



American Planning Association  
**California Chapter**

*Making Great Communities Happen*



THE MISSION OF THE APA CALIFORNIA IS  
TO PROVIDE VISION AND LEADERSHIP THAT  
FOSTERS PLANNING FOR CALIFORNIA.

## 2016 Annual Report

[www.apacalifornia.org](http://www.apacalifornia.org)

CENTRAL  
CENTRAL COAST  
INLAND EMPIRE  
LOS ANGELES  
NORTHERN  
ORANGE  
SACRAMENTO VALLEY  
SAN DIEGO



# Table of Contents

<b>1. Chapter President Statement</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. California Chapter Board Information</b>	<b>3</b>
• 2016 Chapter Boardmembers	3
• Management Association/Contractors	4
<b>3. National APA Region VI Representatives</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. Vice President Portfolios/Programs</b>	<b>10</b>
• Administration	10
- Budget	10
- Membership	11
- 2016 Chapter Awards	12
• Policy and Legislation	14
• Public Information	16
• Conferences	17
• Professional Development	19
• Marketing and Membership	21
- Young Planners Group	22
- Membership Inclusion	23
- University Liaison	24
- Great Places	25
• Commission and Board Representative	26
<b>5. Appointed Directors &amp; Affiliate Organizations</b>	<b>27</b>
• Students	27
• Chapter Historians	28
• California Planning Foundation	30
• California Planning Roundtable	30
• Planner Emeritus Network	31
<b>6. Local Sections</b>	<b>34</b>
• Central	34
• Central Coast	37
• Inland Empire	40
• Los Angeles	41
• Northern	42
• Orange County	44
• Sacramento Valley	47
• San Diego	51





## Chapter President

### Hing Wong, AICP

Before focusing on APA California's successes in 2016, I would like to say a few words about APA California itself. We are one of 47 chapters of the American Planning Association and it is the largest chapter with the most members (5,000+). Similar to other large chapters, APA California is further broken down into sections: Northern, Sacramento Valley, Central, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Orange, Inland Empire, and San Diego. This setup allows us to realize economies of scale when offering intricate services like the annual conference while also remaining nimble and relevant at the local level. Therefore, while my remarks below focus on the organization as a whole, let us not forget all the happenings and successes in 2016 driven and led at the local level as well as by our partners like the California Planning Foundation, California Planning Roundtable, Planner Emeritus Network, etc. We are all in this together and we are all APA California.

2016 was a year of building on past successes for APA California. Some of the many past efforts that bore fruit and success this year were as follows:

- » The Pasadena conference was one of the most attended annual conferences of all time.
  - CPF held its most successful auctions to raise funds for student scholarships.
  - This was the eleventh Diversity Summit. Over the decade, it has become one of the most popular events with a key purpose of adding diversity to our profession.
  - We created specialized training opportunities for young planners, mid-career planners, and planning commissioners.
  - Conference sessions are recorded and made available as webinars.
- » We continued recognizing great planning (and outstanding preservation and/or rejuvenation of past great planning) by selecting our second set of winners in the Great Places in California: Mission Plaza (San Luis Obispo), Downtown Truckee, and Dry Creek Trailhead (Clovis).
- » By collaborating with advocates and related organizations, we were able to continue our increased presence in the statehouse and in the courts—preventing passage of bills negatively affecting planners and encouraging adoption of ones that help further our goals.
- » We were able to adopt our first balanced budget.
- » We reaped the benefits of our redesigned communication tools—APACalifornia.org and *CalPlanner*.
- » We were able to adopt a balanced budget going into 2016.

As my tenure as APA California President concludes and the very capable Pete Parkinson takes the reigns of leadership, I would like to share some of the new efforts on the way:

- » A leadership academy
- » More collaboration:
  - Within APA California: CPF; CPR; PEN; FAICP; Young Planners; students; etc.
  - Within California: AEP; ULI; League of California Cities; etc.
  - With APA (National): APA Ambassadors; APA Image Library; etc.
- » More outreach to our membership
- » A further improved website



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hing Wong'.

## APA CALIFORNIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

- » Hing Wong, AICP  
CHAPTER PRESIDENT
- » Kristen Asp, AICP  
VP ADMINISTRATION
- » Betsy McCullough, AICP  
VP CONFERENCES
- » Greg Konar, AICP  
VP MARKETING &  
MEMBERSHIP
- » John Terrell, AICP  
VP POLICY & LEGISLATION
- » Terry M. Blount, AICP  
VP PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT
- » Marc Yeber, ASLA  
VP PUBLIC INFORMATION
- » Pete Parkinson AICP  
PRESIDENT ELECT
- » Juan Borrelli, AICP  
CPF PRESIDENT
- » Scott Lefaver, AICP  
COMMISSION AND BOARD  
REPRESENTATIVE
- » Eric Tucker  
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

***"We are proud of what we have achieved so far but recognize that there is much work to do to meet the challenges and threats, new and old, to our profession."***



## Chapter President

It has been a privilege and honor to serve as the President of APA California. The profession is filled with so many quality people who seek to make our places more livable and equitable. I feel truly humbled and privileged to have had the opportunity to be associated with this organization and its 5,000+ members. APA California continues to make great progress helping planners and planning. We are proud of what we have achieved so far but recognize that there is much work to do to meet the challenges and threats, new and old, to our profession. APA California has the capacity, and the will, to lead. We remain steadfastly dedicated to building on our countless past successes. I am confident that APA California will continue to forge new ground, grow, and advance.

## 2016 Appointed Officers and Affiliate Organization Representatives

### Appointed Members

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| » Kimberly Brosseau, AICP<br>AICP COORDINATOR                                    | » Carol D. Barrett, FAICP<br>PROGRAM DIRECTOR                         |
| » J. Laurence Mintier, FAICP<br>CHAPTER HISTORIAN, NORTHERN                      | » Michael Isle, AICP<br>STATE AWARDS COORDINATOR, NORTHERN            |
| » Steven A. Preston, FAICP<br>CHAPTER HISTORIAN, SOUTHERN                        | » Mary P. Wright, AICP, LEED AP<br>STATE AWARDS COORDINATOR, SOUTHERN |
| » David E. Miller, AICP<br>AICP COORDINATOR                                      | » Julia Lave Johnson<br>UNIVERSITY LIAISON, NORTHERN                  |
| » Miroo Desai, AICP<br>MEMBERSHIP INCLUSION DIRECTION,<br>NORTHERN               | » Nicholas Chen<br>UNIVERSITY LIAISON, SOUTHERN                       |
| » Anna M. Vidal<br>MEMBERSHIP INCLUSION DIRECTION,<br>SOUTHERN                   | » Nina Idemudia<br>YOUNG PLANNERS COORDINATORS                        |
| » Christopher I. Koontz, AICP<br>NATIONAL POLICY & LEGISLATIVE<br>REPRESENTATIVE | » Gabriel Barreras<br>CalPlanner ASSISTANT EDITOR                     |
|  | » Aaron Pfannenstiel, AICP<br>TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR                     |

### Non-voting Members

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| » Kurt Christiansen, AICP<br>APA BOARD DIRECTOR, REGION 6 | » Stanley R. Hoffman, FAICP<br>PLANNER EMERITUS NETWORK, PRESIDENT |
| » Marissa Aho, AICP<br>AICP COMMISSIONER, REGION 6        | » Woodie Tescher<br>CALIFORNIA PLANNING ROUNDTABLE PRESIDENT       |
| » Lance MacNiven<br>APA STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE, REGION 6  |  |

## MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION AND CONTRACT STAFF

- » Sande George  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
& LOBBYIST
- » Tom Stefan  
DIRECTOR OF  
ADMINISTRATION
- » Lauren de Valencia y Sanchez  
EXECUTIVE  
ASSISTANT/LOBBYIST
- » Francine Farrell  
ASSOCIATION AND  
ACCOUNTING SERVICES,  
ATEGO RESOURCES
- » Laura Murphy  
ASSOCIATION AND  
CERTIFICATION MAINTENANCE  
SERVICES, NEW HORIZON  
ENTERPRISE
- » Dorina Blythe  
GRAPHIC DESIGN,  
GRANDESIGNS
- » Marco A. Martinez  
BEST, BEST & KRIEGER, L.L.C.,  
APA CALIFORNIA ATTORNEY
- » Marsha Bastian  
PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY  
INSURANCE, HEFFMAN  
INSURANCE BROKERS
- » Dick Lemon  
INSURANCE AGENT,  
MCCLATCHY INSURANCE
- » Cristina Robinson  
Digital Gear, Inc.  
WEBSITE MANAGEMENT
- » Angie Spearman, CMP  
CONFERENCE CONSULTANT





## Region VI Representatives Report

### Kurt Christiansen, FAICP, APA Board of Directors, Elected by Region VI



Kurt Christiansen is the economic and community development director for the City of Azusa, California. Previously, he served as community development director for Yorba Linda and development services director for Sierra Madre. Kurt has served as president of APA's California Chapter, vice chair of the Chapter Presidents Council, and serves as a member of the APA Development Plan and Budget Committee, the APA Membership Committee, the APA Leadership Development Task Force, and Chairs the APA Governance Committee. He also served as the co-chair of the local host committee for the 2012 APA National Planning Conference in Los Angeles. He is a member of the California State University, Northridge, Urban Planning and Studies Department Alumni Council. He earned his bachelor's degree from California State University, Northridge, and master's degree from the University of California, Los Angeles.

#### **NATIONAL APA 2016 SUMMARY ACTIONS:**

It is an honor and privilege to serve on the National APA Board of Directors as the representative elected by the members of Region VI. The Board of Directors meets three to four times a year.

##### » Winter Retreat

In 2016, the National APA Board and AICP Commission held a winter retreat in Miami, FL. The Board discussed the Communication Audit that was undertaken on all of APA's communication tools, including publications, website, and social media. In addition, about a dozen Chapters and Divisions communication efforts were also reviewed. The APA California Chapter was among those selected. The audit results were favorable to the Chapter.

On the Policy and Legislative front, the Board took an action that replaced the Sustainability Policy Guide with a Sustainability Framework. This was recommended by the Policy and Legislative Committee to allow more flexibility to respond in more timely manner on issues related to sustainability.

Another important action taken by the APA Board was the creation of a National Planning Conference Committee. This will eventually be a standing committee of the Board of Directors, and will engage a larger number of APA Members in the conference planning process. It will also remove any financial risk to the host chapter and will provide better continuity from year to year. California Chapter member, Steve Preston, FAICP, was asked to chair the committee.

##### » Spring Leadership Meeting

In April, the APA Board of Directors met in Phoenix, AZ, in conjunction with the National Planning Conference. The Board discussed a new membership program that targets students and new planners. The program will expand the student free membership to include any student, in any program. It will change the one year of free membership for students to free membership in APA as long as you are a student.

The APA Board of Directors took action to relaunch the APA Planning Foundation. The ground work was laid to relaunch the Foundation in the spring of 2017. The Board adopted a Foundation Board structure and allocated money to help fund the operation. In an effort to raise awareness of planning in universities and high schools, the APA Board approved a pilot Ambassadors Program. If successful, the program will be expanded. The goals of the program are to raise awareness of planning, increase diversity, and promote volunteerism.

APA was approached by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding assistance with their new initiative called the Prosperity Playbook. The Prosperity Playbook will be a toolkit that arms cities with new ideas for creating a broad, shared prosperity in America's cities, towns, and regions. The American Planning Association will be a lead partner in this effort to foster inclusive growth and more broadly based prosperity in communities across America.

##### » Summer Retreat

The APA Board of Directors meeting in Chicago, IL, in mid-July, one of the main topics of discussion was establishing a research agenda for APA. This would guide our planning research and would be a first year priority for the Foundation after the relaunch in 2017. In conjunction with this discussion, the APA Board has asked the Policy and Legislative Committee to focus its efforts on three topic areas, health, housing, and social equity.



## National APA

The Board established an Awards Task Force in late 2015. The recommendations from this task force were presented to the board for consideration. Awards will now be broken down into two types, Awards of Excellence and Awards of Achievement. Each Award of Excellence category will have only one winner. In the Award of Achievement categories, there will be only one gold award and multiple silver awards.

Over the last year the Board has been discussing the future of the Planners Advisory Service (PAS). The Board has restructured the way APA will be offering this service. The Board took action to enhance the member benefits by giving all APA members free access to all PAS publications in a digital format. This will include all PAS Reports that are currently in digital format, beginning in January of 2017.

### » Fall Leadership Meeting

In September, the APA Board of Directors met in Washington DC in conjunction with the Policy and Advocacy Conference. The Board adopted the Fiscal Year 2016/17 Budget and Action Plan. The Board also approved for publication, the first comprehensive bylaws update in 10 years. This is a subject near and dear to me because I chair the Governance Committee which took the lead on the update.

The Board has been discussing the idea of specialty conferences for the past two years. At the fall meeting the Board gave direction to proceed with an outline of a specialty conference on the topic of water.

In the area of Divisions, the Board approved the renaming of two divisions. The Planning and Women Division will now be the Women and Planning. The Gays and Lesbians in Planning Division will now be the LGBTQ and Planning Division.

The APA Board adopted a new membership structure for students and new members. This structure will allow any student in any program, free membership while they are a student. The structure also reduces dues for the first several years upon graduation or for any new member.

The Board received a detailed report on the pilot Ambassador Program and voted to make this an ongoing program. A toolkit is being developed to assist the ambassadors with their activities.

### » National Leadership

Those serving in APA Leadership roles are the following:

- Student Representative Council, Region VI Representative – Lance MacNiven from Los Angeles, CA (UCLA)
- Chapter Presidents Council, Chair – Shane Burkhardt from Huntington Beach, CA
- Student Representative Council, Past Chair – Lisandro Orozco from Santa Ana, CA
- Foundation Board of Directors – Linda Tatum from Long Beach, CA
- Divisions Council, Vice Chair – David Fields, AICP from San Francisco, CA
- Transportation Division Chair - Gabriela Juarez from Los Angeles, CA

### » National APA Committee

I would also like to acknowledge and recognize California Chapter members who serve on National Committees and Task Forces:

- *Leadership Development Task Force*  
Robert Leiter, FAICP – San Diego, CA
- *Education Task Force*  
Richard W. Willson, FAICP – Los Angeles, CA – Cal Poly Pomona
- *APA Research Agenda Task Force*  
Robert Leiter, FAICP – San Diego, CA
- *APA National Planning Conference Committee*  
Steve Preston, FAICP – San Gabriel, CA (Chair)  
Betsy McCullough, AICP – San Diego, CA (Education 1st vice Chair)
- *Emerging Issues Task Force*  
Robert Cervero – Berkeley, CA – UC Berkeley  
William R. Anderson, FAICP – San Diego, CA (Chair)
- *Student and New Planner Task Force*  
Shane Burkhardt, AICP – Huntington Beach, CA (Co-Chair)  
Tracey Ferguson – Roseville, CA
- *Planning Officials Committee*  
Janet Palma, AICP – San Leandro, CA



## National APA

- *APA Awards Task Force*  
Lisandro Orozco – Santa Ana, CA
- *Membership Committee*  
Shane Burkhardt, AICP – Huntington Beach, CA
- *APA Academic Membership Task Force*  
Nader Afzalan – Redlands, CA (Co-Chair)  
Lance MacGiven – Los Angeles, CA
- *APA National Awards Jury*  
Miguel Angel Vazquez, AICP - Riverside, CA
- *Great Places in America Task Force*  
S. Gail Goldberg – Los Angeles, CA
- *Legislative & Policy Committee*  
Vivian Kahn, FAICP – San Francisco, CA
- *APA Education Task Force*  
Richard W. Willson, FAICP – Los Angeles, CA
- *Governance Committee*  
Shane Burkhardt, AICP – Huntington Beach, CA  
David Fields, AICP – San Francisco, CA
- *Diversity Task Force of Membership*  
Miguel Angel Vazquez, AICP - Riverside, CA  
Jane Clough – San Diego, CA
- *Amicus Curiae Committee*  
Deborah M. Rosenthal, AICP – Irvine, CA  
Albert Herson, FAICP – Sacramento, CA

### » National Conference

The National Planning Conference was held in Phoenix, Arizona, April 2-5, 2016. The California Chapter sent a contingent of 474 members. During the National awards luncheon, several projects from California were recognized as follows:

- *National Planning Excellence Award*  
Planning Advocate – Commissioner Ann Moore, San Diego County, CA
- *Student Project Award*  
Honor Award – Urban Planning Visions for Milpitas: California Circle and Main at Serra, California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo
- *National Planning Achievement Awards*  
Environmental Planning – San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant Master Plan, San Jose, CA  
Best Practices – People St., Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT), Los Angeles, CA

### » Future National Conferences

At the 2016 Fall National Leadership meetings, the APA Board of Directors selected Philadelphia, PA, as the Site of the 2023 National Planning Conference. The California Chapter will host the 2019 National Planning Conference in San Francisco, CA, and 2022 National Planning Conference in San Diego, CA.

