



Summer 2006

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Program Welcomes Its New Director

By Willow S. Lung Amam (lungamam@umd.edu)

The Urban Studies and Planning Program is pleased to announce Jim Cohen's appointment as its new Director. Dr. Cohen has been a faculty member in URSP since 1990 and has served as the program's Director of Graduate Studies since 1997.

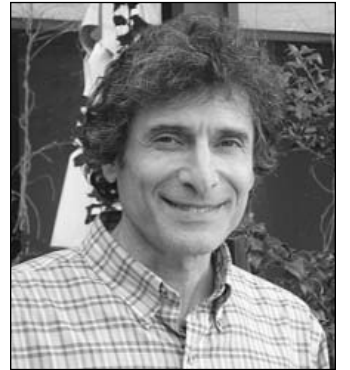
Dr. Cohen began his work in planning in the 1970s, first with the Department of Human Services in San Diego County and then with the Community Economic Development Planning division of the California State Office of Economic Opportunity. He did his graduate study at Cornell University in the 1980s, where he completed a Masters in Regional Planning and a Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning. His dissertation research consisted of an evaluation of New York State's agricultural districting program, that state's primary agricultural land preservation program.

Since joining the faculty, Dr. Cohen has taught a number of undergraduate and graduate courses. His planning courses have included Planning History and Theory, Planning Process, Growth Management, several studio courses and a few specialized environmental courses featuring case studies on such topics as non-point source pollution, Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Act implementation, and environmental site design. His 1999 planning studio course, "Smart Growth for Perryville," is one of 12 cases profiled in *Partnerships for Smart Growth: University-Community Collaboration for Better Public Places*, published in 2004 by M.E. Sharpe, Inc.

Dr. Cohen and his graduate research assistants have provided technical support for a number of community planning efforts. Under a grant from the Department of Education beginning in 1995, he and his students helped the Palmer Park community of Prince George's County to develop the *Palmer Park Community Plan* that led to several neighborhood revitalization projects. Other technical support projects in the past few years have encompassed issues of affordable housing and housing code enforcement in St. Mary's County as well as arts-based community revitalization with the Gateway Community Development Corporation in Prince George's County. He has served on a number of task forces for Maryland state government agencies, with the most recent dealing with the subject of annexation policies that complement Smart Growth. He also serves on the Governing Board of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and as an associate editor of *Housing Policy Debate*.

Dr. Cohen recently completed research on issues related to implementation of adequate public facilities ordinances (APFOs) by local governments in Maryland. Three other recent research projects include: a report entitled *Water Supply as a Factor in Local Growth Management Planning in the U.S.: A Review of Current Practice and Implications for Maryland*; a book chapter entitled "Maryland's 'Smart Growth': Using Incentives to Combat Sprawl," included in *Urban Sprawl: Causes, Consequences and Policy Responses*, edited by Gregory Squires and published in the Spring of 2002 by Urban Institute Press; and a study funded by the Fannie Mae Foundation that resulted in an article,

"Abandoned Housing: Exploring Lessons from Baltimore," published in 2001 in *Housing Policy Debate*.



Dr. Cohen's contributions to Program have reached far beyond his teaching and research. He wrote the initial proposal that led to the establishment of the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education (NCSGRE) on the Maryland campus. The Center now employs over 25 faculty, staff and students, including several nationally-known scholars. Dr. Cohen is designer and co-facilitator of the Smart Growth Leadership Program sponsored by NCSGRE. Also, in conjunction with the Maryland Department of Planning (MDP), he facilitates the Planning Commissioner Certificate Program that is held twice year in different locations in Maryland. He also facilitates the "Land Use Planning for Economic Development" training that is co-sponsored by the Urban Studies and Planning Program, MDP, and the Maryland Economic Development Association.

Dr. Cohen will replace Dr. Alex Chen, who has served as the Director of the Program since 2002. One of Dr. Cohen's main goals is to build on the work already begun by Dr. Chen, including building and strengthening connections with alumni and students. He also plans to focus on the curriculum of the department, getting more depth to the specializations such as urban design and environmental planning through additional resources, faculty expertise, and courses. He would like to continue the productive relationships with the Program's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), made of up planning practitioners in the public and private sector, and with URSP's Student Planning Association (SPA). Dr. Cohen notes that both the TAC and SPA has helped strengthen the program in the past several years.

In his role as Director, Dr. Cohen will continue to serve as the primary point of contact with prospective students, which he describes as an interesting and enjoyable part of his work as the Director of Graduate Studies. He intends to further the growing synergy among the three programs in the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, and to help maximize the benefit that URSP students will receive from course offerings (and faculty hires) in the three new degree programs to be created at the university within the next two years: a Master of Landscape Architecture, a BA in Environmental Design, and a Master of Real Estate Development.

Since 2004, Dr. Cohen has made three work-related trips to China, two as part of NCSGRE professor Chengri Ding's training programs. His 2005 trip to Shenzhen dealt with a variety of issues related to land use planning in a market economy. He comments that a major value of these trips is to serve as beginning points for vacations. Besides such travel, Dr. Cohen might also be found "relaxing" via running, gardening, and fixing up his "new" 1937 house in historic Greenbelt. ■



URSP Faculty Updates, 2006

Howell Baum, Professor (hbaum@umd.edu)

... is researching the history of Baltimore school desegregation for a book with the working title *Liberalism, Race, and School Desegregation in Mid-Twentieth Century America*. He recently published "How Bad Structures Drive Communities—and Planners—Crazy" in *Planning Theory and Practice* and "Liberalism and the Network Society: Lessons from Community Action for Planning" in *Planning in the Network Society*, edited by Louis Albrechts and Seymour Mandelbaum.

Sidney Brower, Professor (sbrower@umd.edu)

...presented "Residential Settings and Civic Engagement" at the 42nd International Making Cities Livable Conference in Charleston, SC in March 2005. In July 2005, his paper, "The Nature of Residential Communities" was presented at the Third International Symposium of the Culture and Space in the Built Environment (CSBE) Network in Istanbul, Turkey, and was published in *Social Change and Spatial Transformation in Housing Environments*. In April 2006, he will present a paper, "Living In Neverland: How We Create False Images of Where We Live, And Why," at the 36th Annual Popular Culture Association Conference in Atlanta, GA.

