Applications Now Available

2011 PA Chapter Annual Awards Program

Deadline to Apply: May 20, 2011

EACH YEAR THE BEST and the brightest plans and planners are recognized by their peers through the highly competitive PA Chapter of APA Awards Program.

The Chapter is now accepting nominations for the 2011 Annual Awards. The winners will be announced at the Annual Awards Program, scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2011 during the PA Chapter Annual Conference.

The annual awards application is available online at www.planningpa.org or by calling the PA Chapter office at 717-671-4510. The deadline for this year’s awards applications is Friday, May 20, 2011.

To view winners from past years, visit www.planningpa.org and click on Annual Awards, found under the Events & Training heading.

Many thanks to the Awards Committee members for their commitment to this program each year! ♦

THE PLANNING Committee for the upcoming October 2011 Annual Conference continues to meet monthly at the office of the NEPA Alliance. Committees have been organized, a logo has been prepared, and program topics have been discussed and approved so that interested planners can begin to prepare program proposals. Mobile tours are also in the process of being developed and a wide range of activities are being organized to take advantage of the beauty and aesthetics of the October fall season in the Scranton area. The Hilton Scranton will be the headquarters for the Conference, and there are many geographic sites and places that will be attractive for the hundreds of attendees who are likely to participate.

As each month goes by, the extensive planning examples that are located within the northeastern Pennsylvania region are being collected and assembled so that these projects can be made known to all attendees. October 16-18 will be a special time. Help us celebrate the role of professional and lay planners across the 67 counties of the Commonwealth. We welcome your ideas, your creative thoughts, and of course your attendance at this keystone event in the Keystone State.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2
Call for Presentations Announced!
The PA Chapter is seeking dynamic presenters to share their knowledge and expertise at the 2011 Annual Conference in Scranton, PA. Applicants are encouraged to submit session proposals that support the conference theme “Our Changing Landscape” and the list of suggested topics developed by the Conference Committee.

The deadline for submission of session proposals is Friday, March 18, 2011.

Submissions are accepted online only
Visit www.planningpa.org and click on “Annual Conference” for more information. If you have any questions please contact the Chapter Office at 717-671-4510 or info@planningpa.org.

Sponsors, Exhibit and Advertise! Connect with PA Planners at the Annual Conference
The PA Chapter Annual Conference offers excellent opportunities to sponsors, exhibitors and advertisers. Be a part of the largest annual gathering of Pennsylvania’s professional planners and planning officials by sponsoring, exhibiting or advertising at the event. The Preliminary Program, distributed in July 2011, is expected to reach 5,000 members of Pennsylvania’s planning community. Additionally more than 550 planners will be in attendance at the conference.

To be sure your company or organization maximizes the benefit of these opportunities confirm your arrangements with the PA Chapter office no later than June 22, 2011.◆

Details are available online at www.planningpa.org.
Click on “Annual Conference.”

SE Section Council lends a hand!

The Future City Program
Philadelphia

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for middle school students, which combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a “hands-on” application to present their vision of a city of the future.

by Joseph F. Luste, Jr. PP, PhD,
Southeast Council Education Committee

THE FUTURE CITY

Competition, a school based program for middle school students, is held from September through February every year. The National Future City Competition is sponsored in part by the National Engineers Week Foundation, a consortium of professional and technical societies, including engineers, planners, architects, and major U.S. corporations.

Students are expected to:
• Design and layout a city of the future using Sim4 computer software
• Build a table-top model using recycled materials illustrating one section of the city
• Write a 500 -700 word technical report which is researched with a bibliography of references.
• Present the city model to teams of judges at an all day competition. In Philadelphia, the Future City Program is volunteer run and uses the support of the entire engineering and associated communities. Over 200 volunteers work on the program each year as committee members, mentors, organizers, and judges.

This year, Section Council member Joseph Luste, representing Pennoni Associates, served as a mentor to Girard College Middle School in Philadelphia, and Council member Brian O’Leary, representing the Montgomery County Planning Commission, served as a mentor to Stewart Middle School in Norristown.

