



THE VANTAGE POINT



American Planning Association
Pennsylvania Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association

HIGHLIGHTS!

2010 Annual Conference

Main Sessions on Key Topics

Monday's Opening Keynote Session will feature Pat McCrory, the immediate past and longest serving mayor of the City of Charlotte, NC. During his seven terms, Mayor McCrory distinguished himself as a leader in public safety, economic development, housing, and transportation. He received national recognition for his leadership in developing Charlotte's 25-year transportation and land use plan. Additionally he is the father of Charlotte's light rail system, having secured the necessary funding, and also oversaw \$2 billion in local and state road improvements throughout the city. Mayor McCrory will share with attendees his experience and insight on the Transit-Land Use connection.

ATTENDEES WILL ALSO gather Monday for the **Pitkin Lecture and Luncheon**, sponsored by Temple University. **This year we are pleased to bring to you Chris Leinberger of the Brookings Institution.** Mr. Leinberger is an urban land strategist, teacher, developer, researcher and author who balances business realities with social and environmental issues. He was voted one of the **"Top**

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A Message from President Alexander J. Graziani, AICP



Planners UNITE!

A CALL TO BECOME ENGAGED IN THE
BATTLE TO **RESTORE LUPTAP FUNDING:**

In early May I spent two days in Harrisburg to lobby for planning and meet with 19 members

of the House and Senate and/or their staffs. Most of my visits were with staff on the Senate side. I was armed with a packet of information about the Pennsylvania DCED Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program (LUPTAP).

As I trust most of the friends of planning in Pennsylvania know—this program was slashed 90% in the current budget and the Governor has proposed a further reduction for the upcoming FY 2010-11 budget.

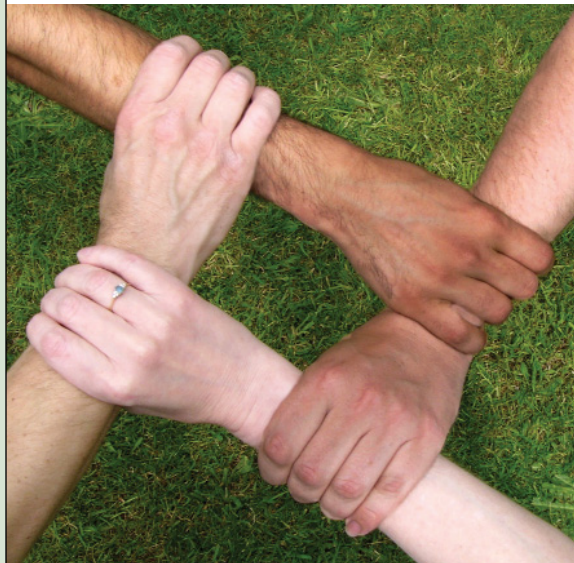
- FY2008-09 Budget \$4.3 million
- FY2009-10 Budget \$0.375 million
- FY2010-11 Budget \$0.371 million (proposed)

Included in my visits at the Capitol was a meeting with **Rep. Bob Freeman**, who along with 17 of his colleagues in the House submitted a letter on May 4, 2010 to the Governor and legislative leadership requesting an increase of LUPTAP to \$1.0 million.

The County Planning Directors Association of PA has also begun a campaign asking that funding be increased to \$2.0 million.

The bottom line is if we want to have any success in restoring a higher funding level for planning we must educate our legislators that **planning** is an essential function of

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Planners UNITE!

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THE LUPTAP PROGRAM WAS **SLASHED 90%** IN THE CURRENT BUDGET AND THE GOVERNOR HAS PROPOSED A FURTHER REDUCTION FOR THE UPCOMING FY 2010-11 BUDGET.

local government and that the LUPTAP program is important. I could go back to Harrisburg every week and meet with every legislator and it would not be as valuable as what I asking you to do below.

Please consider doing the following:

1. Go to the Chapter's Planners Unite web page to **get informed about the issue:** www.planningpa.org/planners_unite.shtml
2. **Talk to your County Commissioners** and other elected officials about the 90% cut in this year's LUPTAP budget and the small cut proposed for next year.
3. Ask your County Commissioners and other elected officials to contact the County's delegation to the state legislature to ask for an increase in LUPTAP funding.
4. **Contact your legislators.** We need every person who reads this newsletter to write a letter to

your legislative delegations in support of the LUPTAP program! The letter should contain specific examples of how your county and or municipalities used the grant.

