THE JAYHAWK PLANNER
DEPARTMENT OF URBAN PLANNING
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN & PLANNING SUMMER 2013

Congratulations, KU Department of Urban Planning Class of 2013!

TOP ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Ben Hyde, Collin Edwards (American Institute for Certified Planners Award recipient), Jon Moore, Whitney Morgan, Wade Sanner
BOTTOM ROW, LEFT TO RIGHT: Meghan Skornia, Kirk Raymond, James Scudder, Jon Hartner (Phi Kappa Phi, Service to the Program Award recipient and School banner carrier), Xuan Zhang

NOT PICTURED: Rachel Teel, Graduate Chris Wichman, December 2012 (Phi Kappa Phi). Chris is now a transportation planner for the Hampton Roads Transportation Planning Organization in Norfolk, Va.

A View From The Chair

As I compose my first-ever letter to you from the chair's perch, I'm keenly aware that this is a year of tremendous transition for our program.

I want to thank Jim Mayo for his leadership. His 40 years of dedication to urban planning education will have a lasting impact here in our department. We wish him a happy retirement.

We also bid farewell to Daniel Serda, who is leaving to work on a book and pursue other professional opportunities. We are grateful for his many years of teaching and contributions to the department.

Amidst these changes, there is good news to report. We welcome Ward Lyles, our newest faculty member. He comes from the University of North Carolina, where he earned his Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning last year.

Ward is an environmental planning expert with special interests in hazards planning, and will be teaching several courses.

Our students are active and engaged, our graduates are excelling in their careers, and our faculty continue to be very productive scholars who care deeply for their students' professional and personal successes.

In this edition of the Jayhawk Planner we've added a new section for alumni news. We hope you'll enjoy reading about what your fellow alumni are doing, and encourage you to send in your news items. We love hearing from you!

—Stacey S. White, Chair
Ward Lyles joins the faculty as its new environmental planning professor in the fall semester. Most recently he has been a post-doctoral research associate at the Center for Sustainable Community Design at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Institute for the Environment.

Ward describes his research and teaching interests as being at “the intersection of people, the built environment, and the natural environment.”

He explains, “Because reducing long-term risks for hazards is typically the realm of emergency managers who are often not experts in land use planning, I focused on if and how local planners with such expertise could be involved in mitigation planning networks.” It would seem logical that city planners would be involved with emergency management planning but it is not the norm.

His dissertation, “Stakeholder Network Influences on Local-Level Hazard Mitigation Planning Outputs” shows that when planners are involved, more land use planning tools are utilized to keep communities safe.

Ward will strengthen the department’s emphasis on sustainability as his work on climate adaptation and planning for resilient communities will contribute to KU’s Strategic Initiative, “Sustaining the Plant, Powering the World.”

His research will also enhance efforts by Stacey White who is also Director of Academic Programs for KU’s Center for Sustainability. He will expand the department’s reach into hazard mitigation, complementing associate professor Dunning’s expertise in transportation planning and engineering for natural and human disasters.

Before pursuing academia, Ward was a practicing planner for the non-profit organization 1000 Friends of Wisconsin doing land use, transportation, and environmental planning.

He earned his doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill from the Department of City and Regional Planning in August of 2012. He graduated from University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Masters in Land Resources having written a thesis on state regulation of billboards.

Remember to ask him about gathering data off an icebreaking research ship sailing Antarctic waters. This occurred when he was working on his bachelor’s of science in geology from Middlebury College.

Ward, his wife Meg and three sons are excited to be moving to Lawrence!

Busy Year for Professor McClure

In the Spring Professor McClure joined Professor Greg Thomas of the Design Department as a recipient of the SADP’s first-ever Research Impact Awards.

He wrote 5 entries for The Encyclopedia of Housing published by Sage. They were Low-Income Housing Tax Credits in the U.S.; Mortgage Revenue Bonds; Mortgage Credit Certificates; Housing Finance Agencies; and Tax Incentives.

Kirk also received an Honorable Mention from the Housing Policy Debate Competition for the Best Paper in Housing, for “Housing Choice Voucher Location Patterns a Decade Later.”

Thank you, Shadowees

Every year students in the UBPL 815: History and Theory of Planning class shadow practicing planners to see what the profession is really like.

