



**American
Planning
Association**

**Planning
and Law
Division**

February 26, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

The Planning & Law Division of the American Planning Association announces its 38th Annual Smith-Babcock-Williams Student Writing Competition. The Competition, which honors the memory of three leading figures in American city planning law (R. Marlin Smith, Richard Babcock, and Norman Williams) is open to law students and planning students writing on a question of significance in planning, planning law, land use law, local government law or environmental law.

The Competition is open to both current students and recent graduates (less than five years). Entries can include articles written for academic journal or law review publication, long essays, or shorter essays (at least 2,000 words).

As in past years, the winning entry will be awarded a prize of \$2,000, the second-place paper will receive a prize of \$400, and one honorable mention paper will receive \$100. All three winning entries will be published in the semi-annual newsletter of the Planning and Law Division. Depending on the format of the winning entry and the interest of the author, the Competition Committee may also work with the winner to place the article in a journal or coordinate and present a Division webinar.

The deadline for submission of entries is June 30, 2021. Winners will be announced by August 31, 2021. Please refer to the enclosed official rules for further details.

Our past experience has shown that teachers in planning, planning law, land use law, local government law or environmental law are in an ideal position to stimulate student and recent graduate interest in research and writing and to encourage participation in the Competition. Each year, many of the entries appear to have been prepared initially for courses or seminars. We hope you will add your support to the Competition by encouraging your current and past students to submit entries.

If you have questions, please contact me at jessie@lawrenceadr.com.

Sincerely yours,

Jessica Eaton Lawrence, Chair
APA-PLD Smith-Babcock-Williams
Student Writing Competition Committee



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38th ANNUAL SMITH-BABCOCK-WILLIAMS STUDENT WRITING COMPETITION

The Planning & Law Division of the American Planning Association announces its 38th Annual Smith-Babcock-Williams Student Writing Competition. The winning entry in the competition will be awarded a prize of \$2,000, the second-place paper will receive a prize of \$400, and one honorable mention prize of \$100 will be awarded. All three winning entries will be published in the semi-annual newsletter of the Planning and Law Division. Depending on the format of the winning entry and the interest of the author, the Competition Committee may also work with the winner to place the article in a journal or coordinate and present a Division webinar.

RULES

- 1. Eligibility.** The competition is open to law students at ABA accredited law schools and planning students at schools listed in the current *Guide to Undergraduate and Graduate Education in Urban and Regional Planning* who are enrolled in or who will complete a program of study leading to the J.D., LL.M., Masters, or Ph.D. degree during the 2020-2021 academic year. The competition is also open to any graduate of such program, provided the entrant graduated on or after August 1, 2016. All entries must be the work of an individual. Jointly-authored entries will not be considered. Entries may have been written for another purpose within the last year – e.g., a paper submitted for a course or internship – but must not have been previously published.
- 2. Subject Matter.** Entries should demonstrate original thought on a question of significance in either city planning or associated areas of law (e.g., land use, local government or environmental law) and will be evaluated based on: (1) originality; (2) contribution to the understanding or development of the fields of planning and law; (3) quality of scholarship; and (4) quality and organization of writing.
- 3. Publication.** As a condition of publication, the author grants to the Division the following rights: 1) the exclusive right of first publication of the Work throughout the world as part of the Division newsletter; 2) the nonexclusive right to reprint the Work whenever necessary and to license use of the Work, or any part thereof, in any medium or form of communication in the English language, to others; and 3) the right to use the Work, or any part thereof, in any other publication with which the Division coordinates. The author shall reserve all exclusive rights not specifically granted to the Division and will have the rights not specifically granted to the Division and will have the rights, after the Work has been published, to print the Work in any publication, provided that the author included in the publication the proper credit to the Division for prior publication of the work.
- 4. Directions for Entries.** Entries may be between 2,000 and 12,000 words. Entries must be formatted with a 1" margin on all-sides, text should be double-spaced, and in a minimum eleven-point font. Manuscripts should follow the stylistic guidelines of the *Chicago Manual of Style* (latest edition) published by the University of Chicago Press. All citations should be footnoted and should conform to *A Uniform System of Citation* (latest edition) published by the Harvard Law Review Association (the Blue Book).
- 5. Submission of Entries.** To enter the competition, e-mail your entry, **no later than 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on June 30, 2021**, to Jessica Eaton Lawrence, Competition Chair, at jessie@lawrenceadr.com. Your entry must have **two title pages**: the first title page should contain the title of the entry, the name/address/e-mail of the student, and identify the student's school and date of graduation; the second title page should contain only the title of the entry.