



**The Fifth Annual Urban Planning Conference
Savannah State University
“Equity Planning: Creating Diverse and Inclusive Communities”
March 31, 2017**

Call for Awards Nominations

The Organizing Committee for the 2017 Urban Planning Conference seeks nominations for an award that will be given at the conference. This year’s theme is **“Equity Planning: Creating Diverse and Inclusive Communities.”**

The conference will focus on equity planning to address the widening gap between prosperous communities and those that continue to be disenfranchised. Despite the growth and positive transformation that have occurred in many rural and urban areas over the past few decades, a significant segment of the American population live in substandard conditions. As planning professionals, it is crucial that we promote equitable development and advocate for policies and practices that mitigate systemic inequities in housing, transportation, economic opportunities, and living environments.

The Urban Planning Award is given to recognize outstanding initiatives that demonstrate one of the following themes: 1) collaboration, 2) adaptation, 3) implementation, and 4) design.

- **Collaboration:** initiatives that demonstrate inclusive collaboration that resulted in successful plans and/or projects. Examples include: diverse community engagement initiatives that included a wide cross-section of interests; task-forces, advisory groups and coalitions working together to address infrastructure, beautification, environmental issues, economic disparity, transportation and/or public awareness and education. These can be long or short-term and can highlight processes as well as implementation and outcome.
- **Adaptation:** Examples may include projects that demonstrate innovation in adaptation of plans, projects, sites and buildings to meet the needs of a changing community while maximizing existing resources.
- **Implementation:** Examples may include successful projects dealing with the built and natural environment, community awareness and education, economic development, and projects that promote healthy sustainable communities.

- **Design:** Innovation with re-designing plans, projects, sites and buildings to meet the current needs of a community while retaining the most valuable historic features. Examples can include activities to support: adaptive reuse, re-shaping the built environment, augmenting the natural environment or mitigating environmental challenges, designing or re-designing environments that encourage healthy social interactions, and the creation of spaces that support cultural activities.

Public and private projects are eligible for nomination as well as and both structural and non-structural initiatives.

A form to nominate an individual or organization can be obtained by contacting Dr. David Bell at belld@savannahstate.edu or Dr. Deden Rukmana at rukmanad@savannahstate.edu. **Please note** "Award Nomination" in subject line or cover page. **Applications are due 5:00 p.m. February 23.**