



American Planning Association
NY Metro Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

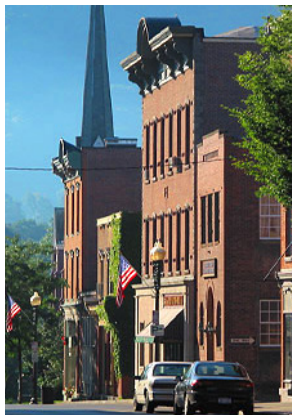


2016 Annual Report

APA NY Metro Chapter

The American Planning Association's New York Metro Chapter (APA-NYM) supports our members, local communities, schools, and practicing professionals through advocating for good planning practice, hosting diverse events and facilitating professional development opportunities in the New York Metro Area.

www.nyplanning.org



New York City

Long Island

Hudson Valley East

Hudson Valley West



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NY Metro Chapter President's Message

James J. Rausse, AICP

In writing my final President's Message, I want to start by thanking all of you for the opportunity to serve the Chapter. It has been a heartfelt honor to represent you and guide this Chapter. It is an experience that has changed my life for the better and I am grateful to you all. Working with a wonderful team on both the Executive Committee and with our various Committees, I move forward feeling confident for what we have accomplished. You are all in good hands with Max Sokol, AICP as your incoming President and all the other existing and new Executive Committee members elected to serve.



Over the past year, we have made significant progress as a Chapter that I am proud of. First, we were able to accomplish one of my candidacy goals of four-plus years ago of professionalizing planning on municipal levels. With the help of former Transportation Committee Co-Chair, Jeffery Peel, AICP, we successfully lobbied for the New York City Civil Service Planner Exam to move to a merit-based system that requires a planning degree. It is the first step toward getting AICP or a similar certification to be required in New York State, similar to architects, landscape architects and engineers.

Organizationally, we have revamped our entire communications approach. Starting with the institution of a new Vice President of Communications position, we developed a Chapter-wide communications strategy that includes a completely redesigned website (check it out!), hiring of an intern, improved member outreach, and a new sponsorship strategy. I want to thank Vice President of Communications Jocelyn Dupre, Treasurer Ryan Harris, AICP, and Communications Intern Maggie Calmes for leading this charge. I also want to thank Jake Garver for designing an awesome website, and our Chapter Administrator, Angie Witkowski, for her work on sponsor growth.

We are not the only ones to rethink our outreach. Have you seen APA National's new commercials introduced at the conference in Phoenix? If not, check out planning.org to see them. We're really stepping up our game!

Up in the Hudson Valley, we closed out our successful Plan4Health grant. It has been an honor to work with the City of Kingston, Cornell Cooperative Extension, HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley and APHA on bringing more active living and safer streets to Kingston!

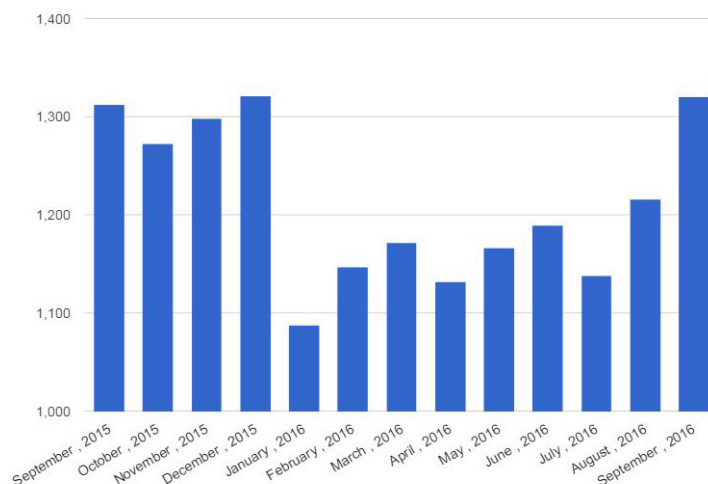
I have mentioned Committees a couple of times, are you a member? If your answer is no, well, what are you waiting for?!? We have eleven to choose from, including our completely revitalized Diversity and Zoning Committees. We also have a new Arts & Culture Subcommittee as part of our Urban Design

Committee. If you're more of a geographic type than topical type of planner, then you have an opportunity to get involved with one of our four Sections. Be proud of your region by serving it! We welcome your energy and thoughts.

This year, the Chapter was honored with the designation of Arthur Avenue in The Bronx (my hometown!) as one of America's Great Streets. We had a well-attended press event on October 4th that shed light on the planning profession.

Finally, in case you did not notice...we are hosting the National Conference from May 6th-9th, 2017! Being as amazing as we are, we are going to have a conference that blows away the previous 108. Be ready! I am Co-Chairing the Local Host Committee with our APA Region 1 Representative Courtenay Mercer, AICP. I know many of you have been looking to volunteer. Once we get closer to May, we will try to accommodate as best as possible!

>> *In closing, I would like to thank you all once again. Your support means alot to me. Thank you for welcoming me.*



APA Membership 2015-2016

Source: APA New York Metro Chapter Rosters

NY Metro Chapter Executive Committee & Staff

The APA New York Metro Chapter is served by an Executive Committee of 12 elected members, as well as the Immediate Past President, the APA Board Director for Region 1, the AICP Commissioner for Region 1, and the Immediate Past President. The Executive Committee is assisted by the director of the Young Planners Group (YPG), Chapter Administrator and Chapter Intern.

President

James J. Rausse, AICP

Chapter Secretary

Olivia Jovine

Chapter Treasurer

Ryan Harris, AICP

VP Programs

Kovid Saxena, AICP, LEED AP

VP Professional Development

Alex Wallach, AICP

VP Committees

Max Sokol, AICP

VP Intergovernmental Affairs

Michael A. Levine, AICP

VP Communications

Jocelyn Dupre

Long Island Section Representative

Sean Sallie, AICP

Lower Hudson Valley East Section Representative

Gina D'Agrosa, AICP

Lower Hudson Valley West Section Representative

Heather Jacksy, AICP

New York Section Representative

Paul Lozito

Student Representative Committee Chair

Alisha Beatty

Young Planners Group Chair

Petr Vancura

Chapter Administrator

Angie Witkowski

Chapter Intern

Maggie Calmes

Immediate Past President

Donald Burns, AICP

Immediate Past Chapter Secretary

Greg Holisko, AICP

Immediate Past Hudson Valley West Representative

Dave Gilmour, AICP

The Chapter wishes to thank the past Director of Long Island Section Ela Dokonal, AICP CUD, LEED AP for her time spent designing and formatting this report.



American Planning Association *Leadership*



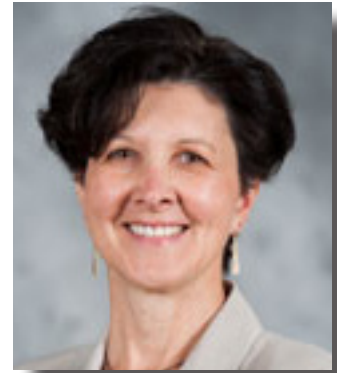
**Carol Rhea, FAICP
APA President**

Carol Rhea is a founding partner of the Orion Planning Group, and previously created and staffed Rhea Consulting. In addition to her work as a consultant, Rhea has worked as a city, county, regional, and state planner. Her passion is helping local governments build planning capacity, and working with small to medium-sized communities to address planning challenges. She has a history of volunteer work that includes serving as a planning commissioner, on a historic foundation board, and in many leadership roles within APA.



**Courtenay D. Mercer, AICP
Director elected from
Region I**

Courtenay Mercer is the New Jersey Director of the Regional Plan Association, and the principal/owner of Mercer Planning Associates. Previously, she served as the director of planning and state Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) coordinator for the New Jersey Office of Smart Growth. She has held a number of leadership positions within APA, including Chapter President's Council Secretary/Treasurer and APA New Jersey Chapter President. She has also served on the NJ State Agriculture Development Committee, State TDR Bank Board and the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Plan Advisory Committee. She is the treasurer for the Jersey City Parents for Progress and chair of the PS#3 PTA Playground Committee.



