APA/AICP ELECTIONS 2017

THE APA AND AICP NOMINATING COMMITTEES met on June 1, 2017, to slate pairs of candidates for each position on the 2017 election ballot. The position statements for nominated candidates follow.

APA and AICP voting will occur by electronic ballot, and will take place online. Ballots will be emailed to members starting on August 6, 2017. The deadline for return of ballots is September 7, 2017. The results of the election will be announced online in mid-September.

APA board positions to be voted on are president-elect, two directors at large (one focused for a planning board member); and directors elected from regions I, V, and VI. AICP commission positions to be filled are president-elect (voted on by all APA members) and commissioners elected from regions I, V, and VI. Regional seats are elected by APA and AICP members in the region.

Only members who submitted their position statements to the Nominating Committees but were not nominated may petition to appear on the ballot.

FOR APA PRESIDENT-ELECT

KURT E. CHRISTIANSEN, FAICP

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
• Economic and Community Development Director, Azusa, CA
• Community Development Director, Yorba Linda, CA
• Development Services Director, Sierra Madre, CA

EDUCATION
• Bachelor of Architecture, Cornell University, 1981-1986

AWARDS AND HONORS
• Masters of Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles
• Bachelor of Arts, Urban Studies, California State University, Northridge

POSITION STATEMENT
“Times and conditions change so rapidly that we must keep our aim constantly focused on the future.” —WALT DISNEY

Our country is rapidly changing and it is critical that we be ready to take action. As leaders of the planning profession we create communities of lasting value, focusing on the future. APA must educate, innovate, advocate, and inspire to ensure our communities and profession keep pace with changing conditions.

APA MUST EDUCATE. APA’s primary mission is education, both for the membership and the general public. Our members need opportunities to expand their existing knowledge base. We also have an obligation to educate the public on the benefits of planning. As president I will focus on the following:
• Development of affordable educational opportunities.
• Creation of informational videos promoting the value of planning to the public.

W. SHEDRICK COLEMAN, AIA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
• Member, 2006-Present
• APA Board Member at Large (Focused, Appointed/Elected Officials), 2010-2014; 2014-Present
• APA Foundation Board of Directors, 2016–Present
• APA National Planning Awards Jury Chair, 2015, 2016, 2017, & 2018
• APA Fellowship Committee Chair, 2014, 2015, & 2016
• APA Awards Task Force Chair, 2016-2017
• APA Fellowship Task Force Chair, 2016-2017
• APA Planning Officials Committee Chair, 2011-2017
• APA Membership Committee, 2011-2017
• APA NPC – Session Speaker “Various Topics”, 2011-2017

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
• Commissioner, Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC), 2006-Present
• Chairman, MPC, 2009-2011; 2013-2015
• Chairman, Georgia National Register Review Board, 2010-2013
• President, AIA Savannah Chapter, 1998, 2005
• Member, Savannah-Chatham Council for Disability Issues, 2003-2008
• Member, AIA Savannah Chapter, 1998-Present

EDUCATION
• Bachelor of Architecture, Cornell University, 1981-1986

POSITION STATEMENT
As “our” President-Elect, I will continue my commitment to represent the interests of the entire membership of APA as I have in my current position on the APA National Board of Directors for the past seven years. My goals in that capacity are as follows:
1. Continue the current mission of the APA Board of Directors and the vision of our President.
  • Actively participate in the fulfillment of the APA Development & Action Plan.
  • Continue to support measures to enhance the value of APA membership to each member.
  • Work with AICP, CPC, DC, and SRC to develop strategies that facilitate two-way communication of issues from those focused member leader groups.
  • Assess the success of the current development plan with leadership to determine its’ relevance in the political and social climate of the United
FOR APA PRESIDENT-ELECT

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public.
  - Establishment of a depository of best practices that members can share and access in an online platform.

APA MUST ADVOCATE. In these uncertain political times, it is vital that we be the voice of smart planning. Key federal programs related to the environment, transportation, and community development are in jeopardy. As president I will lead the effort to:
  - Grow the “Planners Advocacy Network” and develop new partnerships with allied groups.
  - Create basic tools to teach members how to become planning advocates at the local, state and federal levels, using simple techniques such as videos.
  - Promote all APA award winners at the National/Chapter/Division levels to showcase the positive effects of good planning.

APA MUST INNOVATE. As times and conditions change, so must APA. We must embrace change, and be ready to adjust to new technologies and ideas. As president I will champion the following goals:
  - Enhance and improve the ways we communicate and collaborate with members, chapters, divisions, students, allied partners, and the public through web-based community platforms.
  - Foster the connections between education, research, and practice to be on the forefront of emerging issues and showcase outcomes at conferences and on webinars.

APA MUST INSPIRE. We have an obligation to develop the next generation of planning leaders within our communities and within the APA organization. It is essential that we provide tools to make our members successful. As president I will commit to:
  - Create leadership development programs that will prepare planners to become leaders in the profession and in APA.
  - Elevate efforts to becoming a more diverse organization, expanding existing and creating new programs.
  - Strengthen our relationship with colleges and universities, demonstrating the value of APA membership.

It would be an honor and a privilege to serve as APA President. I promise that I will be FOCUSED ON THE FUTURE so that we can become a stronger organization. I am committed to this organization and I would appreciate your support.

FOR APA DIRECTOR, ELECTED AT LARGE

LAUREN DRISCOLL, AICP

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
  - Director of Community Development, Matanuska Telephone Association
  - Chief of Planning, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
  - Planner II, Matanuska-Susitna Borough
  - Economic Development Specialist, City of Hastings

APA LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
  - Chair, APA Leadership Development Committee
  - Member, APA Web Development Working Group
  - President, APA Alaska Chapter
  - Member, AICP Exam Review Committee
  - 2014 Planner of the Year, APA Alaska Chapter
  - Chapter President’s Council, Chair - Emerging Issues
  - Communications Committee
  - APA Committee on Big Ideas/Emerging Issues

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
  - Matanuska Telephone Association, Board of Directors
  - Vice President, Palmer Museum of History and Art

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TOBBE KINSKEY, AICP

BIO

Todd Kinskey, AICP is the Director of Planning + Development for Hamilton County, Ohio. He has been employed there since 1995 and has held several planning positions over the years. He has nearly 25 years of experience as a professional planner with emphasis in long range planning, community development, affordable housing, site plan review, land use planning and zoning analysis. He oversees the daily operations of the Planning + Development Department (70+ employees) and its nearly $10M budget. He is responsible for budget preparation/oversight, contract negotiations, County Commissioner project response and general coordination of all activities of the department.

Additionally, he currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Cincinnati/ Hamilton County Community Action Agency, the Hamilton County Public Health Advisory Council, the Hamilton County Vacant Properties Task Force, the Cincinnati Area Geographic Information System Policy Board, and previously served as the President of the City of Cincinnati Board of Zoning Appeals.

