

Planners Network



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Please send in your updates to newsletter@plannersnetwork.org. Send in news about yourself and your work, notices about jobs, events, publications, and grants of interest to progressive planners (maximum 100 words please). Have a message or opinion you want to get out? Write it up (maximum 250 words; longer pieces may be considered for the magazine) and send them in as well.

PN NEWS



Planners Network Conference 2006

“Tending The Garden: From Grassroots to Green Roofs”

June 8th-June 11th

Chicago, Illinois
 Hosted by: University of Illinois at Chicago
 College of Urban Planning and Policy
<http://www.uic.edu/cuppa/upp/pn/index.html>
Only two more months until this year’s conference!

A couple of important dates to keep in mind:
 April 15: deadline to submit presentation proposals
 April 30: deadline for early registration

New PN Chapter in Manitoba

A new Planners Network Chapter has been formed in Winnipeg. **PN Manitoba (PNmb)** has a working list serve with more than 40 members and has been meeting regularly since February. It will co-sponsor its first event in April and is working towards a major "disorientation" event in September. For further information, contact Richard Milgrom: milgrom@cc.umanitoba.ca .

Chapter Update: University of Southern California

Since its establishment last semester, the USC chapter of the Planners Network has recruited 12 new Planners Network members (increasing the LA-area totals for PN by almost 60%) and has been organizing both on the USC campus as well as in the surrounding Los Angeles community with such groups as South Central Farmers, the Trust for Public Land, Latino Urban Forum, Bus Riders Union, and Strategic Actions for a Just Economy. Additionally, we hosted a successful five-part "Film+Speaker Series" which drew 15-30 people per screening, and engaged audiences from topics ranging from struggles at the South Central Farm and for transit justice in Los Angeles to presentations by Planners Network members on neo-liberal planning and it's local/global impacts.

The USC PN is working to organize other chapters at area colleges and schools, as well as with LA PN to host a panel of professional planners discussing the theme "Integrating Progressive Politics into Planning Careers." USC PN is eager to continue the successes of its inaugural year with increased programming and activism in the coming year.

For more information about USC PN: uscpn@usc.edu

PN MEMBER UPDATES

From **Tom Angotti**:

Morris Zeitlin, a long-time progressive architect and Planners Network member, died January 27, 2006 at the age of 95.

Morris was a member of FAECT, the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, a left organization from the 1930s. When he lived in New York City, he was part of the Forum on Architecture and Society, a progressive group within the NYC Chapter of the AIA that had roots in the FAECT. The Forum and Planners Network jointly sponsored forums in New York starting in 1976. His writings on architecture and planning include the book *American Cities: A Working Class View* (International Publishers, 1990), "In Defense of Utopia" (Monthly Review, December 1966), "Soviet Urbanization and Urban Planning," (Political Affairs, 1985), and an annotated bibliography on socialist city planning for the Council of Planning Librarians.

I learned a lot from Morris' advocacy of socialist alternatives, both generally and in terms of city planning. I'll never forget running into Morris at a march on Washington against the Vietnam War and while we marched engaging in the most lively discussion about dozens of topics. I think Morris will be marching with many from my generation who remember his commitment, kindness, and wisdom.

Update from **Joe Feinberg**:

Have just returned from a two month deployment in St. Bernard Parish, LA where I served on a Long Term Recovery Team. In all the time I've worked for FEMA, I have not seen such devastation. The entire parish was flooded: storm surge from the East; breached levee from the West; and an oil leak from one of the refineries adding to the mess. Devoted much of my time to writing up proposed organization and staffing for a newly established Parish Housing, Redevelopment and Quality of Life Commission (its local public agency for renewal); and met with parish council to brief them on the agency's importance in the planning and execution function in rebuilding neighborhoods.

