Celebrating our Alumni

Department of Urban Planning
Ball State University
Fall 2012
**From the Desk of the Chair**

Michael A. Burayidi, Ph.D., Professor and Chair

**THIS IS AN IMPORTANT YEAR FOR THE DEPARTMENT.**

We come up for re-accreditation this year and will be hosting the Planning Accreditation Board’s site visit team from March 17 - 20. The team typically comprises of one practitioner and two academics, and we have already been informed by the PAB of the persons on the site visit team. In preparation for the visit, over the summer break and continuing through this fall the department has been writing the required self-study reports for the BUPD and MURP programs that will be submitted to the Planning Accreditation Board and to the site visit team prior to their visit.

We are excited about the opportunity the re-accreditation process provides us to showcase our programs and to exhibit the excellent work that students in the programs have produced since the last re-accreditation in 2009. We have a number of “points of pride” to show the visiting team. We have stabilized the faculty population at a size that enables us to offer all of our core courses and the areas of concentrated study, our student population is growing, we continue to make an impact on the quality of life in Indiana communities through the vessel of our studios, and we have strengthened the department’s relations with our alumni, among others. These are good times in the department!

One of the department’s “points of pride” is our alumni. As ambassadors of our department, they provide us with a link to the outside world and help spread the Ball State “planning story” in their daily work. It is in part, for this reason that we are devoting this newsletter to celebrating our alumni by sharing their stories.

You may also know by now that the American Planning Association recently released the pass rates for the AICP exam for accredited planning programs in the US and Canada. We noted with great pride that alumni of our programs did exceedingly well in the exam. The pass rate for graduates of the MURP program was 88%, and for the BUPD, it was 76%. These pass rates surpassed those of many notable programs in the US and Canada. Please check the website for the details at this link.

With the assistance of Cynthia Bowen, an alumna, we are retooling the mentorship program that began in 2010. Under this program we paired students with volunteer alumni to provide our current students with guidance as they go through the program and upon graduation to help them network with professionals in the field. An assessment of the program identified some issues that need to be addressed to make it more effective. We will be holding a meeting of the entire department to gauge the level of interest of students in the program, and with the help of Cynthia will recruit planning practitioners and more closely pair students with alumni who share their interests. Details of the program are included in this newsletter by Cynthia Bowen.

You will note that we’ve been offering classes in the summer and online. We intend to continue to do so and to intensify our online offering of elective courses, especially in the summer. With proper guidance and planning, taking advantage of these classes will enable you to graduate earlier from the programs. Please consult with Professor Parker for guidance if you intend to utilize this option.

Enjoy the alumni stories included in this newsletter and welcome to the new academic year!
Alumni Advisory Board
Amy Williams, AICP (BUPD '04, MURP '05)
Co-Chair, Urban Planning Alumni Advisory Board
Partner, Taylor Siefker Williams Design Group

After re-establishing the department’s Alumni Advisory Board last school year, this board is working hard to continually improve Ball State’s planning program. The purpose of this group of alumni is to engage with the department to increase alumni participation in the classroom, bring real world lessons to students and provide a network for students during school and after graduation. The initiatives for the 2012-2013 school year that have been outlined by both the Alumni Advisory Board and faculty include:

1. Mentoring Program: Cynthia Bowen, AICP is spearheading a new mentoring program that will pair students with alumni for advice, ideas and questions. This semester the program will kick off with any fourth year undergraduate or second year graduate students that are interested. It will then be phased over three years for all other planning students as we refine the structure and format. If any alumni or Indiana planners are interested, contact Cynthia Bowen, AICP at cbowen@rwa.com.

2. Alumni Contact Database: As the mentoring program is developed, we are also developing a more comprehensive and updated database of our alumni. After graduation, our peers move all over the country for jobs and we sometimes lose contact with them. The current database includes many outdated emails and is limited. The goal of the new database is to not only have updated contact information for a larger percentage of our alumni but to also track if alumni are interested in serving as a mentor, on a jury, help with a student field trip in their city, provide internships, attend events, and much more. Keep an eye out for an email asking for your updated information and make sure to send it to other planning alumni that might not be on our list!

3. Classroom Participation: We are striving to bring more alumni into the classroom as guest speakers, working with a studio, talking with SPA, or serving on a jury. In addition, we are brainstorming ideas that would bring more alumni back to CAP for events such as the CAP Alumni Day Symposium.

If you have any questions about the board, would like to volunteer to serve on the board, or would like to help with any of the initiatives discussed, please let me know by sending an email to awilliams@TSWDesignGroup.com.
The Department of Urban Planning at Ball State, in partnership with the Planning Department Alumni Board and the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association, is in the process of developing a mentor program pairing planning students with professional planners. This idea came about from the department’s strategic plan which was created in 2011. One of the strategies noted the creation of stronger relationships between alumni, students and planning professionals. Students would be able to periodically engage with their mentor to get advice, generate ideas, and ask questions.

These partner groups have formed a committee chaired by Lisa Dunaway (Planning Faculty) and Cynthia Bowen, AICP (Planning Alumni Board representative and Region IV Director on the Board of the American Planning Association). The committee includes alumni and students to ensure that the program is a long term endeavor that is mutually beneficial for both the student and the mentor.

The program is intended to be rolled out in phases to ensure success. This fall we will offer the program to fourth year undergraduates and second year graduates. Next fall, we will open it up to third year undergraduates and first year graduates. The following fall we will ask second year undergraduates to join.

The committee is working on finalizing the program, developing logos, and preparing a survey for students and professionals to determine interest in the program and willingness to participate. An application will be provided to all those interested in participating so that we can pair students with a mentor that fits their interests, specialties, and/or location.
Next year, 2013, will be the 45th anniversary of the first class to graduate from Ball State with degrees in urban planning. This is little known, since it precedes the establishment of the Department of Urban Planning AND the MURP and BUPD degrees. The program was established the same year as the College of Architecture and Planning in 1965. Dann Bird, still active as a planning consultant in Indiana, was among those first graduates. Dann recalls that Glen Varenhorst (Political Science) and Dr. Haverford (Economics, and later Dean of the College of Business) started the program. Some correspondence now buried in our files indicates that there was some behind-the-scenes jousting between them and the first CAP Dean, Charles Sappenfield, concerning who should offer the program.