### » Great Places in America

On October 1, 2016, the American Planning Association announced 30 recipients of the Great Places in America Designation. APA's Flagship program celebrates places of exemplary character, quality, and planning. Places are selected annually in three categories: Streets; Public Spaces; and Neighborhoods. These places represent the gold standard in terms of having a true sense of place, cultural and historical interest, community involvement, and a vision for tomorrow. The California Chapter had one Great Places in America designations in 2016:

Neighborhood

Downtown Santa Ana – Santa Ana, CA

This Great Places in America join our 17 previously designated Great Places in America. I had the privilege of representing the APA Board of Directors at the Downtown Santa Ana designation ceremony, along with Hing Wong, APA California Chapter President, on October 20, 2016.



## National APA

### Marissa Aho, AICP, AICP Commissioner, Elected by Region VI



Marissa Aho is the Chief Resilience Officer in the Office of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti. Previously, she served in senior associate positions at two planning and land use firms in the City of Los Angeles. Marissa previously served on APA California's Executive Committee, and as Section Director, Vice Director of Professional Development and Vice Director of Membership for APA LA. She also served as the co-chair of the local host committee for the 2012 APA National Planning Conference in Los Angeles. She is a member of the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy's Alumni Board. Marissa earned her bachelor's degree from American University and master's degree from the University of Southern California.

#### » National AICP 2016 Summary Actions

It is an honor and privilege to serve on the AICP Commission as the representative elected by the members of Region VI. The Commission meets monthly, including three to four times in person each year.

In 2016, the National APA Board and AICP Commission held a winter retreat in Miami Beach, FL. In Miami, the Commission reached consensus that they want the Membership Standards Committee to develop a proposed plan to implement the Associate AICP status (Now AICP Candidate, see below). They also want to be more inclusive of allied fields and unconventional planners as well as get newer planners engaged in APA/AICP while maintaining the integrity of accredited academic planning programs. The Commission approved launching the updated AICP Exam in May of 2017.

In April, the AICP Commission met in Phoenix in conjunction with the National Planning Conference. The Commission discussed approved pro-bono work for CM credits (see below). The Commission also approved an Amnesty program from the four-year deadline to reinstate for AICP members who lapsed during the economic downturn (specifically January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2012). A Joint Task Force on Student Enrollment was created by the APA, AICP, ACSP and PAD in response to concerns regarding enrollment in accredited planning programs.

In September, the AICP Commission met in Washington DC in conjunction with the Annual Policy and Advocacy Conference. At this meeting, the Commission was provided a comprehensive update on the Exam Committee's work to update the AICP Certification exam for May 2017, including discussion of the exam reading list that has been updated to be more accessible and to emphasize current resources for locating planning information. The new reading list is available here:

<https://www.planning.org/certification/examprep/selectedreading.htm>

#### » FAICP Induction

The AICP College of Fellows welcomed the new class of 2016 during the National Planning Conference in Phoenix. Congratulations to the 61 new Fellows, including the following from California:

- Brian F. Mooney, FAICP
- Celia McAdam, FAICP
- Deborah M. Rosenthal, FAICP
- Kurt E. Christiansen, FAICP
- Larry B. Morrison, FAICP

#### » AICP Candidate Pilot Program

The AICP Candidate Pilot Program provides qualified members the opportunity to start on the path to certification by taking the AICP Certification Exam prior to earning the required years of professional planning experience.

Students and graduates of PAB-accredited program are eligible to apply for the pilot program. Upon graduation, participants take the AICP exam.

The pilot program will launch in November 2017. In December 2017 graduates of PAB-accredited programs may apply to sit for the May 2018 AICP Certification Exam.

The Pilot Program was approved in 2016 by the AICP Commission, with input from APA leaders and more than 1,000 members who provided feedback on the proposed pilot program. The program addresses a need to provide more opportunities for certification while at the same time maintaining the integrity of the credential. This Pilot Program maintains certification requirements (education + exam + experience) but offers them in a different sequence. AICP will evaluate the Pilot Program over the next few years to ensure that it meets the needs of membership and employers of planners.

For more information <https://www.planning.org/media/document/9117251/>



## National APA

### » CM Credit for Pro Bono Planning Service

AICP Members may claim CM credit for pro bono planning service conducted from April 1, 2016 going forward:

- Planning-related support to groups that lack adequate planning resources, including service that expands choices and opportunities for everyone
- Planning to meet the needs of the disadvantaged and to promote racial and economic integration
- Mentoring the development of students, interns, beginning professionals, colleagues, and members of underrepresented groups to help them advance in the planning profession
- Serving on the boards of governmental or nonprofit organizations that advance planning (e.g. planning, historic preservation, or community development commissions)
- Serving on APA/AICP boards, committees and divisions at the national, chapter and section level, including service to advance members' professional development. This supports planners carrying out the Code of Ethics
- Serving on an APA advisory committee or task force, or service to other APA initiatives that rely on member volunteers (i.e. as an AICP exam peer reviewer)
- Educating the public and other activities that increase understanding of planning
- Serving as an unpaid expert witness

For more information: <https://www.planning.org/cm/logging/selfreport/probono/>

### » Community Planning Assistance Teams

In 2016, four CPAT projects were completed for the following communities:

- Germantown, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Brooklyn Neighborhood, Baltimore, Maryland
- Harford County, Maryland
- West Melbourne, Florida

The CPAT program is available to California communities. Your community could be the first CPAT in California. For more information <https://www.planning.org/communityassistance/teams/>

### » National AICP Committees and Task Forces

I would also like to acknowledge and recognize California Chapter members who serve on AICP Committees:

- *Nominating Committee*  
Brooke Peterson, AICP – San Diego
- *Membership Standards Committee*  
Francisco Contreras, AICP – Los Angeles
- *Community Planning Assistance Services and Outreach Committee*  
Lance Schulte, AICP – San Diego  
Robyn Easton – Los Angeles
- *AICP Student Project Awards Jury*  
Monica Villalobos, AICP – Los Angeles
- *PAB Site Visitor Selection Task Force*  
Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore, FAICP – Northern
- *AICP Exam Committee*  
Brent C. Barns, AICP – Northern



# VP Portfolios and Programs Administration

## Vice President for Administration

**Kristen Asp, AICP**

The Vice President for Administration is responsible for maintaining the general funds and accounts of the Chapter. This is done mainly with the assistance of the management firm comprised of APA California administrative staff and contractors, including Stefan/George Associates, ATEGO Resources, New Horizon and other support contract staff. The Vice President for Administration also functions as Chairperson of the Chapter's awards program, regularly evaluates and updates the Chapter Financial Policies, conducts long range forecasting and programming in cooperation with the management firm, coordinates and oversees the distribution of membership subvention funds and applicable reporting procedures of the Chapter's local Sections, and coordinates financial and administrative activities with the Chapter's Director of Administration.



## CHAPTER FINANCES

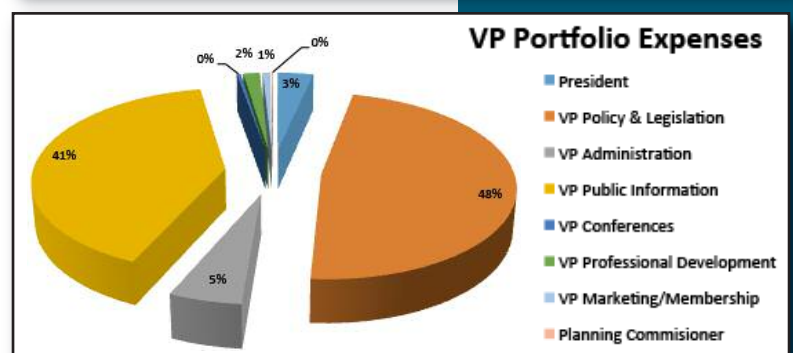
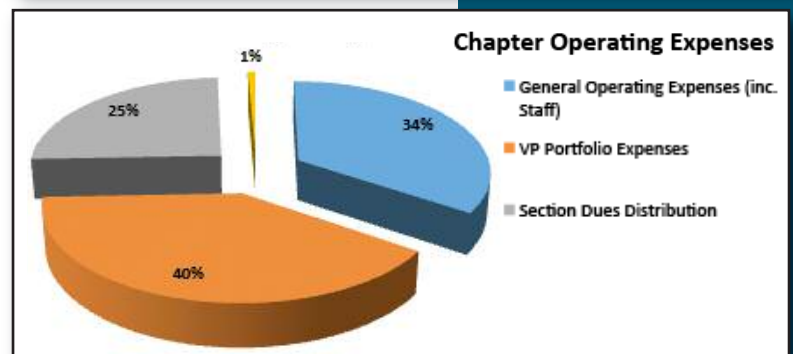
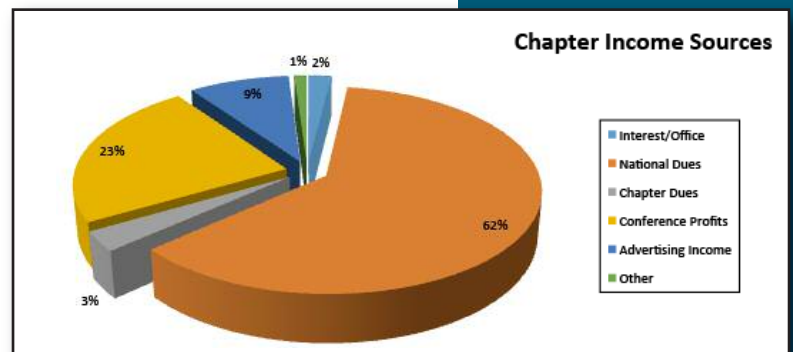
### 2016 Budget

The Board of Directors adopted a draft budget at its meeting held during the 2015 APA California Chapter Conference in Oakland, with amendments adopted in January 2016 during the Board's annual retreat held in Burbank. A working and balanced budget of \$511,900 was adopted to cover operating expenses associated with general administration and Executive Board portfolio programs. Income was anticipated from sources including funds received from National APA for California Chapter membership dues, 2015 Conference profits and other revenue sources such as AICP publications and advertisements. Actual budget breakdown for 2016 is shown on the pie charts on this page.

Chapter operating expenses include distribution of membership dues to each of the eight local Sections, payments to administrative staff, Board meetings and retreats, and general office-related expenses. Board portfolio expenses include travel and meeting-related costs, as well operating expenditures for member service programs managed under each Vice President.

The largest program costs for the Chapter are associated with those under the Vice President for Policy and Legislation (Legislative Review and Lobbying), Vice President for Public Information (Website maintenance and CalPlanner production), and Vice President for Administration (State Awards).

For detailed information about past and current Chapter budgets, including line-item breakdowns, please visit the APA California website at <http://apacalifornia.com/>.





### Membership Information

APA National is divided into 47 chapters which provide its membership with a local source for networking and professional development. California is currently the chapter with the largest number in membership.

The APA California Chapter is further divided into eight Local Sections, which serve to provide our members with a tangible local expression of APA purposes and objectives and as a vehicle for maximum membership involvement in the affairs of the Chapter.

#### 2016 Membership Counts

The APA California Chapter includes a total of 4226 as of December 31, 2015. Breakdown of our membership by Section (including AICP, Student and Chapter-only members) is shown on the following chart:

Member Type	Section								Total Chapter
	Central	Central Coast	Inland Empire	Los Angeles	Northern	Orange	Sacramento	San Diego	
Regular APA	49	77	105	330	418	141	101	141	1362
APA/AICP	73	117	110	380	730	188	214	253	2065
Government/Planning Board	20	11	43	66	70	23	16	12	261
APA/Student	8	45	33	304	182	79	23	63	737
Chapter Only	8	23	17	36	45	15	59	26	229
<b>Totals</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>1116</b>	<b>1445</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>413</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>4654</b>

Member Type	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Regular APA	1786	1789	1681	1838	1763
APA/AICP	2050	2081	2063	2084	2139
Government/Planning Board	252	264	263	285	285
APA/Student	1013	1196	1169	1039	1060
Chapter Only	140	110	108	132	162
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5241</b>	<b>5440</b>	<b>5284</b>	<b>5378</b>	<b>5409</b>

#### Comparison of Past Years

Membership has fluctuated in past years with decreases in 2011, 2013 and most recently 2016. Reductions occurred in all but one category and most significantly student membership. However, membership incentives are being rolled out in 2017

targeting students and new members. The Chapter Only category saw the only increase which explains some of the drop-off in regular APA memberships.



## 2016 Awards

The APA California Awards Program encourages quality in planning and increases the public's awareness of the planning profession by recognizing outstanding achievement in the planning field. The program honors innovative plans and projects, distinguished APA members, lay contributors to planning and achievements of local APA California Sections. Awards are presented annually at the APA California Conference in two categories: Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit. Additionally, Scholastic Awards are given to students by the California Planning Foundation, a nonprofit, tax-deductible arm of APA California, and Historic Planning Landmark Awards are given to historical projects.

