

Friday October 10, 2008 12:00AM-3:00PM
Meeting minutes for the Urban Planning Advisory Board Meeting

I. KU Endowment

- focus to grow scholarships for urban planning students

II. Internship Report: Kirk McClure

- currently 15 internships working

- Four internships being advertised

- we are down from the normal numbers (average 13-17); enrollment is also down this school semester

III. Transportation Planning faculty

- Still in search for a faculty (the last eight interviewed have withdrawn their names, accepted other positions, or declined)

- The issue seems to be spouse employment

- Have withdrawn advertisements for the position but seeking candidates through established channels

- Three more candidates for the position

- Should none of the remaining candidates accept we may be forced to merge the Transportation concentration with Land Use

IV. New Program objectives: Jim Mayo

- the date for reaccreditation has been pushed back to next year

- in preparation for reaccreditation, Jim Mayo has put forth possible program objectives

- guest lecture series for Urban Planning from Galloway Foundation- may coordinate with the help of KAPS

 - Hai: lecture series as a means to expand education outside of traditional classroom setting

- potential for KAPS to organize a way to publicize research focus of professors in the department

 - monthly symposiums

 - web publicity forum

 - newsletter publications

V. Students Shadowing professionals: Jim Mayo

- Suggested students follow a specific plan proposal from inception through public meetings rather than just watching a professional planner for a day or half day

- Dr. Serda referenced his experience at MIT where more structure returned a more rewarding experience in a similar program, also required coordination by faculty with the professionals

- Hai: shadowing as a solution/response to the lack of internships. Most important aspect is building a strong social network of professionals. Strong

collaboration between faculty/students/professionals. If done right, will provide meaningful experience/networking/education.

- Goal: provide an alternative source of onsite experience for students
 - implementing shadowing as part of the Professional Practice (taught in the fall 2nd year semester by Stacey White) and also considering implementing a second shadowing experience with History and Theory of Planning (would be implemented at a later time, TBD)

VI. E-Portfolio Presentation: Bonnie Johnson

- suggested as a way to enable students to be organized and prepared for job search
- could also be used as self-assessment in the education process
- additionally could replace comprehensive examinations
- Hai's considerations:
 - 1) Balance – a balance between comp exams and e-portfolio requirements is essential.
 - 2) Self-reflective – e-portfolio must contain the means, more so than ends. Self-reflection provides insight in progress, problem solving and solution.
 - 3) Innovative – Capitalize on innovative techniques now. Gradually implement technique proactively, as opposed to reactively. Purpose is to remain competitive.
 - 4) Adaptive – Students must be able to extract essential information from e-portfolio to cater to individual job posting.

Tentative date for the next Board of Advisors meeting on May 8th