By 1968, according to the Ball State yearbook of that year, the program was identified as “a special area sponsored by the Architecture School.” It graduated its first class of 11 students that year. All were identified as graduating with a BS with a major in Regional and Urban Planning. The 11 in the initial class were all from small or medium sized Indiana towns, and one was African-American. The graduates included Louis Alexander (Muncie), Dann Bird and his brother David Bird (Shelbyville), Michael Greene (Muncie), Donald Hann (Muncie), Dennis Harney (Elwood), Douglas Hostrawer (Osceola), Charles Oberlie (Lafayette), Gary Wasson (Muncie), Phillip Williams (Muncie), and Glen Williams (Mishawaka). Dann Bird recalls that by 1968 there were 40 or so students in the program, which amounted to 10% of the undergraduate planners in the U.S. He remembers that it was recognized by the American Institute of Planners (AIP), the predecessor of today’s American Planning Association and American Institute of Certified Planners.

Students in the program organized a Student Planning Organization in 1966-67. Dann Bird was President his Junior and Senior year, and David Bird was Treasurer.

There must have been at least a second class, but at some time this early undergraduate program was phased out and replaced by an Urban and Regional Studies major, located in the College of Sciences and Humanities. This was definitely in place by 1976, when the MURP program was launched in CAP. Later, in 1985, URS was brought into CAP and a new Bachelors of Urban Planning and Development was established. As the BUPD expanded, the URS degree was phased out.

We celebrate these forerunners of our BUPD degree, and hope to hear more from them and from those who followed them in this early Planning program at Ball State. The department is planning to recognize this group next fall during the Indiana APA conference.

Two pages of the 1968 Year Book.
R. Marc Elliott Career Summary
Robert “Marc” Elliott, BUPD 1970

My name is Robert “Marc” Elliott. I go by my middle name. I graduated from BSU in 1970 with a B.S Degree and majored in Regional and Urban Planning. This major was an interdepartmental major at that time. The College of Architecture and Planning was one of the program departments. I later obtained from BSU a Master’s Degree in Public Administration.

Eventually, I obtained the AICP certification from the American Institute of Certified Planners and Certified Economic Developer certification from the International Economic Development Council. My degrees from BSU and these professional certifications provided me the needed credibility for my urban planning career.

My career has included employment with planning commissions, economic development organizations, a housing authority, a military base reuse authority, a redevelopment commission, a chamber of commerce, and an engineering firm. I recently started a consulting practice under the name Civic Management Services, LLC. (www.civicmanagementservices.com)

Initially, I worked mostly on zoning and subdivision administration. Over time, my responsibilities became more focused on redevelopment and economic development projects. My specialty became conceiving, planning, and managing public development projects. I like to develop public projects.

A few of the more interesting public development projects I managed included developing a new neighborhood for landslide victims, redeveloping and constructing new industrial parks, developing a major mixed-use downtown building, developing a downtown parking garage, and redeveloping a closed military property.

A significant part of my work involved economic development. An interesting economic development project I managed was working with Sony to establish its first plant in the United States to manufacture compact discs. Another project involved assisting Evergreen Airlines setup an express mail hub for the U.S. Postal Service. I participated in a number of European and Asian trade missions as an economic developer.

Throughout my career, I served on a variety of public development and civic boards. I was a member of a regional economic development board, a sanitary district board, a public works and safety board, a comprehensive plan committee, a metropolitan transportation authority board, a downtown development board, a museum board, and a Habitat for Humanity board. There are opportunities for planners to contribute to the improvement of communities outside of their employment by serving on public boards and participating in volunteer activities.

My BSU experience was very positive for me. I was very pleased with the education I received and felt well prepared for my urban planning career. I used the services of the former CAP Housing Futures Institute to assist with a downtown development charette and a transitional housing development in Terre Haute. These are very valuable services to our communities. I look forward to a continuing relationship with CAP at BSU.
Milhaus, a firm owned by UP alumni, Continues to “Think Mixed Use™”
Tadd Miller, BUPD 1998; David Leazenby, BUPD 1999; Jake Dietrich, BUPD 2012

Since its inception in 2010, Milhaus has been focused on delivering mixed-use and multi-family developments that strengthen the communities in which they are located. Current Milhaus projects include two mixed-use developments in Downtown Indianapolis that are replacing distressed properties with catalysts for future neighborhood revitalization. The Mozzo Apartments is being developed in the Italian neighborhood of Holy Rosary, adjacent to downtown. Named after the Italian word for “hub,” the mixed-use building of 65 apartments and 1,500s.f. of commercial space will be located along the Cultural Trail in the center of a rapidly changing neighborhood. The building will include studios and one-bedroom and two-bedroom units with dramatic urban views. The Mozzo is within walking distance to major employers, restaurants, entertainment and cultural attractions. Construction began in March 2012 and will be completed by March 2013.

The redevelopment of The Bank One Operations Center at 451 Market Street will transform the existing two-story structure into a five-story icon of mixed-use development. This first phase of a 6-acre master plan will include 257 apartment units and 5,600s.f. of commercial space. Parking will be provided within the building and in the existing parking garage across Market Street to the north. Three stories of apartments will be added to the existing concrete structure, comprised of a mix of studios, one, two and three-bedroom units. An open third floor pool and recreation deck will provide dramatic views of the downtown area for all residents. Demolition and construction began in the Summer of 2012 and is expected to be completed in January 2014. The project is seeking LEED certification for its many environmentally sensitive features.

Looking ahead to 2013, Milhaus hopes to grow into surrounding Midwest cities while continuing to be active in its Indianapolis community.
“Providing leadership in the responsible use of land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities worldwide” is the mission of ULI-The Urban Land Institute, the pre-eminent multidisciplinary forum on land use and real estate. ULI is a global nonprofit founded in 1936, but local District Councils are a more recent development. The Indiana District Council was founded in 2007. In August 2012, Jennifer Milliken became the first Director of ULI-Indiana, a position intended to allow the District Council to expand on an already impressive body of work.

