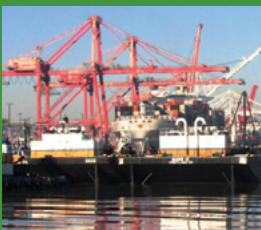




JOIN

APA WASHINGTON



American Planning Association
Washington Chapter

JOIN APA WASHINGTON

We are an organization of planners who make great communities happen through our engagement in public and private sector planning and decision making. We share our experience, knowledge and resources, stay current on planning issues and ideas, and contribute to great places.

APA-WA members receive benefits such as:

- Discounted rates on annual conference registration fees and events
- Networking opportunities with local, regional, and national planners
- Advanced continuing education and training at low cost
- Influencing public policy through the legislative process
- Getting involved at the Section and Chapter level activities
- Mentoring, speaking, and knowledge sharing opportunities

Our membership includes public and private sector professional planners, students, citizen planners, planning commissioners, planning officials, and others interested in planning.

HOW TO JOIN

Regular Membership

Apply through National APA at: planning.org/join/planners/

Mail applications to National APA office at:
97774 Eagle Way; Chicago, IL 60678-9770

Chapter-Only Membership

Write CHAPTER-ONLY across the front of a regular membership application form available at: planning.org/join/planners/. Submit the form and \$50 membership fee to National APA.

Chapter-Only Group Membership

Available to Planning Commissions, County Commissioners/Councils, City Councils, Tribal Councils and board members of non-profit and other professional organizations. Download application form at : <http://www.washington-apa.org/about/join>

Student Membership

Students enjoy a free first year of membership with National APA and APA-WA, and reduced rate after that for four years. Use the regular membership application and provide student verification. Learn more at: planning.org/join/students/

Expand your network, stay current and receive many benefits!

Learn more at www.washington-apa.org/about/join/



Contact APA-WA
2150 N. 107th Street
Suite 205
Seattle, WA 98133
206-367-8704
washington-apa.org

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REFLECTIONS

LOOKING BACK



It is my great pleasure to look back on the past two years of accomplishments for our chapter. The chapter was already on an upswing and, with an engaged board, strong section leadership, growing membership and a supportive planning community, I think we were highly successful in our diverse program areas.

While the remainder of this report details the work being done by our committees, sections and task forces, I want to highlight a few accomplishments.

Growth in membership – through strong programs, two recruitment drives, a change in the membership rate structure, increased outreach to universities, and institutional changes in officer and committee workplans to focus on membership benefits, the chapter grew by almost ten percent. Membership growth is the strongest sign of the chapter's health.

Strengthened financial position – through careful management of expenses, inclusion of a three-year budget projection in our budget process, strong conferences, a simpler and clearer website advertising program, membership growth, and generous sponsors, the chapter's financial position is stronger than it has ever been. This allowed us to deliver stronger conferences, more educational content and a lower chapter-only membership rate. The chapter is in a position to increase its services and programs in the coming years.

Increased section funding – the point of delivery of many services is at the section level and the Board was able to increase funding to sections in the last two budgets, create a section-to-section information sharing program, and support section leaders to participate in chapter activities. The new integrated national – chapter – section election cycle will continue to deliver on the important "one APA" goal in the strategic plan.

Successful section trainings conferences – nearly all the sections are holding local conferences and quarterly trainings, often in collaboration with Commerce's Planners Forums. These conferences create additional opportunities to tailor training content and offer credits for AICP planners closer to home.

Geographic diversification of leadership – the chapter focused on recruiting planners from across the state to move into leadership positions, both at the Board and committee level. It is critically important for our educational programs, our advocacy programs, and our long-term health that people understand that the chapter has statewide membership and leadership.

Stronger programs for citizen planners – in addition to strong programs for professional planners, the chapter revitalized its planning commissioner's program with a new Planning Commissioners Quarterly journal and, after many years of participating as presenters, the chapter became a full partner in the Short Course on Planning with PAW and Commerce. The chapter helps professional planners by partnering to educate citizen planners and planning officials.

Effective and engaging advocacy programs – with programs such as the Legislative Committee and Game Changing Initiative, the chapter is partnering with allied professions to advocate for strong planning laws and systemic changes to address the challenges facing our communities. For example, anyone using the new upfront SEPA latecomer fee program? If so, the Legislative Committee says "you are welcome."

Successful conferences – the chapter delivered two great conferences – Spokane in 2014 and the national conference in Seattle in 2015. Both had great attendance, strong content, and strengthened the overall health of the chapter's finances and membership.

This is sample of programs and accomplishments and you will find out more in the rest of this report. I want to thank the Board who served with me throughout the term (plus past Board members who guided me along the way) as well as the many volunteers and chapter members that made our conferences and programs successful.

The chapter is fortunate to have strong planners, including incoming president Paula Reeves, moving into leadership positions and looking to deliver core programs as well as exciting new initiatives. I encourage you to join them and help our chapter Make Great Communities Happen in Washington State.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ivan Miller".

Ivan Miller, AICP
Past President

REFLECTIONS

LOOKING FORWARD



It is my honor to serve as APA Washington Chapter President for the next two years. I am fortunate to be coming into this role at a time when the Chapter is strong and the State Legislature is expressing a renewed interest in planning across the state – consistent with our state's history.

In the near term, I hope to institute a Strategic Plan that many of you have helped to develop over the past several months. It will provide a foundation for the next 2-5 years and establish several measurable goals in areas including diversity, membership, and partnerships. A few of the new ideas from the Strategic Plan that I find most exciting looking ahead include:

- Strengthening and expanding our Sections by providing additional resources and services
- Expanding our influence on state, regional and local planning issues through improved education and outreach including our awards programs, community planning assistance, and youth in planning programs (to name just a few)
- Increasing our membership and our diversity through a number of initiatives
- Increasing and focusing our advocacy efforts by building on the '10 Big Ideas', and
- Continuing to build partnerships with allied professions by expanding the role of our Board Liaison

You can view the 2015 Chapter Member Survey summary and the current version of this Plan on our Strategic Plan webpage.

Another focus for the Chapter in the near term will be the 25th Anniversary of Washington's Growth Management Act. This milestone presents an opportunity to look back, learning from the past 25 years implementing this game changing legislation as well as a look ahead to envision Washington State's future, something we planners to best. APA Washington has joined with a long list of partner organizations to host a one-day GMA Anniversary Conference at Tacoma's Museum of Glass in November that I hope will bring lively debate and help shape planning in the coming years.

I am also thrilled to announce that APA Washington Chapter will be co-hosting our October 2016 State Conference with APA Oregon Chapter in Portland. This conference will build on our Strategic Plan Goals related to diversity and partnerships. I hope that you will provide your ideas to make this our best and most well attended joint conference yet.

During my short time as Chapter President, I have been had the opportunity to attend a number of Section and other Chapter events. I have been impressed by the commitment of the members of this organization. Whether you are providing scholarship support, lending your experience to your colleagues through articles you write for the newsletter, giving a talk at a Section meeting or conference, reaching out to new members, volunteering to help through a community planning assistance team, participating in shaping our AICP credentials, or any number of other important efforts, you are elevating planning.

This biennial report summarizes some of the Chapter's recent accomplishments, highlights ways you can engage in APA, and clearly demonstrates the value of membership. I strongly encourage you to put forward your ideas and share your experience through APA Washington.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paula".

Paula Reeves, AICP CTP
President

ABOUT **APA WASHINGTON**

MISSION & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mission: We advocate for our members by facilitating networking and mentoring opportunities, offering inspiration and leadership opportunities, providing education and training opportunities, prioritizing members where appropriate in APA activities and services, and serving as an information resource.

We advance the planning profession by advocating for good planning, offering and publicizing awards that recognize good planning, cultivating diversity in the profession, educating the public, encouraging and recruiting future planners, supporting ethics in planning, and strengthening the professional certification program.

We make great communities by encouraging implementation of sustainability strategies, educating the public, facilitating meaningful dialogue on planning issues, influencing legislation, and inspiring planners and decision-makers.

Board of Directors: The Board manages the Chapter's affairs – adopts a chapter budget, reports all business to the membership, implements votes of the Chapter, authorizes expenditures consistent with the budget, and performs other functions as defined by the bylaws or requested by the members.

President, Paula Reeves, CTP

Vice President, Josh Peters, AICP

Immediate Past President, Ivan Miller, AICP

Secretary, Chris Comeau, AICP

Treasurer, Matt Ransom

Columbia Section, Lillith Yanagimachi, AICP

Inland Empire Section, David Andersen

Northwest Section, Jennifer Aylor, AICP

Peninsula Section, Jim Rogers

Puget Sound Section, Salina Lyons

Southwest Section, Amanda Smeller

STRATEGIC PLAN

2012–2015 Strategic Plan, adopted March 9, 2012.