Alexander Chen, Associate Professor (achen@umd.edu)

...spoke at the October 2005 Governor's Workforce Housing Conference. His presentation was titled, "A Census Profile of the Elderly, 1990 to 2000". He continues to involve high school students in local community asset surveys integrating GIS technology with PDAs. He will be stepping down as Director of the Urban Studies and Planning Program, and looks forward to returning to the classroom.

Kelly Clifton, Associate Professor (kclifton@umd.edu)

... as part of a Robert Wood Johnson (RWJ) Active Living Research grant, Dr. Clifton is working with a team of scholars to examine the relationships between the built environment and physical activity among adults. She is examining the same issue among teenagers, as part of another RWJ Foundation grant. The Maryland State Highway Administration has provided Dr. Clifton funding to continue the development of a pedestrian demand model. Information about these projects is available from the National Center for Smart Growth (www.smartgrowth.umd.edu).

James Cohen, Lecturer (jimcohen@umd.edu)

...recently visited Shenzhen, China as part of the China Land Policy and Urban Management Program of the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education. He gave presentations on a variety of issues related to land use planning in a market economy. He has completed a study on implementation of adequate public facilities ordinances by Maryland counties. In August, 2006 he will become Director of the Urban Studies and Planning Program.

Chengri Ding, Associate Professor (cding@umd.edu)

...continues to work on land and land tax policy in China on behalf of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. Dr. Ding was the Principal Investigator for the "Beijing Urban Master Plan Revision Technical Assistance" for the Beijing Urban Planning Commission. He delivered the keynote speech at a conference on Land Policy and Management in Taiwan in November, 2005.

Reid Ewing, Associate Professor (rewing1@umd.edu)

...has recently published in *Institute of Transportation Engineers Journal*, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, and *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*. Ewing is an associate editor of the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, and is editing the special issue on planning and transportation due out this summer.

William Hanna, Professor (bhanna@umd.edu)

... was recently invited to present at an international geography conference in Mexico City and at the National Institutes for Health, in Maryland. In summer 2005, he led a group of graduate planning students to study the transportation system in Mexico City. He continues to run the nonprofit organization, Action Langley Park, and to publish the *Barrio de Langley Park* monthly newsletter. In Spring 2005, Hanna accepted the editorship of *The Faculty Voice*, a publication by and for faculty members within the University System of Maryland.

Marie Howland, Professor (mhowland@umd.edu)

...and post-doc fellow Jungyul Sohn had a paper, "Has Maryland's Priority Funding Areas Initiative Constrained the Expansion of Water and Sewer Investments?" accepted by *Land Use Policy*, forthcoming, 2006. She, along with planning graduate student Sebastian Oliva, presented a paper on the "Immigrant Residential Location and Sprawl: Washington, DC" at the 2005 Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Conference in Kansas City. She continues to direct the Ph.D. program and serve as book review editor for *Economic Development Quarterly*.

Gerrit Knaap, Professor (gknaap@umd.edu)

...was appointed by the Governor to the Maryland Development Capacity Task Force to develop a standardized method for Maryland jurisdictions to estimate future development capacity. With other University of Maryland colleagues, he is involved with a pair of research projects involving the implementation of adequate public facility ordinances in Maryland's Washington suburbs and the metropolitan Baltimore area. In addition, he led the highly successfully regional planning exercise called "Reality Check - Envisioning Our Region's Growth". In March, 2006, he was a panelist at the Resources for the Future Conference panel entitled "Regulation, Markets, and Choice in Metropolitan Land Use".

Qing Shen, Professor (qshen@umd.edu)

...has recently co-authored articles in *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Housing Policy Debate*, and *Environment and Planning B*, which address the effects of residential neighborhood and transportation accessibility on workers' labor market outcome. Last winter he traveled to Shanghai, China to give a series of lectures sponsored by the Department of Urban Planning at Tongji University entitled "Social Aspects of Urban Transportation in the U.S.", "Economic Analysis of Urban Transportation Policy Issues", and "Information and Communication Technologies and Their Impacts on Urban Spatial Structure, Activity Participation, and Travel". ■



Faculty Highlight: Sidney Brower

By Rachel Fitzgerald (rachelftz@gmail.com)

Sidney Brower joined the Program in 1979 when it was located at the University of Maryland's Baltimore campus and moved with the Program to College Park in 1989.

Although Sidney has taught many of the Program's required courses including

Planning History and Theory, Planning Process, and Planning Studio, recently he has directed his teaching efforts to the field of urban design. More than an attention to urban form or architecture alone, this focus stems from his interest in the connection between the built environment and human behavior. In his research and through his classes, Sidney tries to understand how the urban environment affects people and then attempts to make that information usable and accessible to planners.

Sidney spent the 2005 - 2006 academic year working on two projects in the city of Baltimore relating to neighborhood design and perceptions of the built environment. In his corner store study, Sidney has been working to update a report created by a planning studio in 1989. The report tracked the location and characteristics of corner store businesses in Canton, a neighborhood in southeast Baltimore, through a series of surveys of merchants and residents of the area.

In his study, Sidney hopes to gain opinions as to whether corner stores can and should survive in residential areas of Baltimore over the next 50 years. Sidney again employed merchant and resident interviews to assess opinions of corner stores and how they operate in residential neighborhoods. Using GIS mapping, Sidney was also able to compare the frequencies and locations of corner stores in the neighborhood for 1951, 1989 and 2005.

In Sidney's Spring 2006 studio class, students worked in Baltimore City's Hampden neighborhood to assess merchant and resident feelings toward changing business types along the area's main street. Hampden — which has recently faced an influx of new residents and shops — is undergoing a visioning process sponsored by the local neighborhood group and the City of Baltimore Office of Planning. Students in Sidney's studio have hosted a series of focus groups for local merchants and residents to express their opinions about Hampden's new growth.

As student interest in urban design has increased in recent years, Sidney has taken the lead in promoting Urban Design as an integral part of the Program curriculum. "All students should have some kind of urban design class," he reflected. In his opinion, knowledge of the connection between planning, urban design and human behavior is important for all students. ■

URSP 2006 Student Awards

The Urban Studies and Planning Program is proud to announce this year's award winners.