Last fall our “Shadowees” were:
- The Kansas City, Mo., Planning Department
- Jeff Severin, Director, KU Center for Sustainability
- Johnson County Planning Department
- Scott Schulte, Vireo, Kansas City, Mo.
- Lisa Koch, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Lenexa
- Mell Henderson, MARC
- Rob Schwarz, RSP & Associates, Overland Park
- City of Ottawa Planning & Codes Administration
- Eileen Horn, Lawrence/ Douglas County Sustainability Planning
- Scott Knebe, Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Planning Department

Thank you! This invaluable experience wouldn’t happen without your support.
Collaborations Yield Exceptional Class Projects

Mid-America Regional Council

This November the SADP completes its third and final year in partnership with the Mid-America Regional Council's Creating Sustainable Places initiative. The project has emphasized creating vibrant activity centers along strategic transportation corridors; exploring ways to offer multiple travel options; reinvesting in existing communities, and conserving of natural systems. The Urban Planning department completed two important related corridor projects this spring:

- The Growing Green Infrastructure in an Urban(izing) Environment plan by the UBPL 773: Environmental Planning Implementation class analyzed potential green infrastructure techniques in the Shawnee Mission-Metcalf corridors in Johnson County, Kansas. Examined were opportunities for green roofs, permeable pavement, street trees, conservation space, bio-retention and infiltration, and water harvesting. The class, taught by Stacey White, included Collin Edwards, Luke Pitts, Kirk Raymond, Derik Sams, and Rachel Teel.

Kansas Department of Transportation

Douglas County Office of Sustainability

This spring work for KDOT and the Douglas County Office of Sustainability was taken on by the UBPL 757 Transportation Planning Implementation class taught by Marcy Smalley. It included project managers Jon Moore and Jay Decker, and team members Sha Li, Ling Ling Li, and Yue Li. KDOT asked our students to identify and develop plans for 19 park and ride lot sites on the Kansas side of the Kansas City metro area. Students developed site selection criteria, created facility prototypes, and cost estimates. A project for the Lawrence, Douglas County Office of Sustainability developed an Access to Healthy Food plan. Students developed an inventory of best practices for the public, private and non-profit sectors and analyzed the geographic and temporal quality of service for both transportation and food resources.

Cross-Lines

Students in the Fall 2012 UBPL 730: Introduction to Land Use Planning class created land use plans for the Kansas City non-profit, Cross-Lines. It provides a wide range of services to people affected by poverty, from rent and utility assistance to hunger relief. Students created plans for how best to use their “campus”: office space, a thrift store, food pantry, community garden, warehouse, and a kitchen serving meals to those in need. This class had three engineers who were very helpful in figuring out truck access to the campus.

Class Reimagines Spencer Terrace

You’ve never heard of Spencer Terrace? That’s precisely the point! On a crowded campus this little known space, also called “Spencer Plaza”, is that underutilized area between Strong Hall and Spencer Research Library. It also doubles as the roof of Spencer’s parking structure.

Students in the UBPL 735: Site Planning class taught by Bonnie Johnson took on the challenge of reimagining this windswept space in various ways. Some of the alternatives they explored transformed it into a “green roof” garden, a concert venue, a quiet contemplative garden, and KU’s answer to New York City’s Highline, which is a former elevated rail line that has been turned into a public park.

The students presented their designs on May 3rd in Marvin’s Jury Room.
Jim Mayo: Looking Back and Toward the Future
Interview by Stacey White

Jim Mayo retired at the end of the spring semester after dedicating 40 years of service to urban planning education. Stacey White sat down to collect the thoughts of a man who has been an inspiration and mentor to hundreds.

SSW: How did you decide to study urban planning?

JM: Very indirectly. I loved architecture, and really wanted to be out working after finishing my bachelor’s degree, rather than more school. But, the Vietnam War was on the horizon. I applied to Texas A&M after talking with the dean there, and chose planning over architecture to broaden my horizons. In the last semester of my master’s degree, I had an urban fellow position with the State Planning Bureau in Atlanta.

I was number 156 on a waiting list to join the Army Reserves, but was called and asked to join in only two to three weeks.