Purpose: *The chapter exists to support our members, to advance the planning profession and to make great communities happen.*

Vision: *With the implementation of this strategic plan by 2015, the Chapter will have:*

Supported and Satisfied Members, with increasing opportunities for member involvement in a variety of Chapter functions, including educational resources, opportunities to serve on committees, training and conferences, website and other digital tools for information sharing; and vibrant Sections engaged in training, networking, and social activities.

Advanced the Planning Profession in Washington, such that the profession is recognized and respected for its leadership role throughout the state; both public officials and the general public understand and value planning; planning education is prevalent from elementary to PhD levels; and academic/professional ties are well established.

Enhanced Washington Communities, such that planning is well integrated in public decision-making, and that planning has demonstrably contributed to community health and well-being; an environment that is healthy and sustainable; and an equitable distribution of jobs and housing in Washington communities.

Themes for 2012 Strategic Plan

1. One APA/Organize the organization –

strengthen the Executive Committee, streamline committee structure, increase the role of all Sections, foster better communication between national, chapter and section, add targeted conferences, provide more in-depth trainings.

2. Member Services/Involve the Next

Generation – expand training and mentoring for young professionals, new planners, student planners, and kids with activities relevant to each, and initiate a minority scholarship fund.

3. Engage in Legislative Action –

Participate in shaping the laws that affect planning, involve members in establishing priorities, provide resources for planning and plan implementation, and work to modernize state law to cover climate change and sustainability in GMA/SEPA.

4. Build Partnerships – Link with other organizations, share information, and coordinate on cross-disciplinary issues, such as health, social equity, economic development and sustainability.

5. Celebrate & Communicate the Value

of Planning – Establish a communications officer, merge and communicate messages clearly, expand Professional Development Officer outreach to Planning Commissioners and elected officials, expand Community Planning Assistance Team.

ABOUT **APA WASHINGTON** *(continued)*



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Chair:

Geoff Appell, AICP

(2014 Chair: Ferdouse Oneza, AICP)

The chapter experienced growth in membership during the biennium from 1,314

members to 1,437 members – an increase of almost ten percent. This continued the rebounding of membership from recession lows and came at a time when other chapters and national APA were stable but not growing.

The growth in membership was likely a reflection of the 2015 national conference as well as initiatives of the membership committee in the areas of membership benefits, recruitment activities, and more.

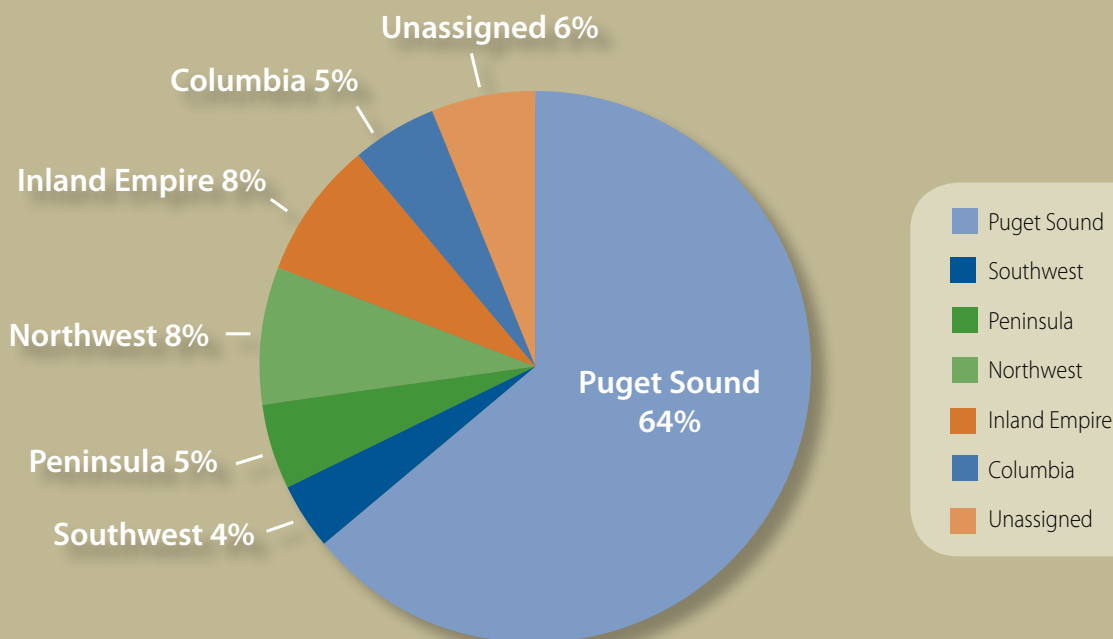
One initiative was reducing the annual chapter-only membership option to \$50; the goal was to extend chapter member benefits to professional planners, planning commissioners, or citizen planners without a national APA membership. An updated membership brochure was created with a streamlined format, added content relating to membership benefits and membership

options, and added an array of high quality photos representing the diversity of great Washington places.

The Membership Committee organized the Chapter booths at the 2014 State Planning Conference in Spokane and the 2015 National Planning Conference in Seattle. Membership recruitment drives associated with these conferences offered discounts on conference registration to planners who recruited new members – this initiative generated modest increases in membership.

The Membership Committee continued ongoing recruitment and retention activities, including welcome phone calls to new chapter members and email reminders to planners whose memberships have lapsed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT



BUDGET REPORT

Treasurer:

Matt Ransom,
AICP

(2014 Treasurer:
Bill Mandeville)

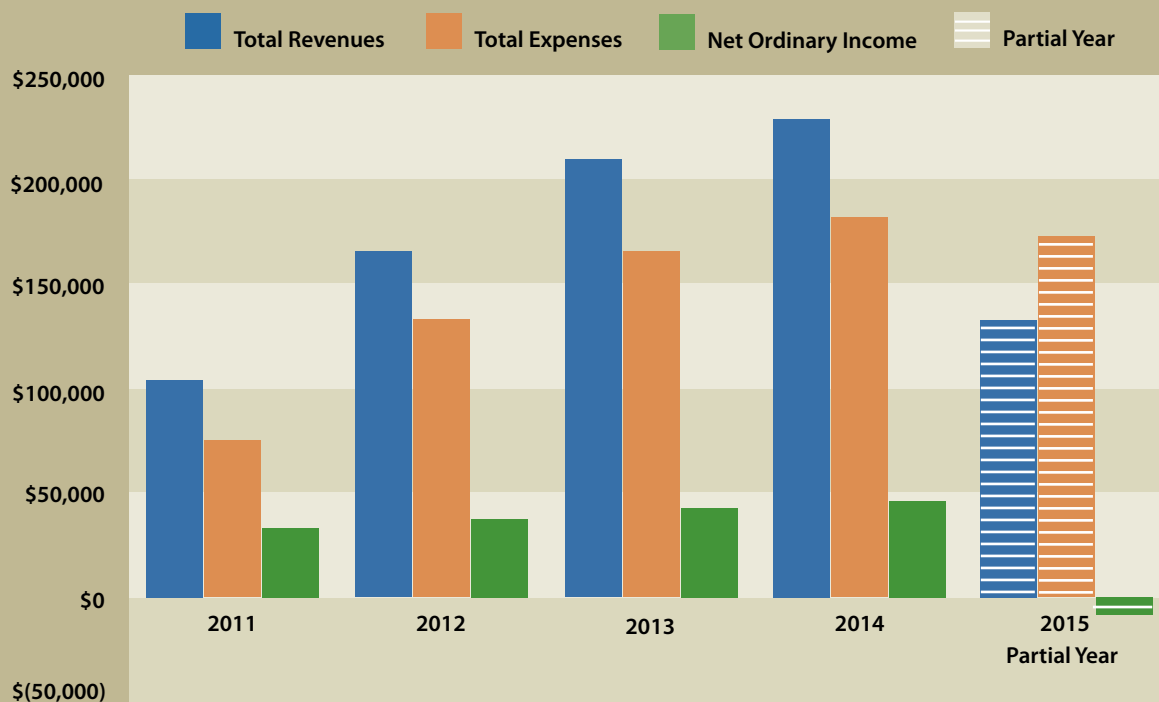


The Chapter's financial standing stabilized and improved over the biennium with year over year growth in revenues and cash balances. Through 2014-2015, the Chapter saw significant growth in Dues Rebates based on membership growth, and year 2015 saw substantial growth in advertising income due to the new website and the related advertising revenue model. Further, recent conferences added significant revenue growth (see Conferences in the following pages).