In addition, Council member John Pickett of the Delaware County Planning Department served as a judge for the PA APA Southeast Planning Excellence Award, given to Northwood Academy Charter School in Philadelphia.

All of us lending a helping hand to the students either by judging or mentoring found it most encouraging that these youngsters have properly considered urban and regional planning issues in planning out their cities and the good of the populations to be served. Credit is also extended to their schools and teachers for a job “well done”.◆

College Middle School in Philadelphia, and Council member Brian O’Leary, representing the Montgomery County Planning Commission, served as a mentor to Stewart Middle School in Norristown.

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The Philadelphia Citizens Planning Institute & Integrated Planning & Zoning Process

The Philadelphia City Planning Commission and Zoning Code Commission are currently engaged in two large initiatives—reforming the city’s outdated zoning code (first authored in 1933) and the preparation of Philadelphia2035, the City’s comprehensive plan (last updated in 1962).

PHILADELPHIA2035 consists of two tiers of planning: a 25-year citywide plan and 18 strategic district plans. The city will be “remapped” based on new zoning code classifications as well as the goals and recommendations of the district land-use plans. This integrated planning and zoning process includes a third structure to engage citizens and inform them about planning issues—the Citizens Planning Institute.

The focus of the Citizens Planning Institute is to educate and inform citizens so that they can be more effective at citizen planning activities. One of the goals of the CPI is to provide practical tools individuals can take back to their neighborhood organizations or communities.

Thanks to a generous grant from the William Penn Foundation, the pilot phase of the Institute was launched in May, 2010. A series of three weekly “Citizen Planner” classes has just concluded. This pilot course was designed to test the development of classroom materials for ‘101’ level introductions to planning issues and the work of the Philadelphia City Planning Commission, land use and zoning, and the project development process. Despite limited time for public notification, over 80 applications (each requiring an essay) were received for just 30 student spots. Applicants represented 24 of the 165 residential neighborhoods in the city and a wide diversity of civic and other neighborhood organizations.

The course was developed for individuals within neighborhood civic organizations who are highly motivated to engage in planning issues on equal footing with other stakeholders. Participants in the pilot were actively engaged in learning from each other, as well as from volunteer instructors and panelists. The response from participants has been overwhelmingly positive: “The course really opened my eyes to the process…This course was worth my time and effort and then some. I believe this program has the potential to re-create our communities.” (participant comment on final course evaluation)

This spring, the CPI “core” course will be expanded with additional “elective” classes, such as urban design, transportation, housing, commercial corridor development, and the developer’s perspective. Learners who successfully complete the core courses and a determined number of elective courses will earn a Certificate of Completion as Citizen Planner. Additionally, the Institute is envisioned to act as a clearinghouse through which civic groups can share information and best practices. The website, www.citizensplanninginstitute.org, will be updated to share outcomes from the pilot course and to enable downloading of materials from the course.

Research on other “citizen planning academy” models used in other jurisdictions across the country and the PA Municipal Planning Education Institute (PMPEI) informed the design of the course structure.

More information about Philadelphia2035 will be available in a future issue of The Vantage Point.
A Message from President Alexander J. Graziani, AICP

IT IS INTERESTING to note that the requirement to produce the report came from Governor Ridge’s “Growing Smarter” efforts and the MPC amendments of 2000. Therefore, this report should get some traction with the new administration.

For over a year the State Planning Board acted as the major component of the steering committee who met with the DCED Governor’s Center for Local Government Services (GCLGS) staff and their consultant team to help identify land use issues. The GCLGS and their consultant also held two work sessions with additional stakeholders plus conducted an outreach to County planners at our 2010 Annual Conference in Lancaster.

Every planner should take time to read the report and share it with their employers, clients and their community. The report contains relevant findings, like how changing demographics are requiring different development demands. Among its recommendations is a case for the relevance of planning for strong communities. The report is very consistent with our recently adopted Chapter 2011-2014 Development Plan.

To insure plans are relevant they must be implemented. Therefore the report contains five keys to a valuable, implementable plan:

• Focus on community issues and assets.
• Organize the plan the way local officials and citizens think.
• Devise practical and workable recommendations.
• Create a structure and capacity to implement the plan.
• Get and keep local ownership of the plan.

