The following awards were presented:

**Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan**
Dream Dormont: 2013 Comprehensive Plan  
Borough of Dormont  
Interface Studio, Sam Schwartz Engineering, Duane Morris Government Strategies

Dream Dormont grew out of a desire by officials to redefine the borough and set a fresh approach for the future. The plan is definitely fresh in its look and ideas. It recommends capitalizing on affordable, small-town living, working, and shopping only 15 minutes from downtown Pittsburgh via the “T”; re-thinking streets as public spaces; and using creative new parking options and green infrastructure. Public input events attended by over 200 people were held at a historic theater and offered a fun way to discuss the borough’s issues. The plan paints the new Dormont as a place steeped in historic charm that embraces the next generation and progressive ideas.

**Planning Excellence Award – Implementation**
Green City, Clean Waters Plan  
Philadelphia Water Department

Green City, Clean Waters is Philadelphia’s innovative plan that calls for green stormwater infrastructure to reduce combined sewer overflow by 85% and drastically reduce related pollutants. The plan lays out a 25-year agenda of public investment, private property retrofits, and regulations on new development. The aim is to redirect runoff from over 9,000 acres of impervious surface away from the sewer system and instead to irrigate vegetation and infiltrate into the soil. Since 2011, the Philadelphia Water Department has completed 97 public projects, provided over $14 million in retrofit incentives, and overseen stormwater management on 396 new development sites, with hundreds more projects in design or under construction.
Planning Excellence Award – Best Practice

Montgomery County Planning Commission Model Sign Ordinance
Montgomery County Planning Commission

A model sign ordinance is the latest in the outstanding series of model ordinances from Montgomery County Planning Commission. The 132-page document describes various types of signs and current sign issues with photographs and graphics, and provides model ordinance language with helpful sidebar comments. The model ordinance is supported by thorough research into best practices, federal and state laws, and recent leading court decisions. Local code officials and attorneys provided input. The model ordinance is currently being used by local officials in preparing revisions to local signage provisions and is available to anyone on the MCPC website.

Planning Excellence Award – Implementation

Emerald View Park Trail Plan
Mount Washington Community Development Corporation

Emerald View Park atop Pittsburgh’s Mount Washington is home to one of the nation’s most beautiful vistas. In 2010, the city and Mount Washington CDC completed a plan for a 19-mile trail system in the park and through green spaces around the neighborhood. There were large challenges – difficult terrain, homeless encampments, and illegal dumps. Already 10 miles have been built. Work was primarily accomplished by the Emerald Trail Corps, a workforce development program for adults, and Student Conservation Associates. The trails have become a neighborhood asset providing public space for neighborly interaction, and are growing as a visitor attraction within ½ mile of downtown Pittsburgh.

Planning Excellence Award – Public Outreach

ConservationTools.org
Pennsylvania Land Trust Association
PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

ConservationTools.org is Pennsylvania’s premier web resource library for conservation and land use best practices. It includes over 1,000 library items – reports, articles, sample ordinances, and guidelines. There are introductory profiles and guides prepared by experts in conservation, planning, and law. The site also has a database of experts that can be consulted for help. ConservationTools.org is free for users. It has user-friendly topic directories and a search engine, and invites users to share comments and their own best practices.

Student Project Award

Small Legacy Cities, Equity, and a Changing Economy
University of Pennsylvania, School of Design, Department of City Planning (Graduate Planning Studio)

Small Legacy Cities, Equity, and a Changing Economy is a policy and strategy report prepared by Penn graduate planning students for the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. The report addresses to what extent traditional economic development projects equitably benefit low-moderate income communities. Three nearby cities were used as case studies – Wilmington, DE, Lancaster, PA, and Bethlehem, PA. Students did an extraordinary job developing a methodology for assessing equity, crafting policy or program interventions, and measuring impact. The methodology provides a blueprint for cities interested in building equity into their future development plans.
Planning Leadership Award – Professional Planner
Donna J. Carney, Philadelphia Citizens Planning Institute

Donna Carney is the founding director of the Philadelphia Citizens Planning Institute. CPI was formed in 2010 to enlighten civic leaders of changes as the city updated its comprehensive plan and zoning code. Under Carney’s leadership, it has grown to a larger role of making planning, and how to influence plans, understandable and accessible to the public at large. CPI has trained 245 citizen planners (from over 600 applications) representing over 400 organizations and over 100 neighborhoods, and delivered other training and presentations to over 800 people. CPI is self-supported by public and private grants – principally raised by Carney – by modest fees, and by 72 volunteer instructors and panelists.