Increased revenues has allowed the Chapter to accomplish the following to assure short term stability: **1)** preserving the prudent reserves; **2)** increasing the annual scholarship grants while shifting the cost burden from the reserve set-aside to being able to fund scholarships out of the operating budget; and **3)** increasing program activities in strategic areas.

Through careful management of costs, increased membership and generous support from sponsors, the chapter increased its Net Ordinary Income every year since 2011 (*note: 2015 is partial and does not yet include all national conference revenues- the net ordinary income will be significantly positive when revenues and expenses are finalized*). This puts the chapter in a strong position to maintain and improve its program and member services.

REVENUE & EXPENSES: 2011 - 2015



EDUCATION PROGRAMS



2015 NATIONAL APA CONFERENCE IN SEATTLE

Co-chairs:

**Paul Inghram, AICP
and Deborah Munkberg, AICP**

In April 2015, over 6,400 planners from around the world came to Seattle for the 2015 National APA Conference. Extending from April 17 through 21, the conference offered a wealth of possibilities. Interested in exploring Seattle through a planners eyes? Over 50 mobile workshops and a dozen orientation tours provided a great overview and a closer look at planning issues throughout the Puget Sound region.

Want to connect with colleagues in a unique local setting? A myriad of special events and receptions were there for the taking. Looking to expand your technical understanding of important issues to your community? The program was overflowing with conference sessions on all topics. Looking for some inspiration? Amazing keynote speakers spoke to the importance and value of what planners do every day.

In preparing for this conference, the Washington Chapter worked in collaboration with National APA. National was responsible for leading conference planning and management, logistics and the overall program. Our chapter took the lead on mobile workshops, orientation tours, receptions and special host events, the planner's guide, local sessions, and marketing. In addition, in order to pay for some of local events while still leaving the chapter in healthy financial condition, we also undertook a significant sponsorship and fundraising effort. Needless to say, this was a major undertaking for the chapter!

Planning began in late 2014 and kicked in to high gear in January 2015. All of the needed work for a successful conference could not have been accomplished without a lot of amazing volunteers. Special recognition goes to the local host committee chairs, including Kendra Breiland and Lisa Grueter for local programs, Bob Bengford and Paula Reeves for CPAT, Joe Scorscio and Quanlin Hu for mobile workshops, Ben Bakkenta and David Goldberg for orientation tours, Marj Press for receptions, Anna Nelson and Leonard Bauer for special events, Kevin

Gifford and Marty Curry for the Planners Guide, Laura Hudson for the logo and publicity, and Kendra Breiland, Chuck Wolfe and Shane Hope for sponsorships. This group, supported by many other volunteers, put in countless hours toward a successful conference. Thanks to everyone who gave their time, talent and good energy to the conference!

What was the outcome? This excerpt below from the National APA conference blog provides a snapshot of the experience.

If you were with us in Seattle, you know how amazing it was. Four sunny (!) days packed – did we say packed? – with programs, people, and places that represent the best of what planning is all about. We had our second-highest attendance ever – north of 6,400 people – and the buzz was incredible. It's hard – no, impossible – to name all the standouts of a conference that just blew our socks off. So we'll start with ... ***The Seattle Seven***

The weather. Kudos to the Local Host Committee for arranging four sunny days in Seattle.

Ron Sims's kickoff. "Planners are charged not with the present but with guiding us into our future." Go!

The Lake Union Extravaganza. good food, good tunes, good friends, good times!

HUD Secretary Julian Castro at the Awards Luncheon. His message is one every planner should hear.

The debut of AARP's Livability Index. This powerful new tool can help communities plan for aging populations. Try it today.

Stewart Brand's closing keynote. The legendary futurist and environmentalist told us why he's a big fan of cities (and planners).

The global conversation. To see who's talking, read the Sustainable Seattle blog, and join in on social media using #APA15.

Special thanks go to our local host sponsors for their generous support: Bullitt Foundation, Puget Sound Regional Council, City of Bellevue, City of Seattle, Community Attributes, Transpo Group, CDM Smith, ESA, Fehr & Peers, Kimley-Horn, Otak, SvR Design Company, BERK Consulting, MAKERS Architecture & Urban Design, Mithun, NBBJ, Perkins+Will, Studio Cascade, Van Ness Feldman LLP and the Washington State Department of Transportation.



2014 STATE CONFERENCE IN SPOKANE

Co-Chairs:

**Scott Kuhta and
Nikole Coleman Porter**

The 2014 annual conference was held at the historic Davenport Hotel in Spokane. The theme of Legacy and Prophecy looked back on 20 years of planning under the Growth Management Act, learning from the past, regrouping after the great recession and casting our vision to the future.

Spokane proved again to be a desirable conference location, drawing over 300 planners from Washington, Oregon, Idaho and points beyond. This was particularly impressive considering the National APA



Conference in Seattle was only six months away. The conference included the following highlights:

- Almost 50 sessions with 100+ speakers,
- Mobile workshops and walking tours of downtown Spokane,
- Keynote talks by Ilana Preuss, Smart Growth America on “Mixed Use Industrial Concepts” and Robert Gibbs, AICP, ASLA,

Gibbs Planning Group on the “X Factor of Placemaking,”

- An updated Short Course on Local Planning format, hosted by APA Washington,
- A fun opening reception and silent auction at the Riverside Events Center, which raised over \$2,300 for our student scholarship program,
- The Way of the Marmot pub crawl and scavenger hunt, and
- Ten PAW/APA Planning Award winners (described below).

The Spokane conference planning committee thanks the 16 sponsors who provided valuable financial support. Their logos are shown on the final page of this report.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & AICP



Professional Development Officer:
Nancy Eklund, AICP

The role of the Professional Development Committee is to:

(a) to advise

prospective AICP members as to the qualifications, purposes, and programs of the Institute, the Code of Professional Responsibility, and the requirements of Institute membership, and prepare them for the exam; **(b)** to manage Chapter training submitted for Certification Maintenance credits and to inform members of their credit status; and **(c)** to communicate the eligibility requirements and process for nomination to the AICP College of Fellows.

The Chapter supported its members through a variety of professional development activities, including:

(a) Preparation for the AICP exam, **(b)** General training for all members as well as continuing education that qualifies for certification maintenance credits for AICP members, and **(c)** Nomination of planners who have made a significant contribution to the profession to the College of Fellows.

AICP Exams

Chapter Study Session

In March of 2014 and 2015, the Washington Chapter provided an all-day training sessions to prepare interested members for the AICP Exam. The Exam Prep session was attended by 18 planners in 2014 and 23 in 2015.

The sessions, held at the South Seattle Community College, were led by volunteer instructors who addressed the various topical areas of the exam. The training was provided with assistance from the following planners who donated their time to share their expertise with class members: Kendra Breiland, AICP; Kristina Cerise, AICP; Andrea Clinkscales, AICP, PMP; John Doan, AICP; Nancy Eklund, AICP; Michael Hubner, AICP; Kevin O'Neill, AICP; Darin L. Stavish, AICP; Tim Trohimovich, AICP; Sara Walton, AICP; and Jonathan Williams, AICP. The 2014 event was supported from contributions from Otak.

AICP Reduced Fee Exam Scholarships

In 2014 and 2015, the Chapter was also able to provide a total of six reduced rate scholarships for members taking the AICP exam.

AICP and ASC Exam Successes

Of the 36 planners taking the exam in the last year and a half, 23 have passed. This percentage is down from previous years, and for the first time in many years, is lower than the national average of 68% passing during that same period.

The Chapter is happy to welcome the following new AICP Members for 2014 and the May 2015 exam. APA records show that no Washington AICP planners took the Advanced Specialty Certification (ASC) exams for transportation or environmental planning during this time period (or the outcome is not yet posted).

2014: May and November Exams

AnthonyBoscolo, AICP
Andrea Clinkscales, AICP
Jacqueline Gruber, AICP
Joshua Johnson, AICP
Katrina Knutson, AICP
DerekKoellmann, AICP
Kevin LeClair, AICP
Kara Martin, AICP
Jenny Ngo, AICP
Manuel Soto, AICP
DarinStavish, AICP
LauraTechico, AICP

2015: May Exam*

Karl Almgren, AICP
SeanArdussi, AICP
ChristianaCarr, AICP
Nicole Floyd, AICP
Kristina Gallant, AICP
Cristina Haworth, AICP
Stephen Padua, AICP
Jennifer Silcott, AICP
Alex Wenger, AICP
Diane Wiatr, AICP

**Data from the November 2015 AICP exam and the Advanced Specialty Certification exam is not available (as of October 2015)*

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

(continued)

NOMINATION TO THE COLLEGE OF FELLOWS



Leonard Bauer

Election to Fellow is one of the highest honors that the American Institute of Certified Planners bestows upon a member. Fellows of AICP are honored in recognition of their career achievements and significant contributions to planning and society. Fellowship is granted to planners who have been members of AICP for at least 15 years and have achieved excellence in their professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, public or community service and leadership.

