

UTAH PLANNER



American Planning Association
Utah Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association

SEPT/OCT 2011

VOLUME 38 NUMBER 9

SPECIAL ISSUE:

PLANNING EDUCATION IN UTAH

THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH DEPARTMENT OF CITY AND METROPOLITAN PLANNING

by Nan Ellin

Professor and Chair, Department of City and Metropolitan Planning

nan.ellin@utah.edu



The University of Utah	1
The Department of City and Metropolitan Planning continues its impressive progression of academic excellence	
President's Message	2
Planners, academics, and politicians	
Utah's Recent Appointments	4
The U of U attracts new hires from the country's top urban planning programs	
The University of Utah's Metropolitan Research Center	5
The MRC evolves into the nation's "go-to" research organization on smart growth	
Utah State University	6
Associate Professor Caroline Lavoie outlines the LAEP curriculum as the program approaches its 75th anniversary	
Brigham Young University	9
Planning rises again at BYU with the hiring of Michael Clay	
The Next Generation	10
U of U senior Jaechon Anderson uses photography to express her passion for the natural and built environments	
Wasatch Choice for 2040 Strategies	12
Part 5 of John Janson's multi-part series on the Wasatch Choice for 2040 plan	
Events for Planners	14

The Department of City and Metropolitan Planning (CaMP) at the University of Utah has grown from one faculty member in 2004 to 10 today. During this brief period, the professional Masters degree was accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB), a new PhD Program was instituted which currently has 12 students, a Metropolitan Research Center was created and already has an outstanding track record (see article on page 5), and the number of students has grown more than 6-fold. This efflorescence of the Planning Department has occurred thanks to the vision and dedication of Dean Brenda Scheer.

Much has happened in just this past year. The Department welcomed 3 new faculty members—Li Yin, Michael Larice, and Bruce Appleyard (see page 4)—revamped the undergraduate curriculum to focus on Urban Ecology, and partnered with the School of Architecture to offer an Urban Design graduate certificate. We also became the university home for the Center for the Living City, which extends the work of Jane Jacobs through publications and events including the annual Jane's Walks, last year holding 67 events in 32 cities across the U.S.

We were especially proud to partner with Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker on the first Annual Mayor's Symposium that focused on the Jordan River (see <http://www.plan.utah.edu/research-projects/mayors-symposium>) last February. At this event, which was free and open to the public, experts from the region and beyond encouraged over 200 attendees to more fully leverage this tremendous asset in our midst. Our Westside Studio accepted this challenge and students from Architecture as well as Planning partnered with the Westside Leadership Institute, Neighborworks Salt Lake, and University Neighborhood Partners. Our

(continued on page 3)

students presented their impressive work in a publication and a presentation at the Sorensen Cultural Center (see <http://www.plan.utah.edu/research-projects/westside-studio/westside-studio-archive>). The second Annual Mayor's Symposium will take place February 17, 2012, this year focusing on the Granary District. Once again, local and national speakers will address the topic and several planning classes are turning their sights to this district.

Also this past year, we initiated the Salt Lake City Workshop, bringing together students from the University of Utah with community partners to envision best possibilities and work toward realizing these visions. Students in the Workshop - from the fields of planning, architecture, environmental studies, sociology, film, and others - collaboratively imagine ways to improve quality of life in SLC by enhancing quality of place. The Workshop also serves as a repository of plans and visions for SLC over time as well as a dynamic and ongoing portal for university-neighborhood partnerships that develop and implement new visions into the future (<http://slcworkshop.com>). The inaugural SLC Workshop introduced the Nine Line, an east-west connector along 900 South converting the abandoned rail into a trail linked to a bike lane (see http://slcworkshop.com/projects/nine_line/nine_line.html). The Nine Line is currently being implemented by the City of Salt Lake.

The Utah Planning Students Organization held a very successful student conference attended by over 80 students from around the state. Our students are also grateful for several new scholarships and fellowships including the Women in Transportation Scholarship, the Nelson-Ewing Scholarship, and a PhD Fellowship in Ecological Planning.

Over the past year, our faculty have received many prestigious accolades and grants, published numerous books and articles, and delivered invited lectures in China (2), Brazil (2), Austria (2), Germany (2), Canada (2), Japan, Australia, Korea, Mexico, and India. During our travels, we raise awareness of what is occurring here in Utah while also learning and bringing back important lessons from elsewhere. In addition to our full-time faculty, we are privileged to have an outstanding group of auxiliary faculty who add tremendous value to our teaching capacity.

This month, we are pleased to have the opportunity to host hundreds of planning academics from across the country to Salt Lake City for the 52nd Annual ACSP Conference. The theme we proposed for this conference is Envision! and we look forward to a lively discussion about how planning can play a more significant role in inspiring, inciting, and instructing the positive transformation of towns, cities, regions, and communities.

Into the future, the Department of City and Metropolitan Planning will continue to build upon our current strengths in Quality Growth, Urban Ecology, and Placemaking and Community-Building. We will also continue to strengthen bridges with the School of Architecture, other departments around the university, the professional community, the larger community, and our colleagues around the globe.

urban ecology quality growth
integrate livability advocate CAMP equity values-focused
placemaking & community building
prosperity vitality celebrate diversity
design in harmony with nature health

