GSAPP
Spring 2019
Newsletter

URBAN PLANNING NEWSLETTER APRIL 12, 2019

Contributions or ideas for this newsletter can be submitted to Ms. Rachel Weaver, Assistant to the Director, Urban Planning, 402 Avery, internships, and fellowships, please see the new career portal

CALLING FOR FACULTY AND STUDENT UPDATES

In preparation for the Urban Planning program's Spring 2019 Semester in Review newsletter, we are asking faculty and students to share updates about their recent publications, accomplishments, or situations related traveling they have completed during this semester.

Please share your Columbia accounts for an e-mail from Timothy Chung with more details on how to submit your updates.

PROFESSOR HIBA BOU AKAR BOOK LAUNCH IN BEIRUT

The American University of Beirut recently hosted Hiba Bou Akar, Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, for a launch of her book "For the War Yet to Come: Planning Beirut in Frontiers"

The event took place in Beirut, Lebanon and was widely attended by the academic community, the profession, and was covered by local newspapers. The conversation that followed focused on the role of planners in post-conflict cities.

UP ADMITTED STUDENTS OPEN HOUSE

Last Thursday, April 4th, the Urban Planning program held its annual Admitted Students Open House. Over 30 students, full-day event. All admitted students met faculty members, participated in a Q&A panel with current students, and participated in a studio critique. The morning was spent and second year students highlighting their thesis work. Admitted students also received a campus tour and were treated to lunch at Avery Hall.

Several students have already confirmed their enrollment and we are excited to welcome the Class of 2021

UPS SUMMARY: VIJAYANTHI RAO

On April 9th, Vijayanthi Rao, Director of Terraform Center for Advanced Urban Research and Adjunct Professor of Urban Planning, presented her work to the UP faculty in a lecture entitled, "On Speculation and Smartness: Urban Futures in Contemporary Asia." Her talk, based on her ongoing ethnographic fieldwork in urban centers and "the endless city" and "the end of the city", which are undergoing rapid transformations due to neoliberal capitalization and urbanization and the intimate relationship between climate change, planetary urbanization and the end of human life on earth as we now know it.

Using Mumbai as a primary case study, Rao explored the transformation of the modernist paradigm of city form and civic life into a set of speculative practices and "smartness" that are "remaking the contours and futures of the urban". She argued that the rise of speculative as a mode of urban governance and smartness as a technology broadly signifies the production of value from orders of uncertainty, and that it is a technology of governance that modernizes and reanimates and is distinct sense of the future, instead, replacing the modern sense of a progressive future with a multitude of speculative alter-realities.

STUDENT NEWS & UPDATES

Guilherme Rocha Furtado (MSUP '19) will be presenting his thesis research at the institute of Latin American Studies on April 25th at 1pm as part of the Sheath Research Seminar series.

Guilherme's thesis research is entitled, "Upgrading Feelings: Funding Schemes and their Effects on Economic Life in Informal Settlements." Guilherme's research work focuses on public private lands-upgrading schemes in São Paulo, known as "Urban Operations" which manage informal settlements in the city. Many of these lands are upgrading. Since they receive more funding, one may assume that these upgrading interventions financially benefit the inhabitants. Guilherme's research brings up indicators related to infrastructure and public services that the conventional public schemes. One has to pay attention to the ways in which these schemes economic opportunities and more perverse safety nets. Yet, there's inadvertes these hypotheses through the use of qualitative indicators, census data, and field interviews. More info

Pauline Cisneros Tamta (MSUP '19) and **Valentina Pardo** (MSM '19) were finalists in the 5th annual Harvard Real Estate Venture Competition. They presented their work on the Mexico City Housing Market and how to provide affordable and flexible co-working space by activating underutilized commercial real estate in Latin America. The duo's proposal focused on the "gig economy" workers by offering services in diverse neighborhoods and creating an entrepreneurial community. Pauline and Valentina will travel to Mexico City and China and it is aiming to expand to Mexico City and other Latin American cities in the future.

Pauline also co-authored an article entitled "Resilient Housing and the Urban Crisis Agenda" with Michael Donovan. Her piece is featured in "Vivienda ¿Qué crea?: Ensayos sobre la producción de la vivienda" a newly released publication from The Housing and Urban Development Department of Inter American Development Bank. The article is a call to action for a shift from a top-down internship last summer at IDB focusing on coastal resiliency and local practices in Latin America. More info

FIRST-YEAR STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Angelo Gonzalez Sanoz

Where are you from?
Isabela, Puerto Rico

Where did you study for your undergraduate degree? What was your major?
Occidental College in Los Angeles, BA in Anthropology and Minor in Urban and Regional Studies

Do you have any professional experiences? Internships? Jobs? Research? I worked for a managing a family-owned firm, LS Jesus an USDA Rural Development as a community planner.