In 2014, Leonard Bauer, FAICP, was inducted into the College of Fellows at the APA

National Conference in Atlanta. He was selected for acceptance after completing a rigorous nomination application package and after that application was reviewed by APA's National Selection Committee.

Leonard is widely recognized as a leading expert on planning under Washington's Growth Management Act through his former position as Senior Managing Director of the Department of Commerce's Growth Management Services. Some of his achievements include state-to-local government coordination through development of The Governor's Principles for State Agency Coordination Under the Growth Management Act, leading a complete re-write of the Washington

Fellows of AICP are honored in recognition of their career achievements and significant contributions to planning and society.

Administrative Code guidelines, numerous negotiations between disparate organizations resulting in new laws that enhanced planning practice in Washington; and significantly increased the understanding of planning by members of the Washington and

Oregon legislatures through leadership and initiative by directly engaging in negotiations with members, staff and a diverse set of stakeholders virtually every session, in addition to technical studies and reports.

The Chapter's 2014 Fellows Nomination Committee selected candidates for Chapter nomination based on their significant contributions to moving the planning profession forward. The Committee members were Norman Abbott, FAICP; Mark Kulaas, FAICP; Mike McCormick, FAICP; Bill Trimm, FAICP; and Lisa Verner, FAICP.



COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY PLANNING ASSISTANCE TEAM



Chair:
Bob Bengford, AICP
(2014 Co-chair:
Paula Reeves)

The Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) provides expert professional pro bono planning assistance to small Washington towns with limited planning resources.

Community Planning Assistance Teams (CPAT), a program of the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association since 2005, are groups of volunteer planners. In partnership with the state Department of Commerce, CPAT provides communities (cities, towns or neighborhoods) professional assistance in articulating visions, solving problems or resolving issues.

The Community Planning Assistance Teams overall objectives are to connect plans and actions, identify local and regional resources for sustainable planning, and advance the principles of APA for a Livable Washington. We focus on communities that lack planning resources. Typically, Community Planning Assistance Teams include volunteer planners from all over the state with expertise in land use, transportation, economic development, urban design, natural resources, parks and recreation, historic preservation, and other areas. In addition, Community Planning Assistance Teams is affiliated with the planning schools at Eastern Washington University and the University of Washington.

During the biennium, Community Planning Assistance Teams conducted workshops in Aberdeen (November, 2014) and Belltown (April 2015, associated with the National APA conference in Seattle).

Downtown Aberdeen CPAT Workshop

More than 50 community members and APA volunteers participated in the Aberdeen event that focused on the Downtown's entry, streets and circulation network, and riverfront area. The workshop included the following elements:

- Introductions and a discussion about the vision, opportunities and threats with the whole group
- Breakout groups then discussed issues associated with each area and conducted walking tours of the area. Each group observed opportunities for public improvements, signage, and private development and the whole range of access, identity, historic preservation, economic development and community design issues associated with the areas.
- On the working lunch session, each breakout groups presented their observations and findings for the three key project areas.
- After the presentation, each breakout groups reported to the large group about their identified priority action steps and ideas about resources and implementing strategies for these projects.
- The workshop concluded with a presentation of each group's concepts to community members.
- The recommendations were captured in a final report submitted to the City.
- Aberdeen CPAT workshop: John Owen presents riverfront recommendations at the end of the workshop

AICP Belltown Community Planning Workshop

In conjunction with the state chapter, the Belltown CPAT workshop was sponsored by the American Institute of Certified Planners as a component of the APA National Planning Conference. More than forty participants attended the workshop.

This included local CPAT planners, several Seattle planning staff, seven community activists, a local developer, housing provider, Sound Transit planner, and twenty city planners from all corner of the country (including one from Guatemala). The mix of local planners (including five members of the national AICP commission), community stakeholders and experienced out of town planners made this a truly unique collaboration. Workshop components included:

- Presentation on the history of Belltown and helped to frame the major planning issues to be discussed
- Break-out groups tackling the following issues: (1) Parks, public realm, and public safety; (2) Affordable/workforce housing (and related livability issues); (3) Transportation & mobility (addressing all modes!)
- Walking tours of neighborhood for each of the groups followed by a brainstorming session that began to identify preliminary strategies;
- Working lunch, including a presentation from Pam Hinckley, CEO of Tom Douglas' Restaurants, about Tom's restaurants in the neighborhood and some very interesting stories about the establishment of their newer restaurants in area
- Afternoon session to develop preliminary strategies for each of the three subject areas
- Presentation of the strategies to the whole group.

The CPAT team is now assembling a final report on the workshop.

The CPAT program initiated the outreach to communities around Washington to solicit applications for community based events and/or other community assistance activities in 2015 and 2016. Please contact the CPAT if your community is interested in CPAT assistance.

COMMUNICATIONS PROGRAMS

NEWSLETTER, ADVISES, ONLINE CALENDAR, UPDATED WEBSITE

Co-chairs:

**Kim Selby, AICP CUD and
Nikole Coleman-Porter, AICP
(2014 co-chair: Stacy Smith)**

The communication Committee implements APA Washington's goal to "communicate strategically to educate, advocate, and connect" with its members and the constituents they serve about the choices and benefits available through planning. The committee manages the chapter's newsletter, ADVISE emails, and website.

Another key sign of the chapter's overall health is the number of people signed up for the monthly newsletter – the Washington Planner. *Through the efforts noted below, the number of newsletter subscribers is just over 3,900; this means 2,500 additional readers beyond our members; whoa!* Some Committee activities during this biennium included:

Website Overhaul: Perhaps the largest initiative of this committee was the updated of the chapter website. Moving to entirely new platform, the chapter recruited planner Kimbra Wellock to lead a website update task force. The task force – comprised of members Kim Selby, Ferdouse Oneza, Jill Sterrett, Esther Larsen, Nancy Ecklund and Ivan Miller – reviewed every facet of the hundreds of pages on the website, including the graphics, the drop down menu, the fonts and style-sheet, and more. With the support of its office staff, the website was overhauled and updated.

Two additional related facets were the development of a much more robust on-line calendar of events (thanks Laura Hudson and Nikole Coleman-Porter!) and an updated website sponsorship and advertising program (thanks Chad Eiken!).

Robust Newsletter: The amount of content in the Washington Planner newsletter increased substantially in the past two

years. First, the Board developed a calendar for the newsletter wherein each committee, section and chapter officer committed to write articles for the newsletter to keep members apprised of their activities. Additionally, with the national conference coming to Seattle, the chapter increased its participation in national APA and this led to significantly more newsletter content related to national events and resources. Last, through its partnership work with Commerce and some allied professions

such as the landscape architect association, even more content was highlighted in the newsletter. Great thanks go to the committee members, including Eric Crowell, Sarah Shannon, Kate Elliott, Anne Broache, Mark Brunner and Stacey Smith.

Support other Committee's

"E-newsletters": These are described in more detail below, but the Communications Committee also supported the Planning Officials Committee's Planning Commissioners Quarterly and the Legislative Committee's Legislative Education, Action and Direction e-newsletter.



ADVOCACY

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Co-Chairs:

Esther Larsen, J.D. and Josh Peters, AICP
(2015 Co-chair: Yorik Stevens-Wajda replaced Josh Peters)



The Legislative Committee prepares a legislative agenda, reviews legislative bills, gives testimony on legislative matters of concern to the Chapter, works to get APA bills sponsored, engages strategically with other stakeholders to achieve common goals, provides presentations to various audiences and forums, coordinates with National APA on advocacy and policy issues and informs the Board and chapter membership about pertinent legislative issues.

The Legislative Committee meets weekly via conference call during the State legislative session to review and discuss proposed legislation, receive updates from our Chapter lobbyist and provide direction for commenting on legislation (see the Legislative Committee website). The Chapter also has a Bill Proposal Subcommittee through which Chapter members can propose legislation for the Chapter Board to consider sponsoring, although this process has been inactive over the past few years due to the recessions and other legislative priorities the chapter was focusing on..

Beginning in 2014 and continuing through 2015 the Legislative Committee published, in addition to ongoing periodic newsletter articles (Jan, Mar, Jul, Aug), eleven electronic articles (LEAD: Legislative Education, Advocacy and Direction – Close to the Ledge) to provide Chapter members and others with succinct and timely information regarding bills and other legislative news.