With much of the parish to revert its more flood prone areas to park and open space, proportionally more of its reduced buildable areas would, of necessity, be of higher density (condos and apartments with the first level for parking if revised base flood elevations so dictate). However, the question of how many residents would return has dictated a measured approach to rebuilding. One proposal I prepared aimed at 50 acre parcels for affordable housing and senior housing with a mixed use area central to the overall project plan. Andres Duany, who was doing a Charrette for St. Bernard took a look at the site. I'm hopeful that he could get involved in the design. It was my first meeting with him. He arrived with a large entourage, and I couldn't resist kidding that, "I have no problem with marketing planning as long as the product is a good one." and I think his is!

Update from **Clara Irazábal**:

The Section on Venezuelan Studies of the Latin American Studies Association announced its first bi-annual Award for Distinctive Scholarship on Venezuela in the Latin American Studies Association Conference 2006. The honorable mention went to **PNer Clara Irazábal**, School of Planning, Policy and Development, University of Southern California., for "A Planned City Comes of Age: Rethinking Ciudad Guayana Today," published in the Journal of Latin American Geography, Vol. 3, No. 1, 2004: 22-51. Clara Irazábal also published "Localizing Global Urban Design Traditions: Gated and Edge Cities in Curitiba", Journal of Urban Design Vol. 11, No. 1, February 2006: 73-96.

ON-LINE SURVEY

From **PNer Pattsi Petrie**:

Survey of Status of Women and Men in Planning

This is a survey about the work environment equity of women and men in planning. The purpose of this survey research is to gather information and data about the status of pay, position, race, and gender equity for women and men in the planning profession, both practitioners and academics, not only in the United States, but also internationally. The collected data will be used in an aggregated format, which will protect the anonymity of all respondents. There are five sections to the survey: demographics, employment, education, diversity, and professional activities. The survey may be accessed at www.urban.uiuc.edu/survey/usa.html

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the survey and sharing the survey url with colleagues and through contacts you may have with other community planners.

NEW AND RENEWING MEMBERS

Jennifer Barrent Jennifer Barrett Lee Ann Beaubien Sheri Blake Fredrick Blum Anu Delouri Kathleen Ervin Suzanne Gessler Teresa Gillotti Eric Hiltner Evan Johnson	Molly Johnson Mary Kaufman Jim Kumon Janice Miller Chad Rathmann Jason Sappington John Semmelhack Adam Pine Katy Walsh Stephanie Whitehouse
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PUBLICATIONS

“What’s Race Got To Do With It?” (2005) is a 55-minute documentary-in-progress that will go beyond identity politics, celebratory history and interpersonal relations to articulate the many myths and misconceptions that underlie and obstruct our thinking about race in today’s post-Civil Rights world. Information available from Larry Adelman at California Newsreel: la@newsreel.org

“Welfare Reform in Los Angeles: Implementation, Effects & Experiences of Poor Families & Neighborhoods” (2005) is available at: <http://www.mdrc.org/>

“Closing the Gap: Moving from Rhetoric to Reality in Opening the Doors to Higher Education for African-American Students” (17 pp., June 2005) is available

(possibly free) from the NAACP Legal Defence and Educational Fund and is downloadable at: <http://www.naacpldf.org/>

“Educational Progress Across Generations in California,” a 2005 report from the Public Policy Institute of California and focuses on Mexican-American immigrants. Available at: www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=402

“Keeping the Promise: Ending Racial Discrimination and Segregation in Federally Financed Housing,” Copies of the article are available (free) from mdeer1@iupui.edu

EVENTS

April 11, 2006. Planners Network Manitoba (PNmb) and the Faculty of Architecture Cultural Events Lecture Series present:

Detroit Collaborative Design Center
A Praxis of Architecture

▪ 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Workshop: Creative Community Engagement

CHRISTINA HEXIMER, Detroit Collaborative Center

Tickets: \$100 professionals, \$50 non-profits, \$25 students

Seats are limited! Call Kristina at 474-6995 or email nordstro@cc.umanitoba.ca

▪ 7:00 PM

A Documentary by SHERI BLAKE + Panel Discussion + Reception

Tickets: \$5 or as you're able

GAS STATION THEATRE, 445 River Avenue (at Osborne Street)

Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3L 0C3

April 29, 2006. “Searching for the Just City”, a one-day conference in Columbia University

The Department of Urban Planning, the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, and Columbia University invite you to join us for a one-day conference: April 29th 2006, from 9:30am to 6pm in Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University (Wood Auditorium, Avery Hall). Attendance is free and open to the general public.