5. **Reach out to local officials.** Each person should reach out to local officials who have recently benefited from a LUPTAP grant, or who were going to apply to the program before the 90% cut. **Write your legislators** touting the benefits of the program by listing the impacts and outcomes or by sharing your need to do planning.
6. Make sure that the local government associations, CCAP, PSATS, PSAB, PLCM etc. include support for LUPTAP in their legislative agendas and lobbying communications. This program benefits local government.
7. **Submit examples of good planning to the Chapter** so we can create one-page case studies. We need case studies of excellent

planning from every corner of the Commonwealth. View examples at www.planningpa.org/planners_unite.shtml.

8. Share with the Chapter when you communicate with your legislator on this subject so we can track our combined efforts.

Simply copy us on any correspondence or email, and let us know when you talked to your legislator.

9. **Work with other planners in your PA APA Section** to advance the Planner Unite discussion.

10. **Visit your representatives and senators** to share the planning story.

11. **Educate legislators** to the good work you are doing. On an on-going basis include state legislators in your planning efforts so that they see first-hand the value of planning.

EVERY MEMBER of the State House and Senate was mailed a packet from the Chapter which included four case studies. The letter implored them to restore LUPTAP funding to the FY2008-09 Budget level and went out in early April. My meetings in Harrisburg were a follow-up to the letter.

In a short time, the Planners Unite group, a committee of the Chapter, has done a lot to organize and communicate a message on the need to support planning. Planners Unite welcomes new members. I encourage all our Sections to host information and discussion sessions around the issues of funding and lack of value for planning.

Again our best hope for restoring funding is action by everyone reading this newsletter. We must use the resources that the Chapter has prepared to get an increase in LUPTAP funding. The key action you need to take is to contact your legislators.

Lastly, Thanks for all those who have been helping this effort to date. And as always, if you have any concerns or questions please contact me at 724-787-6520 or alex@smartgrowthpa.org. ♦

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HIGHLIGHTS! 2010 Annual Conference

100 Urban Thinkers of all time in a poll conducted by Planetizen in 2009. Among his many roles, Mr. Leinberger is a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC where he focuses on research, strategy and management of "walkable urban" places. He will speak with us about the New Market demands for housing and community development.

THE PA CHAPTER THANKS Temple University for their ongoing support of the conference and the Pitkin Lecture.

Sponsorship by companies and organizations helps to make the conference possible and contributes to the advancement of planning in Pennsylvania. Openings are still available to sponsor, advertise and exhibit at this key planning event. For more details, visit www.planningpa.org and click on Annual Conference.

Thank you to the following companies and organizations who have committed to support of the 2010 Annual Conference: (as of May 31)

- Central Section, PA Chapter of APA
- Gannett Fleming
- Hartman Underhill and Brubaker
- High Real Estate Group
- Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority
- Lancaster General Health
- Maser Consulting P.A.
- McCormick Taylor, Inc.
- Taggart Associates
- Temple University
- Urban Research & Development Corp.

TUESDAY WE GATHER for a Plenary Session that will focus on an issue that is key to most Pennsylvania communities – Marcellus

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SIX THINGS

I wish I had known when I first became a Planning Commissioner

by Philip H. Klotz, AICP
Vice Chair, Hampden Township Planning Commission

Reprinted with permission The Commission, American
Planning Association, Spring 2006.

I was first appointed to a municipal planning commission 22 years ago. I was still “green” in community planning. The municipality, a township of over 14,000 people in eastern Pennsylvania, had a diverse five-member planning commission. Also, we were fortunate to have a municipal engineer and solicitor at all our meetings, which provided a fostering environment. From this initial experience, I share my lessons learned:

1. Keep Your Nose Clean. My initial appointment was to complete the term of a member who was 20 years my senior. He gave me one piece of advice: “Keep your nose clean.” It is critical for a planning commissioner to maintain independence, neutrality, and objectivity in an environment of often competing interests. Every commissioner should strive to ensure an unbiased process, uphold the commission’s credibility, and most importantly, maintain the public trust. Abiding by the APA Ethical Principles in Planning is very helpful.

