



Important Dates

January 31, 2022

Annual Report due for all Programs

January— March

Spring Site Visits

May 1—May 2

PAB Spring Board Meeting at the [APA National Conference](#) in San Diego, CA

June 15

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

July 1

Progress Reports Due (if applicable)

September 15

Draft Self-Study Report due for programs with spring 2023 Site Visits

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Letter from the Chair, Bristol Ellington

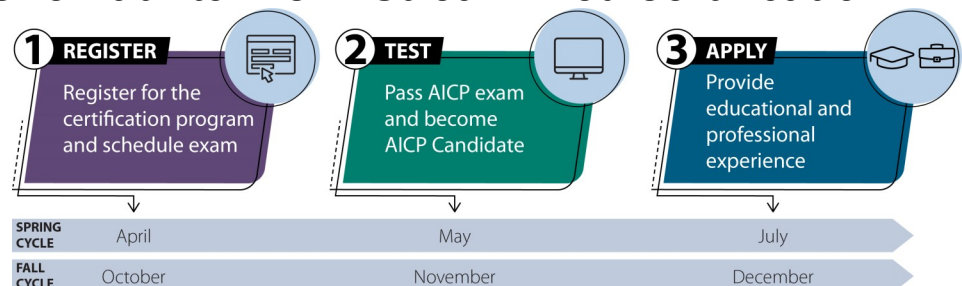
Happy 2022! I had hoped with the start of a new year to say that COVID is behind us, but unfortunately that is not the case. Despite the challenges of a global pandemic, the Planning Accreditation Board has continued with its mission to promote excellence among planning programs and ensure high-quality education for future urban planners. PAB conducted nine virtual visits in Spring 2021 and six on-site visits in Fall 2021. Six site visits are scheduled for Spring 2022; however, depending on the COVID situation at the time, these visits may transition to virtual or be rescheduled.

On a regular basis, PAB reviews its standards to ensure clarity, relevancy with the academy and practice, compliance with the Council of Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) requirements, and to address changes in programmatic accreditation. The most recent update was led by the PAB Accreditation Standards Review Task Force. The Task Force goals for the proposed amendments were to clarify the standards; ensure the curriculum and core competencies remain relevant to the profession; systematically review and reinforce diversity, equity and inclusion concepts throughout the standards; and continue to provide a clear and thoughtful framework focused on principles, outcomes, and accountability.

Two public comment periods were held from July 30-Aug.30, 2021, and Nov. 1-30, 2021. Where they could, the Task Force incorporated comments into the revisions. Comments will also be used to revise the Self-Study Report (SSR) and Site Visit (SV) manuals. The final standards are currently being reviewed by the Board. The release of the final standards is anticipated soon. Once final standards are approved, the SSR Manual and Template will be revised to reflect the new standards and expectations. While there's too many changes to mention, I would like to highlight the Task Force's efforts to strengthen diversity, equity and inclusion throughout the standards, including an updated definition of diversity that is more comprehensive and inclusive. There is also an explicit expectation that Program Strategic Plans (Standard 1) will include the Program's definition of diversity, equity, inclusion and social justice, and goals and measurable objectives aimed at achieving them. I want to acknowledge and thank all who provided constructive comments to improve the Accreditation Standards.

(Continued on page 3)

One Path to AICP—Streamlined Certification



Are your students ready to start on the path to AICP? Starting in April, they can take advantage of the streamlined [One Path](#) certification process- students can register to take the exam prior to graduation. Your students should [check out](#) the new interactive experience calculator and other Eligibility Pre-Check resources to help prepare for their AICP journey. Also available is [a flyer for prospective members](#), [a One Path Info Sheet](#) and the [AICP Certification Guide](#) for additional information.

Board Member News

Incoming Board Members (as of December 1, 2021)



Byron Nicholas, PP, AICP—AICP Young Planner appointee (2021-2024)

Byron Nicholas holds a Professional Planners License for the State of New Jersey and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) with over 7 years of urban planning experience. Byron is currently the supervising transportation planner for Hudson County, NJ and works on federal and state funded transportation projects and studies. He also serves on his regional MPO's Transportation Advisory Committee. Prior to this role, Byron worked in the Geometric Design unit of New York City Department of Transportation. Byron is also the creator of Grid City Planning, LLC. d/b/a Black + Urban, an online publication created as a safe space for Black urban planners, designers and forward thinkers and has received both his Master's degree in Urban Planning and Bachelor's degree in Environmental Design from the University at Buffalo.

Lois Takahashi, Ph.D.—ACSP Planning Educator appointee (2021-2024)

Lois M. Takahashi is Houston Flournoy Professor of State Government at the University of Southern California, and Director of the USC Price School of Public Policy in Sacramento. Dr. Takahashi is a board member of the Western Center on Law and Poverty, and a member of the Board of Advisors for Special Service for Groups/Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (SSG/APAIT). She received her Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Southern California, a dual MS in Public Policy and Architecture from Carnegie Mellon University, and an AB in Architecture from UC Berkeley. She was also President of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (2015-2017). Dr. Takahashi's 1998 book on the NIMBY syndrome, homelessness, and HIV/AIDS was published by Oxford University Press. With her collaborator Dr. Amrita Daniere (University of Toronto), Dr. Takahashi's 2002 book assessed urban development and environmental degradation in Bangkok, Thailand (Ashgate Publishing). In addition to these books, she has published over 80 articles and chapters.