Urban planning as a discipline has been strongly influenced by a belief in social change and a desire to either diminish or eradicate the manifold inequalities that characterize cities and the societies in which they are embedded. Susan Fainstein's conception of the "Just City" encourages planners and policy makers to embrace a normative approach to urban planning that combines progressive planners' earlier focus on equity and material well-being with more recent concerns such as diversity, participation, and sustainability

to establish a better quality of human and urban life within the context of a global capitalist political economy. Organized by Columbia University's Urban Planning doctoral students, this one-day conference "Searching for the Just City" aims to thank Susan Fainstein for her contributions as a Professor and Director of our program, to honor her scholarly contributions as one of the leading urban theorists of the present day, and to critically discuss the question of whether her -- or any other -- vision of the "Just City" can guide future planners to make cities a better place. For more information visit: <http://www.columbia.edu/~jwp70/justcity.html>

May 18-22, 2006. 44th International Making Cities Livable Conference on "True Urbanism & Healthy Communities"

Co-sponsored by the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture, La Fonda Hotel, **Santa Fe, NM**. Topics include: Principles of true urbanism ** The built environment & health ** Regional planning for the healthy city ** Community participation & democratic planning ** Urban fabric, social life & healthy communities ** Traditional town planning & civic values ** Transit-based planning ** Reviving America's town squares ** Making places for civic engagement ** Ensuring the city's ecological & social sustainability ** Child & family friendly communities ** Village style development ** Transforming suburban sprawl ** Teaching urban planning for healthy communities. For more information, see www.LivableCities.org or contact Suzanne.Lennard@LivableCities.org.

EDUCATION

Leading from the Middle, a unique program for urban planners and community development professionals can help you get things done better and faster. Through our training and coaching program, you can manage conflict better, build more productive teams, make better decisions under dynamic conditions, build trust faster, be more influential, and be more effective in diverse environments.

The program involves six six-hour training sessions and three months of one-to-one coaching from late April to early December. Applications are due April 14, but early applicants will be considered for bigger scholarships. To apply, go to <http://www.theleadinginstitute.org/lm>

Program fees are on a sliding scale of \$250 to \$1,250, depending on the size of the applicant's organizational budget. Scholarships are available, and we will work with you on a reasonable scholarship if you apply soon. Planners Network members get a discount of at least 15% if they apply by April 7.

Leading from the Middle is a program of The Leading Institute, which is affiliated with the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. For questions or comments please contact Director Leonardo Vazquez, AICP/PP at vazquezl@rci.rutgers.edu or (732)932-3822, x711.

JOBS

CALIFORNIA

Director of Housing Development Livable Places, Inc.

Livable Places, Inc. (www.livableplaces.org) is a nonprofit housing and community development corporation that promotes healthy and vibrant communities through local policy reform and development of compact affordable housing that incorporates a mixture of uses, income levels and sustainable building practices in Southern California.

Responsibilities: The **Director of Housing Development** reports directly to the Executive Director. S/he will be responsible for the development of current and future affordable homeownership communities from site selection and acquisition through predevelopment, financing, construction completion and the marketing and sales process. Current developments include the 58 unit Olive Court in Long Beach and the 102 unit Fuller Lofts in Los Angeles. The Director of Housing Development oversees Livable Places' real estate staff and selects and directs activities of various consultants including architects, engineers, attorneys, lenders, and sales and marketing personnel crucial to the development process.

Requirements: The ideal candidate should have: a bachelor or masters degree preferably in business, finance, urban planning, architecture or related field, or equivalent experience, at least 3-5 years experience working in real estate development, the ability to work in a team environment, excellent communication skills, both verbal and written, the ability to run pro forma models, strong organizational and project management skills, strong attention to detail, the ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously. This is a full-time position with benefits. Salary commensurate with experience.