2. Become Familiar with the Rules of the Road. Acquire a copy

of and become somewhat familiar with your state’s planning-related enabling legislation; your state’s ethics and “sunshine” laws; and your municipal comprehensive plan, zoning ordinance, and subdivision and land development ordinances. You usually can obtain the statutes through your state legislator and local documents through your municipality. A basic knowledge of these enables you to make informed, defensible recommendations or decisions, and helps you to “keep your nose clean.”

3. Know How to Read and Review Site Plans. Your ability to correctly read and review site plans, which leads to recommendations or decisions, is key to protecting the public health, safety, and welfare. If you need a better understanding of how to read engineering drawings, perhaps ask your governing body to sponsor training through your municipal engineer or an education provider. It is important to make sure that site plans meet community standards – the comprehensive plan and municipal ordinances. Consulting with your municipal engineer or planning staff, as well as using a

checklist, is helpful in achieving this task. Also, look for “common sense” concerns that may not be specified in an ordinance, but may affect public health, safety, and welfare.

4. Be Careful What You Ask For. Generally, as long as an applicant complies with the provisions of your municipal ordinances, you must recommend or grant approval of a site plan. Any standards and conditions that a municipality applies and requires for plan approval have to benefit the public health, safety, and welfare. Be careful not to include a specific condition or a monetary exaction as a basis for disapproval unless it is authorized in state law or your local ordinances. Requiring what is not authorized could result in litigation.

5. Do Your Homework. When I was first asked to serve on a planning commission, a governing body member told me that it didn’t take much time – only one two-hour meeting a month. What I quickly realized was the considerable preparation required to do a responsible job. Prior to a meeting, request

copies of the site plan applications that are on the upcoming agenda, along with any municipal comments. Allow adequate time to review the plan in the context of the municipal ordinances and comments. As part of this process, it is essential to conduct a site visit to fully realize any effects on and from the proposal. Contact the municipal staff or engineer in advance with questions that would facilitate your review.

6. Don’t Be Afraid to Ask. If you are uncertain about something, ask the appropriate authority. Often, admitting that you don’t know is the first step in acquiring the knowledge required to do your job properly. Remember, always contact your municipal staff first so that they are not “blindsided” about your inquiry of a third party. In fact, the municipal staff may have the information you need.

For more guidance on enhancing your role as a planning commissioner, contact the American Planning Association or visit its website at www.planning.org/commissioners. ♦

PMPEI

Graduates New Instructors

by Stan Lembeck, AICP

Fourteen new instructors were certified to teach the PMPEI Course in Community Planning at the April 16-17 Train-the-Trainer program in State College.

THEY JOIN 30 OTHERS who are approved to teach PMPEI's most requested course. The intensive 15 hour training program prepares new instructors to teach the course by providing instruction in both the details of the course content and how to be an effective adult educator. Four current instructors led the Train-the-Trainer session: **George Fasic, AICP; Stanford Lembeck, AICP; Jeffery Pierce; and Peter Wulfhorst, AICP.**

The new instructors come from every region of the state and are involved in both public agency and private planning activities. All are well experienced—a basic criterion is that



instructors have at least five years experience in planning - but most have much more than that. Six of the fourteen instructors are new to the PMPEI program and this is the first course they will be teaching. The other eight were previously certified to teach one or more of the three other PMPEI courses.

These new instructors were trained using the latest version of the course—the sixth edition that began in 1992—which has several new features. More instruction is included on comprehensive planning, particularly in how to frame the questions a municipality's comprehensive plan should answer. Practical suggestions regarding plan reviews and plan updates, as well as guidelines for assessing consistency have also been added.

The 6th edition also features a new comprehensive planning exercise based on natural gas exploration of the **Marcellus Shale**, an issue that impacts about 70% of the state to some extent. Even if no drilling is taking place in a municipality it may still be impacted by this “development of regional significance and impact.” Instructors will teach students the process and timing of natural gas development, and provide factual



TOP LEFT, L-R: Shannon Rossman, Trisha Lang, Oliver Carley
TOP CENTER, L-R: Jeff Pierce and George Fasic explaining the teaching objectives for the comprehensive planning unit of the Course in Community Planning. FACING PAGE, L-R: Scott Dellett, Jack Varaly, Spencer Andress, Stanley Gawel working on the Marcellus Shale planning exercise. BOTTOM LEFT: Course instructor Peter Wulfhorst explaining how Marcellus Shale gas drilling works. BOTTOM RIGHT: L-R: Dick Koch, Bill Brobst (current instructor), Shirley Yannich (current instructor) work on the Marcellus Shale planning exercise.

information about the enormous resources gas exploration requires. Students then have an opportunity to apply the information in a hands-on session on how to prepare multi-municipal comprehensive plans that take into account the long term implications on municipalities of Marcellus Shale development.