Legislative Committee members and the Chapter lobbyist continued their collaboration with other stakeholders to achieve common goals and provide

legislative updates at various planning-related functions, including the 2014 and 2015 National Planning Conferences and Delegate Assemblies, Washington State Planners Forums, the APA-APHA Healthy Communities Grant Proposal, the Big Ideas Working Group, the LEAD Program Development and the GMA 25th Anniversary Conference.

2014 Legislative Session Summary

The Legislative Committee continued to reference the Chapter's previously adopted 2012 Legislative Agenda supporting targeted reforms to state law and investment that help our economy grow, build quality communities and protect our environment.

The 2014 Legislature dealt with ongoing budget issues and passed historically few bills, including only two bills involving the Growth Management Act (GMA). Despite a request from Governor Jay Inslee and

support of the Chapter the budget did not include funds to assist local jurisdictions with GMA updates. Planning-related bills that passed into law are set forth in a linked summary table (see page 18 of the pdf).

2015 Legislative Session Summary

The 176-day 2015 Legislative Session was the longest in state history, requiring three special sessions beyond the regular session, and included passage of the 2015-2017 operating budget, a transportation revenue package with new funding and local revenue authority, and a capital budget. However, only 343 of the 2,434 bills introduced passed, with very few related to planning. The LC 2015 Bill Watch List sets forth the bills the LC focused on during the session.

More information about the Legislative Action Committee can be found at: <https://apawa.memberclicks.net/legislative-committee>

GAME CHANGING INITIATIVE: TEN BIG IDEAS

Co-Chairs:

Jill Sterrett, FAICP and John Owen

The Game Changing Initiative is an ad-hoc committee formed to explore major issues impacting our society and to define ways that planners can be involved in creating change to help resolve these issues.

Since early 2011, this committee has been working together with APA Oregon Chapter leaders to create Game Changing Initiatives for the future of our state. The purpose is to develop bold new initiatives to create the social, governmental, and institutional structures needed for the 21st century.

Ten Big Ideas for Washington's Future compiles the ideas from the earlier efforts to develop a blueprint for change focused on actions for our state. Ten Working Groups were formed to:

- Address Climate Change
- Enhance Regional Decision-making
- Restore and Protect Eco-Systems
- Link Health & Urban Planning

- Increase Local Government Capacity
- Support Economic Development
- Foster Social Equity
- Support Sustainable Agriculture
- Build Social Capital
- Rebuild Infrastructure

These ten working groups are helping to move this effort from ideas into action, by providing a variety of work products including models for practicing planners, education programs for the public and elected officials, and partnerships with other organizations. The working groups are also completing short videos for planners to use to introduce their elected officials and local citizens to these topics. These videos are intended to initiate a discussion of local needs and spur local action. These tools and resources are available for planners on the Chapter website – www.washington-apa.org/ten-big-ideas.



SECTIONS

COLUMBIA SECTION

President:

Lilith Yanagimachi, AICP



The Columbia Section covers the largest area of all the Section including Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, and Yakima Counties.

Our goals are to:

- Promote ongoing professional education and awareness of community planning and related community issues by convening conferences, workshops, and discussion groups;
- Advocate proactive community planning for issues of local and regional importance;
- Encourage opportunities for networking and social gatherings within the region to improve professional communications;
- Be actively involved in community service and coordinate with governmental entities, allied professions and other concerned groups; and
- Provide input to city, county, state or regional level private or public entities on planning issues of unique interest to Columbia Section membership

In the fall of 2014, the Columbia Section co-hosted with the Department of Ecology a Shoreline/Floodplain Permitting workshop in Wenatchee, WA. The centralized location had a great turnout with 48 attendees including 7 State and Federal agencies and 17 cities and counties represented. The event was followed by a survey which provided key information used to develop a focused Shoreline Permitting training in the Spring of 2015 hosted by Department of Ecology.

Looking forward, the Columbia Section goals moving forward include re-establishing the biannual Newsletter and providing training based on regional needs.

PENINSULA SECTION

President:

Jim Rogers, AICP



Update for 2014 and 2015

With some local food, flavor, and door prizes, the section provided quarterly trainings with

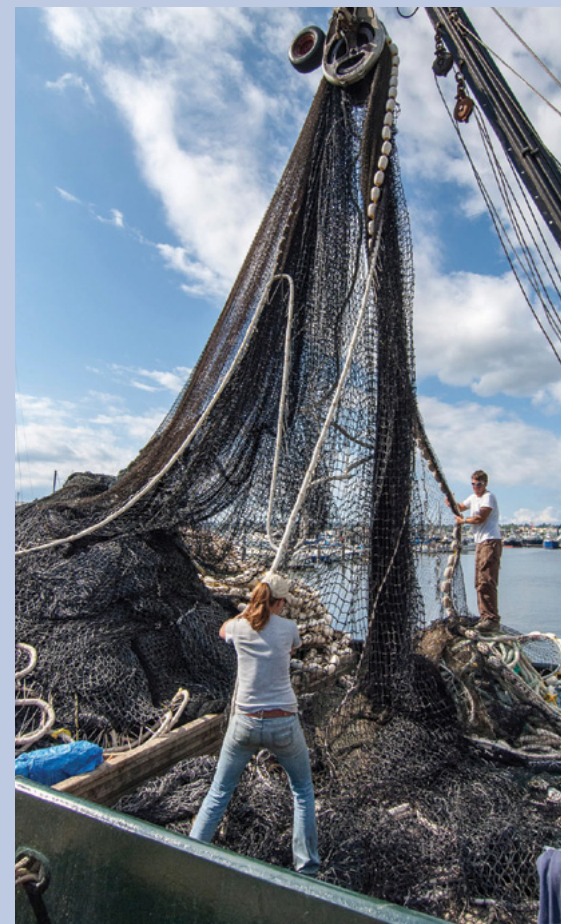
AICP credits through interactive quarterly section meetings. These included quarterly section meetings in conjunction with the Planners Forums that rotated among the four counties of the Olympic and Kitsap Peninsula region. Some highlights include:

- Micki McNaughton of Washington DNR discussing Tree Education
- Poulsbo planner Alyse Nelson discussing innovative rights-of-way ideas and “Car Spaces to People Spaces – Transforming Public Spaces.”
- Sheila Hosner of the Government Office of Innovation and Regulatory Assistance discussing Environmental Permitting and Regulation of Marijuana Growing and Processing in Washington State.
- Bremerton Planner Nicole Floyd’s presentation on Plat Amendments
- Rick Mraz of DOE providing a view of Ecology’s wetland guidance for 2015-2016 GMA Updates
- Kevin Shively showing Smart Parking Strategies in Seattle
- Port Townsend’s walking tour of the downtown enhancements, specifically Taylor Street and the Sidewalk Retrofitting project,
- Port Angeles planner Nathan West discussing their Waterfront Development Project
- DNR presenting on “What to Expect if there is a Cascadia Subduction Zone Rupture”, and

– Shelton planner Steve Goins presenting “Code Enforcement on Steroids”;

In addition to the forums, the section hosted a yearly Conference. The 2014 conference in the Shelton Civic Center included two tracks with 8 sessions and 37 attendees and the 2015 conference at the Kitsap Convention Center had 52 attendees; strong numbers for this area. This success built from the Section’s Executive Board regular conference calls, which were held approximately every other month – an important way to keep the section organized and effective.

The section also updated its bylaws to add electronic balloting, align terms of office with the chapter and other minor changes. Also, section implemented a membership survey to create a framework for future meetings and direction of the Section. Last, the section restructured some committees, elected new officers for a variety of positions and Participants at the 2014 Conference in Shelton Participants at 2015 Conference in Bremerton.



PUGET SOUND SECTION

President:

Salina Lyons, AICP



A lot has happened in 2014 and 2015 for the Puget Sound Section; here are the highlights:

We have a steady board and chapter membership.

Board Members include: Salina Lyons, President; Stephanie Young, President Elect; Cristina Baron, Treasure; Elisabeth Schuck, Secretary; Jason Woycke, King County Rep; Eric Goodman, Snohomish County Rep; and Emily Terrell; Pierce County Rep (Resigned Jan 2015)

Communication with Chapter and Section Members:

One of the challenges we face is making sure that our members hear about our events. We are now using Mailchimp, which is a subscriber based notification tool to send information to our members. We still utilize the ADVISE notification through APA as needed; however, the Mailchimp platform allows the section to control the content and timely delivery of information.

2014 Holiday Party: We've continued to have great success working with El Gaucho for our annual holiday. The 2014 party was a great success and lots of people walked away with great prizes and wine. The location in downtown Seattle continues to increase attendance.