I was assigned to Fort Ord in Monterrey, California for basic training. After walking the 17-Mile Drive between Monterrey and Carmel, trying to decide what I wanted to do with my life, I realized I wanted to be a college professor. After finishing active duty, I looked at a number of different schools for my Ph.D.

There were few Ph.D. programs in Planning then. In thinking about advice from Barclay Jones (former chair of Urban Planning at Cornell) to “go to a place where the people are like you want to be,” and my aunt, who said that "social relevance is key," I chose to do my Ph.D. in Sociology at Oklahoma State.

I chose OSU because I wanted to be closer to family, and to work with Professor Larry Perkins. He is the reason I became successful. During my first semester, the City of Stillwater hired me to do planning work. The city manager wanted me to be their full-time planning director, but I declined because I wanted to continue with my Ph.D.

SSW: How did you come to KU? What was it like here when you started?

JM: After my Ph.D., I was offered two academic positions, one of which was the job at KU. The chair of the other school’s department told me “you’ll teach this and this and this,” but Charlie Kahn, the dean at KU, asked what I wanted to teach. He also wanted to start an urban planning program here. Tom Galloway was our first chair. He really demanded quality from his faculty and set a strong precedent for us with our publishing. I also started off teaching six courses a year, including two design studios!

Marvin Hall was a pretty depress building back then. It wasn’t air conditioned, and we complained about that to then-Chancellor Archie Dykes. When Marvin was renovated in the early 1980s, we worked out of a temporary building behind Blake Hall.

SSW: As you look back, what are some of your favorite memories of KU and the Urban Planning Program?

JM: Overall, KU has been a great place for me. I was really aware of how lucky I was to be a university professor after being promoted and tenured in 1987. I knew then that I could focus on becoming a scholar and improving as a teacher. I was able to develop in most any direction I wanted.

Among the highlights I’ll remember is my interview with Albert Speer. I’ve had the freedom to work on three related areas of my research: planner behavior,
politics and design, and landscape.

My first book, on war memorials, involved 27,000 miles of traveling to photograph these memorials and their inscriptions. I sent that book to eight publishers before it was accepted. That acceptance and my first APA journal article are among my happiest days.

I have also always really enjoyed the UBPL 662 class (Twentieth Century American Landscape) that I developed in 1987. I have an architect’s sensibility, but have always loved the teenage American strip, as one of the things people cherish as part of their lives. It’s a “smile course,” that resonates with students.

Much of my recent work has been collaborative. If I could change anything about my career, I would have done more work with others. I think the real role of a scholar is the exchange of ideas.

**SSW:** What do you see as your biggest accomplishments? Are there things for which you would like to be remembered?

**JM:** I am most proud of our student lab and the change of our School’s name to include “Planning.” The new lab meant we were finally on equal footing with respect to our facilities. Getting the Urban Planning Alumni and Friends scholarship established was also very important. This said, I also feel that I am leaving the Department in good hands, and that the faculty will succeed in continuing to improve it.

**SSW:** What last advice to you have for our past, present and future students?

**JM:** Preparation meets opportunity. Have patience, and learn to be patient, but always be prepared. Also, always try to learn something beyond your profession. Broaden your horizons. Visiting other places creates empathy, and good planners must have empathy and patience.

**SSW:** What are your retirement plans?

**JM:** I am returning to my regional roots, and moving to Albuquerque. After 50 years in American universities I need to reinvent myself. I need a new environment to think in new ways.

And, there’s a lot to learn out there. I may finish my manuscript on the American commercial strip. I want to take a course on Navajo history, and might study Spanish language, too.

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**Spotlight on Faculty Publications**

*Department of Urban Planning faculty remained prolific as always in 2012-13. Here is a list of recently published work.*


TV, Boon or Bane? Interactive Democracy and a Televised Town Meeting by Bonnie J. Johnson (2012) *Planning Theory & Practice.*

Alumni Notes is a new addition to the Jayhawk Planner. Send your notes to Bonnie Johnson, bojojohn@ku.edu

2010s Whitney Morgan ’12 and Antionette Starr II were married on June 1, 2013 after walking down The Hill to celebrate their respective graduations from KU. Whitney is a transportation planner at MARC.