To Apply: Please send cover letter and resume by email, fax or mail to Ryan Lehman, Executive Director. Mail Address: Livable Places, Inc., 634 S. Spring Street, Suite 727, Los Angeles, CA, 90014. Email: rlehman@livableplaces.org. Fax: 213.622.3458. No phone inquiries please. Position open until filled. Livable Places is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Community Planning & Design Assistant Project Manager Asian Neighborhood Design

Asian Neighborhood Design will be posting a job announcement in mid-April for a position as **Assistant Project Manager** to work with our Community Planning Program team and the Architecture department. The position will be full-time on an interim contract basis, with extension of the contract and/or conversion to employee status contingent on funding. AND is a non-profit community development agency incorporated in 1973 providing architecture and planning, family and youth self-sufficiency services, employment training, and housing & community development for low-income, multicultural communities. Our community planning program currently

has active projects in several neighborhoods—South of Market, Tenderloin, Visitacion Valley, Mission, Divisadero.

Responsibilities: include managing research projects and field surveys, facilitating community workshop processes, managing work products including maps, drawings, imagery, reports and other “deliverables,” as-needed support to architecture team, and assisting with supervising intern teams and summer fellows. Our community planning program has a wide variety of projects, each needing different types of contributions, so the person should expect to be working in a dynamic work environment with a small team that approaches projects collaboratively.

Requirements: Experience should include at least two years of practical experience in community planning or design. Familiarity with GIS, Illustrator, Photoshop and InDesign software programs is desirable. Ideally the person will know the geography of San Francisco well and be knowledgeable about local land use and planning policy issues. If interested or for more information, please contact Peter Cohen at pcohen@andnet.org, 415-593-0423 extension 221. For more information about AND go to our web site: www.andnet.org

Urban Designer/Landscape Architect Urban Ecology, Inc.

Urban Ecology seeks an experienced **Urban Designer/Landscape Architect** to lead design and neighborhood planning projects in **the San Francisco Bay Area**. You will work in a team environment to support Urban Ecology’s mission of promoting vibrant neighborhoods. The job is varied and challenging. For example, a concept project promotes “active living” in a low-income, diverse community in East Oakland by improving local parks and schoolyards. Additionally, the designer will assist with, and in many cases lead, other planning and advocacy projects. The designer will support various volunteers and interns working with the program. The designer is responsible for managing a set of neighborhood planning and design projects from inception to completion, and for assisting with other Urban Ecology projects as needed. The designer, with other team members, develops strategic partnerships with key stakeholders, community organizations and elected officials, who can help implement goals and projects developed during neighborhood planning.

Requirements: The candidate must hold a graduate or undergraduate degree in landscape architecture or urban design. Additional work experience in land use planning, park design, housing, transportation, public health or related fields strongly preferred. At least two years of professional practice in urban design or landscape architecture. Applications will be accepted until April 15. Please send or email: A resume, three to five pages (8.5 x 11) of work samples that demonstrate your facility with communication of design ideas, five references, and a cover letter explaining how your skills and background fit this position to Don Neuwirth, Urban Ecology Inc., 582 Market Street, Suite 1020, San Francisco, CA 94104 or email: jobs@urbanecology.org

**Project Director - Park and Recreation Planning
Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc.**

Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc. is a 100-person multidisciplinary firm offering services in planning, community design, communications, and management. MIG is a leader in park and recreation comprehensive and strategic planning. We provide an engaging, multidisciplinary process that involves both users and non-users in determining future park and recreation services. **The Project Director** will be part of our dynamic team that serves as the centre of excellence firm-wide for parks and recreation planning. This position is available in our Berkeley office.