Kinskey has served the local Cincinnati Section of APA-Ohio dating back as far as 2000-2002 when he served as Program Chair. More recently, he served as the Cincinnati Section Director from 2010-2014. He has also been very active with

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FOR APA DIRECTOR, ELECTED AT LARGE

DRISCOLL, continued from page 61
  • Vice President, Palmer Kiwanis Club

EDUCATION
  • Bachelors of Science – Public & Nonprofit Administration with Emphasis in Community Development Planning from Grand Valley State University, MI

POSITION STATEMENT
I am crazy passionate about planning and that is why I remain committed and excited about contributing to the development of the profession, promoting public understanding of planning, and helping to improve our collective knowledge and techniques. When I read the AICP Code of Ethics for the first time, I was profoundly inspired by the importance of our responsibility as planners. It is that inspiration that has fueled a decade of participation and commitment to APA and most importantly, my fellow planners.

As a Chapter President, I worked diligently to modernize the chapter with technology to increase transparency, access to information, and participation opportunities. I have taken a similar approach to my involvement with APA National, working to present new ideas and technologies that move the organization forward, bringing direct benefits to members.

One of my successes was advancing the idea of building a web based planning tool for members. This grassroots effort gained traction with the APA Board and was identified as a priority in the most recent work plan. In a technology based world, having access to information 24/7, 365 days a year from anywhere is vital. I would continue pushing for integration between planner advisory service, publications, and new web platforms that allow planners to post peer to peer information such as white pages, documents, studies, and plans. Consolidation of this information into an online database would provide a one-of-a-kind informational tool; connecting planners, adding new value to membership, and creating exciting opportunities for innovation/cooperation within the profession.

The development of a robust leadership program and the availability of volunteer opportunities to all members are fundamental to the purpose of our organization. I'm particularly passionate about mid-career professionals, often caught up in family life and at pivotal turning points in their careers. Volunteering as a leader may seem difficult, sometimes even impossible. I would promote the development of a directory of volunteer opportunities that is easily searchable by time, experience and level of commitment, allowing members to find opportunities that fit their schedule and lifestyle. Making the connection between volunteering and professional development is crucial. The skills acquired through volunteering can easily be translated into hands-on management experience and career advancement.

It is necessary to have different and unique voices represented on the board. Having worked with some one of the most rural communities in the country, I would advocate the need to continue to embrace and integrate the voices of rural America. The contrast between rural and urban communities is great but the similarities and the opportunities for collaboration are even greater. Through policies, research, advocacy, publications, and professional development we can ensure that the rural perspective is active, collaborative and contributing to what makes us one APA.

It would be an honor and a privilege to serve as the At-Large Director on the APA Board of Directors. I would appreciate the opportunity to use my knowledge, skills, and passion to further serve you and our profession.

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the Ohio Chapter leadership team beginning in 2009. He has served as Chapter Secretary, Vice-President and President (2014-16). This past summer he was re-elected to the Chapter Board to serve another 4 year term where he will continue to lead the Chapter’s Legislative and Advocacy efforts.

Kinskey holds a bachelor’s degree in Urban Planning from the University of Cincinnati College of Design Architecture Art and Planning (DAAP) with a Certificate in Historic Preservation. He has been a member of the DAAP Alumni Board since 2010 as well as served as adjunct faculty in the School of Planning. He is a regular presenter of Ethics for Planners at local, state and regional planning conferences.

POSITION STATEMENT
Having served as the Ohio Chapter President from 2014-16, I had the opportunity to attend the Fall/Spring Leadership meetings and experience first-hand the passion of dedicated planners from all over the country coming together to help guide the future of APA and advocate for the profession. I feel fortunate to have become part of leadership right after Executive Director Drinan was hired. Through his leadership and the will of the Board of Directors, AICP Commission and CPC, I witnessed a dramatic shift in the focus of APA. Meetings with CPC went from listening sessions to open dialogue about how APA could have more meaning to its members and become better advocates for the profession. I watched ideas at one leadership meeting become reality at the next – the nimbleness of the organization was impressive. Witnessing this sea change first-hand inspired me as a planner to want to be more involved in the leadership of APA.

If elected as a Director, I would always come to the table with an open mind and a willingness to share my thoughts and ideas. Listening and collaborating are the cornerstones of success. More importantly, I’m willing to devote the necessary time and energy to assure that the work of the organization moves forward.

I am passionate about planning and its importance to our communities and therefore, passionate about APA as an organization and how it not only serves our members but how it serves as an advocate for the issues that impact the profession. I would work to assure that these principles remain paramount to the work of the organization. Further, I promise to always be an advocate for our members and continue to push the organization to seek partnerships that further shared goals.

FOR APA DIRECTOR, ELECTED AT LARGE (SEAT FOCUSED FOR A PLANNING BOARD MEMBER)

MARRIE PRESS

As a near 30 year member of APA, I have proudly served APA in various roles: student representative to the National Capital Area Chapter (1988); APA student newsletter editor (1988-89); founding member of GALIP (now LGBTQ and Planning) network and division (1992-1998); Vice-Chair LGBTQ and Planning Division (1998-2003); Chair LGBTQ and Planning Division (2003-2007); APA Diversity Task Force (2007-2011); Divisions Council (DC) Leadership Task Force (2008-09); DC Vice-Chair (2010-2012); APA Governance Records, Banking and the Customer Service Desk

MITCH THROWER

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
Mitch Thrower is the Senior Manager of Administration for Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (HCIAA), which manages Tampa International Airport and three smaller airports. Mitch has worked at HCIAA for 18 years and currently oversees Risk Management, Safety, Central Records, Banking and the Customer Service Desk as well as other support operations. Mitch is also responsible for conducting Federal Corporate Guidelines Training for HCIAA employees, including
Commissioner APA's Review Panel; Vice-Chair; and co-author of "Seeking Planning Leaders in Seattle" for co-chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee; member of the Light Rail the Atlanta conference.

On the Radar; leadership development and recruiting volunteers; launching the DC's initiatives Leadership in a Nutshell Handbook; working directly with divisions on membership and leadership growth and development. Specifically, revamping Leadership Award.

Terry Holzheimer

In 2013, I was appointed to the Seattle Planning Commission. I am humbled and honored to serve my city in this capacity. As a Commissioner, I have served as co-chair of the Land Use and Transportation Committee; member of the Light Rail Review Panel; Vice-Chair; and co-author of "Seeking Planning Leaders in Seattle" for APAs Commissioner.

In March 2017, I was appointed to the National LGBTQ Task Force's National Action Council.

My career as a planner primarily focused on transportation projects across the US including light rail transit, bridges, tunnels, heavy rail, highways, and highways. I'm currently a small business owner in Seattle. This near 30 year journey has provided the opportunity to: understand organizational structure and dynamics; fulfill mission, bylaws, and ethics requirements; share ideas and foster communication; consider all points of view when reaching consensus and in decisionmaking; and nurturing and developing future leaders.

If elected, my focus would be supporting the APA Development Plan; APA leadership initiatives; membership recruitment and retention; growing future leaders; and ensuring social equity, racial justice, and inclusivity in planning and in our organization. As planners, we have the tools to level the playing field for our communities and for our future leaders. It’d be an honor and a privilege to represent you.

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ethics, fraud, sunshine law and public records. Prior to joining HCAA, Mitch worked as an auditor for a public accounting firm as well as the Office of the Auditor General of the State of Florida performing compliance, performance and financial audits.