The Indiana District Council engages local members by hosting educational forums and networking events and conducting community outreach programs. The work of the council includes:

- A monthly Breakfast Series that engages about 60 people per month (January-October). Recent topics have included Student Housing, Green Building, and project-specific presentations like “What’s Happening at the Meadows?”
- An annual presentation of Emerging Trends in Real Estate (November).
- Two to four other events per year. In March the council visited CityWay, the new mixed-used development at South and East in Indianapolis, to hear about the project’s inception and development. In June the council hosted two national speakers: Ben Hecht of Living Cities and Tom Murphy, a ULI Senior Resident Fellow and former mayor of Pittsburgh, who spoke about the importance of anchor institutions in community and economic development.

The District Council also provides staff support to facilitate the work of a newly-formed Central Indiana Regional Council of Elected Officials. As a multi-disciplinary forum, ULI offers an unbiased and nonpartisan exchange on issues affecting the industry, and provides the avenue for dialogue between private industry and public interest. And by providing industry expertise to community leaders, District Councils seek to influence local land use policy and practice.

Anyone who joins ULI and has an Indiana address is assigned to the Indiana District Council. As of August 24, 2012 there were 175 members, of which 81% were from Central Indiana. The remaining 19% are clustered in the larger/university cities like Muncie, Bloomington, Lafayette and South Bend.

Members include architects, planners, developers, builders, attorneys and financiers. Membership levels are varied – students can join for only $90/year, and anyone 35 or under can join at the Young Leader level. For those over 35, different membership structures are available for the Public/Nonprofit and Private/For Profit sectors.

ULI-Indiana is run by a local volunteer board which serves a two year term. The current Chair is fellow CAP Alumnus Greg Jacoby, AIA. Other CAP Alumni currently serving on the Board are Jeff Kingsbury, Tadd Miller, Corrie Meyer and Sean Mulroony. If you would like to learn more about ULI and ULI-Indiana, check out their websites or contact Jennifer. They would love to have you!

Jennifer Milliken, AICP/Director, ULI-Indiana
Jennifer.milliken@uli.org / (317) 441-9561
www.uli.org / www.indiana.uli.org
Reflections on a Planning Career
Ed Sitar, BUPD 1994

I am a 1994 graduate of Ball State University’s College of Architecture and Planning with degrees in Urban Planning and Development and Environmental Design with a minor in Energy Resources. Since graduating, I have worked at ComEd (www.comed.com) which is the electric utility serving nearly 3.7 million customers in Chicago and over 400 municipalities in Northern Illinois. ComEd is part of Chicago-based Exelon Corporation (www.exeloncorp.com) which owns sister utilities in Philadelphia and Baltimore as well as power generation facilities throughout the United States.

I began my career at ComEd in a department called Least Cost Planning where I worked on energy efficiency program design and evaluation. We developed long range (20-30 year) plans using overall load forecasts, power and fuel price projections, and age of existing power generation facilities compared against the costs to construct new power plants versus the costs to encourage energy efficiency to slow the rate of load growth. In 1998, our regulators stopped these programs as the State underwent the deregulation of the electric utility industry.

I currently am the Manager of the Economic and Business Development Department where I work to market and promote our service territory as a location to industrial businesses and other large electricity users such as internet data centers. Our key messages focus on our top quartile utility reliability levels, the competitive electricity supply market in Illinois, the low carbon generation sources (from nuclear and wind), our extensive energy efficiency programs and our system-wide ‘smart grid’ build out that is just getting underway.

I also work closely with economic development organizations at the local, county, regional, and state levels to attract and retain businesses. I act as an ambassador to the electric utility industry and a conduit to help answer the technical questions that prospective businesses have such as projected electrical rates, historic reliability statistics, and items related to power availability, capacity, and service voltage and options.

While I’m not in a traditional role for someone with an urban planning degree, I have used the skills I learned while studying in Ball State’s College of Architecture and Planning throughout my professional career. I use my long term and broad thought process to consider many viewpoints while dealing with a wide array of business sectors and development issues. These long term views are also critical to ComEd internally as we plan for the future growth of our system and the need for new lines and substations. My analytic skills are necessary to model rates and project future costs for large businesses and to conduct comparative research on the other locations against which we are competing for business. My site planning and map reading skills have helped customers save money by orienting their structures differently so as to avoid needing to relocate our existing service lines running across their site. Lastly, my public speaking skills have been immeasurable as I am often asked to speak to groups or interact with senior executives and elected officials.

My two proudest accomplishments were the successful attraction of a 700,000 sq. ft. data center for Microsoft in 2006 that has the potential to become one of our largest customers once fully utilized, and being the business programs project lead on a special project for the development and launch of our new energy efficiency programs in 2008 after passage of the landmark legislation.

I can’t say enough about the time I spent at Ball State. It prepared me immensely for the career I have chosen!
I graduated from Ball State with BUPD in 2001, and a M.S. Information and Communication (CICS) in 2002. I am currently a GIS Specialist with the Boone County Planning Commission in Burlington, KY and have been here for 8 years now. Our Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Services Division is responsible for virtually all of Boone County’s digital mapping needs. There are five very talented people in the GIS Division, and each has a primary area of responsibility. The county is part of the Cincinnati Metro area, and has a very unique mix of planning-related issues. We have all types of development ranging from the Cincinnati/NKY International Airport (very urban) to the NRHP Community of Rabbit Hash, a 175 year old river town with a very unique history (very rural).

As a GIS Specialist, I spend most of my time supporting over 25 agencies and 700 users with various GIS projects. This work includes data updates, data editing, data analysis, GPS activities, software installations, user training, and high-quality cartography map products.