Our duty as planners is to take this very timely and relevant report and help it get attention. The messages, issues and recommendations speak for the need for planning from the local level all the way up to the State Planning Board. I encourage each member of our Chapter to consider how they can help this report get in front of as many decision makers as possible. Printed copies are limited, however, with the use of websites and email list serves the online version at www.newpa.com will ensure wide circulation.

Lastly later this year the chapter will hold elections for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. I have asked the six sections of the chapter to provide me with names for a nominating committee. Please be free to share with me or your section chairs if you are interested in serving on the nominating committee or for standing for elections to the officer positions. Coupled with the ballots for elections we will also looking to update our by-laws.

Thanks for your membership in the association and as always if you ever have an issue that you feel needs my attention please email me at info@planningpa.org.

The Commonwealth released the 2010 State Land Use and Growth Management Report at the January 14, 2011 meeting of the State Planning Board. The report is mandated by the PA Municipalities Planning Code and prepared every five years. The task is assigned to the Center for Local Government Services in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

by Denny Puko
Governor’s Center for Local Government Services, PA Department of Community & Economic Development

Five-Year Report Calls for Green and Walkable Development

THE REPORT FINDS that PA’s recent history of land-consumptive development continued into the mid-2000s. Then, the 2008-09 recession brought an unprecedented drop in building and development. Despite that, according to Steve Deck, Project Manager for PB Americas, Inc. and the report’s consulting team, “The pace of development changed but not the pattern.” Indicators showed what little development there was still occurred mostly in suburban, exurban, and rural areas.

Other significant findings are that Pennsylvania’s demographics are changing – aging population, smaller households, and more immigrants.

And, state and local governments are facing growing fiscal stress, which means less ability to support basic infrastructure and services and other assets necessary to attract investment for homes and businesses.

The report recommends that a solution can be found in green and walkable development. It is an emerging market opportunity. Changing demographics point to demand for closer-knit living with less cost for housing and transportation. There is growing interest by homebuyers and businesses for green buildings and development. It’s a win-win of capturing an economic growth market and having a more sustainable development pattern.

The report also recommends that, with strained budgets, state and local governments must be more strategic in investing. They should focus on assets – infrastructure and services, economic drivers, and place amenities – most critical to attracting and keeping people and businesses. The report states planning is essential to this, and that local governments need help to conduct successful planning.

The 2010 State Land Use and Growth Management Report is found at DCED’s website www.newpa.com, click “Get Local Gov Services” then click “Community Planning.”

Findings from the 2010 report:

• From 1992 to 2005, developed land in PA more than doubled while population grew 4.5% and the economy (GDP in constant $) grew 33%.
• Residential building permits dropped from a 20-year high in 2004 of 49,665 to a 50-year low in 2009 of 18,275.
• Currently one in five Pennsylvanians is over age 60. By 2020 it will be one in four.
• Annual unmet state and local transportation needs are estimated at $2.3 billion, rising to $5 billion by 2020. Water and wastewater capital needs exceed $36.5 billion for the next 20 years.
• Marcellus Shale natural gas was not foreseen in the 2005 report. It has emerged with major community and land use impacts in the state.
PA Chapter of APA is looking for

A Few Good PLANNERS

Announcing Elections for Chapter Officers

2011 IS AN ELECTION YEAR FOR THE CHAPTER.
This summer we will hold elections for the Chapter’s Board Officers—the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Following is a timeline of the process that will take place between now and August. For additional information about elections for the Chapter, please refer to the Bylaws. They are available on the Chapter website, www.planningpa.org, under the section “About Us”.

February
Nominating Committee appointed by the Executive Committee.

April
The Nominating Committee will provide information to Chapter members about how to indicate their interest in running for a chapter office. Details will be published in the April issue of The Vantage Point, via E-News, and on the PA APA website.

May
The Nominating Committee will file their Report of Nominations with the Chapter’s Executive Committee. The President will appoint a Teller Committee with advice from the Executive Committee.

June
The Executive Committee will validate the status of all the nominees. The nominees will published in the June 2011 issue of The Vantage Point, via E-News, and on PA APA website.

