Building Ladders to the Middle-Class: Planning for Equitable and Sustainable Prosperity

For planners, equity is a fundamental value. Planning theory emphasizes this value, and the AICP code of ethics of practicing planners recognizes it as well. Planners are sorely aware that, as a nation, U.S. society has become less equal and offers less equity than in decades past. The middle-class is shrinking, barriers to the movement of the lower-class toward middle-class status are growing wider, and political support for redistributive social policy is all but dead. At the same time, while planners are aware of the increasing urgency of a sustainability agenda, environmental issues are still too often posed as a choice between a sustainable environment and economic prosperity.

As educators, we want our students to emerge from their education as professionals who take equity and sustainability seriously in their work. While in planning school, we immerse students in planning research documenting past inequities and presenting case studies of heroes who have battled against large institutions in the cause of race and class equity. We present the goals of the Smart Growth movement, with its attention to the need for transportation choices and housing choices other than the limited opportunities offered in most communities in the U.S.

As planning researchers and educators, our hearts are in the right place. But our research has never fully developed planning tools by which professional planners and communities can effectively assert equity and sustainability goals within the planning and plan implementation processes.

For this conference, we want to open a conversation about the ways in which planners can (and do) shape the choices available to households and influence the choices that households make. We encourage papers that review research on the effects that good planning and design can have in reducing the private expenditures of the middle class and working poor on housing, transportation, food, and other necessities. We encourage papers that examine planning and local policies in the context of household economics, regional economics, and sustainability benefits. Finally, we encourage papers that analyze the existing gaps in our knowledge, practice, and curricula.

Some broad examples of work within this area include research on financial and housing services for the working poor that offer a ladder out of poverty, planning for transit-oriented development in order to lower household transport costs, work on achieving sustainability within inner city neighborhoods as a means of capturing value for the neighborhood, measuring the purchasing power of inner city neighborhoods for the benefit of those neighborhoods, meeting the needs of the “unbanked” poor, and many other topics.
Call for Papers
Building Ladders to the Middle-Class:
Planning for Equitable and Sustainable Prosperity

WEB SITE OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS:  Wednesday, January 10th, 2007
ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE:  Wednesday, February 21st, 2007
MIDNIGHT U.S. EASTERN STANDARD TIME

The Conference Committee of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the Local Host Committee at University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee cordially invite proposals for individual papers, complete pre-organized sessions, roundtable discussions and poster presentations for the annual conference of the Association. The invitation is extended to faculty and students of ACSP member programs and to scholars and scholarly practitioners outside the ACSP family who are concerned with planning cities and regions.

Conference Theme: We particularly encourage abstracts that relate to the conference theme "Building Ladders to the Middle-Class: Planning for Equitable and Sustainable Prosperity." Track chairs have been encouraged to create a session or two from papers within their track that is focused on the theme. If applicable to your paper, use the key word step of the on-line abstract submission process to indicate your abstract’s possible inclusion.

Review: Papers will be reviewed by track chairs and anonymous readers. Proposals will either be rejected or accepted, however, there may be a short period during which some authors may be invited to revise and resubmit their work for reconsideration with acceptance based on meeting published deadlines and a second review of the proposal. This decision is left to the individual track chair. Track chairs are particularly interested in both formal paper sessions and informal roundtables that assess and synthesize the state of knowledge, revisit "classic" works, and review major new studies. If you expect to propose such a session, please discuss your scheme with the appropriate track chairs.

Paper and Travel Awards: There are faculty and student paper awards bestowed to authors during the conference. There are also student travel awards available. All ACSP participants are eligible for these awards and those interested will find submission criteria and other details at www.acsp.org.

The Fate of your Abstract Submission: Whether accepted or rejected, you should expect to receive constructive comments by the review committee. Disagreements with these comments should be addressed to the appropriate track chair for discussion. Many excellent proposals are rejected due to lack of time and space on the final conference agenda for sessions.

Multiple abstract submissions on behalf of one author will be reviewed and may possibly be accepted. However, more than one presentation of a formal paper and more than one appearance as a roundtable participant during the conference will not be allowed. Read more in Multiple Program Placements below.

Multiple Program Placements: Participants on the final program will be limited to: one presentation of an individual paper whether in a formal paper session or involved in a pre-organized formal paper session; one placement on a roundtable panel; one placement as a discussant of a formal paper session. These roles are not interchangeable. If you have more than one submitted paper abstract accepted and are invited to participate on more than one accepted roundtable, in fairness to everyone, we will ask you to limit your participation.

NEW FOR 2007! Proofread your Abstract for Publication On-line
Accepted abstracts will be posted at the ACSP website, so it is important that references are complete, names are spelled properly, and the text is proof-read. Further instructions for this will be available at www.acsp.org and within the COS instructional pages in January, 2007.

Posters: Poster sessions economize on space and are a particularly effective way of presenting ideas that call for review of graphic materials, a brief but dense text, or a sequence of equations. Posters will be easily accessible throughout the conference and time will be allotted for authors to be present to answer questions and receive comments.
Discussants: Track Chairs may invite discussants for all sessions. We do, however, welcome suggestions for discussants proffered by authors and session organizers. If you are willing to act as discussant, please contact the appropriate track chair.

Pre-Organized Sessions: The conference committee characteristically respects the grouping of papers in pre-organized sessions but reserves the right to realign papers when it has all the proposals before it. Instructions for submitting a session in its entirety can be found at www.acsp.org. Please read the instructions before attempting to work within the abstract management system. The conference management office extends its assistance to submitting the session successfully into the web-based abstract management system.

