



Division Elections are Coming Soon!

Officer Elections are held for the APA Urban Design & Preservation Division every other year and the next election is just days away. This article is a primer on what we're voting for, how we got to this point, and when and how to vote.

From February 1st through 10th, members will have the opportunity to select the next Chair-Elect and Treasurer/Secretary. The Chair-Elect serves a term of two years prior to leading the Division as Chair. The outgoing Chair also serves a two-year term as Immediate Past Chair. The same election also decides the Secretary/Treasurer; however this position is a two-year term only with no requirements before or after the term. This system ensures continuity and builds leadership capacity for each person serving as Division Chair.

To get ready for this election, the Division's Nominating Committee prepared a nomination and election schedule, called for nominees, reviewed qualifications and eventually recommended a slate of candidates to the Division's Executive Committee. The Committee is pleased that five great candidates stepped forward for these two leadership positions - three members running for Chair-Elect and two members running for Secretary/Treasurer. Following is a list of the candidates.

Chair-Elect Candidates

- Harmit Bedi, AICP
- Eric Galipo, AICP, LEED AP BD+C
- Wendy L. Tinsley Becker, RPH, AICP

Secretary/Treasurer Candidates

- Courtney Levingston, LEED AP + Neighborhood Development
- Gordon Scholz, AICP, AIA

To meet the candidates – at least virtually – read their statements in this Special Election Edition of the UDP Newsletter or visit their links in the online ballot coming February 1st.

We wish all candidates the best. We also want to thank the candidates who have stepped up for Division leadership and encourage members to return the favor by VOTING between February 1 and February 10 via online ballot. Watch for an email on February 1st for a link to the online ballot! ***Please Vote February 1st through 10th!***

If you have any questions about the positions or the process, contact Nominating Committee Co-Chair John Maximuk at jmaximuk@livablecommunitiescoalition.org or Co-Chair Bill Mackey at wmackey@howardcountymd.gov.

- Urban Design & Preservation Division 2011-2012 Nominating Committee
Bill Mackey, Co-Chair
John Maximuk, Co-Chair
Tridib Banerjee
Jim Segedy

UDP Election

Editor's Note: The UDP Nomination Committee required all candidates to respond to the following questions within an established word limit. Each response is unedited and is listed as it was provided by the candidate to the Nominating Committee. Question I: Bulleted Bio (up to 200 words); Question II: What is your approach toward the position that you are seeking in this Division including comment on membership development, programs, and future initiatives? (up to 250 words); and Question III: What is your point of view on status and future direction of urban design and/or preservation within the field of planning? (up to 300 words). There are three Chair-Elect candidates and two Secretary/Treasurer Candidates. Please review all five candidate statements before voting!

Chair-Elect Candidate Statements

2012 **Harmit Bedi, AICP** Chair-Elect Candidate 1 of 3

I. Qualifications

- Member APA since 1975
- Member American Institute of Certified Planners
- Member Urban Design & Preservation Division
- Member Georgia Chapter since 1996
- Attended APA National Conferences
- Attended APA Georgia Chapter Conferences
- Member American Society of Landscape Architects
- Article "Savannah Takes the LEED" Planning, November 2006, APA
- Article "Global Impact on Planning, Preservation, and Design in Modern India" UD&P, Autumn 2009

Work experience

- Managed Planning and Development Department for the city of Savannah, Duluth, Woodstock, Sandy Springs, Sugar Hill, Snellville, Bryan County and Chatham County, Georgia.
- Prepared Town Center Plans for City of Duluth, Woodstock, Pembroke, Savannah, Sugar Hill and Snellville.
- Assistant Professor (Adjunct):
- Georgia Southern University, Kennesaw State University, Member Academic Review Committee, and GGC, Lawrenceville, Georgia.
- Presented paper on the topic "Retrofitting Urban Design in Modern Urban India" at School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), Hyderabad, SPA Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, SPA, Bhopal, SPA, Nagpur, Center for Environmental Planning and Technology University, Ahmadabad, and College of Architecture, Baddhal Institute, Ropar, and LBSNAA, Mussoorie, India, November 2010.

