College and graduate student enrollments swelled by over a third over the 2000s, and have remained fairly steady for both public and private, non-profit higher education institutions (HEIs). This has fueled growth in demand for student housing near college and university campuses. At many institutions, on-campus dormitory construction has been hampered by limited land availability and budgetary constraints. Private developers have stepped in to fill this gap in two ways, building large privately-operated dorms near campus, often in partnership with HEIs, and constructing nearby multi-family buildings with floor plans and amenities that appeal to students. Real estate investment trusts (REITs) are also newly focused on student housing, financing new development as well as buying up existing rental housing in neighborhoods near campus. Collectively, these real estate trends hold substantial implications for HEIs, students, and adjacent neighborhoods—in the present, as well as in the future as student enrollments continue to shift. Further, these investments raise questions for planners concerned with housing provision for students and others living near college and university campuses, as well as HEIs establishing long-term capital improvement plans and considering student enrollment forecasts.

We invite proposals for one or more pre-organized sessions at ACSP (Nov 4-8, 2020) focused on student housing. We welcome a diverse range of perspectives, approaches (from qualitative case studies to data-driven analysis), and topic areas (including neighborhood change, higher education policy, real estate, and economic development, among others). We envision research addressing a broad range of questions, such as:

- How have student housing demands and trends impacted local housing markets? (e.g., Shifts in the rental market? Changes in university-adjacent neighborhoods relative to other neighborhoods?)
- How do HEI student housing policies, dormitory construction, and/or partnerships with developers influence student housing provision and local housing markets?
- Does the quantity and quality of student housing near campus strengthen enrollment at an institution? Does it aid in student recruitment and acceptance?
- How are local actors (e.g., developers, planners, lenders, policymakers) responding to for-profit student housing projects?

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● How do HEIs engage or partner with local governments in order to accommodate institutional and/or student-related housing growth (e.g., PILOTs, municipal financing, modifications to local codes or ordinances)?
● How are student-driven housing projects engaging with and/or challenging local housing and economic development policies?
● What is the role of large-scale REITs and global financial markets in supporting the development and operation of student housing?
● How is student housing insecurity and/or homelessness related to the availability of affordable student housing opportunities (whether on-campus or off-campus)? What policies and investments are HEIs putting in place to prevent student homelessness and support homeless students?
● How is the supply of privately-built luxury apartments in university neighborhoods reshaping local housing markets? How is it shifting housing affordability for students (and non-students) in these neighborhoods?
● What is the future of student housing, with the possibility of declining student enrollments and shifts in student composition?

Those interested in participating in the student housing session(s) should submit a brief abstract to Meagan Ehlenz (meagan.ehlenz@asu.edu) or Sarah Mawhorter (smawhort@usc.edu) no later than Friday, 2/28. Please include ACSP 2020: Student Housing in the subject line of your email. We will notify selected participants of their inclusion in a session(s) no later than Friday, 3/6.