What made you choose the Urban Planning University? I chose to study at Columbia because I believe that GSAPP can equip me with the tools necessary to tackle issues related to the Puerto Rican housing crisis.

What is your interest within the urban planning field? I am interested in the effects of colonialism on planning in the context of disaster recovery, planning for climate change, and the intersection between the housing crisis, affordable housing, and transportation.

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

Where's your favorite study spot in the city? Think Coffee at 204 Mercer Street.

What's the first city you live over visited, and why? Miami, because I like the idea of combining the city, medieval buildings, shared and walkable spaces, and cafes with a touch of Mediterrea and intimate vibe. I guess it is all of a kind.

SECOND-YEAR STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Kenneth Werner

Where are you from?
Berlin, Germany

What and where did you study for your undergraduate?
Humboldt University (Berlin, City Economics, Political Science, German

Why did you choose to study at Columbia University? I chose Columbia because I wanted to study in a program that fitted my (very) interdisciplinary interest in the urban analytics course offerings.

What has been your favorite urban planning class so far and why? Urban Analytics! I enjoyed the tutorials and critical discussion of GIS applications.

What is your interest within the urban planning field? I am interested in the intersection of urban planning (specifically local government and affordable housing).

What is one advice that you have for the first-years? Take a class with Professor Ceuster! Also, I would recommend some of my favorite courses have been at Columbia: Law

What is your favorite spot in New York City? Jackson Heights Queens Reservoir Running Track in Central Park

What is your dream career? Litigator turned professor and researcher.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

AICP Certification Information Session - May 9th, 6GSAP Gore
There will be an information session about two programs offered by the Pratt Center for Community Development (PCCD). The first is AICP Certification, which is the only nationwide, independent verification of planners' knowledge, skills, and abilities. The AICP Certification Program which allows recent graduates to take the AICP exam soon after graduating and become an "AICP Candidate" while they work to fulfill the professional requirements for full certification. Please submit an RSVP using the following form. More info

Senior Social Enterprise Summer Fellowships, Application Currently Open
Pratt Center for Community Development promotes financial sustainability to students engaged in summer internships with social and environmental value. You may be eligible to receive a $4,000 stipend if you are a student enrolled in your 1st or 2 nd graduate program or an undergraduate freshman, sophomore, or junior). (3) You will be working at a social enterprise or a social entrepreneurship or entrepreneurship-focused organization which is less than 7 years old (or solely dedicated to social enterprise). (3) Your work will be in the fields of: Food, Energy, and Innovations in or about August 31st. More info

IFHP Urban Planning and Design Summer School, Deadline April 12th
The 25th IFHP Urban Planning and Design Summer School will take place in Tampere, Finland, focused on the field of urban planning, will be held August 5th to 16th, 2019. The course is co-organized by Tampere University and the Finnish Association of Municipal and Regional Planners for Housing and Planning and is open to students and young professionals from all disciplines related to spatial planning. More info

2019 Waterfront Conference – Waterfront Schools: Learning from the Past, Planning for the Future, is pertaining with The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, invites students to apply to attend the Alliance's annual Waterfront Conference, this year's theme is "Waterfront Schools". Now in its fourth year, the Waterfront Scholars program brings together a diverse group of students and young professionals interested in the waterfront. The annual conference will take place on Tuesday May 7th. This year's theme, "Rising Seas, Rising Waters", will focus on the impacts of climate change and and climate change adaptations from across the region while assessing the challenges and opportunities for better preparedness. More info

2019-2020 Enterprise Rose Fellowship, Deadline: April 15th
The Enterprise Rose Fellowship partners community engaged architects and artists with local community organizations for a year-long project. The fellowship facilitates an inclusive approach that creates and preserves sustainable, healthy and affordable communities. An Enterprise Rose Fellow is a recent graduate who has a preferred location and host organization when they apply. More info

2019 Sasha Bruce University Cultural & Historic Preservation Conference - Call for Papers, Deadline: April 15th
Sasha Bruce University invites proposals for individual papers as well as complete sessions on the theme "Preservation Practice Today: Exploring the intersection of platform papers, conceptualizing preservation and memory, historical analysis, and case studies. Papers in any field of study are welcome, including but not limited to: architecture/history, anthropology, museum studies, preservation planning/policy and public history are encouraged to submit. Please submit your proposal to the Cultural & Historic Preservation Conference in October 2019. More info

CityLab Summer School - "The Sustainable City: An Integrated Perspective", Deadline: April 19th
CityLab Summer School is a multi-disciplinary course approaches the sustainable city from a profoundly interdisciplinary perspective – bridging natural sciences, social sciences, and the arts. The course is designed to exercise the relationship between the introduction of new types of analysis and new technologies, on the one hand, and the social, economic and political dynamics, on the other. More info

Buell Center Fellowship, Deadline: April 21st
The Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture is pleased to announce its annual awards for predoctoral, dissertation, and postdoctoral fellows in between the fields of architecture, urban history, and landscape. Interdisciplinary or comparative work on the Americas is especially encouraged.