APA EXPERIENCE

• Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commissioner representing the cities of Tampa, Temple Terrace, Plant City and Hillsborough County (2011-Present)
• Elected Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission Chairman for 3rd year in a row (2014-Present)
• Member American Planning Association, APA Florida Chapter, Sun Coast Section (2011-Present)
• APA Planning Officials Committee representative for Region III (2015-Present)
• Presented "History of Planning" seminar at APAs 2016 national conference

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

• Director and Treasurer, Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County • Chairman, Hillsborough County Charter Review Board 2010 • Hillsborough County School Board District 3 Communications Group (2004-2009)
• Cub Master, Cub Scouts Pack 17 (2006-2008)
• Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners Citizens Advisory Committee (2002-2006), Chairman (2005-2006)
• President, Pine Hollow Special Dependent Tax District (2005-2006)
• President, Carrollwood Elementary School's Dad's Club (2005-2006)
• Vice Chairman, Hillsborough County Charter Review Board 2005
• Co-Chairman, Carrollwood Elementary School's Advisory Council (2004-2005)
• Director, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Tampa Bay, Inc. (2001-2005)
• President, Florida West Coast Chapter of the Institute of Internal Auditors (2002-2003)

EDUCATION

ACCOUNTING/CPA COURSES—1993-1995
University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL

—1990

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION—1991
Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT—1990
Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

Concentration: Finance

Certified Internal Auditor (CIA)—1998 - Present
Certified Public Accountant (CPA)—1995 - Present

POSITION STATEMENT

If elected APA Director at Large (Planning Board member), I would focus on ensuring the American Planning Association continues to provide exceptional educational opportunities to its members. The APA should continue to take the lead when it comes to communicating best practices to planners and the public. Furthermore, the APA should look for even more opportunities to engage college, high school and even younger students in the planning process to ensure that the best students consider planning as a career choice. As Chairman of the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission, I have had the opportunity to work on a broad range of issues largely due to my community's diversity. Hillsborough County with a population of over 1.3 million people is a microcosm of the nation mirroring the country as a whole in income, age, race, ethnicity and politics. Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission is responsible for a very large and diverse area made up of a large city (Tampa), and two smaller cities (Temple Terrace and Plant City) as well as Hillsborough County, which includes urban and suburban neighborhoods and agricultural lands. As a Planning Commissioner responsible for four different jurisdictions, I have made a point of getting to know the various elected officials and community leaders so that I can update/educate them on what my agency is doing and how they can assist. My experience engaging others has assisted me with being an effective Planning Commissioner. These same skills will enable me to be a successful APA Director should I have the honor of being elected. Thank you for considering me for this position.

Mitch Thrower
FOR APA DIRECTOR, ELECTED FROM REGION I

COURTENAY MERCER, AICP
BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

APA LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
• APA Board, Director (2014 – present)
• APA Membership Committee, Chair (2014 – present)
• APA Budget & Development Plan Committee, Member (2017 – present)
• APA Academic Task Force, Member (2016 – present)
• APA NPC Local Host Committee, Co-Chair (2015 – 2017)
• APA Student & New Planner Task Force, Member (2015 – 2016)
• APA Legislative & Policy Committee, Member (2014 – 2017)
• Chapter Presidents Council (CPC), Secretary-Treasurer (2011 – 2014)
• CPC Budget & Finance Ad Hoc Committee, Member (2013)
• CPC Professional Development Committee, Chair (2007-2010)
• NJ Chapter, President-elect & President (2006, 2007-2010)
• NJ Chapter, Treasurer (2004 – 2005)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
• Mercer Planning Associates, Principal
• Regional Plan Association, NJ Director
• NJ Office of Smart Growth, Director of Planning
• Boards and Committees: TNJ Efficient Task Force (Chair), Downtown New Jersey, NJ Transit Friendly Newsletter Editorial Board, State Agriculture Development Committee, State TDR Bank Board, NJ Highlands Task Force, Middlesex Borough Zoning Board, Planning Board & Redevelopment Committee

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
• Safe Streets JC, Jersey City Parents for Progress, Girl Scouts Troop 12014, PS3 Playground Initiative, PS3 PTSA, Metlar-Bodine House Museum

POSITION STATEMENT
As I look back on my previous candidate statement for this position, I am pleased to see that APA has made substantial progress on the initiatives I saw as a priority four years ago. My positions on the Membership Committee and Student and New Planner Task Force allowed me to help APA formulate strategies to engage and cultivate the next generation of planners. APA has made student services a priority with its burgeoning mentorship program, resume clinics, and recognition initiatives. I am particularly proud to have been part of the team that formulated the free student membership and reduced new membership programs rolling out this year, which will help retain young planners as lifelong members of APA. An important aspect of this initiative is offering membership to all students, regardless of major, which I see as a positive move to engage those taking non-traditional routes to planning. In the coming years, I will work to have even more resources dedicated to programs that will continue to diversify and expand the APA’s membership base.

APA is also making great strides in its Development Plan goal to “serve” its members. From the first retreat with the Board and AICP Commission that I participated in 2014, our priority was to provide more services to members. We worked with the new CEO and staff to improve customer service, enhance existing services like the webpage, and add new free services like the photo sharing library. Perhaps our proudest achievement was offering the Planning Assistance Service reports as a regular member benefit. APA will also be rolling out additional webpage and communications support to Chapters, Divisions, and the SRC in the coming year. I look forward to continued progress through the Development Plan Action Plan to expand offerings and enhance transparency when it comes to member services.

If elected to a second term on the Board, I will continue working on ongoing initiatives of the Membership Committee to recognize and support mid-career planner. Specifically, the committee has been looking at ways to recognize mid-career planners through awards and/or profiling planner accomplishments. We are also discussing mid-career mentorship and training initiatives to help prepare planners for the next stage of their careers. I also look forward to finalizing work with the Academic Task Force to strengthen coordination between the academic community and the APA, including enhancements to academic/student relationships within the organization, and supporting planning research.

I thank you for the opportunity to present my goals as Director to the APA Board, and hope you will grant me the opportunity to serve you for another term.

DONALD BURNS, AICP
BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

My name is Donald Burns, AICP and I want to represent you on the American Planning Associations (APA) Region 1 Board of Directors. My three goals when was elected APA NY Metro Chapter President in 2008: 1) increase the participation of young planners in Chapter activities, 2) succession planning, and 3) sound financial management. We created the Young Planners Group (YPG). The YPG organizes programs to grow that part of the membership including Metro Chapter’s mentorship program. The YPG received a Chapter President’s Council grant to support Metro Chapter’s “Planners in School” program that worked with high-school students. The first two goals by were fulfilled by the YPG by offering programs geared to younger planners and a path to chapter leadership, thus developing future chapter leaders. As your Region 1 Representative I will take my experience as a Chapter President and assist the Region 1 Chapters in developing quality programs and services for their members.

I have served on leadership positions for other non-profit organizations as a board member for the Neighborhood Open Space Coalition from 2000 to 2003 and as Secretary for the Montessori Day School of Brooklyn from 2004 to 2009. The most important lesson I learned from those positions and as NY Metro Chapter President is that successful programs, projects, and events don’t occur without sound financial management. As Metro Chapter President we reduced expenses and overhead by using online communication and telephone tools. As a Board member I would work to ensure the sound financial management of our member dollars because APA is a member driven organization.