One of the best parts of my job is the opportunity to sharpen my cartography skills. Although hard-copy maps are quickly being replaced by today’s digital/online mapping capabilities, I enjoy the opportunity to blend the hard and soft sciences in map format. Most of the high-quality cartography projects I work on will attempt to mix the precision of GIS mapping, along with the art and visual aspects of traditional cartography, to create a professionally printed map with a very specific purpose. I have been lucky enough to receive 1st place at the Kentucky GIS Conference Map Gallery in 2006, 2010, and 2012. I also received the “2011 Service to Kentucky Association of Mapping Professionals” Award at the Kentucky GIS Conference. I have also had a map published in the “ESRI Map Book” that is released to about 14,000 people at each year’s ESRI’s User Conference.

As a Ball State CAP Alumni, it is hard to believe I have been out in the “real world” for over 10 years now! I came into the CAP Program back in 1996 determined to become the world’s next Frank Lloyd Wright (I know I’m not the only one guilty of this thinking). However, the common first year design curriculum opened up some new interests that I was unaware of before my arrival at Ball State. I was drawn to Urban Design and GIS during my first year, and chose the BUPD program, which offered as much GIS experience as I could get my hands on. I remember enjoying working as a GIS Assistant for Dr. Dave Schoen (“digi-slaves” as he jokingly called us because of the amount of time we spent digitizing features to build a GIS from the ground up), and took most of the classes that he taught.

Although I don’t get back to Muncie or Ball State as much as I would like to these days, I do try to make it a point to meet up with friends during Homecoming! My Ball State experience spanned 6 ½ years and produced two degrees, a strong understanding of design, some of my greatest friends, several of the greatest times of my life; but most importantly it prepared me for a field I didn’t even know existed when I first stepped foot into CAP.
Let Us Tell You About Indy Rezone
Tyler Clark, BUPD 2012; Trevor Traphagen, BUPD 2011; Jeffrey Lauer, BUPD 2012

Indianapolis is an exciting city. Over the years a multicultural and age-dynamic social fabric has been infused into existing neighborhoods to create a truly vibrant city. On top of this, recent developments and the national attention brought by Superbowl XLVI have emphasized the fruits of physical development and demonstrated the role of planning in energizing leadership and peoples’ imaginations. In light of this, the city of Indianapolis is not only making the most of its opportunities but continues to be an exceptional place to work. The development fervor that preceded the superbowl seems to have cooled off. But rest assured, Indianapolis has not lost its appetite for ambitious plans. City leaders and planners continue to ask, “What’s next for Indianapolis?”—a question every local (and young) planner should ask. While many advocate transit for the future, others pay close attention to the near obsolete foundation upon which any new growth would have to take place—zoning ordinances.

Students pay little attention to zoning ordinances while in school...justifiably so! Such was the case with us. They are always convoluted and reading through them quickly becomes dull and frustrating. But zoning ordinances are vital to future growth and development. The appropriation and regulation of landuses through zoning has an extraordinary impact on the physical and spatial character of a city. Zoning a city is a difficult and extensive process, but imagine zoning a county. Now, imagine doing both! As most know, the City of Indianapolis merged with Marion County in 1969 to form UniGov. At that time the city-county area was zoned. Although this was a massive undertaking at the time, things have changed since 1970...to say the least. Despite this, zoning ordinances have not kept pace and have not been comprehensively reexamined or revised since. Any revisions that do happen are meager piecemeal adjustments. Indianapolis’ current zoning reflects past realities, not the current urban or environmental challenges. Furthermore, the existing zoning laws have done little to set Indianapolis up for what comes next.

On July 5th, 2012 city officials took the first step toward addressing these issues. They inaugurated an ambitious project called IndyRezone. This planning initiative is partly supported by a $1.2 million grant from HUD and led by staff from the Indianapolis Department of Metropolitan Development (DMD). The project aims at updating and streamlining existing zoning ordinances. Some of the revisions likely to occur are: reducing parking requirements, simplifying the introduction of wind and solar technologies to new construction, reducing setback requirements, and simplifying the numerous zoning classifications. This project promises to establish a regulatory environment that is more sensitive and receptive to sustainable development and transit.

The project initiative is still young and our internship is even younger. As I write we will be concluding our second week. Thus far we have been working with the first of three “prototype neighborhoods:” Smart Growth District (between I-70 and 17th Street); the University Heights Village; and the 10th Street Corridor. Thus far the job has required various tasks ranging from compiling community surveys, calculating the amount of vacant land in Indianapolis, researching historical census data and assisting with public workshops. Overall the internship has been revealing and is one centerpiece initiative in mapping out the future of Indianapolis.
Lauren Petersen is a 2011 BUPD alumna who graduated magna sum laude and received the 2011 American Planning Association Outstanding Student Award. In June, Lauren returned home to Indianapolis after living in Poland and teaching English at the University of Wrocław while on a Fulbright Scholarship. During her experience, she instructed and advised 25 Polish master’s students and enrolled in classes at the university. One of her research projects focused on Wrocław’s minority churches and religious seclusion practices and another explored the idea of mandating “Smart Growth Legislation” in Poland.

One of the highlights of her year was working with the consulate of the U.S. Embassy. “Together, we promoted the international exchange program,” she said. “We gave presentations at high schools and the university, encouraging students to study abroad.” She added that one of her future goals is to work for the U.S. State Department in public diplomacy.

Lauren also served as a guest speaker at the Wrocław Public Library’s “American Corner,” volunteered for “Fundacja Mam Marzenie,” which is Poland’s Make-A-Wish Foundation, and organized a clothing drive for a local homeless shelter. Throughout her academic year abroad, Petersen traveled to 18 countries and wrote reviews for an online magazine, Wrocław Uncut, as the “city explorer.”

Lauren is currently serving as an intern in the community relations department of the Indianapolis Colts and is looking forward to other planning-related job opportunities.

To learn more about the Fulbright Scholarship Program, and to read the blog Lauren kept documenting her journey, visit: http://laurenlppetersen.wordpress.com/
My Evolving Planning Career Thus Far
Ryan Sagar, BUPD 2011

During my undergraduate studies at Ball State University, I participated in a summer internship at the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) as a transportation intern. Additionally, I spent three years working at the career center on campus as a career assistant. My work at the career center included training new staff members, providing students and alumni with career related information and services, and assisting office staff in their services and publications. My commitment and hard work at the career center eventually led to my nomination and selection as Ball State University’s 2011 Student Employee of the Year. In addition to receiving my bachelor’s degree in Urban Planning and Development, I earned minors in real estate development and residential property management. My final GPA of 3.5 as well as my commitment to the planning program helped me win the Eric and Sandra Kelly Academic Excellence in Planning Award before graduating.

