

**DRAFT FOR COMMENT**

**NO CITATION OR CIRCULATION**

## **ACSP Values Statement**

### **Preamble**

1 The Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) is an intellectually vibrant community of  
2 planning scholars and academic programs. The field and profession of planning are context, scale,  
3 and place dependent; focus on understanding the multi-layered interactions between the built and  
4 natural environment and human behaviors/actions; and consider how socio-cultural, natural, and  
5 institutional systems influence the quality of life for people and the well-being of the planet. As  
6 individuals, and as members of academic programs and departments, planners are deeply  
7 committed to ethical and responsible research and practice, a commitment that is integrated into the  
8 planning curriculum. Planning research and education link to cities, regions, and natural and built  
9 environments, focusing on socio-economic wellbeing of human and ecological/environmental  
10 systems. Many of our members and member programs have a long history of doing and valuing  
11 engaged scholarship and practice, working in partnership with communities, particularly those who  
12 have been under-served or otherwise marginalized by the profession. Simultaneously, our  
13 membership also acknowledges the multiple ways that planning scholarship and practice have been  
14 and are being used and misused to marginalize and displace individuals, communities and peoples.

### **Statement**

15 Planners link knowledge with collective action, work in the public interest, and advocate for  
16 transformational change. Often times, planning research is collaborative and integrates knowledge  
17 and expertise across disciplines. Planning is enriched by the use of multiple methods and is  
18 cognizant of historical, geographical, political, socio-economic, cultural, and transnational contexts.  
19 ACSP values rigorous education, scholarship and practice that critically engage with myriad  
20 challenges that affect our planet, communities, and people now and in the future. ACSP advances  
21 creative and innovative research and education that seriously interrogate questions related to  
22 access and equity; racial, economic, gender, and cultural disparities; and the intersectional dynamics  
23 of inclusion/exclusion.

24 ACSP recognizes the critical importance of deep and sustained community engagement with  
25 multiple publics to create transformative and socially just actions. ACSP values a critical and well-  
26 rounded education that includes a wide range of analytical and practical skills to prepare future  
27 planners and other publics to meaningfully address complex societal problems. ACSP supports  
28 curricula and instructional approaches that prepare learners to take on leadership roles in our  
29 neighborhoods and communities, working in diverse sectors and institutions. ACSP member schools  
30 prepare future planners and professionals who serve as ethical and culturally competent partners,  
31 adept at working in multiple contexts, from local to global.

32 This ACSP Values Statement articulates the principles that shape and guide the  
33 Association's mission, activities, and partnerships. The statement has been developed through a  
34 broadly consultative process and is aligned with the American Planning Association's Ethical  
35 Principles in Planning. It is intended to support and encourage ACSP members working individually  
36 and collectively to uphold the shared ideals of diversity, equity, and inclusion in their own research,  
37 teaching, and professional practice.