**Deborah Lawlor, FAICP
Commissioner elected from
Region I**

Debbie Lawlor has more than 29 years of planning experience. She has been the chief of sustainability and economic growth, chief planner, and supervisor of land use planning at the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission. She also worked in the private sector at Edwards and Kelcey, Inc., and PQA Engineering. She has been active in APA's New Jersey Chapter and the APA Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division. She received the chapter's Distinguished Service Award in 2009. She has participated in the New Jersey Governor's Smart Growth Task Force and Rutgers University Center for Green Building Advisory board. She has a BS in environmental planning and design and an MA in geography, both from Rutgers.

American Planning Association National 2016 Conference Highlights



The New York Metro Chapter was well-represented at the 2016 APA National Conference, held from April 2 to 5 at the Phoenix Convention Center in Phoenix, Arizona.

The conference was attended by 4,000+ planners and featured more than 500 conference sessions. The keynote speaker was Jack Uldrich, found-

er of The School of Unlearning. Other speakers include Harriet Tregoning, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Community Planning and Development, and closing keynote speaker John Englander. The National Planning Conference is designed for planners, elected officials, business leaders, and citizens, with the purpose of addressing planning innovations and challenges in communities large and small.

Planners got excited for the APA 2017 National Conference in New York City, with a festive photo booth. Planning for the 2017 National Conference is underway; this past May at the 2016 National Conference, Metro Chapter leadership and APA leadership discussed and planned for the year to come.



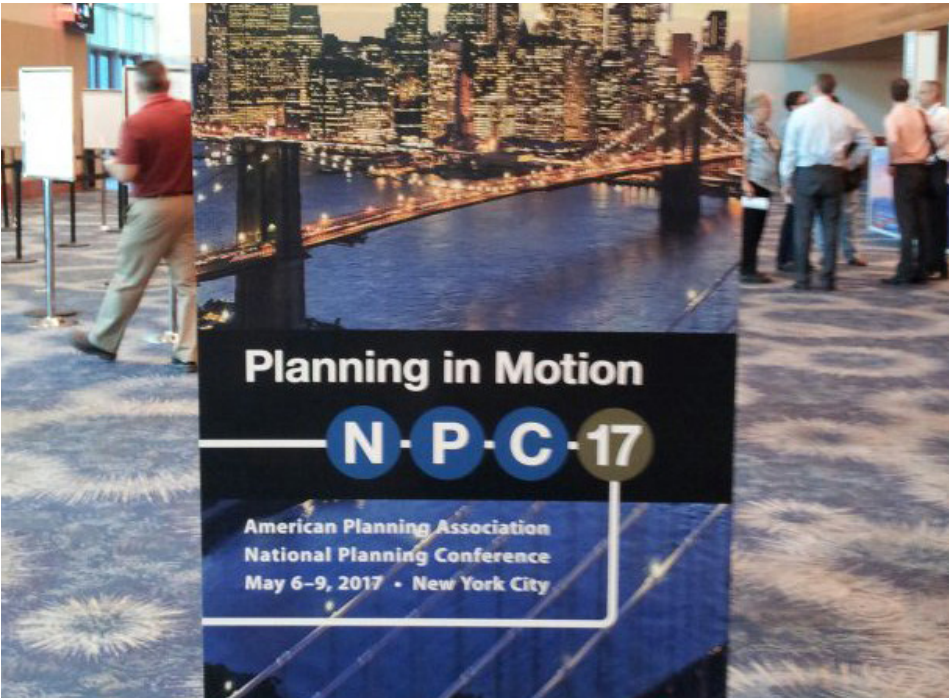
Conference highlights



Conference highlights



2017 Conference Planning Underway



2017 Conference Announcement

Thank you to all the members of the New York Metro Chapter who represented the Chapter at the National Planning Conference.

Olivia Jovine

Chapter Secretary

Olivia Jovine, served as the interim Chapter Secretary from February, 2016 to September, 2016, when she was formally elected as Chapter Secretary.

Ms. Jovine's duties included preparing meeting minutes, managing the chapter's records, helping to prepare the annual report, and assisting with organizing chapter events. Given these re-

sponsibilities, the Secretary often acts as an information and reference point for the President and other committee members: clarifying past practice and decisions and retrieving relevant documentation.

Ryan Harris, AICP

Chapter Treasurer

The chapter's finances are in strong health, with a projected end of year endowment of approximately \$85,000. The Executive Board has reserved these funds for expenses leading up to and during the hosting of the 2017 APA National Conference here in New York.

The Chapter and its Live Well Kingston partners successfully closed out the CDC Plan4Health program on time and on budget in the second quarter. The grantor released \$76,000 of the \$125,000 grant in 2015. The 2016 budget projected a revenue of \$50,000, but funds were shifted from 2015 and are reflected as a \$75,000 grant revenue for 2016. This discrepancy is reflected in the actual vs budgeted expenses for the 'Executive Board' line item.

Chapter expenses for Committees and Sections fell under budget in 2016; however, this reflected the Executive

Committee's aspirations to encourage compelling programming and events for the Chapter. Line items for Contracted Services, Administration, Travel Reimbursements and Professional Development are projected to close out the year within budgeted levels.

Overall expenses for 2016 are currently under budget with the Chapter finances closing out the year in good standing. This year's annual report accounts for expenses and revenues through Sept 30, with remaining budget items projected through the end of the year. This is due to the shift from an October 1 to September 30 accounting year to an annual (January 1 to December 31) accounting year, newly instituted by APA National. A new 2017 budget will be proposed and adopted by the Executive Board in January 2017.

The attached budget and accounting sheets have 'unknown' and 'to-date' values reflecting expected expenses

and revenues from significant line-items such as the Chapter's Annual Conference, Holiday Party and Sponsorship drives. This discrepancy is reflected in the actual vs. budgeted expenses for the 'Chapter Programs' line item.

FY16 Actual			
FY16 OPENING BALANCE			\$125,450
Checking	\$26,942.17		
Savings	\$98,507.90		
REVENUE (FY16 Budget)			\$106,711
Quarterly Disbursements (to date)		\$28,314.32	
2016 Conference Registrations		unknown	
2016 Holiday Party Registrations		unknown	
2016 Sponsorships (to date)		\$2,850.00	
Chapter Only Memberships (to date)		\$547.00	
Plan4Health Grant		\$75,000.00	
EXPENSES (FY16 Actual)			\$131,278
Contracted Services			\$30,353.25
	Website	\$11,000.00	
	Administrative Support	\$14,389.50	
	Communications Intern	\$4,963.75	
Executive Board			\$80,166.24
	President	\$828.58	
	Dues	\$610.00	
	Events	\$1,200.00	\$1,208.91
	CDC Plan4Health Program	\$77,527.66	
Administration			\$4,489.28
	Supplies	\$87.09	
	Insurance	\$1,321.00	
	Postage & P.O. Box	\$86.00	
	Phone/Fax/Voicemail	\$162.76	
	Website (Crystaltech)	\$299.55	
	Accuconference (Conference Call)	\$1,057.88	
	Constant Contact (eBlast and Event)	\$790.00	
	SurveyMonkey	\$250.00	
	MailChimp	\$435.00	
Travel Reimbursements			\$6,264.15
	2016 APA National Conference	\$3,144.09	
	2016 APA National Conference (Student)	\$625.00	
	2016 Fall Leadership Meeting	\$2,495.06	
	2016 Chapter Retreat	\$0.00	
Chapter Programs			\$0.00
	2016 Annual Conference	unknown	
	2016 Chapter Holiday Party	unknown	
	2016 National Conference Reception	\$0.00	
Professional Development			\$1,525.57
	AICP Training Sessions	\$124.57	
	Annual Webinar Subscription	\$150.00	
	Register AICP CM Credits (net of Disbursement)	\$1,251.00	
	Two AICP Scholarships	\$0.00	
Sections/Committees			\$8,479.39
	Hudson Valley East	\$591.63	
	Hudson Valley West	\$0.00	
	Long Island	\$1,875.00	\$1,630.00
	New York City	\$411.76	
	Committees	\$3,081.85	
	Young Planners Group	\$498.69	
	Mentor Program --	\$1,427.31	\$450.00
	Youth in Planning --	\$0.00	
	Student Resource Committee	\$593.15	
FY16 EXPECTED CLOSING BALANCE			\$100,883
Checking	\$15,132.52		
Savings	\$85,750.92		