### Awards of Excellence

- » **Opportunity and Empowerment**  
City of Salinas 2014-2015 Housing Initiatives, City of Salinas
- » **Comprehensive Plan, Large Jurisdiction**  
Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles, Los Angeles Department of City Planning
- » **Comprehensive Plan, Small Jurisdiction**  
Baldwin Park Health and Sustainability Element, City of Baldwin Park, Community Development Department
- » **Implementation, Large Jurisdiction**  
Alcohol Nuisance Abatement Ordinance, City of Long Beach
- » **Innovation in Green Community Planning**  
City of Los Angeles Sustainable City pLAn, City of Los Angeles
- » **Transportation Planning**  
Cross Border Xpress, Latitude 33 Planning & Engineering
- » **Best Practices**  
Redwood City Community Benefits, City of Redwood City
- » **Grassroots Initiative**  
Huerta del Valle Community Garden
- » **Public Outreach**  
The Game of Floods, Marin County Community Development Agency
- » **Urban Design**  
The Open Window Project, Ten Space
- » **Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff**  
Lara Gates, City of San Diego Planning Department
- » **Academic**  
The Greater Washington "Voices of the Community" Assessment Report, Graduate Student Teams in Community Assessment – Spring 2013 & Fall 2014, San Jose State University Masters of Urban & Regional Planning Program
- » **Hard-Won Victories**  
City of Vacaville General Plan, City of Vacaville Department of Community Development



### STATE AWARDS COORDINATORS

- » **Mary P. Wright, AICP**  
Southern California
- » **Michael Isle, AICP**  
Northern California





## VP Portfolios and Programs Administration

### 2016 Awards

#### Awards of Merit

- » **Opportunity and Empowerment**  
Cabrillo Gateway and Anchor Place, Villages at Cabrillo, City of Long Beach, Development Services, Planning Bureau
- » **Comprehensive Plan, Large Jurisdiction**  
Sacramento County Development Code, Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review Division
- » **Comprehensive Plan, Small Jurisdiction**  
City of La Mesa Urban Trails Mobility Action Plan, City of La Mesa
- » **Innovation in Green Community Planning**  
Goleta Slough Area Sea Level Rise and Management Plan, Goleta Slough Management Committee
- » **Transportation Planning**  
Los Angeles Union Station Master Plan, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
- » **Best Practices**  
The Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional Housing Element, Fresno County Department of Public Works and Planning
- » **Urban Design**  
Green TI: Terminal Island Freeway Transition Plan, City of Long Beach, Long Beach Development Services
- » **Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff**  
SurveyLA Latino Los Angeles Historic Context Statement, City of Los Angeles Office of Historic Resources, Department of City Planning
- » **Academic**  
Placemaking for an Aging Population: Guidelines for Senior-Friendly Parks, Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris, Lene Levy-Storms, Lin Chen, Madeline Brozen, UCLA Luskin School for Public Affairs
- » **Hard-Won Victories**  
Carmel Mountain/Del Mar Mesa Natural Resources Management Plan, City of San Diego Park & Recreation Department



#### AWARDS JURY

- » Kristi Bascom, AICP
- » Barbara Gilliland, AICP
- » Ellen Lou, AICP
- » Armando Villa, AIC





# Policy and Legislation

### Vice President Policy and Legislation

**John C. Terell, AICP**



2016 was the final the 2015-16 Legislative Session. Remaining priority bills from the prior year (two-year bills) and new priority bills submitted at the beginning of this year were submitted for review by the Chapter's Legislative Review Committee in March. Most of the bills addressed housing, a reflection of legislators focus on improving housing affordability in the State. For the first time, the review meeting was held jointly between the northern and southern members of the Committee. An on-site meeting was held in Sacramento with most participants—north and south—calling in to provide input. This process allowed for a single, unified set of recommendations from the Committee. These recommendations, coupled with the Chapter's 2015-16 Board-adopted legislative policies, formed the basis of APA California's lobbying efforts to the Legislature on priority bills as they made their way through committees and floor votes. Those bills not resolved by the end of the two-year legislative session in November died, with several authors indicating a reprise of their efforts in the next session.

Early in 2016, the Board of Directors authorized the bill sponsorship for a "by-right" housing proposal. As proposed "by-right" housing would require non-discretionary approval of multiple family housing developments on most infill sites, if developed consistent with existing zoning. In exchange, those developments provide at least 20 percent of their units as affordable to low income households or 100 percent as affordable to moderate income households. To counter proposals for additional housing element requirements and State overrides of local planning authority, the intended results of the proposal were to address housing affordability by increasing the supply of affordable workforce housing specifically and decrease market pressures by increasing total housing supply generally on locally designated residential infill sites. With limited opposition, active APA lobbying efforts helped move the legislation hearings towards the end of the legislative session. Unfortunately, in late summer, the Governor introduced a much broader and more controversial "by-right" proposal which took center stage. Wide spread opposition derailed that effort and stopped the momentum of the APA sponsored effort. APA is in conversation with the bills author regarding a potential resubmittal of the concept in the next two-year session.

The priority planning related measures with active APA California engagement and their status at the end of the session are listed below.

#### » Climate Change

- [AB 1934 \(Santiago\) Development Density Bonus](#)  
APA California Position: Neutral as amended. Status: Signed by the Governor
- [AB 2208 \(Santiago\) Housing above Local Government Buildings](#)  
APA California Position: Neutral as amended. Status: Signed by the Governor
- [AB 2299 \(Bloom\)/SB 1069 \(Wieckowski\)](#)  
Mandatory Accessory Dwelling Unit Ordinances and Reduced Parking  
APA California Position: Support (AB 2299); Oppose (SB 1069). Status: Both signed by the Governor
- [AB 2406 \(Thurmond\) Junior Second Units](#)  
APA California Position: Neutral as amended. Status: Signed by the Governor
- [AB 2501 \(Bloom\) New Density Bonus Requirements](#)  
APA California Position: Neutral as amended. Status: Signed by the Governor
- [AB 2502 \(Mullin\) Inclusionary Zoning Requirements](#)  
APA California Position: Support. Status: Dead

For the complete list of priority bills including detailed information on all bills as well as information on other activities of the Legislative Review Team, please visit the Legislation page on the APA California website at: [www.apa-california.org/legislation/](http://www.apa-california.org/legislation/)



## VP Portfolios and Programs

### Policy and Legislation

- [AB 2522 \(Bloom\) \(APA Sponsored\) & Governor's By Right Housing](#)  
APA California Position: Support (AB 2522). Status: Dead
- [AB 2556 \(Nazarian\) Density Bonus Cleanup to AB 2222](#)  
APA California Position: Support. Status: Signed by the Governor
- [AB 2734 \(Atkins\) Local Control Housing Funding Act](#)  
APA California Position: Support. Status: Dead
- » [Coastal Commission Reforms](#)
  - [AB 2002 \(Stone\) Requirements for Communication with the Coastal Commission](#)  
APA California Position: Neutral as amended. Status: Dead
- » [Wireless Facility Approvals](#)
  - [AB 2788 \(Gatto\) By-Right Approval of "Small Cell" Wireless Infrastructure](#)  
APA California Position: Oppose. Status: Dead
- » [Climate Change](#)
  - [SB 32 \(Pavley\) AB 32 Extension](#)  
APA California Position: Support. Status: Signed by the Governor
  - [SB 32 \(Pavley\)/AB 197 \(Garcia\) GHG Reductions Beyond 2020 and ARB Oversight](#)  
APA California Position: Neutral. Status: Signed by the Governor
- » [CEQA](#)
  - [SB 122 \(Jackson/Hill\): CEQA Reform](#)  
APA California Position: Support as amended. Status: Signed by the Governor
- » [Environmental Justice](#)
  - [SB 1000 \(Leyva\) Environmental Justice Planning in the General Plan](#)  
APA California Position: Support as amended. Status: Signed by the Governor

APA California continued to expand its presence and influence in the State Capital by serving as a resource to legislators who sought our input and expertise on planning related legislation. We were approached to review and comment on preliminary drafts of legislation to address issues before the bills were made public, and our support was requested by other organizations on legislation they proposed. The level of engagement by APA produced tangible results, with bill revisions to address APA's comments and most APA-supported bills that passed the Legislature were signed by the Governor.

APA California continued to expand its presence and influence in the State Capital by serving as a resource to legislators who sought our input and expertise on planning related legislation. We were approached to review and comment on preliminary drafts of legislation to address issues before the bills were made public, and our support was requested by other organizations on legislation they proposed. The level of engagement by APA produced tangible results, with bill revisions to address APA's comments prior to passing the Legislature. APA opposed bills were modified prior to approval or died in committee.

#### Legislative Review Committee Awards

At this year's Annual State Conference, two members of the Review Committee were selected for recognition: Omar Masry for his efforts to inform discussion and outreach on wireless facility legislation, and Barbara Kautz for her efforts to draft the APA-sponsored "by-right" housing bill, inform legal issues on other housing bills and serve as the APA representative on the State Housing & Community Development Housing Element working group.

#### Amicus Committee Activities

The Amicus Committee is composed of attorneys that review requests for APA California's participation in planning related litigation as a friend of the court for one side of a pending case. The members of the Committee and preparers of the briefs provide their services at no cost to APA.

In 2016, APA California filed no amicus curiae briefs.

#### Closing Comments

In my second year as the Vice President of Policy and Legislation, I would like to express my gratitude to all of those who have contributed to the success of APA California's legislative program over the past year, including all of those who participated in the legislative review teams, a supportive Board of Directors, and the amazing Stefan George staff without which our success in Sacramento would not be possible.



## Public Information

### Vice President Public Information

Marc Yeber, ASLA



The Vice President for Public Information is responsible for the Chapter's communications by delivering information via the different digital and traditional platforms to keep APA California members updated and informed on the latest Chapter news, programs, and activities as well as planning efforts statewide. From the APA California website and our bi-monthly member-only newsletter, *CalPlanner*, to our email alerts and social media platforms, a broad range of topics were offered with the goal of assisting our members to stay engaged and up-to-date on a regular basis. Assisting in these efforts during the past year were APA California members, Ellie Fiore, Assistant Editor. Also APA California staff members, Dorina Blythe, *CalPlanner* Managing Editor, and Francine Farrell, Web Manager, help to make our communications efforts possible.

With the ever evolving communications environment, navigating today's digital environment has resulted in the APA California's Board to continue to monitor and reevaluate the way in which we communicate and share information with our members and to the public about planning in California. In 2016, we continued developing our plan to migrate and update the APA California website. During this time APA National started developing a Chapter and Division module that would be integrated into the APA's website. This has resulted in an unexpected opportunity for Chapter content to not only be integrated with APA National, but also help in better streamlining member's experience. Some of the benefits of consolidating with APA's website include a single log-in, simplified navigation and more exposure for the planning that happens here in California. The migration will also embrace better coordination with social media and a fully realized responsive web architecture platform for compatibility with mobile devices. The migration and website update is expected to commence in the second half of 2017. Other communication efforts included creating materials such as California Chapter Snapshot, which included a member distribution map and Chapter "fast facts" and morphology. This past year also saw the significant presence of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter. Our member publication, *CalPlanner*, continued to set the standard for content that highlights some of the very best of planning in California. A few of the topics covered this year in the newsletter included themes related to academia, codes and health. Thank you to ALL of the contributors in 2016.

As we look ahead and in addition to the migration of the APA California website, we will be following through on some of the objectives outlined in our 2016 Comprehensive Communications Strategy update and explore new areas where such efforts require adjustment to meet the needs of our members now and into the future. That said, communication remains a two-way street with your engagement and feedback needed as we determine Chapter program priorities, which communication platforms are preferred, and how the Chapter can better utilize multiple digital outlets. So we hope you look forward to these proposed changes in the year ahead so that APA California can continue to be your first stop when it comes to getting planning information and staying fully engaged in the profession.





# Conferences

### Vice President Conferences

#### Betsy McCullough, AICP

The Vice President of Conferences is responsible for coordinating the annual Chapter conference. The primary function of this position is to ensure that there is a good line of communication between the conference contractors, the conference host committee, and the Chapter Board. The goal is to provide the membership with a conference program that is consistent and of high quality. The conference is the Chapter's platform to present the best planning practices from around the State in the conference sessions, and highlight the local area by offering mobile workshops to explore the region. The Chapter conference also provides networking opportunities and allows AICP members to gain continuing education credits. Consulting firms from around the State take the opportunity to exhibit their qualifications and planning successes to our attendees who include Planning Directors and managers. The annual conference is also a main source of revenue to APA California and the eight Sections. Attracting and growing conference sponsorships and attendance are equally important.

The Chapter employs a number of contractors to manage overall conference services as well as to provide organization and graphic support, accounting support, and professional development support. These Chapter contractors along with Chapter Board representatives and the many volunteers of the Conference Host Committee, work together all year to make attendees' registration and on-site experience as positive as possible.

The California Chapter's annual conference is the largest in the country and attracts attendees from outside the state for its thought-provoking content. We invite, and regularly host, officials and management of APA National. The conference program sessions presented vary from year to year, based on members' input, submitted proposals, and trending planning topics. Often the conference's Host Section members are doing work that is cutting edge, and hosting a Chapter conference is a great way for them to share with others around California. Fundamental planning knowledge important to every practicing planner is part of the program.

Typically, there is a "Free Student Day" on the first weekend day of the conference while the Chapter Board meets and Pre-Conference Sessions are held. This allows students to participate in sessions geared toward their professional development without causing them to miss classes. The California Planning Foundation Student Scholarship Luncheon is also held this day. Conference educational sessions begin with the Diversity Summit followed by the evening Opening Reception.

The Chapter has now presented in-depth full-day educational sessions on the



### 2017 Conference – Sacramento

The Sacramento Valley Section Conference Host Committee is well underway planning the 2017 conference "Capitalizing on Our Diversity" September 23-26.



CAPITALIZING  
ON OUR  
DIVERSITY

APA CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE  
SACRAMENTO CONVENTION CENTER  
SEPTEMBER 23 - 26, 2017



### UPCOMING CONFERENCE LOCATIONS:

- » 2018 Hosted by the San Diego Section  
October 7-10,  
Sheraton San Diego  
Hotel & Marina
- » 2019 Hosted by the Central Coast Section  
Fess Parker Resort  
Santa Barbara

*The California Chapter's annual conference is the largest in the country...*



## VP Portfolios and Programs

### Conferences

opening day of the conference four years in a row. A regular highlight of our Pre-Conference Session program is a Management Institute—similar to the one presented at national conferences. Other courses have included: Real Estate Pro-Forma Analysis, Urban Design, GIS Design Tools, SB 743 Implementation, Historic Preservation, and planning for natural hazards and climate change. To fulfill membership session expectations, the Board requires a series of mandatory sessions including a legislative update, Planning Commissioner sessions, an AICP exam preparation session, and Ethics CM training. In addition, our affiliate groups, the California Planning Foundation, the Planners Emeritus Network, and the California Planning Roundtable, sponsor sessions each year, showcasing the talent within these groups.

The 2016 Chapter Conference was in Pasadena, hosted by the Los Angeles Section. The theme “Crafting Our Future: The Art of Planning” was personified by numerous mobile workshops and historic preservation education sessions highlighting the area. The conference was held at the Pasadena Convention Center and the Conference Host Committee Co-Chairs Melani Smith AICP, Meghna Khanna AICP, and Kevin Keller AICP, led a stellar group of volunteers through 24 months of conference planning, culminating in the successful conference October 23-26.

APA guests included: Valerie Hubbard, FAICP, AICP Commission Chair; Kurt Christiansen, FAICP, APA Board Member, Region VI; Marissa Aho, AICP, AICP Commission Member, Region VI; and Lance MacNiven, Student Representative, Region VI.

The attendance totaled over 1800 students, professionals, guests, members, and non-members—plus we attracted an additional 200 non-registered speakers—who took advantage of 3 ½ days of learning and fun. Over 125 sessions and 20 mobile workshops were held. All of the sessions, Pre-Conference Sessions, plenary luncheons, and mobile workshops received Certification Maintenance credit approvals prior to the conference. The annual Diversity Summit fit well with the conference’s location and theme titled “The History of Diversity and Planning in California.” The Saturday evening Opening Reception at historic Pasadena City Hall featured fun, food and drink in a magnificent setting. Opening Plenary Lunch speaker Robert Egger, Founder and President of L.A. Kitchen energized the audience to think about fresh solutions to solvable issues by ensuring that neither food nor people ever go to waste. Closing Plenary Speaker Dr. Lucile Jones shared insights and processes that can help communities and leaders work toward a more resilient future. The California Planning Foundation annual auction on Sunday evening raised money to support our student scholarship program. Monday evening closed the last full day of the conference with the Consultants’ Reception—the Chapter’s chance to highlight and recognize the firms and organizations that support our organizational and educational goals all year long.





