



2009 Year in Review

2009 has been a very successful year. We held a well-attended one day conference, and offered great networking and professional development events. The Chapter Board laid out a work program early last year that responded to our membership's priorities, and we're pleased to have accomplished all of our goals!

With certificate maintenance (CM) requirements in effect for the first time, our many members with AICP credentials wanted access to events where they could earn CM credits. On the professional training front, NCAC became a CM provider and partnered with other Chapters to bring free webcast training to the thousands of planners in need of continuing education credits. These webcasts were offered twice monthly and were widely popular with members.

In 2009, NCAC also partnered with Montgomery County Planning Department and provided 16.5 CM credits through the 2009 Growing Smarter Speaker Series. The Speaker Series offered a broad range of lectures on how becoming "sustainable" affects the varying elements of planning (transportation, environment, financing and public participation). The NCAC also partnered with other planning organizations, including the National Capital Planning Commission and Coalition for Smarter Growth, to offer no-cost presentations on transportation, the Greater Washington 2050 regional planning effort, and commemoration. We also kept members up-to-date on other CM-certified training opportunities through our websites, emails and list-serve notices.

CM Conference

On July 18, 2009, NCAC held its first ever one day conference at The

Catholic University of America. This event, co-sponsored by the School of Architecture and Planning, was attended by over 160 capital area planners. Two conference tracks were offered and attendees had their choice between sessions, earning up to 7 CM credits. We received great feedback on the range and quality of the sessions, all featuring local planners. Common requests for credits have been ethics and law and the NCAC provided both. More than half of those who registered attended an adaptation of the Delaware Chapter/APA's ethics screenplay, which included a lively discussion of the role of ethics in our profession, what AICP adds to the profession and what differentiates it from other professional licenses.

Additionally, your Board was hard at work assisting planners obtain training for the fall 2009 testing window for AICP. In addition to offering training manuals at no-cost, an all-day training session was held at Catholic University, in partnership with Maryland APA Chapter. Attendees learned the ins and outs of the exam, tested on exam material, and became familiar with what to expect the day of the exam. Congratulations to the 27 Chapter members that passed the AICP exam in 2009.

A special thank you is due to Hazel Edwards, who has not only been getting a new planning program off the ground at Catholic University, but has been a great partner in co-sponsoring and hosting many events this year.

Networking Events

The Board hosted two fun networking events. The first, at Panchee Restaurant, co-sponsored with YIPPS was an informal event for members to get together and get acquainted with the new Board. The second event, which was geared toward young professionals, was held at Café Salsa in the District. The Board invited several of the region's planning directors to meet with Chapter members and offer advice on entering the profession, especially during these exciting but economically tough times.

To further support the next generation of planners, the NCAC Board offered scholarships to graduate students to attend the 2009 National



Conference, and has again offered three competitive scholarships, totaling \$1500, to attend the 2010 conference in April. We've been pleased that so many Chapter members have participated in events throughout the year and have been eager to help out. Thanks!

Looking Ahead to 2010

Building on our successes in 2009, your Board has outlined a work program and draft budget for the coming year that will continue to focus on networking, professional and educational events, and member recognition. We look to take advantage of our Chapter's unique attributes: we have over 700 incredibly talented members, all within commuting distance, and we have access to a number of great learning and professional development resources. We are committed to working internally to help our members grow professionally, and to look outward, for ways that we can bring our skills and expertise into our communities.

Planned Events for 2010

This year the Chapter Board is planning the following events:

- Two one-day conferences, in the spring and fall, including an awards ceremony, coinciding with the fall conference.
- Additional networking events, including a movie night and trivia challenge!
- Continued sponsorship of local lectures, webinars and training events.
- AICP training sessions.
- Conference scholarship opportunities for planning students.

We will continue to provide you with information through our website, e-newsletters, list-serve notices and are looking into other social media outreach. We also want to have the Chapter

play a more visible role in regional planning activities, either through representation or being a strong advocate for good planning.

Budget

It looks like this will be another belt-tightening year. We took reductions this year in what we receive from APA National in both dues collection and services, and anticipate this will continue to be the case into the future. In 2009, we offered a number of free or very low cost events. At the start of the calendar year, the Chapter has a balance of just over \$56,000, and our yearly budget anticipates spending \$43,000 and taking in approximately \$38,000. Our goal has been to continue providing engaging, high-quality events that are affordably priced. We are aiming for a "break-even" approach for our fall conference and awards event; however, we have anticipated that costs for this event may be higher than other activities.

Elections

This year is also election year for the Board. Nominations will be accepted during the spring, with the ballots to be sent in the summer. Positions opened are: President-elect, Vice President of Professional Development-elect (PDO-elect), Vice President of Diversity and Community Outreach, Vice President of Communications, Secretary, Treasurer, and six (6) At-Large Director positions. We are looking for creative, high energy members willing to take on tasks to keep the momentum going in 2011 and 2012! As you can see, our Board was working hard for our membership in 2009 and we plan to do the same in 2010. If you have any suggestions for training, lectures or networking events, please email us at volunteer@ncac-apa.org and we will contact you!



2009 Chapter Board Members

President

Julia A. Koster, AICP

President-Elect

Renée M. Miller, AICP

Vice President for Professional Development

Shannon Yadsko, AICP

Professional Development Officer- Elect

Robyn Eason, AICP

Vice President for Chapter Communications

Alan S. Hachey, AICP

Vice President for Diversity and Community Outreach

William Washburn

Treasurer

Carol A. Truppi, AICP, LEED AP

Secretary

Arlova Y. Jackson, AICP

At-Large Directors

Harold E. Foster, AAG, AICP

Malaika Abernathy

Laine Cidlowski, LEED AP

Daniel W. Goodman, AICP, LEED AP

Anna Bentley, AICP

Robert Mandle

Student Representative

Mike Lancaster

Lilly Shoup

CONGRATULATIONS

To our Chapter Members who passed the AICP exam in
November 2009!

Akram Al-ttar

Elizabeth Chaisson

Stephen Conschafter

Christopher Delfs

Amy DiCarlantonio

Clifton Hogan

Brian Laverty

Jeffrey Levine

Jesena Lopez

Troy McGhee

Joanne Shelly

Theodore Stevens