Education

- Management Development Program
- Masters Public and International Affairs
- Masters City and Regional Planning

II. Approach

The UD&P Division have made tremendous progress over the last few years. It is that progress and the potentials for our Division to maintain and continue to enhance its programs, services, capabilities, and interests to members that motivate me as candidate. If I am fortunate to serve as UDP Division Chairman, as a team player, I will work with the leadership and members for Division Services to maintain and further enhance the value you receive as a member of UDP. I expect to work to:

- Maintain and promote transparency of the operation of the Division;
- Maintain and promote creative programming of the Division;
- Continue to support and improve communication and interaction with the UDP members, other divisions and allied professions;
- Continue enhancing collaboration with related organizations on events, projects, and initiatives;
- Promote organizing and hosting additional events in the Division's Design Forum Series;
- Maintain fiscal responsibility as the Division expands;
- Promote urban design and preservation in academics at national and international level;
- Recognize and promote UDP Division and its services with national and international membership through recognition, participation, and exchange programs;
- Continue and enhance communication and interaction with the APA Division Council and APA;
- Update the UDP Division's Work Program by inviting fresh and innovative ideas from the membership; and
- Take the UDP to the next level by promoting professional contributions by its membership.

III. Point of View

Walkable communities, smart growth, sustainable communities, new urbanism, life-style communities and similar concepts are metamorphosed into reality through urban design. People can touch, feel, experience, participate, adopt, and smell once urban designers give a physical shape. Present day examples from Singapore, Curitiba, Brasilia, Brazil, Portland, Oregon, Chandigarh, India, Abuja, Nigeria, and Putrajay, Malaysia, are few of present urban design exercises. These cities and projects have impacted day to day lives of the residents. These cities have become catalyst for planners, urban designers, and other related professionals to learn from these experiences in return assist in making other communities more livable and harmonious. The future of urban design, undoubtedly, is very bright and extraordinary challenging. Imagine the non traditional location of cities of future, dimensional change of development, building use beyond human occupancy only, cultural and social change and technological advancement;

solar or hydrogen powered automobiles, human settlements beyond earth. These changes, not far distant, challenge urban designers to start thinking of future now.

The preservation is an interesting profession. One, it is about preserving the selective past; second, about creating today's world for future preservation; and third, continuous justification of preservation of past, present, and future. With the fast urbanization, the need of accommodating millions of people in urban areas with limited land and other resources, the desire to preserve past is more eminent and crucial than ever. The new ekistics challenges to balance new development and preserving past. This requires more and better understanding of the past and how to preserve it for the coming generations. Also, once "preserved" it is beyond political boundaries. It becomes global.

Now, the world with seven billion people and counting becoming more urbanized than ever challenge planning professionals to be more amenable of ekistics creating harmony and better quality of life for humans.

2012 **Eric Galipo, AICP LEED AP BD+C** Chair-Elect Candidate 2 of 3

I. Qualifications

- American Institute of Certified Planners
- Institute for Urban Design, Fellow
- LEED Accredited
- APA, Member
- APA - NY Metro Chapter, Member

Work Experience

- Louis Berger Group (2006) Planner I
- NYC Department of City Planning - Brooklyn Borough Office (2006-2007) Urban Planner II
- H3 Hardy Collaboration Architecture, LLC (Oct 2007-Present) Urban Designer/Urban Planner
- NYU - Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service (2008-2011) Assistant Adjunct Professor

Education

- North Carolina State University
- B.S. Biochemistry (1999)
- B.A. Chemistry (1999)
- NYU - Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
- Master of Urban Planning (2006)

II. Approach

The variety of roles that planners occupy in government, private, non-profits and educational institutions is fundamental to the richness of the profession and vexing for generalizing how a national professional organization can best serve such a diverse constituency.