FY16 Budget			
FY15 OPENING BALANCE			\$125,450
Checking	\$26,942.17		
Savings	\$98,507.90		
REVENUE (FY16 Budget)			\$133,000
Quarterly Disbursements		\$40,000	
2016 Conference Registrations		\$25,000	
2016 Holiday Party Registrations		\$2,000	
2016 Sponsorships		\$12,000	
Chapter Only Memberships		\$4,000	
Plan4Health Grant		\$50,000	
EXPENSES (FY16 Budget)			\$166,900
Contracted Services			\$29,000
	Website	\$10,000	
	Administrative Support	\$9,000	
	Communications Intern	\$10,000	
Executive Board			\$54,250
	President	\$1,500	
	Dues	\$250	
	Events	\$2,500	
	CDC Plan4Health Program	\$50,000	
Administration			\$4,750
	Supplies	\$500	
	Insurance	\$1,500	
	Postage & P.O. Box	\$100	
	Phone/Fax/Voicemail	\$250	
	Website (Crystaltech)	\$200	
	Accuconference (Conference Call)	\$1,000	
	Constant Contact (eBlast and Event)	\$500	
	SurveyMonkey	\$200	
	MailChimp	\$500	
Travel Reimbursements			\$6,000
	2016 APA National Conference	\$2,500	
	2016 APA National Conference (Student)	\$1,250	
	2016 Fall Leadership Meeting	\$2,000	
	2016 Chapter Retreat	\$250	
Chapter Programs			\$49,500
	2016 Annual Conference	\$35,000	
	2016 Chapter Holiday Party	\$12,000	
	2016 National Conference Reception	\$2,500	
Professional Development			\$1,900
	AICP Training Sessions	\$250	
	Annual Webinar Subscription	\$150	
	Register AICP CM Credits (net of Disbursement)	\$1,000	
	Two AICP Scholarships	\$500	
Sections/Committees			\$21,500
	Hudson Valley East	\$1,500	
	Hudson Valley West	\$1,000	
	Long Island	\$2,500	
	New York City	\$4,000	
	Committees	\$5,000	
	Young Planners Group	\$1,500	
	Mentor Program --	\$1,500	
	Youth in Planning --	\$1,500	
	Student Resource Committee	\$3,000	
FY16 EXPECTED CLOSING BALANCE			\$91,550
Checking	\$13,733		
Savings	\$77,818		

Kovid Saxena, AICP VP Programs

Kovid Saxena, AICP, LEED AP, continued in his role as the Chapter's VP of Programs in and Conference Chair 2016.

>> 2015 Annual Conference

The 2015 annual conference was an all-day event held on October 30, at Columbia University in New York City. In the chapter's tradition of alternating between larger and smaller conference formats, due to limitations of a volunteer organization, the 2015 conference was the "larger" conference. With record participation by nearly 400 attendees, it was an all-day event with expert technical sessions and tremendous networking opportunities.

James Drinan, APA Executive Director opened the conference, which was headlined by a keynote address from Howard Zemsky, President and CEO of the Empire State Development Corporation, and a panel discussion on diversity in the planning profession featuring: Maxine Griffith, AICP, Executive Vice President, Columbia University; Purnima Kapur, Executive Director, New York City Department of City Planning; Maria Torres Springer, President, New York City Economic Development Corporation; and moderator Jee Mee Kim, AICP, Principal, HR&A Advisors. Breakout sessions ranged from topics including public open space, resiliency, regional rail and transit,

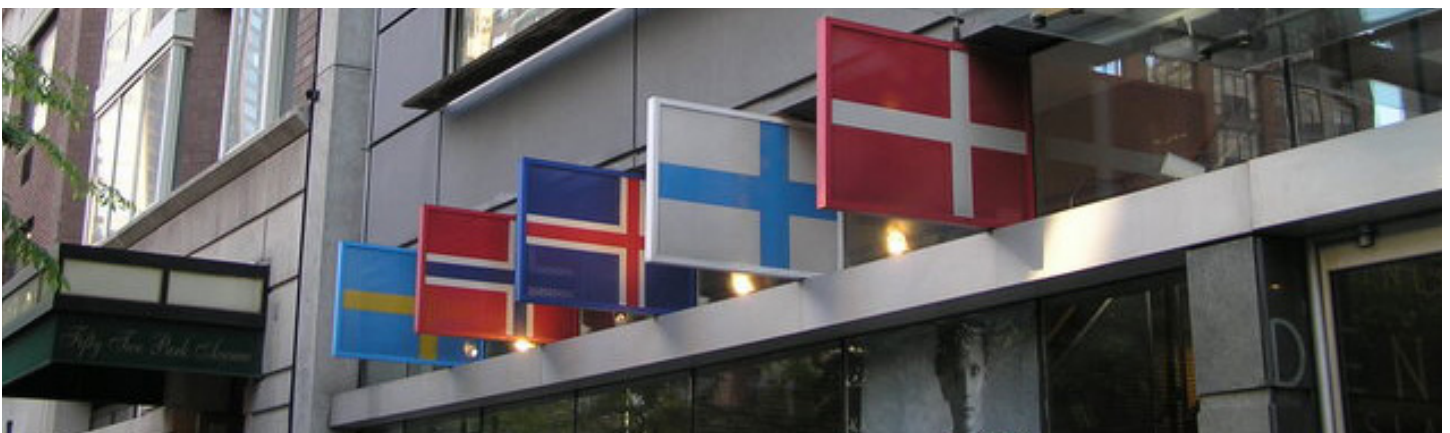
economic development, public health, infrastructure, ethics, and planning law—relevant to communities across the metro area.

>> 2016 Annual Conference

Planning for the 2016 Annual Conference on October 21 at Scandinavia House in Manhattan has been underway for more than a year. This collaborative effort has involved executive committee members, committee chairs, and, most importantly, chapter members who enthusiastically responded to the call for session proposals—thank you!

>> Ideas for programs, recommendations for speakers, and discussion topics are always welcome and should be either submitted to the Vice President for Programs, Committee Chairs, Section Directors, or the Executive Committee. Contact information is available at www.nyplanning.org

>> *Volunteering to serve your professional organization is an excellent way to meet new people, learn about new topics, and know the inner workings of the organization—please get involved and volunteer.*



Alex J. Wallach, AICP

VP Professional Development

>> Certification Maintenance

The APA New York Metro Chapter provides multiple opportunities throughout the year to earn certification maintenance (CM) credits to support our membership in their professional development. As of September 30, the Chapter held over 19 events with over 56 CM hours of planning education. These events included 5.75 law credit hours, but no ethics credits to date.

The Chapter's programs have maintained a high level of quality, as evidenced by an average reviewer rating of 3.9 out of 5 stars.

>> AICP Exams

The Chapter welcomed 45 new AICP members in the past year and saw an annual average pass rate of 76 percent (71 percent for the November 2015 exam and 89 percent for the May 2016 exam), well above the national average of 69 percent. In November 2015 alone, the chapter welcomed 29 new AICP planners, which was the greatest number in any testing window since 2003. A special congratulations goes to the New York City Section, who had the majority of the AICP applicants from our chapter, 100 percent of whom passed the May 2016 exam!

Twice this year the chapter hosted a "What to Expect from the AICP Exam" session. In the sessions an overview of the format of the exam as well as study tips and technical advice for applicants was provided. The March 2016 session had 12

attendees with six new AICP recipients sharing their experiences with those planning to take the exam. The session was well-received, and everyone in attendance who took the May 2016 exam received a passing score! The September 2016 session had 12 attendees and three new AICP recipients sharing their experience. Many thanks to the session volunteers and best of luck to those preparing for the November 2016 exam.

>> APA National Conference

VP of Professional Development, Alex Wallach, took part in the Professional Development Officer meeting at the APA National Conference in Phoenix, where the discussion centered on APA's efforts to revamp the AICP exam to better reflect the knowledge and skills used by practicing planners. These changes are going into effect for the the May 2017 exam window, and will be released soon. Also discussed were the changes that allow AICP members to claim self-reported CM credits for certain volunteer and pro bono activities, as well as a proposal for a new "AICP candidate" program for students and recent graduates to create an accelerated path to put young professionals on track towards AICP certification.

>> Share Your Ideas

If you have ideas for how the Chapter can support emerging and practicing professionals through certification and education development, please reach out to Alex J. Wallach at pdo@nyplanning.org.

>> Congratulations to our new AICP Members!

