ball state university
urban planning
newsletter

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urban planning
one of the 30 best careers for
2009

- US News & World Report
Greetings to you wherever you may be! As you may already know, I started work in the department on the 1st of June. In the few months that I have been here, I have seen the dedication and commitment that faculty in the department bring to their work and how each of them have put their student’s success above everything else. I consider it a privilege to be working with a group of fine professors. While the three summer months offered me the opportunity to settle down and get to know my fellow professors, I was delighted to see the return of students, as they brought vigor, youth and enthusiasm with them to the department at the beginning of the academic year. It gives me confidence knowing that the next generation of urban planners will take the profession to an even higher degree of excellence. Whether our students choose to work in the public or private sector upon graduation, I know that communities around the country will be well served by their skill and talent. Our department continues to grow not only in student population, but also substantively in our contributions to communities in Indiana and around the world. This newsletter showcases some of the work that our faculty and students have been involved in over the last six months.

On a larger scale, this is an exciting time for the planning profession! US News & World Report listed Urban Planning as one of the 30 Best Careers for 2009. They selected 15 professions based on the following criteria: “best outlook”, “highest rates of job satisfaction”, “the most prestige”, “highest pay” and “staying power.” As the public’s concern for the environment grows, people with skills in the design of regenerative and sustainable communities, and in helping revive declining urban centers will continue to grow. I am happy to be a part of the Department of Urban Planning at Ball State University. Our unique approach to planning education, where we utilize the studio for addressing real world planning problems, and immersion opportunities through the Community Based Projects (CBP) program ensures that our graduates have an upper hand in employment when they graduate.

The number of first year students that have declared urban planning as their discipline has increased from 16 students last year to 26 students this year, (a 63% increase). Also, the first year graduate students entering the program this semester has increased from 14 students last year to 18 students this year, (a 29% increase). Of the incoming BUPD students, 42% are female, and 12% are African American. Of the incoming graduate students, 33% are female and 4 (22%) are international students. I am happy to report that we have provided graduate assistantships for nine of the incoming graduate students.

Our BUPD and MURP programs are due for reaccreditation this year. Consequently we hosted a site visit team from the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) last spring. Their report from the visit was positive and encouraging. This October, Prof. Schoen and I will be meeting with the PAB in Crystal City, Virginia to finalize the process of re-accreditation for the programs. We will keep you posted on the outcome of the visit with the PAB.

Some new programs are being introduced this year. An Alumni Mentoring program has been established; thirty of our alumni have volunteered to mentor current students in the department. This relationship is significant not only because it helps our alumni to stay in touch with the department, it also provides a means for students to learn from those who are already in planning practice. We hope it will make the transition from school to work a lot easier for them. I am grateful to our alumni for their generosity on this matter.

Speaking of alumni, we are also starting an Alumni Advisory Council for the department that will lend our faculty valuable input on the matters of curriculum design and programming. In addition to the many hats that he already wears, Professor Truex has agreed to be the department’s Alumni Coordinator and will be a liaison between our alumni and the department on all matters affecting them.

Another important development is that the new Master of Urban Design (MUD) program, based in Indianapolis, is taking off this academic year (2009/10). A Program Coordinator has been appointed, and 10 students have enrolled in the MUD program. This new program will enable us to capitalize on the untapped market of adult students in Indianapolis and help energize the MURP program that is based in Muncie, as the programs are designed to be synergistically related. In time, we hope to be able to offer dual masters degrees in urban design and urban planning.

This semester, we have also begun a new minor in real estate development (RED). The minor in RED is a good fit for our department: real estate is conceived of as both a profitable business and an instrument for promoting the public interest, inclusive of the goals of sustainability and community development. In time, we are hoping to offer both a minor degree in RED here in Muncie, and a certificate in RED through our Indianapolis Center.

All of these initiatives are positioning the department for an exciting future as we look forward to contributing to the development of communities in the state and beyond. I am both delighted and humbled to be a part of these exciting times!

