

# Infusing the Global in Planning Curricula: Learning and Doing by Sharing

Global Planning Education Committee (GPEC)



Ashok Das Meenu Tewari



# GPEC Origins

**Created in 2019 to implement the findings of ACSPs Task Force on Global Planning Education.**

**The Task Force was set up in 2016** by the then ACSP President to *“explore global education [in ACSP member schools] focusing on issues of recruiting, and engaging international students, international education and accreditation issues.”*

**Over 2.5 years, using**

Primary survey data (GPEIG)

Focus groups

Interviews with educators, students

Analysis of PAB & ACSP data

Analysis of relevant literature

**The Task Force Submitted Final Report in Jan 2019**

Gavin Shatkin & Faranak Miraftab (Co-Chairs)  
Gabriella Carolini, Petra Doan, Annette Kim,  
Bish Sanyal, Bjørn Sletto, and Meenu Tewari

**Building Global Perspectives  
on Planning Education**



Final report of the ACSP Task Force on Global Planning Education

January 2019



### 3 Core Recommendations of the Report

Goal 1: **Share** resources and knowledge to build capacity of member schools.

Goal 2: **Integrate** relational approaches to understanding global connections across planning curricula.

Goal 3: **Enhance** ACSP's relations with non-North American planning institutions.

#### EXAMPLE STRATEGIES: GOAL 1

Hold pre-ACSP workshops for administrators and faculty.

Continue to develop and promote online sources of information on resources and opportunities in global planning education.

Create an ACSP teaching fellowship for scholars to engage in short visits to planning schools.

Create an ACSP visiting professorship to support semester visits by global planners to schools that self-identify a need to enhance the globalization of their curriculum.

Support the creation of joint classes between smaller and larger programs.

**GPEC Established to Implement the Task Force Recommendations**



# GPEC at work

## Co-Hosted or Represented GPEC in ACSP Annual Conference Sessions

*The Changing International Higher Education Market in Urban Planning*, co-hosted with the Global Planning Educators Interest Group (GPEIG) and the Global Planning Education Association Network (GPEAN), 2020

*Capacity Building for The New Urban Agenda: The Role of Universities and Researchers*, co-hosted with GPEIG and GPEAN, 2020

*Improving Global Planning Education by Centering the Experience of International Students in US Planning Schools*, co-hosted with ACSP Committee on Diversity, 2021

*GPEAN: The first 20 years; the next 20 years*, co-hosted with GPEAN, 2022

*Improving the Learning Experience through the Inclusion of Marginalized Populations*, panelist, led by the Planners of Color Interest Group (POCIG), 2022

*Cultivating Global Awareness*, panelist, led by ACSP Committee on the Academy, 2022

## Organized Workshops

Global Planning Education 3-part session, 2021 ACSP Administrator's Conference

Inaugural half-day workshop, "International Students Flourishing in Planning Education in U.S. and Canada", 2022 ACSP Annual Conference



## Advocated changes to ACSP and PAB

Worked with 2021 ACSP Annual Conference Organizing Committee to analyze implicit bias in ACSP conference abstract selection; recommended changes to ACSP Executive Committee.

Informed Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) about 2022 revisions related to global dimensions in accreditation standards.

Recommended ACSP leadership to encourage simultaneous interpretation for select ACSP conference sessions to support more global participation and engagement.

## Published

Research report in JPER in May 2022—offers insights and recommendations from a survey of 187 international urban planning students in the U.S. and Canada, and focus groups at the 2021 ACSP conference.

## Facilitated global network building and exchanges

Facilitated a meeting of the 11 GPEAN association presidents to discuss potential coordination and collaboration activities prior to the 2022 World Planning Schools Congress (WPSC) in Bali, Indonesia, and subsequent panel and meeting at WPSC

Organized with GPEIG a networking event at WPSC 2022 for US-based urban planning scholars and US alumni of US schools



Solicited interest and recommended ACSP representatives to attend the Fifth United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Doha, March 2023

# GPEC at work

*Special Feature*

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## Improving Global Planning Education by Centering the Experience of International Students in U.S. and Canadian Planning Schools

Yingling Fan<sup>1</sup>, Lesli Hoey<sup>2</sup>, Ashok Das<sup>3</sup>, Clara Irazábal<sup>4</sup>, Bruce Stiffler<sup>5</sup>, Gavin Shatkin<sup>6</sup>, Francis Owusu<sup>7</sup>, Petra Doan<sup>8</sup>, Yiping Fang<sup>9</sup>, and Andrew Rumbach<sup>10</sup>



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# Why is the global emphasis important?