Michael Ahillen
Michael Amabile
Peter Barnard
Nathan Bliss
Rosemary Bolich
Nate Diaz
Samuel Frommer
Dimitra Gavrilaki
Christopher Gorman
Scott Grimm-Lyon
Kate Holmquist
Andrew Kay

Ellis Kim
Gabriel Kleinfeld
Aryeh Lemberger
Yao Lu
Denis Mani
Eileen McClain
Haskel Mermell
Mary Miltimore
Lawrence Nassivera
Michael Parkinson
Harrison Peck
James Rather

Renee Schoonbeek
Renata Silberblatt
Stephen Albonesi
Zachary Campbell
Tali Cantor
Emma Del Vento
Bailey DeRouen
Jacob Dugopolski
Patrick Hess
Amy Kacala
Jonathan Kirschenbaum
Steven Perrotta

Ben Rosenblatt
Carol Samol
Stephanie Shellooe
Matthew Sloane
Joe Sperrazza
Alexan Stulc
Mark Terry
Bonnie Von Ohlsen
Daniel Watts

Max Sokol, AICP

VP Committees

2016 has been, and continues to be, an active and exciting year for the Chapter Committees. Building upon the work completed in 2015, the Chapter Committees have organized a number of timely and topical events offering Certification Maintenance (CM) credits for AICP planners. Throughout the year, the Committees have also hosted meetings and planned other activities to create a forum for networking among the Chapter membership, in addition to contributing to position statements in collaboration with other members of Chapter leadership.

Committees offer a unique avenue to pursue partnerships with related professional organizations. In 2016, the work of the Committees helped to strengthen the well-established inter-organizational partnership between the APA, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), and the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Now in its fourth year, the APA/ASLA/AIA New York Annual Conference on June 3rd focused on the topic of “Seeds of Urban Transportation: How Policy, Planning, & Design Shape New York Neighborhoods,” and included a keynote speech, multiple interdisciplinary panel discussions, and a site tour of Hudson Yards.

The eclectic array of Chapter Committees aim to offer something for everyone. Whether you are a senior manager looking to give back to the profession through involvement in the APA, an emerging professional hoping to expand your network, or a graduate student interested in exploring the work of the Chapter, the Committees welcome your participation. The specific structure and leadership roles for each Committee are determined by the respective Committee Co-Chairs, but one overarching theme that cuts across Committees is the goal to encourage collaboration among Chapter members.

>> Get Involved

To express your interest in becoming more involved in one or more Chapter Committees, please email the Committee Co-Chairs, whose contact information is included on the Committee-specific webpages on www.nyplanning.org/committees/. Or reach Vice President of Committees at committees@nyplanning.org.

The following sections highlight some of the activities led by each Chapter Committee during 2016.



Seeds of Urban Transformation Event

>> Awards Committee

This year's awards, bestowed at the Chapter's October 21st Awards Ceremony, are as follows:

- **Lawrence M. Orton Award** (leadership in city and regional planning): [Michael Kwartler](#)
- **Meritorious Service & Achievement Award** (work of unusual achievement): [East Harlem Neighborhood Plan](#)
- **William H. White Award** (creativity and ingenuity in planning): [East New York Industrial Business Zone Plan](#)
- **Andrew Haswell Green Award** (individuals who have made outstanding contributions for a period of at least 15 years): [Sullivan Renaissance \(Sandra Gerry\)](#)
- **Journalism Award** (print, broadcast, or web-based work): [Corey Kilgannon, of the New York Times](#)
- **Paul Davidoff Award** (leadership in housing and equal opportunity): [El Barrio's Artspace PS109](#)

>> Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee entered a successful second year since its revival in April 2015 and has been very active over the past year. In October 2016, the Committee hosted a neighborhood walking tour of the Gowanus/Park Slope area in partnership with the Chapter's Economic Development Committee and Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee. Led by Fifth Avenue Committee's Executive Director, Michelle de la Uz, the tour explored the impacts of the North Park Slope Rezoning in 2003 and its impact on the socioeconomic character of the neighborhood.

In April 2016, the Committee partnered with local graduate schools and hosted a forum on improving diversity in the planning programs. The forum featured preliminary results from Co-Chair Giovanna Tiarachristie's study of diversity amongst planners in the New York Metro Area, which built off of and updated a 2001 study from the NY Metro Chapter's former Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee. The forum gathered diverse students, faculty, and professionals from across New York City to discuss strategies on how to promote diversity in the planning programs. The Committee created a one-page summary of the discussions and recommendations from the forum, which will be shared when finalized.

>> Economic Development Committee

Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Chisato Shimada and Anthony Drummond, the Economic Development Committee continues to promote forums and events that educate the planning profession in the realm of economic development. In collaboration with other Chapter Committees, the Economic Development Committee is looking to prepare a series of programs in the coming year that showcase large-scale economic development programs throughout the region. The Committee also intends to organize forums and panel discussions on topics ranging from increased pressure on industrial land to redevelop with new uses, to how business improvement districts can attract and maintain retail. Chapter members who are interested in participating in assessing the relationship between planning and economic development are encour-

aged to join. For more information, email economicdevelopment@nyplanning.org

>> Environmental Committee

Much of planning today focuses on building resilient and sustainable cities. Environmental planning is much more than project specific impact analyses and in many ways we are all—regardless of specialty—environmental planners. In this regard, the Chapter is looking to expand its outreach by providing events aimed at cross-specialty discussions, in addition to traditional options for specialized learning.

In June 2016, Jeannette Rausch, AICP was selected to join Robert White, AICP in co-chairing the Environmental Committee. A planning meeting was held in July to solicit ideas for expanding the Committee's role. In the coming year, the Committee will focus on the following:

- Our Committee meetings are open to all and we encourage participation on a drop-in basis. We ask those who wish to be a member of the Committee to attend a minimum of two meetings each calendar year beginning in 2017. We plan to meet on the third Thursday of every other month. Please join us.
- While the Committee will continue to plan special field visits and panels, we wish to shift the focus of Committee meetings to engage greater discourse. We want to dedicate a good portion of each meeting to round-table informal discussions on pertinent topics and best practices within the broad field of environmental planning. We would love to have a mix of participants at different stages of their career and from different corners of the "environmental" spectrum of planning.
- APA offers planners who possess a number of years of experience and pass an exam to become Certified Environmental Planners (CEP). The Committee has contacted several CEPs in the NY Metro area and hopes to host a number of presentations on the CEP process. If interest is sufficient, we will establish a 1- 2 year informal study group for those interested in taking the CEP exam.
- The Committee is excited to support a number of environmental-focused proposed events at the 2017 National Conference. For instance, the Committee submitted a mobile workshop proposal, organized by Committee member Patricia Houser, which would include a number of site visits in the region. The Committee is also considering ways to effectively use the Chapter's website to share timely information about initiatives that may be of interest leading up to and during the National Conference, potentially including posting expert mini-podcasts on the Committee webpage.

The Committee is always looking for new members and invites you to join us at our next meeting, which will be posted on the Chapter website. You can also email environmental@nyplanning.org for more information.

In the Spring, the Committee also facilitated two workshops exploring urban planning for middle schoolers at Harlem Children's Zone and Harlem Success Academy. Over the summer, the committee took pause on business matters and hosted safe space discussions to reflect on recent tragic national incidents around gun violence, bringing together members to discuss the impact on their personal lives and reflections on our role as urban planners.

In September, the Committee assigned new officer positions for members to expand its work, including youth planning and education coordinators, media and communications coordinators, an events planning squad, and more. The Committee also set a rotating schedule of secretarial duties and discussion leaders.

If you would like to participate, have general questions or programmatic ideas, or want to join the Committee, please contact diversity@nyplanning.org.

>> Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee

Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Gary Brown and Martha Sickles, the Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee (HNRC) engages in the study and advocacy of planning policies, practices and community engagement to promote equitable, diverse and sustainable communities in the metropolitan region. The HNRC focuses on the provision and maintenance of quality and affordable housing for all residents, crucial for vibrant and healthy neighborhoods. As successful community planning draws on many disciplines, so the HNRC strives to cooperate with other committees and organizations in activities and events. The Committee seeks members who are interested and dedicated to advancing the many elements of housing and neighborhood revitalization.

Committee Goals:

- Provide AICP Certification Maintenance (CM) programming that meets the interests of committee members and illustrates best practice in the areas of HNRC focus
- Draft position papers and commentary on housing and neighborhood revitalization legislation and policies
- Conduct forums and walking tours highlight neighborhood revitalization issues
- Create professional networking opportunities for planners, community leaders, and other professionals.