Fall Board Meeting

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

- ♦ **Cornell University**
Master of Regional Planning
- ♦ **East Carolina University**
Bachelor of Science in Community and Regional Planning
- ♦ **Texas A&M University**
Master of Urban Planning
- ♦ **University of California, Irvine**
Master of Urban and Regional Planning
- ♦ **University of New Mexico**
Master of Community and Regional Planning
- ♦ **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**
Master of City and Regional Planning
- ♦ **University of Southern California**
Master of Urban Planning
- ♦ **University of Utah**
Master of City and Metropolitan Planning
- ♦ **Virginia Commonwealth University**
Master of Urban and Regional Planning

Additional details are available on the PAB website in the [News](#) section and [Accredited Planning Programs directory](#). Please contact the program directly for in-depth information regarding programs, course offerings, and compliance with PAB standards.

Candidacy Status Granted

(effective January 1, 2022)

University of Massachusetts Boston
Master of Science in Urban Planning and
Community Development

Letter from the Chair, continued

You may have noticed our new look. PAB launched its new website in May 2021, and I hope you would agree that the new design is easier to navigate, mobile friendly and ADA compliant. The goal of the website update was to increase awareness and visibility of accreditation and 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. Many thanks to those involved in the countless hours enhancing the website.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Eugenie L. Birch, FAICP, Nussdorf, Professor of Urban Research, University of Pennsylvania; and Chery Holmes Matheny, FAICP, Principal, The Matheny-Burns Group, for being the recipients of the 2021 Outstanding Site Visit Award for their exceptional contributions to PAB, planning education and the profession, respectively.

Have a safe and productive 2022 and please continue to adhere to COVID protocols!



Thank You

Alexander Lieber, AICP (left) & Zenia Kotval, Ph.D., FAICP (right)
for your 6 years of service on the Board (2015-2021) and
dedication to planning education.

Policies and Procedures Manual – Revised

The Policies and Procedures Manual have been revised to extend the amount of time before adding public disclosure language to the website. Visit the [PAB website](#) to view the current public disclosure information for your institution.

Public Notification

PAB is required to provide timely notification to the public regarding accreditation decisions per recognition requirement of the Council on Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) regarding accountability. As stated in the CHEA Standards and Procedures for Recognition, accrediting agencies must inform the public of the program's accreditation status and the reason(s) for the accreditation action(s) in a timely and readily accessible manner. Consistent with CHEA recognition policies, PAB provides the following information on its website:

- (1) Name of sponsoring institution
- (2) Name of program
- (3) PAB Decision Categories
 - a. Candidacy Status granted;
 - b. Accreditation granted;
 - c. Denial of Accreditation;
 - d. Revocation of Accreditation;
 - e. Probationary Accreditation granted;
 - f. Deferral of Decision.
- (4) Interval of accreditation decision
- (5) Basis for accreditation decision; **and** a response from the institution/program regarding that decision, if any.

PAB publishes a summary of accreditation actions within 60 calendar days of its regularly scheduled board meetings at which such decisions are made regarding individual programs/institutions. The Program has the opportunity to provide a written response regarding the information posted on the PAB website. The Program's written response will be posted to the website.

Standards Review Task Force

A special-purpose task force composed of representatives from ACSP, AICP and PAB was formed to assist with the review and revision of the 2017 accreditation standards. The task force worked diligently from October 2020 through December 2021.

Task Force Members:

Edward G. Goetz, Ph.D.—PAB Board Member, Task Force Chair
Berniece Herbert, Ph.D.—Jackson State University
Rolf Pendall, Ph.D.—University of Illinois Urbana Champaign
Carlos M. Rodrigues, FAICP—Design Solutions
David Salazar, FAICP —PAB Board Member
Linda F. Tatum, FAICP—City of Long Beach
Dawn Terkla, Ph.D.—PAB Board Member
Mitch Thrower, CPA—PAB Board Member
Stacey Swearingen White, Ph.D.—University of Kansas

Thank you for your time and commitment to improving planning education and the profession.



Updated AICP Code of Ethics

The [AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct](#) guides and inspires ethical decision-making, while protecting AICP-certified planners when faced with controversial or difficult choices. The Code was updated in 2021 to reflect the ever-changing issues that planners face. Revisions expand aspirational principles and encourage you to take an active role in social justice and racial equity, respect others, and increase opportunities for underrepresented groups to become professional planners. Learn more about the update [here](#).

Thank You to all Fall 2021 Site Visit Teams

With the assistance of 18 Site Visitors, we were able to review 7 programs at 6 institutions. Two of those programs piloted the hybrid Site Visit format. PAB will consider the feedback from the pilot program and determine if changes to the Site Visit model and schedule are warranted.

University of Wisconsin—Madison Site Visit



(Left to right: PAB Observer Byron Nicholas, SVT Members Mary Anne Akers, Brenda Scheer, & David Wilwerding)



Site Visit Team Chairs

John Betancur, Ph.D.
John Gaber, Ph.D., AICP
Eric Heikkila, Ph.D.
David Marcouiller, Ph.D.
Brenda Scheer, FAIA, FAICP
Bruce Stiftel, Ph.D., FAICP

Site Visit Team Members

Mary Anne Akers, Ph.D.
Carol Barret, FAICP
Arlan Colton, FAICP
Gloria Jeff, AICP
David Lewis, Ph.D.
Stephen Ramos, D.Des
Carol Rhea, FAICP
Carissa Schively Slotterback, Ph.D., FAICP
Shannon Van Zandt, Ph.D., AICP
Phillip Walker, FAICP
David Wilwerding, AICP
Mark Wilson, Ph.D.