2014 EPIC Conference: Puget Sound Section held their 2nd Biannual EPIC conference on June 4, 2014 at SeaTac Conference Center. The theme was "Collaboration in Planning". The event was well attended and the speakers were phenomenal. The conference had various speakers & panels that

provided an: introduction to SmartCities by the APA technology group, overview of the Comprehensive Plan Updates & Requirements, and a healthy discussion on zoning and development "highest and best use" via the market. We wrapped up the session with a great presentation on stress and how to manage your workload and time. The conference was followed by a networking mingle event.

PLanning Activity & Continuing Education Series (PLACES):

In 2014/2015, the PSS Board Launched a new educational series PLACES. PLACES replaces the original Brown Bag Series and are intended to be more interactive and showcase planning throughout the Puget Sound Section, as well as provide opportunities for members to obtain CM Credits.

Some of the highlighted tours included:

WSDOT Viaduct Tour, Cascade Bicycle Club, Bellevue Transit Center, Bullitt Foundation, King County Brightwater Facility, and WSDOT 520 Tour

Puget Sound Law Conference: On Hold in 2015. The Puget Sound Section generally holds the annual law conference in the odd year. The law conference is an education expense for the section that also produces an income that helps to supplement the sections base budget for up to 2 years. The Puget Sound Section decided not to hold a Law Conference in 2015 due to the obligations of the chapter participate in the National APA Conference and the conflicts it would present with other APA conferences in the state.

Above all we want to recognize and thank our section sponsors over the last year: enviroissues, KPG, the Transpo Group, BHC consultants, Robert Thorpe Associates, Fehr and Peers, Berk Associates and BDS planning and urban design.

NORTHWEST SECTION

President:

Jennifer Aylor

(2015 President: Chris Comeau)

The section continued its long tradition of strong Planners Forums, in partnership with the Department of Commerce, that were held in January, April, July and October. A broad range of topics were presented by local and state planning staff. In an effort to reach as many members as possible, alternate meeting locations between Bellingham and Burlington were used and the forums were consistently well attended. Part of the draw for these forums were the local, warm hospitality that often included homemade meals, drawing local council members, neighboring engineers, as well as local planners.

We have worked hard over the last several years to ensure that our section's AICP planners can obtain nearly all of their CM credits through our Planners Forums. This year was no different and we are proud that we are able to offer this opportunity to our members. Our goal is to help defray costs of maintaining AICP and section membership in hopes that our government sponsored members will continue to have their dues paid for by their employers.

It was also a transitional time as long-time section president Jennifer Aylor decided to pass the reigns to new leadership which, during the biennium, included Kate Blystone serving as vice president and chapter secretary Chris Comeau stepping forward to run for the vacated president's position. Using input gathered from members at the Planners Forums, the chapter is strengthening its Board, working with Western Washington University (who pursued accreditation during this period with the support of the chapter's Professional Development Officer), and planning for enhanced programs in the coming years.

SECTIONS *(continued)*

SOUTHWEST SECTION

President:

Amanda Smeller

Over the past year, the Southwest Section has partnered with the Department of Commerce to offer quarterly Planners Forums. Topics have included Critical Areas Ordinances, economic development, and SEPA Rule updates and integration. The Growth Management Hearings Board regularly attends the forums to provide an update on recent decisions and there is always an opportunity for networking with fellow planners to discuss goings on at the local level.

Southwest Section members tend to come out in high numbers to attend the spring social, bowling at Big Al's in Vancouver, now in its eighth year. This past December Berger Abam hosted a Christmas party at their new Vancouver location and many section members attended.

We welcomed new section members as well as new board members. There were also changes in board roles: Amanda Smeller became the President; Gary Albrecht moved into the Past-President and Clark County Representative roles; Sarah Fox became President-Elect, Larry Vasquez became the Treasurer; Erin Erdman became the Secretary; Matt Herman assumed the Professional Development Officer role, and Lisa Brosnan and Sam Rubin both held the Cowlitz County Representative role. The board retained Don Hardy in the Communications role, Brian Carrico for Legislative Liaison, and Ben Shumaker for Skamania County Representative.

For the future, the Southwest Section will also continue to explore networking opportunities with neighboring Oregon APA sections and planners, continue work on our strategic plan, and strive to get more planners involved in the section.

INLAND EMPIRE SECTION

President:

Dave Anderson

The Inland Empire Section continued its impressive ranges of programs and, during the biennium, hosted the 2014 annual state conference (see separate report). Activities include professional development programs throughout the year that provided AICP continuing education credits. The section also continued its section-level awards programs for planners of the year, planner of the year, outstanding citizen planner, and outstanding Student Projects. This included a silent auction that generated funds for student activities.

Continuing the long tradition, the section held its successful Priest Lake Conference in 2013, and showing their commitment to this local conference, they even held it in 2014 when they were host of the chapter conference!

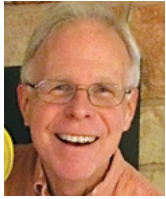
Other successful programs including student activities, working on the scholarship program, mentor-mentee matching, and others.



PROGRAMS

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN PLANNING



The Awards Committee conducts the Chapter's annual awards program. The Committee solicits applications, reviews, judges, and selects award winners

in designated categories. The Committee also organizes an awards ceremony usually at our annual conference and presents awards to winning jurisdictions.

Co-Chairs:

Steve Pilcher, APA Washington and Greg Griffith, Planning Association of Washington (PAW)

For over 20 years, APA Washington and PAW have collaborated on an annual joint awards program. Leadership and administration of the awards program has been alternating between APA and PAW each year for several years. For 2014 & 2015, committee included Greg Griffith, Steve Pilcher, Amy Tousley, Gary Mabley, Lloyd Skinner, Ryan Harriman, Ted Gage, Pete Dickinson and Jenny Ngo.

The annual awards process continues to garner interest from many communities, although nominations from Eastern Washington jurisdictions continue to lag behind their Western Washington counterparts. There were 15 submittals in 2014 and 17 in 2015.

The Committee made some improvements in the process during the biennium and began to explore ways of increasing participation from east of the Cascades. One improvement, subsequent to the 2014 Awards cycle was to add Social Equity as a criterion under which all award submittals could be evaluated. The Committee also created a standardized electronic submittal form for all aspects of a nomination. Last, nominees were asked to demonstrate consistency with 7 of the 9 awards criteria (6 for student submittals), rather than all 9, to recognize that not all projects could realistically meet all of the criteria due to the nature of a particular project – this created greater fairness in the process across project categories.

ANNUAL AWARDS

Citizen Involvement

2014 Winners:
Yakima County,
Horizon 2040 Visioning Goals "Check In"

Honorable Mention: City of Bellevue,
Integrated Public Engagement Plan -
City of Bellevue Comprehensive
Plan update

2015 Winners:
City of Tukwila,
Tukwila Community Connectors

Comprehensive Planning - Small Jurisdictions

2014 Winners:
City of Mukilteo, Moving Mukilteo
Forward

2015 Winners:
City of Tumwater, Capitol Boulevard
Planning Project

Comprehensive Planning/ Development Regulations - Large Jurisdictions

2014 Winners:
City of Lacey, Lacey Sign Code Update
City of Shoreline, 185th Street Light Rail
Station Subarea Planning

2015 Winners:
City of Tacoma, South Downtown
Sub-Area Plan
Honorable Mention: City of Bellingham,
Waterfront District Planning

Implementation

2014 Winners:
City of Tacoma, 13 Miles of Bikeways
2015 Winners:
City of Bremerton, 4th St. Improvements

Student

2014 Winners:
No awards granted.
2015 Winners:
Seattle University, Ghost Signs of Seattle:
Policy Review and Inventory

Honorable Mention: University of
Washington, Lake Ballinger:
Transforming a Golf Course to Park

Sustainability

2014 Winners:
City of Tacoma,
City of Tacoma Greenroads Policy

2015 Winners:
Thurston County, Creating Places -
Preserving Spaces

Honorable Mention: Puget Sound
Regional Council, Growing Transit
Communities

Transportation

2014 Winners:
City of Seattle, Move Seattle
2015 Winners:
Spokane Regional Transportation
Commission, Horizons 2040



PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

TO PLANNING LEADERS



Ferdouse Oneza



Jill Brown Sterrett



Leonard Bauer



Robin Proebstring



Michael Cardwell

Each year, the chapter president presents awards to individual planners and officials that have made significant contributions to the chapter and/or profession. There are three presidential award categories including the Robert "Bob" Burke Award for Distinguished Service to the Chapter, the Myer Wolfe Award for Professional Achievement, and the Barbara Grace Award for a Mid-Level Planner. In addition, the chapter has given a Legislator of the Year Award to honor a legislator's support for planning issues, as well as the Planning Advocate Award to recognize public figures or planners that have advocated for planning issues. Award recipients for this period included:

Robert "Bob" Burke Award for Distinguished Service to the Chapter

(formerly the Chapter
President's Award):

2014: Ferdouse Oneza, AICP

2013: Susan Winchell, AICP
(inaugural year with new
award name)

Myer Wolfe Award for Professional Achievement

2014: Jill Brown Sterrett, FAICP

2013: Leonard Bauer, AICP

Barbara Grace Award for a Mid-Level Planner:

2014: Robin Proebstring

2013: No award given

Legislator of the Year Award (nominated by the Legislative Committee)

2014: No award given

2013: Representative Joe
Fitzgibbon

Planning Advocate Award

2014: No award given

2013: Michael Cardwell
(Tribal Committee chairperson
and fundraiser extraordinaire)

YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP

YPG President:

Eric Howard

The Young Planners Group (YPG) helps to build a community of emerging planning professionals by providing networking, mentoring, and leadership opportunities.