Dean's Graduate Assistant Award

Christopher Dorney

Outstanding Master of Community Planning Student Award

David Traggorth

Robert Janes Award

Catherine Brown

Urban Studies and Planning Program

Alumni Award

Ari Schnitzer

American Institute of Certified Planners Award

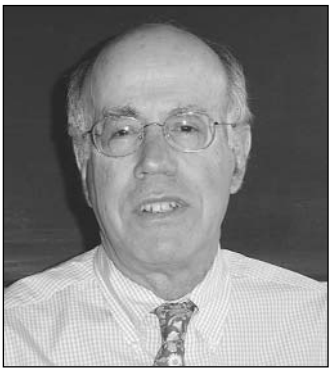
Christopher Dorney, Megan McElroy, Katherine Shiflet, and David Traggorth

Samuel J. Lefrak Award

James Joyce

National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education Award for Outstanding Research Assistant

Megan McElroy



Adjunct Faculty Highlight: David Falk, Senior Fellow and Visiting Lecturer

By James Joyce (jjoyce@umd.edu)

David Falk is not your typical Urban Studies and Planning Professor, and it is not just because his office is in Van Munching Hall rather than the Architecture building. David teaches one URSP course – URSP 664 (Real Estate Development for Planners) – but he also teaches a course in public policymaking for journalists, a version of the same course for honors undergraduates, and will begin teaching a new undergraduate honors course next Spring on the rule of law. He has also run training programs for Russian, Armenian, and Kazakh officials, as well as having a hand in the St. Petersburg planning studios and the upcoming Master of Real Estate program.

Just as interesting as what he does these days is the story of how he got to this point: After graduating magna cum laude from Harvard College and Harvard Law School, David worked in private law practice and with the federal government, including a two-and-a-half year stint with the US Agency for International Development in Peru. By the time the Berlin Wall came down, David was working as Executive Policy Advisor to Maryland's then-Governor William Donald Schaefer, listening to books on tape during his commute to Annapolis. It was when these books on tape became the highlight of his day that he decided to try something new.

After meeting a Russian planner while climbing in the Caucasus, David came up with the idea of inviting this man and a few of his colleagues to come to the United States for a training session on housing. With money from USIA, some 20-odd Russians came to the University of Maryland for a month to study subjects ranging from the private development process to landlord-tenant affairs. This project being a rousing success, David decided to try his luck again, this time covering planning and land regulation. As part of the program, he traveled to St Petersburg, Russia with URSP's Marie Howland, where their Russian hosts wrote a simulated Request for Proposals (RFP) and then had to respond to their own RFP. On the way back to the States, the idea of doing the same exercise with Maryland students came up, and the seeds of URSP 664 were sown.

So began David Falk's gradual slide into the world of teaching. Since those initial training programs, he also has directed the Odessa Public Policy Program for the Department of Government and Politics and has taught courses in policymaking and public finance, as well as URSP 664. True to his history, David's course has taken on a life of its own, as he has been a part of the genesis of the new Masters of Real Estate degree to begin in Fall 2006. This program, housed in the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation will consist of 12 months of courses in negotiation, land use, urban economic development, real estate finance, and ethics, as well as a final project. For those wishing to remain in engineering or planning Master's programs, concentrations in real estate development would also be available. One thing is for certain: With David Falk involved in the project, it looks to be both interesting and informative. ■

National Center for Smart Growth Research Activities

By John Frece (jfrece@umd.edu)

The National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, now in its sixth and busiest year, has developed into a center of research and educational excellence now recognized and consulted by public, private sector and non-profit interests at the state, regional, national and international levels.



In just the last few months:

- Center Associate Director John Frece helped partner organizations stage the nation's first Governor's Institute on Community Design for the Governor of the state of Rhode Island and his top cabinet and staff and other leaders in the Providence region;
- Urban Studies and Planning Professor Jim Cohen and Public Policy Professor Antonio Bento completed a new study of Adequate Public Facilities Ordinances in Maryland;
- Professor Chengri Ding hosted two visiting delegations from China, one looking for assistance with the implementation of property taxation in China, the other seeking to better understand the real estate development process in the United States; and,
- Center Executive Director Gerrit Knaap began finalizing plans for four regional growth visioning exercises (called *Reality Check Plus*) that will bring together approximately 1,000 citizens from Maryland to envision how future growth should be accommodated.

The Center has become recognized for its special expertise in research related to the linkage between public health and the built environment, led by Reid Ewing, Kelly Clifton and Carolyn Voorhees. Ewing's 2003 paper, "Relationship Between Urban Sprawl and Physical Activity, Obesity, and Morbidity," has been shown by *Incites*, a global monitor and compiler of scientific research trends, to be one of the most cited papers in the past two years.

Working with the Maryland Department of Planning, the Center has produced a guidebook for local governments on how to conduct a residential capacity analysis; reports on housing trends and the effects of adequate public facilities ordinances in Maryland; reports on regulatory barriers to affordable housing; and reports on the effects of zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations on housing affordability, respectively.

This broad array of work has resulted in equally broad coverage by the news media - locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. ■



2006 Samuel J. Lefrak Lecturer: Dolores Hayden, Historian and Architect

By Elana Messner (emessner@umd.edu)

This April, the URSP Program was privileged to have Dr. Dolores Hayden of Yale University as its 2006 Samuel J. Lefrak Lecturer. Educated at both Cambridge and Harvard University, Professor Hayden remains one of

the most respected academics in the field. An urban historian and architect, she has written extensively about the history of American urban landscapes and the politics of design. A recipient of the Guggenheim, Rockefeller, NEH, NEA, Whitney Humanities Center, and ACLS/Ford fellowships, she has also published six books and enjoyed a teaching career at UC Berkeley, UCLA, and MIT. A retrospective of her work based on *A Field Guide to Sprawl* has been incorporated into an exhibit at the Westchester Art Museum to rave reviews, and is scheduled to go on tour in the near future.

