



Message from the Chair, Barry Nocks, PhD, FAICP

The PAB has had a busy Winter and Spring, continuing our school reviews for accreditation, expanding public notification of our decisions, developing new policies, and seeking input on and developing modifications in the implementation of our 2012 Accreditation Standards. We have also shared concerns and initiated joint efforts with our sponsoring organizations of ACSP, APA and AICP to address student enrollment declines and promote diversity among students and faculty in planning programs. In addition, three new members were integrated into the PAB since our last meeting in 2014.

A few words about these activities:

- ◆ At our meeting in Seattle, the PAB reviewed and granted accreditation to eight planning programs and candidacy status to two programs. Implementing our recent policy (required by CHEA), we have posted our decisions on our website along with reasons for those decisions.
- ◆ We spent almost four years reviewing and receiving input on our standards and criteria before they were significantly revised and adopted in April 2012. After Beta testing and over a year of implementation, we sought input on their efficacy and implementation from our accredited programs and Site Visitors at the most recent national conferences of ACSP and APA. As a result of those feedback sessions, comments from specific Site Visits and review by the PAB Standards Committee, we are currently discussing revisions in those standards that will provide greater clarity and more accurately capture desired program outcomes. These proposed revisions will be shared with ACSP, APA and AICP Boards as well as accredited programs and other stakeholders for comment by the fall.
- ◆ Faculty and student diversity in planning programs has been an issue that has received considerable attention over the past decades, with mixed results. One of PAB's strategic initiatives for 2015 has been to reach out to ACSP, APA and AICP to understand how programs have been working on this issue in an attempt to identify best practices and current activities by programs in this area. A task force representing the above groups and PAB was formed early in 2015 and they have conducted a survey of accredited programs regarding faculty and student diversity. Based on the results, the task force will develop recommendations to the PAB on this issue.

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P A B C a l e n d a r

September 1

Progress Reports Due
(select programs)

September 15

Draft SSR due for programs
with spring 2016 Site Visit

September—

November

Fall Site Visits

October 22—25

PAB Fall Meeting at ACSP National Conference
(Houston, TX). Review of
Programs with Spring 2015
Site Visits.

December 1

Annual Fee Due
(all programs)

January 31, 2016

Annual Report Due
(all programs)

PAB News and Policy Update



New Manuals for Accreditation

The *Accreditation Document* has been replaced with the **PAB Policies and Procedures Manual**. This new manual contains all the organization's policies and procedures and provides guidance on the accreditation process. Please be sure to review the new manual, as new policies and procedures have been added to the document.

PAB Standards and Preconditions to Accreditation, previously located in *The Accreditation Document*, are now available as a standalone document.

The **Self-Study Report Template** was recently revised to reflect feedback received from Program Administrators and Site Visitors who have participated in an accreditation review using the new standards. The changes are predominately in Part II where several tables were modified and moved to the appropriate location in Part III. This will help eliminate redundancy. No changes were made to the standards.

New Policies

At its June meeting, the Board approved three new policies:

- [PAB Site Visitors and Board Members Serving as Independent Consultants](#)
- [PAB Observer Policy](#)
- [Public Notification of Accreditation Decisions](#)

These policies are effective immediately. The *PAB Policies and Procedures Manual* has been updated to include them.

PAB Standards Revision

During the APA conference in Seattle, PAB hosted a feedback session to discuss the implementation of the 2012 Standards. A similar session was held last fall during the ACSP conference. Invited guests included Program Administrators and Site Visitors who have experience with the 2012 standards. The feedback received from these sessions will be incorporated in an impending amendment to the standards. The first draft of the amendment will be shared with the governing bodies of AICP, APA and ACSP at their upcoming fall meetings. Shortly after the ACSP Conference, PAB will publicize the amendment on its website and solicit comments. Additional information will be provided at that time.