The mission of the Young Planners Group in Puget Sound includes the following mission:

- Build and develop a community of emerging planning professionals in the Puget Sound region
- Promote career development of members by providing networking, mentoring, leadership, and educational opportunities.
- Engage with the larger community within Puget Sound and Washington through volunteerism, outreach, and cross-discipline activities.
- Support and collaborate with any other Young Planner Groups within other APA Washington Sections.

YPG is open to all members of the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association as long as they meet one of the following three criteria: **1)** are under thirty-five years of age, **2)** have less than five years of experience in the planning field, or **3)** are currently enrolled in a planning or planning-related educational program.

YPG has been primarily active with the Puget Sound Section and is looking to start similar programs within the other Sections of the Washington Chapter. Over the past two years YPG Puget Sound has held a variety of social networking events; organized a variety of tours, lectures, and other educational opportunities; and has continued to support and develop a mentorship program. The mentorship program has grown from 10 participants in 2013 to 30 participants in 2015.

Additionally, YPG Puget Sound organized a successful planning themed photo-based scavenger hunt and happy hour as part

of the 2015 APA National Conference. This scavenger hunt provided the participants with the opportunity to meet other planners from different places throughout the Country while learning a little bit about Seattle's history and urban form.

As a still relatively new program, YPG is looking to increase membership and member involvement while continuing to develop and refine programming that is focused on people who are new to the field of planning.

APA NATIONAL UPDATE

APA Board, District V Director:

Brian Campbell, FAICP

The past year has been a momentous one for APA. In June of 2014 Paul Farmer retired from his long tenure as APA Executive Director, and with the hiring of Jim Drinan as his replacement a new era has begun for the organization. From my position as a new Board member who took office at that same time, the transition seems to have opened up many new opportunities for innovation and change. Jim has enabled the staff at national APA to look at a whole array of new possibilities for improving the services APA offers its members. As with any transition there will be bumps along the way, but I am very excited to be part of national leadership at this time, and I believe we will see significant advances by the organization in what it offers its members over the next few years.

Some of the new services, as well as other highlights of the past year, are described below.

Members Benefits

APA Image Library – APA has opened up its entire catalog of photos and other images for use by its members. Access to this collection is free and available only to APA member.

Comprehensive Web Update – APA is doing a complete overhaul and redesign of the planning.org website between now and April 2016.

Consolidated Elections – This year, for the first time ever, the APA Board and AICP Commission election process is consolidated with chapters, divisions and students. For the first time ever, members had one ballot to vote for members of the board, commission, chapter, division and student leaders.

Early Career Membership Program –

Last year APA welcomed more than 2,500 students from 127 planning programs in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada into the Early Career Membership Program. The Early Career Membership Program offers five years of affordable association membership.

Social Media – *Lots of likes* - APA's presence on both Facebook and Twitter is growing steadily. We now have more than 30,000 Twitter followers and "@APA_Planning" appeared on Congressional Quarterly's list of "100 Association Twitter Handles You Should Follow." You'll also find APA on LinkedIn, YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest, and Google+.

Advocacy

The Planners' Advocacy Network is a new APA initiative to engage members in grassroots advocacy. Join this Network to:

- Influence policymakers
- Have a leadership role in shaping APA's policy and advocacy work
- Access special events, reports, training, and assistance
- Receive policy event discounts
- Participate in local events and leadership opportunities

APA is also working now with member and leader groups to evaluate and consider changes to a great many programs across the organization. A few of the existing programs also worth noting are:

Outreach and Partnerships

Plan4Health Grants through APA Chapters – Now in its second year, this program brings together APA chapters and local chapters of the American Public Health Association in local coalitions to promote healthy communities. Supported by \$3 million a year

in funding from the CDC, the Plan4Health program leverages the expertise of planners and public health professionals to make a difference in their communities.

Resilience – APA put together a set of resources on resilience to help members compete for HUD's National Disaster Resilience Competition <https://www.planning.org/resilience/>

Giving Back to the Community

AICP-sponsored Community Planning Assistance Teams emphasize service and engagement and offer members singular opportunities for personal and professional growth. Each team matches a community that needs planning assistance with experienced APA members who are eager to volunteer their time and expertise and apply their skills to new challenges.

Planning Research and Innovation

Through original and applied research, APA's Hazards Planning Center identifies practices that protect communities from natural and man-made hazards and educates planners and allied professionals about those practices. <https://www.planning.org/nationalcenters/hazards/>. Also, this year, the APA Board approved a new Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery (HMDR) Division to further member interest in this area.

Sustaining Places and Comprehensive Plan Standards

APA's Sustaining Places initiative (<https://www.planning.org/sustainingplaces/>) continues to innovate, as APA has also released standards for comprehensive plans for sustaining places. These standards should serve as the concise, go-to resource for desired content for comprehensive plans. The standards also serve as the foundation for developing a program that will recognize exemplary comprehensive plans for sustaining places.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS & UNIVERSITY LIAISON

Co-chairs:

Tirrell Black (pictured)
(EWU liaison)
and **Kell McAboy**
(UW liaison)



The Scholarship Committee consists of representatives

from the University of Washington and Eastern Washington University faculties and the membership at large. The Committee advertises the Chapter's Student Scholarship program at each university, reviews candidates, selects scholarship recipients, and regularly reports on the scholarship program to the Board.

As part of their ongoing role to coordinate with the two accredited universities (this may become three as Western Washington University is pursuing accreditation), the chapter awards \$6,000 in academic scholarships every year to two students at the University of Washington and Eastern Washington University based on their outstanding academic performance, their contributions to the planning profession as students, financial need, and for their future potential contributions to the planning profession. The following are the winners for 2014 and 2015.

2014 Winners



Andrew Kienast from EWU, is a first year Master of Urban and Regional Planning student specializing in environmental planning. He has

spent the past academic year researching the topic of sustainable practices in small businesses and worked with the Community Indicators Initiative which is making local data available in key areas such as demographics, economic vitality, education,

and the environment. Andrew graduated from Central Washington University with a Bachelor of Arts in English Language and Literature and also volunteers on Spokane's Bicycle Advisory Board and by interning at Futurewise.



Matthew Mateo from the UW, following an eclectic career as a Legislative Assistant and Press Secretary for a U.S. Congresswoman,

artisan cheese making in the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia, volunteer farming in the Philippines and South Korea, and hard apple cider maker in Virginia, is specializing in Land Use, Infrastructure, and Transportation Planning and has spent the past academic year working with the Washington Sea Grant and the Puget Sound Partnership on leveraging tax incentives in Washington State for residential shoreline conservation.

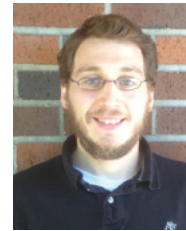
2015 Winners



Genevieve Dial Keesecker from EWU, is pursuing a specialization in Environmental Planning and is working with a Spokane neighbor-

hood to create a community development plan while beginning her thesis related to gaps in connectivity within the City's extensive Centennial Trail system. Before starting her Master's work, Genevieve worked for the Recreation and Conservation Office where she worked to develop Washington State's first strategic plan for the management and eradication of invasive species. Genevieve has an ardent calling to help establish strong communities and neighborhoods and to promote resilience through the advancement of creative planning strategies. She strives to be an ambassador for

change through her interest in long-range planning, policy change, and implementation. She would like to use her professional background and newfound knowledge of the planning process to continue enhancing sustainability efforts and New Urbanist principles in urban planning.



Joshua Janet from the UW, is a first year Master of Urban Planning and has degrees in Architecture and Civil Engineering. He served as a project engineer

with Timothy Haahs and Associates where he worked on numerous mixed-use projects with a focus on a parking. He earned his engineering license from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 2013. In his spare time in Philadelphia, he covered the Philadelphia Flyers hockey team as an accredited hockey writer. At the University of Washington, Joshua is specializing in Land Use, Infrastructure, and Transportation Planning and has spent the past academic year working on climate change and infrastructure planning research. He is the student representative for both the Young Planners Group (YPG) Puget Sound Chapter and the Puget Sound Section of the APA. He also worked with the Community Development department at the City of Normandy Park this past Spring.

