



## PLANNING ACCREDITATION BOARD – FALL2019 REPORT TO AICP, APA, and ACSP

Draft August 23, 2019

*ACSP, AICP and APA minutes must document acceptance of PAB report for compliance with Iowa not-for-profit law*

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**Mission Statement:** To promote excellence among planning programs and to ensure high quality education for future urban planners.

### A. Board Member Transition

Bruce Knight, FAICP and Pauletta Brown Bracy, Ph.D. terms expire on November 30, 2019. Effective December 1, 2019, Dawn Terkla, Ph.D. and David Salazar, AICP will begin their term on the board as the ACSP Higher Education Administrator appointee and AICP Planning Practitioner appointee, respectively. Dawn Terkla serves as the Vice Provost for Tufts University. David Salazar previously worked as the Chief Facilities Executive for the Los Angeles Community College District and currently serves as a Capital Planning Consultant.

On November 30, 2020, terms expire for the following board members: Connie Ozawa, Ph.D. (ACSP Planning Educator), Bristol Ellington, AICP (AICP Planning Practitioner) and Mitch Thrower, CPA (APA Public Member). Bristol and Mitch are eligible for reappointment. However, Connie has served two terms, therefore, she is not eligible for re-appointment.

### B. Taskforce on Innovation and Communication in Planning Education

This special-purpose task force, comprised of representatives from APA, ACSP, PAB and a student representative, is currently in Year 2 of its charges and is focusing on value of planning and accreditation. The first of two workshops on the value of accreditation to the profession and to the academy was held on April 15, 2019 in San Francisco during the APA national conference. The next workshop is scheduled for Saturday October 26, 3:30 – 5:00 during the ACSP conference in Greenville. All members of the community – practitioners, educators, students, employers, and all interested parties – are welcome.

To view the task Force Report on Innovation, visit the PAB website or <https://goo.gl/EJ2aSy> (for a direct download).

### C. Council on Higher Education Accreditation – 2019 Recognition Standards

PAB is one of roughly 50 specialized accreditors recognized by CHEA. Just as PAB has standards for accreditation which change periodically and with which programs are expected to maintain compliance, CHEA has recognition standards for the accrediting agencies it recognizes.

#### 1. Interim Report

PAB submitted its 2<sup>nd</sup> and final interim report on July 1, 2019. The CHEA committee on recognition will review the report during its November 25 – 26, 2019 meeting.

#### 2. Public Disclosure of Accreditation Actions

CHEA requires accrediting organizations to provide timely notice to the public regarding accreditation actions (CHEA 2019 Standards 11.A.1 and 12.D.3). On December 5, 2014, PAB adopted a policy and procedure for publishing the basis of accredited decisions; However, CHEA determined our 2014 process did not meet their 2019 accreditation standards. In order to comply with CHEA, PAB revised its existing policy to provide additional detail related to standards that are out of compliance. Beginning with the upcoming fall accreditation reviews, the board will include a brief summary of compliance concerns with the cited standard/criterion. The text to be published on the PAB website will be based on the board's internal discussions and deliberations. Programs will have an opportunity to respond to the accreditation decision if they choose. The accreditation decisions will be posted to the PAB website 45 days from the date of the board meeting. Additionally, PAB staff is working to incorporate the accreditation decisions within the program directory. We expect this to be completed by November.

#### **D. Annual Report Overhaul**

This summer, PAB began addressing its strategic goal to “enhance data collection, analysis and dissemination regarding planning programs and planning education,” specifically objective 4.1 “review and revise data collection in Annual Report.” Based on program feedback, common practices among accreditors and CHEA recognition standards, PAB has comprehensively revised its Annual Report to collect additional relevant data that can be ultimately shared with the academy in aggregate form. The new Annual Report format will be shared with programs at the ACSP conference during the Program Administrator Orientation session on Thursday October 24 (room tbd). Additionally, it will be shared via email and we will host a webinar to review the report changes.

#### **E. 2017 Accreditation Standards – trends**

Based on Fall 2018 – Spring 2019 accreditation reviews, programs continue to be out-of-compliance with the following criteria: Student Diversity (42%); Faculty Diversity (32%); and Student Learning Outcomes Assessment (32%). For details on compliance with other PAB criteria, please visit the [Trouble Areas and Frequency](#) document on the PAB website.

#### **F. Noteworthy Practices**

The Noteworthy Practices document has been revised to be a stand-alone [website](#), so that it is easier to navigate and find notable practices by topical areas. This site is regularly updated.

#### **G. 2019 Outstanding Site Visit Award Recipients**

PAB would like to recognize the following individuals for their outstanding contributions to PAB, planning education and the profession:

- \* Ana Maria Whitaker, Professor Emeritus, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
- \* Robert Mitchell, FAICP, Principal, Robert Mitchell Associates

Ana Maria and Robert will be recognized at the 2019 ACSP conference and the 2020 APA conference, respectively.

#### **H. Site Visitor Training: In-person and online modules**

All online site visit training modules are now available on the [PAB website](#). While the videos are geared towards Site Visitors, program administrators can benefit from the accreditation standards and outcomes assessment videos. PAB will continue to conduct portions of its Site Visitor training in-person at the spring and fall conferences in even-numbered years. The next training will occur at the 2020 APA conference in Houston and 2020 ACSP conference in Toronto.

#### **I. Operational Finances**

In fall 2017, PAB’s sponsoring organizations approved a new funding model effective October 1, 2019 in which annual fees for FY 2019 increase by 10% with a concurrent increase from APA/AICP. Fees and grant funding will increase by 2% annually thereafter. For PAB’s schedule of fees, please visit the [PAB website](#). At its October 24, 2019 meeting the Board will approve a FY 2020 budget and FY 2021 forecast, which will be shared with our sponsoring organizations in the spring PAB report. PAB’s audit will be shared with our sponsoring organization once it is completed later this year.

#### **PROGRAMS IN THE CANDIDACY PIPELINE**

*Information redacted*