Planning Leadership Award – Elected Official
Maria D. Quiñones-Sánchez, City of Philadelphia

Councilwoman Quiñones-Sánchez has been the Philadelphia City Planning Commission’s greatest ally on city council. She has been an advocate for neighborhood revitalization and a long-term approach to planning for development. She introduced and fought for the bill which passed in January 2014 establishing a land bank to restructure how the city deals with vacant, blighted properties. She is leading the charge to update the city’s zoning maps, introducing bills that would implement 14 of the 19 zoning recommendations from the Philadelphia2035 plan for the Frankford neighborhood. And she and her staff worked to get $340,000 in renovations to neighborhood parks, $200,000 in storefront improvements, and a $355,000 ArtPlace America grant to create public spaces through art. She serves on numerous committees and boards dealing with city and neighborhood development issues.

Planning Leadership Award – Distinguished Service
Michael N. Kaiser, AICP

In a remarkable 50 years with the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, Mike Kaiser significantly shaped the affairs of the Lehigh Valley. He led development and regular updating of the two-county (Lehigh and Northampton) comprehensive plan. He advocated for preservation of farmland and natural resources, affordable housing, and improved transportation and infrastructure. Under his direction, LVPC created a series of smart growth model regulations, and helped municipalities prepare comprehensive plans and zoning and subdivision ordinances. Kaiser was active in statewide affairs as a member of the Pennsylvania State Planning Board, president of the Pennsylvania Planning Association, chair of PPA’s Growth Management Subcommittee which contributed to major MPC amendments passed in 2000, and a purveyor of no-nonsense planning wisdom to various statewide and regional audiences. A colleague praised Mike Kaiser as “a man who should be remembered for being heroic in his vision and pursuit of that vision.”

Thanks
THANKS TO THE MEMBERS
of the Awards Committee for the time and hard work they contributed to carefully review all the awards submissions, and especially to Denny Puko for chairing the committee and presenting the Awards Program.

Denny Puko, Chair
Planning Program Manager
PA DCED

Robert M. Behling
Chair, South Heidelberg Township Planning Commission

Graciela Cavicchia, AICP, PP

Brian O’Leary, AICP
Section Chief, County Planning
Montgomery County Planning Commission

Brandi Rosselli, AICP
Manager, Planning Services
Mackin Engineering Company

Thanks

THE VANTAGE POINT 3
Hello Fellow Planners. It’s been a long time since the state planning conference has been held in Philadelphia, and I think we’ll have to have it back in Philly much sooner next time around. Once again, it was a great conference with a lot of inspiring speakers, sessions, mobile workshops, and special events. There was even a concurrent Quizzo night where planners competed on their knowledge of planning trivia. (I wasn’t a particularly helpful member of my Quizzo team, although at least I knew who the current president of the Chapter is, one of the questions.)

The Monday morning keynote address on climate change and disasters was given by Scott Gabriel Knowles, a professor at Drexel University. He emphasized that there will be more natural disasters and impacts from climate change in the future. Stormwater planning and green infrastructure are two important tools for preparing for these changes.

Legal Issues. I never thought I’d see the day when the legal sessions were some of the best of the conference. But they definitely were in Philadelphia. Two that stood out to me were Tuesday’s opening plenary session on how to be an expert witness and a session on wireless telecommunications service.

Even though I haven’t needed to be an expert witness, Tuesday’s session was an excellent guide on how to prepare for the give and take of public meetings. I recommend that you look up the literature prepared by the presenters for the session. The wireless telecommunications presentation was very timely, providing technical and legal advice on changes in the wireless world.

AT THE BOARD meeting held Sunday morning before the conference, Jim Drinan, the new Executive Director of APA, and our own David Rouse, now the Director of Research and Advisory Services at APA, joined us. Jim discussed the direction he’d like to see APA go – towards more support of Chapters, Divisions, and other parts of the organization providing direct services to planners. I think this is a welcome change. David Rouse mentioned a large, new health planning grant APA has received from the federal government. Hopefully, there will be an opportunity for the PA Chapter to participate in these grants. If you’re interested in partnering with us, just let me know.

Overall, the conference was great. Next year is Pittsburgh, another Pennsylvania city with lots of new activity and investment. I hope you’ll be able to come.

Keep up the great planning work and advocating for a better future.

I never thought I’d see the day when the legal sessions were some of the best of the conference. But they definitely were in Philadelphia.
A window into planning history

Pennsylvania Planning Association Archives provided at Temple

by James F. Duffy, Public Relations and Website Coordinator, Temple University Ambler, Ambler, Pennsylvania

VIEWING THE NEWLY AVAILABLE Pennsylvania Planning Association’s (now the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association) vast collection of records in the Temple University Urban Archives is like taking a trip through the foundations of modern planning in Pennsylvania.