## Professional Development



### Vice President Professional Development

#### Terry M. Blount, AICP

The Professional Development team works to assist Chapter members in their pursuit of professional development opportunities and information. The 2016 team consisted of Chapter representatives: Vice President Terry Blount; AICP Coordinator Kimberly Brosseau; FAICP Coordinator David Miller; Programs Coordinator Carol Barrett; Region VI AICP Commissioner Marissa Aho; and the Section PDOs: Roberto Brady, Central; Lilly Rudolph, Central Coast; Julie Rynerson Rock, Inland Empire; Richard Rojas and Christopher Palmer, Los Angeles; Sharon Grewal and Don Bradley, Northern; Starla Barker and Belinda Deines, Orange; Blake Roberts, Sacramento Valley; Matthew Gelbman and Asha Bleier, San Diego. A key factor in the success of the team was APA California staff member Laura Murphy who worked closely with the Vice President on matters related to AICP, FAICP, the state conference, the Chapter website, web postings, member assistance, research, general professional development, and creative solutions. Significant contributions to the Professional Development team were made on an ongoing basis by staff members Francine Farrell and Dorina Blythe.

The Professional Development team assisted Chapter members in many ways including: disseminating information regarding local and national certification maintenance (CM) credit sessions; producing local CM credit sessions; providing AICP exam training and scholarship opportunities; and coaching and supporting potential FAICP members.

### Some 2016 Highlights

- » 92 Chapter members passed the AICP exam in 2016. Congratulations to the individuals who became AICP members following the May and November 2016 exams. See our new AICP members at: <http://www.apacalifornia.org/professional-development/aicp/aicp-recipient-archives/>.
- » Sections offered prep sessions for the May and November 2016 AICP exams.
- » 269.75 CM credits at 151 live and On Demand Education events, plus the Chapter Conference (with 288 additional CM credits within the conference program), were offered by the Sections and the Chapter to our members.

### Major Initiatives

A number of major efforts or dialogues were undertaken by the Professional Development team in 2016:

- » **Successful AICP Exam Prep Session Presented at the Annual Conference:** Kimberly Brosseau, assisted by an able panel - including Asha Bleier, Stan Donn, Darin Neufeld, and Lorena Cordova - conducted a well-attended AICP exam introductory session at the Chapter conference in Pasadena, invigorating many members to think about becoming AICP members.
- » **Pre-Conference Session Offerings:** Four successful pre-conference sessions were held at the Chapter conference in Pasadena, entitled *Historic Preservation: New Frontiers for Local Planning*, *Leadership and Management Institute 2016*, *Geodesign Tools for Planners: Create Your Future Using Next Generation Technology Today*, and *SB 743 Implementation: The Evolution from LOS to VMT*. Pre-conference sessions are opportunities for Chapter members, whether attending the conference or not, to attend an in-depth training session, conducted by experts, on a particular topic for CM credit at a reasonable price.

### Ongoing Efforts

The Professional Development team has done the following:

- » Sections have been providing AICP exam training sessions and reference materials to exam candidates.
- » Section PDO calls were regularly conducted during the year to share information and have discussions on topics of interest to PDOs for use in their Sections; distribution of detailed call notes for all including those unable to join the call.
- » Summary of all CM events offered by the Chapter and Sections was again prepared.
- » AICP exam scholarships from the Chapter and from the Sections continue to be awarded for each exam period after advertising availability of scholarships to AICP applicants and evaluation of those requests by Chapter committee.
- » Successful AICP candidates continue to be recognized in Cal Planner articles while Section PDOs acknowledged their successes locally.
- » The Vice President of Professional Development continues to be an ex officio member of the California Planning Foundation.

**...269.75 CM credits at 151 live events were provided throughout the Chapter.**



## VP Portfolios and Programs

### Professional Development

- » **On Demand Education Sessions Originally Presented at the Chapter Conferences:** The Chapter recorded key sessions presented at the most recent and past Chapter annual conferences (Disneyland 2014, Oakland 2015, and Pasadena 2016) to make them available at a later date for those unable to attend the conferences. Several law and ethics sessions were selected, recorded, and registered as On Demand Education opportunities were available at a very reasonable cost to APA California members.
- » **Core Professional Skills Training:** The California Planning Roundtable (CPR) began a partnership with the Chapter to provide core professional skills training for planners, particularly those newer to the profession. CPR is assisting with training sessions outside of the annual conference, focusing their training efforts on AICP core competencies for entry- and mid-level planners, and filling the niche on those topics that are not commonly covered in graduate urban planning programs, such as strategic thinking, organizational skills, time management, dealing with hostile environments, and political acumen. They have been coordinating with the Section boards and PDOs to sponsor and organize workshops at various locations throughout the state that are eligible for CM credits.
- » **Community Planning Assistance Team Program:** The Chapter launched a program modeled after National's called the Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) to provide volunteer professional planning assistance to financially constrained municipalities and community groups throughout California and Baja California. The program pairs expert planning professionals from the state with residents and other stakeholders from communities with limited resources. The CPAT program seeks to foster community education, engagement, and empowerment.
- » **California Conference of Local Health Officials/County Health Executives Association/Local Health Departments:** The Chapter collaborated with these organizations on the "Chronic Disease Prevention Leadership Project," an effort to connect and promote planning and health. This is an ongoing effort to help them find ways to connect better with their members, and ours, around the topic of planning and health.

CM Provider or Co-Sponsor	Total CM Credits Offered	Total CM Events Offered
Central Coast	41.0	35
Inland Empire	28.5	12
Los Angeles	22.5	10
Northern	64.25	27
Orange	15.0	9
Sacramento Valley	53.5	30
San Diego	10.5	7
Chapter	34.5	21



## Marketing and Membership

### Vice President Marketing and Membership

**Greg Konar, AICP**



The Vice President for Marketing and Membership is responsible for the development of programs to improve membership retention and expand membership, the development of marketing programs, the identification of new self-funding member benefits and services, and coordinating with APA on membership initiatives and other policy changes that affect membership. The VP for Marketing and Membership also coordinates the activities of the Membership Inclusion Directors, University Liaisons, Young Planners Group Coordinator and the Great Places California Coordinator.

Chapter marketing efforts seek to enhance APA California's profile and visibility as THE Authority on planning to our members, as well as non-members we want to recruit and other related professionals/opinion leaders we want to familiarize with APA.

### 2016 Accomplishments

Formation of a Strategic Communications Committee to implement key goals from the previous Strategic Plan and lay the groundwork for the 2017-2018 Strategic Plan Update.

- Relaunching and rebranding the APA California Facebook site. This included a coordinated effort to network Chapter and Section Facebook pages. While e-mails blasts are still important, many planners rely on social media for Section and Chapter news.
- Opening up an APA California Twitter page to be maintained by the Board's Student Representative. The objective is to increase student interest in APA activities.
- Making *CalPlanner* available to the general public. The goal is to increase circulation, boost revenue opportunities, and enhance the profile of APA California.
- Removing "members only" requirements for revenue generating opportunities such as online videos. The objective is share a bit of the APA experience with prospective members while enhancing revenue generation.
- Development of an online membership exit survey to determine why members chose not to renew their membership. Survey results were released to the Board in June 2016 and will help inform the development of the 2017-18 Strategic Plan Update.

Additional accomplishments are highlighted in the following Portfolio Program summaries.

A special thanks goes to Anna M. Vidal who has provided outstanding service to the Chapter as Membership Inclusion Co-Director since 2012. Anna was also the Membership Inclusion Director for the Los Angeles Section between 2008 and 2012. Anna will be leaving the Board at the end of this year.



## VP Portfolios and Programs Marketing and Membership

### Young Planners Group

#### Nina Idemudia, YPG Coordinator

It has been a very exciting year for the California Young Planners Group! I have been working very hard to establish and sustain robust programming for our Young Planners throughout the state! This year I was able to accomplish several of the goals I created at the beginning of the year, with the help of a dedicated group of Young Planners here in Southern California. I'll continue to reach new heights as we go into 2016.



#### 2016 Accomplishments

- » **Inaugural APA YPG California Ambassador Program:** This year the California Young Planners Group (YPG) and YPG Sub-Committee of the APA California State Conference created, organized, and implemented the inaugural APA YPG California Ambassador Program. The Ambassador Program is an opportunity for visiting planners (from outside the host section) attending the state conference to be hosted by a fellow YPG planner living in the Los Angeles/Pasadena area (host section). The conference attendees participating in this program are able to receive free lodging from a planner in the LA area that was interested in hosting another YPG planner at their residence. This year we were able to match five hosts and guests in our pilot program, which met our goals!
- » **2nd Annual Young Planner Group State Conference Mixer:** On October 23, 2016 at 7:30 pm, YPG California hosted the 2nd annual Young Planners Group State Conference Mixer in Pasadena. The event was well attended and was praised for being a way for Young Planners to fellowship at the State Conference. The planning Committee for this year's event consisted of Nina Idemudia, the YPG State Conference Sub-Committee Chairs, and the YPG of the LA Section.
- » **Outstanding Young Planners Award:** This year YPG California and the YPG of the Los Angeles section were able to pilot an Outstanding Young Planners Award. The Outstanding Young Planner Award was created to highlight the amazing work of a young planner as they help to advance the Planning Field. Shane Phillips was the first winner of the award.
- » **2nd Annual Planning Month and #IAmPlanning Social Media Challenge:** In honor of #PlanningMonth, the YPG of California and APA National teamed up for the 2nd annual #IAmPlanning Social Media Campaign. An #IAmPlanning Blog post was created for the APA National website. This campaign was designed to give young planners, both APA members and non-members, the opportunity to share the reasons they chose the planning profession.



#### Goals for 2017

- » Continue with the above programs piloted in 2016
- » Develop a taskforce, led by the Young Planners Coordinator, to create an annual "Top Young Planners in California List." This California Chapter YPG Top 15 Under 35 program is meant to help highlight talented young planners from across the state. The program is intended to develop and strengthen the Young Planner/Student Membership base of the Chapter. It will also work as an engagement tool to get more Young Planners/Students involved with the board and attending our annual state conferences.





## Membership Inclusion

**Membership Inclusion Director - North: Miroo Desai, AICP**

**Membership Inclusion Director - South: Anna M. Vidal**

APA California continues to encourage a diverse membership and to provide support to all who would like to participate in APA and work in the planning field. The Membership Inclusion program does this through activities and events such as the Diversity Summit held at the annual conference, which provides an excellent networking opportunity for members as well as a forum to discuss how members can get involved in Chapter activities.



### 2016 Highlights

- » **2016 Diversity Summit:** The 11th Annual Diversity Summit started off the APA CA Pasadena Conference held on October 22, 2016. This year's theme was "Changing Faces, Places, and Planning in California." The distinguished panel included Hilda Blanco, PhD, Interim Director, Center for Sustainable Cities at USC Sol Price School of Public Policy; George Davis, the Executive Director, California African American Museum; David McNeil, Executive Officer of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy; Brian Mooney, FAICP, Principal, RICK Community Planning and Sustainable Development; and Todd Nguyen of WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff; Anna M. Vidal, City Planner with Department of City Planning for the City of Los Angeles; and Veronica Siranosian AICP, LEED GA, Transportation and Land Use Planning Manager, AECOM moderated the panel. The program was videotaped and is available to from the APA California website. AICP members can obtain 1.5 CM Ethics credits for registering to watch the video.
- » **APA National Ambassadors:** APA National Ambassador Program participants from the California delegation (Diversity Task Force) were recognized at the Diversity Summit. Certificate recipients were: Lucina Navarro, Northern; Shellie Zias-Roe, AICP, Inland Empire; Hannah Kornfeld, Central Coast; Jess Kleist, San Diego; Keith Woodcock, AICP CEP, Central; Nile Ledbetter, Northern; Gabriel Elliott, Central; Juan Carrillo, Inland Empire; and Camille Jackson, Northern. Miguel Angel Vazquez coordinated California's Diversity Task Force. The pilot program was a great success and the California Chapter is committed to maintaining a leadership role in the National Ambassador program in the coming years.
- » **Planners for Diversity and UCLA Joint Reception:** A Planners for Diversity and UCLA Alumni Joint Reception was held on October 24, 2016, at El Cholo Restaurant in Pasadena just steps away from the conference location. We had a very successful turn out with approximately 117 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had many opportunities to network with fellow planners of various ages, diversities, and experiences. Sponsorships were received from the three National APA divisions: GALIP, Women & Planning, and Latinos & Planning as well as the APA Los Angeles Section and the State Membership Inclusion Chapter. We look forward to continuing the tradition at future conferences.
- » **Section Support for Diversity Initiatives:** Throughout the year APA Section Inclusion Directors worked tirelessly to promote diversity in California planning. Highlights include: Central Coast Section's Movies in My Backyard showing of "Food for Change," Inland Empire Section's nomination of Gustavo Gonzalez for the Latino Planner as Advocate award at the state level; Los Angeles Section's launching of the Dialogos Series, featuring "Latino Neighborhoods in Transition" and "Investment without Displacement,"; Northern Section's Placelt Seminar featuring James Rojas; Orange Section's efforts to create a wellness district in Santa Ana focusing on the Latino heritage; Sacramento Section's health speaker series; and San Diego Section's program titled "Gentrification vs Revitalization."





## University Liaisons

The University Liaison acts as a liaison between the Chapter Board and the planning schools and programs within the State and supports the Chapter Student Representative. Recently the University Liaison was added as a nonvoting member of the California Planning Foundation to support its student scholarship efforts. In 2016, the position of University Liaison was updated to include a North and South representative to better serve the

### Julia Lave Johnson

#### University Liaison - North

- » **Goals:** My goal is to better integrate university programs, instructors and students into APACA section activities, support students as emerging planning professionals, and increase professional development opportunities for practicing planners.
- » **Northern California has Two Accredited Planning Programs:** San Jose State and University of California, Berkeley, but it has an additional eight schools with programs that are now eligible for CPF scholarships. In 2016, I worked with the Sac Valley Section YPG to pilot a year-long program at UC Davis to see how to best engage these schools. In 2017 I will be focusing on lessons learned from this effort, as well as collecting best practices from other universities. Northern California will also start working to create an annual all-school symposium similar to the event in Southern California.
- » **California Planning Foundation Scholarship Luncheon:** Northern California schools were well represented at this year's California Planning Foundation (CPF) Scholarship luncheon with recipients coming from the following schools:
  - Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
  - San Jose State University
  - Sonoma State University
  - UC Berkeley
  - UC Davis



### Nicholas Chen

#### University Liaison - South

- » **Goals:** In my first year as the Southern California University Liaison I continued to build off of my work at the Region VI SRC Student Representative by working with the current SRC board to create a more dependable list of contacts at each of the universities. This is critical to prevent us from having to reinvent the wheel every year or two when student leadership at the individual PSOs turns over. This will translate well when putting together programs and coordinating between universities next year.
- » **California Planning Foundation Scholarship Luncheon:** Students of planning programs in Southern California were also very well represented at the yearly California Planning Foundation (CPF) Scholarship luncheon, as 24 students won CPF Scholarships. The students came from a number of universities, including:
  - UCI
  - UCLA
  - UCSD
  - Cal Poly Pomona
  - USC







**Great Places California Coordinator**  
**Tricia Stevens, AICP**

## 2016 Great Place California Winners

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association was pleased to announce the three winners of the Great Places in California program for 2016. A Great Place in California is one that exemplifies character, quality, and excellent planning. It can be anywhere from the beach to the mountains, from a large city to a small community. It can be a vibrant downtown, a suburban gathering place, a historic small town, a public park, or preserved open space. Most important, it must be a place people want to be!

