

YEAR IN REVIEW

An Update From New East

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We have much to celebrate this year in the Department of City and Regional Planning (DCRP) at Carolina. Accomplishments this year included leadership awards, workshops and client-based work, conference presentations, our 70th anniversary celebration, and much more.

In August 2015, we welcomed eighty-four master's candidates and twenty-seven PhD students to DCRP. Department Chair **Roberto Quercia** is finishing his term as Chair and will hand the reigns over to **Professor Noreen McDonald** early in the Summer of 2016. In the classroom, the classes of 2016 and 2017 have continued to develop the professional skills and community ties for which DCRP at Carolina is so well known.

Leadership

To supplement our coursework, Planners' Forum, the DCRP student governing body, has facilitated resume workshops, career panels, and a variety of other professional development events. Additionally, in October, 2015, Planners' Forum organized a three-day Fall Break Trip to Atlanta which over fifteen Masters' students attended. The group toured the city and met with Ryan Gravel, creator of Atlanta's renown Beltline project, Tim Keane, Atlanta's Commissioner of the Department of Community Development and Planning, and several other planning professionals.

Carolina graduate planning students have also embarked on new efforts and projects to expand their awareness about and responses to certain planning topics. One such organization, Plan for All, is a student-led group dedicated to advancing inclusion and equity in planning. The group hosts biweekly forums, workshops, and discussions about

race, gender, environmental justice, and evolving equity considerations in planning; International Planners' Forum has hosted several events to discuss planning in developing countries around the world; and the Planning for Hazards and Natural Disasters Group hosts discussions and guest-lectures regarding climate change and resilience planning.

Planning Workshops

DCRP led numerous planning workshops this year that tasked students with finding solutions to complex planning problems and gave students exposure to real-world, client-based projects. This year's projects included promoting active transportation in nearby Carrboro, North Carolina, by conducting a feasibility study for implementing a bike-share system; working with a local public housing agency to address affordable housing needs in Orange County; working with the Community Food Lab in Raleigh to help promote a local food corridor; and working in collaboration with local leaders to develop real estate and economic development strategies to revitalize downtown Winston-Salem.

Conferences

As in previous years, DCRP students attended and presented at the annual North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (NC-APA) Conference in Raleigh in October of 2015. Master's candidates **Julia Barnard**, **Rachel Eberhard**, **Carl Kolosna**, and **Rachel Wexler** presented. Second-year Masters' Student **John Anagnost** presented at Georgia's statewide American Planning Association conference in September of 2015. In January of 2016, DCRP transportation planning students and faculty made their annual pilgrimage north to the Transportation Research Board Conference in Washington D.C., where they had the pleasure of meeting with a large number of DCRP

alumni. Lastly, first-year master's candidate, **Carl Kolosna**, presented papers at the Association of Collegiate Schools Planning (ACSP) Conference in Philadelphia and at the 2015 Carolina Climate Resilience Conference.

70th Anniversary Celebration

In April of 2016, the UNC Department of City and Regional Planning celebrated its 70th Anniversary. The weekend festivities included a variety of social events and opportunities for current students and alumni to get together to share ideas and stories. Attendees also enjoyed hearing from Columbia University Professor and noted urban health advocate, Dr. Mindy Fullilove, this year's Siler Lecturer and author of the book *Urban Alchemy: Restoring Joy in America's Sorted-Out Cities* (2013).

Honors and Accomplishments

- First-Year Masters' candidate **Carl Kolosna** co-authored an article titled *Evaluation of Network of Plans and Vulnerability to Hazards and Climate Change* which was voted "Article of the Year" by the *Journal of the American Planning Association's* Editorial Board;
- Dual-degree MCRP/MPH candidate, **Christina Galardi**, was selected to serve as a Fulbright Alumni Ambassador and also served as a peer reviewer for the Transportation Research Board's Transportation and Health Subcommittee;
- Second-year master's student **William Moose**, along with **Andrea Patiño Contreras** and **Gabriela Arp** (graduate students in the School of Journalism), was recognized as a VIMY Global Team Award winner for his work on the global refugee crisis. In the Spring of 2016, this team launched a website called "Divided By the Sea" which may be found at www.dividedbythesea.com;

- **Jamar Nixon**, **Joe Seymour**, **Martha Isaacs**, and **Jonathan Ahn** competed in the Net Impact Innovation Transportation Challenge, and one team, including **Jonathan Ahn** (DCRP '17), advanced to the national competition;

- **Blake Montieth** (DCRP '17) and **Allen Wood** (DCRP '17) participated in the Urban Land Institute's Hines Competition, continuing the tradition of representing DCRP in the multidisciplinary challenge;

- Planners' Forum and the *Carolina Planning Journal* shared the award for "Outstanding Planning Student Organization" from the National American Planning Association in 2016;

- **Professor T. William Lester** was awarded the Chester Rapkin Best Paper Award from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) for a paper titled "Labor Standards and Local Economic Development—Do Living Wage Provisions Harm Economic Growth?" This paper was published in Volume 32 of the *Journal of Planning Education and Research*.

- **Professors T. William Lester** and **Todd BenDor**, along with DCRP alumna **Avery Livengood** ('15) estimated that, with spillover effects, the ecological restoration economy provides 250,000 jobs and \$25 billion in economic impacts, and this study was cited by the White House;

- **Department Chair Roberto Quercia** was called to present about affordable housing initiatives before a committee of the United States Congress; and

- **Professor Noreen McDonald** spent the academic year at the University of Leeds, where she served as the Fulbright Distinguished Chair of the Institute of Transport Studies.

