has two main functions: zoning and subdividing. Zoning large sections of land for a particular use before infrastructure goes in allows developers to shape the urban or suburban form. If planners instead subdivided first by creating future land use plans around layout and form, like the Savannah plan, then we could create more connected, walkable cities. -- *Toby Moody, University of Kansas*

This year, I had mostly one thing on my mind—networking! Atlanta offered a rare opportunity to meet planning directors, who may just be looking to hire a bright, young planner, such as myself. I also knew there would be opportunities to check out all the great resources APA provides for emerging professionals (i.e., resume clinics, career speed-dating session, and information about the AICP exam.) I am happy to report that the APA conference allowed me to meet several experienced planners, who were able to provide me with some excellent information regarding job opportunities. - *Matt Buchanan, University of Kansas*

I attended numerous sessions, my favorite being the session *Climate and Cooperation in Coastal Zone Management*. I was able to gain a better understanding about coastal planning in general and I learned of new online resources to use for future research. The planner from Norfolk, Virginia gave a great presentation about the city's issues with flooding, which I found to be especially interesting and thought provoking. -- Hilary Hershner, University of Kansas



Save the date for the 2014 Kansas Planning Conference! It will be held October 2 - 3 in Wichita. More details to come!

**Call for Sessions for 2014 Kansas Planning Conference -
Deadline for submittals is June 7th
Bonnie J. Johnson, AICP
Professional Development Officer**

Now is the time to share your expertise, experiences, and knowledge! Why not submit a session/presentation for the 2014 Kansas Planning Conference? The Kansas Planning Conference is October 2 - 3 in Wichita. Anyone is eligible to submit a session, presentation, or planning commissioner training proposal, whether or not he or she is a member of APA. We are interested in session proposals with 3 to 4 speakers or in individual presentations that can be combined with other presentations to create sessions. We will combine presentations into logical sessions so don't worry if you don't have enough for a whole session. This year we are trying something new and that is planning commissioner training. If you have a session, presentation, or workshop that would especially benefit planning commissioners, please submit it and help launch this new initiative to be of assistance to our planning commissioners.

The submittal form can be obtained from Bonnie Johnson, Professional Development Officer, email: bojohn.ku.edu. *The deadline is June 7th.*

New AICP Exam Prep Coming Soon!

I went to the meeting of Professional Development Officers at the national conference on April 27th and got a sneak peak at the new AICP Exam Prep product - an online study guide with video tutorials and additional "real" computer based exams that track which topic areas you are doing well in and which ones you need to study more. It might see the light of day as early as October.

Are you seeing new initials after people's AICP? We also heard about the Advanced Specialty Certifications and exams (Transportation - AICP CTP, Environment - AICP CEP, and Urban Design - AICP CUD). The urban design test questions are undergoing some further research and modifications. If you take and pass one of these specialty exams, for certification maintenance,

you have to have at least 10 of your 32 required CM credits in your specialty area.

The next AICP exam application window opens June 3, 2014. The Early Bird Application deadline is June 17 and the final deadline is July 24th. Check out the AICP website to get details and access the online form:
<http://www.planning.org/certification/>.

At the national conference, I also went to the AICP Prep session and they had some good advice on researching and learning the major court cases for the law portion of the exam. When you have a good list of the major court cases (see the link to the 2014 exam prep session below), you can look them up in Wikipedia and on the page for each case on the right hand side is a brief description of the results of the case or the "holding". Just get a list of the cases and the "holding" for each and study that.
<http://www.planning.org/certification/examprep/pdf/2014fullxamprep.pdf>.

Contact me - -

Send those conference proposals my way . If you have questions about applying for the AICP exam, taking the exam, or getting your CM credits, let me know. Email: bojohn@ku.edu or 785-864-7147. Bonnie Johnson, Associate Professor, University of Kansas, Department of Urban Planning, 1465 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 418, Lawrence, KS 66045-7626.

Career Opportunity - Planner and/or Urban Designer

RDG Planning & Design is seeking applications for a Planner and/or Urban Designer. The position will be responsible for assisting in a wide range of projects including comprehensive plans, multi-modal planning, downtown/community redevelopment plans, and housing studies. The ideal applicant must:

- Have a strong understanding of the planning field
- Have excellent written and oral communication skills
- Be self-starter, detail oriented and have an ability to work independently, handling multiple tasks and projects
- Demonstrated proficient experience in the Illustrator, InDesign and Photoshop

Minimum Qualifications:

Masters Degree in Planning, Landscape Architecture, or closely related field with 1-3 years experience

Or Bachelors Degree in Planning, Landscape Architecture, or closely related field with 3-5 years experience

To learn more about RDG and submit your application visit our website at www.rdgusa.com



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