Task Force Report on Innovation

The Task Force on Innovation and Communication in Planning Education was created as part of the Planning Accreditation Board’s (PAB) strategic goal to promote and encourage a culture of innovation in program content and delivery. The initial purpose of the task force was to understand emerging challenges facing planning programs as they relate to academics and professional settings as well as identify current innovations and potential barriers. In order to get feedback from the planning community, the task force held sessions at both the 2018 APA and ACSP National Conferences. The task force compiled the results and the report was shared with the APA/AICP and ACSP governing boards.

The report identifies emerging issues, provides a working definition of culture of innovation, and suggests strategies to support innovation from both the academy and the profession. The task force found that, “a culture of innovation invests in the institutional environment and human capital to create anticipatory and responsive research and courses in pursuit of a more informed planning practice (pg. 7).” Additionally, the task force addressed PAB’s role in fostering the culture of innovation among accredited programs. The purpose of the report was to inform PAB and sponsoring organizations of the emerging issues as well as continue the conversation on strategies to support innovation. The task force will continue its work this year to articulate shared values between the academy, PAB, and the profession. At the 2019 APA National Conference, the task force held a session on what accreditation means to the planning field. The task force will look at the value of accreditation to all of PAB stakeholders and make sure to align the messaging and communication efforts with sponsoring organizations.

Click here to view the Task Force Report on Innovation.

Public Information

Accredited programs are expected to remain in compliance with Criterion 1F/Public Information at all times. Although this criterion is reviewed annually, updates are required at different times throughout the year. For example, the Tuition and Fees information displayed for Public Information should be updated to reflect the current academic year. Review the Instructions and Expectations section on page two of the PAB template for more information.

From an annual review of 89 accredited programs, as of January 31, 2019, 63% of programs were Met, 36% Partially-met, and 1% Unmet.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Visit Team Assessments</th>
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<tr>
<td>Programs Reviewed</td>
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<tr>
<td>79</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noncompliant Public Information</td>
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<td>42%</td>
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The template for Public Information can be found on the PAB website and is also sent to all accredited programs in October. Updated AICP exam data is emailed to program administrators in November. PAB staff are here to help, contact Jaclyn via email.
During the Board Meeting in San Francisco, PAB granted accreditation to the following programs:

- **George Washington University**
  - Master of Professional Studies in Sustainable Urban Planning

- **University of Illinois at Chicago**
  - Master of Urban Planning and Policy

- **Michigan State University**
  - Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Planning
  - Master in Urban and Regional Planning

- **University of Massachusetts Amherst**
  - Master of Regional Planning

- **New York University**
  - Master of Urban Planning

- **University of Pennsylvania**
  - Master of City Planning

- **Harvard University**
  - Master of Urban Planning

- **Wayne State University**
  - Master of Urban Planning

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**Policy Updates**

**Student & Faculty Diversity:** The Student and Faculty Diversity sections in the SSR Manual have been revised to provide more detail in the Rationale and How to Demonstrate Compliance areas (pgs. 14 & 16).

⇒ **Rationale:** Diversity, equity, and inclusion are central values of planning. As stated in the preamble, among the foremost responsibilities of the Program is to advance diversity and a culture of inclusion among the planning profession’s future practitioners in the Program and the faculty who shape the future of the planning profession, particularly with regard to historically underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities. In an increasingly diverse world, Programs should be at the forefront in educating ethically and culturally competent planners and establishing access points for educational opportunities and mobility through the field of planning. Students, faculty, and the profession benefit from the opportunities to learn and interact with people of varying backgrounds and perspectives. Through this enriched learning environment, students are better prepared to contribute to the profession and create equitable and just communities. A crucial step in achieving long-term success in diversifying its student body is defining diversity goals, strategies and assessing efforts.

⇒ **To demonstrate compliance:** The program’s strategic plan should contain goals and measurable objectives aimed toward improving student diversity and faculty diversity. The Program shall provide its working definition of diversity and a rationale for that definition, information on how the Program is implementing their efforts to achieve diversity, and data and information on goal achievement.

**Consultant Policy:** The Policy on PAB Site Visitors and Board Members Serving as Independent Consultants has been revised.

⇒ **A Site Visitor who has previously evaluated a program for PAB must wait 3 years before returning to that program as an independent consultant.** The full policy can be found in Section 3.15 of the PAB's Policies and Procedures Manual.

**Site Visit Manuals:** The Student Work Sections in the Site Visit Manual for Program Administrators (pg. 12) and Site Visit Team Members (pg. 11) have been revised to provide more clarity.

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**PAB Chair, Professor Connie Ozawa**

Dr. Ozawa was appointed to the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) by ACSP in 2014. Since her appointment, she has served in multiple roles on the PAB. From 2016 to 2018, she served as the PAB Vice-Chair and moved into the role of PAB chair December 1, 2018. Professor Ozawa has been teaching at Portland State University since 1994. Her primary areas of teaching and research are environmental planning, planning processes, and consensus-based decision making. During her tenure, she served as director for the Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning. In her current role, she serves as Co-Director of the PSU-China Innovations in Urbanization Program. Outside of her role teaching, she authored Recasting Science: Consensus-Based Procedures in Public Policy Making (Westview, 1991), served as editor of The Portland Edge: Challenges and Successes in Growing Communities (Island Press, 2004), co-editor of Planning the Pacific Northwest (APA Press, expected spring 2015) and author of numerous chapters and journal articles on the role of science in decision making, mediation and collaborative processes and planning education.

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Connie Ozawa, Ph.D.
Did you know?

Diversity Task Force Report
The 2016 Diversity Task Force prepared a report identifying effective and exemplary practices in diversity activities in graduate programs for recruiting and maintaining a diverse student body and faculty. To view the Diversity Task Force Report click here.

Student and Faculty Data
The PAB Annual Report for the 2017-2018 academic year is now available. It provides aggregate data collected through the annual report process required by all accredited programs. 2018 PAB Annual Report Annual Report Online Database (AROD)

In Memorium
PAB notes the passing of Dr. Beatrice Clupper. Professor Clupper served as Executive Director of the Planning Accreditation Board from 1992—2004. She also taught at several institutions including Mount Mercy College, Clark College, UNI, and DMACC. PAB extends our sincerest condolences to her friends and family.

PAB Chair Connie Ozawa with Outstanding Site Visitor of 2018, Fernando Costa!

Site Visitor Corner

SVT Chairs:
Barbara Becker, Ph.D., FAICP
Eric Heikkila, Ph.D.
Barry Nocks, Ph.D., FAICP
Rhonda Phillips, Ph.D., FAICP
Tom Sanchez, Ph.D.
Eric Strauss, Ph.D., AICP

Members:
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Wayne Carlson, FAICP
Wayne Feiden, FAICP
David Haight, FAICP
Sanda Kaufman, Ph.D.
Robert Mitchell, FAICP
Marla Nelson, Ph.D., AICP
Laxmi Ramasubramanian, Ph.D., AICP
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Stephanie Rolley, FASLA, FCELA, PLA, AICP
John Whalen, FAICP
Ming Zhang, Ph.D., AICP

Site Visitor Recognition
PAB is grateful for the hard work and dedication of all our Site Visitors. We would like to recognize the following individuals who have retired from the Site Visit pool. Thank you for the many years of service to PAB and your contribution to the field of planning.

Cheryl Contant, Ph.D.
William Drummond, Ph.D.
John Mullin, Ph.D., FAICP
Ana Maria Whitaker, AICP

Thank You to Spring 2019 Site Visit Teams

Contact Information
To submit content for future editions, please contact editor Jaclyn Hade via email.