After graduation, I spent the summer interning at Southern Management Corporation (SMC) in Maryland as a summer associate and development intern. The summer associate position was SMC’s typical summer internship program where I spent two days a week working at one of their apartment communities as a leasing consultant and front desk assistant. The development intern position was a new internship position that allowed me to work three days a week in SMC’s development division. My work involved providing administrative support for purchasing and financing, creating a development proposal for a 22 story apartment community in downtown Baltimore, and continuing the application for LEED certification on their newest property. Following my summer internship, I moved to Denver, Colorado to begin working on my master’s degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Colorado Denver (UCD).

My studies at UCD have been complementary to my studies at Ball State, but have also allowed me to expand my planning knowledge and graphic design skills. My current GPA of 3.9 is something I’m very proud of and hope to hold onto until I graduate in May 2013. In addition to classes, I have also volunteered time at the 2011 APA Federal Planning Division conference, the 2011 Four Corners Conference, the 2011 Housing NOW! Conference, 2012 Project Homeless Connect event, the 2012 Advancing Women in Transportation Conference, 2012 APA Colorado conference, the 2012 Downtown Colorado Inc. conference, and the 2012 Urban Land Institute conference. I’ve also been working with WalkDenver, a non-profit organization, to help them complete a Walker Friendly Communities application that will certify Denver, CO as a walk friendly city once it is completed.

In February 2012, I accepted an internship offer with a local real estate developer, Antonoff & Company, as a development intern. My work included creating a new website for their current redevelopment project, conducting market analysis, and designing marketing materials.

In April 2012, I was elected to be the next president of the American Planning Association Student Chapter (APAS) at UCD. My contributions as the current president of APAS include rewriting the old bylaws in order to refine the structure of the organization, working with other board members to begin setting up events for the year, assisting in fundraising efforts by continuing the successful lapel pins sales that began a year ago, helping to organize and facilitate the chapters attendance at this year’s APA Colorado conference, and hosting a successful Breakfast with Professionals event that brought in three local planning related professionals to speak in small groups with students.

In July 2012, I transitioned from Antonoff & Company to Pacific West Construction Corporation (PacWest) to become their assistant project manager and front desk assistant. PacWest is a general contractor that mainly works on CVS Pharmacy projects across the United States. My work includes creating AIA contracts, assisting project managers with the successful start and finish of projects, and issuing purchase and change orders as needed.
I hold a Bachelor of Urban Planning & Development (BUPD) degree from Ball State University and an M.P.A. from Indiana University, Bloomington. I am currently the Director of Planning & Development for the City of Noblesville where I am responsible for developing a long range planning program with goals, objectives and implementation measures for the City, and for the administration and enforcement of zoning, subdivision, floodplain, development codes, permitting, etc. Previous to this position, I was the Assistant Director of Economic Development for Noblesville from 2007-2011. Before coming to Noblesville I also held the position of Graduate Assistantship in the Neighborhood Planning Department in Sarasota County, Florida. I am on the Board of Directors for Noblesville Main Street, sit on the Hamilton County Tourism Commission and co-chair the Noblesville Young Professionals Group.

Like a lot of things in life, you never really appreciate Ball State and CAP until it’s in your rearview mirror. One of the most advantageous parts of my studies is the sheer number of networking opportunities. When you get out into the professional world nearly all of your colleagues are BSU grads and you share stories about over-nighters in studio, favorite and not-so-favorite professors, and waiting for hours in line to get your boards plotted.

Although many times at CAP we thought our reviews were overly harsh when presentation time came along, nothing could quite prepare me for the public sector. I enjoy every part of my job—including the challenges which I choose to view as opportunities—but there is no shortfall of criticism when planning in the public realm. However, to have the opportunity to literally shape communities and, in effect, shape people’s lives is worth every single bit of the grief and heartburn. It’s absolutely all about attitude and perspective and I am very proud to be a planner, especially one with a degree from Ball State University.
My Diverse Career in Urban Planning
Rose Hamel Scovel, AICP

Ball State’s Department of Urban Planning taught me the importance of being able to think strategically, use available resources, network with other professionals, participate in professional associations, and give back to the university of time, talent, and treasure.

I started my professional career working for the Indiana Economic Development Academy (now part of Building Better Communities) after graduation from the program. While working there I served as the education director for the Indiana League of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers for three years, and Course Director for the Economic Development Course for one year. I also did research and analysis work and helped several communities develop strategic plans for economic development, making sure that economic development was coordinated with community development and community planning.

I also became involved with the Indiana Planning Association (now APA Indiana) as the webmaster and was eventually elected to two terms as central region representative, one term as treasurer, and ultimately served as president-elect, president, and immediate past president. I have also been involved with nearly every conference that the chapter has put on for the past ten years in one capacity or another. At one time I served as the secretary/treasurer for the Small Town and Rural Planning division of APA as well.

I went to work for HNTB in 2004 because I was interested in doing more traditional planning work around comprehensive planning and zoning. I was very involved with plans for small towns and rural communities through the CDBG planning grant program administered by the state. I also had the privilege to work with a few communities in the preparation of their comprehensive plans and zoning, and in the implementation of their plans. I became an expert in annexation in Indiana and was responsible for drafting more than 20 fiscal impact studies for annexations in Indiana communities.

I completed a master’s degree in public administration from Ball State in 2005 to complement my undergraduate degree.

In 2008 I went to work for LSL Planning, a smaller, Michigan-based consulting firm focused on community planning. It was here that I had the opportunity to work on Safe Routes to School projects in Indianapolis. I walked to school as a child and was a AAA safety in upper elementary school, so walking to school has a special place in my heart. I became highly involved in the healthy communities movement during this time after my own diagnosis of Type II diabetes.