By August 1
Chapter members may nominate additional candidates to the elections slate by August 1.

August 8
The official ballot will be distributed to all members of the Chapter by mail and email.

September 9
Voting closes.

Mid-September
The Teller Committee meets to review the voting results.

October
Election results announced at the Chapter Annual Meeting and via The Vantage Point, E-News and the website.

January 2012
New Officers begin their two-year terms.

If you are interested in being considered for the Officer Positions please watch for details in April.

PA Chapter Members Invited to Attend!

Each year, the Governor’s Center for Local Government recognizes the achievements of local government at the Excellence in Local Government Luncheon and Awards Ceremony. More than 300 guests will attend to honor the work of local governments as they partner with their communities and use forward-thinking approaches to revitalize towns, create jobs, and improve the quality of life for residents.

The PA Chapter of APA sponsors this important annual event together with other local government associations. Our sponsorship includes 20 tickets to the luncheon which takes place at the Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, PA on Thursday, April 15, 2010 from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Would you like to attend? A limited number of seats are still available and are open to PA Chapter members. We would be pleased if you would join members of the Chapter’s board and staff at the event! If you would like to attend, please send an email to info@planningpa.org with your name, title, organization, phone number and email address no later than April 1, 2011. The seats will be filled on a first-come-first-serve basis. There is no cost to attend.

ANNOUNCING ELECTIONS FOR CHAPTER OFFICERS
**Planners needed**

for the PA Chapter Booth at the PSATS Annual Convention

**Planners** are needed to staff our exhibit booth during the PSATS Annual Convention at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, PA. Volunteers may attend educational sessions on the day they volunteer.

**Show dates and hours:**
- **SUNDAY, APRIL 17**
  12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
- **MONDAY, APRIL 18**
  7:30 am to 4:00 pm
- **TUESDAY, APRIL 19**
  7:30 am to 1:00 pm

To volunteer, please contact the PA Chapter Office at 717-671-4510 or info@planningpa.org. Let us know which days and times you are able to volunteer.

*Thank you!*

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**WEBCAST series**

**Remember!** Webcasts are ...  
- **FREE.**  
- **Approved** for CM Credits  
- **Convenient** to attend from your desk and phone

**PENNSYLVANIA SPONSORS** the webcast series together with other APA chapters. All webcasts take place from 1:00pm to 2:30pm Eastern Time. For session descriptions and to register visit www.utah-apa.org. New sessions are added on a regular basis — check the schedule often. Attendees are strongly encouraged to register early. Schedule subject to change.

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<tr>
<th>March 1</th>
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<td>Child Care (Introductory) Planning and Women Division</td>
<td>Planning for an Aging Society: Technologies for Safe Transportation Mobility Technology Division</td>
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<th>March 10</th>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Kageyama Renewing Our Love Affair with Cities (Allied) Ohio Chapter</td>
<td>New Tools for Public Participation: Possibilities and Pitfalls (Advanced) Technology Division</td>
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<th>March 11</th>
<th>April 8</th>
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<td>Urban Retail (Advanced) Economic Development Division</td>
<td>Ethics: A Framework for Decision-Making (Advanced) ETHICS CREDITS Pennsylvania Chapter</td>
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<th>March 18</th>
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<td>Special Assessments Must Create Special Benefits: How to Avoid an Unconstitutional “Takings” (Introductory) LAW CREDITS Western Central Chapter</td>
<td>Campus Planning for Pedestrians and Bicyclists (Advanced) Ohio State University</td>
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<td>New Ideas for Bike-friendly Communities (Introductory) Indiana Chapter</td>
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**Funds Available**

Apply for the Irving Hand Professional Development Award

**THE PA CHAPTER IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS** for the 2012 Irving Hand, FAICP Excellence in Planning Professional Development Award, presented each year to a planner for his or her professional development.

Dr. Hand has long been a strong advocate of professional development. In his honor, **Delta Development Group** funds this annual award given in his name by the PA Chapter.

This award is designed for a planner in mid-career who needs additional resources to fund a professional development activity. This activity might be anything from **graduate school** or **specialized training** to a **study trip** to learn about planning techniques in another part of the world.