Up to four awards, each with a maximum of $5,000, will be made for the academic year 2019-2020. Fellowships are in conjunction with a masters thesis or PhD dissertation. Fellowships are also available for "graduate" students in the summer and fall of 2019. More info

Westchester Municipal Planning Federation Student Scholarship, Deadline
This scholarship for $2,000 is available to an undergraduate or graduate planning student (or a student majoring in a related field such as: environmental, public policy, geography, architecture or landscape architecture) with a demonstrated interest in planning practice in the Hudson Valley or Westchester County. Preference will be given to those students who have lived, worked, or attended school in Westchester County or who have shown a vested connection to Westchester County. The scholarship is available only to those students who will be enrolled in a planning program in the summer and/or fall semesters of 2019. More info

UPCOMING EVENTS

"Kate Sacker and Thomas Mellins on New York Times' April Fifth Book Culture - 336 West 125th Street
Join Kate Sacker, Professor of Real Estate Development, and Thomas Mellins, Senior Vice President of Real Estate from Rising, an illustrated history of real estate development in Manhattan. The book is a story of Manhattan's rise, from farms to the city's most powerhouse, and key roles that collectively shaped a city like no other. More info

"Finding New York's Dutch Roots", April 16th, Brooklyn Historical Society
Join Brooklyn Historical Society and give a lecture about the legacy of Dutch colonialization in New Netherlands. Shorris will lead a digital tour of the Hudson Valley, Long Island, and Brooklyn, tracing the Dutch farms, lots of leftover language, street patterns, and Dutch customs. More info

"Housing Tech City? New York's Future Without Amazon", April 17th, Museum of the City of New York
Amazon's decision to locate its second headquarters and corporate headquarters, HQ2, in Long Island City, Queens, due to opposition from local and state politicians and activists, has left many people in the tech community and the city that missed an opportunity, the critical questions raised by Amazon's impending arrival and sudden withdrawal from New York City. Amazon's HQ2 has implications of jobs and economic diversification came concerns about infrastructure, inequality and the impact of the project on the housing market and displacement of residents in the city with or without Amazon. Should New Yorkers be relieved or aggrieved? What's next for the city's relationship to big tech and big business? More info

"NYC is Dead?", April 18th, New Museum
Jonathan Soto and Ben Kessler will discuss ground proclaiming the death of New York, punctuating the metropolis as a cultural wasteland laid bare by chain stores, gentrification, and the homogenization. Soto's evidence exists to support these claims, evidence also exists to refute them with the emergence of new cultural centers, the proliferation of independent art galleries, and growth surrounding projections, all of which begs us to ask: is the panic, is New York dead? More info

"NYU Planning Series: Rocker Johnson", April 22nd, NYU Puck Building
Rocker Johnson, Urban Development presents Rocker Johnson who will discuss his new book, *Children of the Dream: Why School Integration Works*. Johnson's work explores the contemporary and historical implications of the value of school integration, the US has regressed back to a segregated educational system. More info

"Thomas Leslie | Towards the Open Box: Postwar Skyscrapers in Portland, New York and Chicago", April 23rd, Columbia GSAPP Gore
The exclusive "Gore Box" skyscraper of the postwar era have a surprisingly opaque history. In this talk, architect and historian Thomas Leslie will ask why "the glass box curtain wall" and where how lighting, air conditioning and gaze technologies developed in the decades before the postwar. Leslie will also discuss how these technical systems rapidly evolved through experiments with reliable cladding and servicing systems to produce the triumph of transparency. More info

"Across the American", April 23rd, GSAPP Incubator - Studio
This event explores contemporary architecture models operating across the Americas. Academics, researchers, and practitioners will discuss contemporary ideas, strategies and plans of action developed to operate in multiple scales, contexts, and jurisdictions, and how these practices have developed in relation to local conditions across the continent. What are the clashes and encounters between the local and the global? How do we deal with the tensions between the demands of practice, research, academia and critical thinking without professional flux? More info

"The Cooper Union/Cit Mayoral Forum Series - Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan", Sept 30th, Cooper Union
Mike Duggan, Mayor of Detroit, will speak to his work about the work is transforming the city through the reliance on private public partnerships. Following his talk, Mayor Duggan will be joined by Dr. Eric Dinmore (Director of CEO), Howard Rosenblum, Maurice Cox (Director of Planning and Development for the City of Detroit), and Juan Alonso, Professor of Practice in Urban Planning and Policy, for a conversation about the Motor City. Please RSVP in advance. More info

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