Submission Requirements: Abstracts must be submitted to one and only one track. The tracks are listed at the end of this invitation. If you are not sure which track is most appropriate, we encourage you to seek the advice of chairs. If you think that any of the following requirements are inappropriate for your work, please provide other relevant information. Do not attach full bibliographies, reports, or full papers. Your abstract should be suitable for publication on-line without any further editing and contain the following information in 200 - 600 words:

- Central theme or hypothesis: what question are you trying to address?
- Approach and methodology: how will you address that question?
- Relevance of your work to planning education, practice, or scholarship
- Key data sources
- 3-5 major references to allow the track chair to place your work in its field.

Doctoral Students: If you are a doctoral student, please indicate the relation between your proposal and your doctoral dissertation – completed or in the works (e.g. “no connection,” “drawn from an almost completed dissertation,” “drawn from an approved dissertation proposal”). Include the name and e-mail address of your advisor or dissertation supervisor with your abstract. Guidelines for abstract submissions as well as what is acceptable as a final paper presentation can be found at www.acsp.org starting in January, 2007.

Scheduling Constraints: If you have a scheduling constraint please indicate this prominently in the scheduling step of the abstract submission web site. The ACSP recognizes teaching duties and religious holidays. The ACSP does not accept requests for scheduling changes after July 1, except in cases of emergency. Such requests must be made in writing.

Submission and Fees: You must submit your abstract using the online abstract management system available through the link at www.acsp.org. See "Conference Information" at the site. The required fee for online submission is $25 per abstract. The fee for proposals submitted by mail is $50 per abstract. The ACSP does not accept abstract submissions by fax or e-mail. The ACSP accepts personal or institution/company checks, purchase orders from your institution, or MasterCard or Visa. If payment for your abstract is not collected by the time the review process begins, your abstract will not be reviewed.

Submitting By Mail: If submitting by mail, you must submit one typed cover sheet for each abstract including formal/informal papers, roundtables and poster sessions. If you submit a pre-organized formal paper session, you must submit one abstract and one cover form for the session overview, and one abstract and one cover form for each formal paper in the session. The deadline for submitting by mail is the same deadline for online submission. ABSTRACTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE, not just postmarked by the deadline. Abstracts mailed without payment information will not be submitted until the fee is collected.

When submitting by mail, the cover sheet and submission must provide the exact information in chronological order as requested below. If an answer to a header is “not applicable” please include the header and type “not applicable” next to it.

A) These address headings must be listed for each paper author.
- Prefix, Given (First) Name,
- Surname (last name), Suffix
- Title
- Department
- Institution
- Address, apartment/suite
- City
- State/Province
- Country
- Postal Code/ZIP Code
- Telephone
- Fax
- E-mail address

B) Author Role (list more than one if more than one is applicable)
Primary Author
Presenting Author
Co-Author
Roundtable Moderator
Roundtable Participant

C) Personal Status with ACSP (select one):
Faculty/ACSP Member School
Faculty/Non-Member School
Ph.D. Student who will be ABD at time of Conference
Ph.D. Student who will not be ABD at time of Conference
Individual/Retired ACSP Member
Other Student

D) Type of Abstract (select one):
Individual Paper
Innovative Session
Poster
Roundtable
Pre-organized session

E) Pre-Orgnized Session Information (if applicable):
Name and email address of the Session Organizer
Complete Session Title
Suggested Discussant and email address

F) Track Information:
The 2007 conference will be organized around fifteen tracks. Whether submitting online or by mail, you must indicate the track to which you are submitting the abstract. Many – perhaps most – topics cut across two tracks. If you are uncertain about the appropriate placement for your work, we encourage you to correspond with relevant track chairs before posting or mailing your abstract. Do not mail or email your final abstract submission directly to a track chair. It must be submitted through the web site.

1) ANALYTICAL METHODS AND COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
Ming Zhang, zhangm@mail.utexas.edu [2004-2007]

2) ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Zenia Kotval, kotval@msu.edu [2007-2009]

3) ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
Stacey Swearingen White, sswhite@ku.edu [2004-2007]

4) FANNIE MAE FOUNDATION HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Alex Schwartz, schwartz@newschool.edu [2004-2007]
Kirk McClure, mcclure@ku.edu [2005-2008]

5) GENDER AND DIVERSITY IN PLANNING
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12) PLANNING THEORY
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Sue Hendler, handlers@post.queensu.ca [2007-2009]

13) REGIONAL PLANNING
Kathryn Foster, kafoster@buffalo.edu [2005-2008]

14) TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING
Susan Handy, slhandy@ucdavis.edu [2004-2007]

15) URBAN DESIGN
Taner Oc, Taner.Oc@nottingham.ac.uk [2005-2008]

G) Title and Text of the Abstract - include references and dissertation information

H) Key Words – provide at least one, but no more than five.

I) Scheduling Restrictions (see above for details)

J) Payment Information - Enclose a check or purchase order or indicate payment by credit card. The type of card, 16-digit credit card number, expiration date, three digit security code from the back of the card, and the name on the card must be provided.

K) If you are submitting your paper for an award – Indicate the award to which you are submitting your paper. Regardless of the award, you must also still indicate to which track the paper should be assigned. Do not fail to submit the final paper using the guidelines for each award set by the award committee and found at www.acsp.org.

For additional information and to submit your abstract by U.S. mail:
6311 Mallard Trace Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32312 ~ Phone: 850/385-2054
View "Conference Information" for abstract submission procedures at the ACSP website: [www.acsp.org](http://www.acsp.org)
Program questions should be addressed to Curtis Winkle, National Conference Chair, cwinkle@uic.edu
Submission procedure questions should be addressed to Donna Dodd, Conference Manager: ddodd@acsp.org

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