

## **Planners Progress: Lessons Learned the First Five Years - Sponsored by the Young Planners Group (YPG)**

*Anne-Marie Wolff, AICP, Planning and Zoning Administrator, City of Valdosta*  
*Elisabeth Kulinski, Associate, RCLCO*  
*Janeane Giarrusso, Senior Environmental Planner, Brown and Caldwell*

The first five years of a Planner's career are full of lessons learned. This session focuses on several key lessons in hopes of helping those still in planning school or recently graduated learn from fellow planner's 'real world' experiences. The new Young Planners Group (YPG) will also be introduced and several members will be present to provide input to the discussion and to share experiences from a YPG perspective. The purpose of the YPG is to help young planning professionals establish social and professional connections useful in navigating their new careers.

9/30/2009 -- 2:45 - 4:00  
CM: 1.25

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## **Using New Census Tools to Understand Your Community**

*Mike Carnathan, Researcher, Atlanta Regional Commission*

The U.S. Census Bureau offers several tools that help planners gain a better understanding of their communities. The American Community Survey provides updated socio-economic data each year, which is something planners used to have to wait 10 years for. But how useful will the data be? Another tool from the Census is Local Employment Dynamics, which allows users to identify which sectors are hiring, firing and creating jobs. Its customized mapping features enable the user to see where workers of a self-defined area live, and where the residents of this area work.

9/30/2009 -- 4:15 - 5:30  
CM: 1.25

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## **What Do Planners Need to Know About Urban Design**

*Richard Dagenhart, Asst. Professor, Georgia Tech*  
*David Green, Professor, Georgia Tech*  
*Perry Yang, Assoc. Professor, Georgia Tech*  
*Michael Dobbins, Professor, Georgia Tech*

The design quality of towns and cities is increasingly important. Planners are on the front line of this change, responding to citizen demands, evaluating developers proposals, and writing codes

to regulate growth. The question is this: What do planners need to know about urban design to help build better places.

10/1/2009 -- 9:00 - 10:15

CM: 1.25

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## **When things don't go as planned**

*Jim Summerbell, Senior Community Planner, JJG*

*Eric Bosman, Associate Principal, Urban Collage*

Adaptation and humor can be a planner's most valuable asset, particularly when things just don't go as planned. This session will offer some sound professional advice on how to best adapt and deal with unforeseen events with the help of some humorous examples of planning bloopers and mistakes.

10/1/2009 -- 10:35 - 11:50

CM: 1.25

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## **African American Women Planning Directors in Metro Atlanta**

*Geneasa Elias AICP, Acting Director Department of Planning & Zoning, City of East Point*

*Alice Wakefield, City of Roswell*

*Inga Kennedy, President, Planners for Environmental Quality*

*Beth McMillan, Director of Community Engagement, Atlanta Beltline Inc.*

*Charletta Wilson Jacks, Director of Bureau of Planning, City of Atlanta*

The American Planning Association has expressed its commitment to improving diversity among persons who choose the field of planning as a profession. Historically, the profession has been dominated by white men. However, it appears that in metropolitan Atlanta, there is a higher concentration of African American planners, especially women.

10/1/2009 -- 1:30 - 2:45

CM: 1.25

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## **AICP Ethics Training**

*Gary Cornell, FAICP*

*Glenn Coyne, AICP, EDAW*

*Michael Dobbins, FAIA, AICP*

This session is intended to satisfy the AICP CM requirements for Ethics. The AICP Code focuses on a system of moral principles and behaviors that are appropriate to situations that are

frequently encountered by professional planners. This session will provide an overview of the standards of ethical behavior contained in the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct and a panel will lead a discussion of several scenarios that represent case studies.

10/1/2009 -- 3:05 - 4:35  
CM: 1.25

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## **Regulating Signs in the Digital Age**

*Bill Ross, President, ROSS+associates*

Digital signage has burst on the scene along our highways, streets and storefronts. This entertaining but deadly serious session will examine the legal authority to regulate signs, understanding the technology and dealing with digital billboards and other digital signs, regulatory approaches to control such signs, and further resources to explore.

10/2/2009 -- 8:30 - 9:45  
CM: 1.25

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## **Communicating the Planner's Role in Recovery - How have the planner's responsibilities and opportunities changed as we (hopefully) head towards economic recovery, and how to best communicate our message to our audience?**

*Jonathan Gelber, Senior Consultant, Bleakly Advisory Group*  
*Ken Bleakly, AICP, Bleakly Advisory Group*  
*Steve Cover, AICP, Managing Principal, HOK*  
*Maria Saporta, Atlanta Business Chronicle*

This session considers:

- The Planner's role in Economic Recovery- How should planners adapt to new financial realities?
- How can the planner translate these concepts and values between the technical, business, and political realms
- How can the planner work with the media to promote and market their plans and foster public support.

10/2/2009 -- 10:00- 11:15  
CM: 1.25

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## **Student Presentations**

*Ciarra Callis*

*Elise Barrella*  
*Kasim Ortiz*  
*Whitney Parker*

Graduate planning students from both Savannah State University and Georgia Tech will present projects. The first presentation explores the influence of neighborhood characteristics on Savannah High School's dropout rate. Another presentation will describe best practices for sustainable transportation planning from survey data collected from state Departments of Transportation (DOTs). The third presentation is a hedonic regression analysis on the impact of environmental degradation and economic development opportunities in Brunswick, GA. Finally, a student will present results from testing the validity of the spatial mismatch theory in relation to employability of residents in Savannah's Cuyler-Brownsfield neighborhood.

10/2/2009 -- 10:00 11:15  
CM:

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