Visit the PA Chapter website at www.planningpa.org for the application. The deadline to apply is Friday, August 26, 2011. The recipient is announced at the 2011 Annual Conference and the funds will support professional activities in the 2012 calendar year.

**Planners: support your professional development**

**DEADLINE TO APPLY: AUGUST 26, 2011**

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**THE VANTAGE POINT 7**
Southeast Section
Plans for 2011
by Graciela Cavicchia, AICP, PP,
Southeast Section Chair

THE SOUTHEAST Section will continue to offer valuable educational and networking opportunities. We are excited about the programs we have scheduled this year and encourage you to become involved!

Plans for 2011 include:
• High-quality and affordable seminars through the Professional Development Institute (PDI) which was attended by over 500 professionals in 2010. Please visit www.apapase.org for PDI’s 2011 Seminars.
• The Southeast Section Cocktail Reception & Student Scholarship Awards. Excellent opportunity to network and meet professionals in the planning, design, and development fields. This year our Section’s Event will be held in Philadelphia.
• Quarterly Newsletter & News Flash and our Blog at www.apapase.org to keep you updated on the latest in the region.

Central Section Activities
by Richard Koch, AICP, Central Section Vice Chair

CENTRAL SECTION will present a Spring 2011 Education Session on law updates and new, innovative public participation techniques. The session takes place April 7, 2011 at the Wildwood Conference Center at Harrisburg Area Community College and is open to members and guests. This session will be submitted to APA for CM credits. Visit www.planningpa.org for additional details.

Central Section Council also welcomes a new member
Jonathon Pinkerton, AICP.
Jonathon is Vice President of the Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area based in Wrightsville, PA. He replaces long time Board member, Frank Chlebnikow.
The Section is investigating the development of the Student Representative/Mentoring Program to provide students with an opportunity to view and discuss the planning profession. Similar programs are offered by the Chapter’s Southeast and Southwest Sections. Shippensburg University may be a potential partner for a pilot program in the Central part of the state.

New Chapter Members Welcome!

We welcome the following new members who recently joined the PA Chapter of the American Planning Association! With your membership you join nearly 3,000 other planning officials, professional planners and others who care about how Pennsylvania continues to grow the places where we live, work, and enjoy recreation. The board and staff of the Chapter are available to answer any questions. Feel free to contact us at 717-671-4510.

Student Member:
Robert A Gejeran, Southeast Section
Individual Members:
David Palomera, Southwest Section
Kelly Gutshall, Land Studies Inc, Central Section

News & articles
for The Vantage Point

DEADLINES FOR UPCOMING 2011 ISSUES:
April: March 11, 2011
June: May 13, 2011
August: July 8, 2011
October: September 16, 2011
December: November 11, 2011
Submit to: sgalbraith@shermersuassoc.com

Congrats!
Laura Ahramjian, AICP
Phil Ehlinger, AICP
Mark Evans, AICP
Karla Farrell, AICP
Patricia Fought, AICP
Jill Hall, AICP
Larry Kurpakus, AICP
Mark Lazzari, AICP
David Manhardt, AICP
Caroline Marshall, AICP

MANY THANKS to the members of the PA Chapter Professional Development Committee for their ongoing efforts in providing exam preparation support through study notes, website resources, and a prep session.
**Are You a NEW Planning Commission Member?**

**Fear Not!**

by Shirley Yannich, PP, AICP
Planning Officials Development Officer

**NOT EVERY NEW APPOINTEE** has an understanding of what is expected of them when asked by the Governing Body to serve on the Planning Commission. If you are one of those persons, fear not, this article will help you get started and will enable you to participate at your meetings with confidence.

**THE FIRST THING YOU SHOULD DO** is read Article II of the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Code (MPC). This is the enabling legislation the Commonwealth has adopted to create and guide Planning Commissions. The law sets forth the mechanism for a municipality to adopt an ordinance that will establish a Planning Commission. Further, the MPC clearly defines the powers and duties of a Planning Commission that the Governing Body may request.