PMPEI's Train-the-Trainer approach is what makes the Institute's planning and zoning program unique. Trainees who enroll come with the technical knowledge and experience in land use regulation, and the training program adds the

teaching knowledge and skills that enable them to present quality courses that meet the needs of planning commissioners, zoning officials, elected officials, and others involved in local and county planning. PMPEI has earned its reputation for excellent courses because of the skill and dedication of its instructors.

If you would like to learn more about PMPEI's train-the-trainer program, and how to be a host or sponsor of a PMPEI course, visit the Chapter website and click on PMPEI. ♦



American Planning Association
Pennsylvania Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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Please help us close the loop
 and recycle this newsletter.

INSTRUCTOR PROFILES

Spencer Andress, AICP

New instructor with PMPEI. He is a principal in Government Specialists, Inc., a planning consulting firm in Chester County.

thinker@gsi-cpl.com



David Babbitt, AICP

Certified instructor of PMPEI's subdivision review and zoning courses. David is a consultant in Chester County.

david@babbittplanning.com

Oliver Carley, AICP

New PMPEI instructor. Oliver has been with several planning agencies and firms and is currently a planner with CHPlanning in Philadelphia.

oliver.carley@chplanning.com

Scott Dellett, AICP

Certified instructor of The Course in Subdivision and Land Development Review. Formerly the assistant planning director for Monroeville, Scott has been a planner with several Pittsburgh law firms.

scottdellett@comcast.net

Edward Fegley

Ed is a new PMPEI instructor. He has many years experience in building code and zoning administration, and is currently zoning officer for the Town of Bloomsburg.

efegley@bloomsburg.net

Stanley Gawel

Formerly a township manager in Bucks County and currently chairman of the Upper Southampton Township Planning Commission, Stan is also certified to teach The Course in Zoning Administration and The Course in Subdivision and Land Development Review.

spgilg@comcast.net

Richard Koch, AICP

Dick is a long time planner with Gannett Fleming and is vice-chair of the Chapter's Central Section. He is also certified to teach The Course in Zoning.

rkoch@gfnet.com

Trisha Lang, AICP

Currently planning director in Ferguson Township, Centre County. Previously she was a planner with the Lancaster County Planning Commission. Trisha is a new PMPEI instructor.

tlang@twp.ferguson.pa.us

MaryAnna Ralph

MaryAnna is a planning consultant in Chester County. She is also certified to teach the Course in Zoning Administration.

mabralph@comcast.net

Rachelle Ricotta

The Course in Community Planning is the first course Rachelle is certified to teach. She is lead planner for the Lycoming County Office of Planning and Development.

rricotta@lyco.org

Shannon Rossman

Shannon is Intergovernmental Planner with the Berks County Planning Commission. She is also certified to teach The Course in Zoning.

srossman@countyofberks.com

Candace Stowell, AICP

The Course in Community Planning is the first Candace is certified to teach. She is Deputy Director for Planning in Harrisburg's Department of Building and Housing Development.

cstowell@cityofhbg.com

John Varaly, AICP

Formerly the director of planning for the City of Wilkes Barre, Jack is currently a planning consultant in Luzerne County. He is also certified to teach The Course in Zoning Administration.

jackvaraly@hotmail.com

Stephen Vincenti

Steve has planning experience in Pennsylvania and Missouri, and is currently borough manager in Archbald Borough, Lackawanna County. This is the first course he is certified to teach.

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PA Chapter

Executive Committee

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Contact information is available
at www.planningpa.org
under "About the Association".

Requirements for Reinstating AICP Membership

With the close of the first CM reporting cycle, you may find yourself with a lapsed AICP membership because circumstances prevented you from earning your full credit requirement.