Michael A. Burayidi, Ph.D.
Irving Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Urban Planning
Vera Adams - Instructor of Urban Planning

In June, Vera Adams, Instructor of Urban Planning, traveled to Washington, DC to visit her former Berkeley classmate, Carol Galante who was appointed last May by President Obama to the position of Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multi-family housing at HUD in Washington DC. As Deputy Assistant Secretary, Galante will be responsible for HUD’s financing support for the development and preservation of privately-owned rental housing (a current portfolio of over $58 billion) and will be integral to several new initiatives that promote sustainable development. Vera discussed placing Ball State students with Carol in the HUD Summer Internship program for undergraduates and continuing graduate students and the President’s Management Internship program for graduating Master’s degree students. Students that are interested in these paid internship opportunities at HUD in the nation’s capital or the Indianapolis offices, should contact Professor Adams.

Lohren Deeg - Instructor of Urban Planning

The Community Based Projects Program held a community charrette from November 6th-8th, 2008 in Topeka, Indiana. CAP faculty Scott Truex, Harry Eggink, John Motloch, and Bruce Race led several students in an effort examining long term sustainable growth and development, strategies for economic development, branding and marketing, strategies for local renewable energy sources, and community connections between residents including Amish and new immigrant populations.

In June 2008, CAP faculty Joe Blalock, Lohren Deeg, and CAP Alumnus Brian Hollars exhibited a joint gallery show entitled “Muncie Triptych” at Gallery 308 in downtown Muncie. This joint show was a collection of photography, drawings, and mixed media that examined themes and conditions of the local built environment and culture. Blalock and Deeg also gave a gallery talk on the exhibit as part of the Gallery 308 Living Artists series. The three were also invited to present the artwork to a meeting of the Muncie Art Alliance on December 10th, 2008 at the Ball State Museum of Art.

Lohren Deeg presented examples of the evolution of first year pedagogy and studio projects at the CAP faculty symposium in March 25, 2009.

The Community Based Projects Program and AIA Fort Wayne also led a charrette in downtown Fort Wayne, Indiana February 19th – 21st. CAP faculty Scott Truex, Harry Eggink, Lohren Deeg, and Emeritus Tony Costello joined CAP alums Mike McKay, Zachary Benedict, and Andy Mitchell to lead teams of students from a variety of CAP courses examining transportation issues, infill development, economic development, housing infill, and the integration of recent sports and entertainment venues in the downtown area.

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On May 6, 2009 the faculty presented findings from the charrette to the public at the Allen County Public Library’s Central Branch. Local television and newspapers covered the event.

Lohren Deeg also contributed placemark information using the Google Earth interface to enable the Dutch architectural database MIMOA to locate several buildings by the German architectural firm of Behnisch and Partners (now Behnisch Architeken). This information was published on the MIMOA website in July of 2009.

www.mimoa.eu/blog

Paul Foulger - instructor of urban planning

Paul Foulger and the plan 401 studio are working to redevelop National Guard armories in Indiana. This work is at the request of the army for assistance to the department. Instructor Foulger will be defending his Ph.D. dissertation this year; focused on analytical research as it relates to decision making in the planning profession.

Bruce Frankel - professor of urban planning

Professor Frankel has kept busy with a number of community-based and research activities. He had an essential role in developing the Real Estate Development minor that was approved for implementation this year. Frankel has also worked to establish a Real Estate Development Certificate program to be based in Indianapolis. In addition, he worked with the Dean of CAP in establishing continuing professional education programs at the Indianapolis Center. The College is now a certified/registered provider of Certificate Maintenance Credits for AICP.

Professor Frankel delivered two all-day seminars/field inspections to an audience of 55 and 15, on April 15 and June 23 respectively on redevelopment strategies. These seminars were sponsored jointly by CAP and IACED [Indiana Association for Community Economic Development]; these programs were certified for 7.5 hours of maintenance credits by AICP, including 1.0 hour on law.

Of historic significance is Professor Frankel’s work last year in organizing the Emily Kimbrough Historic District in order to save itself from its demise. He also performed public service work with Mayor Canan’s Task Force on SR 32, and with the East Central Neighborhood Association. When Professor Frankel is not teaching, he devotes his time to working as a redevelopment consultant to Indiana communities including: Berne City, Adams County; Farmland Town, Randolph County; Rising Sun City, Ohio County.

Professor Frankel has also worked on the Switzerland County Comprehensive Plan and Book of Ordinances. As the principal investigator, he provided the bulk of the research, charrettes and document development. Professor Frankel served as an expert witness for remonstrants of the Blue River Ethanol Plant in Henry County.