### **Mission Plaza, San Luis Obispo**

Mission Plaza is an extraordinary urban space that preserves and connects residents and visitors to the historic Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa and the natural environment—all in the midst of a vibrant downtown. The plaza is bordered on the north by the beautiful white stucco parish, and to the south by San Luis Creek. The creekwalk extends about 1/3 of a mile, from Chorro to Broad Street. It is a fine place for a quiet walk in the heart of downtown. Tall shade trees line the creek and the plaza. Large boulders invite children to play along the water's edge. Two pedestrian bridges connect the Plaza with walkways along the creek and adjacent businesses. Mission Plaza is a safe, welcoming environment busy and active with informal use by children and adults, locals and visitors, all year long, playing in the fountain, relaxing on benches, walking along the creek, pushing babies in strollers, sitting with friends on the grass, or enjoying the patio at one of the restaurants overlooking the creek.

### **Downtown Truckee**

Known as the “heart and soul” of Truckee, historic downtown Truckee provides a place for locals and visitors alike to enjoy unique shops, eclectic restaurants, and beautiful art galleries, all set in charming historic buildings with magnificent views of the surrounding Sierra Nevada mountains. Recent infill and streetscape projects, guided by the current general plan have been key in turning Truckee from a pass-through town on the way to Lake Tahoe, into a destination unto itself. Downtown Truckee also serves as the communal “living room” for the local residents, a place for major community events such as Truckee Thursdays, the Iron Man-Lake Tahoe triathlon, the local high school parade, Wine Walk and Shop, and the player's parade to kick-off the Little League season.

### **Dry Creek Trailhead, Clovis**

Dry Creek Trailhead is a three-acre community recreation area that encourages alternative transportation, promotes healthy living, and protects natural resources. The Trailhead provides access to the regional trail system and serves as a “hub” to provide connection to downtown Clovis, local transit, recreational destinations, and the adjacent City of Fresno. Its location adjacent to the Enterprise canal, Big Dry Creek, and orchards/farmland capitalizes on the educational opportunities provided by the natural qualities of the areas as well as the history of the Central Valley. Key features of the Trailhead include drought tolerant landscaping, a storm waste retention system, and reduced construction and operational costs with a focus on conservation and water management. The Trailhead also serves as a safe meeting place to treasure the beautiful environment and take in the “farmland” atmosphere. Its park-like features encourage the community to walk and bike for recreation as well as active transportation.





## Commission and Board Representative

### Scott Lefaver, AICP

For 2016 the emphasis was again placed on continuing education for commissioners and board members and urging members to directly participate in APA, its seminars and conferences. APA California continues to co-sponsor events with several organizations that promote planning commission education and participation including Sonoma State College's annual Planning Commissioner Conference and San Jose University's Annual Urban Planning Coalition program. APA California, through the Commission and Board Representative and Section Planning Commission representatives, continues to support and co-sponsor educational and topical events of interests to planning commissioners, particularly at the local level. On-going outreach to planning commissioners and seminars that reflect their interest is key to that participation.

A network of planning commission representatives from each of the APA California Chapter Sections has been established. Several sections now have commission representatives including Sacramento, Central Coast, Los Angeles and San Diego. They are suggesting educational sessions for commissioners at the APA CalChapter Conferences and specifically helped with sessions at the APA California Conference in Pasadena. Contacting commissions and boards directly through e-mail and Planning Directors continues.

Also, e-mails have been sent out to members explaining how their entire commission or board can join APA as a group and enjoy lower dues, as well as gain the benefits of on-line seminars and attendance at State and National conferences at the membership rate.

At the 2016 APA California Chapter Conference in Pasadena, a morning roundtable meeting of fellow commissioners and board members attending the conference was held. Twenty-eight commissioners attended. The commissioners talked about issues of interest including how to handle difficult people who appear at public hearings and what standards should be used when approving variances and use permits. Louisa Nelson, Vice Chair of Pasadena Planning Commission, and four of her fellow Commissioners attended the session and talked about issues facing their city. A special thanks to her and the Commissioners for their excellent presentation.

Several sessions were held at the Pasadena Conference focusing on planning commissions. The incoming APA California Chapter Commission and Board Representative, Stephen Haase, City of San Diego Planning Commissioner, led a session on procedures for planning commissioners. He was joined by Planning Commissioners Ma'Ayn Johnson (City of Fullerton) and Marcus Bush (City of National City). Rob Eastwood, Planning Manager for the County of Santa Clara, was joined by Planning Commissioner Debbie Cauble (Santa Clara County), and City Councilmember Gustav Larsen (City of Sunnyvale) at a session that reviewed the need to sharpen a planning commission's findings and conditions of approval. Over 40 commissioners and planning staff members attended each of these sessions.

Overall participation of commissioners and board members has increased the last two years and the new Commission and Board Representative, Stephen Haase, will have a sound basis and good network to continue this expansion.



### Planning Commission and Board Representative Highlights

- » Planning Commission and Board Representative RoundTable held at APA CalChapter Conference in Pasadena
- » Several sessions and mobile workshops at the APA CalChapter Conference designated "of special interest" to Planning Commission and Board members
- » Special e-mails directed to over 250 Planning Commission and Board members of APA California Chapter
- » APA California Chapter co-sponsoring seminars and educational opportunities directed toward commissioners and public agency board members.
- » A network of commissioners and board members participating at the Section level.



# Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations Students

## Student Representative (2015-16)

### Eric Tucker

Eric Tucker served as the Student Representative while finishing the last year of his Master in Urban and Regional Planning at San Jose State University. Eric currently resides in San Francisco and works for Arup as an Assistant Transportation Planner.

- » **2014 - 16 Goals:** The goals for 2015-2016 were to increase the Chapter's presence on social media and improve student engagement with planning school students from across the state.
- » **Social Media:** Over the past decade, social media has become an ever increasing tool for planners to share information about planning events, relevant articles, job postings, upcoming public meetings, and examples of best practices from around the world. There are many different social media channels planners use: Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Eric created a Twitter account for the Chapter and managed it over the course of his term as the Student Representative.

Twitter is one of the more popular social media platforms for planners due to its ease of use, wide audience reach, and topic specific feeds. Eric used the Twitter account to share articles relevant to planners across the state, promote the 2016 California Planning Conference in Pasadena, as well as live tweet sessions from the Pasadena Conference. Additionally, agencies have used the Chapters twitter account to promote job openings by "tagging" the account handle @APA\_California in their posts.

- » **Student Engagement:** Student engagement is an ongoing endeavor. Getting feedback from students has been a challenge with planning programs spread across the state as well as the demanding and stressful school workloads. Face-to-face input with students at networking events proved to be much better for getting consensus on how to improve the conference and overall engagement with students.

Eric created a Google web survey to get input from students on how the state conference could better serve students. The survey questions included what prevented students from attending the conference and how to improve the student day at the conference. Students said that the main barriers to attending the conference were missing class days and the costs. Most planning schools provide little or no financial support for planning students. Some of the feedback suggested that the Chapter should work to offer more scholarships and subsidized hotel rooms for students to attend the conference. Another theme was students wanting more opportunities to present their research at the conferences. A student track (not just on Student Day) would give students the ability to speak to expert planners, increase their presentation skills, and perhaps even lead to future job connections.





### Chapter Historians

**Northern California: J. Laurence Mintier, FAICP**

**Southern California: Steven A. Preston, FAICP**

The Chapter Historians are responsible for the preservation of the Chapter's history, as well as documentation and dissemination of the rich history of planning in California.

#### Accomplishments

» **Archives:** The California Chapter archives, housed in the Oviatt Library at California State University, Northridge, comprises one of the State's largest collections of documents exclusively drawn from the history of California planning. In 2015 the Board adopted a preliminary plan of action designed to advance the archives into the digital age. However, currently, the only on-going funding directed to the Chapter's archives is an annual contribution by Cal Chapter of \$1,000, an amount that has not changed since the archives were formed in 1998. That amount no longer provides adequate resources to process the records being handled by the archives, which have continued to grow while the support level has remained constant. While the Board considered supplemental funding for the archives, \$1,123 was raised for support of the archives through a combination of contributions made in conjunction with Cal Chapter conference registrations in September, contributions at the CPF auction, and a \$500 pledge from CPR.

We were pleased, thanks to the efforts of Carol Barrett, FAICP, and the contributions of Margarita McCoy's family, to receive Margarita's collection of personal papers spanning 40 years in practice. The collection consists of 14 boxes of material, although certain select materials may be more appropriate for inclusion in National APA's archives at Cornell, and we are in discussions with National APA concerning those documents.

We were also pleased to receive a box of plans that were prepared by DC & E before its merger with the Planning Center to become Placeworks. The documents are being cataloged by the Chapter Historians before they are forwarded to archive at Cal State Northridge.

The Board received a tour and presentation concerning the archives at its January 2016 meeting in Los Angeles. Although the archives receive a small annual maintenance contribution of \$1,000 from the Chapter, the rapid growth and need to properly process the collection will require the Board to consider additional funding strategies. To that end, the Historians raised approximately \$700 at the State conference, and received an end-of-year contribution from the California Planning Roundtable in the amount of \$500.

» **Annual Awards:** In the last two years there have been no suitable nominations for either the Land mark or Pioneer. As a consequence, the Historians are returning to the historical process of both seeking outside nominations AND developing a list of potential nominations, asking the Board to regularly authorize the preparation of certain nominations. At the Board meeting in September the Board authorized the Historians to prepare a nomination for Margarita McCoy, FAICP, one of the female pioneers of the profession: the first female to achieve full professor status in any urban and regional planning program in the U. S.; and the first to chair an urban and regional planning program anywhere in the country.



#### Upcoming Programs

» **Chapter Conferences.** Planning is well underway for the Cal Chapter conferences in 2017 and 2018, with both highlighting significant historical milestones. 2017 marks the centennial of the founding of the American City Planning Institute, and 2018 marks the 70th anniversary of the creation of California Chapter. Both conferences will feature sessions and other activities highlighting the history of planning in California.

» **Sections.** Historian programs are now underway in four of the State's eight sections: Northern Section (Juan Borelli); Orange Section (Gus Gonzalez); and, Los Angeles Section (Alicen Bartle). Inland Empire Section plans to fill a vacancy in that post. The Chapter Historians are encouraging other sections to appoint Section Historians or to assign these responsibilities to existing section officers.

Orange Section hosted a November colloquium on the history and development of downtown Anaheim, focusing on the twin themes of redevelopment and Anaheim's unique voluntary historic preservation program. About 40 participants enjoyed the colloquium, luncheon and walking tour.



## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

### Chapter Historians

- » **Collaborations:** During this year we collaborated with the Los Angeles Region Planning History Group (LARPHG), sponsored by the Huntington Library's Institute of the West and the University of Southern California, in staging two colloquia. The first, "Complete Street: Wrongs and Rights of Way," documented the history and evolution of streets in the U. S., and was held at the Huntington Library in September before an appreciative audience of more than 70 people. The next colloquium "Planning from the Outside," will focus on the stories of minority, women, and LGBTQ planners and the roles they have played in advancing the profession, while also focusing on the communities those individuals have served and their efforts to gain access for communities outside the corridors of power. It will be held in March at the Huntington Library.

We have also expanded our collaboration with the Planner Emeritus Network (PEN), which is growing its interest and role in the collection and dissemination of California planning history.

- » **Documentation:** The Chapter Historians continued gathering biographies of significant figures in California planning, and updated existing databases that were originally created for the Chapter's 60th anniversary in 2008.
- » **Education:** In addition to preparing several columns and feature stories for *CalPlanner*, Co-Historian Steve Preston compiled a display at the Pasadena Cal Chapter conference in September based on images and materials prepared for the LARPHG Complete Streets Colloquium.





### California Planning Roundtable

The California Planning Roundtable (CPR) is an organization of experienced planning professionals who are members of the American Planning Association (APA). Membership is balanced between the public and private sectors, and between Northern and Southern California. Our mission is advancing the practice of planning through innovation and leadership. Each year, the Roundtable chooses one or more timely and significant California planning issues for study, and publishes the results of the inquiries in papers or articles that are widely distributed to California planners, the California legislature, and local public officials. The Roundtable also organizes and conducts panels and other presentations for the APA California Chapter annual conferences. These include an annual panel on leadership in planning, and other timely, topical conference sessions. The Roundtable also funds three student scholarships annually through the California Planning Foundation.



### California Planning Foundation

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association established the California Planning Foundation (CPF) in 1970 as a nonprofit, charitable corporation with the goal of furthering the professional practice of planning in California. The primary focus is providing scholarships and awards to university students in financial need. The scholarship recipients come from many backgrounds and are selected because they are talented and motivated and have demonstrated academic excellence at university planning programs in California.

A secondary, but vitally important function is fostering professional development through the sponsorship of workshops, publications, research studies and other continuing educational and professional programs. CPF promotes the objectives of equal opportunity and social equity in all programs supported by contributions and fund-raising activities

*Please go to [www.californiaplanningfoundation.org/donations.html](http://www.californiaplanningfoundation.org/donations.html) to donate to CPF, and we look forward to seeing everyone in Pasadena.*





### Planner Emeritus Network

#### Stanley R. Hoffman, FAICP, President

The following report highlights the ongoing activities and accomplishments of the Planner Emeritus Network (PEN). In summary, we had a very successful year sponsoring our annual PEN panel at the Statewide APA Cal Chapter Conference in Pasadena, and honoring eight accomplished planners from the California Chapter. We also have other ongoing activities that will be reported below, such as the launch of the Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) program:



#### PEN Activities

- » **PEN Board Members:** The current members and officers that were approved at our October 23, 2016 Board meeting at the Statewide conference in Pasadena were: Robert Paternoster, FAICP, President; Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore, FAICP, Vice-President, North; Linda Tatum, AICP, Vice-President South; Gina Natoli, AICP, Secretary/Treasurer; Stan Hoffman, FAICP, Past-President; and other non-executive board members including: Dr. Don Bradley, PhD, AICP; Carol Barrett, FAICP; Brian Mooney, FAICP; Mike Moore; Hanson Hom, AICP; and Dana Privitt, AICP. Additionally, two non-voting board members are APACA co-Chapter Historians, Steve Preston, FAICP (South) and Larry Mintier, FAICP (North).
- » **Annual PEN Honorees:** One of PEN's very important responsibilities is to annually honor distinguished planners in APA Cal Chapter that have made significant contributions to the betterment of our communities in California and to the planning profession. In 2016, we honored the following eight planners at the annual statewide conference: 1) Greg Collins, Central Section; 2) Donald R. Spivack, AICP, Los Angeles Section; 3) Matthew Winegar, AICP, Central Coast Section; 4) Julie Rynerson Rock, AICP, Inland Empire Section; 5) Robert Sherry, AICP, Sacramento Valley Section; 6) Tricia Stevens, AICP, Sacramento Valley Section; 7) Charles Smith, AICP, Orange Section; and 8) Steven Piasecki, AICP, Northern Section.
- » **Annual PEN Panel:** In 2016, our Statewide Cal Chapter conference panel topic at Pasadena was "The Urban Resurgence of Inglewood: How Master Planning and Economic Development Goals Meet." The urban resurgence of the City of Inglewood is being driven by three major forces: 1) a major, mixed use development at the former Hollywood Park site; 2) the future arrival of the NFL Rams pro football stadium and related entertainment and commercial uses, and, 3) the arrival of light rail transit through the northern section of the city that is sparking revitalization of the downtown commercial core and civic center. The panel covered both long-range planning considerations and short-term implementation and construction steps already underway. Stan Hoffman, FAICP, PEN President, was joined on the panel by Christopher E. Jackson, Sr., Inglewood Senior Economic and Community Development Department Manager; Gerard McCallum, II, Wilson Meany, Project Manager, Hollywood Park Development; and Larry B. Morrison, FAICP, AIA, Founding Principal, The Arroyo Group.