**SECOND, MAKE SURE YOUR MUNICIPAL STAFF** has provided you with basic documents; such as:
- Your Comprehensive Plan
- A Zoning Map
- An Official Map, if one exists
- The Zoning Ordinance
- The Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO)
- The Planning Commission’s Bylaws, Rules and Regulations
- Last year’s Planning Commission’s Annual Report to the Governing Body

**THIRD, ASK IF YOUR MUNICIPALITY** is a member of the PA Chapter of the American Planning Association. The fee is small and the benefits are many. Go to [www.planningpa.org](http://www.planningpa.org) for more information.

**FOURTH, ATTEND SEMINARS AND COURSES** designed especially to educate Planning Commissioners. On the above website for the PA Chapter of APA you will find a link to the Pennsylvania Municipal Planning Education Institute (PMPEI). They offer classes on how to prepare/review/update your Comprehensive Plan, how to evaluate development applications based on your SALDO and how to prepare and/or amend a Zoning Ordinance. These classes are held once a week, in the evening for 3 hours over a three week period. The participants not only gain useful information they network with freshman and senior Planning Commission members.

**LASTLY, ENJOY YOUR NEW ROLE** and pat yourself on the back for taking the initiative to be a public servant that provides expertise for the future development and economic stability in your municipality.

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**PDO Corner**

by Susan Elks, AICP, Professional Development Officer

**AICP Exam Prep Session**

Saturday February 26, 2011
Camp Hill, PA
9:00am – 4:00pm

**Remember... Free Webcast Training is Available**

For 2011 training, keep in mind the free planning webcast series sponsored by chapters, divisions, and universities. Initially begun by a group of chapters, including the PA Chapter, the series has continued to grow, and multiple **webcasts are now offered each month** — over 48 credits annually. Details can be found on the PA Chapter's **Events Calendar online**, or go directly to the Utah Chapter website. Sessions will be added throughout the year, so continue to check back. The **PA Chapter is providing the April 8, 2011 session on ethics**.

**Announcing!**

**PA Chapter-sponsored Trainings on Transportation and Zoning**

In addition to participating in distance learning opportunities, the PA Chapter is committed to providing in-person training to its members. Sections accomplish much in this regard through the dedication of volunteers. The Professional Development Committee of the PA Chapter is coordinating **two separate in-person training series** in various locations across the state in 2011, focused on **transportation and zoning**. Details on the transportation training, being held in March and April, are now posted to the **Events Calendar** on the Chapter website. Details on the zoning training will be posted when finalized. As always, the Events Calendar is a great resource for finding training, CM and otherwise. Visit [www.planningpa.org](http://www.planningpa.org).

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**Remember...**

Visit [www.planningpa.org](http://www.planningpa.org) for more information.
APA National Conference Coming Soon!

from Angela Vincent, Region 1 Director, Board of Directors

Register now for the National APA Conference!
Join APA and more than 5,000 fellow planners and officials in Boston for the 2011 National Planning Conference, April 9-12, www.planning.org/conference

New England or Region 1 Reception at the National APA Conference in Boston
Based on the popularity of the Region 1 Reception at the New Orleans, we are currently soliciting feedback on the demand to hold either a New England or an entire Region 1 Reception. New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York members – would you want to participate in a Region 1 reception? If so, please email Angela Vincent ASAP to inform the planning for this event. She can be reached at angela.vincent@iclei.org.

International Forum on Sustainable Urbanization — Next Generation Planners 40 and Under Invited!
Young planners are invited to participate in APA’s “International Forum on Sustainable Urbanization — Next Generation,” a one-day youth forum taking place April 9, 2011 at the APA National Conference in Boston.
As the most urbanized countries and fastest growing urban areas in the world, the United States and China are facing a challenging future, and the voice from young generations of both countries represents a shape of future. As the first unofficial dialogue channel for young generations between United States and China, the purpose of this event is to provide a venue to get Chinese and American young generations (under age of 40) to express their perspectives on urban issues. Participants are not limited to planners, but all the young people who care about our cities in the future. For more information contact Andy Fang at chinaprogram@planning.org or 202-872-0611 ext.1039. from David Kruse, SRC Representative from Region 1

Student Opportunities for Interaction at the APA National Conference
This year’s National Conference will be upon us before we know it! Between numerous sessions, mobile workshops, tours, and meeting with Planning peers, there are also many opportunities for “young” planners to network with each other. One of the first events offered is the Happy Hour Networking Social at Kings on Saturday from 4pm to 6pm
Monday will include two more events centered on Young Planners. The Student and Young Planners Discussion, from 9am to 10:15am, will showcase some of the work each group has completed. Later in the day, a Young Planners Groups Discussion takes place from 2:30pm to 3:45pm - this session can “build upon existing resources and strategies.”

