



PAB NEWSLETTER

Important Dates

June 15, 2021

Draft Self-Study Report due for programs with fall 2021 Site Visits

July 1, 2021

Progress Reports due, if applicable

September 15, 2021

Draft Self-Study Report due for programs with spring 2022 Site Visits

September — November

Fall Site Visits

October 21-23, 2021

PAB Fall Board Meeting at the [ACSP National Conference](#)

December 1, 2021

Annual Fee due

January 31, 2022

Annual Report due for all programs

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Standards Revision—Public Comment Period Coming Soon!

*Author: Edward Goetz, Ph.D., Chair of the PAB Standards Review Taskforce
Professor, University of Minnesota*

Every five years, PAB reviews the accreditation standards to ensure that they are keeping up with changes in the profession and in academia. Last July, the Board created a taskforce to collect input from stakeholders about potential revisions to the standards. The taskforce consisted of four PAB members and five representatives from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) and American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). In total, there were four planning academics, four planning practitioners, and one higher education administrator (Taskforce member list [available here](#)).

The taskforce undertook an extensive effort at gathering stakeholder input. We held a series of forums last fall and more than 350 people participated across six meetings. In addition to these sessions, the taskforce met with three additional groups to gather input, the Planners of Color Interest Group (POCIG), the ACSP Diversity Committee, and the ACSP Global Education Committee. Some of these groups formalized their input to the taskforce in letters laying out their suggestions for the standards. Finally, the taskforce sponsored an online survey that generated ideas from more than 125 respondents.

The taskforce spent the first four months of this year sifting through the input and drafting a set of revisions. Those revisions are before the PAB Board now, and PAB anticipates releasing the initial draft later this summer. At that point, there will be a round of public comment and then the Board will review and incorporate those comments into a second draft. In the fall of this year there will be a second round of public comment before the Board issues the final revisions.

Up to date information will be posted to the [PAB website](#) and shared via email with stakeholders.

PAB Statement on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Approved by PAB Executive Committee, February 18, 2021

Diversity is an inclusive concept which encompasses, but is not limited to, race, ethnicity, class, gender, age, sexuality, ability, educational attainment, first-generation status, spiritual beliefs, creed, culture, tribal affiliation, nationality, immigration status, political beliefs, and veteran status^[1]. PAB embraces the belief that by achieving diversity and inclusion, accredited university planning programs will promote an ethos of equity by educating and preparing students to advance the practice of planning through cultural competency and a greater understanding of the systems, practices and policies that perpetuate racism and discrimination. Realizing these goals and objectives in the accreditation process is an ongoing process that requires commitment and accountability for meaningful progress to occur.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion and Your Planning Education—What is the Connection?

PAB will be sponsoring this panel session in conjunction with the fall [ACSP Conference](#) in Miami, Florida. Date, time, and location are TBD.

[1] APA, Planning for Equity Policy Guide, 2019

Virtual Site Visits — Hybrid Pilot

As a result of Covid-19, PAB temporarily approved virtual Site Visits for fall 2020 and spring 2021. Through the dedication and commitment of 54 Site Visitors, we were able to safely review 21 programs at 18 institutions. Without the good will and support from programs and their stakeholders, virtual visits would not have been possible. On behalf of PAB, thank you to everyone - volunteers, program administrators, faculty, students and practitioners- who made this crucial shift to a virtual format work.

Throughout this endeavor, PAB collected valuable feedback on the benefits and challenges associated with virtual visits. Overall, Program Administrators and Site Visit Team members were pleasantly surprised at the minimal challenges due to the virtual format. However, Site Visit Teams agreed that many aspects of the on-site visit cannot be replicated virtually and often some nuances or ability to explore topics deeper were lost. There was consensus on some aspects of the virtual visit that could be incorporated into the on-site visit which include a virtual meeting with non-local alumni, employers and APA Chapter members.

PAB will pilot a hybrid Site Visit for fall 2021—spring 2022 for programs granted a 7-year accreditation term at their last review. In the summer of 2022, PAB will consider the feedback from the pilot program and determine if changes to the Site Visit model and schedule are warranted.