*Thanks for supporting PEN...*



## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations



### Planner Emeritus Network

» **Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) Program:** In 2016, the PEN Board launched the Community Assistance Planning Team (CPAT) program under the auspices of the California Chapter of the American Planning Association to provide volunteer professional planning assistance to financially constrained municipalities and community groups throughout California and Baja California. By pairing expert planning professionals from throughout the state with staff, decision-makers, residents and other stakeholders from communities with limited resources, the CPAT program seeks to foster community education, engagement, planning and empowerment. The California Chapter CPAT program is based upon a similar program which has been operated nationally by APA since 1995. Three other chapters (Illinois, Washington and New Jersey) currently offer pro bono planning assistance services to local communities in need.

A link has been set up on the California Chapter website for planners to volunteer to serve on a CPAT team and for municipalities or community organizations to request CPAT assistance at <https://www.apacalifornia.org/professional-development/apa-california-cpat-program/>. Currently, a number of planners have volunteered their participation and discussions are taking place to enlist the first community to be part of the program. Further information about the CPAT program of California Chapter can be obtained by contacting Robert Paternoster, FAICP, at [robertpaternoster@yahoo.com](mailto:robertpaternoster@yahoo.com) or (562) 400-3825.

» **California Planning History Committee Report:** The California Chapter's co-historians, Steve Preston, FAICP, Chapter Historian, South, and Larry Mintier, FAICP, Chapter Historian, North, presented their report about the key activities that have taken place over the past year and what is planned for 2017 and beyond:

- It was reported that the California Chapter Board approved the nomination of the late Margarita McCoy for a National Planning Pioneer award, and the Chapter Historians will begin the paperwork.
- The Historians will work with the California Planning Foundation to fund maintenance of the archive at California State University (CSU), Northridge. The Chapter Board originally funded the archive. The Chapter provides \$1,000 per year to maintain the archive, which does not allow Northridge to do much with the collection. More resources need to be provided to Northridge to allow serious archiving and occasional events that feature the wealth of historic materials in the archives.
- The Chapter Historians are working on an ongoing basis with CSU Northridge to determine Northridge's funding and operational requirements and restrictions. A PEN-initiated telephone conference call will be held in 2017 to discuss the Historian's progress and next steps.
- The year 2018 marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the California Chapter. The Chapter Board approved a celebration, and planning will begin in 2017. The Board would like PEN to help develop the celebration. Brian Mooney and Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore volunteered to be part of the preliminary working group along with Chapter historian's Steve Preston and Larry Mintier.





## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations



### Planner Emeritus Network

- Also, the next statewide planning conference in Sacramento in 2017 will have a planning history track and the Chapter historians are currently in communication with the Sacramento Valley conference program committee to assist in their efforts to highlight California's rich and unique planning history and build upon the materials contained within the archives.

» **It's a First! Joint Sacramento Valley Section and PEN Cross-Generational Exchange:** PEN has been honoring experienced and well distinguished planners from California since 1998. However, we have never organized discussions between PEN honorees and Chapter sections to have a dialogue about past planning experiences compared with new and emerging trends. On April 28, 2016, PEN coordinated with the Sacramento Valley Chapter section to arrange for past PEN honorees to share their perspectives about how the practice of planning and the planning profession has changed over their years of experience, and what they see as the challenges ahead.



For this first joint session, entitled: Cross-Generational Planning Exchange: Collaborating for a Better Future, Stan Hoffman coordinated with Tracey Ferguson, AICP, Sacramento Valley Section Director, to arrange a dialogue between young and mid-career planners talking and experienced planners to foster cross-generational learning. The past PEN honorees—and representing the baby boomers were: Janet Ruggiero (former Citrus Heights Community Development Director), FAICP; Larry Mintier (Mintier and Harnish), FAICP; and Terry Rivasplata (ICF International), AICP. Also, serving on the panel and representing both the young and mid-career planners from the Millennial and Gen X generations were: Emily Hyland (Sacramento County), Matt Braughton (Kittelson & Associates), and Kacey Lizon (Sacramento Area Council of Governments).

It was a lively discussion and considered a success by all. An article describing the session was written and is in the Volume 16, Issue 04 edition of California Planner that was published just before the October 2016 statewide planning conference in Pasadena. PEN will be coordinating joint sessions with other sections in the coming years.

» **Looking Ahead:** PEN will continue to enhance its outreach to California planners through joint sessions with local sections and maintain a visible, informative and interactive presence on the APACA website: <http://www.apacalifornia.org/apaca-organizations/planner-emeritus-network/>. We will also prepare timely articles for the California Chapter Newsletter to continue to inform members of PEN's activities and to highlight new programs that are being offered. There will be increased activities ongoing with the California history program as the Chapter looks toward the history track at the 2017 statewide conference in Sacramento, and the 70th anniversary of the founding of the California Chapter in 2018. Additionally, we look forward to having our first CPAT effort with a local community and providing pro-bono planning services to communities in need.



# Local Sections

## Central

### Benjamin A. Kimball, Director

The Central Section covers eleven counties in the central interior of California and serves nearly 200 planning professionals and students in a wide variety of backgrounds and settings, including urban, suburban, small town and rural. Some call this area the Final Frontier for growth in California. To keep up with member needs, the Central Section has expanded its program, offering more services and events, as well as reach out to students to build a relationship and member base in the area's universities.



» **Section Board:** This year saw the changing of the guard with the keys to the Sierra Retreat being passed from Bruce O'Neal, who oversaw the event for many years, to Karl Schoettler, a long-time attendee and advocate of the program. Karl wasted no time jumping in and put together another high quality and memorable retreat at Sequoia Lake, with a great deal of help from Bruce. Thank you both for your tremendous service. I've consistently heard nothing but great comments from those who attended.

A new Section Board position was created and filled this year, Jenna Chillingierian, the Program Manager for the Office of Community and Economic Development at California State University, Fresno was appointed to serve as the University Liason and has attended meetings and put on events this year involving both the University and APA.

- Sung Kwon, AICP, Director for Administration and Finance moved to the Bay Area this year, vacating his position after years of diligent service. Bruce O'Neal has temporarily filled his position until a new election can be held. We wish Sung the best and thank him for his service. He leaves the Section Board in great financial shape after consistent care and monitoring of funds.



- Holly Owen, AICP, Director for Membership and Public Information has also moved recently, after several years of dedication to the Section and its membership. Her position will be filled as soon as possible. We thank Holly and wish her the best in her new adventures. She leaves the Section Board having made significant improvements to outreach, information and events.
- Roberto Brady, AICP, took over this year as our Director for Professional Development and has been involved in our AICP preparation efforts, membership outreach and the Section's many events.
- Ralph Kachadourian has continued to serve as our CPF Liason and has done a good job with keeping students connected with scholarship opportunities.
- Rob Terry, AICP, served this year as the Section Director Elect and has made many contributions to the Section this year including partnering with the Valley Planner's Network to host member lunches, and a new Section website that we are very happy about: <http://www.cencalapa.org>. He will take over for outgoing Section Director Benjamin Kimball on January 1, 2017.



## Local Sections

### Central

#### » Section Activities

- City and Regional Planning Program at California State University, Fresno: Building upon last year's efforts to support the formation of an advanced degree in Planning, the Section has been active in helping the University continue to plan and prepare. The Section has also helped with the success of the newly established Bachelor's Degree in City and Regional Planning, including providing guest lecturers and presentations at the campus Geography Club.
- Planner's Lunches: In 2015 The Section kicked off a new effort to establish quarterly lunch meetings with members to receive training, share best practices and network. In 2016, an effort was initiated to partner with the Valley Planner's Network to hold these lunches, with a kickoff lunch held in Fresno in April.
- In partnership with the university, the Central Section sponsored a Park Summit in Fresno in May that was well attended by planners and recreation officials in the region.
- In partnership with the university, the Central Section sponsored an Urban Design Contest in Fresno in May that was well attended by planners and urban design professionals in the region.
- In partnership with the university, the Central Section sponsored an Affordable Housing Summit in Fresno in August that was well attended by a diverse group of housing interests.
- Sierra Retreat: The much beloved and long-standing Central Section Sierra Retreat was held at scenic Sequoia Lake near King's Canyon National Park in August. Attendees were treated to training on outreach and other relevant topics. Nature and recreation were abundant, including the lake water sports, hiking, relaxing as well as the long standing traditions of campfires and the extraordinarily competitive bingo game (many dance moves included). There were new attendees and long-time friends.
- Fall Policy Conference: The Fall Policy Conference put on by the Valley's Regional Governments was postponed to become the Spring Policy Conference and will be held in early 2017. APA continues to be involved in the planning and sponsoring of this event.
- Events/Mixers: The Section put on two holiday parties in December this year. The first was a gathering at former Board Member Barbara Steck's home who conveniently lives adjacent to the street where the annual Fresno Christmas Tree Lane Celebration is held each year. Attendees were able to enjoy the company of fellow members and take some time to stroll the amazing holiday displays along the pedestrian-only route. A week later, the Section also joined AEP for a Holiday Mixer at Peeve's Public House in downtown Fresno for an evening of socializing, food and drinks. These holiday events continue to be a beloved tradition of the members who attend.



- » **Section Awards:** For 2016, Six public agencies, and their consultation partners, have been recognized for outstanding achievement in land use planning and best practices. The California Chapter Central Section of the American Planning Association has made the following awards:



## Local Sections

### Central

- Outstanding Planning Award - Transportation Planning: To the City of Clovis for the Dry Creek Trailhead
- Outstanding Planning Award - Urban Design: To the City of Modesto for the Downtown Form-Based Zones
- Outstanding Planning Award - Academic Award: To the City of Sanger and The Department of City and Regional Planning at California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), San Luis Obispo, for the Sanger General Plan
- Outstanding Planning Award - Planning Best Practices: To Fresno County and participating agencies (Cities of Clovis, Coalinga, Fowler, Huron, Kerman, Kingsburg, Mendota, Parlier, Reedley, San Joaquin, Sanger, and Selma) for the Fresno Multi-Jurisdictional Housing Element
- Outstanding Planning Award - Innovation in Green Community Planning: To Madera County; McCaffrey Communities and PlaceWorks for the Tesoro Viejo Plan
- Planning Award of Merit - Planning Best Practices: To the City of Kingsburg and Fresno Housing Authority for the Marion Villas Senior Housing Project





## Local Sections

### Central Coast

#### Christopher Williamson, AICP, Director

The Central Coast Section has about 300 members serving nearly 1.6 million people in 25 cities and three counties and future planning and related professionals enrolled at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, UC Santa Barbara, Cal State Channel Islands, Cal Lutheran University, and community colleges.

» **Website Overhaul and Sponsor Program:** In early 2016, the Board successfully revamped and launched a new website that allows the Chapter's webmaster to quickly and easily change content. In tandem with the website overhaul, the Board initiated a web-presence sponsorship program with six sponsors, posted below, and the City of Ventura.



The new website is specifically designed to spotlight the importance of our sponsors, companies with whom planners work and that provide support for many of our activities. The web software allows a mobile device interface and on-site payment. Over the past year, 12 local government planning and consulting vacancy notices were placed and the website was updated several times to tie into State Chapter news and the October 2016 State APA conference. An exhaustive overview of enacted State legislation is a must read in all jurisdictions. The Professional Development page offers a dozen locally produced training sessions that are CM-credited for AICP members.

The annual tiered sponsorship program is an opportunity for member, firms and agencies to help the Section achieve and sustain revenue neutrality. This is the Section's only sponsorship program and source of income other than receiving a share of state conference proceeds and membership dues. By participating, firms and agencies will receive exposure to professional peers as well as appointed and elected officials and policymakers. Benefits include website exposure, name/logo on awards program and bi-weekly Section newsletter e-blasts, verbal recognition at Central Coast APA events, and passes to the annual planning Awards Program. Board members personally ask firms and public agencies to participate.

In 2016, the Board approved a change to the Section By-Laws creating a voting Board position of Webmaster, more-than-ably filled by Clay Downing. The website Drupal software is modular, allowing the Section to add functionality as needed such as direct payment for event registration and sponsorships and immediate on-line streaming of the professional development videos. In 2016, the Webmaster sent out over 300 e-blasts to 800 addresses and had an open rate of 27 percent, over twice as high as the industry average for public/civic associations.

» **Annual Planning Awards Program:** The 2016 Central Coast Planning Awards were a success! Hosted in Ventura at the Crown Plaza rooftop banquet hall, the Section had seven nominations, recognized all seven, and forwarded one award to the State where it received an award of merit. About 100 guests enjoyed plentiful wine provided by Santa Barbara Winery and the dinner was fabulous.





### Central Coast

» **Academic and Student Outreach:** With four universities, the Central Coast Section maintains a focus on mentoring students in planning, environmental sciences, and related academic programs. Many APA-affiliated students are hired by the sponsors. Each of the three member counties has a county Sub-Section Director and a Young Planners Group (YPG) Officer who meet and greet and appoint interested students representatives from the Cal Poly SLO and UCSB undergraduate and graduate planning and environmental studies degree programs. Student APA membership is free while in school and the Chapter had about 30 student members in 2016. In 2016, Chapter members contacted CSU Channel Islands, with its growing Environmental Science and Resource Management (ESRM) Bachelor's degree program, and Cal Lutheran University, with its Master of Public Policy & Administration (MPPA) program, to introduce planning as a profession and bring working professionals to the students when invited by the faculty or students. The Central Coast section contributed \$350 to the California Planning Foundation for student scholarships.



» **Two Planning Academies and Section Events:**

- A Planning Academy (PA) is a series of evening classes organized and largely taught by local APA and working professionals for the general public and local elected officials. PA courses are an overview of local government, the planning and development entitlement process, CEQA, State and Federal laws, and local planning issues of which there are many. The Santa Barbara County Subsection held their Planning Academy over six weeks in February and March with a registration of 60. Tuition was \$145.00. Thanks to the Association of Realtors for providing a free meeting room. The San Luis Obispo PA ran its Citizen Planning Academy over 8-weeks between September and November. Enrollment was 25. Thanks to the Wallace Group for providing the meeting space. Ventura County is planning their PA in 2017.
- The San Luis Obispo APA members organized and sponsored an APA/AEP Student and Young Professional Networking Event in the spring and organized a hike of the Pismo Preserve, a local open space area. A number of free CM credit events were held, for a total of 7.0 credits, including 1.0 law credits. They had two well-attended mixers; one in the spring and one in the fall. The Holiday Party will be held at a local bar/restaurant. All of our activities were held jointly with the Association of Environmental Professional (AEP) as many of our members are involved in both organizations.
- Down the coast in Santa Barbara County, the Young Planners Group held a trivia night in the early part of the year and a happy hour in October. They also had a volunteer beach cleanup day and a happy hour at Paradise Café in May. A local APA Board member presented at a UCSB undergraduate planning class in May. APA hosted an agency tour and happy hour with Mesa Lane Partners in July. Subsection members joined forces with COAST (the Coalition for Sustainable Transportation) during a "Walking Wednesday" tour with architect Jeff Shelton in September. APA held a Young Planners' Group Scavenger Hunt throughout Santa Barbara in November and also held a UCSB student meet and greet and APA discussion on campus. We are looking forward to having a holiday mixer in December with our APA members.