With additional support provided by the Graduate Program in Historic Preservation, students, faculty and practicing professionals had three opportunities to meet and hear Dr. Hayden discuss her work. Based on *The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History*, Professor Hayden's afternoon lecture illustrated the versatility of the book's methods of creating a sense of place through the richness of a community's past. During her evening lecture,

Professor Hayden shared with a packed auditorium, her most recent research in Macon, Georgia, where she applied *The Power of Place* to the antebellum town, to paint a written picture of human struggles and triumphs, laughter and tears, and economic boom and bust. Through her research, Macon comes alive through a tapestry of stories that deal with the universal themes that are far more fascinating than the image illustrated by town's cherry trees and columned Greek Revival houses. Professor Hayden also touched on the possibility of technology to transmit these stories in a method that would inspire residents and tourists alike to further explore the Town in a new light. She followed up with these ideas in the morning session the following day.

Dolores Hayden is a Professor of Architecture, Urbanism, and American Studies at Yale University. Her evening lecture will be turned into a monograph to be published by the Urban Studies and Planning Program and will be available sometime next year. Contact Vicky Baker (vbaker@umd.edu) for more information.

Support for this three-day event was provided by the Samuel J. Lefrak Endowment Fund, The Urban Studies and Planning Program, the Historic Preservation Program, and the Department of American Studies. ■



The Planning Studio

Every semester, graduate students in the Urban Studies and Planning Program undertake a six-credit Community Planning Studio. Students bring their diverse skills and knowledge to address planning issues affecting a given community. Below is a summary of this year's projects.



Summer, 2005: Mexico City, Mexico

“Maximizing the Transportation System to Strengthen Tourism”.

Instructor: William Hanna (bhanna@umd.edu)

http://www.arch.umd.edu/URSP/Research/studiorpts/su05_mexico/index.html

The 2005 Summer Studio supervised by Professor William Hanna went to Mexico City to assess how well its current transportation system meets the needs of tourists and to make recommendations for improving transportation conditions to better serve the tourism market. To investigate the transportation challenges faced by visitors to Mexico City, the Research Team comprised of URSP students, Catherine Brown, Kurt Sommer, Jill

Locantore, Debbie Albert, Meghan Powell, Megan Zadecky, conducted in-depth field research in June 2005. The Team traveled by various transportation modes to 25 major tourist destinations located throughout the City. The Studio Research Team focused on factors such as: security, aesthetics, and accessibility for people with mobility impairments, the quality and availability of information, vehicle operational quality, and urban design.

Fall, 2005: Montgomery County, MD

“Housing in Montgomery County: Coordinate; Strengthen; Innovate”.

Instructor: James Cohen (jimcohen@umd.edu)

<http://www.arch.umd.edu/URSP/Research/studiorpts/Fall05MontHousing/index.html>



The Fall 2005 Community Planning Studio analyzed the housing crisis in Montgomery County and explored options for increasing the number of housing units affordable to households with incomes between minimum wage and 120% of Area Median Income (AMI). Supervised by Professor Jim Cohen, planning students, Ilana Branda, Chalita Brandly, Tyson Byrne, Chris Dorney, Jubi Headley, Anton Jerve, Megan McElroy, Amy Neugebauer, Sebastian Oliva, Ari Schnitzer, Kate Shiflet, Jennifer Snowden, Jessica Solomon, and David Traggorth quantified and evaluated the county's affordable housing problem. Relying on interviews, a housing preference survey and secondary data sources, their final report, *Housing in Montgomery County: Coordinate; Strengthen; Innovate*, offers recommendations for coordinating and strengthening existing programs and introducing new ones. It included the establishment of an Affordable Housing Clearinghouse, as well as a set of specific strategies to bolster existing programs, primarily targeted toward lower income households.



Spring, 2006: Hampden Neighborhood, Baltimore, MD

“Maintaining the Link between Business and Community: Hampden's Retail Environment”

Instructor: Sidney Brower (sbrower@umd.edu)

<http://www.arch.umd.edu/URSP/Research/studiorpts/Spring06Hampden/index.html>

In Spring, 2006, the Community Planning Studio focused on Hampden, a Baltimore neighborhood in transition. Younger, wealthier, better-educated residents are moving in, developers are turning vacant lots and old industrial and institutional buildings into housing, property values are rising dramatically, and older residents are being forced out of their homes. The Hampden Community Council, with support from the Baltimore City Department of Planning, has hired a private consultant, Strategic Management Consulting,

to facilitate a series of community meetings leading to the creation of a strategic plan for Hampden. The Spring Studio with students James Joyce, Martin Salmon and Brian Carroll and supervised by Sidney Brower became an integral part of the process by focusing on the main commercial street and how it can meet the changing and different demands of the area.

URSP at APA in San Antonio

By Alex Chen (achen@umd.edu)

The Urban Studies and Planning Program was very active during the National APA Convention in San Antonio, TX in April. Professors Gerrit Knaap and Reid Ewing were presenters at several sessions and were joined by Ph.D. student Arnab Charkaborty. Former post-doctoral fellow for the National Center for Smart Growth, Professor Yan Song, now at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, was also a presenter at several sessions. Current URSP student, Jessica Solomon shared her work at a session as did URSP alum, Katherine Kelly. The Program also provided financial support for five URSP students to attend the conference. All students, faculty and alumni were invited to attend a Maryland-DC reception co-sponsored by the Program, the National Center of Smart Growth Research and Education, Morgan State University, the Maryland Chapter and National Capital Area Chapter of APA, and Maryland State Planning. The reception was a success and it was an opportunity to meet many URSP alums including Jennifer Gallardy, Ann Wallas, Dan Trimble, Carl Morgan and Ethan Bindernagel. ■

Artists in Residence: One student's experience at APA in San Antonio

By Kate Shiflet (kate_shiflet@hotmail.com)

Note from the editor: With support from the Planning Program, five URSP students were able to attend the San Antonio Conference.

What do Pace Picante Salsa, an automobile dealership, and a railroad warehouse site have in common? All have contributed to the creation of live/work space for artists in San Antonio. During the APA's 2006 Conference, I was lucky enough to tour two of the City's renowned arts facilities: Artpace and the Blue Star Arts Complex. Each of these facilities, once underutilized industrial sites, has been rehabilitated for arts uses.