Due to the financial implications related to COVID-19, PAB has waived the 2% Annual Fee increase for accredited programs for Fiscal Year 2022. For more information view the [Annual Fee Schedule](#) on the PAB website.

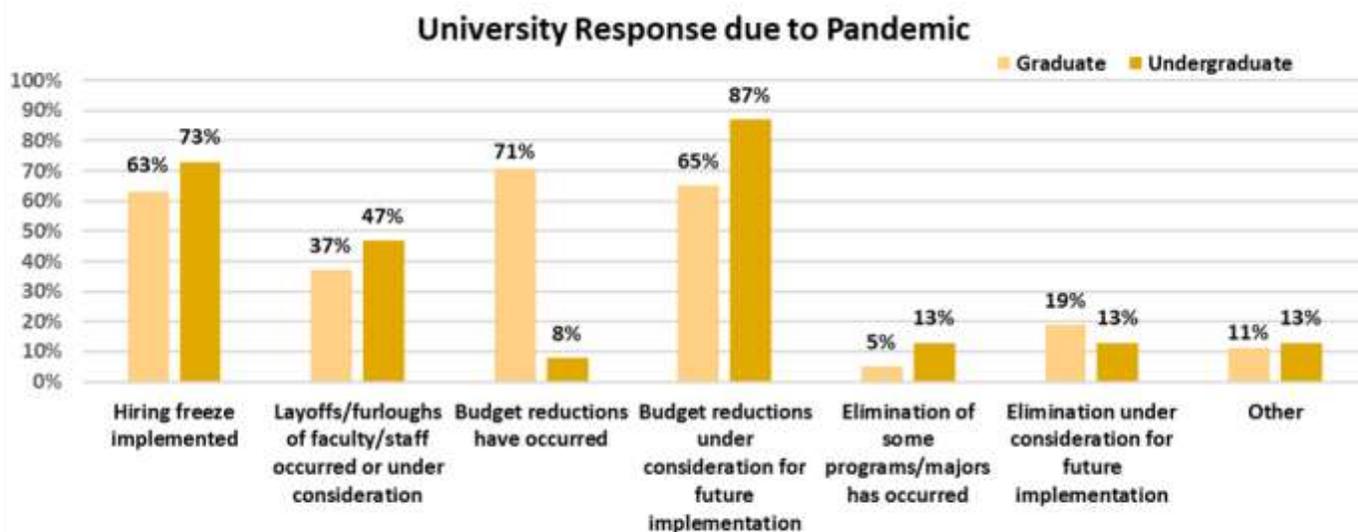
PAB Annual Report

The PAB Annual Report provides a summary of student enrollment, faculty headcount status, as well as race and ethnicity throughout PAB-accredited programs. The data is self-reported by each program. All accredited programs are required to submit an annual report by January 31st of each year. To view previous reports or search data by school, [click here](#).

The 2020 PAB Annual Report presents data reported from 91 accredited programs (75 graduate, 16 undergraduate) compared to the previous year from 90 accredited programs (74 graduate, 16 undergraduate). Student data is reported as of Dec. 31, 2020 and faculty data is reported for the academic year 2020-2021.

New this year, the PAB Annual Report includes the number of applications reviewed for admission compared to the number of students that were admitted and enrolled as well as student employment by graduating class. The report also included a series of questions related to Covid-19 modifications. Collecting this information via the annual report will also ease the data gathering process for program administrators completing their Self-Study Report.

Based on the results since March 2020, 64 graduate and 20 undergraduate students withdrew due to the pandemic and 365 graduate and 1 undergraduate student declined or deferred their acceptance.



Virtual Board Meeting — Spring 2021



Bristol
Ellington,
AICP

Ed
Goetz,
Ph.D.

Zenia
Kotval,
Ph.D., FAICP

Alex
Lieber,
AICP

Dawn G.
Terkla,
Ed.D.

Mitch
Thrower,
CPA

Weiping
Wu,
Ph.D.

