

Mentorship in Practice

2026 GPA Fall Conference

hosted by the
GPA Mentor Program



GPA Mentor Program

A little bit about us...



What is the GPA Mentor Program?

The goal of the GPA Mentor Program is to successfully **build teams** of emerging professionals, mid-career planners, and mentors for **guidance and support** while offering mentors the opportunity to **strengthen ties** with future leaders of the planning profession and APA.



2026 Graduating Class

...Congratulations!



Karrington Allen
Pond



Shanice Amos
Bartow County



Alexandra Arzayus
SGRC



Alexandria Chezem
Foresite Group



Mary Flatt
GDOT



Qing Lin
Gwinnett County



Cam Miller
Invest Atlanta



Jill Nomura
Putnam County



Emma Polhemus
MARTA



John Thompson
HNTB



Emily Walker
Blue Cypress



Josh Woody
Lumenor

2026 Graduating Class

...Congratulations!



Ken Babinchak
Smith Gee Studio



Will Butler
Columbia County



Nate Hoelzel
City of Atlanta



Eric Lusher
Gresham Smith



Austin Shelton
City of Doraville



Dana Spayde
City of Canton



Elizabeth Yarnall

How Can I Get Involved?



Scan me!

Before We Begin

Close your eyes...





What Does Mentorship Mean?

Mentorship

1. the influence, guidance, or direction given by a mentor

Mentor

1. a person who gives help and advice to a less experienced and often younger person especially in a professional or academic context
2. a friend of Odysseus entrusted with the education of Odysseus' son Telemachus

Now we're getting somewhere...

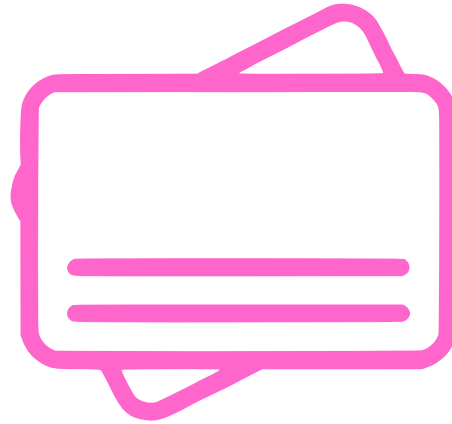




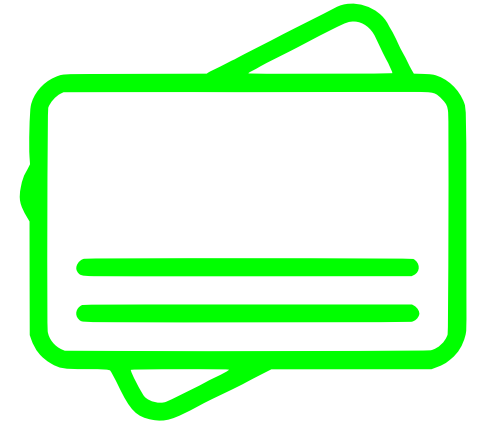
Natoire, C. (1740). *Télémaque écoutant les conseils de Mentor* (*Histoire de Télémaque*).



How will you **engage** in **mentorship** as a **result** of this **session**?



On what **topics** should **upcoming** mentorship sessions **focus**?



How can GPA better **support mentorship** in the **planning field**?

Panel Discussion

On to the good stuff...



Our Panelists



Angie Cox, IOM, GCCE



Carla Delaney, AICP, MPA



Eric Lusher, AICP



Monica Sagastizado, AICP



Margaret Woodard

Next Steps

What will you do now...





Thank You!

Mollie Bogle, AICP
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