My experience working in private, public and academic settings has given me a well rounded understanding of the needs of planners in a variety of roles. My vision for the UDP division is two-fold. First, I would work with division members to provide the highest quality educational and training opportunities for planners working in urban design and preservation. Second, I would work to represent the diversity of the divisions constituents in the ongoing national debate about the role of urban planning in the fields of preservation and design.

The development of our membership base is crucial to both of these goals. I would propose the designation of regional or functional membership coordinators so that the initiatives of the national division represent the diverse needs of our members across regions, employment sectors and functional roles. I would also work to continue the development of a comprehensive palette of professional resources that keep division members aware of the latest trends and movements within the field. Additionally, I would work to establish the division as the premier voice that sets the agenda for the profession with respect to design and preservation through position papers, networking opportunities, and a curatorial effort to attract the highest quality presenters for national and regional conferences.

III. Point of View

Both urban design and preservation concern themselves with the maintenance and improvement of the physical realm. In ways, the presence of planners in both disciplines is a precursor to the development of effective policy initiatives that affect the built environment. It seems that too often, that the role of urban designer or historic preservationist is assigned to architects who may understand the intricacy of construction and renovation but do not consider how urban design and preservation establish patterns of development that affect the ways we live for decades -- or longer. A stance that includes only architecture and does not consider community engagement, effective policy, context and environment does not appropriately represent the strength and diversity that planners can bring to the table.

Over the past decades we have seen that the most creative and successful solutions to planning, design and preservation issues are tailor made to situations rather than the result of broadly applied tenets that result in one-size-fits-all solutions. As planning has headed in this direction, the skills of planners to gather and synthesize information that establish effective frameworks for development and policy have become crucial to the success of urban design and preservation initiatives regardless of scale or density. Thus, planning as a profession has the op-

Call for Submissions

The Division is seeking informative, enlightening, and original content for future newsletter editions. Articles should be timely and appropriate to urban design and historic preservation planning. Please contact Wendy L. Tinsley Becker, AICP, at wendy@urbanapreservation.com for additional information or to submit newsletter contents.

portunity to establish itself as an essential pre-cursor to the development of policy and the execution of physical construction. Ultimately, a robust debate about the role of planners in urban design and preservation is essential to developing better ways of interacting with our built environment that are rooted in shared values, respect for ecology and understand of the effectiveness of the policy initiatives we chose to employ.

2012 Wendy L. Tinsley Becker, RPH, AICP Chair-Elect Candidate 3 of 3

I. Qualifications

I bring an expert background in history, architectural history and urban planning, with a particular emphasis on issues relating to historic preservation. I hold Bachelor of History and Master of City Planning degrees, and am a Registered Professional Historian (RPH) and a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). I meet *The Secretary of the Interior's Historic Preservation Professional Qualifications Standards* in the disciplines of History and Architectural History and the draft standards in Historic Preservation and Land Use/Community Planning. I am the Founding Principal of Urbana Preservation & Planning, LLC, a boutique consulting firm offering specialized urban planning, historic preservation, history, and architectural history services.

I am an Instructor in the UCSD Urban Planning & Development professional program. I founded the Jack London District Association and the Built Environment Education Program (BEEP) San Diego. I am a Board Member of the San Diego Architectural Foundation. I have maintained continuous APA and UDP membership since 2002, having served in the following capacity.

- California Northern Section Regional Advisory Council San Francisco / East Bay Chair
- UDP State (CA) Representative
- UDP Nominating Committee Member
- UDP Vice Chair (Communications / Outreach & Education) + Newsletter Editor

II. Approach

In addition to bringing the Division into compliance with its bylaws by producing a quarterly newsletter publication, conducting regular communications to the membership, and participating in administrative discussions and decision-making with the Executive Committee, my current work for the Division includes the following tasks which I propose to continue in the position of Chair-Elect.

- Formation of an Outreach and Education Team to implement the Division Work Plan through the improvement of member benefits, educational content, and professional development opportunities.
- Development of partnerships with allied organizations to widen the reach, professional network, and opportunities for UDP members.
- Planning for the 2012 UDP Reception at the National APA Conference.
- Produce opinions and discussion on comprehensive planning topics initiated by the APA Divisions Council from a preservation and urban design perspective.
- Compilation of a member-contributed 'Best Practice' publication and resource library for the UDP website.