I have participated in many different levels of leadership at APA over the last 18 years. I was the chair of the Transportation Committee for the New York Metro Chapter and a Board member representing the New York City Section. As Past-President, I co-presented courses on the Code of Ethics along with Debra Lawlor our Region 1 AICP Representative at the 2013 and 2015 APA NY Metro Chapter Conferences. I am also a member of the Planning and the Black Community and Transportation Divisions.

I have also volunteered with APA National, I was appointed to the 2014 APA Awards Committee which is a rigorous and rewarding experience. Based upon my participation on the Awards Committee, I was appointed twice in 2016 and 2017 to the APA Awards Task Force that meets periodically to review the eligibility and role for each award. I was the Chair of the Mobile Workshop Committee on the Local Host Committee for the APA 2017 National Conference in NYC recommended 60 mobile workshop concepts after evaluating over 100.

I am the Director of Planning and Program Development at the USDOT Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Region 2 office in New York City where I have worked since 1999. I started at FTA as a community planner working on environmental review of projects under the National Environmental Policy Act and state and metropolitan planning issues. I earned a BA of Public Affairs from SUNY-Albany in 1988 and a Masters of Urban Planning from CUNY-Hunter College in 1993.

Lastly, the thing I appreciate about APA is the many different ways to participate in the organization from the chapter, division, or national level. APA affords us the opportunity to lead groups/committees of planners, draft positions, participate in Planning Community Assistance Teams, awards committees, continuing education courses, and other initiatives. As your Region 1 Representative I will work with the northeast chapters to continue providing the products and services you expect so APA will continue to be an advocate for sound planning practices, sustainability, and resiliency.
For APA Director, Elected From Region V

Brian Campbell, FAICP

Biographical/Position Statement

Professional Experience

2010 – present Coordinator, Oregon 2050 Initiative Executive Committee, Portland APA, AIA, ASLA Urban Design Panel

2007 – 2010 Senior Planning Advisor, City of Portland, Oregon

2005 – 2007 Senior Supervising Planner, Parsons Brinkerhoff (PB) PlaceMaking

1987 – 2004 Planning Manager, Port of Portland, Oregon

1983 – 1987 Senior Planner, Port of Portland, Oregon

1978 – 1983 Planner II, Clackamas County, Oregon

1977 – 1978 Planner I, Umpqua Regional COG, Roseburg, Oregon


APA Experience

APA Board of Directors – Region V Director (2014 – present)

Oregon APA Board of Directors – Chair, Education and Outreach Committee (2014 – present)

APA Chapter Presidents Council (2010 – 2014)

President, Oregon APA (2010 – 2014)

Chair, OAPA Sustainability Strategy Committee (2009 – 2010)

Community Involvement

Member of the Year, City Club of Portland (2007)

Vice President of Board & Chair, Research Committee, City Club (2004 – 2007)

Community Planning Service Awards, Metro (Portland, Oregon) (1997 & 2002)

Education

Master of Planning, University of Virginia, 1974

Bachelor of Architecture, Stanford University, 1968

Position Statement

Over the past 3 years as a member of the APA Board my top priority has been to ensure the organization is as responsive as possible to the needs of its members. I came onto the Board in 2014 when APA was poised to make big changes with the hiring of a new executive director, which presented an opportunity for members to have a major impact on their organization. Board members representing constituencies from throughout the country met in long strategic planning sessions to discuss changes to the way the staff, APA Board and AICP Commission would work together and interact with our members. As a direct result of the work we have done together we have made great strides as an organization, bringing leadership and staff into very close alignment on service improvements for our members, and creating numerous initiatives that will continue to pay dividends to our members for years to come.

But that’s only the beginning. APA has the potential to become much more professionally and politically influential on several different levels, with the ultimate goal of ensuring that the standing of our profession, and of individual planners in communities all across the country, is much enhanced. As an organization we are poised to take stronger leadership roles nationally, regionally and locally to ensure that our communities and their citizens are healthier, fiscally and economically stronger, and more sustainable and resilient. If re-elected as a Board member I will continue to provide direction and support to staff so that APA programs, policies and the investment of members’ valuable volunteer time are focused on those outcomes. I also intend to continue my role as a member of key APA committees that help create policy direction (Legislative and Policy Committee), provide organizational governance (Governance Committee) and create research initiatives that provide new information to enable planners to do their jobs better (Research Committee).

As a retired member with long and varied experience in the planning profession I have the opportunity to use that background to devote a great deal of time to the business of the organization. That involves communicating with members about their concerns, advising staff on the shape and scope of programs and policies, and engaging with fellow leaders of APA and AICP to craft initiatives, build consensus on issues of concern, and make decisions that keep the organization moving forward. It’s a job I enjoy, and if I’m done right can lead to a much stronger organization, better and happier planners and more livable communities.

Leo R. Asuncion, Jr., AICP

Biographical/Position Statement

Professional Experience

• Director, Office of Planning, State of Hawaii (2014 – present)

• Manager, Coastal Zone Management Program, State of Hawaii (2011 – 2014)


Community Involvement


Education

• Masters of Business Administration, Hawaii Pacific University

• Masters of Urban and Regional Planning, University of Hawaii

• Bachelor of Arts (Political Science), University of Hawaii

The American Planning Association is at a critical juncture of its history, as planning and the planning profession becomes much more important and relevant to the public, constituencies, decision makers, and the sound use of various resources. The future of the organization, as a key component of the profession has to, in my opinion, emphasize the importance of planning, especially in this period of uncertainty at the federal level on many of the programs and resources our profession has come to rely upon.

The organization needs to remain steadfast in the implementation of strategies to strengthen the profession, which in turn, provides prosperity for our members. If elected as APA Board member for Region V, I would advocate for implementing strategies that increase the value of membership for all members, work to develop relationships with key partners that can assist our organization in advancing our cause both locally and nationally, and ensure inclusivity of all of our members in the actions of the organization.

APA members of Region V, spanning 15 states and the Western Provinces of Canada, represents the diverse demographics of membership. It is important for all members to be aware of the impacts that the organization’s strategies may have in order to be involved in achieving the organization’s goals.

I look forward to working with all stakeholders towards achieving the AICP organizational goals for a future that all planners can be proud of!
FOR APA DIRECTOR, ELECTED FROM REGION VI

KRISTEN ASP, AICP
BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
• Principal Planner, City of Glendale, CA
• Senior Planner/Planner/Associate, City of Glendale, CA
• Assistant Planner, City of Calabasas, CA

APA EXPERIENCE
• Vice President for Administration, APA California Chapter

EDUCATION
• Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, BS, City and Regional Planning
• Woodbury University, MA of Organizational Leadership

I have been a member of the American Planning Association (APA) since I was an undergraduate student at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Through mentoring, I recognized the value of being a member and wanted to invest in the future of my professional career. Early on, I became a leader in the APA California Chapter, being elected to serve on the Chapter Board as Student Representative. I have been committed to APA by serving in a variety of leadership roles.

Fiscal Responsibility — While serving as the Vice President of Administration, I am responsible for the Chapter budget and all other financial management. I understand the importance of fiscal responsibility and the need for transparency. As an APA Board member I would advocate for sound financial policies and look to further invest in member benefits.

Celebrate Success — APA has a robust awards program, with honors being bestowed by Sections, Chapters, and Divisions. Currently members can only find information about the National Awards or those honored by their home Chapter or Division. I would promote the creation of an awards portal that would allow Chapters and Divisions to showcase all award winners with links to actual planning documents. This would serve as a library of best practices that would allow members to see winners from all over the country.