I have served on the CAP Alumni Board as well as on the CAP awards committee. I also served as a juror for several planning class projects, and guest lectured several classes. I also taught Environmental Planning at the graduate level at CAP:IC for a semester.

Since October 2011, I have been a program manager at the Indiana Association for Community Economic Development. In this capacity I work with neighborhoods around the state to incorporate a comprehensive community development approach in quality of life planning. I also do financial analysis for economic improvement district plans and assist organizations with developing their strategic plans.

The skills learned in the Department of Urban Planning have allowed me to have a flexible, interesting career for the past 13 years.
The class of 2012 is the most recent to hit the job market. Among those BUPD graduates are Jake Dietrich and Eric Richard who both credit internships with helping them find their first jobs.

Dietrich is a development associate with the Indianapolis-based Milhaus Development, LLC, where he interned after junior year. The internship allowed him to network and to continue working for the company through his senior year, ultimately landing him a full-time position. “My everyday schedule is filled with managing numerous aspects of multiple projects, from concept planning to development coordination to construction administration,” he says. “On any given day I could spend time sketching out site plans, meeting with city officials, and doing construction walk-throughs. No two days are alike. No day is easy. Each and every day is exciting and new.”

His advice for current students is to make inquiries early to find the best internship possibilities. “You need to be making contacts three months before your classmates are even brainstorming their game plan,” he advises. “Even if it is just lunch with an alum, spending 15 minutes on the phone with someone before their next meeting, or getting involved in organizations such as ULI or APA. The more effort you make to put your name out there and meet as many people as possible, the better.”

Taking an internship after graduating paid off for Richard who says recent graduates should not shy away from taking a similar step. He took an internship in the Community Development Department of the Village of Franklin Park, Ill., after receiving his BUPD diploma, intending to return to BSU this fall to pursue a MURP degree. Instead, the village experienced a transition over the summer that left a job vacancy. He was offered the job of assistant planner and accepted at summer’s end.

He considers himself lucky, noting that the job market is difficult. “City planners are one of the first positions to be eliminated in local governments when budgets are tight. A lot of the work we do is luxury based, meaning it does not bring in revenue. It’s a tough pill to swallow, but it’s the truth,” he says.

“The advice I am telling my former classmates and people who approach me is to not be afraid to settle for an internship even after graduating,” he adds. “It’s going to get you experience and most likely some more references to add to your resume.”
My Ball State Experience
K. Hinkelman, BUPD 2006

My Ball State experience started a bit differently than many others. I went to Ball State to be an Urban Planner. I researched programs and schools that met my criteria for Planning specific degrees. Many people find Urban Planning after falling off the Architecture boat. I always felt a broader vision was more ideal and enjoyed policy-based thinking.

Ball State provided a great education, not only to guide my professional life through classes, studios, and trips; but through life long friendships and professional relationships with the professors and mentors.

Since graduating from Ball State in 2006 with a Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development, I attended The Ohio State University and received a Master’s Degree in City and Regional Planning in 2008. I have worked as a Planner in Miami Township, Ohio since 2008. I received my AICP in 2010 and am currently the Section President of the Miami Valley Section of the Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association.

I have worked with many Ball State graduates in my career, and the relationships and networking that the Ball State community provides in the planning world is tremendous. I can always start a conversation with, “Did you have Francis Parker?” and the answer is always, “Yes!” My Ball State CAP experience was one which I look back fondly on – great professors, great friends and colleagues, and a great atmosphere for learning. Now if we could just work on that football team.

CAP Professor Receives IN-APAs Highest Honor
B. Race, AICP, AIA, Professor & BUPD Alum

Bruce Race, an associate professor of practice with Ball State University’s College of Architecture and Planning, has won the highest award bestowed by the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association. Race received the Indiana Planning Sagamore on May 11 during the chapter’s spring conference at Ball State University’s Alumni Center. The Planning Sagamore is intended to recognize individual accomplishment and to single out the recipient “as a model planner before the public and the planning profession,” according to the award criteria. “Bruce is being honored because of his accomplishments over many years of service as an Urban Planning professional,” said Joshua Desmond, awards committee chair for the Indiana Chapter.

Race, who lives and practices in Indianapolis, is the founder and principal of RACESTUDIO.

He practiced for many years in Berkeley, Calif., before returning to Indianapolis in 2009. His projects over the years have received 30 planning awards, including national recognition from the American Planning Association, Environmental Protection Agency, American Institute of Architects, and the Society of College and University Planning. In February, Race was inducted into the Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

He teaches in CAP’s Master of Urban Design program in Indianapolis.
In 2012 so far, Junfeng Jiao has two peer-reviewed articles published and two others accepted for publication.


In 2012, in addition to his Emerging Media Initiative Faculty Fellow, Dr. Jiao was also selected to become a Global Health Institute Faculty Fellow, and a Sponsored Program Office Fellow. He also became a member of the Indiana Academy of Science in 2012.

In the summer, Dr. Jiao received a Global Health Institute and Emerging Media Initiative research grant to support his research on Food Deserts. Junfeng worked with MURP graduate Maxwell Dillivan to measure food accessibility and food deserts in Delaware County and Marion County, IN. The food deserts map is on the next page. The research results will be used as seed project to apply for an external NIH funding in October.