AICP Exam Data

APA staff will email program administrators exam data from the November 2014 and May 2015 exams in August. The data is based on information applicants enter into the APA System when they register. Therefore, it must be cross-referenced against the program's records to confirm accuracy. This year, APA and PAB are asking all programs to verify the accuracy of the data. APA will subsequently correct the erroneous data on its website. This is a one-time opportunity, so please be sure to take advantage of it. Further details will be provided by APA in August.



Credit Hours and Distance Education

With the 2014 Annual Report, PAB collected data on the total credit hour requirements and the number of credit hours delivered via distance education/online format in PAB-accredited graduate planning programs. Credit hour requirements ranged from 39 to 64 credits required for the degree. The median credit hour requirement was 48. Of 61 graduate planning programs, 22 offer required or elective courses in a distance education format. Eight graduate planning programs offer required credit hours in distance education format.

- [Credit Hour Requirements](#)
- [Distance Education](#)

This data supplements other historical data available on the PAB website in the [Data Library](#).

Student and Faculty Composition

Student and Faculty composition data for all PAB-accredited programs for 2014 is now available in the [Annual Report Online Database \(AROD\)](#). AROD contains data starting from 2010. Data from 2008 and 2009 is available in excel in the [Data Library](#) section of the PAB website.

In Memoriam

Carl Goldschmidt passed away on January 31, 2015. Dr Goldschmidt was one of the founding members of PAB. He served on the Board as the ACSP Planning Educator from 1983-1987 and was a Site Visitor until 2010. His contribution to PAB has been tremendous. PAB extends its deepest sympathies to his family.

New Board Members



Pauletta Brown Bracy, Ph.D.
ACSP Higher Education Administrator (2014 -2016)

Dr. Bracy is the Director of the Office of University Accreditation and Professor of Library Science at North Carolina Central University. She has extensive accreditation experience: recently completing a term of Vice President on the Board of Directors of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA); and serving as institutional liaison for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. Dr. Bracy has a B.A. in English from Fisk University, M.L.S. from University of Pittsburgh and a Ph.D. in Library Science from the University of Michigan.



Connie Ozawa, Ph.D.
ACSP Planning Educator (2014 – 2017)

Dr. Ozawa is the Director of the Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning and Co-Director of the PSU-China Innovations in Urbanization Program at Portland State University. Her research focuses on the management of urban waters, institutional analysis and the social and political dynamics of innovation and change. She received a B.A. in Environmental Studies from University of California, Berkeley, M.A. in Geography from University of Hawaii and Ph.D. in Urban Planning from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Bruce A. Knight, FAICP
AICP Planning Practitioner (2014-2016)

Mr. Knight is Planning Director of Champaign, IL and adjunct lecturer at the University of Illinois. He served as APA President from 2009-2011 and served on the APA Board of Directors from 2000-2008. Mr. Knight has a B.S. in Urban Planning from Iowa State University and an M.A. in Public Affairs from the University of Iowa.



Barry J. Schultz, Esq.
APA Public Member (2014-2017)

Mr. Schultz is Special Counsel at Stutz Artiano Shinoff and Holtz. His practice focuses on real estate/land use, redevelopment, affordable housing and sustainable development. He is a member of the Urban Land Institute and serves on the boards of Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation, California Southern Small Business CDC and the advisory board for the San Diego Community Land Trust. He received a B.A. from San Diego State University and J.D. from Western State University School of Law.

To learn more about the PAB Board Members please visit the [About Us](#) section of the PAB website.

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- ◆ Over the past decade, enrollment in planning programs overall has decreased by over 10%. ([Enrollment data](#) are collected annually and found on PAB's web page.) These data have been shared with ACSP, APA and AICP boards in the past. When this information was presented at the meeting of APA, ACSP, and AICP presidents in Seattle, a consensus formed around creating a joint task force to look into the issue and seek ways in which the organizations might work together or in parallel to change this declining trend.
- ◆ PAB continues to seek [Site Visitors](#). We recently added a total of eight academic and six practitioner Site Visitors to our pool. We continue to seek Site Visitors from all accredited programs. This is

beneficial to each program as the faculty member in the Site Visitor pool can provide greater understanding and insight for their program. The Site Visitor Committee of PAB continues to work with ACSP and AICP in expanding the Site Visitor pool.