During 2016, the HNRC contributed to commentary on Mandatory Inclusionary Zoning and Zoning for Quality and Affordability, two important components of the Mayor's Housing Plan. HNRC organized a panel discussion for the NY Metro Chapter Annual Conference on an important housing issue: the "Crisis of Housing Affordability: Creating Housing Options and Stemming Displacement."

The HNRC also held discussions on topics such as strategies for improving public housing and making best use of some of

the underdeveloped campuses and innovative ideas in housing design and construction. HNRC is planning walking tours of East New York and Brownsville, the Hudson Yards and the Rockaways, in conjunction with the Economic Development and Environment Committees.

The Committee meets monthly and is actively looking for new members. To get involved in monthly meetings, email housing@nyplanning.org.

>> Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee had a great year with increases in programs and social events, and growing co-sponsorship opportunities through a variety of partners. Co-Chair Beth Zall, AICP was joined by Haley Collins as a new Co-Chair in early 2016. In addition to the Co-Chairs and a communications lead (Harrison Peck), the Committee leadership includes an events coordinator (Stephanie Shelloe), secretary (Matthew Cunningham, AICP), and researcher (Antonio Sieunarine).

The Committee was very active this year, through posts on the committee facebook page (www.facebook.com/apanym-transportation/) and coordination of the following:

- Hosted a tour of New York City Transit's (NYCT) Rail Control Center in November 2015
- Hosted two open committee meetings in 2016 (January and August) to solicit input and ideas to engage the greater APA transportation planning community
- Collaborated with WTS, the Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT), and the APA NY Metro Chapter New York City Section on Transportation Trivia Night (April 2016) and Scavenger Hunt (June 2016)
- "Lunch & Learn: Bike Share in the US & NY Region" featuring a discussion of CitiBike locations in NYC and recommended densities for successful bike share programs (June 2016, for CM credit)
- "Connecting the Dots: NYC's Proposed Ferry Expansion and What It Means for Waterfront Communities" event sponsored by the Waterfront and Transportation Committees in June (June 2016, for CM credit)
- "Park(ing) Day 2016" installation, where the committee developed and hosted activities at a parklet in two parking spots along 10th Avenue in coordination with APA Urban Design Committee, ASLA, and AIA Urban Design and Infrastructure Committees. (September, 2016)

Please reach out to Beth and Haley at transportation@nyplanning.org if you are interested in getting involved in upcoming Transportation Committee events.

>> Waterfront Committee

The APA Metro Chapter Waterfront Committee throughout 2016 held monthly meetings at the Cornell University Architecture, Art, and Planning studio located 26 Broadway in Lower Manhattan. The second Monday of each month, com-

mittee members convened to discuss waterfront developments, transportation, and trends throughout the New York region. Discussion centered on preparations for APA events, engaging with several graduate school of planning programs with waterfront related studio projects, and committee members sharing personal projects and workplace waterfront initiatives.

The committee hosted two CM accredited events. The first educational event occurred the evening of June 21st, titled "Connecting the Dots: NYC's Ferry Expansion and What it Means for Waterfront Communities". The event brought together a range of content experts: James Wong, New York City Economic Development Corporation's Director of Citywide Ferry Operation; Rob Pirani, Program Director for the NY-NJ Harbor & Estuary Program; and Bonnie A. Harken, AIA, President, Nautilus International Development Consulting, Inc. The three speakers engaged a full house providing varied insights from the lenses of implementation, the environment, and international comparisons.

The second CM accredited event held by the committee

occurred the evening of September 28th, titled "Getting Waterfront Permits?". Speakers were Amanda Switzer from the Army Corps of Engineers, Steve Zahn from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Matt Maraglio from New York State Department of State, Trevor Johnson from New York City Department of City Planning, and Meenakshi Varandani from New York City Department of Small Business Services. Panelists represented all five of the regulatory agencies overseeing waterfront development in New York City. Each presenter shared their agency's areas of regulatory and policy oversight and provided tips on preparing permit applications.

In the coming months the Waterfront Committee is interested in hosting additional waterfront focused CM events, among them a potential South Brooklyn waterfront bike tour.

The Committee meets monthly and is actively looking for new members. To get involved, email waterfront@nyplanning.org.



Living Los Sures Event

>> Urban Design Committee

Once again, the Urban Design Committee has had a successful and productive year, led for the first half of 2016 by Co-Chairs Katie Theis and Christopher Riale and the second half by Co-Chairs Katie Theis and Christopher Rhie. In addition to the co-chairs the Committee has eight members. Three of these members are part of the Committee's new Arts and Culture Sub-Committee which launched in spring 2016. The Committee meets monthly to plan professional development events, to discuss issues of concern to planning and urban design practitioners, and to strategize on media outreach and public advocacy on issues relevant to urban design, arts, and culture in the New York Metro region.

The Committee successfully met its 2016 goal of sponsoring a minimum of 2 CM events in addition to a range of additional events. Their first CM event was Living Los Sures: Place, Cultural Heritage, and Gentrification held on June 14. The event includ-

ed a walking tour of Los Sures (the Southside of Williamsburg) and a screening of the documentary Living Los Sures, followed by a discussion of issues of place, heritage, and gentrification; the event was aimed at helping planners better understand a community faced with gentrification and how to engage in meaningful conversations about the social impact of planning efforts. The second CM Credit event held on September 19 was Micro-Infrastructure: Industrial Design and Place-Making in the 21st Century Public Realm held at the Center for Architecture. This was a sold-out, joint event between the Urban Design Committee, the Transportation Committee, AIANY, and ASLA-NY. Coinciding with the event, the Committee worked with the same partners to organize a parking spot takeover on 10th Avenue on PARK(ing) Day on September 16. The Committee also organized a panel discussion for today's annual conference - New York City's Comprehensive Cultural Plan.

To stay informed, email nyurbandesignnetwork@gmail.com.

>>Zoning and Legislation Committee

At a time when zoning has become a more regular subject in mainstream media, the Zoning and Legislation Committee continues its mission to promote knowledge and understanding of these issues so that members remain updated in real time. Led this year by co-chairs Ahmed Tigani and Kate Holmquist, the committee has used a mix of forums and workshops to look at how zoning impacts the look and feel of our communities. This last year's events included a guided tour focused on prior re-zoning in transitioning industrial Greenpoint-Williamsburg and helping organize and shape the multi-disciplinary annual APA/ASLA/AIA NY chapter conference investigating the seeds of urban transformation, featuring Carl Weisbrod as keynote speaker. Additionally committee members have weighed in on city-wide zoning amendments, Zoning for Quality and Affordability (ZQA) and Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) with committee contributions to a chapter-wide response sent to the Department of City Planning in advance of the amendment's adoption earlier this year.

Looking ahead the committee will be debating the impact of proposed state legislation to repeal residential floor area caps for NYC and develop a position statement in support of zoning that addresses housing demand and affordability across income levels.

If you are interested in joining and having a formative role in the development of the Committee, or if you were previously involved and would like to reconnect, please contact Kate by emailing zoning@nyplanning.org.



Park(ing) Day

Michael A. Levine, AICP

VP Intergovernmental Affairs

Michael A. Levine, AICP, Vice President for Intergovernmental Affairs and Legislative Liaison guided the Chapter on its stance on important planning issues and releasing position papers. Mr. Levine, represented the Chapter at the annual Policy & Advocacy conference in Washington D.C. and the associated Planner's Day on Capitol Hill. There he met with representatives for Congressman Steve Israel and Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand to discuss the reauthorization of the Land & Water Conservation Fund, implementation of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act and funding levels for the HUD Community Development Block Grant program. Another major topic of discussion at the conference was compliance with HUD's Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule.

As a member of APA's Legislative & Policy Committee, Mr. Levine presented an overview of the update to the APA Policy Guide on Housing that the Committee is presently drafting. The Committee is also drafting new Policy Guides on Public Health and Social Equity & Inclusiveness that will be presented to the Delegate's Assembly at the National Conference in New York in May. As a member of APA's Public Officials Com-


mittee, he is also working on the Planning Commissioner's session track for the 2017 National Conference.

Locally, he authored the Chapter's position statements in collaboration with relevant committees and the executive board the Chapter's position statements on Mayor De Blasio's twin proposals Zoning for Quality & Affordability and Mandatory Inclusionary Housing and is presently working on statements for the LIRR Mainline Third Track and the implementation of the City's affordable housing goals.