With respect to academic and professional practice, Professor Frankel wrote “The Essential Library in Urban Planning: Identification, Ordinal Ranking, Evaluation & Classification of Seminal Works in Urban Planning,” that was published in the February 2009 issue of Planning. He conducted a workshop on “Redeveloping Indiana Cities & Towns: Public Policies, Strategies, Resources, Plans,” for the Indiana Association for Community Economic Development, which was an all-day workshop on May 15, 2009 in Indianapolis.

Finally, Professor Frankel made a presentation on “Emerging Opportunities for Experiential Learning: Managing its Controversial Forms and its Export into the University Core Curriculum,” at the 2nd College of Architecture and Planning Conference on the Scholarship of Teaching, at Ball State University, March 25, 2009; in addition to the presentation, he has written several book reviews while serving as Editor for International House.
Professor Kelly’s latest book, Community Planning: An Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan, 2d Ed has been published by Island Press in November. This edition is a significant update from the earlier edition (with which he had a co-author). It contains new information on sprawl, planning for public safety, and health and community design. He is also finishing up the content for a website that will provide examples and supplementary resources for the book at www.communityplanningbook.org.

Professor Kelly also completed two other projects. Planning and Environmental Law recently published a commentary he wrote on moratoria and interim zoning controls in the September issue. The fall issue of Planning Commissioners Journal will have his article on regulating religious uses within the limitations imposed by the First Amendment and RLUIPA. Professor Kelly also continues to provide regular updates for two publications for Matthew Bender (a Lexis-Nexis company) – Zoning and Land Use Controls, a 10-volume treatise that is updated three times a year; and How to Win Land Use Approvals and Permits, a one-volume deskbook updated annually.

Professor Kelly is currently by serving as chair of the Muncie-Delaware County Government Reorganization Committee (www.mundelreorg.org). The committee was created by a unanimous vote of both the Muncie City Council and the Delaware County Commissioners under the relatively new Government Modernization Act. It is charged with making proposals for the re-organization of local governments in the county.

Professor Kelly continues to serve on the Indiana Land Resources Council, and as an Advisory Trustee of the Indiana Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, which raised nearly $75,000,000 in its latest capital campaign.

Professor Kelly continues to engage in planning practice with Duncan Associates (www.duncanassociates.com), which allows him to work coast to coast – from Fairbanks/North Star Borough, Alaska to Citrus County, Florida counties north of Tampa-St Pete) where his firm is completing the staff review process on a new land development code.
Jennifer Milliken - Instructor of Urban Planning

Jennifer Milliken is enjoying her second stint as an Adjunct Instructor in the department since graduation in 1994. She previously served as Adjunct Instructor from 1998-1999. Jennifer is currently teaching the Second Year Regional Planning Studio, where her students are engaged in developing a community plan for Heritage Lake, a private recreational community in Putnam County. Jennifer also is managing the 2nd Annual Real Estate Trends in Indiana report for ULI-Indiana. The findings will be presented in Indianapolis on November 19, 2009.

Francis Parker - Professor of Urban Planning

When he wasn’t advising new and potential students, Francis spent the summer revisiting some of his favorite historic urban places: Lowell, Mass, Philadelphia, Pa., Ithaca, New York, Chicago, IL and Asheville, North Carolina to name a few. He also rode the new diesel-powered light rail line between Camden and Trenton, New Jersey. This is a recent opportunity for the area, which utilizes a former conventional rail line. For a newly started line, it has an impressive service frequency and evidently a substantial mid-day ridership. The diesel multiple units are the most likely prototype for an Indianapolis light rail line.

During August, Francis helped operate the Indiana Fairtrain, which operates ten round trips per day between Fishers and the Indiana State Fairgrounds. This is the line that is proposed as the first Indianapolis light rail; the Fairtrain serves as a testbed for ridership. Unlike proposed light rail, the Fairtrain uses heritage equipment, originally built for long-distance service between Chicago and Los Angeles in 1937. The cars were refurbished for a second career as commuter cars in New Jersey, before coming to Indiana. Also helping with Fairtrain management, was BUPD alumn Nate Bilger from Indianapolis.