Artpace, today a player in the international contemporary art scene, began as the vision of Linda Pace, a Texas-based artist with family ties to Pace Picante Salsa. Ms. Pace dreamed of a contemporary art museum with a strong artist in residence program that would focus on the artistic process. In 1995, Artpace San Antonio opened its doors in a rehabilitated automobile dealership. Artists from around the world are brought in for two-month stays, during which they create an exhibit on premise. A few blocks away, the Blue Star Arts Complex was created out of a former railroad warehouse site. Spaces that once housed flour, iron, and other products, now contain residences, art galleries, restaurants, and studios. Both facilities have helped revitalize declining areas while preserving the city's industrial heritage. ■

Ph.D. Program Celebrates its Fifth Year

By Marie Howland (mhowland@umd.edu)

Our Ph.D. program continues to expand and gain national prestige with the accomplishments of students. Some of the activities for the past year include the following.

Doan Nguyen received the University of Maryland's Graduate School's Jacob K. Goldhaber travel award to present his dissertation research the "Spatial and Social Dimensions of Innovation" at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning 46th Annual Conference.

Andi Livi's dissertation is on "The Role of Perceptions in the Relationship between Walking Behavior and the Built Environment", and she has received Eisenhower Transportation Fellowships in 2004, 2005, and 2006. She has co-authored numerous papers on auditing the pedestrian environment. She published a paper with Kelly J. Clifton entitled, "A Smart Step Forward: A Study of the Pedestrian Environment in Three Maryland Communities" with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

Feng Zhang, advanced to candidacy in the Fall 2005. His paper with Professor Qing Shen, "Land Use Changes in a Pro-Smart Growth State: Maryland, USA", will appear in *Environment and Planning A*. With a travel grant from the University of Utah, he presented with Professors Kelly J. Clifton and Qing Shen at the Symposium on Societies and Cities in the Age of Instant Access, Salt Lake City, Utah in November. The work will appear in a forthcoming book edited by Harvey Miller. His dissertation examines transit riders' behavioral and psychological responses to real-time transit passenger information systems. He received an Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship for 2006.

Rodney Harrell received the Best Oral Presentation Award for the Social Sciences at the PROMISE Research Symposium, 2006 for his paper "Homeownership, Suburbanization, and African Americans with Mobility: Who's Moving Out and Why?" In August, he gave a presentation entitled: "Heritage Tourism and its Prospects for Economic Development" at the Annual Conference of the Planning and the Black Community Division of the American Planning Association in Greenville, NC. He is co-author with URSP alum, Kenya Covington, of "From Renting to Homeownership: Using Tax Incentives to Encourage Homeownership among Renters" to be published by the *Harvard Journal of Legislation*. His dissertation topic focuses on "Understanding Modern Segregation: Suburbanization and the Black Middle Class."

Arnab Chakraborty is working on large scale regional visioning exercises, called Reality Check. He currently co-chairs the data and analysis committee for the statewide exercise in Maryland in association with NCSGRE. Arnab received the 2005 ULI Kenneth M. Good Graduate Student Fellowship. Arnab has taught at the John Hopkins University as well as at the Institute of Housing Studies at Erasmus University (Rotterdam, The Netherlands).

Jung Ho Shin serves as the Ph.D. representative on the Dean's Advisory Board. He continues his work for Gerrit Knaap at the Smart Growth Center.

Mark Braza is currently pursuing a sequence in mathematics for economists, a class in water resources planning (ENGR), and a class in dynamic modeling (PUAF). At GAO, he continues work on various projects on urban and environmental issues, including recent reports on brownfields, public transportation, and water quality.

Maria Teresa Souza has completed her course work and is scheduled to take comprehensive exams in June, 2006.



Selma Lewis is a first year student from Croatia. She has a Master's in Economics, the University of Buffalo. She has also lived in Denmark and Germany, working for a number of multinational companies. Currently, she works with Professor Gerrit Knaap comparing metropolitan growth patterns between Europe and the U.S.

Carolina Burnier is a first year Ph.D. student, currently working with Kelly Clifton on the Baltimore Active Living Teens Survey project. She received an Eisenhower Graduate Fellowship and was nominated to the 2006 ENO Transportation Foundation Leadership Development Conference. Carolina presented a paper on the "Influence of Environmental Factors on Pedestrian - Vehicular Crashes" at the 2005 Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference as well as at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board in Washington, DC on the Influence of Environmental Factors on Pedestrian Risk Exposure.



Yunie Kim is a first year student from Seoul, Korea. She has her M.A. in International economics and international relations at School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. She concurrently works for the World Bank and is interested in urban and regional economics, decentralization and fiscal policy, and land use policy in China. ■

Urban Studies and Planning Program Reaccreditation

By Alex Chen (achen@umd.edu)

After an intensive three-day review in the Fall 2005, and a final meeting at the National APA meeting in San Antonio, the Urban Studies and Program leading to the Master of Community Planning degree was granted a seven-year reaccreditation, through the end of December, 2013. Much thanks to all who contributed this effort!

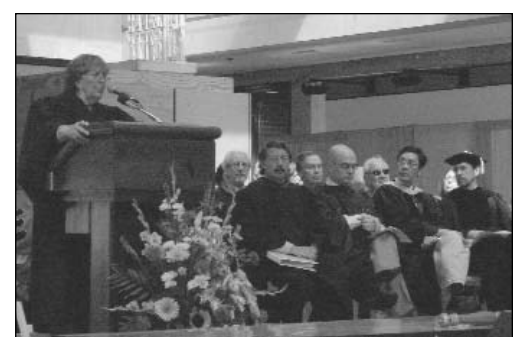
New Graduate Certificate of Professional Studies in Transportation Planning

By Alex Chen (achen@umd.edu)

Today's transportation policy and planning professionals, whether experienced or new to the field, need technical competence and skills as well as a thorough understanding of the broader social and political issues of transportation. The University of Maryland's Office of Professional Studies, in conjunction with the Urban Studies and Planning Program within the School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, is offering a Graduate Certificate of Professional Studies in Transportation Planning. The 12-credit program is designed for working professionals in urban planning, engineering, policy and land development. Register today at www.professionalstudies.umd.edu ■

2006 Graduation Ceremonies

By Willow Lung Amam (lungamam@umd.edu)



This year's graduation ceremonies, held on May 22, 2006, honored 20 students receiving a Master of Community Planning, with three students also receiving certificates in Historic Preservation. MCP Graduate, James Joyce, spoke at the commencement addressing the importance of good planning and the overlap between architecture, planning and preservation. The keynote speaker, the Honorable Ellen Moyer, Mayor of Annapolis, challenged the graduating class to use their training to help refine notions of livable communities in increasingly diverse environments, stressing the importance of public participation in the planning process. Congratulations and best wishes to the Class of 2006!