Jocelyn Dupre

VP of Communications

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American Planning Association
New York Metro Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

OUR MISSION

The American Planning Association's New York Metro Chapter (APA-NYM) supports our members, local communities, schools, and practicing professionals through advocating for good planning practice, hosting diverse events and facilitating professional development opportunities in the New York Metro Area.



34 Street-Hudson Yards Subway Station 7

Register today for the APA-NYM 2016 Annual Conference on October 21!

This year's conference will feature sessions and discussions about exemplary planning initiatives in the New York Metro area, plenty of opportunities to catch up with colleagues and meet other planners, and a chance to earn AICP credits.

[Learn more about the conference and register here!](#)

The VP of Communications position, newly created in the Fall of 2015, is focused on improving the way the chapter shares information and resources with members, as well as the general public. In 2015, the executive board created the chapter's first communications strategy with the goal of making the chapter the go-to source for planning news and information in the tri-state area.

In order to ensure a collaborative process, the VP of Communications, held a number of in-person communications meetings, as well as a survey to engage chapter leadership, committees and members in brainstorming new strategies and tools to better serve our members.

After years of managing with outdated technology, the Chapter launched a new website this year, designed by Jake Garver Communications. The website is focused not only on good design and easy user interaction, but it also allows for a more collaborative web presence. Executive Board and Committee Members can now add posts to the site, start online forums and easily share their events and resources. APA Members are also able to engage with the site by posting events and jobs, as well as joining committees and sections.

The Chapter looks forward to using the new website and communications strategy as a jumping off point for achieving a long term vision of making the chapter the go-to source for planning resources and events in the New York Metro Area.

Sean Sallie, AICP Long Island Section Representative

Sean Sallie, AICP is in his second year of his first term as Section Representative. Long Island Section members are private and municipal planners, public officials, and concerned citizens that work or reside in Nassau or Suffolk Counties. Through the work of the Steering Committee, the Section offers professional development and networking events focused on topical planning issues

>> Arthur H. Kunz Scholarships

Since 1995, the Long Island Section has been awarding planning scholarships in Arthur H. Kunz's memory. Arthur was a Long Island planner who was committed to preserving and enhancing Suffolk County by balancing its growth and development with environmental protection. He played an integral part in Suffolk County's development for almost 30 years and worked for the Nassau County

Planning Commission from 1958 to 1969. In 1969, he became Assistant Planning Director for the Suffolk County Department of Planning, and Director in 1989. Every year, eligible applicants are chosen among Long Island entry-level planners or students in a planning-related major. This year the Section had ability to issue three scholarships of \$1,500.00 to two new planners and one planning student, Kevin Luzong, James W. Rigert, and Taylor Sneden, for their attendance to the APA National Planning Conference that was held in Phoenix Arizona this past April. The scholarship covers the majority of expenses related to the conference registration, APA membership for one year for non-members, and some additional expenses. Mr. Kunz spent most APA conferences attending as many mobile workshops as possible and believed in the value of seeing planning in action in other parts of the country. Therefore, the

scholarship stipulates participation in at least one mobile workshop and a short presentation at the Section's Annual Memorial Breakfast event. In recognizing the twentieth anniversary of the scholarship program, the Section published an article on the impact of Mr. Kunz's legacy on new planners.

>> Walking Tours Series

The Walking Tours Series continues to be a very popular initiative, with relatively high interest and attendance. On July 21st, the Section held a tour of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center off the coast of Orient Point on the north fork of eastern Long Island. Participants took a boat ride to the island and were given a formal presentation by representatives from the United States Department of Homeland Security and the United States General Services Administration. A bus tour along



2016 Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarship Breakfast. Congratulations to James W. Rigert, Taylor Sneden and Kevin Luzong.

the perimeter of the island followed the presentation and various stops were made along beautiful coastal bluffs, military installation remnants and other interesting points of interest.

On September 29th, the East End Conference opened with a walking tour of downtown Riverhead guided by Town Supervisor Sean Walter and his staff. The tour began at a new downtown mixed-use development featuring outdoor dining; other highlights included environmental and ecological sustainability improvements at Grangebel Park, new shared-office development, street side breweries/tap rooms and the restored Suffolk Theatre. All tours offered CM credits and the Section looks forward to future tours in Port Jefferson and Great Neck Plaza being scheduled for later this year.

>>Annual Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarship Breakfast

On May 20th, the Section held its annual Scholarship Breakfast and Panel Discussion, themed “Parking Technology & Innovation”, at Molloy College’s Suffolk Center at Republic Airport. The first panel, titled “The Next Generation of Sustainable Parking Technology and Management” included speakers from a cross-section of disciplines discussing the cutting edge technology and implementation forefront of parking. Speakers included Ari Milstein from Automotion Parking Systems, Mark Gander from AECOM, Gerry Giosa from Level G Associates and June Williamson from the City College of New York. The second panel, titled “On the Cutting Edge – Implementing Parking Solutions in Long Island Communities” brought together local leaders that have successfully implemented innovative parking solutions in

their community. Speakers included Benjamin Weinstock, Mayor of Cedarhurst; Jean Celender, Mayor of Great Neck Plaza; Andrew Freleng, Chief Planner at Suffolk County; and Dr. George Westbay, Chair of the Port Jefferson Parking Committee. Two young planners and one planning student, the winners of the Section’s Arthur Kunz Scholarship, reflected on their experience from the 2016 APA National Conference in Phoenix. The Breakfast was attended by over 90 planners, zoning and planning board members. The program offered 2.5 CM credits.

>>Annual East End Conference

On September 29th, the Section held its Annual East End Planning Conference at Hotel Indigo East End located in Riverhead. The Conference started after an introductory walking tour of nearby downtown Riverhead. Riverhead Town



2016 Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarship Breakfast



2016 East End Conference

Supervisor Sean Walter provided welcoming remarks before turning to the first of two sessions. The first session, titled “Riverside Revitalization Action Plan” covered the extraordinary collaboration between the Town of Southampton, Renaissance Downtowns and the community in setting forth a form-based zoning code for a socially, economically and environmentally sustainable revitalization of the Riverside community. Speakers included, Siris Barrios of Renaissance Rediscovered, Kyle Collins of the Town of Southampton, Ela Dokonal of Renaissance Downtowns and past LI Section Representative, Sean McLean of Renaissance Downtowns and Carrie O’Farrell of Nelson, Pope & Voorhis.

The second session, titled “Advancing Alternative Wastewater Treatment on the East End: Planning, Partnership, Patience and Persistence” provided insight into the wastewater treatment advances taking place throughout Suffolk County and particularly within the Town of Shelter Island. The panel was moderated by Sarah Lansdale, Director of Planning for Suffolk County; presenters included Al Krupski, Suffolk County Legislator, John Cronin, Town Engineer, Town of Shelter Island; Sara Gordon, Conservation Planner at Sylvester Manor Educational Farm; and Dr. Harold Walker, Co-Director at the NYC Center for Clean Water Technology. The program offered 3 CM credits.

>> Co-sponsorships & Section Collaboration

Over the past two years, the Section has been collaborating with Touro Land Use & Sustainable Development Law Institute on training, educational and networking programs. To date, the Section and Touro have partnered to offer over 20 CM credits in connection with Touro’s “Bagels with the Boards” monthly lecture series and yearly Long Island Coastal Resiliency Summit. The Section also partnered with Hofstra University and the Nassau County Planning Commission by offering CM credits at the annual “Hofstra Land Use Training Program for Municipal Planning and Zoning Officials”. This year’s event will be held on November 1st. The Section Steering Committee continues to reach out to other organizations on Long Island in an effort to provide a range of CM credit-offering programs and networking opportunities.