Additionally, an added benefit to this year’s Conference is the presence of Fenway Park and the start of Major League Baseball’s 2011 season. The Tampa Bay Rays will be in town for a 3-game series, beginning Monday night. Tickets are available as low as $29. Groups of tickets are available and can be a great way for professional planners and students to interact in a unique way, building off the mobile workshop earlier in the day regarding TOD and Sports.

APA Announces Application Period for Student Project Awards
As a student, the deadline for submitting projects for award considerations is fast approaching. The AICP Outstanding Student Award will be accepting submissions between March 1 and May 5, 2011. The following link takes you to the student section of APA’s website for further details: www.planning.org/students/

2010 Great Places Awards
Two Pennsylvania Communities Honored!

IN OCTOBER 2010, APA recognized the third round of Great Places in America Awards. Through Great Places in America, APA recognizes unique and authentic characteristics found in three essential components of all communities — streets, neighborhoods, and public spaces. APA Great Places offer better choices for where and how people work and live and are defined by many things including planning, architectural styles, accessibility and community involvement. Since APA began Great Places in America in 2007, 40 neighborhoods, 40 streets and 30 public spaces have been designated in 47 states and the District of Columbia.
The 2010 awards recognized two Pennsylvania communities for their great spaces:

• Liberty Street in Franklin, PA — Great Street
• Rittenhouse Square in Philadelphia, PA — Great Public Space

We’ll share more about these two great Pennsylvania places in the April issue of The Vantage Point.
PMPEI
PA Municipal Planning Education Institute
Schedule

PMPEI offers in-depth, stimulating, and interactive education for citizen planners, zoners, appointed and elected municipal and county officials, and professionals involved in planning.

PMPEI produces four courses, each offered through three in-dept sessions:
• Course in Community Planning
• Course in Zoning
• Course in Zoning Administration
• Course in Subdivision and Land Development Review

The courses are offered annually throughout the state. For the current schedule with locations and for full descriptions of each course, visit www.planningpa.org/events_pmpei.shtml.

New courses are added regularly. Don’t see one in your area? Contact contact Stan Lembeck, AICP at sml1@psu.edu for more details on how to host a PMPEI course in your community.
EVENTS & training opportunities

2011 ASLA PA-DE Annual Meeting
April 8-9, 2011
Skytop Lodge, Skytop, PA
www.landscapesarchitects.org

APA National Conference
April 9-12
Boston, MA
www.planning.org
An excellent opportunity to earn multiple CM credits and connect with colleagues.
Pre-Registration closes on March 10.

Brownfields 2011
April 3-5, 2011
Philadelphia Convention Center
Philadelphia, PA
www.brownfields2011.org

2011 National Roads Regional Conference
May 5-6, 2011
Cumberland, MD
www.planningpa.org

9th Annual PA Land Conservation Conference
May 19-21, 2011
Hilton Harrisburg
Harrisburg, PA
www.conserveland.org

PA GIS Conference 2011
May 23-26, 2011
Harrisburg, PA
www.pagisconference.org

PA Chapter of APA Annual Conference
October 16-18, 2011
Scranton, PA
www.planningpa.org

Events are added regularly. Visit www.planningpa.org for all events and registration details.

"Tools for an Effective Planning Commissioner"

The PA Chapter of APA is pleased to make “Tools for an Effective Planning Commissioner” available for FREE viewing. The video, produced by the PA Chapter of APA in association with Penn State Cooperative Extension, is available by visiting www.planningpa.org. Click on Video under the Events &Training section.