Dr. Jiao is currently leading a research team of two to explore the relationship between criminal hot spots, clandestine lab locations, and proximity to pharmaceutical sales in Marion County, IN. The main goal of this research is to determine if there is a spatial correlation between these separate factors, and if there is a correlation, whether we can predict methamphetamine production locations as well as the likely pathways and networks that drug producers and abusers are using. Preliminary analyses show that there is a correlation between peaks in crime density and pharmacy locations in Marion County (see map). This research will also be used as a seed project to apply for a two-year $100,000 grant from the NIH for Drug Abuse Prevention Intervention Research (R03, PA-11-313).
### News from Dr. Jiao (con’t)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&gt; 20% BELOW POVERTY + 30% NO VEHICLE</th>
<th>≥ 30% NO VEHICLE</th>
<th>≤ 80% MEDIAN HH INCOME</th>
<th>≥ 40% BELOW DOUBLE POVERTY</th>
<th>≥ 20% BELOW POVERTY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image4.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image5.png" alt="Map" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image6.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image7.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image8.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image9.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image10.png" alt="Map" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image11.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image12.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image13.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image14.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image15.png" alt="Map" /></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image16.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image17.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image18.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image19.png" alt="Map" /></td>
<td><img src="image20.png" alt="Map" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Food Deserts in Delaware County (by different transportation modes and socioeconomic statuses)*

---

20 Ball State University Department of Urban Planning  
Fall 2012 Newsletter
News from Dr. Jiao (con’t)

Preliminary results showing correlations between meth labs (large points) and pharmacy locations (smaller points) in Marion County. Higher densities of crimes are shown on green to red scale.

It addresses a significant lack in our knowledge. The transformations in South, East, and Southeast Asia, shortened as Asia in the volume, impact the world so much that many leading scholars, journalists, and politicians call this the “Asian century.” Yet, according to mainstream literature, cities and urban spaces in Asia are nowhere closer to such a century. Curiously, it is the West, not Asia that is at the center of globalization; globalization is actually happening to Asian cities. They are either lagging behind social, economic, and political transformations or taking different paths, mostly Westernizing. The volume questions this urban spatiality.

The editors show the majority of literature on Asian cities focus on their CBDs and financial districts, which are westernized. This is only an aspect, but one that can be understood within western discourses. The second largest group of literature is on poverty, the slum, the informal sector etc., which are the opposite of the affluent cities in the west. The third is on Asia’s traditions: the opposite of western modernity. All these have the industrialized, affluent, modern west as the referent. They are like constructions of the west itself through the construction of the Asian Other. Hence we have a lot of data on Asia, but this vast Asian empirical presence is not complemented by a theoretical presence, i.e., Asian ways of interpreting their realities. Academic and professional discourses overlook common and basic urban processes, particularly the production of space, place, and identity by ordinary citizens.

This intellectual block (or impasse) is due to the poverty of our own (western) intellectual tools: 1. The literature focuses on places that can be understood in reference to our own self; 2. There is a lack of intellectual tools to understand what lies beyond these; 3. Even if both conditions are fulfilled, we tend to see the phenomena from our own vantage points and have failed to acknowledge Asian people’s contemporary worldviews and perspectives, and thereby their urban spaces. The volume argues that the vast terrain of ordinary actors and spaces which are currently left out should be reflected in academic debates and policy decisions, and the local thinking processes that constitute these spaces need to be acknowledged, enabled, and critiqued.

The book attempts to help various transformations in Asian cities (especially Asianizing space) from Asian vantage points; this is next to impossible in today’s Eurocentric world. Switching the vantage point to Asian cities and citizens, *Transforming Asian Cities* draws attention to how some Asians produce their contemporary urban practices, identities, and spaces as part of, resisting, responding to, and avoiding larger global and national processes. Instead of viewing Asian cities in opposition to the Western city and using it as the norm, or the reference point, this book instead opts to provincialize mainstream and traditional knowledge.

The individual chapters written by contributing authors from Asia and elsewhere illustrate that “global” spaces are more (trans-) local, traditional environments are more modern, and Asian spaces are better defined than acknowledged. The aim is to develop room for an understanding of Asian cities from Asian standpoints, especially acknowledging how Asians observe, interpret, understand, and create space in their cities.
The Delaware County GIS Department partnered with Urban Planning Instructor Lisa Dunaway in the PLAN 302 Neighborhood Studio in Fall 2012 for the project in the South Central Neighborhood in Muncie. In the past, students in this class completed the field data collection by hand using printed maps, and then manually entered the information into ArcMap at a later time.

GIS Coordinator Kyle Johnson suggested using new web-based GIS technology that allows users to remotely edit GIS data using web-based map viewers on mobile devices or through a web browser, largely eliminating the need for paper-based field work. The Delaware County GIS department had recently launched this capability and was eager to test it on a project. Up until this time, it had only been used for a few small projects such as sign inventories and the City of Muncie’s Unsafe Building Hearing Authority field assessments. Professor Dunaway suggested working with her fall studio because not only would there be 25 students to help test the technology but also because an entire neighborhood could be inventoried quickly.

The students provided the GIS department with the criteria that they wanted to collect, which consisted of seven map layers with nearly 40 attributes. This was by far the largest amount of editable data that the GIS department had provided as a web-based service. The GIS department created the GIS database and published it as an editable web map service. The students were then able to view the map on their smart phones and add or edit information in the field. Initially, the web-based map worked fine, but quickly bogged down when many students were accessing the map at once. It was determined that there needed to be some server configuration changes to allow that many users to edit at once. The students were able to complete about 75% of the inventory using the web-based map. The data was then exported and given to the students so they could complete the analysis of their assigned areas in ArcMap.

This was a valuable exercise for both the GIS department and the students. It allowed the GIS staff to test the functionality and capacity of their web-based services, as well as troubleshoot issues that may have taken much longer to identify. The students were exposed to new web-based GIS technology that they may not have learned otherwise, and worked through the frustrations that accompany many GIS projects. They will also be prepared to use the technology in the future as it becomes more widespread.

The GIS department is looking forward to working with the BSU Urban Planning Department on future initiatives, and has identified ways of making this web-based technology more efficient for future classes.

Delaware County’s web-based map services are available at: http://delcogis.maps.arcgis.com.
A New Technology Partnership Forms (con’t)

Screenshots from the GIS application on a smart phone.
Visual Notes via a Tablet
Lohren R. Deeg, ASAI, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning

Per an initiative of CAP Associate Dean Michel Mounayar and the Information Technology Services (ITS) department, one section of the College of Architecture and Planning First Year (CAPFY) program beta-tested the Samsung Galaxy Note using a travel ‘app’ developed by Kyle Parker, Senior Software Engineer for Developing Technologies at Ball State’s ITS. Approximately eighteen students participated in the tablet testing.