This fall Francis is teaching three courses: two old standbys - the second year undergraduate History and Theory (Plan 220) and Transportation Planning (PLAN 431/531) - and his third is History of Urban Form, PLAN577 / UD 640. This course is intended primarily for the new Masters of Urban Design program in Indianapolis, and involves students both in Muncie and at the CAP Indy center interacting via conference technology. While covering some of the same historic examples as PLAN 220, the focus of this course is geared towards multiple theoretical perspectives on understanding urban form at the regional, urban, and space scale.

Professor Parker hopes to develop a special project course next spring, which would address some of the problems to be resolved in implementing proposed light rail and high speed rail projects in Indiana.
nihal perera - professor of urban planning

Professor Perera is currently on sabbatical and has received a research professorship at CEPT University in the Fall of 2009 which will facilitate his research work for his book *People Spaces*. He also received a visiting fellowship at the National University of Singapore for the Spring of 2010 to pursue research for a second book, *The Transforming Asian City: Innovative Urban Planning Practices*.

Professor Perera recently completed several manuscripts that were published in *Planning Theory* and *Environment and Planning*. He also contributed a chapter for the book, *Spatializing Politics: Culture and Geography in Post Colonial Sri Lanka*, edited by Catherine Brun and Tariq Jazeeh in 2009.

Professor Perera also presented papers at conferences in Hong Kong, South Korea, and Cairo, Egypt. In addition, Professor Perera provided planning consulting services for the City of Deyang, Sichuan Province, China.

david schoen - professor of urban planning

After over two years as Acting Chair of the Dept. of Urban Planning, Professor Schoen took a much needed break in May. He and his wife took a trip to India for relaxation and recuperation.

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(david schoen ctd)

Professor Schoen also received a $4.2 million software grant from Intergraph to develop GIS software. Some 500 copies of GeoMedia are now installed on all BSU’s library computers along with ArcGIS. In addition, under his guidance, the department will be building a GIS for the campus. At this point, two Student Assistantships have been provided by Kevin Kenyon at university facilities to the department.

Scott Truex - Associate Professor of Urban Planning

During the summer of 2009, students under the direction of professor Scott Truex, were engaged with community residents, business owners, civic leaders and elected officials evaluating the “carbon footprint” of Nappanee, Indiana. This immersive learning program was funded by the Virginian B. Ball Center for Creative Inquiry. For the summer semester the team concentrated on how they could work with community members and begin the transition from “gray to green”! A premise of the study is that new “green community development” practices are needed to continue attracting investment in the new green economy.

The team spent four of the ten weeks for the summer program in Nappanee analyzing, researching and measuring energy consumption to calculate the overall carbon impact of Nappanee residents and businesses. Based on these discoveries the team and the local community developed a “Climate Action Plan” to serve as a road map for a “greener lifestyle for residents” and guide for financial savings for businesses and the city as they reduce their dependency on non-renewable energy sources.

The team was comprised of nine undergraduate students, (five urban planning majors) and one project assistant who is a grad student in Urban Planning. Together the Ball State team and Nappanee leaders are exploring what a “green community” can be and how this effort becomes a catalyst for community development based on quality of life criteria that is sustainable.

Another important event, facilitated by the greener Nappanee team, was the Nappanee Green Summit held on Thursday, July 23rd. Over two hundred participants gathered at the headquarters of the Electric Motors Corporation to hear nationally recognized, organizations and speakers explain how going green saves money, creates new jobs, and allows for new business opportunities. BSU CAP alumni were part of the program, explaining how LEED and sustainable development practices are establishing new standards for buildings and communities. The luncheon speaker was Dr. Jo Ann Gora, President of Ball State University. She highlighted Ball State University’s commitment to sustainability and outlined the new geo-thermal project for the campus. Additional information about the project is available at www.agreernappanee.org or by contacting Scott – struex@bsu.edu or 765.285.5188.