## Local Sections

### Central Coast

- In October, Kristina Phung, Section Secretary, and Tess Harris, Membership Inclusion Officer, represented APA at the third annual Santa Barbara Open Streets event. Cabrillo Boulevard came alive as Santa Barbara's longest park, from Stern's Wharf to the Bird Refuge. Tess and Kristina passed out information on becoming an APA member, the Ambassador Program, Young Planners Group, and general zoning information for the City of Santa Barbara. Those that passed by the booth participated in a bilingual activity by placing stickers on a poster board next to the issues that were most important to them. Hundreds of people stopped at our booth, and by the end of the day, some of the winning issues were: water, housing, pedestrian and bike trails, and jobs.
  - In Ventura County, APA members toured the California Coastal Commission's Ventura Office on September 3, 2015, for an informative discussion on the role of the Commission with regard to coastal land use development, local jurisdiction coordination, and the hot topic of sea level rise and how the Commission is balancing continued development along the coast with the loss of public and private access due to beach erosion and development. It was an eye-opening discussion that effects our daily lives as Central Coast Planners!
  - In the Ventura subsection, there were two AEP/APA mixers in 2016. In April, we held our Spring Mixer at Lure in Camarillo. We had a good mix of land use planners and environmental planners as well as a cross-section of public sector and private sector planners. The event served as a networking opportunity for planners to meet other in the profession and share about their work and possible collaborative opportunities. In June, we held our Summer mixer at The Greek at the Ventura Harbor. A seasoned planner, Mel Willis, gave an informal presentation to those in attendance about his rise from internship to directorship and the successes and challenges he faced along the way.
  - In August, APA Ventura held a tour of hydroponics lettuce operation at Hollandia Produce. The facility, permitted by the County of Ventura in 2012, grows commercial hydroponic lettuce varieties with the roots attached. The facility includes over one million square feet of greenhouses and will employ about 39 full time employees at full build out. The Ventura County Holiday party was jointly held with AEP and had a turnout of about 25 local planners.
  - For our APA AICP members, our section provided professional development events that were APA-approved for 39.25 AICP Certification Maintenance (CM) credits and 4.25 Law CMs.
- » **Section Elections and Planning for the 2019 Conference:** The 2016 elections found all but one Board member returning to the Board. Bret McNulty is thanked for his several years in the challenging Public Information Officer seat which was divided into two Board positions with a change in the Section By-Laws: PIO and Webmaster. Rachel Raynor is welcomed aboard as the Young Planners Officer in San Luis Obispo County, with an outgoing thanks for Alfredo Castillo for his tenure. Sarah Ekeberg McGurk has volunteered to manage the chapter's website. The Past-Section President, Dave Ward, is heading up early planning efforts for the 2019 State APA Conference that will be hosted by our section in Santa Barbara. About 15 members have already expressed interest in the various committees.





## Local Sections

# Inland Empire

### John Earle Hildebrand III, Director

2016 was an eventful year for the Inland Empire Section. We brought great workshops and events to our members throughout the year and continued our partnership with the Association of Environmental Professionals (“AEP”). We further tasked ourselves to establish more support for young planners in the Inland Empire by creating local scholarships and conducting outreach, sharing the Sections resources. The following events and workshops were conducted over the course of 2016.



#### » January

- Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop - GHG Analysis, Newhall Ranch Decision

#### » February

- Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop - The Salton Sea

#### » March

- Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop – Dunn Road and the National Monument

#### » April

- IES-APA Workshop – Social Determinants of Health & Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop – Chromium 6 Regulation

#### » May

- Annual IES-APA Awards Program & Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop – Air Quality in the Coachella Valley

#### » June

- Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop – Environmental Leadership

#### » July

- Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop – Marijuana Cultivation

#### » September

- Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop – City of La Quinta – Trakit Integrated Software System

#### » October

- Joint IES-APA || AEP Workshop – Medical and Recreational Marijuana

#### » November

- IES-APA Workshop – Are You Hazard Ready?

#### » December

- Member Appreciation Day – Ontario Reign Hockey Game

The Section held its annual awards program on May 19, where 16 separate nominations were all recognized with an award, honoring great plans and distinguished individuals within the Inland Empire. Capping off the year, we hosted a member appreciation day at the Citizens Bank Arena for an Ontario Reign hockey game. In summary, the Inland Empire Section had a successful year and we look forward to 2017, to bring our members another great year of programs and special events.



## Local Sections

### Los Angeles

#### Ashley Atkinson, AICP, Director



The Los Angeles Section's charge is to address the diversity that planning in LA encompasses. With more than 1,200 members and 4,751 square miles to cover, we must challenge ourselves to bridge planning disciplines, geographic areas, our members' backgrounds, and the communities they serve. In 2017 and beyond, APA Los Angeles aims to play a greater role in supporting LA's planners and helping them create better communities, through strategic partnerships, policy advocacy, and more inclusive programming.

The Los Angeles Section's focus in 2016 has been on optimizing operations and improving communications, aimed toward creating an organization that is both a better resource to its members and a stronger voice for planning in Los Angeles County. In the past year, we:

- » Hosted 24 events with more than 1,300 registered attendees, offering 22.5 CM credits
- » Held a series of events in partnership with the Latinos in Planning division addressing questions of gentrification in Boyle Heights and South LA
- » Welcomed Los Angeles' new Director of City Planning, Vince Bertoni, in his first public appearance after being appointed to his position
- » Launched a new Leadership Program that will provide a select cohort of mid-career members with a 6-month training and professional development opportunity.
- » Presented our first Outstanding Young Planner Award for a member under 35
- » Adopted policy positions on ballot measures of interest to planners and hosted a signature event addressing planning at the ballot box
- » Updated our bylaws for the first time since 2003 to include a commitment to inclusivity and diversity; to require a three-year strategic plan; and to modernize operations
- » Established measurable goals for annual organizational outcomes
- » Implemented a budget and restored the Section's finances to good standing

We have also expanded opportunities for members to participate in Board operations with new committees for awards and membership. The Membership Committee will focus on creating an inclusive environment for all members and planners across Board activities. And in 2017, for the second consecutive year, we will have a fully-staffed Board plus dozens of committee volunteers. We look forward to a new year of programs, professional development, and advocacy.





## Local Sections

### Northern

#### Andrea Ouse, AICP, Director

The Northern Section represents the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma. The Section had an exciting and successful year serving over 1,500 members with the goal of unifying our members around a vision for our organization and of course for the Northern Section in 2016.



#### Section Activities

- » **Membership Program:** In September, the Northern Section kicked off one of the country's largest one-on-one Mentorship Program—more than four times the size of previous years. This nine month career development initiative involves 200+ urban planners, including 1/3 students and 2/3 professionals from local governments, public agencies, non-profits, and consulting firms. The program aims to improve the professional practice of planning by benefiting individual practitioners at all experience levels.
- » **Awards Gala:** An annual highlight was the Northern Section Awards Gala, held on Friday, June 10, 2016, at Marriott Marquis in San Francisco. In our corner of the world, the most prestigious means of acknowledging great planning work and devoted professionals is through Northern Section's Annual Awards Program. Four Awards of Merit and eight Awards of Excellence were given out to recognize the outstanding achievements in our geographically diverse Section in a celebratory setting. Four of the Northern Section Award winners went on to win an Award of Excellence at the State level. The event also helped raise funds for California Planning Foundation (CPF) scholarships, and scholarship recipients attending school in the Northern Section were acknowledged and provided certificates of recognition.
- » **CPF:** The California Planning Foundation (CPF) is a nonprofit, charitable corporation whose goal is to further the professional practice of planning in California. We helped to ensure that young people drawn to the planning profession are able to fund their education. Last year, CPF awarded some 34 scholarships totaling more than \$50,000 to planning students throughout California. Of that, eight scholarships were given to planning students in the Northern Section.
- » **International Planning Program:** Northern Section's purposeful international planning tours enabled APA members and guests to exchange ideas with counterpart planners, architects, university professors, and municipal officials from around the world. Thus far, the tours visited Cuba (2003), China (2007), India (2009), Brazil (2012), and Eastern Europe (2014). Our next tour will be in Southeast Asia in 2017. On all of our tours, we learned how culture, social fabric, history, and economy shaped the cities and regions' physical form. We also enjoyed impressive architecture, arts and culture, and culinary delights, and established contacts leading to future collaboration.

Our current collaboration is a pilot project with the Municipality of São Paulo, Brazil, Mackenzie Presbyterian University in São Paulo, and the American Planning Association. The program with São Paulo was built on the contacts we made during our planning tour to Brazil in 2012. We are being assisted financially by an APA National Chapter Presidents Council micro-grant, a fund match from the Northern Section, and pro bono contributions from planners here and in São Paulo. We also met with colleagues in São Paulo and Ouro Preto in June 2016 and presented a paper at the World Planning Schools Congress in Rio de Janeiro in July 2016.

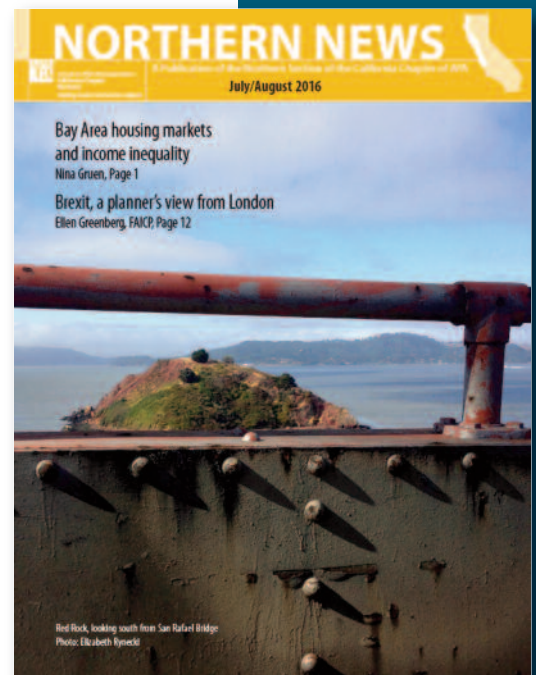




## Local Sections

### Northern

- » **Professional Development:** Northern Section offered 26 events that provided 72.75 credits to our members. Most of these events were free, or of nominal cost, to ensure that members could continue to advance their knowledge in a cost-effective manner. Short-term rental, complete streets, equity in planning, WELO implementation, and placemaking were among the many topics addressed by these events. Given the Section's geographic reach, many of these workshops, site visits, walking tours, and brown bag lunches were organized by the Section's eight Regional Activity Coordinators (RACs). In addition, several events were co-sponsored or supported by SPUR, a local urban planning and policy think tank. The Section continues to pursue such partnerships with other local organizations to promote planning and expand our reach.
- » **Diversity Committee:** The Diversity Committee co-sponsored a workshop by James Rojas entitled "Equity In Planning: A Gender Friendly Approach to Community Outreach and Visioning" in July that was a hands-on women-focused workshop. The last CM event of the year was a tour of the urban farm Acta Non Veta (ANV) in Oakland. The tour was led by the founder and Executive Director Kelly Carlisle who through her Youth Urban Farm project elevates life in the inner-city creating a safe and creative outdoor space for children, youth, and families in East Oakland.
- » **Communications:** Northern Section continued to grow its online presence on Facebook and Twitter. In addition, Section members received email newsletters every other week (eNews) that provide information on upcoming local events and programs plus Chapter/Section activities. Our flagship news magazine, Northern News, was published 10 times, and each issue was read by thousands of planners and related professionals across the country and the world.
- » **Holiday Party:** After a very busy year, the Northern Section celebrated our accomplishments at our annual Holiday Party on November 18, 2016, at SPUR Oakland. It was an excellent event that included a raffle to benefit the California Planning Foundation (CPF) that allowed local planners to meet and kick off a season of celebrations.





## Local Sections

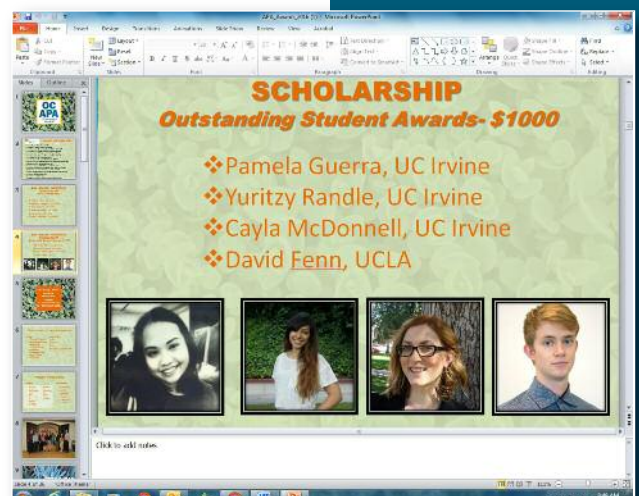
### Orange

**Amy Stonich, AICP, Director**



#### Section Membership Activities

- » **Board Meetings:** Meetings were held the third Friday of each month.
- » **Adoption of Updated Bylaws for 2017:** The Board will vote on them at the Orange Section Board Retreat on January 7, 2017, and share the bylaws with the State. Final adoption will be at the February 17 meeting.
- » **Programs:**
  - Hosted seven monthly lunch training programs with an average attendance of 49 individuals. Programs provided local training on a variety of topics, including affordable housing, effective public presentation skills, and a women's leadership program.
  - Hosted inaugural Historical Symposium featuring Downtown Anaheim
  - Offered a total of 15 CM credits locally, including 1.5 ethics credits and 1.5 law credits
  - Hosted a free information session for planners interested in applying for the AICP exam.
  - Continued partnerships with partner organizations, such as the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) and Caltrans, to provide over 46 hours of additional training opportunities locally. Also sent one APA member to participate in a free one-week Caltrans Transportation Planning Academy.
  - Solicited member feedback through an end of the year APA survey to develop next year's programs calendar. Received over 40 survey responses.
- » **New Stipend Program:**
  - The intent of the program was to offer conference stipends annually to promote professional development and to encourage APA conference participation in the future.
  - APA Orange Section sponsored a new program that awarded registration fee reimbursements to 17 individuals.
- » **AICP:**
  - We provided the opportunity for AICP members to obtain 15 CM credits
  - In June 2016, the Orange Section hosted an information session on how to become a certified planner for those interested in AICP.
- » **2016 APA Orange Section Awards Ceremony:**
  - On May 25, 2016, Orange Section APA hosted the 2016 Awards Ceremony at Magdalena Plaza in San Juan Capistrano.
  - Awardees included eight project awards and two distinguished service awards.
  - Nearly 30 items were donated for the silent auction. With these generous donations, we were able to raise \$3,500 which will go toward future scholarships.
- » **APA Orange Section 2015-16 Membership Program:**
  - Held a mentorship program which included eight mentors, twelve protégées, and a subcommittee of eight other professionals who helped to make this program a success.