The Division's success is based on the vitality, expertise, inclusiveness, and participation of its membership and the Executive Committee. I strive to continue the existing place-based initiatives that invite member participation, and the efforts of the current Executive Committee to develop tangible and direct member benefits.

III. Point of View

Preservation Planning is an evolving multi-disciplinary paradigm that, in the first decades of the 21st Century, is facing a change in definition and direction to account for not only iconic monuments of the past, but also properties and places that represent and embody the people's history. Historic preservation efforts are transitioning from a focus on individual eligibility to that of neighborhoods which reflect a greater combined character, theme, and expression of place. In the future many older properties and communities will be found 'not significant' due to lack of technical integrity but will still retain character and sense of place that will reflect and inform urban design models, strategies, and planning techniques.

We are situated at a time where preservation planning policies may guide, but not regulate, retention and creation of place to serve as connective fabric in the existing urban landscape and between greenfields developed in the New Urbanist tradition. Comprehensive urban planners can utilize their skill sets to effectuate change in older cities and communities by retaining those unique qualities and features that contribute to an idea of place, but provide enhancements through sensitive and intelligent policies and improved urban and architectural design. These same methods will inform and produce new projects and communities that are cohesive, sustainable, aesthetically inviting, and relatable to our collective audience – the public.

The APA Urban Design & Preservation Division is uniquely situated to serve as a leader in this time of transition by producing guidance to practitioners and working with allied professionals and organizations to build consensus on the importance of preserving place and employing healthy urban design strategies. As Chair-Elect, I would work to bring the Urban Design & Preservation Division, and its membership, to the forefront as a recognized leader and supporter of historic preservation planning and urban design.

Secretary/Treasurer Candidate Statements

2012 Courtney Levingston, LEED AP+Neighborhood Development Sec/Tres Candidate 1 of 2

I. Qualifications

- Professional planning experience as a City Planner for the City of Fort Collins, Colorado (current position).
- Works on a diverse range of planning topics with the City of Fort Collins, from historic preservation to Land Use Code creation.
- With the City of Fort Collins, she was recently recognized as an emerging organizational leader and was selected to participate in the first-ever multi-jurisdictional Northern Colorado leadership program.
- Member of APA's Planning and Women division. Previous involvement in the University of Colorado Denver's student APA as well as APA Colorado Chapter involvement.
- Undergraduate degree from Michigan State University in Political Science and a Master's degree from the University of Colorado Denver in Urban and Regional Planning.
- One of only 271 individuals in the nation to achieve the new LEED AP Neighborhood Development professional credential. LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED ND) is a U.S. Green Building Council Rating System that integrates the principles of smart growth, urbanism and green building into the first national system for neighborhood design.

II. Approach

If elected as Urban Design & Preservation Secretary/Treasurer, I will strive to provide timely and accurate meeting minutes as well as financial reports to the executive committee and membership, as appropriate. Strong, effective communication skills play an important role in this position and I am well suited to provide this leadership through my professional training as well as my desire and interest in urban design and historic preservation. I also believe it is especially important for the Secretary/Treasurer to have a strong ethics background. As a proponent of transparency, I will work to provide information in the clearest and most transparent way possible.

Additionally, through this position, I am committed to assisting in the outreach efforts of the division in terms of educating professionals about the importance of urban design and historic preservation through a variety of mediums that best suit our constituency. Taking a look at best practices for a variety of communication mediums will help the division deliver information the best way possible.

In terms of futures initiative for the division, I am interested in exploring the connections between design of the built environment, preservation and sustainability. Supporting sustainability partnerships and identifying affinities is key in advocating for good urban design and preservation across the country.