Connecting Practicing Planners, Students, and Academics — APA members must be more involved in university and college planning programs. One of APAs greatest resources is academia and students involved in the many planning programs throughout the United States. Emerging issues within the planning field often begin with cutting edge research being done in universities. It is essential to promote this work to our membership. Investing in our students is critical as they are the future of the planning profession. We must make a concentrated effort to engage and network with students and emerging professionals. We have all benefited by having a mentor guide us at some point in our careers, it is now our turn to repay the debt and serve as mentors for the next generation. If elected I would encourage the expansion of mentorship programs at all levels.

Collaboration and Partnerships — APA needs to encourage more collaboration. Sharing knowledge and resources will foster creativity and promote cooperation to create a strong support system. Strengthening communication between the Chapters, Divisions, Students, and Universities/Colleges will make APA a more robust organization. Collaboration should also be encouraged among allied organizations. As a Board Member, I will support partnerships with allied organizations that will allow us to have a stronger voice when advocating for planning at the Local, State and Federal levels. There is strength in numbers and by partnering with other organizations, we provide different perspectives on the issues.

I appreciate your consideration and hope to have the opportunity to serve as the Region 6 Director on the APA Board. If elected, I will challenge us all to work together to make APA a stronger organization, expand member resources, and keep the organization, as well as the profession, relevant.

SHANE BURKHARDT, AICP
BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
• Michael Baker International, Manager of Planning, Santa Ana CA - Present
• CHA, Principal Planner
• American Structurepoint, Planning Director
• Hudson Institute, Fellow
• Ball State University, Associate-Director – Center for Economic/Community Development

APA LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE
• APA Board of Directors/Advisor/CPC Director (2016-Present)
• Chair/Chapter Presidents Council (2016-Present)
• APA Development Plan and Budget Committee (2016-Present)
• APA Membership Committee (2014-Present)
• Co-Chair/Student and New Planners’ Taskforce
• Vice-Chair/Chapter Presidents Council
• APA Governance Committee
• Indiana Chapter President
• CPC Outstanding Chapter Award
• CPC Chapter Presidents Recognition Award

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
• Indy/Rezone Steering Committee
• Architectural Committee/King Park Development Corporation
• Student Mentor

EDUCATION
• BUPID Urban Planning & Development, Ball State University
• BS Political Science & Environmental Design, Ball State University

POSITION STATEMENT
I believe in making communities better whether through the successful redevelopment of the Lake Michigan waterfront near Chicago, revitalization around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway or facilitating 25 unincorporated communities throughout San Bernardino County to create holistic strategic plans.

I bring this enthusiasm to my APA involvement. I served on my previous chapter’s board since graduation. As Chapter President, I led the creation of a new strategic plan, re-established relationships with our ACSP schools and students, and expanded the services we provided our members. I currently serve as Chair of the Chapter Presidents Council and CPC Director on the APA Board of Directors. I tirelessly advocate for strengthening our chapters and improving communications between APAs leadership components. As Co-Chair of APA/AICPs Student and New Planners Taskforce, I worked with the taskforce and staff to revamp our student program to make APA more relevant to new and aspiring planners.

APA Today/Tomorrow
APA has reached a turning-point. We recognize we can no longer be the rigid organization of the past, but must boldly and rapidly provide leadership and resources to our members to advance our profession into the future. Our national leadership has laid the groundwork that includes:
• Creating one of the first long-range plans for APA;
• Unleashing the creativity of APA staff to work with all APA leaders and chapters;
• Developing a new communications structure that will allow members/chapters/divisions/students and leadership to effectively communicate, collaborate and share knowledge and skills.

I am proud to be part of this effort. If you elect me as your Director, I vow to build upon this progress. I will focus on three main tenets:

APA Must Lead/Advocate for the Planning Movement
• APA must be the strong, visible, steadfast and future-shaping voice to lead the discussion on:
• Building our communities;
• Planning in a rapidly changing world;
• How our profession must change to stay relevant;
• We must build stronger bridges with our partner organizations to better
### FOR APA DIRECTOR, ELECTED FROM REGION VI

BURKHARDT continued from page 66

advocate and lead the dialogue for good planning at the local, state and federal level.

**APA Must Communicate with and Engage our Membership**

- We must build member confidence and support. At 35,000 strong we can accomplish a lot, but our members must feel they receive value for their dues. This can happen through communicating our achievements and ensuring our members feel welcome, involved and free to express their ideas to collectively move our profession forward.
- PACE is now free, and we can build on this concept to develop a knowledge network for collective discussion, debate and collaboration to extract new and innovative ideas for planning tomorrow.

**APA Must Inspire and Support Our Members to Build Tomorrow’s Communities**

- Our education programs and conferences must be more cost-effective, accessible and cutting-edge. Through partnerships, we must take better advantage of synergies with academics, students and other professional organizations and interests.
- We can create toolkits for members to conduct educational seminars for planning commissions, councils and citizens on major planning issues.

### FOR AICP PRESIDENT-ELECT

**DEBORAH ALAIMO LAWLOR, FAICP, PP**

**BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT**

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Maser Consulting P.A., Discipline Leader, Planning Services – manage 12 planners working for over 40 municipalities and private development clients. Debbie specializes in master planning, redevelopment, community engagement, and resiliency planning.
- New Jersey Meadowlands Commission – Debbie served over 30 years as a regional planner in positions including Chief Planner and Chief of Sustainability and Economic Growth. Her work included environmental planning, master planning, redevelopment, zoning reviews, sustainability programming, and community visioning.

**APA EXPERIENCE**

- AICP Commissioner – two terms. Executive Committee Secretary, Community Assistance Planning Services (CAPS) Committee Chair, Membership Committee Chair, Exam Committee Co-Chair, FAICP Committee
- 2017 APA National Planning Conference Host Committee
- APA Research Committee, Retired Member Task Force, Sustainability Planning Task Force
- AICP College of Fellows Class of 2012
- Regional and Intergovernmental Division Vice-Chair of State Planning
- APA-NJ Chapter 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Northeast Area Representative
- APA-NJ Distinguished Service Award

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- Former Board of Governors President and Board of Directors Member of Packanack Lake Community Association, Wayne, NJ, member since 1992

**EDUCATION**

- B.S. Environmental Planning and Design, Rutgers University
- M.A. Geography, Rutgers University

**POSITION STATEMENT**

During my tenure as AICP Commissioner, I have learned how all components of APA leadership operate and have had the privilege of working with some of the brightest minds and giving people in our field. The AICP Commission works directly with the APA Board of Directors, Chapter Presidents and Division Chairs to make APA/AICP the leading educational organization and professional institute for the brightest minds and giving people in our field. The AICP Commission works of APA leadership operate and have had the privilege of working with some of the brightest minds and giving people in our field. The AICP Commission works directly with the APA Board of Directors, Chapter Presidents and Division Chairs to make APA/AICP the leading educational organization and professional institute for the brightest minds and giving people in our field. The AICP Commission works.