Student Spotlight: Megan McElroy, Class of 2006

By Jason Eversole (eversole@umd.edu)

Maryland native, Megan McElroy entered the Master's of Community Planning program in Fall, 2004 and has since been an active participant and leader in the program. As a graduate assistant at the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education (NCSGRE), Megan was deeply involved in the development and implementation of Reality Check, a large scale growth visioning exercise in Washington, DC as well as other research projects funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Lincoln Land Institute. Her dedication and strong work ethic will be missed by those at the Center. Indeed, the Center awarded her their first Outstanding Graduate Assistant Award during the May, 2006 graduation ceremonies.

Megan's commitment to excellence was also recognized beyond the Center. Nominated by Alex Chen, Director, URSP, Jim Cohen, Director of Graduate Studies, URSP, and Gerrit Knaap, Director of NCSGRE, Megan was the recipient of the 2005 Sherwin Greene Student Leadership Award presented by the National Capital Area Chapter of the American Planning Association.

Besides working at the NCSGRE, Megan interned with Prince George's County Planning Department in the Environmental Planning section. While there, she worked on the revision of the Woodland Conservation ordinance and examined potential Transfer of Development Rights programs for the

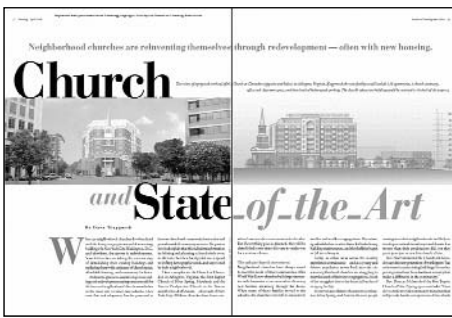
County. She continued working there throughout the school year until starting her current job with Maryland Department of Planning.

Specializing in environment planning, her commitment to scholarship is evidenced by her being one of four in the graduating class that received the Program's American Institute of Certified Planners Award for having the highest grade point average.

Megan was also very active in student activities. As Vice President of the Program's Student Planning Association, she helped to coordinate many activities of interest to students, including this year's Alumni Careers in Planning session.

At Maryland Department of Planning Megan is working on the creation of new growth projections for the State of Maryland. In addition, she is writing the participant guidebook for the Reality Check Maryland statewide visioning exercise and volunteering her time to help with data analysis at these events.

The School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation and the Planning Department wish Megan the best of luck in her future career at Maryland Department of Planning and wherever her path should take her. ■



The Story Behind the Story

By David Traggorth, Class of 2006 (dtraggorth@gmail.com)

Note from the editor: The April 2006 issue of *Planning Magazine* contains an article by David Traggorth. In this article he describes the circumstances which led to this work.

By their nature planners are some of the first to confront changing social, economic, and demographic trends in their communities. Part of good planning is recognizing those trends early, anticipating their impact, and factoring them into the ongoing planning process.

So, as I worked with Faithworks, Inc. in Washington, DC, a non-profit, faith-based community development organization, throughout my time at UMD, I noticed what appeared to be an interesting trend that had the potential to have a real impact on community planning. I found that a growing number of urban neighborhood churches across the country (including a few right in our area) were abandoning the old model of a church building for something all-together new. Instead of a familiar steeple with pews, these churches were proposing to demolish their old, iconic landmark buildings to build mixed-use churches that incorporated affordable housing, community facilities, and non-profit space with newer and smaller worship spaces. In addition, for every church that was moving forward with their plans, there were five to ten more waiting to do the same but often constrained by resources, know-how, fear of change, or many other factors.

As I looked deeper into each case, I was truly amazed at the similarity of uses, visions, and challenges, despite the fact that each of these were in separate communities with separate congregations. I then began asking myself what impact – good and bad – these new uses would have on communities across the country. For example, if mixed-used churches became a major trend, what impact would it have on much needed affordable housing and community facilities? How would neighbors feel if a community landmark was torn down and replaced by a modern building buzzing with around the clock activity? What could planners and churches going through similar situations learn from each other so as not to “reinvent the wheel” in each neighborhood?

These questions among many others, and their applicability to the planning profession, compelled me to pitch my story to *Planning Magazine*, and after several months of interviews and research, the article was published in the April 2006 issue. Entitled “Church and State-of-the-Art;” it just begins to answer the questions presented above through case studies of the visions, designs, and challenges of three churches – one in Silver Spring, MD, one in Arlington, VA, and one in Queens, NY.

While these may just be coincidental isolated cases, both as a planner and member of an urban neighborhood church in the DC, I believe that we will see more of these transformations across the country in the years to come. ■



Student Planning Association Update

By Catherine Brown (cathyabrown@gmail.com)

The Student Planning Association (SPA) has been busy this year. It has worked to improve the space available to graduate assistants. In September, it held its first annual Football Tailgate party with pre-game grilling and drinks before heading to watch the Terps take on the WVU Mountaineers.

Community is important for URSP student planners. In November, SPA organized a storm drain painting event where students painted phrases like “Flows Into Chesapeake Bay” and “Do Not Dump” in the Takoma Park area to increase awareness of environmental systems and water pollution. Students also participated in a park clean up in coordination with Greenbelt's Beaver Dam Creek Watershed Watch Group.