- ✓ **Fortunately reinstatement is not a difficult process.** See below for the details.
- ✓ **Any AICP member whose membership lapses** because of a failure to fulfill the CM requirements by the end of the grace period of a designated CM reporting period OR whose membership lapses before the reporting period but does not apply for reinstatement until after the close of the reporting period must meet the following qualifications for approval:
 - **Apply for reinstatement within four years of their AICP membership lapse date;**
 - **Confirm in writing that they did not act in violation of the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct nor use the AICP credential any time subsequent to receiving the certified letter notifying them of their lapsed membership;**
 - **Pay a non-refundable \$100 reinstatement fee and all back AICP dues owed; and**
 - **Demonstrate that they earned an appropriate number of CM credits during the period of their lapsed membership. Details on how to fulfill this requirement are described below.**

Lapsed members are responsible for earning 32 credits for each reporting period that closes before reinstatement is requested, including law and ethics. Because access to a member's online CM log will be lost once membership has lapsed, the lapsed member must keep a personal record of earned credits during lapsed membership and submit suitable documentation with the application for reinstatement. Any registered CM activity that the member attended from the time the reporting period began until the time reinstatement is requested is eligible. Members may also use self-reporting as an option.

When a lapsed member is reinstated, he or she will be assigned to the next successive two-year reporting period that is still open and will be expected to earn and log all 32 CM credits mandated for that two-year reporting period on the same schedule as other AICP members in that reporting group, regardless of when in the reporting period membership is reinstated.

- ✓ **If you are in need of credits that are affordable and convenient for your schedule, be sure to review the following:**

Webcast Series: The PA Chapter participates in the Webcast Series which provides free, 1.5 credit webcasts that are just 1.5 hours long.

Free at APA: Approximately 25 credits are available through free APA webcast offerings. Visit www.planning.org/cm/free for the list of courses.

- ✓ The above details are taken in part from the APA AICP website section. **We strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with all of the AICP information about lapsed membership.** Pay particular attention to use of the AICP credential during your lapse period. This information is available on APA's website at www.planning.org/aicp/reinstatement.htm. ♦



Planners! Funds available to support your professional development

**APPLY FOR THE
2011 Irving Hand Professional Development Award.
Deadline to apply is September 10, 2010.**

THE PA CHAPTER IS NOW ACCEPTING applications for the 2011 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 \$2,500 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 4:00 PM on Friday, September 10, 2010. The recipient is announced at the 2010 Annual Conference and the funds will support professional activities in the 2011 calendar year.

Past winners and their use of their award:

2010 Evangeline Linkous – Funds used for the cost of the AICP exam and PhD Studies in City and Regional Planning at University of Pennsylvania.

2009 Brandon Porinchak – Funds used for tuition costs for Masters of Science program in Planning Politics and Administration, and Sustainable Business Practices at Temple University.

2009 Richard Redding – Funds used for the MIT-Harvard Public Dispute Program, 2 day intensive course held in Cambridge, MA. ♦

WEBCASTseries

The 2010 Webcast Series provides CM approved professional development for PA Chapter members. For session descriptions and to register visit www.utah-apa.org. New sessions are regularly added – check the schedule often.

UPCOMING WEBCASTS: All webcasts qualify for 1.5 CM credits and take place from 1:00pm to 2:30pm ET.

June 11

Bus Rapid System: The Inside Story of the New York BRT

Sponsored by the Transportation Division of APA

June 25

Understanding the Unserved Workforce

July 9

Land Use Law – LAW Credit*

August 6

Abel-ing your Development/ Zoning Code: Implementing the Americans with Disabilities and Fair Housing Acts

August 13

Wind and Utility Corridors

September 3

Planning and Law Division – LAW Credit*
Details to Be Announced

September 10

Economic Development

September 17

Monumental Core Framework Plan:
Connecting New Destinations with the National Mall ♦



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HIGHLIGHTS! 2010 Annual Conference

Shale. While we could devote a full day to this topic, we will take this time to feature key experts on the topic, discussing the current situation and methods for addressing the environmental, social, and economic impacts of Marcellus Shale drilling. Joining us for this session will be **Paul O. Swartz**, Executive Director of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission and **Carol Collier**, Executive Director of the Delaware River Basin Commission. **Professor Jeffrey P. Featherstone** of Temple University will moderate. The panel will be joined by a county planner director.

Workshops and Mobile Tours

In addition to these outstanding main sessions the conference committee has carefully selected a program that features 48 workshops and nine mobile

tours. The topic range is broad and the full program will be announced in mid to late July.