We congratulate the winners and look forward to their contributions to the profession.



YOUTH IN PLANNING TASK FORCE

Co-Chairs:

Steve Butler, FAICP and

Jacqueline Reid, AICP

(2014 Co-chair: Paula Reeves)



The 'Youth in Planning' Task Force increases students' understanding of planning issues and the profession, promotes the benefits of good community planning, and provides assistance in these efforts to others.

The Task Force participated in the 2014 Chapter conference in Spokane, developing and facilitating a panel discussion highlighting the good work of youth in government in Washington communities and outlining some of the opportunities through the federal Youth Coordination Act.

In early 2015, the Chapter, Kids in Planning, members of the Ten Big Ideas "Fostering Social Equity" group and local planners were involved in an inspiring event at Rainier Beach High School in Seattle. Urban Impacts Seattle organized the event. "See Me|My Life Matters" was the theme and it was an event in celebration of Martin Luther King Junior Day. (For a full write up, please see the April 2015 "Washington Planner")

Several educational programs and curricula have been created by committee members, and others are being developed. These programs are intended to be easily adopted by educators or planners with an interest in youth involvement. The focus in 2015 has been to refresh the information available on the Kids in Planning webpages to provide materials for planners and others to use in engaging with youth on planning. The Task Force has reached out to national APA's education program to seek guidance on resources and links for the webpages.

Leadership on the Task Force changed in 2015, with Paula Reeves becoming a Task

Force member concurrent with taking on her Chapter President duties, and Steve Butler coming back as a Task Force leader. Several new APA members joined the Task Force and we welcome their input and creativity.

SHORT COURSE ON LOCAL PLANNING PARTNERSHIP



Lead Staff:

**Anne Fritzel,
Department of
Commerce**

In December of 2014, the Washington Chapter of the APA officially

became a partner in the Short Course on Local Planning, a statewide program providing basic planning education to local government officials, coordinated by the Washington State Department of Commerce's Growth Management Program. For years, APA members have been presenters for the program, recognizing that the Short Course is a positive way to bring the message that land use planning works in Washington. Other Short Course partners include the Planning Association of Washington (since the program's inception, in 1977), The Washington Cities Insurance Authority (2009), The Association of Washington Cities (2015) and their Risk Management Services Agency (2015). These partners provide basic funding to Commerce to coordinate the resources and volunteers that make the Short Course an affordable and accessible way to bring basic planning education to communities around the state, every year.

In 2014, eighteen Short Courses on Local Planning were presented in all corners of the state, to more than 550 people. Audience members included planning commissioners (one third), state and local government staff (another third), and elected officials (20 percent). *2015 looks like it will have even more Short Courses!*

Short Course on Local Planning now on YouTube Another notable Short Course

achievement for the APA was partnering in the development of a series of Short Course on Local Planning videos. APA members provided the genesis for the idea, and worked with Commerce staff to develop the video content. Ten short videos crystallize the core information participants get at an evening class. The video content also provides the text for a short booklet covering all components of the basic course. The series of videos also includes a longer 27-minute segment on the Open Public Meetings Act, required training since 2014 for any member of a local government board or commission.

These videos can be viewed at the Short Course Web page and include the following:

- Introduction to the Short Course (5 min.)
- Comprehensive Planning Basics (11 min.)
- Implementing Your Plan (10 min.)
- Updating Your Plan (10 min.)
- Washington's Legal Framework for Land Use Planning (7 min.)
- Constitutional Issues and Other Protections (8 mins.)
- Open Public Meetings Act (27 min.)
- Appearance of Fairness Doctrine (17 min)
- Roles and Responsibilities in the Planning Process (7 min.)
- Public Participation and Effective Meeting (7 min.)
- Public Participation and Effective Meetings (7 mins)

The partnership with Commerce, PAW and others is an important milestone for the chapter as it recognizes that the planning will only be successful, long-term, if citizen planners and planning commissioners are well versed on the benefits of planning.

Being a partner helps the chapter make the lives of professional planners easier by educating citizen planners and planning commissioners!

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS *(continued)*

PLANNING OFFICIALS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Chair:

Ryan Windish, AICP



The role of the Public Officials Development Officer (PODO) is to: 1) promote the value of planning with elected officials, commissions, and the broader community; 2) serve

as a resource for members seeking timely and educational material on various planning topics; and 3) to organize and administer a Speakers Bureau that would coordinate speakers for communities on specific topics and also be a repository for presentations that would then be available for others to use.

There were three main initiatives for 2014-2015:

- Starting a quarterly newsletter to be emailed to planning commissioners throughout the state to provide educational material and promote APA

- Updating the Chapter website with new material to benefit planning commissioners and the public

- Setting up a Speakers Bureau as described above

The Planning Commission Quarterly is a newsletter sent out 4 times a year that provides announcement for upcoming events, profiles of planning commission projects and activities throughout the state, and provides tips and insights on running an effective planning commission. This is the first such newsletter that is sent directly to planning commissioners from Washington APA. To date, there have been 3 issues distributed to 445 recipients. A survey was distributed in August 2015 to gauge content, readership, and customer interest. The Quarterly will continue to be refined and improved over the next 2 years.

The Washington APA website was recently updated and improved to be more engaging and user-friendly. As part of this effort the PODO will have an updated section that pertains to educational material,

announcements for training opportunities, and other resources for planning commissioners and public officials.

The Speakers Bureau will be a resource for planners in their work to educate and inform decision makers, planning commissions, and the public on important planning topics. This can be another resource for staff to draw from for assistance on complex topics that often take extensive research.

In 2014 a survey was completed of Washington APA membership to find those who would be interested in being speakers or offering other assistance. The next steps are to make contact with these individuals, set guidelines for the presentations, review presentations, and begin setting up speaking engagements. The anticipated launch date for the Speakers Bureau is June 30, 2016.

The Washington Chapter of the APA Speakers Bureau is intended to:

- Underscore planning's crucial role in the economy, environment, and quality of life.
- Communicate planning's benefits to non-planners to address global and local issues.
- Provide and deliver presentations on a large "game changing" topics
- Be a repository for presentations for use by others with and "advisor" available on the topic
- Present information to a wide range of audiences.

The PODO will continue to solicit speakers on these topics and complete setting up the process for administering the Speakers Bureau including a webpage on the APA WA website.



TRIBAL COMMITTEE



This committee focuses on addressing statewide tribal planning issues. The committee is active in the board, conference planning, fundraising, and other chapter

activities. The Tribal Planning Committee has provided a link between APA Washington and an active group of tribal planners — the Tribal Transportation Planning Organization (TTPO). It has also informed the Board and chapter membership about tribal planning issues.

Chair:

Michael Cardwell, AICP

In 1999, when the American Planning Association last held its National Conference in Seattle, tribal communities said that gaming would change everything. In 2015, the committee did its best to show that it did in Indian Country. There were two sessions the committee highlighted:

*Pacific Northwest Tribal Planning [S553] and the mobile workshop *Magical History Tour* [W049].*

The first was presented to an over capacity room by a blue ribbon panel: Robert Elofson (Lower Elwha Klallam), Anton e Minthorn (Umatilla), and Dr. Dick Winchell, FAICP. Chair Cardwell facilitated the session (Quinault). The presenters talked about environmental restoration, community engagement, and economic empowerment while creating new alliances under the overarching umbrella of enhanced Native Sovereignty. A quick overview of the Elwha dam(s) removal, the creation of win-win environmental situations at Umatilla and the changing dynamic within tribal communities told the story of tribes becoming the largest employers within rural counties and using their newly found clout to create the communities we want. That is the mission of planning.

It is one thing to talk about it. It is another to see it. The Magical History Tour went by bus and ferry to the Port Madison Indian

Reservation, home of the Suquamish People and burial site of Chief Sealth for whom Seattle was named after. As the tour guide, Chair Cardwell quickly highlighted the changes that Seattle has experienced since 1999, such as: the ever changing skyline, the transportation and physical woes (Bertha that way / Seawall that way) and the development of economic engines in Indian Country that have not only created jobs, but have better fostered working relationships. We were greeted by Suquamish Chairman Leonard Forsman, who told us of the strives that they have taken to turn gaming dollars into LEED Certified Gold and Silver community buildings, support for Tribal Journeys / cultural awareness, and the connections to the political world. Money buys clout, which you have to plan for and execute as well. I hope that the planners left with a better understanding of Indian Country and the Pacific Northwest.



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