

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Department of Urban Planning is to prepare professional planners, competent to assist communities to improve their quality of life in Indiana and around the world responsibly, through planning in the public, private and non-profit sectors. Our faculty engage in academic and applied research that advances planning thought and practice that contributes to enacting the quality of place.

As a public research university, we educate students to be future practicing professionals in the field of planning. Disciplinary knowledge is integrated with application so that students gain both knowledge that is immediately useful in their careers and the skills to learn and grow over time. We transform information into knowledge, knowledge into judgment, and judgment into action that addresses complex problems.¹

¹ This is adapted from the draft university mission statement, which reads:

As a public research university, we focus on students and high-quality, relevant educational outcomes. Disciplinary knowledge is integrated with application. We do this in a manner that fundamentally changes students, researchers, and our external partners who look to the university for guidance. We transform information into knowledge, knowledge into judgment, and judgment into action that addresses complex problems.

* All four of these are adapted from the four goals of the draft university strategic plan

CROSS-CUTTING STRATEGIES

	1 Provide distinctive, high quality educational experiences*	2 Become a recognized leader for educational and disciplinary education*	3 Contribute to the creation of an increasingly vibrant and integrated university community*	4 Advance Indiana through student engagement and faculty expertise*
(A) STUDENTS	RECRUIT STUDIO CBP INTERN MUNCIE	STUDIO CBP APA	CBP INTERNATIONAL FAMILY COMMUNITY BSU MUNCIE	CBP STUDIO RESEARCH COMM-ED
(B) FACULTY	PROF-FAC FACDIVER	Write and make presentations about: CBP STUDIO Common first year	COMMUNITY FAMILY MUNCIE BSU	MUNCIE ADVANCE APA OTHER ORGS COMM-ED
(C) ALUMNI	FAMILY STUDIOS	Link to successful alums IBJ 40 under 40 Blogs	FAMILY Activities at Indianapolis Center	Invite alumni involvement in CBP and field STUDIOS
(D) PROFESSION	STUDIOS COMM-ED APA	RESEARCH COMM-ED REFLECTIVE OTHER ORGS	COMM-ED	RESEARCH COMM-ED REFLECTIVE APA OTHER ORGS
(E) COMMUNITY	COMM-ED STUDIO	RESEARCH	NA	COMM-ED

[RECRUIT] Recruitment of study body (A1)

Goal: Continue to recruit high achieving students with a diversity of background and experience. At least at the graduate level, seek diversity in age and prior experience; expand recruitment efforts to increase diversity and to maintain a solid cohort of at least 20 students at each year level in the programs.

[CBP] Community-Based Projects (A1, A2, A3, A4, B2, C4)

Goal: Continue our strong tradition of community-based projects where all studio projects take on a project that addresses a community need.

Objective: Upper division studios will provide students with applied, immersive educational opportunities in contexts that help to advance Indiana and its communities.

[MUNCIE] (A1, A3, B3, B4)

Goal: Continue to make Muncie and Delaware County – our front door and our backyard – very high priorities for our efforts to advance Indiana.

Objective: Each year, at least one project from the county will be the subject of a studio project in the department.

[BSU] Ball State University (B3)

Goal: As a department and as individuals within it, continue to play a leadership role in the community of Ball State University, participating in its governance, its planning, its greening and its diversification.

Objective: To accomplish this goal, we will have faculty members from the department serving at college and university committees and providing a leadership role in these areas.

[STUDIO] (A1, A2, A4, B2, C1, C4, D1, E1)

Goal: Continue the use of studio-based education throughout the curriculum, involving alumni and other professionals as jurors and resource people for all of our studios.

Objective: Each studio review will require jurors to evaluate the level of competence of our students in meeting the studio's goals and objectives.

[APA] American Planning Association (A2, B4, D1, D4)

Goal: Maintain strong connections to alumni and the professional community at large through student and faculty participation in Indiana Planning Association activities and significant representation at the APA national conference.

Objectives: Each year we will have one student and a faculty member serve as representative of the department on the Indiana American Planning Association Board.

Each year, as we've always done, we will also subsidize students to attend the national conference of the American Planning Association.

[OTHER-ORGS] Other Organizations (B4, D2, D4)

Goal: Faculty members in the department will establish and maintain leadership and substantive roles in planning-related organizations beyond APA.

Objective: Faculty members from the department will serve on professional boards including but not limited to the following professional organizations: the Urban Land Institute, Health by Design, transit advocacy, Historic Landmarks and other historic advocacy organizations, The Nature Conservancy, and the Indiana Land Resources Council.

[PROFF-FAC] Professional Accreditation (B1)

Goal: Maintain a faculty that includes both scholars and practitioners, with a specific strategy of having at least half of our faculty members maintaining AICP status.

Objective: The department will provide offering such as a seminar, workshop, lecture, or course each year that will qualify for AICP certificate maintenance.

[COMM-ED] Community Education (D2, D3, D4, E1, E4)

Goal: Continue to contribute broadly to professional and community education.

Objective: Faculty members will contribute to but not limited to following during the year: community charrettes and workshops; op-ed pieces, both invited and volunteered; (professional) continuing education programs; on-line and print publications targeted at a general audience; creation of emerging and blended media educational tools; and general social media.

[REFLECTIVE] (D2, D4)

Goal: Faculty will engage in advance planning practice through scholarly contributions in the tradition of the “reflective practitioner,” bridging theory and practice as required in the department’s faculty document.

Objective 1: Each faculty member will make such contributions in the form of but not limited to internally published e-books, monographs or other forms of media; professional and technical reports published by others; articles in publications aimed at professionals and interested citizens; and appropriate contributions to more traditional scholarly journals.

Objective 2: Faculty will be provided with a one course release time per year upon request to pursue scholarly activities.

Objective 3: Faculty will be encouraged to participate in the CAP annual Faculty/student symposium.

[FAMILY] A3, B3, C3)

Goal: Maintain and re-emphasize the UP “family” of students, faculty, alumni and interested professionals – continuing the tradition of social and informal activities in addition to the professional interactions described in other strategies.

Objective 1: The department will organize at least one social event each year where our students, alumni, and faculty will get together in an informal setting.

Objective 2: Alumni will be invited by the department to participate in field trips and social in national events jointly organized by the department and Indiana APA at national and state conferences.

[COMMUNITY] (A3)

Goal: Encourage students to engage the larger community.

Objective: The Student Planning Association (SPA) will be encouraged to organize at least one service activity each year in the community.

[INTERN] Internship (A1)

Goal: Continue the long tradition of requiring professional internships for students, and build on existing relationships to enhance internship opportunities.

Objective 1: Each year, students in the third year BUPD and first year MURP will put together a portfolio that will be reviewed by faculty and must pass the portfolio review before they do their internship.

Objective 2: The department will maintain a list of organizations that have hired student interns in the past and make this available to students.

FOCUSED STRATEGIES

[FACDIVER] Faculty Diversity (B1)

Goal: Use projected faculty retirements to recruit a more diverse tenured and tenure track faculty, with an immediate emphasis on attracting and retaining well-qualified female faculty members.

Objective: Foster a department culture that is supportive of diversity.

[RESEARCH] (A4, D2, D4)

Goal: Establish a commitment to funded research that supports existing departmental strengths and interests while generating recognition and outside funding to support students and unfunded or under-funded initiatives and desires.

Objective: At least five external grant proposals will be sent out each year by faculty in the department.

[INTERNATIONAL] (A3)

Goal: Acknowledge a global perspective in the future of cities and the urban planning profession and integrate this into our curriculum.

Objective: Offer classes with international content and provide opportunities for US students to gain international grounded experiences.