In addition to JoAnn Gora, other speakers at the Nappanee Green Summit were Matt Petersen, President and CEO Global Green USA; Wil Cashen, CEO Electric Motors Corp.; Diane Meyer Simon, Founder, President Emeritus and former Chair Global Green USA; Jesse Kharbanda, Executive Director Hoosier Environmental Council; William M. Brown, AIA, LEED AP, Director of Sustainability Indiana University and Board of Director’s Chair USGBC Indiana Chapter; Jeff Kingsbury, Managing Partner Greenstreet, Ltd. and Chairman of the Sustainable Development Council of the Urban Land Institute; Michael McKay, AIA, LEED AP, Partner Morrison Kattman Menze, Inc; Gordon Moore, Vice President, McCormick Motors; John Motloch, PhD, ASLA, AIA LEED AP, Professor of Landscape Architecture, and Director of The Land Design Institute at Ball State University; Bill Barnard, AIA, LEED AP, Architect Vice President of Architecture of The Troyer Group, Inc; and Tom Butler, Sustainable Development Entrepreneur, Fellow with Indiana University’s Center for a Sustainable Future.
chris palladino - bupd 1995

After 15 years in the real estate and community development industry, Chris stepped down from Mansur Real Estate Services on August 14 to accept a full time position in the Office of Business Affairs at Ball State University. He will be working directly with Tom Kinghorn on several major initiatives relating to commercializing the university’s assets and building community relationships. Chris will be able to continue his love for problem solving, detailed financial analysis, and higher education all in one setting. Chris started his new position on August 17.

cpalladino@mresi.com

edward sitar - bupd 1994

Ed Sitar was recently elected as Chair of the Illinois Development Council (www.ildevelopmentcouncil.org). IDC is an economic development organization with nearly 300 members striving to build relationships, professionalism, and a positive atmosphere in which jobs and wealth can be created in Illinois. Ed remains employed at ComEd (www.comed.com/econdev) as the company’s Economic Development Manager responsible for large business attraction and retention efforts within the electric utility’s Northern Illinois service territory.

Edward.Sitar@ComEd.com

krista beron saleet - bupd 1999


Krista.D.Beron.Saleet@Dartmouth.edu
Our Fall Lecture is scheduled for the 9\textsuperscript{th} and 10\textsuperscript{th} of November. The guest lecture will be given by Professor Allan B. Jacobs, Professor of Urban Planning at UC-Berkeley. Professor Jacobs is renowned for his publications and research on urban design. Prior to teaching at Berkeley, Professor Jacobs taught at the University of Pennsylvania, and worked on planning projects in the City of Pittsburgh and for the Ford Foundation in Calcutta, India. Additionally, he spent eight years as Director of the San Francisco Department of City Planning. Honors include a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Berkeley Citation, and the Kevin Lynch Award from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Indiana APA Conference
The APA Indiana Conference is scheduled for October 23, 24 in Fishers.

ACSP Conference
The ACSP Conference will take place in Crystal City, VA from Sept. 31 - Oct. 4, 2009.

National APA Conference
The APA Conference is scheduled for April 10-13, 2010 in New Orleans at the New Orleans Convention Center. The department is planning to cohost with Indiana APA, a “schmooze and brews” for alumni and friends at the conference.
In the spring semester, a multi-disciplinary urban design/planning studio was sponsored by the engineering firm RW Armstrong of Indianapolis. The studio members’ principal task was to create a redevelopment strategy and design concept for the historic Ramses Square area in the old central core of Cairo, Egypt. This project was part of an international design competition that invited professional design firms from around the global to participate, and was promoted by the Egyptian National Organization for Urban Harmony. Ten students from the departments of urban planning, landscape architecture, and architecture combined their talents in developing a variety of design solutions. The students worked directly with staff members of RW Armstrong led by Cynthia Bowen, the firm’s Director of Planning and Urban Design, a Ball State urban planning graduate.

The studio enabled the students to experience professional work through a multi-disciplinary approach. In the end, the studio created a plan that sought to relieve traffic congestion and to enhance the value of the Ramses Square area through the application of new traffic calming techniques, promotion of alternative modes of transportation, redevelopment of brownfield areas, creation of open spaces, and re-creation of some of the design features of the historically significant plazas, fountains and buildings in the area.

Unfortunately the students did not win the $100,000 prize. However, the international panel of judges did select the students’ proposal to be displayed alongside the winning proposal and some of the other design firms who entered the competition. Presentation of the proposals to the public was opened mid-September by the Egyptian Prime Minister and the student’s proposal is currently on display in the Ministry of Culture in Cairo, Egypt. Congratulations to the students for an outstanding effort.