## Local Sections

### Orange

#### » Bob Goldin Memorial Golf Tournament:

- The 2016 Bob Goldin Memorial Golf Tournament was held on Thursday, August 25, 2016, at Strawberry Farms Golf Club in Irvine.
- The total net proceeds were \$10,405.61 of which \$3,468.54 will be distributed to each PDAOC, OCAPA and Orange Empire Chapter of ICC to fund scholarship programs.

#### » Bob Goldin Memorial Scholarship:

- As part of the Bob Goldin Memorial Scholarship, Orange Section awarded \$7,000 in student scholarships through the Bob Goldin Memorial Scholarship Program. Ten students were selected based on academic performance, community involvement, and exceptional promise in serving the planning profession in Orange County.

#### » Historic Program:

- This year, Orange Section is proud to announce that we started a history program, thanks to our newest Section Historian, Gustavo Gonzalez.

#### » Historic Symposium:

- November 4th, the Orange Section presented its inaugural Historical Symposium. The symposium explored the history of the built environment in the area, focusing on Downtown Anaheim.

#### » Diversity:

- On August 31, 2016, OCAPA hosted a luncheon titled, "Women in Planning Bringing Communities Together" where a diverse panel of industry leaders shared their perspectives on the evolving role of women in the profession and discussed how planning can be improved to support inclusivity and equity in our communities.

#### » Academic Liaison:

- Successfully expanded outreach to faculty members in departments such as Environmental Planning, Architecture, Engineering, Sociology, and Political Science in universities in the area.

#### » Webmaster:

Our email newsletter goes out to 788 planners in the Southern California area.

- We sent out 48 email campaigns in 2016.
- On average, 29% of our membership opens their weekly newsletter (Average Civic and Social Membership organization email open rate is 23.71%, according to Constant Contact <https://knowledgebase.constantcontact.com/articles/KnowledgeBase/5409-average-industry-rates>).
- On average, our members click on links within the emails 12% of the time (Average Civic and Social Membership organization email open rate is 8%, according to Constant Contact <https://knowledgebase.constantcontact.com/articles/KnowledgeBase/5409-average-industry-rates>).
- We advertised 49 different events on our website calendar in 2016.
- 24 jobs were posted to our website job forum.
- This year, we successfully posted banner ads on the website, showcasing our Awards ceremony sponsors, as well as added our sponsors' logos to the weekly email. We hope to roll out our sponsorship package in 2017.





## Local Sections

### Orange

#### » CPF Support:

- This year, the Orange Section donated \$2,000 to CPF at the yearly auction held at the APA California Conference.
- The Section also recently approved a yearly budget to donate \$250 for the archives.

#### » PEN Support:

- This year, our own Vice Director for Administration and Finance, Charles Smith, AICP, LEED AP BD+C, was nominated and awarded the PEN at this year's APA California Conference.
- Dana Privitt will join the Board for PEN. We anticipate that this will serve to strengthen the partnership between Orange Section and PEN.

#### » Finance:

- Two of the major accomplishments were that the Orange Section's checking account was moved from Citibank to Chase, for improved service and the Section increased the use of electronic transactions (rather than handwritten checks), to expedite programs-related payments.

#### » Membership:

- Implemented "Welcome" e-mails sent to new members with information about upcoming networking programs, opportunities to be involved with the board and social gatherings.
- In conjunction with the State directive, e-mails were regularly sent to APA members whose membership expired to provide an exit survey on their experience with APA. It also surveyed why they were letting their membership lapse. We found that nearly all of the membership lapses were the result of either the member leaving the area or leaving the planning profession.



## Local Sections

# Sacramento Valley

### Tracey Ferguson, AICP, Director

The Sacramento Valley Section had an exciting year serving our 450+ members from a diverse geographic area that extends from the Sacramento Region to the Lake Tahoe Basin and from the Central Valley to the California-Oregon border. Our Section provides a full-range of educational and networking events for our membership and colleagues to enhance their professional careers.



### 2016 Speaker Series

» Sac Valley's signature educational program is in its 9th year. The 2016 Speaker Series theme was "VITAL SIGNS – On the Pulse of Planning for Healthy and Equitable Communities."

As the importance of environmental health and equity is increasingly recognized, there are new opportunities for planners, public health professionals, government, and community stakeholders to collaborate on advocating for and creating healthier places. The 2016 Speaker Series was sponsored by the Sac Valley Section in collaboration with other professional organizations and agencies, including ULI, AIA, AEP, Caltrans, CDPH, OPR, SGC, HCD, SACOG, ILG and others, and utilized all six sessions to examine how planning and public health can integrate resources and actions to diagnosis, treat, prevent, benchmark, and celebrate the success of communities as they strive to improve the health of their residents, as well as that of their infrastructure and economy. Session topics included:

- Taking the Temperature for Community Health and Wellbeing
- Road to Recovery: How to Overcome the Diagnosis
- Preventable Planning: Day-to-Day Steps to FitCommunities
- Measuring Health and Sustainability Outcomes in Funding Decisions
- Public Interest Design for Disadvantaged Communities: How Engagement & Design Lead to Healthy Places
- Building Healthy Communities: Success Stories

The APA Plan4Health Program supported the Speaker Series this year and we thank the grant coalition Design 4 Active Sacramento, led by WALKSacramento, and funded through an initiative of APA National and the American Public Health Association, for strengthening the



connections between planners and public health officers. By focusing on the collective strengths and shared goals of the planning and public health professions, Plan4Health is creating a unique collaborative opportunity to improve the health and vitality of communities in the Sacramento Region.

### Ted Holzem In Memoriam



The Sacramento Valley Section lost one of its very best when Ted Holzem passed away unexpectedly on May 10, 2016 at the age of 36. Ted was born in Visalia, California on February 25, 1980 to Don and Cathy Holzem. Ted was raised in the country near Woodlake, California. He received a Bachelor's degree from UC Davis in Community and Regional Development in 2003. The first five years of Ted's life were spent as a "Country Kid" attending his parents' backyard pre-school where he made friends he would keep all his life. Ted's inquisitive nature and competitive spirit continued through his adult life. Ted spent the majority of his career at the planning firm Mintier Harnish, where he began as an Assistant Planner in 2003 and was promoted to Principal Planner in 2015. Ted was instrumental in establishing the Sacramento Valley Section's YPG in 2008. With Ted at the helm of YPG it caught fire and his leadership in the early days is a primary reason why YPG has been so successful and sustained. Ted understood the value as a young planner of building a network of peers and the importance of keeping the profession relevant. Ted most recently served on the APA California Chapter Board from 2010 to 2013 as the State YPG Representative and was elected to the CPF Board in 2014, where he served as Vice President until his passing. Ted is greatly missed.



## Local Sections

# Sacramento Valley

### Membership Events

Other programs and events to benefit our members included:

- » California Planning Roundtable Networking Mixer: January 2016
- » Ethics CM Session: March 2016
- » AICP Exam Prep Session: March and June 2016
- » Planning Commission Training: April 2016
- » PEN/SVS Joint Event; Cross-Generational Planning Exchange: April 2016
- » SMUD's 59th Street Reuse Project – Visioning Workshop: April 2016
- » APA/ASPA Joint Event; Scoring the Golden One Center: A Look at “The Players” Behind the Scenes: June 2016
- » 6th Annual Student Scholarship Fundraiser honoring 2015 Legacy Award Recipient Scot Mende, AICP: August 2016
- » October is Planning Month; Planning Movie Night: October 2016
- » Membership Appreciation Events:
  - AEP/APA/ASLA Ice Cream Social Summer Mixer: July 2016
  - APA/AEP/TWS Holiday Party: December 2016

### Section Activities

This year the SVSAPA continued to expand the reach to our membership in outlying areas with programs and events in our North Valley, Cascade, and Sierra divisions. The North Valley Division (Chico area) hosted a patio mixer in the summer and a holiday mixer; the Sierra Division (Tahoe area) sponsored a Planners Ski Day, presentation, and social in March 2016 and a program exploring Public-Private Partnerships, Implementing Community Planning Goals in September 2016; and the Cascade Division (Redding/Shasta) held a networking mixer in February 2016.

### PLAN Sac Valley Mentoring Program

PLAN (Planning + Leadership + Advancement + Networking) Sac Valley turned 5 years old this year and to celebrate this APA State and National award-winning program we hosted a celebration bringing together PLAN mentors, mentees, and esteemed keynote speakers and facilitators from the past 5 years.

PLAN teams up planners who are starting their careers with seasoned planners and includes monthly educational sessions, networking and teambuilding events, a professional development book, one-on-one mentoring, a community service project, and culminates with a “Catapult Party” recognizing the mentors and mentees. The 2015-16 class concluded in June and the 2016-17 class started up on October. The mission of PLAN is to provide the next generation of professional planners a dynamic and challenging one-on-one and group mentoring forum for personal and professional growth and development.





## Local Sections

# Sacramento Valley

### Young Planners Group (YPG)

The YPG is very active with events catered to students, as well as young and emerging planning professionals. Events include Planners Pint Nights with influential keynote planners, public outreach on complete streets, events for UC Davis students, project bike tours of new development projects, and various inter-association networking and educational events with young professionals from other land use organizations. YPG also started offering CM Credits this year at a number of events.

Specific YPG Events in 2016 Include:

#### » Two Planner's Pint Nights

- Assemble Sacramento: March 2016
- Sacramento's Urban Ag. Incentive Ordinance: September 2016

#### » Six Inter-Association Events

- Mural Painting with LC Studio Tutto: January 2016
- Mixers: March and July 2016
- Summer BBQ: June 2016
- Wine Tasting Train Tour: June 2016
- Winter is Coming Party: November 2016

#### » Three Student Events

- UC Davis Student Mixer: February 2016
- Planning Professionals Panel: April 2016
- Ice Cream Social: October 2016

#### » Other Misc. Events

- Franklin Blvd. Streetscape Celebration: January 2016
- New Development Projects Bike Tour: May 2016
- Rivercats Game: August 2016



### Awards

The Sacramento Valley Section held its Awards Ceremony in January 2016, honoring our 2015 Section and Merit Award recipients and our 2015 Legacy and Local Vision Awards. In January 2017, we will honor exemplary planning activities and individuals at our awards ceremony:

#### » 2016 Sacramento Valley Section APA Award Winners:

- Oroville Area Urban Greening Plan – Award of Excellence in Innovation in Green Planning
- California State Wildlife Action Plan, 2015 Update – Award of Merit in Innovation in Green Planning
- Open Window Project – Award of Excellence in Urban Design
- Downtown Redding Pavement Preservation and Bike Lane Project – Award of Merit in Transportation
- Hewlett-Packard – Campus Oaks Master Plan – Award of Merit in Economic Planning and Development
- Sac County Development Code – Award of Excellence in Comprehensive Planning, Large Jurisdiction
- Sac County Active Design – Award of Excellence in Best Practices



## Local Sections

# Sacramento Valley

### » 2016 Local Vision Awards:

- “Replacing the Past: Sacramento’s Redevelopment History” Film
- Multi-Modal Improvements – Community of Canby, Modoc County
- The Barn, City of West Sacramento
- The Art Hotel in Downtown Sacramento

### » 2016 Legacy Award Recipient:

- Bruce Baracco, AICP

### » Additional Honorees:

- Tricia Stevens and Robert Sherry, for Planner’s Emeritus Network (PEN) honors;
- Roberto Hernandez and Nicole Limesand, UC Davis, as recipients of the California Planning Foundation Scholarship.

## Section Board and Professional Development Activities

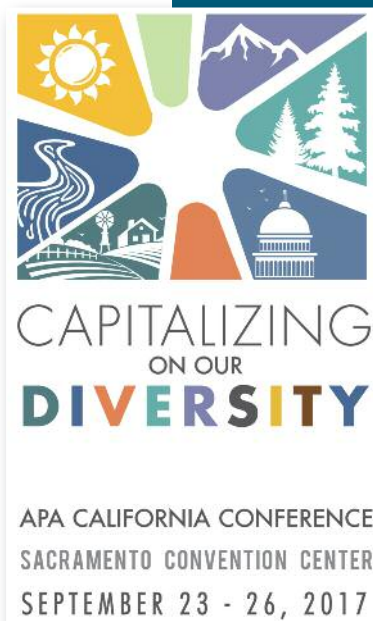
The SVS Board provides a monthly e-newsletter, AICP exam preparation sessions, membership surveys, and sponsorship fundraising. We had tremendous sponsorship support this year with our dedicated 20 Section and North Valley Division sponsors. The Board holds an annual retreat in January and a luncheon in June. We sponsored or co-sponsored 53.5 Certificate Maintenance credits for 2016.

## 2017 APA California State Conference

Sacramento Valley is pleased to host the 2017 State Conference in downtown Sacramento at the Sacramento Conference Center and Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel!

Under the theme of “CAPITALIZING ON OUR DIVERSITY,” the 2017 conference is meant to focus on the varied strands of planning, ways of living, and ways of thinking that shape our society.

Bob Lagomarsino, AICP, David Kwong, AICP, and Jeannie Lee, AICP, are the Conference Co-Chairs.





## Local Sections

### San Diego

#### Gary Halbert, AICP, Director

The San Diego section has had a very active and fun 2016. Here are some highlights:

#### Section Membership Highlights

##### Awards

The Section's awards event was held at the Downtown Encinitas Library overlooking the Pacific Ocean on May 5, 2016. The 2016 SDAPA Awards Ceremony recognized projects and people that exemplify the best of the planning profession in the San Diego region. Awards were presented in fifteen categories and a number of those were recognized at the APA California conference in Pasadena. State award winners included:

- » **Award of Merit: Comprehensive Plan Award: Small Jurisdiction**
  - City of La Mesa Urban Trails Mobility Action Plan, City of La Mesa
- » **Award of Excellence: Transportation Planning Award**
  - Cross Border Xpress, Latitude 33 Planning & Engineering
- » **Award of Merit: Hard-Won Victories Award**
  - Carmel Mountain/Del Mar Mesa Natural Resources Management Plan, City of San Diego Park & Recreation Department
- » **Award of Excellence: Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff**
  - Lara Gates, City of San Diego Planning Department

##### Programs

There have been a number of excellent programs offered in 2016 including:

- » The New Urban Forest in San Diego: "Canopy, CAP and Gettin' Shady", "Implementing SB743, The Politics of Place (a PechaKucha event)"; and "Revitalization vs. Gentrification: Planning Policies to Prevent Displacement."
- » Pairing with the perfect partner, Donut Bar, the YPG's Community Service Subcommittee was excited to participate in the annual San Diego PARK(ing) event for the first time. Setting up just outside the doors of the infamous eatery, the committee took two ordinary metered parking spaces and reimagined them as one extraordinary PARK(ing) space!
- » This year's AICP training resulted in San Diego having seven new Certified Planners.
- » The Young Planners Group has completed another excellent Mentorship Program. The goal of the Mentorship Program is to successfully match emerging planners and planning students (Protégés) with experienced planning professionals (Mentors) for guidance and support, while offering mentors an opportunity to strengthen ties with our future leaders of the planning community and APA.
- » The Section held several Planners Night Out events that were wildly successful!