CM Credits

AICP planners who are seeking CM credits can earn up to 25% of their requirement for the reporting period at the conference. The CM credit availability for each day at the conference is:

Sunday – 3

Monday – 6.25

Tuesday – 5.25

Wednesday – 6

Supporters Still Needed

Opportunities are still available to support this year's conference. Commitments by June 25, 2010 will ensure inclusion in the Conference Announcement which will reach 5,000 planners in the state. For full details, visit www.planningpa.org and click on Annual Conference.

PA Chapter Selected to Host APA Pilot Workshop

The PA Chapter of APA is also pleased to announce a special post-conference session for this year's conference. A few months ago we applied for and

were accepted to host a pilot program for APA.

Under a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service, APA's Green Communities Research Center is developing a full-day training workshop based on the PAS Report, *Planning the Urban Forest*. Aimed at practicing planners and allied professionals, the workshop will focus on developing core knowledge and skills for planners to integrate urban forestry priorities throughout the local planning process.

Conference Rates

We are pleased to honor 2009 conference rates for all registrations confirmed by the early bird deadline of August 25, 2010.

We look forward to seeing many of you at this year's annual conference. The conference announcement, containing full program details, will be released in mid to late July.

Please check the website at www.planningpa.org for ongoing updates. ♦

SCHOLARSHIP\$ available for planning students

2010-2011 Academic Year

Deadline to apply: June 30, 2010

THE PA CHAPTER is accepting scholarship applications from students in Pennsylvania undergraduate and graduate programs related to planning. Funds from both the Pitkin Fund and the Spaulding Trust are available for a limited number of scholarships each year. The scholarship application has been sent to planning programs in the Commonwealth and is also available on the PA Chapter website at www.planningpa.org. See Scholarships under the Education heading. The deadline to apply is June 30, 2010. Recipients will be announced on or about July 30, 2010. ♦

AROUND^{the}STATE

Southeast Section Members Participate in EarthFest

by Brian O'Leary, AICP

PLANNERS FROM the Philadelphia area hosted a PA Chapter of APA booth at Temple Ambler University's annual Earthfest, an environmental fair aimed at school children and held the first Friday after Earth Day. This year more than 12,000 people attended the festival, which features a wide range of

exhibits, from zoo animals to a working wetlands model. Our booth uses aerials to engage students and adults in discussions about planning. One panel shows an interchange area before and after development, and the participants can debate the pros and cons of the development that took place.

A second panel shows a large field next to a shopping center and village area. On this panel, students have the opportunity to lay out blocks showing different types of development. We've found these aerials appeal to all age groups and often lead to a more in-depth discussion of planning issues and the importance of planning.



LEFT: Shirley Yannich, PP, AICP works with some young attendees.

TOP RIGHT: Rick Barton, AICP works with student using blocks to illustrate different types of development. Rick Collier, Jr, AICP also volunteered at the booth (not pictured).

CENTER RIGHT: Examining before and after aerials. Pictured with the students are Darlene Wynne, AICP and Shirley Yannich, PP, AICP.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Brian O'Leary, AICP talks with students.



Central Section Updates

by William A. Gomes, AICP, Section Chair

Professional Development Program Scheduled

The Central Section of the PA Chapter has been busy for the past few months developing a professional development program. The workshop, entitled "Alternative Energy Sources and Regulations in PA Communities," will take place September 2, 2010 at Harrisburg Area Community College. This workshop will include an energy overview, and a discussion of energy alternatives including solar, wind, geothermal and outdoor burning facilities. There will also be a panel discussion on how energy sources shape our communities as well as a presentation on local regulations. Cen-

tral Section is finalizing the program and anticipates approval in the next few months from APA for 5-6 CM credits.

Election Results

Recently the Section held its election of officers and voted on changes to the Section bylaws. As a result of the election, Tara Hitchens, AICP will be the new Section Chair, Rachelle Ricotta will be the new Professional Planner member at large. The Planning Official representatives will be Bill Brobst and Scott Haverstick. These Council changes take effect June 1, 2010. Also approved was a ballot initiative incorporating several amendments to the Section

bylaws. Most of the amendments were house keeping in nature to keep the Section bylaws current with changes in the Chapter bylaws as well as correct dates when elections are to be held. A major change was the provision that terms of office will now be for three years instead of two years.