DEBORAH ALAIMO LAWLOR, FAICP, PP continued on page 68

### WHIT BLANTON, FAICP

**BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT**

Whit Blanton, FAICP, is the executive director of Forward Pinellas, an independent public agency responsible for countywide and regional planning, funding and programming activities. Hired in 2015 to lead the newly-merged metropolitan planning organization (MPO) and Pinellas Planning Council, Whit reports to a 13-member body of elected officials representing an urban county of 25 local governments in Florida’s Tampa Bay region.

Whit led development of the new agency’s integrated land use and transportation mission, along with a corresponding work program and budget, carried out by a staff of 18. In his first year, he rebranded the organization as Forward Pinellas, including launching a new web site and public identity, established a new Complete Streets program to fund planning, engineering and construction projects, and led the MPO to adopt its first multimodal transportation priority funding program since its creation.

Whit has served in leadership roles for APA and AICP since the mid-1990s. From 2012 to 2016 he served as APA Region III Board Director, and served on the executive committee responsible for hiring and evaluating APA’s chief executive officer. He is chair of APA’s Education Committee, which is developing recommendations for the organization’s education program. He guided AICP’s Certified Transportation Planner credential, served on the AICP Exam Committee, and has participated in a CPAT visit. He has chaired the Legislative & Policy Committee and served as a member for 10 years. Whit was chosen for the AICP President’s Award for Exemplary Practice in 2011 and earned induction in the AICP College of Fellows in 2012. Whit also served as Transportation Planning Division and Divisions Council chair, and on committees of the Florida Chapter.

Whit has nearly 30 years of professional planning experience in both the public and private sectors. He was a founding principal and vice president of Renaissance Planning, based in Orlando. He completed graduate school in Florida State University’s Department of Urban and Regional Planning and earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism from the University of Florida.

**POSITION STATEMENT**

Now more than ever, APA and AICP need national leaders who are effective communicators and thought leaders within the planning profession. The organization needs people who highly value the AICP credential, with the proven ability to articulate a clear vision and build consensus around strategies to strengthen the mission of AICP and the Commission, and its role in shaping future planning leaders.

I believe I am that leader. If chosen as AICP President-Elect, we will work to develop and carry out a big picture vision to increase the value and respect for

WHIT BLANTON, FAICP continued on page 68
FOR AICP PRESIDENT ELECT

LAWLOR continued from page 67

planners in the country.

As I run for AICP President, my focus is on the following goals:

Promote the Value of the AICP Credential — In a very competitive world, planners need to differentiate themselves from other professionals working on a project. As generalists, we are excellent project managers and facilitators. Additionally, many planners have specialized skills related to transportation, environmental, urban design or GIS that they bring to the table. One of the next initiatives of the AICP Commission should be a defined platform to explain the value of having an AICP planner to consulting firms and government officials. With a strong code of ethics and certification maintenance (CM) requirements to reinforce and enhance core competencies, the AICP credential is a seal of confidence that they are hiring competent professionals in the field.

Work More Directly with Planning Academia — It is important for the Commission to engage in a dialogue and work directly with professors to elevate the quality of students coming out of planning programs. The Commission should review the core competencies that we have defined to ensure that students are well rounded and job ready upon graduation. We should also involve planning professors and their students in research opportunities that create CM worthy information for our membership and other activities related to CAPS projects.

Engage and Retain Seasoned Planners — The Commission should create a program to engage and retain our seasoned AICP members as they approach retirement, as we recently did for emerging professionals. With many planners in government service retiring early, we need to determine if the retirement age of 65 that we use to offer incentives meets the average needs of our members. For instance, younger retirees are not afforded options like CM reduction. We need to produce programming that is relevant and engaging for members in this age sector. Many seasoned professionals have noted that they would like to be active in mentoring and assisting municipalities in need. It is also most important to link our seasoned planners with mid-level planners to strategically carry forward the organization and its initiatives.

FOR AICP COMMISSIONER, REGION I

CADE HOBBIK, AICP, LEED AP

BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

I sincerely appreciate this opportunity to share some information about myself, as well as to express my views on AICP and explain how I will serve the interests of planners, if elected AICP Commissioner.

CAREER

• 20-year career, currently in private sector, technical and managerial roles, hiring / training planners.

• Lead planning / environmental review for resiliency projects, neighborhood redevelopment, affordable housing, and transportation / transit projects. Work among engineers for whom "expertise" is specialization, therefore must routinely demonstrate the value of planners’ "generalist expertise."

• Worked on farms and in factories before beginning planning career in public sector – comprehensive planning, economic development, farmland protection; supported emergency services, healthcare planning, water quality protection. Worked in Republic of Cyprus, advising on localized implementation of national / regional planning policy.

• MUP, BA Architectural Studies, BA Environmental Studies, University of Kansas

INVOLVEMENT

• 15+ years mentoring

• Speaker: perspectives on employment, diversity, environmental policy (Hunter College; Columbia University)

• Chair (former), LGBTQ & Planning Division

• AICP exam content developer; AICP CEP exam review committee; Chair (former), Divisions Council committee reviewing FAICP application process

• CM credit opportunities development: sessions for seven National Conferences (gentrification, LGBTQ community safety, LGBTQ neighborhoods, historic preservation); introduced "Recent Planning Grad

HOBBIK continued on page 69

BLANTON continued from page 67

the AICP credential through a career-long professional development program, adherence to strong ethical standards, and protection of planners’ role in providing independent analysis that reflects and balances diverse community needs. We will better link planning education and research with planning practice, and use planning research to reinforce APA’s communications program and its advocacy efforts. We will build upon the work to define Core Competencies and link it with educational offerings at all career stages.

With my background as chair of the Education Committee, I will work with staff and the Commission to implement and use a new Learning Management System to its fullest capabilities. The goal is to better tailor educational programs, from seminars to conference sessions, to the diverse needs of young professionals, planners seeking to advance in their careers, and those looking to add new skills or serve as mentors to others. I will focus on ways to strengthen AICP as the path to leadership, and provide more of a focus to the role of Fellows of AICP as mentors within the profession.

JUSTIN GARRETT MOORE, AICP

BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

My name is Justin Garrett Moore, AICP, and I am an urban designer and the executive director of the NYC Public Design Commission. I have extensive experience in urban planning and design—from large-scale urban systems, policies, and projects to grassroots and community-based planning, design, and arts initiatives. At the PDC my work is focused on prioritizing quality and excellence for the public realm, and fostering accessibility, diversity, and inclusion in public buildings, spaces, and art. I am a member of the American Planning Association, the Urban Design Forum, and Next City’s Vanguard, and I also teach at Columbia University GSAPP’s urban design and planning programs. Finally, I am the co-founder of Urban Patch, a social enterprise that focuses on community revitalization and design in American inner cities.

I have been an active member of the APA and have personally grown and learned from my involvement in the organization and as a part of the AICP. There is great value in the role that the APA and AICP have in helping to advance many important issues in the urban policy, planning, and design fields. The value of what our members do, and how and why we do it, can help shape a better future while taking on some of our biggest problems, from climate change to social equity. The AICP and its members have the unique opportunity to take a leadership role in this important work—particularly given the current and future need for leadership, innovation, and responsibility—to influence the local, national, and even global changes that cities and regions are facing. This work is already happening through the value the AICP brings to its members and the profession through research, education, and dialogue, and to communities directly through the APA’s advocacy and technical assistance initiatives. But we can do more, and the APA and AICP must continue its efforts to promote greater diversity and inclusion in the profession and our communities to address the full extent of the need. The APA Foundation’s goal to “shape the future” includes scholarships to those underrepresented in the planning profession and assistance to underserved, resource-limited communities.