From the speeches of Francis A. Pitkin to the entries of decades of Planning Association award winners, from a treasure trove of state and municipal comprehensive plans to oral histories of some of the most prominent planners and civic leaders in Pennsylvania history, the collection spans 58 years, from 1948 to 2006.

“The goal of establishing this inventory is to preserve extensive records of the state chapter, its leaders and practicing professionals, as a source for scholarly research,” said Ronald K Bednar, AICP, a former president of the Pennsylvania Planning Association and an expert in urban development. Bednar directed the project in association with the Temple University Libraries’ Special Collections Research Center, which includes the Urban Archives. “We wanted to create a permanent record of significant accomplishments since the organization’s formation.”

Establishing the collection of thousands of documents, recordings and much more — 115 boxes and 50 full feet of archive space — didn’t happen overnight. Making the material available for students, scholars, planners and special researchers globally was a seven-year undertaking, according to Bednar.

“No collection of this magnitude, related to Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association records, has ever been created. It is a one-of-a-kind, historic record identifying key professional planning leaders, policy decisions and nationally recognized award-winning practice during an important period of statewide development,” said Bednar. “Temple has been a leader in planning education for more than a decade. Combined with its academic research and practice, the archive can become an important destination, developing the special collection to anticipate new and expanding frontiers of interdisciplinary research in community and regional planning worldwide. My hope is that this project will serve as an inspiration for new generation of leaders.”

APA-PA2014 annual conference recap

INNOVATION from Historic Foundations

Over 50 Concurrent Sessions

17.5 CM credits including Law and Ethics

3 main sessions and Our State of the Chapter and our Annual Awards luncheon

Conference photos by Pattie Guttenplan
The 2014 conference was successful due in large part to the tireless efforts of the local conference committee. Many thanks to the committee for their hard work!

**Committee Chairs**
- Justin J. Dula, AICP, Delaware County Planning Department
- Martha J. Cross, AICP, PP, TRF Development Partners
- Ronald K. Bednar, AICP, Econsult Solutions, Inc.
- Nando Micale, AICP, Wallace Roberts & Todd

**Committee Members**
- Christina Arlt, AICP, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission
- Sarah K. Bowen, AICP, CFM, Michael Baker Jr., Inc.
- Chrissy Caggiano, AICP, Michael Baker Jr., Inc.
- Dr. Kristen B. Crossney, West Chester University of PA
- Julie T. Donofrio, AICP, Wallace Roberts & Todd
- Susan S. Elks, AICP, Chester County Planning Commission
- John Federico, AICP, Urban Engineers Inc.
- Charles L. Guttenplan, AICP, PP, Whitemarsh Township PA
- Jill N. Hall, AICP, Delaware County Planning Department
- Pankaj Jobanputra, AICP, Econsult Solutions, Inc.
- Sharon E. Maclean, AICP, US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development
- Susan Myerov, AICP, Pennsylvania Environmental Council
- Brian O’Leary, AICP, Montgomery County Planning Commission
- Rebecca M. Ross, AICP, Delaware County Planning Department
- Tom P. Shaffer, AICP, Delaware County Planning Department
- Michael Swidrak, Delaware County Planning Department
- Karen A. Thompson, Delaware River Waterfront Corporation
- Mindy Watts, AICP, PP, Interface Studio, LLC
- Alexis Williams, AICP, Michael Baker Jr., Inc.
- David C. Zipf, AICP, Bucks County Planning Commission

CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE
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Delaware River Waterfront Corporation

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**A new scholarship fund was started this year by Rich Bickel, FAICP**

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**Jerry S. Walls Planning Professional Development Award**
PHILADELPHIA 2014

Exhibits
THIS YEAR’S APA-PA ANNUAL CONFERENCE was held in Philadelphia and offered something for everyone, including CM credits, great mobile events, and an inspiring Pitkin Lecture from Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter. Hopefully everyone who was able to attend has taken the time to register the CM credits on the APA website. The end of every calendar year brings the **end of a CM cycle for certain AICPs**, depending on when you passed the exam. To register credits, and check for when your CM cycle ends, go to [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org), log in under the “My APA” in the upper right, and then select “My CM Log”. From here you can register CM credits, view your CM cycle dates, check to see if you have logged your required ethics and law credits, and, if you have exceeded requirements, view the number of credits you have to carry over into the next cycle. You can search for the annual conference by APA-PA as the provider, or through the event number: 28241.