"Making Your Mark" Video

One other action of the Section Council was to work with the Chapter in developing a wider distribution of the video "Making Your Mark: How to be an Effective Planning Commissioner." The video, which was produced in both a CD and VHS version several years ago,

was recently launched on the Chapter website to make it more available to local planning commissions. The video provides planning commission members with an overview on their role. The Section Council hopes that this website access to the video will be widely used and lead to a second video on the subdivision and land development review process. To view the video, visit www.planningpa.org and click on Video under the Events/Programs heading.

THE NEXT regular meeting of the Section Council will be held in Watts, PA on June 4, 2010. Any members are welcome to attend the meetings. ♦

EVENTS & Training Opportunities

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

APA Webcast: 2010 Planning Law Review

June 3, 2010, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

<http://www.planning.org/audioconference/series/law.htm>

CM: 1.5 LAW

PA Chapter of APA Annual Conference

October 3-5, 2010, Lancaster, PA

www.planningpa.org

CM: Approximately 13 CM credits available

News & articles

for *The Vantage Point*



We are always seeking articles on current planning topics and planning news!

The Vantage Point is published bimonthly and contributions that are timely, newsworthy, and of statewide interest are welcome. Dated material should be submitted well in advance according to our deadlines below. Submitted articles of 500 words or less in length should be sent by email to address below. Articles that include artwork, illustrations or photographs will receive first consideration. Images must be scanned at 300 dpi with a print size of at least 2.5 inches wide. The author's name, position, and employer's name and city must also be included to ensure proper credit. Shorter articles and announcements of 100-150 words are also welcome.

DEADLINES FOR UPCOMING ISSUES:

August: July 9, 2010

October: September 3, 2010

December: November 12, 2010

Submit to: sgalbraith@shermer-assoc.com ♦

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PSATS 2010 ANNUAL CONVENTION

THANK YOU to the following PA Chapter members for volunteering to staff the PA Chapter booth at this year's PSATS Convention.

Alexander J. Graziani, AICP

Charlie Guttenplan, AICP

Chris Hardie

Mark Stivers, AICP

Candace H. Stowell, AICP

John Turack

Peter Wulforst, AICP



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. ♦

Individual Members:

Gary T. Dovey, Grove City, PA,
Northwest Section

Organizational Members:

Archbald Borough,
Northeast Section
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by Susan Elks, AICP, PA Chapter Professional Development Officer

AICP Exam – Fall 2010

If you are planning to take the exam in November, the application window opens in mid-June. The PA Chapter offers two partial scholarships for the fall test; please see the PA Chapter website for the application. The scholarships reduce the fee from \$485 to \$125, and are open to anyone, with an emphasis on financial need. Additionally, for fall test takers, the PA Chapter will host a webcast prep session in September; check the website or our next newsletter for date and registration information.

Donate Your AICP Exam Study Materials

Speaking of the AICP Exam, if you have taken the exam in the past and are wondering what to do with your study materials, the Professional Development Committee would love to **grow our lending library for planners studying for the AICP exam.** If you have any study materials that you would be willing to part with, please contact myself or the Chapter office. We are most interested in: *The Practice of Local Government Planning* (Green Book), 3rd or 4th editions; *Everyday Ethics for Practicing Planners* by Carol Barnett; or the *AICP Exam Prep 2.0*. Thank you in advance for your willingness to share your materials.

CM – End of the First Reporting Cycle and How to Reinstate

The first reporting cycle for Certification Maintenance (CM) has now come and gone for AICP members. Although final numbers are not in yet from APA, the PA Chapter was estimating a loss of approximately 10% of its AICP members. While some made a choice to allow their AICP to lapse, others may have fallen behind for a variety of reasons. APA does have a process for reinstatement, which includes:

- Apply for reinstatement within four years of the AICP membership lapse date (this would be 12/31/09 for the first cycle);
- Confirm in writing that the member did not act in viola-

tion of the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct nor used the AICP credential any time subsequent to receiving the certified letter notifying them of their lapsed membership;

- Pay a non-refundable \$100 reinstatement fee and all back AICP dues owed; and
- Demonstrate that an appropriate number of CM credits were earned by the member during the period of their lapsed membership.