Responsibilities: The Project Director will be responsible for managing comprehensive and strategic planning projects for agencies of all sizes. Candidates for this senior position must demonstrate independent judgment, personal organization, the ability to manage multiple priorities, and excellent communication skills as well as expertise in process facilitation, oral presentation, research, writing, supervision, management, and marketing. *Requirements:* Master's degree in urban planning, landscape architecture, or closely related field is required. At least ten years of planning experience; minimum five years experience in park and recreation comprehensive and strategic planning is required. We offer a full benefit package and flexible work schedule. Please send resume, descriptive letter of interest, salary history, and writing sample to: Carolyn Verheyen, c/o Maria Mayer, MIG, Inc., 800 Hearst Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94710, email Maria Mayer: mariam@migcom.com or fax: 510-845-8750.

WASHINGTON

The National Low Income Housing Coalition (www.nlihc.org) is offering the following three internship opportunities for the Summer of 2006:

Research Intern. Works with the Research Director and staff. Intern will assist with research to document and understand current trends and the impact of policy on the housing conditions of the lowest income Americans.

Outreach Intern. Works with the Outreach Director and staff. Interns will lead the grassroots organizing efforts for the National Housing Trust Fund Campaign and will also take part in media relations and publications work.

Legislative Intern. Works with the Deputy Director and staff. Interns will attend hearings, lobby visits, identify and track legislation and draft legislative materials.

All interns will contribute articles to our weekly newsletter, Memo to Members. The National Low Income Housing Coalition is the foremost national advocacy organization for low income housing. Interns are highly valued and fully integrated into the staff work of the Coalition. We seek students passionate about social justice issues, with excellent writing and interpersonal skills. There is a small stipend. In your cover

letter, please specify which position you would prefer and that you are interested in a Summer 2006 internship.

Interested students should send a resume and cover letter to: Internship Coordinator, National Low Income Housing Coalition, 727 15th Street NW, 6th Floor, Washington DC 20005 or via email to linda@nlihc.org via fax at (202)393-1973. Please call (202)662-1530 x 228 with any questions.

CANADA

Assistant Professor, Urban Transportation Planning McGill University

The **School of Urban Planning of McGill** University invites applications for a full-time, tenure-track position at the rank of **Assistant Professor**, to begin in September 2006. Applicants should have a Ph.D. in Urban Planning or City & Regional Planning (or be in a position to earn the degree by the time they join the School) and show excellence or great promise in teaching and research. Though the position is initially targeted at junior faculty, exceptional candidates at the level of Associate or Full Professor will be considered as well.

Situated in the heart of bilingual Montreal, McGill University is an international university whose primary language of instruction is English. McGill University contributes to, and benefits from, Montreal's stimulating and cosmopolitan urban environment. The School of Urban Planning is part of the University's Faculty of Engineering and offers an accredited professional program in a teaching and research environment well-known for its academic excellence and collegiality. It houses a new Urban Systems Laboratory where professors and graduate students do research and modelling work. Further information about the School can be found at www.mcgill.ca/urbanplanning.

Responsibilities: The ideal candidate will have expertise in urban transportation planning and policy, the link between land development and transport, transportation demand modelling and the use of quantitative methods of analysis and GIS. An ability to work in an inter-disciplinary environment and a desire to obtain professional accreditation are important as well. The successful candidate will teach at the graduate and undergraduate levels, with an average teaching load of three courses per year. He or she will be expected to develop an externally-funded research portfolio and to attract and supervise graduate students. A commitment to service to the academic, professional and local communities is also expected. For that purpose, knowledge of French, or a strong willingness to learn the language rapidly, will be essential. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

To Apply: Candidates should submit their curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching and research interests, and the names of at least three references to: Search Committee, Transportation Planning, School of Urban Planning, McGill University, 815 Sherbrooke Street West, Room 400, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 2K6, Application documents may also be sent by e-mail to Ms. Anand Sood at anand.sood@mcgill.ca.

Review of applications will be ongoing during the month of April, until the position is filled. In accordance with Canadian Immigration requirements, priority will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents of Canada. McGill University is committed to Equity in Employment.

PN E-NEWSLETTER - APRIL, 2006