“Estimating Dynamic Origin-Destination Data and Travel Demand Using Cell Phone Network Data,” an article Nate Vander Broek ’12 worked on with Engineering professors has been published in the International Journal of Intelligent Transportation Systems Research.

Melissa Vancrum ’11 is now an associate at Hanson Bridgett in San Francisco, practicing land use and environmental law.

2000s Susan Gelvin ’09 recently moved back to Kansas after spending the last two years working on long-range planning in Southern New Mexico. She is now a long-range planner with the City of Topeka and engaged to be married.

Tom Worker-Braddock ’08 is celebrating his fifth year at Olsson Associates as a transportation and transit planner. His recent projects include a commuter transit study along I-70 between Topeka and Kansas City, and a statewide rural transit coordination effort for KDOT. He lives in Lawrence with his wife and 2-year old daughter.

Eric Anderson ’08 is now a regional planner for the Emergency Preparedness Program at the Northeast Florida Regional Council. He is the Local Emergency Planning Committee staff person for seven counties.

Lisa Pool ’03 recently relocated and is now a senior planner with the City of Bellingham, Wa.

1990s Dave Shirk ’96 is senior planner for Estes Park and the surrounding Estes Valley in Colorado. He serves on the Professional Development Committee for Colorado APA, and is a member of the Northern Colorado Elk Management Team, providing guidance and expertise regarding elk-human land-use conflicts.

Daniel Janousek ’95 is a transportation planner in Prince George’s County, Md., where he works on bicycle and pedestrian planning and coordination, as well as capital improvement project coordination with the State and County Public Works and Transportation, including light rail, bus rapid transit, and strategic transportation planning.

Thomas Dow ’91 recently became transportation manager for the City of Olathe after 19 years with the State of Kansas. He is responsible for transportation planning, traffic engineering, and traffic operations.

1980s Carol Ketcherside ’83 is director of administration and organizational development for Valley Metro, the regional transit agency in Phoenix.
Conference Presentations Around the U.S. and the World

In April Kirk McClure presented his paper, “The Impact of Race and Ethnicity on Entry to High-Opportunity Neighborhoods Among Housing Choice Voucher Recipients” at the Urban Affairs Conference in San Francisco.

Last fall several faculty members presented papers at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning annual meeting in Cincinnati:

- Anne Dunning and urban planning student Lingling Li presented their paper, “Meeting China’s Intercity Travel Demand: Substantial Mismatch between Year-Round and Special-Event Capacity Requirements.”
- Stacey White presented, “Farmers and Rural Communities in Kansas: Unplanned Obsolescence?”
- Kirk McClure and colleagues from HUD and The New School presented “Housing Choice Voucher Location Patterns a Decade Later.”

Bonnie Johnson and assistant professor Germaine Halegoua from KU’s Department of Film and Media Studies presented research on how neighborhood organizations use social media at a conference in Delft, The Netherlands, and at the Symposium on Urban Informatics in Philadelphia.

About KU’s Department of Urban Planning

Our graduates believe in the power of planning to help communities’ envision and chart their futures. Good urban planning creates communities that offer better choices for living. Planners help people make their communities more sustainable, healthful, fair, attractive, and relevant. KU’s Master of Urban Planning program is accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board. Strong emphasis is placed on policy planning and analysis of urban and urbanizing environments. Students take foundation courses in history, theory, and analytical methods to hone critical thinking skills. They also specialize in a planning area of their choice: environmental planning, housing and community development, land use and urban design, or transportation planning.

Meyer Lectures on Evolving Transportation Planning

Michael Meyer, a Georgia Institute of Technology professor emeritus, and Massachusetts’s former director of transportation planning and development visited KU in the fall of 2012. He presented a Brown Bag lecture on “The Evolving State of Transportation Planning.” He also spoke with transportation students on the future of federal funding and where transportation was headed in the future. Anne Dunning arranged for Meyer’s visit. Meyer and Eric Miller wrote one of the major textbooks on transportation planning, Urban Transportation Planning: A Decision-Oriented Approach.

Far Above

You can keep up with what’s going on in the Department of Urban Planning by following our Facebook page. Or, join the School of Architecture, Planning, and Design LinkedIn Alumni Group. We’re also on Twitter @ku_sadp.

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