QUESTIONS on reinstatement can be directed to myself, selks@chesco.org, the PA Chapter office at info@planningpa.org, or APA. ♦



**Grow our Lending Library by
donating your AICP Exam study materials**

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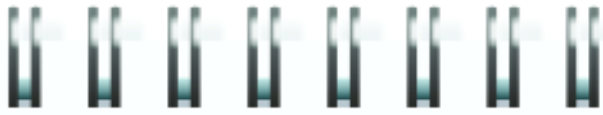
**through conference sponsorships,
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Many opportunities exist for companies and organizations to market to your targeted audience through advertising and exhibits. Information for sponsors, advertisers, sponsorships, and exhibitors may be found on the PA Chapter website at

www.planningpa.org



2010 Annual Conference



Planner notes...

Elks Welcomes Daughter

Congratulations to Chapter PDO Susan Elks, AICP! Susan and her husband welcomed Claire Ashling Elks on April 6, 2010. Claire joins her older brother Garrett. Everyone is doing very well.

Bickel Inducted to AICP College of Fellows

At the APA National Planning Conference in New Orleans, PA Chapter leaders were pleased to join Richard Bickel, FAICP at the induction ceremony for the AICP College of Fellows. Richard was one of just 37 new FAICP members this year. The College currently numbers just shy of 450 members and represents the top echelon of the American Planning Association. The Board of Directors congratulates Richard for this outstanding achievement in his career.



Richard Bickel, FAICP with Paul Inghram, AICP, President of AICP

"I felt a combination of happiness and pride, especially that I could share the experience with my wife, Margaret. It was very interesting to meet the other inductees and to hear about their accomplishments. It also made me appreciate the efforts of the Chapter and the endorsement letter-writers who supported my application." — **Richard Bickel, FAICP**

Venturi Scott Brown & Associates Recognized

Venturi Scott Brown & Associate's Campus Master Plan for Haverford College was recently recognized by the Society of College and University Planners with a 2010 Excellence in Planning Honor Award. Located on 216 acres in Haverford, PA, the liberal arts college founded by the Quakers in 1933 engaged VSBA to design a plan for development while preserving Haverford's arboretum landscape and intimate character. The Plan included a number of important elements: sustainability, accessibility, energy reduction, preservation and adaptive reuse of historic buildings, enhanced pedestrian connections, environmental stewardship, and creating spaces for social activities. ♦

eMAIL

news from the PA Chapter

The PA Chapter now sends a significant amount of our updates and news by email. Because we know that everyone receives a lot of email, we make every effort to send you information that is relevant and timely – updates you can use.

Help Us Reach You with Important News and Updates

For us to reach you with this information we need your correct email address. Please keep the PA Chapter office posted of changes to your email address. APA members must also notify APA of these updates.

Other Ways to Receive News

If you prefer to not receive email from the Chapter, simply unsubscribe using the link at the bottom of an email you receive from us. We will understand! Much of this information is also posted on the PA Chapter website, so check the website frequently to stay current on news that is important to you. ♦

Planning for a Sustainable Future

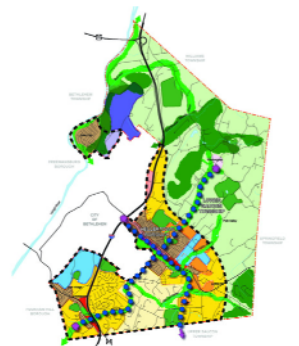
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PMPEI PA MUNICIPAL PLANNING EDUCATION INSTITUTE SCHEDULE

The following courses are scheduled for June. Courses will begin again in September. New PMPEI courses are added regularly. Visit www.planningpa.org/events_pmpei.shtml for the complete schedule.

To host a PMPEI course in your community contact **Stan Lembeck, AICP** for more details.



Course in Community Planning

Octorara Middle School, 228 Highland Road, Atglen, PA

June 1, 8, 15

Contact: Chester County 2020, 610-925-0900, info@cc2020.org
register online at www.CC2020.org

* This course is part of the new Chester County Master Planning Program

Course in Zoning

Marysville, Perry County

Borough Building

June 3, 17, 24

Contact: Terri Dickow 1-800-272-7722 ext. 42, tdickow@boroughs.org

Allentown

Office of Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

June 9, 15, 23

Contact: Dave Berryman 610-264-4544, dvp@lvpc.org

Course in Zoning Administration

Dauphin County

Hummelstown (Municipal Building 136 S. Hanover Street, Hummelstown)

June 2, 9, 16

Contact: Terri Dickow 1-800-272-7722 ext. 42, tdickow@boroughs.org