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FOR AICP COMMISSIONER, REGION I

HOBICK continued from page 68

in the Working World” facilitated discussion, a conference staple since 2009; webinars – LGBTQ neighborhood history; diversity / discrimination / ethics (underway)

STATEMENT

Planners should feel increasingly liberated as their careers develop. Yet, I field questions revealing limitations many planners might feel, instead: “I want to change jobs, but... - am I too specialized? not enough? Is my experience in the ‘wrong’ sector, or on ‘wrong’ projects, or in a ‘wrong’ size community? What if the position is not called ‘planner’?”

Certified planners – as “managers of change” – must be able to put those doubtful questions aside, and answer just one: “How would my skills transfer and allow me to advance my career in new directions?” Thus, the value and role of AICP.

The Commission is critical in shaping how certified planners think of themselves and how their professional value is understood by employers and communities served.

The credibility of a certified planner derives from “comprehensive expertise” (generalist expertise) i.e., AICP “core competencies,” as well as principled judgement and action. To the extent certified planners extol reasoned thinking, open-mindedness, empathy and dedication to the public interest, as being fundamentally miredness, empathy and dedication to the public interest, as being fundamentally

The goals of certification are articulated in policy and messaging, and, if given the opportunity to serve on the AICP Commission, I will actively advocate that these goals are aligned and translated into improved programs and meaningful change for our membership and the diverse communities we serve.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2016 – present | NYC Public Design Commission, Executive Director
2005 - 2016 | NYC Department of City Planning, Senior Urban Designer

APA EXPERIENCE

APA New York Metro Chapter, Planning and the Black Community Division
2012 – present | APA & American Institute of Certified Planners

2017 | APA New York NPC, “The Yabera in Belize City: AICPs First International CPAT” & “Priorities and Strategies for City Design”
2016-2017 | APA CPAT Team Leader, Belize City
2016 | APA at UN-Habitat III, Quito, Ecuador
2016 | APA Phoenix NPC, “Catalyzing Citizen-led Change”
2013 | APA Chicago NPC, “Growing Community Gardens & Building Value”

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

2016-present | Made in Brownsville (MiB), Board of Directors
2015-present | Joby.org, Board of Directors
2014-present | Mary Miss / City as a Living Laboratory, Board of Directors
2012-present | Urban Patch, Co-founder
2012-2014 | American Community Gardening Association, Board of Directors

EDUCATION

2004 | Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation (GSAPP), M. Arch., M.S. Arch. & Urban Design, Honors for Excellence in Design
2001 | University of Florida College of Design, Construction & Planning, B. Design in Architecture, Highest Honors

KAREN WOLF, FAICP

BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

• More than 25 years of planning experience in King County, Washington – a large jurisdiction with urban, rural and resource areas that include more than 20 urban centers, agricultural districts, and federal wilderness areas;
• Manage Countywide Planning Policies that provide a framework for environmental protection, smart growth, economic resiliency, healthy placemaking, sustainability and climate protection;
• Facilitate municipal annexations;
• Collaborations include a groundbreaking effort to curb sprawl and focus growth in urban areas while preserving environmentally sensitive rural areas, the application of social justice in regional planning, and advocacy for walkable communities.

WOOD continued on page 70

MOORE continued from page 68

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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FOR AICP COMMISSIONER, REGION V

WOOD continued from page 69

• CPC (2010 – present; Emerging Issues Committee Chair 2011 - 2014)
• Divisions Council/Chapter Presidents Council Joint Task Force on Collaboration (2011 – 2012)
• APA Colorado Legislative Committee Co-Chair (2014 – present; 2003 – 2009)
• APA Colorado Chapter President (2010 – 2014)
• Community Involvement
• Land Use Leadership Alliance (2013; Steering Committee)
• MURP Alumni Association; UCD (2013 - 2014; Inaugural Board Member)
• LEAP Summit; Igniting Resiliency (2013)
• New Partners for Smart Growth Conference (2014; Local Host Committee)
• CO Recovery Symposium (2013; Organizing Committee)

EDUCATION
• University of Colorado at Denver; MURP 1998
• Baylor University; BS 1978

POSITION STATEMENT
Planning today can be challenging, yet never has it been more important. Planners are collaborative, inclusive, thoughtful, and strategic. These are qualities that are necessary to chart a course through uncertain times to an unforeseeable future. The role of planning, APA, and AICP cannot be overstated. The importance of the AICP credential to elevating the profession and demonstrating the value of planning is great. Planners who hold the credential have studied and passed a rigorous exam; agree to adhere to the AICP Code of Ethics; and maintain the credential through continuing education.

As AICP Commissioner, Region V, I would emphasize the following:

Demonstrate the value of the AICP credential and the role it plays in the value of planning.
• Market the value of the credential to employers, allied professions, and the public to further its significance in regard to planning knowledge and ethics
• Encourage new planners to attain the AICP credential because emerging planners will carry forward planning knowledge and ideals
• Attract bright, new professionals to planning and encourage them to become certified
• Continue to work toward achieving diversity in planning and among planners by working with accredited universities and employers to promote the profession
• Highlight the importance of the Code of Ethics and the standards that AICP planners are required to meet

Provide planners with the tools they need to be their best and further their knowledge, careers, and contributions.
• Continue to examine the skills planners need at various career stages (Core Competencies) and evaluate ways of measurement
• Ensure that CM offerings provide the type, quality, and educational level of information needed (Consider a CM ranking system based on skill levels such as intermediate and advanced)
• Continue to provide low cost CM credit so that those who are AICP can maintain it with little to no expenditure

Utilize the research and collaborative opportunities afforded by working with colleges and universities.
• Capitalize on the synergy created by researchers and practitioners working together and use outcomes to create educational opportunities
• Seek ways to demonstrate the value of AICP to academic planners to encourage attainment of the credential
• Encourage upcoming or recent graduates to participate in the recently approved AICP Candidate Program

APA members are poised to demonstrate the value of planning and make a difference. So much of what APA has done over the past several years has positioned us for this moment. Working to uphold and enhance the AICP credential is a definitive way to achieve this goal. I welcome the opportunity to do my part to move the planning needle forward.

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APA EXPERIENCE
• AICP Commissioner Region V (2014–present)
• Chair/Co-Chair, AICP Exam Committee
• Member, AICP Exam Refresh Committee
• Member, AICP Advanced Specialty Certification for Environmental Planning Committee
• FAICP, 2016
• Member, Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division
• Recipient, 2005 Barbara Grace Award, APA Washington Chapter

COMMUNITY AND PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT
• Member, University of Washington Professionals Council
• Member, Puget Sound Regional Council Regional Staff Committee
• Chair, Citizens Advisory Committee, Seattle Children’s Hospital
• Board Member, King County Employee Giving Program Committee
• Board Member, View Ridge Swim and Tennis Club
• Chair, Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board
• Board Member, Bicycle Alliance of Washington

EDUCATION
• Masters of Urban Planning, University of Washington
• Bachelor of Arts in Economics, University of Washington

POSITION STATEMENT
I have been honored to serve as the AICP Commissioner from Region V this past term. Nearly four years ago, I stated my “desire to grow the profession seamlessly from education to employment.” Since then, the AICP Commission has done much to advance this concept with the new AICP Candidate designation, pro-bono hours counting for CM credits, and an updated AICP Certification Exam. I have traveled throughout Region V during my term to meet with AICP members at state chapter conferences.

