

Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning

Planning Globally Taskforce Report, October 3, 2003—Report for ACSP Officers Meeting

Mission

To prepare specific recommendations and plans for discussion, adoption, and implementation in the following areas:

- 1) Curricular changes ACSP member schools might consider and implement.
- 2) Development of opportunities for research and study abroad and interaction with non-U.S. scholars.
- 3) Strengthening planning education and the field of planning abroad.

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History

ACSP President Wim Wievel gave the ACSP Planning Globally Taskforce the following rationale, purpose and charge in February 2002:

Rationale and Purpose

Planners in the U.S. need to have a broad understanding of planning issues, policies and programs outside of the U.S., and how global issues affect planning inside the U.S. This is important for many reasons:

- to increase the arsenal of tools planners can bring to bear on U.S. planning issues;
- because planning students are increasingly likely at some point to have to deal with planning issues abroad;
- because as educated citizens and professionals it is important to be aware of the field and profession outside of one's own country;
- because global issues, immigration, and international cultural issues have an impact on U.S. communities and the planning activities in them; and
- to more effectively build theories and methods that truly reflect planning behaviors and the full range of planning contexts.

Charge

Same as Mission section (above).

Structure

The Taskforce has four committees:

- 1) *The Coordinating Committee*, with as members the chairs of the other three committees, one other member from each of the committees, and two additional members who are not on one of the committees, who were appointed by the ACSP President. The task of this committee is to encourage, monitor, and track the other three committees, to review and prioritize their recommendations, to deal with issues of overlap or gaps, to maintain liaison with APA and AICP in regard to their international activities, and to make actual recommendations to the Governing Board or other bodies as appropriate.
- 2) *Curriculum Committee*. The task of this committee is to review planning curricula in regard to how well they address the issues raised in "Rationale and Purpose," to develop recommendations for improvement, and to recommend ways that curriculum improvements might be developed, with a particular interest in joint and collaborative activities.
- 3) *Study and Research Abroad Committee*. The task of this committee is to review the extent to which research and study abroad opportunities are currently available to planning faculty and students, to explore increased contacts with non-U.S. faculty, and to develop recommendations regarding possible expansion, with a particular interest in joint and collaborative activities.
- 4) *International Associations and Conferences Committee*. The task of this committee is to advise ACSP's representatives regarding the planned 2006 World Planning Schools Conference (WPSC'06) and regarding further activities with international associations of planning schools, as well as to consider any other initiatives to strengthen planning and planning education abroad.

Past Highlights and Timeline

The committees began their work through email during winter 2002. The Coordinating Committee convened during the APA meeting of Spring 2002, in Chicago. The four committees kept in touch via e-mail between the 2002 APA conference and the 2002 ACSP conference in Baltimore. *Curriculum Committee* chair Bish Sanyal generously hosted a committee workshop at MIT from April 25-27, 2002 where several members gave a series of short presentations related to global planning curricular issues that served as a springboard for committee discussion. Sanyal finalized the results of this workshop and with additional input from some of the committee members prepared the draft report, "Report of the Curriculum Committee of the Globally Planning Task Force" (attached).

The committees all met submitted interim reports to the Coordinating Committee (CC) at the 2002 ACSP Baltimore conference. The CC discussed what was left to do to complete the reports. Since the ACSP conference will not be held in fall 2003, the CC did not have the opportunity to meet, finalize and approve the Task Force's recommendations. Therefore, the CC is discussing through email the final reports and action items for presentation to the Governing Board at the 2003 ACSP Administrator's Conference.

Recent Accomplishments

- 1) *The Coordinating Committee* and the other three committees last met at ACSP 2002. Each committee chair reported on accomplishments to date, the current status of the work of each committee, and identified what tasks remained to complete their committee's work. The *Curriculum Committee* report is complete while the *Study and Research Abroad* report provides a framework for listing and describing programs, but is not an exhaustive list of programs. None of the reports have been fully discussed nor adopted in recent face-to-face meetings of committee members nor by coordinating committee members as few attended the AESOP-ACSP conference in Leuven. Because none of these committees have met since the ACSP 2002 Baltimore conference, the various reports are being circulated by email among the coordinating committee members at this time. The product of this email discussion will be a series of prioritized recommendations for adoption and action by the ACSP Governing Board at the 2004 October ACSP Administrators Conference.
- 2) *International Associations and Conferences Committee*. The activities of this committee are explained in two freestanding reports to the ACSP officers by co-chairs Bruce Stiffler (GPEAN) and Johanna Looye (WPSC'06). Bruce Stiffler is the chair of the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN) Communications Committee. Johanna Looye is the ACSP representative to and co-chair of the WPSC'06 Steering Committee. These activities are briefly described since this committee is part of President Wiewel's Planning Globally Taskforce. The Communications Committee of the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN), adopted the by-laws of its Coordinating Committee at the Belo meeting. In Belo the GPEAN association members also proposed a Charter for GPEAN.