III. As cities across the county mature in their respective development pattern and continue to evolve from typical "greenfield" development to more infill/redevelopment, unique and more frequent design challenges will be presented that require greater innovation to achieve desirable, high-quality projects. Regarding infill and redevelopment, creating and maintaining great places becomes increasingly important to the social, environmental and economic vitality of an area. Urban Design and Preservation will become increasingly more indispensable to communities in addressing "triple-bottom line" concerns.

2012 Gordon Scholz, AICP, AIA Sec/Tres Candidate 2 of 2

I. Qualifications

- Currently serving as secretary/treasurer of the APA Urban Design and Preservation Division; now seeking second term
- Previously served as secretary/treasurer and twice as president of the Nebraska Chapter of the APA
- Past chair and current member of the Urban Design Committee of the City of Lincoln, Nebraska
- Past president and current treasurer of Lincoln's nonprofit preservation advocacy organization, Preservation Association of Lincoln (PAL)
- Currently Professor of Community and Regional Planning and Professor of Architecture, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Previously served several years as Director of the Master of Community and Regional Planning (MCRP) degree program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Coordinated for 10 years the provision of design services by University of Nebraska architecture students to the Nebraska Lied Main Street Program, a program affiliated with the National Main Street Center
- Previously worked in private practice as an architect; currently registered as a professional architect; currently certified by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)
- Master's degrees in Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning, and Business Administration

II. Approach

I am completing a term as Secretary/Treasurer of the Urban Design and Preservation Division and would welcome the opportunity to continue in a second term. The role of Secretary/Treasurer requires adherence to the policies of the American Planning Association regarding appropriate expenditure of Division funds, as well as quarterly and year-end reporting of the financial condition of the Division. The reporting must be documented completely and accurately and in a timely way.

The Secretary/Treasurer has sole authority to write checks on the Division's account. I take this responsibility very seriously and ensure complete documentation of all expenditures to verify that the expenditures are appropriate and in accordance with APA's policies. As Secretary/Treasurer, I have successfully coordinated the financial activities of the Division with APA's staff in Chicago.

The Secretary/Treasurer also keeps minutes of the meetings of the Division. The principal meetings of the Division take place annually at the National Planning Conferences. I plan to attend the National Planning Conferences in the next two years, and I certainly will accept responsibility for fulfilling this expectation at the conferences.

I believe that the Division executive committee has a responsibility to ensure that Division members are receiving benefits—preferably tangible benefits, such as the "The Great Street Toolkit" DVD that was recently distributed to Division members—from their membership in the Division. I will continue to push for and emphasize the need to provide such member benefits.

III. Point of View

Urban design and historic preservation are inextricably linked under the broad umbrella of planning. Urban design can be thought of as a process of making connections between people and places and giving form, shape, and character to groups of buildings, to neighborhoods, and to cities. Buildings, objects, landscapes, and other artifacts of historical significance inevitably are part of these environments, and planners play a strong role in working with community stakeholders to preserve, restore, and rehabilitate these assets for the various cultural, economic, aesthetic, and social benefits they bring to the community.

In today's world, where the realization of resource limitations is weighing more heavily upon development decisions, the idea of sustainability has become an important guiding principle. Clearly, this is an idea that reflects sound planning and encompasses the concept of stewardship. The increasing complexity of development—including involvement of multiple and diverse stakeholders, limited financial resources, threatened historic properties, and environmentally sensitive areas, among other aspects—requires holistic approaches that must balance numerous factors to achieve some semblance of sustainability. In this context, the planner has a significant responsibility and role in guiding and influencing decision making in ways that will ensure consideration and accommodation of important urban design and historic preservation values.

In support of this role of the planner, APA's Urban Design and Preservation Division must facilitate the exchange of current and emerging knowledge and ideas—including research, noteworthy examples, and effective professional practices—applicable to the interrelated areas of urban design and historic preservation in planning practice. The Division must further advance its educational mission.

Nominating Committee Note: We wish all candidates the best. We also want to thank the candidates who have stepped up for Division leadership and encourage members to return the favor by VOTING between February 1 and February 10 via online ballot. Watch for an email on February 1st for a link to the online ballot!