Nationally, accreditors have come under considerable pressure to demonstrate that they improve the quality and outcome of their programs. Over the past two years, PAB has moved toward outcome measurements and has provided training sessions at ACSP and APA conferences. We continue to work on this issue with a number of our initiatives, such as reviewing our standards and seeking effective approaches to increasing student and faculty diversity within our programs. These will be areas of challenge and opportunity over the next few years.

Best wishes for a productive and interesting summer!

Site Visit Corner

Outstanding Site Visitor Award

PAB is seeking nominations for the 2015 Outstanding Site Visitor Award.

Site Visitors are critical to the accreditation process. Without their dedication, PAB could not live up to its mission. To nominate one educator and/or practitioner who has gone "above and beyond" in contributing to PAB's mission, please visit the [PAB website](#) or [click here](#).



THANK YOU FALL 2015 AND SPRING 2014 SITE VISIT TEAMS FOR YOUR SERVICE AND DEDICATION

Team Chairs

Alan Artibise, PhD, CIP
Barbara Becker, PhD, FAICP
Susan Bradbury, PhD
Cheryl Contant, PhD
Linda Dalton, PhD, FAICP
John Gaber, PhD, AICP
Eric Heikkila, PhD
Harvey Jacobs, PhD
John F. Mullin, PhD, FAICP
Jack Naser, Ph.D., FAICP
Connie P. Ozawa, PhD
Thomas W. Sanchez, PhD
Brenda Scheer, AIA, FAICP
Frederick R. Steiner, PhD
Fritz Wagner, PhD, FAICP

Team Members

Mary Ann Akers, PhD
Steve Bourassa, PhD
Michael Burayidi, PhD
Wayne Carlson, AICP
Randall Crane, PhD
Kristen Day, PhD
Bill Drummond, PhD
Hazel Edwards, PhD, AICP
Cliff Ellis, PhD
David Fields, AICP
Charles C. Graves III
Susan Harden, AICP
Terry Harrington, AICP
Mark Kulaas, FAICP
Mickey Lauria, PhD

David A. Lewis, PhD
Cheryl Matheny, FAICP
Ramona Mattix, AICP
Robert Mitchell, FAICP
Bill Milczarski, PhD
Sarah S. More, FAICP
Lee Nellis, FAICP
James E. Peters, FAICP
David M. Simpson, PhD, AICP
Ruth L. Steiner, PhD
Linda F. Tatum, AICP
Alissa Torres, PhD, AICP
Niraj Verma, Ph.D.
Avis Vidal, PhD, AICP

VOLUNTEER TO BE A PAB SITE VISITOR!

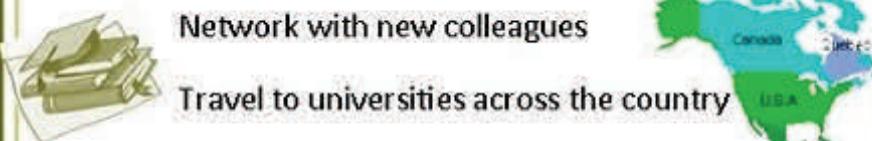
Why you ask?



Experience the peer-review process first hand

Support and Contribute to the education of future planners

Network with new colleagues



Travel to universities across the country

Gather new ideas, emerging trends and share best practices

PAB is seeking practitioner and educators to serve as PAB Site Visitors. The AICP and ACSP are responsible for nominating qualified individuals to the PAB Site Visit Pool. For qualifications and application information, please visit the [Site Visitor page](#) of the PAB Website