APAs **updated exam prep resource, Exam Prep Product 3.0**, is now out. Completely **web-based**, this resource includes streaming video based on the exam content outline, supplemental handouts, a glossary, and questions in three different formats – an assessment exam to identify your knowledge base strengths and weaknesses, pop-up questions associated with the streaming video to reinforce concepts, and a full, timed practice exam. A discussion forum is also included as part of the product, as well as tips to approach the exam process and specific question types. **Tips on preparing for the exam and a link to purchase Exam Prep 3.0 is available at:** [https://www.planning.org/certification/examprep/](https://www.planning.org/certification/examprep/)

As always, please check the free exam prep resources available, particularly the PDC Study Notes from 2007 and the Exam Review Series that is part of the Planning Consortium webcast series. Information on these and other resources is available on the PA Chapter website here: [http://planningpa.org/for-planners/professional-planners/aicp-exam-prep/](http://planningpa.org/for-planners/professional-planners/aicp-exam-prep/). The **spring prep session, a full day in-person session, has been set for March 21, 2015 in Harrisburg.** More information and registration will be available on the website in 2015. ◆

**congrats!**

**AICP Recipients**

*In May 2014, the following were awarded their AICP designation:*

- Mark Boeckel
- Andrew Hartwell
- Sze Ng
- Shannon Rossm an
- Gregory Waldman

**APA Charles Abrams Scholarship Recipient for 2014:**

**Brett Roeth Peanasky**, University of Pennsylvania was awarded a scholarship of $2,000. Brett aspires to be both a planner and a lawyer, and he is now completing his second year in Penn’s MCP-JD Dual Degree program. He plans to seek to use the tools of city planning and law to effect environmental and civic progress. Upon graduation, Brett plans to build a career in local and regional government through which he can lead the creation of communities of empowered citizens.

The 2014-2015 Charles Abrams Scholarship is made possible by the APA Planning Foundation. The amount of the award is $2,000. This scholarship is awarded each year to students at one of the graduate programs where Charles Abrams taught: Columbia, Harvard, MIT, New School University, or the University of Pennsylvania. ◆

**welcome**

**New PA Chapter Members!**

**WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS** who joined the PA Chapter over the past few months. The PA Chapter membership includes nearly 2,600 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 are available to answer any questions. Feel free to contact the Chapter Office at 717-671-4510. Board member contact information is available at [www.planningpa.org](http://www.planningpa.org) under **About Us.**

**Individual Members:**

- Logan Axelson, **Southeast Section**
- Krista Guerrieri, **Southeast Section**
- Melissa Matthews, **Central Section**

**Organizational Members:**

- **Borough of Kutztown, Lehigh Valley/Berks Section** ◆
Grant received from the Richard P. Byler Charitable Fund of The Philadelphia Foundation

The PA Chapter of APA has received a grant in the amount of $611 from the Richard P. Byler Charitable Fund of The Philadelphia Foundation to support the scholarship program. The funds will be used for the Pitkin Fund to support the scholarship program. The PA Chapter of APA scholarship program supports young planners in furthering their education.

The Philadelphia Foundation, a public charity, is Southeastern Pennsylvania’s leading center for community philanthropic engagement and is committed to improving the quality of life in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties through funds established by its donors. Established in 1918, The Philadelphia Foundation continues to help donors harness their generosity and vision by providing tools, knowledge and financial stewardship directed to maximize the strategic impact of charitable contributions. Grants from more than 750 charitable funds strengthen the effectiveness of nonprofits and supports programs that are vital to the people of this region.
LAND USE webinars

by Peter Wulfhorst, AICP

Penn State Extension will be conducting their fifth Land Use Webinar series starting in January 2015 and continuing until May 2015. The webinars will occur on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 12 noon – 1:15 pm. Recordings of the webinars will also be made available to registrants. The cost of the webinar series is $30 for all 5 webinars and $60 for all 5 webinars for those who want to get CM credits.

Registration information can be found at http://agsci.psu.edu/land-use-webinar starting in January 2015.

Topics include:

- Using the Official Map for Your Community’s Infrastructure — January 21, 2015
- Understanding the Relationship between Municipal Budgets & Comprehensive Plans — February 18, 2015
- TBA — March 18, 2015
- All About Open Space – Owning and Managing Natural Lands — April 15, 2015
- Agri-Tourism Issues for PA Communities — May 20, 2015

For registration information, please contact Extension Educator Peter Wulfhorst at 570-296-3400 or e-mail at ptw3@psu.edu