The students in Urban Studies and Planning welcomed a new 2006-2007 SPA Executive Board including Crystal Meyers (President), Katie McQueen (Vice-President), Rachel Fitzgerald (Vice-President), Mandy Ma (Secretary), and Ted Stevens (Treasurer) at a Caroline Hall luncheon on February 22, 2006. The new SPA Board is excited to begin working on maintaining and adding to an internship database, coordinating with preservation and architecture students for events, building better ties with alumni, and hosting regular social outings. ■

National Capital Area Chapter – American Planning Association 2005 Awards Gala

By Alex Chen (achen@umd.edu)

On World Planning Day, November 8, 2005, the National Capital Area Chapter of APA recognized the contributions of those in the local planning community. Our own Megan McElroy (Class of 2006) was awarded the Sherwin Greene Award for Outstanding Student, and Tyson Byrne (Class of 2005) was awarded the Student Achievement Award. Our alums were also recognized. The Outstanding Award for a Plan was awarded to the District of Columbia Office of Planning with Zimmer Gunsul Frasca Partnership for their work on the “Columbia Heights Public Realm Framework”. Alum Vivian Guerra was part of the DC Office of Planning team that accepted the award. A Meritorious Award was given to the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission – Montgomery County for the “Countywide Bikeways Functional Master Plan”. Alum Charles Kines was part of the County Team that accepted the award. ■



URSP Alumni Updates

Robert Paul (MCP, 1995) joined the U.S. Army reserve after working with the Peace Corps. He is now stationed in Afghanistan. He recently finished a year of Thai language at the Presidio of Monterey.

Tanya (Wilson) Sejour (MCP, 1990) is Growth Management Coordinator for the Broward County School District in Fort Lauderdale, FL. She is now married and living in Florida.

Steve Pardue (MCP, 1994) and **Colin Visering** (MCP, 1994) have formed Visering-Pardue and Associates, engaged in hazard mitigation planning, natural and manmade hazard risk assessment, and NEPA compliance work around the country.

Daniel Trimble (MCP, 1995) is Program Manager for the City of Newport Beach, California and is one of two Senior Planners in the Economic Development division. Project activities range from streetscape and pedestrian improvement plans to senior affordable housing to park improvements.

Kui Zhao (MCP, 1996) returned to her "beloved Baltimore Office of Planning" as a Senior Planner and Assistant Division Chief. She recently passed the AICP exam. She and her family live in Howard County, MD.

Anne L. Corbett (MCP, 1997) is the Executive Director of the Cultural Development Corporation, Washington, DC. The Cultural Development Corporation is a private nonprofit for the arts to stimulate economic development and improve the quality of life in the DC area. She is married to Sam Sweet of Signature Theatre and together they have four boys.

Sara Merriman (MCP, 1998) is Manager, Policy & Planning Initiatives for the Philadelphia Department of Commerce. Among her responsibilities is developing and monitoring the implementation of the City's strategic plan for economic development. She received her AICP certification in 2004.

Dana (Mandell) Stoogenke (MCP, 1998) works as a Regional Planning Director for the Mid-Carolina Council of Governments in Fayetteville, NC.

Nicole Lacoste (MCP, 2000) is an attorney with Ballard Spahr Andrews and Ingersoll LLP, Baltimore, Maryland. She concentrates her practice in the areas of zoning, land use, and environmental law. Nicole was elected chair of the APA's Planning & Law Division for the 2006-2008 term.

Julie Herlands (MCP, 2000) is a consultant for TisclerBise, Bethesda, Maryland a nationally based economic, fiscal and planning consulting firm. Her work includes fiscal impact analyses and impact fee studies. Julie lives in Falls Church, Virginia, with her husband and son.

Brad C. Boese (MCP, 2002) recently moved to Milwaukee, WI. And now works as a Planner for the City of Grafton, WI. He passed his AICP Exam in May 2005.

Katherine Kelly (MCP, 2002) is a Transportation Planner for the City of Rockville. She manages citywide transportation policies, and is working on the City's zoning code update.

Amber Widmayer (MCP, 2002) is finishing up the second of three years toward her J.D. at the University of Maryland School of Law in the Environmental Law Program, and this summer she will be working in law clerk for the Administrative Law Judges of EPA.

Adriane Aul (MCP, 2003) is a Program Manager at the Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group (PCRG) and manages PCRG's Vacant Property Working Group, which builds tools, policies and resources necessary to recycle vacant land.

Ken Aloisio (MCP, 2003) is Principal Planner for Transportation for Bergen County, NJ, and is a member of the Advisory Committee for the regional MPO, the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority. He is living in Northern NJ. Ken recently obtained his AICP certification.

Josh Bokee (MCP, 2003) is a legislative and policy analyst for the Office of Montgomery County Councilmember Mike Knapp. Josh and Katie live in Frederick City with their Great Dane, Tessa, and their cat, Calvin (who actually is the one that runs the household).

Peter Fogec (MCP, 2003) is an Associate Planner for Development, Design & Engineering, Inc., El Centro, California.

Jennie Gallardy (MCP, 2003) is a comprehensive planner for Carroll County, MD. Her son, Eli, will be four in May.

Aimee McHale (MCP, 2003) recently returned to Washington, DC as Assistant Vice President of NHT/Enterprise Preservation Corporation, a national affordable housing real estate development group.

Monica (Murphy) Robyns (MCP, 2003) began working as a Development Review Planner II for the City of Frederick in September. She and her husband, Nate, had their first child, Benjamin Dennis Robyns, on May 2005. Monica is taking some time off from planning to stay home with him in Frederick, MD.

Aimee (LaMontagne) Baumiller (MCP, 2004) has settled in Pittsburgh and continues to work hard for PNC Real Estate Finance. Her husband Larry finished law school and now works for the City's Legal Department. They recently bought their first home in Squirrel Hill.

Brian Dylong (MCP, 2004) is a real estate analyst for Real Property Research Group, in Columbia, MD. Brian's projects have been in Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Georgia.

Milagros Hernandez (MCP, 2004) was the 2006 Keynote Speaker at this year's UMD Latino/Latina Graduation celebration. She is currently a Program Manager for HUD's Home program.

Mike Goodno (MCP, 2004) is a bicycle program specialist for the Washington, DC District Department of Transportation. Since graduation, his wife and four-year old son are happy to have him at home most evenings.

Ann Piesen (MCP, 2004) is the National Program Manager for the Fire Management Assistance Grant Program within the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Ann and her husband Phil live in their newly renovated home in Silver Spring, MD with their two rescued West Highland White Terriers.

Michelle Ashley (MCP, 2005) is a Program Manager at Science Applications International Corporation. She manages a project team in support of federal advisory board activities at the Department of Defense. She and her husband live in Arlington, VA.