Century of urbanization

Climate change impacts us all

Planning at the forefront for

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

New Urban Agenda (NUA)

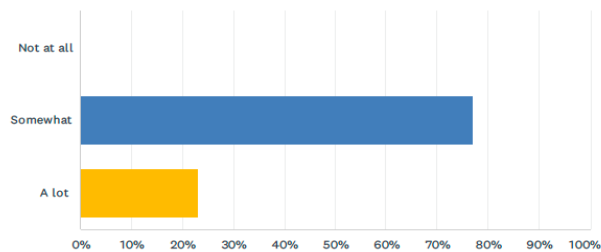
The global increasingly present in the local



# 2023 ACSP Member Chair's Survey

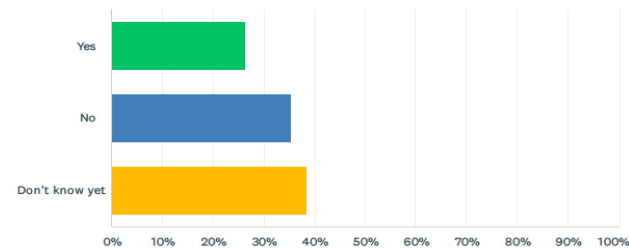
Q4 In your opinion, how well does your program(s) provide, overall, a global outlook/sensitivity through its curriculum [all relevant inputs/experiences are valid]?

Answered: 65 Skipped: 1



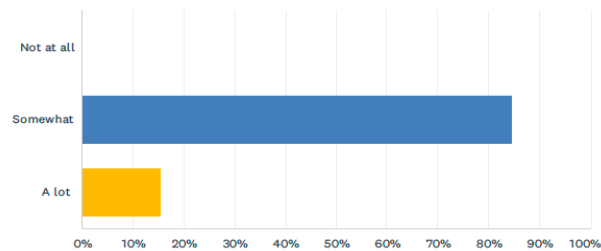
Q6 The new PAB Accreditation Standards seek to infuse more global perspectives into planning curricula. Are you concerned about the criteria or expectations involved?

Answered: 65 Skipped: 1



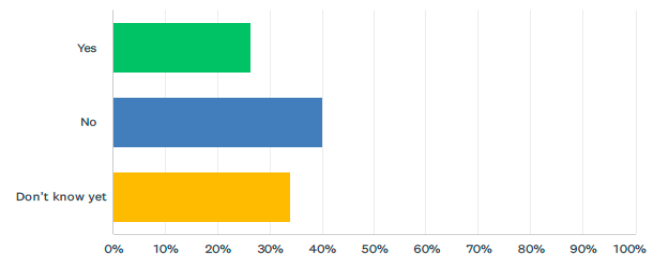
Q5 In your opinion, how well do the curriculum's core courses enable students to appreciate key issues in terms of their global dimensions, relevance, or implications?

Answered: 65 Skipped: 1



Q7 Are you concerned how these criteria or expectations might impact your program?

Answered: 65 Skipped: 1



# Discussion 1

Because of the diversity of challenges and opinions, we need to collaborate and brainstorm together

Share what challenges schools face [5 minutes]



# Discussion 2: Small Groups

Given your school's current experience and situation with meeting PAB's global requirements, what are some strategies that might support you, bring some ease in incorporating global issues in the curriculum and program?

What can be done in the immediate term?

What can be fostered over a longer period of time?



# Some Ideas to Get Us Started....

## Immediate

Syllabi repository (ACSP and/or regional level; researchers who have surveyed syllabi can be approached for)

Potential resources for use in core courses [Planning Law (Ana Paula); Stats/econ/methods courses (UN/other databases); Planning History and Theory courses (possibly many volunteers, even region-wise); GPEIG and LILP case study resources for core and elective courses

Online guest lectures in core courses for key topics

## Medium / Long Term

Intra- or inter-regional collaboration among schools involving faculty who teach such courses

Specific sessions or entire courses taught jointly by two or more schools? 1 or 2 credit course jointly offered from a pool of academic resources across schools?

Partnering on instruction with foreign universities—informally or formally (e.g. lecture by faculty at a foreign school to cover multiple topics); GPEIG and GPEAN could possibly help

Annual/semi-annual training for faculty to hone skills, expand networks, and deepen understanding of global planning pedagogy Organized by ACSP or volunteer schools (e.g. large ones with resources)



# More Ideas to Brainstorm

## Longer Term Options

Student visits/exchanges among partner schools, and to other institutions

Joint roster of internships and placements in international institutions

National/regional scholarships for students to attend international events/conferences

Maintaining list of overseas conferences (with continental associations)

Courses/workshops offered by Ph.D. students with remote access



# Priorities and Next Steps

Brainstorm together in the room