>> LI Section Officers

- Kathy Eiseman, AICP; Treasurer
- Ann Fangmann, AICP; Secretary
- Denise Harrington, AICP; PDO

>> 2016 Steering Committee Members

Patricia Aiken, David Berg, AICP, LEED AP; Patti Bourne, AICP; Kyle Collins, AICP; Ela Dokonal AICP CUD, LEED AP, Marwa Fawaz, AICP; David Geneway, AICP; Julie Hargrave, AICP; Emily Humes; Tom Isles, AICP; Janice Jijina, AICP, PE, LEED AP; Sarah Lansdale, AICP; Aryeh Lemberger; Jefferson Murphree, AICP; Megan Porter; Alexandra Sabatino; David Sabatino; Maxwell Sokol, AICP; Wes Sternberg; AICP; David Viana; David Wallach, AICP; Elissa Ward



Plum Island Tour



Plum Island Tour



Andrew Freleng

2016 Long Island Section Sponsors

Gina D'Agrosa, AICP

Lower Hudson Valley East

Section Representative

The Lower Hudson Valley East Section includes Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties on the east side of the Hudson River. Section members work in a diverse environment that ranges from large urban cities, such as Yonkers, to small rural villages and towns. Gina D'Agrosa, AICP, has served as the Section Representative for the Lower Hudson Valley East Section since January 2015.

In April, the Section hosted a Planners' Roundtable Discussion in White Plains to discuss key planning challenges, identify innovative "drivers for change," exciting projects and best practices in the LHVE region. Topics for mobile workshops and panel sessions over the next year, mobile workshops and speakers for the 2017 National Planning Conference, potential Planning award nomination and ideas for articles that could be in Planning magazine were discussed at the roundtable. About 25 Planners took advantage of this opportunity to network and share ideas. Several sessions and mobile workshops were submitted for consideration for the 2017 Conference.

On October 6th, the Section participated in a joint event with the American Institute of Architects to provide an opportunity for Architects + Planners to Explore the Intersection of Health and Place. 'Active Design' has become an important initia-

tive in Architecture and Planning with clients and communities emphasizing 'Live Well' built environments. This initiative has become an integral element to sustainable and resilient community fabrics. APA and AIA Hudson Valley Chapters will join together for collective dialogue exploring ideas and case studies, including the Live Well Kingston program and other local initiatives. The evening will include a tour of the historic Jay Mansion.

Ms. D'Agrosa is planning additional jointly sponsored events for later this Fall. Section members are always encouraged to submit event ideas that allow members to socialize, network, share ideas and obtain CM credits. The Section Representative also hopes that the sessions submitted by members for the 2017 National Conference in NY are selected and that members are able to take advantage of the proximity of the 2017 National Planning Conference.



Hudson Valley East Planners Roundtable



Heather Jacksy, AICP

Lower Hudson Valley West

Section Representative

In 2016, Heather Jacksy, AICP, served as the Section Representative. The Live Well Kingston Plan4Health grant was a strong program that continues the collaboration through Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County. The completion of the grant could not have been accomplished without the hard work of APA Metro's, Chapter President James Rausse and Chapter Administrator Angie Witkowski, Chapter Treasurer Ryan Harris and former Section Representative Dave Gilmour. The project serves to remind us of the value of an identified common goal and collaborative, multi-pronged approach to a solution.

As described in the Hudson Valley East Section, the \$125,000 Plan4Health grant to the Chapter was awarded in the first round of funding and was instrumental in helping Live Well Kingston implement its programs. The Chapter's subgrantees worked tirelessly to increase LWK's visibility, develop an attractive, informative and interactive website, (www.livewellkingston.org) and implement projects for each of its elements, Play Well, Eat Well, Travel Well, Age Well and Live

Well. The coalition included Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County (Kristen Wilson), Health Alliance of Hudson Valley (Laurie Mozian), and NYS Public Health Association (Jennifer Speenburgh and Erin Sinisgalli). The Chapter's effort to reach out to Planning related schools in the area was rewarded with two Environmental Science student interns. One from Bard who drafted a Sidewalk Improvement Program and one from Marist who assisted in preparing an Operations Manual and other important administrative tasks.

In preparation for the 2017 APA conference in New York City, ideas to bring the sections issues and opportunities to a broader audience were compiled into a mobile workshop proposal.

An event for AICP CM is being planned in conjunction with Pace Land Use Law Center so section members can earn their law and ethics credits.



Paul Lozito

New York City

Representative

The New York City Section of the American Planning Association coordinates events to APA-NYM chapter membership within the New York City community. This year the section co-hosted events with peers within the chapter and the chapter's Transportation Committee, as well as other organizations including Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT), Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS), and members of the NYC community.

In collaboration with others, here is a list of the events that the New York City Section brought to chapter membership:

>>Annual Chapter Holiday Party

The Section co-hosted the Annual Holiday Party this past December at the Japan Society on the Upper East Side, providing an informal setting for chapter members to network and to celebrate the holiday season with planners from across the region.

>>Disaster Recovery Happy Hour

The Section Co-Hosted a Happy Hour with the Build it Back, NY Rising, and other affiliated city and state disaster recovery agencies. The event was held at Pier A near South Ferry.

>>Transportation Trivia

Over 75 transportation planners from a variety of organizations ranging from private consultancy to the MTA, NJ Transit, and New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) join the NYC Section for the Annual Transportation Trivia event in April. The event was co-hosted with representatives from the Chapter's Transportation Committee, WTS, and YPT. This annually sold-out event provided teams the opportunity to compete based on knowledge of transportation in the New York Region.

>>Transportation Scavenger Hunt

In June, local planners met at Duke Ellington Circle to form teams and receive clues for a three hour long Scavenger Hunt of transportation infrastructure across upper Manhattan and the South Bronx. The event ended at the Bronx Drafthouse near Yankee Stadium at 4PM where the winners were announced. The event was attended by over 50 planners and was co-hosted by YPT, WTS, and the Section.

In addition to event planning, the New York City Section coordinates with the executive committee to comment on policies and action by planning institution that impact the professions in the field in the five boroughs. Paul Lozito began his term as New York City Section Representative in January of 2014.

Feel free to contact him at nyc@nyplanning.org.

Alisha Beatty

Student Representative Committee

Chair

The Student Representative Committee fosters an ongoing relationship among students at New York City's planning schools and the local and national American Planning Association. Toward that end, the Committee acts as a liaison between students and the APA and coordinates events such as the annual Student Presentations and inter-school conferences.

2015-2016 was an active year for the committee. Students had the opportunity to attend panel discussions, informational sessions on the AICP credential, informal talks with leaders in their prospective fields, and tours of planning-related projects and facilities.

In 2017 the SRC hopes to strengthen its collaboration with other Chapter committees and continue to deliver networking and professional development opportunities for planning students.

To assist in this effort, Chapter Administrator Angie Witkowski prepared an inventory of all of the Colleges and Universities throughout the New York Metropolitan area with Planning-related programs such as Environmental Studies, Urban Studies, Sustainability, and Community / Economic Development. The inventory resulted in a spreadsheet with 51 schools and programs listed for New York City, 8 schools in Westchester

County, 5 in Dutchess County, 2 in Ulster County, 1 each in Orange, Rockland and Sullivan Counties, 3 in Nassau County and 2 in Suffolk County.

At the end of the Spring 2016 semester, several representatives graduated and we welcomed new members to the team for the coming year: Maira Khan (Columbia), Rachel Antelmi and Michelle Saenz (Hunter), Adriana Beltrani and Neelu Marigoudar (Pratt)

>>>**September 2015: Fall Welcome Back Happy Hour:** Over 60 new and returning students from the Chapter's planning programs kicked off the school year at our annual fall happy hour.

>>>**October 2015: AICP Info Session:**

The immediate past VP of Professional Development Fiona Akins led an informational session geared toward students and recent alumni interested in the AICP credential. Recently accredited AICP members Victoria Farr, Jennifer Graeff, and Maulin Mehta shared their experiences preparing for the exam in a Q&A panel.

>>>**November 2015: Sims Recycling Facility and Tappan Zee Bridge Tours**

In November the SRC visited the Sims Recycling Facility and learned about the facility's operations, management, and re-

Student Relations Committee Members (2015-2016)

Chair: Alisha Beatty

Vice Chair: Jeremiah Cox

Columbia University: Christopher Giamarino and
George Todovoric

Hunter College: Jeremiah Cox and Cindy Lenti Penn

New York University: Hallah Saleh and Lily Winter

Pratt Institute: Lian Farhi and Daniel Paschall

Rutgers University: Ryan Cote



silience infrastructure. The Committee also took a field trip to Nyack and Tarrytown, where town officials shared their experiences planning for the Tappan Zee Bridge replacement project. Speakers included Nyack Village Planner Robert Galvin, AICP, Nyack Deputy Mayor Marie Lorenzini, and Tarrytown Village Administrator Michael Blau.

