



ACSP

Connecting educators,
researchers and students

ACSP Statement Following the Killing of George Floyd

The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning ([ACSP](#)) is an organization connecting planning educators, researchers, and students. We are appalled by the killing of George Floyd by Minneapolis police, which followed the killings of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and many others. Those are reminders of how the systems of racial inequity disproportionately impact Black and Brown people and how those structures lead to disparate outcomes for communities of color. We stand with those protesting injustice and working for change.

We are in the midst of only the most recent event in a history of violence inflicted upon Black, Indigenous and people of color in the United States. Planning practices and education have often upheld power imbalances and undergird structures of White supremacy that persist to this day.

Statements, including this one, are a place to start, not an end. The [ACSP Values Statement](#) speaks to our aspirations to be broadly inclusive and highlights how we must understand the ways in which planning has sustained structures of racism, sexism, oppression, and power imbalances. We recognize that our ACSP values statement must be followed by concrete actions, and we commit to working with the ACSP community to produce tangible steps that center justice in planning research and education.

We commit to learning from practice and collaborating in the difficult and necessary work of confronting and dismantling our nation's long history of White supremacy. In the process, we commit to building knowledge and pedagogy that helps planners remove barriers that have marginalized so many communities.

Many of our scholars are already leading the way, dismantling structures that perpetuate injustice and centering the experience and voices of those who have been oppressed and marginalized. This scholarship is central to planning, and we commit to making that work more visible in our association.

We are grateful to members of our community who are organizing the "[Racial Equity and Justice in Urban Planning Research and Education in the Face of Racialized Inequality](#)" focal event at the [2020 conference](#), and we commit to making that event the centerpiece of our 2020 conference. We thank the contributors and co-editors who produced the newest issue of *Journal of Planning Education and Research (JPER)*, our association's scholarly journal, focused on "Planning Beyond Mass Incarceration." That important work must continue and reach beyond academia. As part of that effort, that [special issue of JPER is currently available open access to all readers](#).

Last, we also want to acknowledge each of you. We know that you are responding to issues now and always in your communities, through your scholarship, your support for students and community partners, and your direct activism and presence. We see you and are inspired by your work.

As we move through this fluid space in the coming days and weeks, we reaffirm our commitment as an association and as scholars to the idea that knowledge and discourse are the foundation of justice, and that racism and systems of White supremacy must end. We want to hear from you about your work and how we can best support you.

Sincerely,

The ACSP 2019-2021 [Governing Board](#)