As a returning member of the AICP Commission, I will continue supporting planners at all levels of their career:
• Overseeing AICP Candidate: continuing implementation of the AICP Candidate program so it becomes the success we all envision by engaging young planners early in their career.
• Updating the AICP Certification Exam: the Exam is more relevant to what planners do today and the knowledge needed to do the job. As the Chair of the Exam Committee, I want to ensure the exam continuously tracks the planning field and emerging issues.
• Improving Education: linking our education offerings to better align with information planners need today. Tailor education through all aspects of APA offerings including tying the Certification Maintenance program and research agenda to the AICP Core Competencies.
• Increasing Value: working with the APA Board, the AICP Commission will work even harder to make APA the “go-to” place for planners, the community, and employers. APA is now offering Planner Advisory Service Reports as a membership benefit. To broaden the reach of APA, all students in any degree program can join APA for free.
• Mentoring: continuing to promote mentorship to engage our members at all stages of their career through sessions at the National Planning Conference and at local chapter conferences. As a member of the UW Professional Council, I advocate for mentoring as a key benefit for graduate students.
• Engaging Members: reaching out to Division and Chapter members to serve on advisory committees and task forces. Planners active in our Divisions and Chapters are the best resource for providing advice to the Commission.

I sincerely enjoy serving as your representative on the AICP Commission. I hope you’ll give me the opportunity to continue advancing the planning profession on your behalf.
FOR AICP COMMISSIONER, REGION VI

MARISSA K. AHO, AICP
BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
• Chief Resilience Officer, Office of Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti
• Senior Associate, PlaceWorks, Los Angeles
• Senior Associate, Rosenheim & Associates, Los Angeles

APA/AICP EXPERIENCE
• AICP Commissioner, Region VI
• AICP Membership Standards Committee Chair/Co-Chair
• APA Membership Committee
• PA Academic Membership Task Force/Student and Young Planner Task Force Co-Chair, APA National Conference, Los Angeles 2012
• Board Member and Executive Committee Member, APA California Chapter
• APA Los Angeles Section Director
• Vice Director of Professional Development/Membership, APA Los Angeles Section

EDUCATION
• Masters of Planning, University of Southern California
• Bachelor of Arts, CLEG (Communications, Legal Institutions, Economics, Government) and Political Science, American University

POSITION STATEMENT
It has been an honor and privilege to serve as AICP Commissioner, Region VI. I am proud of the course that has been set by the AICP Commission over the past few years, and the milestones that have been reached. However, there is much more to do. I am seeking your support to continue the momentum and serve a final term as AICP Commissioner, Region VI.

Three years ago, I told you the story of how I did everything I could to sit for the AICP exam the minute I was eligible. The time between completing my graduate planning degree and earning my two years of experience seemed like a waiting-game. I am proud that the AICP Commission will be launching the AICP Candidate Pilot Program this fall. Through the candidate program students and graduates of PA accredited planning programs will have the opportunity to be engaged and demonstrate their commitment to the profession earlier. Through the pilot program, candidates will be eligible to sit for the AICP exam early, access enhance mentoring opportunities, begin earning CM credits and commit to the AICP Code of Ethics -- while they are completing their required years of experience to be AICP.

Widening the Path
The AICP Commission is committed to widening the path to AICP certification, while keeping our high standards. We need AICP planners who represent the communities they are planning with, which means increasing the diversity of AICP planners based on socioeconomic background, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and disability. We need AICP planners that are academics, community organizers, housing advocates, policy-makers, and technologists. By widening the path, we will prepare for the future of planning.

Change-agents
Communities are changing, planners are changing, so the future of planning is changing. AICP members need to have the skills and resolve to be at the forefront of that change and to lead that change. That also means being change-agents in our own organization. Preparing the next generation of planners to lead, using emerging technology, combating climate change, creating more resilient communities, and being prepared for the unexpected.

Ethics for Today
The AICP Code of Ethics is what distinguishes the planning profession and keeps our standards high. We have an opportunity to further support and strengthen the Code to ensure that it has maximum utility for today's challenges.

Catherine Yu Lin, AICP
BIOGRAPHICAL/POSITION STATEMENT

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE
Senior Planner at the City of Pomona, California Associate Planner at the City of Fontana, California Assistant Planner at the City of Yorba Linda, California

EDUCATION
Bachelor of Environmental Analysis and Design from UC Irvine

APA INVOLVEMENT
APA Los Angeles Awards Committee (2017)
California Legislative Review Team (2016 – Present)
California State Conference Speaker (2014)
California State Conference Program Committee (2006)
Los Angeles Section Board Member (2003-2004)
Student Representative, Los Angeles Section (2003-2004)

POSITION STATEMENT
APA and I go way back. When I was in college, an APA event held on my college campus was how I discovered my career path. While pursuing a Master degree in Urban Planning at UCLA, I was elected as the APA student representative and served on the Los Angeles Section APA board at that time. After obtaining my master degree in Urban Planning and becoming a full-time planner, I immediately joined the APA. A few years later, my AICP certification followed. APA is the guiding beacon of our profession and in my 15 years in the field, APA and its professional development function through AICP played a vital role in keeping me fresh on new ideas, strong in motivation, and deep in knowledge. Moreover, its guiding principles on ethics and integrity are what I identify with strongly. I am now at a place in my career where I am ready to give back to the organization that has nurtured me in a more significant way. If elected as your AICP Commissioner, in addition to the essential duties that come with the position, I will devote my time to the following:

• Take the lead to ensure that CM courses are relevant for planners in all career stages. As APA continues to grow, its professional development function through AICP shall offer value to planners in all levels of experience. Although I represent the majority of APA membership -- planners who still have many years to go in their careers, if elected, I will take the lead to ensure that the CM courses also fulfill the needs of very seasoned planners who are near retirement as well as emerging professionals, so that APA could retain membership of retiring planners and benefit from the deep wealth of knowledge they embed, while deepening its root with younger members.

• Enrich the CM maintenance experience for members by promoting courses in emerging trends and topics less explored. It is an exciting changing world that we are planning. As a planner and an artist, I will actively work with local divisions, chapters, as well as cross-sector organizations and interest groups to enrich AICP certificate maintenance with courses in emerging trends such as art in public places, driverless vehicles and their implications on land use, as well as topics that are less explored but are important to practicing planners such as staff report writing skills.

• Promote CM courses in underserved geographic areas. A key factor in maintaining AICP status is the availability of CM courses within reach from a planner. Modern-day Webinars certainly help to broaden the accessibility of CM credit courses; however, the value of in-person courses can’t be replaced. Since APA covers a vast range of geographical areas, unavoidably, there are areas more underserved than others. If elected, I will work on advocating for more in-person CM courses to reach underserved areas by working with local chapters, divisions, as well as course providers to improve accessibility of in-person CM courses in underserved areas while keeping the high standards of AICP certificate maintenance.

Thank you.