>> **December 2015: Raising the Bar: Visions for a Sustainable New York**

The SRC's sustainability conference, co-sponsored with NYU Wagner's Urban Planning Student Association, drew more than 90 students and planning professionals. The event opened with a keynote presentation by Eric Sanderson, author of *Mannahatta* and creator of the interactive sustainable planning website *Visionmaker*.

The panel that followed was moderated by Thehbia Hiwot, Managing Director of Housing Programs for the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, and featured Eric Duchon, Director of Sustainability Strategies at Cushman & Wakefield, Michael Porto, Director of Outreach and Planning at the Waterfront Alliance, and Juan Camilo Osorio, Director of Research at the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance. Discussion topics included the OneNYC plan, LEED and WEDG guidelines, and ensuring equal access to renewable energy investments.

>> **February 2016: Spring Welcome Back Happy Hour with Young Planners Group**

The SRC kicked off the spring semester with a happy hour co-sponsored by the Young Planners Group. A spin on our usual spring welcome back happy hour, the event provided an opportunity for students to meet the Chapter's young professionals and planning program alumni.

>> **March 2016: Planners' Tour: How I Met Newark and Second AICP Info Session**

Former Rutgers City planning alum, Emily Manz, led a crew of future planners on a tour of Newark. The tour, designed specifically for planners, focused on Newark's planning history and highlighted developments that are creating new excitement in the city today. Highlights ranged from a stop at Historic Hobby's Deli for delectable pastrami sandwiches to an exhibit in a newly opened art gallery. Also in March, former VP of Professional Development Tina Lund led a second info session on the AICP credential. Victoria Farr and current VP of Professional Development Alex Wallach shared their experiences preparing for the exam.

>> **April 2016: Diversity Forum with Diversity Committee and Launch of Lattes with Leaders**

The SRC collaborated with the Diversity Committee on their event, "Elephant in the Planning Room: Forum on Diversity in Planning Schools in the NY Metro Area". Students and Faculty from all four NYC-based planning schools participated in a collaborative workshop, generating innovative ideas to foster greater diversity in planning graduate programs.



Sustainability Conference



Sustainability Conference



2016 Studio Presentations



Tappan Zee Bridge Tour

>> **Lattes with Leaders**

The Committee also launched a new event series, Lattes with Leaders, arranging opportunities for students to talk with planning professionals in small, informal meetings. The spring iteration featured professionals from the Pratt Center for Community Development, the NYC Department of Environmental Protection, NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development, and Sam Schwartz Engineering.

>> **May 2016: Annual Student Studio Presentations**

The Annual Student Studio Presentations were held at Hunter College this year and featured student presentations and Faculty judges from Columbia, Hunter, NYU, Pratt, and Rutgers. Topics this year included high-speed ferry service between Nyack and NYC, the NYS Brownfield Opportunity Areas Program, the North Brooklyn Industrial Business Zone, walking and cycling in West Orange, and gender-inclusive planning.

>> **June 2016: Cross-Hudson Young Planners and Students Meet and Greet**

Collaborating with the APA New Jersey Chapter's Young Planners Group, the SRC held its first happy hour in Hoboken, providing an opportunity for students to network across the Hudson.



SIMS Recycling Tour

Petr Vancura

Young Planners Group

This was an eventful year for the Young Planners Group, which continues to be recognized by APA National for its efforts to support emerging planning professionals in the New York Metro region. YPG continues to welcome new members, and we look forward to developing new and better ways to support young planners. Now in its eighth year, YPG fulfills its mission through three main efforts: networking and social events, the Mentorship Program, and the Youth In Planning outreach program. Reports on each effort are included below.

>> Events

YPG has continued to provide social and networking events to help young planners forge connections with their colleagues and encourage their participation with the NY Metro Chapter. YPG was happy to collaborate with other chapter groups on several events.

This summer, we joined the Student Representative Committee as well as our colleagues from the APA New Jersey Chapter for a Cross-Hudson Happy Hour. In the coming year, YPG hopes to continue to provide young planners with a diverse variety of events to support their professional development and provide networking opportunities, the first of which will be a joint social event with the APA NYM Chapter's Diversity Committee this fall.

We are especially excited to spearhead a large-scale YPG event at the 2017 National Planning Conference, bringing together emerging professionals from across the country.

>> Mentorship

The YPG Mentorship Program celebrated its seventh year in 2016. The Mentorship Subcommittee that plans the annual Program is chaired by Max Sokol, and the Subcommittee currently includes James Rigert, prior mentee and current mentor Marla Weinstein, prior mentee David Burgy, and current mentee Katie Shepard.

In this year's round of the annual Mentorship Program, the Mentorship Subcommittee formed 17 partnerships of mentors and mentees. As in previous rounds of the Program, the mentorship pairings were made based on the results of a brief but focused application process, including responses to a multiple choice and short answer-format survey as well as submittal of an updated resume. In forming the partnerships, the Subcommittee considered several factors, including areas of interest in the planning profession as well as preferred

frequency and format of communication. The mentors comprised a wide range of senior and mid-level planners across a variety of specializations, and the mentees included mid-level and entry-level planners, as well as graduate students.

The six-month program began with a kick-off event in February, hosted at the offices of WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff. The kick-off event offered participants in the Program the opportunity to meet and mingle with their peers, as well as time for mentor/mentee pairs to begin developing informal mentorship plans for the six-month program. The Subcommittee circulated a Mentorship Program Guide, updated from previous years, and also shared a list of planning-related events in the New York City area in an effort to suggest ideas for possible activities for the mentor/mentee pairs.

Following the kick-off event, the Subcommittee coordinated a mid-point check-in event in May. This second event included an open discussion among the mentors and mentees about their status to date, reflections on their mentorship plans and an interim group activity since the kick-off event, and their intentions going forward in the Program. The mid-point event also included a facilitated discussion of a topical book ("Take the Lead" by Betsy Myers) led by Nicole Bucich, NY Metropolitan Planning & Environmental Manager for WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff and Co-Chair of the WTS-Greater New York Chapter's Mentoring Program.

Continuing a tradition started in 2014, the Subcommittee also planned a closing event for the mentor/mentee pairs. The third and final event was held in collaboration with the Chapter's Committees, and all of the Committee Chairs and members were invited to attend. The event served as a celebration of the end of the Mentorship Program and also offered an opportunity for mentors and mentees to learn about and get involved in the Chapter's Committees. At the conclusion of the Program, the Subcommittee circulated an anonymous exit survey by email to be filled out by the participants, the results of which are used by the Subcommittee to inform subsequent rounds of the Program.

The next round of the Mentorship Program is currently in the early planning stages, and the Subcommittee intends to host the kick-off event in early 2017. An announcement regarding the application period will be shared with Chapter membership in the near future.

>> Youth in Planning

Youth in Planning (YIP) had another successful year in 2016, providing a program to introduce local students to the planning field and support their engagement with local issues as members of the community. This Spring, YIP collaborated with the Pratt Institute Center for Art, Design and Community Engagement to lead a 3-day unit about Housing in New York City for a classroom of 9th graders in Brooklyn. The topic was selected during an interactive brainstorming session in which students were asked to define what a healthy city means to them.

The first two days of the unit involved leading the 9th graders through an interactive simulation. Every student was given a prop and a role guide, and was asked to embody one player in the complicated housing market: current renter, new renter, homeowner or developer. The simulation allowed students to embody, act-out, and think critically about why displacement is happening in New York City's gentrifying neighborhoods, what the economic dynamics are that facilitate this, and the nuances that make the housing market so complicated and chaotic. Students explored issues like rent control, tenant harassment, affordable housing development, and rising land values.

On the third day students were provoked to think like urban planners and reflect on how housing is related to other urban issues. Each group picked an issue, brainstormed a problem they see in New York City related to that issue, and then designed a solution to that problem.

The three days of workshops were a fast-paced, engaging learning experience for both the 9th grade students and the facilitators. Students got a chance to do very interactive fun activities and learn about issues that speak very much to their own lived experiences.

YPG is exploring ways to build upon this pilot project, along with last year's partnerships with the Urban Assembly network and NYC Economic Development Corporation, to expand outreach to a greater number of students and develop the model into a more comprehensive curriculum. With the cooperation of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council, we have begun assembling prior models for K-12 planning education developed by the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development and Board of Education, to serve as further foundation for this endeavor.



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