

## URBAN PLANNING NEWSLETTER

MARCH 11, 2021

As we mark the beginning of Women's History Month, take a moment to celebrate amazing achievements of women in our society and in our own community. It's a somber one-year anniversary since the pandemic upended our daily lives, but make sure to find something to celebrate.

Join us tomorrow, Friday, March 12 from 9:30am to 7pm at Wood Auditorium in Avery Hall to discuss and stream the **Planning Futures? On Decolonial, Postcolonial, and Abolitionist Planning** conference hosted by Assistant Professor Hiba Bou Akar. All students in attendance must comply with Columbia's compact, including green pass, social distancing rules and mask-wearing. Max capacity 25 people at a time. Please let us know which sessions you plan to attend on this form so we can ensure there will be no conflict. Planning student walk-ins will be welcomed if there is enough space when they arrive.

Contributions or ideas for the newsletter can be submitted to Elaine Hsieh and Geon Woo Lee using this form. Feel free to share any news regarding events, class projects, jobs/internships, scholarships/fellowships, and academic related student updates.

## PROGRAM UPDATE

**Zeineb Sellami ('21)** and her team recently was awarded Honorable Mention for their submission to the Urban Land Institute's 2021 Hines Competition.

Digital Mentor **Elaine Hsieh ('21)** will be presenting at NYC Open Data Week today at noon on Community Driven Innovation: Challenges and Opportunities of Participatory Policy Design.

PhD student **Michael Snidal** has been featured in the *Baltimore Sun* for his research on Opportunity Zones program in West Baltimore. He will also give a LiPS talk about the subject next Tuesday.

Writing Mentor **Geon Woo Lee ('21)** will deliver a Critical Reading and Thinking Workshop on Friday, March 12 at 8 PM, two critical reading and thinking strategies, one applicable to general scholarly literature and the other applicable to legal case briefs.

For graduating students, congratulations on all of our achievements during our time together. GSAPP Commencement will be held virtually on Thursday, April 29 at 10 AM. Please check for more details and submit your information on this website by March 31.

## STUDENT ORGANIZATION UPDATES

### Program Council

Program Council will be hosting its second movie night of the semester next Friday, March 19 from 3-6 pm in Wood Auditorium. Attendance will be capped at 10 students to observe social distancing protocols, so be on the lookout for the signup sheet if you're interested in attending.

### LatinGSAPP

LatinGSAPP is excited to share the second round of submissions of our first-ever publication *Patio!* This round features work from a variety of contributors and fields, including our very own GSAPP community. We are also excited to share our recent conversation with **Tatiana Bilbao**, who generously shared some of her time with us to discuss the possibilities of collective space, domesticity in the age of COVID-19, the benefits and drawbacks of collaboration, and the challenges of implementing ideological change.

## FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



### Jiabao Sun

Beijing, China

Land Use Planning, China Agricultural University

### What is your interest within the urban planning field?

Land use & transportation, sustainability, health, food system, urban innovation, big data & smart city

### If you could pick up a new skill in an instant what would it be?

Fashion design because I like design and want to design for people to improve happiness and the harmony of society.

### What's your go-to food when you're craving something?

Not quite sure about this question's meaning. But I really love Beijing roast duck, it is definitely the best choice when you don't know what to eat and when you feel sad or feel bad. It is a taste of home and childhood.

### What TV shows are you currently bingeing?

One Korean TV program called Taste of Wife. It is nice to see how others live and it is sometimes very touching.

## UPCOMING GSAPP EVENTS

### Planning Futures? On Decolonial, Postcolonial, and Abolitionist Planning

Friday, March 12

This one-day conference organized by Assistant Professor Hiba Bou Akar, brings leading planning and urban scholars who are re-thinking the field of urban planning and policy from postcolonial, decolonial, and abolitionist perspectives.

### Gabrielle Bullock

6 PM, Wednesday, March 17

Gabrielle Bullock is a Principal and Director of Global Diversity for Perkins+Will, has shaped an architectural career that focuses on her two passions: design and social justice. As the firm's global diversity director, she is transforming their work culture to foster an environment rich in diverse talent and fresh ideas.

## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

### NYC Open Data Week 2021

March 6 to March 14

Open Data Week is a week-long festival of community-driven events organized and produced by the NYC Mayor's Office of Data Analytics and BetaNYC. Every year, New Yorkers come together all across the boroughs to celebrate New York City's Open Data Law. This year, from March 6 - 14, 2021, 75+ event organizers are hosting virtual sessions to engage with you about open data, technology and design.

### Racial Justice Outlook: Possibilities of Progress in 2021 and Beyond

4 PM, Thursday, March 18

The Office of University Life hosts a panel discussion on the future of racial justice. In 2020 we witnessed an unprecedented outcry in support of Black Lives, in the largest civil rights movement in American history. How will this movement's momentum impact the ability to move from conversation to action at all levels of society? What will it look like for community organizers and voters to hold systems of power accountable for racial and economic justice, and how can leadership at the Federal, state, local levels - and at Columbia - advance progress?

### Queens Night Market Vendor Stories: an Oral History Project

6:10 PM, Thursday, March 18

Storm Garner's Queens Night Market Vendor Stories Oral History Project aims to document multicultural exchange and productive friction in the rapidly changing international food scene of New York City since 2015, and the impact of the pandemic on its many small food businesses since 2020. In this event, Storm will discuss the ins and outs of her collaborations with editors, producers, narrators and journalists on works derived from recent oral histories, hoping to encourage more oral historians to dare to play to a larger audience.

### Mayoral Forum on the Future of Transportation in NYC

6:30 PM, Thursday, March 25

New York's leading transportation equity, safety, and accessibility advocates are convening a forum with the top candidates for NYC mayor. We'll hear about how the City's next generation of leaders will prioritize bus riders, bicyclists, and people with disabilities and consider what that means for the future of New York. New York Times Metro reporter Dana Rubinstein will moderate the conversation.

## WHAT WE'RE READING

MoMA's Reconstructions: Curators Sean Anderson and Mabel O. Wilson discuss the future of equitable architectural possibilities as proposed by ten city case studies.

Remote Work and Cities: Richard Florida writes about how remote working conditions are reshaping where people choose to live and work.

## MENTORS OFFICE HOURS

Writing Mentor (Geon Woo Lee) Office Hours are available both Tuesday (8-10pm) and Wednesday (5-7pm) this semester, subject to change. Please sign-up for a 45-minute time slot via Calendly. Walk-Ins are allowed only for the last 30-minutes.

Digital Mentor (Elaine Hsieh) Office hours are available both Monday (1-3pm), Thursday (9-11am), and Friday (12-2pm) this semester, subject to change. Please sign-up via Calendly. Walk-Ins are also allowed, priority will be given to those who sign-up.

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