The ‘app’ that Kyle has developed features integration of tablet captured photos, video, tablet drawn sketches, and GPS tracking into a package that allows the user to organize information and media in an efficient and travel friendly interface. Kyle will join CAPFY on the Chicago field trip to lead and observe the testing of the tablet and application.

CAPFY students who traveled to Chicago and those remaining in Muncie used the tablets during field trip week to gather sketches and other media into a complete “Visual Notes” package, seeking to enhance spatial awareness, visual acuity, documentation in sketching and diagraming, and gain knowledge from precedents. Exposure to great public spaces, streets, neighborhoods, buildings, and landscapes in the Chicago region will fueled the study. Lohren Deeg, an Assistant Professor of Urban Planning and CAPFY Coordinator, tested the sketching software available on the Samsung tablet and led the students on their travel to the Chicago region. The outcome of this experience will be shared in the next department newsletter.

CAPFY students testing the software.
The rapid deployment of QR (quick response) technology, whose presence is exemplified by a small square pattern of printed shapes found in print and digital media, are impacting the cultural landscape. The connection to web based content from print media through a mobile phone digital camera and a simple interface has opened significant new opportunities for information deployment in advertising and signage media. Many useful applications may exist within the context of academic assessment in design education. There has been brisk growth in smart-phone ownership, digital literacy and in the interface between digital and physical media content through mobile devices. The subsequent transformative impact of this emerging phenomenon produces a very real potential to capitalize on the technology, bringing it along side other ongoing efforts with the aim of improving assessment methods and student learning outcomes in design studios.

QR codes are a two-dimensional matrix data storage technology that is becoming popular due in large part to their fast readability and large storage capacity when compared to standard barcodes. They are already synonymous with advertising and marketing media.

The process being presented in the study we conducted began with the development of an online survey that contains questions based on the grading criteria for the project under review. Next, specific QR codes were generated through third-party online software using the URL (universal resource locator) for the assessment survey. The codes were then printed and embedded in final boards and models under review. Critics scan the project’s QR code (with their smartphone or other mobile device) linking their device to the survey. Critics then enter their anonymous evaluation for the project directly into the online survey where the results are aggregated and immediately projected in the review gallery. The inherent anonymity of the survey fosters a review environment where more honest critiques can happen. The definition of critic is elastic, and largely dependent on the placement of the work.

Using QR codes in assessment enables the immediate and robust capture of comments and critique, with minimal loss, into a digital data set to be used in reframing and improving the project delivery in subsequent phases of the project or in following years. Due to the direct feedback afforded by this technology, there is a dramatic increase in the speed with which students are presented with an honest summative assessment of their work, potentially increasing the immediacy, urgency and awareness of their design success or failure as it relates to the project criteria. Additionally, students can be provided with a take-away print of the survey results for their own records rather than relying on hand written notes.

Traditional design review - arguably the most critical assessment opportunity in design education - is subjectively limited by the opinions of single design critics and by the willingness for those critics to be open and honest about their assessment of the work being reviewed. As a result, this may have a profound impact on student learning outcomes and summative assessment. The authors argue that a balanced review sample from anonymous interdisciplinary critics can yield more composed and perhaps more honest and equalized review for design work, thus offering students an immediate and transparent window into the review process and promising a more robust capture of that critique for further learning and subsequent iterations of the project for future studio cohorts.

It was observed that students who had excelled in the studio and met or exceeded the project criteria were delighted by the objective and transparent acknowledgement of their successful completion of the work. However, and perhaps more importantly, those few students who failed to meet the minimum standards espoused in the project criteria were observed to be aware of specifically what it was about their work that did not meet those standards required of their work. It is possible that not all students will be so readily able to recognize and be influenced by this type of evaluation and subsequent feedback. It is assumed
that some students who do not meet the criteria in further investigation may be dismissive of the results. However, critiques of creative work in environmental design will be more objective and honest in the context of peer review or public participation if they are written anonymously.
Reflections of a Graduate Assistant
Olivia White, MURP 2014, Graduate Assistant

As the graduate assistant for PLAN 302, I find the experience to be extremely helpful to my own success in the program as well as for the undergraduate students. Coming into the program I considered it a challenge that my undergraduate degree was in another discipline. Planning is truly an interdisciplinary field where every skill can be beneficial and gives you a unique perspective as a student and a professional. My past educational experiences have helped me better understand the students’ perspective as well as strengthened my own studies. In 302, we are currently working with the South-Central neighborhood in Muncie, to help the residents work toward positive changes. The students started out collecting inventory of the neighborhood where they went out and identified attributes of the area, which they documented through both writing and GIS maps.

They then had the opportunity to ask the residents of the neighborhood what their thoughts and concerns were for their area at the monthly meeting. Afterwards students put together a list of survey questions to ask the residents. During this process many students had the opportunity to talk directly with residents about neighborhood issues and how they felt about the planning process. This really strengthened the bond between the students and the residents and will help create a more positive impact.

The overall outcome of this project will be to prepare a neighborhood plan for the residents where we can help them build a better community. This project will help better students’ ability to work directly with the community, understand local government, and get real-life skills within the field. I feel all of us have already learned a lot through this process and I am excited to see the outcome.

Dates of Note:

1) ACSP conference in Cincinnati:
The 53rd Annual Conference of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) will take place in Cincinnati from November 1-4, 2012. The local host is the University of Cincinnati. The venue for the conference is Hilton Netherlands Plaza Hotel.

2) APA conference in Chicago:
The National Conference of the American Planning Association (APA) will take place in Chicago from April 13 – 17, 2013 at the Hyatt Regency located at 151 East Wacker Drive.

3) Alumni symposium:
This year, the College of Architecture and Planning (CAP) will hold the annual Alumni Symposium on Friday, October 26. Alumni from all three departments will be making presentations.

4) Reaccreditation visit:
The site visit team (SVT) of the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) will be in the department for the re-accreditation visit from March 18 – 20, 2013.
Our Newest Urban Planning Students

The First Year Graduate Students

The Second Year Undergraduate Students