Anne Baum (MCP, 2005) is a Community Developer with the Community Planning and Development Division of the Prince George's Department of Housing and Community Development.

Kellie (Bethke) Brown (MCP, 2005) is an Associate at BBP Associates, Inc., Annapolis, MD. She is now working with the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation to develop Poplar Point, the parkland across the Anacostia.

Otto Clemente (MCP, 2005) is a transportation planning engineer at HNTB Corporation in Arlington, VA. His projects have included transit plans, neighborhood transportation plans, airport landside master plans, and traffic simulation and visualization.

Margaret Clune (MCP, 2005) is a Policy Analyst for the Center for Progressive Reform (CPR), Washington, DC. She researches and writes on environmental, public health and safety issues and hopes to soon integrate GIS analysis into CPR's work. She will marry Bryan Giblin, this October in Baltimore, MD.

Samantha Erickson (MCP, 2005) works at the KFH Group, a transportation consulting firm in Bethesda, MD. She helps prepare transportation development plans for rural and small urban communities in Maryland and around the country.

Julie Mirvis (MCP, 2005) is a Planner for Vienna, VA. She is responsible for initial plan review, assists with GIS mapping for the Planning and Zoning Department. She will marry her fiancé, Adam Morris, this July in Mitchellville, MD.

Carrie Sanders (MCP, 2005) is a Transportation Planner with the City of Rockville, MD. Her work involves pedestrian and bicycle planning, development review, transportation demand management, and maintaining and upgrading the Transportation Division's GIS data.

URSP Alumni Form

Our alumni are an important asset to the Program, as demonstrated by our recent accreditation review. Please help us keep in contact with you by filling in the attached form and return to Alex Chen at Urban Studies and Planning Program, School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742 or achen@umd.edu. Thank you.

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

Current or most recent employer: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone: _____

Email: _____



URSP Alum makes PBS debut

By Alex Chen (achen@umd.edu)

Alum Elin Zurbrigg was seen on this spring's PBS home improvement series "This Old House". This spring it chronicled the rehabilitation of a derelict, circa 1879 brick row house in Washington D.C.'s Shaw Neighborhood. The building is owned by Mi Casa, Inc. a non profit group that purchases, renovates and sells buildings to low-to moderate-income families. Our own Ms. Zurbrigg is Mi Casa's Project Director.

URSP Events and Activities



Federal Planners address students and Katrina

By Willow Lung Amam
(lungamam@umd.edu)

Responding to interest among the student body in federal planning jobs and the recent events in the Gulf region, the Student Planning Association (SPA) invited Jane Brattain, Chair of APA's Federal Planning Division, Jerry Zekert, Military Master Planning Leader for the Department of Defense's Integration Team, Andrea Wohlfeld Kuhn, Deputy of USACE's Real Estate Community of Practice and David Van Horn, the Federal Program Manager of URSCorp to speak to the Planning Process class. Ms. Brattain addressed the critical role that the Division serves for federal planning professionals. Mr. Zekert emphasized the opportunities available in the federal realm, especially within the military. Ms. Kuhn spoke to the need for planners, particularly with the federal realm, to make their own career, taking advantage of new opportunities and networks. The speakers agreed that now is a particularly good time to enter and advance in federal planning careers because of the large number of retiring baby boomers within the federal government. Finally, Mr. Van Horn shared his experience in New Orleans. His vivid photographs of the tragic situation had many students questioning what could have been done differently and the role of planners in Katrina's aftermath.

Carl N. Ruskin Lecture: Tom Knoche

By Alex Chen (achen@umd.edu)

Last Fall, the 2005 Carl N. Ruskin Lecturer was Tom Knoche, an urban practitioner, teacher, and community organizer who has provided assistance to grassroots community organizations committed to social change. At Rutgers University he has taught such classes as Power and Decision Making, Basic Methods of Urban Planning, and Urban Ecology and Planning. His recently completed book, *Common Sense for Camden*, focused on the political climate in Camden, NJ and its effect on planning and redevelopment issues. In his presentation, "Lessons I Thought Our Profession Had Learned," Mr. Knoche engaged his audience with his experiences and knowledge, addressing such compelling issues as displacement, environmental justice, urban ecology, and planning education issues. Notably, Mr. Knoche was a 2005 recipient of the American Planning Association's National Social Advocacy Award. We were especially glad to have Tom lecture, given that he began his career as a city planner at the Baltimore City Department of Planning in 1975.



Alumni Career Panel

By Willow Lung Amam
(lungamam@umd.edu)

At the 2006 URSP Alumni Career Panel, alumni shared important lessons learned through years of practice in the planning field with URSP students. Moderated by Jubi Headley, class of 2006, the panel included planning alums Ms. Melissa Bird, Neighborhood Planning Coordinator for the DC Office of Planning; Brigitte Fessenden, City Planner for the Baltimore City Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation; Jeff La Noue, Project Manager for Midtown Corporation CDC; Chris Ryer, former Deputy Director for the Baltimore Department of Planning; and Stephanie Williams, Project Director for The Bozzuto Group. Panelist discussed the important skills for young planners, as well as the opportunities in their respective fields.



Thomas Downs: Politics of Smart Growth

By Elana Messner (emessner@umd.edu)

Thomas Downs, President and CEO of the Eno Transportation Foundation and former Executive Director of the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, facilitated a class discussion on the Politics of Smart Growth. Mr. Downs experience includes the past presidencies of AMTRAK and the National Association of Home Builders, as well as extensive work in regional and city government. Mr. Downs noted that the development of transportation through the last few decades, as well as the general public's feeling towards mass transit presents a tremendous challenge to city planners and transportation experts as they seek to create a balance among congestion, accessibility, and politics.



Dr. Jonathan Levine: Zoned Out

By Willow Lung Amam (lungamam@umd.edu) and
Elana Messner (emessner@umd.edu)

Dr. Jonathan Levine, author of *Zoned Out: Regulations, Markets and Transportation Land Use Choices*, spoke to the Growth Management class in March 2006. He argued that in order to change land use patterns, we must shift our focus to reforming zoning policies inherent to every municipality, town, and city. Dr. Levine is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Urban and Regional Planning Program in the A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan.



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