David
Salazar,
FAICP

Jesmarie
Johnson,
CAE

Jaclyn
Hade

During the Board Meeting, PAB granted accreditation to the following programs:

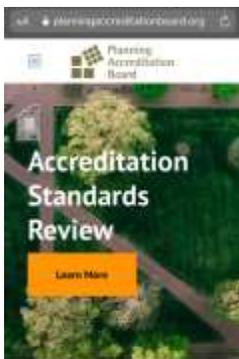
- ◆ **Cleveland State University**
Master of Urban Planning and Development
- ◆ **Columbia University**
Master of Science in Urban Planning
- ◆ **Eastern Washington University**
Bachelor of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning
Master of Urban and Regional Planning
- ◆ **Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey**
Master of City and Regional Planning
- ◆ **Temple University**
Master of Science in City and Regional Planning
- ◆ **University at Buffalo, SUNY**
Master of Urban Planning
- ◆ **University of Cincinnati**
Bachelor of Urban Planning
Master of Community Planning
- ◆ **University of Georgia**
Master of Urban Planning and Design
- ◆ **University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign**
Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies and Planning
Master of Urban Planning

For a summary of recent actions or additional details, visit the PAB website, specifically the [News](#) and [Accredited Planning Programs](#) directory.

Congratulations to Auburn University, University of South Florida, & Western Washington University. Programs at these institutions were recently recognized for Noteworthy Practices.

[Learn more](#)

Check Out the New PAB Website



PAB is excited to announce the launch of our new website at www.planningaccreditationboard.org. The site has a fresh new look, it's easier to navigate and mobile-friendly.

Our goals with the new website are to increase awareness and visibility of accreditation and the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB); improve access and dissemination of materials; provide supportive tools for programs to achieve accreditation and continuous improvement; and communicate the value and relevance of Planning. Some great new and revamped features of the site include:

- Clearer information on [accreditation and PAB](#)
- Accredited Programs Directory: [search by region](#) or [degree type](#)
- [Accreditation Resources](#): one page dedicated to all accreditation materials
- [Site Visitors](#): An upgraded site dedicated to our volunteers
- [Resources and Publications](#): includes a user-friendly [Noteworthy Practices](#) site.

To let us know what you think of our new website, send feedback or comments to info@planningaccreditationboard.org

Congratulations

Hazel Edwards, Ph.D., FAICP has been appointed to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts by President Biden.

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Dr. Edwards has been a PAB Site Visitor since 2008.

2021 Outstanding Site Visitor Award Recipients



Eugenie L. Birch, Ph.D., FAICP
Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research, co-Director Penn Institute for Urban Research

&



Cheryl Holmes Matheny, FAICP
Principal, The Matheny-Burns Group

Site Visitor Corner

Check out the [Site Visitor](#) section of the new PAB website. The [training materials](#) have been updated to include PowerPoint slides to accompany the training videos and quizzes.

Thank You Spring 2021 Virtual Site Visit Teams



SVT Chairs:

Eugenie Birch, Ph.D., FAICP
Robin Boyle
Ken Chew, Ph.D.
Maria Manta Conroy, Ph.D.
Mark Lapping, Ph.D.
Jonathan Levine, Ph.D.
Rhonda Phillips, Ph.D., FAICP
Fred Steiner, Ph.D.
Curt Winkle, Ph.D.

Team Members:

Ivonne Audirac, Ph.D.
John Betancur, Ph.D.
Jeff Brown, Ph.D.
Wayne Carlson, FAICP
Fernando Costa, FAICP
John Crowley, Ph.D., FAICP, FASLA
Anne Forsyth, Ph.D.
Allara Mills-Gutcher, AICP
Dawn Jourdan, Ph.D., AICP
Robert Mitchell, FAICP
Marla Nelson, Ph.D., AICP
Stephan Schmidt, Ph.D.
Janet Shull, AICP, CUD
Scot Siegel, FAICP, LEED AP
Susan Swift, AICP
Lisa Verner, FAICP
Corrin Wendell, AICP
Ming Zhang, Ph.D., AICP



In Memoriam

PAB notes the passing of Terrance Lee Harrington. Terry was a PAB Site Visitor from 2009-2021. He spent his career working for local communities as a planner and was very involved with the American Planning Association. PAB extends our sincerest condolences to his friends & family.