The World Planning Schools Congress 2006 Steering Committee (of GPEAN) met in Leuven, Belgium, in July to discuss the Autonomous National University of Mexico's (UNAM) proposal to host the WPSC'06 in Mexico City. Expectations about proposal details were clarified and a new deadline of mid-August was set. In addition, the committee agreed to adopt a policy (parallel to the Communications Committee of GPEAN) to convene meetings of the Steering Committee only at conferences/congresses where the host association agrees to waive registration fees for SC members who would not otherwise attend that meeting.

Louis Albrechts (Steering Committee chair) and Johanna Looye (Steering Committee co-chair) traveled to Mexico City in late August to meet Sergio Flores Pena and his conference committee, to visit the proposed congress venue, and to go over congress planning details.

Objectives Same as Structure section (above).

On-Going Activities

- 1) *The Coordinating Committee*: The Coordinating Committee members are finalizing the outputs of the three committees
- 2) *Curriculum Committee*. The draft report is being reviewed for comments to be incorporated into a final report for October 2003.
- 3) *Study and Research Abroad Committee*. Its report is being finalized.
- 4) *International Associations and Conferences Committee*. From the WPSC'06 report by Johanna Looye: A report covering the details of the SC's work will be circulated among the nine members and forwarded to the ACSP Governing Board before its meeting in Florida later this month.

Action Items and New Activities

The Planning Globally Task Force will submit the following reports to the ACSP Governing Board before its meeting in Florida:

- a) Report of the Curriculum Committee of the Globally Planning Task Force
- b) The Current State of Study and Research Abroad in American and Canadian Universities: Some Background Information for Discussion
- c) International Associations Report
- d) World Planning Schools Congress 2006 (WPSC'06) report

Because none of these committees have met since the ACSP 2002 Baltimore conference, the various reports are being circulated by email among the coordinating committee members at this time. The product of this email discussion will be a series of prioritized recommendations for adoption and action by the ACSP Governing Board at the 2004 October ACSP Administrators Conference. The following four action items are action items I anticipate will be requested of the Governing Board at its October 2004 meeting:

- 1) **Transform the Planning globally Task Force (the Coordinating Committee) into an ACSP Special Committee for five years (2003-2008).**
 - a. Proposed subcommittees include Curriculum, Study and Research Abroad, and International Associations and Conferences.
 - b. Purpose of committees would be to review and forward concrete proposals on curriculum, study and research abroad, and conferences and association matters to the Governing Board for action.
 - c. This committee is not proposed to overshadow or duplicate the accomplishments of the Global Planning Educators Interest Group (GPEIG), but would serve as the working committee that that would develop and implement suggestions and ideas that are discussed and proposed by GPEIG members.
 - d. The time period of five years is suggested to extend beyond the WPSC'06 meetings to include time to learn lessons from and institutionalize further future world planning congress meetings, and to evaluate any completed curriculum and study and research abroad efforts.
- 2) **Provide financial and dissemination support to complete the inventory of study and research abroad programs.**
 - a. Provide funding to hire a graduate student research assistant for one semester at ten hours per week to complete the inventory (from a sponsored account at Arizona State University: \$4,472 salary; \$804.96 ERE; total \$5,276.96).
 - b. Disseminate a stand-alone final report, incorporate a part of or the whole report into the ACSP Guide to Graduate Education, and incorporate onto the ACSP web page.
- 3) **Consider formal ratification of the GPEAN Charter by ACSP.**
 - a. The proposed GPEAN Charter required the ratification of the member associations, and it sets down a deadline for ratification of December 31, 2003.
 - b. Co-Chair Bruce Stiftel states he does not now what process ACSP will use to consider ratification, but he asks that you bring this process to conclusion by the December deadline.
- 4) **WPSC'06 has two anticipated action items: (1) to endorse (and agree to provide moral support to) the WPSC'06, and (2) to agree to host the Steering Committee's 2004 meeting in Portland, Oregon, and to waive conference fees as described below.**
 - a. To adopt a policy (parallel to the Communications Committee of GPEAN) to convene meetings of the WPSC'06 Steering Committee only at conferences/congresses where the host association agrees to waive registration fees for SC members who would not otherwise attend that meeting. For the upcoming ACSP 2004 meeting in Portland, co-chair Johanna Looye estimates between 2 and up to 5 people may ask for the waiver to attend the WPSC'06 meeting at the ACSP conference.

- 5) This is a point of information to the Governing Board, not a request for action from the Board: The outgoing Planning Globally Task Force recommends that either the newly formed Special Committee, if approved, or the existing Global Planning Educators Interest Group (GPEIG), if the Special Committee is not approved, **develop and bring forward for discussion and approval a new criterion for accreditation related to global issues for incorporating global content into PAB accreditation guidelines.** This proposal is not requesting action to approve any specific criteria focused on global planning at this time.