

## **APA International Affairs Division- Monthly Minutes**

**Wednesday, April 6, 2021**

**7:30pm EST**

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### **Attendees:**

Bill Anderson

LaToya Benjamin

Ras Cannady

Gitta Pap

Michael Kolber

Joanna Manson

Aimee Saginaw

Krishna Shrivastava

Bruce Stiffel

Sean Tapia

Michelle Tullo

Carter Williams

Tim Van Epp

Jing Zhang

### **Nomination Committee- Michael Kolber**

This has to be comprised of people not running for positions, so it's going to be Tim Van Epp, Michael Kolber, and Tippe Morlan.

Lindsay and Kate already emailed their approval of that Nomination Committee, so we just need votes from Jing and Tim.

Jing, Tim, and Joanna voted yes to that committee.

### **Division Elections**

#### **Public Health and Planning- Aimee Saginaw**

Aimee is going to lead our programming for our Division Council Initiative as Coordinator of the Public Health initiative with the Latino Planning Division, Art Planning Division, and Food/Health Initiative. The four of them will work together and complete a deliverable by September 30.

Aimee's personal interest is in urban planning and mental health, but asked the group to share any ideas they'd particularly like to see the group do. If you have ideas, let her know at

[Acs366@georgetown.edu](mailto:Acs366@georgetown.edu). Joanna works with colleagues on the East Coast with food equity

and it might be interesting to compare how the US and developing countries handle their food deserts. Aimee and Michael said we might want to avoid discussing covid, but there was an interesting article in the NYT about the relationship between covid impacts and the level of trust in the government. AARP, Japan Collaboration Group, Jen Senick at Rutgers, Marta Woldu at UMD, and Larry Frank at UCSD were all mentioned as health planning contacts. Bill Anderson mentioned there will be a lot of content at NPC on the topic of cross-border water quality and health.

### **Box City/Uganda- Krishna Shrivastava**

Box City is a six-week program for third-graders to go through a planning process to think through zoning and land use process to build a model city. It was begun in Kampala and the organizers would like to expand it across Africa. We have about 32 APA members spread across Africa so they could help spread this effort. The organizer said they need more collaboration with planners and Krishna asked for a meeting with APA National Leadership; Michael and Kate are on the meeting invite list.

Sean works at Aecom and they have a strong presence in several African countries and they have some programs that look at community investment and involvement and are interested in expanding, which could be an opportunity for Aecom to participate with this.

### **NPC Session/WUF Update**

Tim said they were successful in getting eight panelists for their game-show style panel who come from wide-ranging backgrounds.

There had been a call to the division to see who was interested in presenting at WUF. Two people stepped forward and Tim and Bruce worked with them to find a topic and built a proposal on lessons from Super Storm Sandy with these groups as speakers plus two other speakers versed in resilience and the reaction in the NY/NJ Metro area. They won't hear until the end of April whether it was accepted. LaToya said she's from that area and can help provide connections if desired.

### **National Planning Conference- Michael**

As of right now, Michael isn't aware of anything planned for NPC. Michael will reach out to Sustainable Committee about the cost of joining for an event.

Our Business Meeting will be virtual.

### **Ukraine- Gitta**

There have been lots of conversations in the past month about how the Division can be involved with events in Ukraine. Gitta is in Romania and has been speaking with some other Division members and wants to have some impact on the events using her academia network. An interest group with short and long term projects was proposed. Short-term projects could be humanitarian efforts and long-term could be more about planning or study abroad programs. She said that Julie Hart studying the idea of what to do with construction material that has been shelled. Krishna seconded this idea of utilizing shelled materials and looking at things like the water system.

Michael mentioned that we have the Humanitarian Committee who consider these questions and Lyndsey Deaton said this conversation can be moved to that committee, especially because they have a broader membership. Sean and Joanna agreed with this. He said lots of the big companies like Aecom have internal things going on already so we need to be specific when working.

Tim said he has drafted an article on this topic. He has gotten in touch with Alex the MIT Fellow who is a Ukrainian planner in Kharkiv. Tim offered his assistance. He is thinking of doing something more action-oriented and Gitta agreed. Michael and Lyndsey are on-board to be more action-oriented with this effort.

Tim said he drafted an action plan with Alex.

Tim and Bruce mentioned some other groups in Europe to agree with.

The group agreed that planning starts now even while the war is on. Joanna said that planning for Ukraine's recovery sends a powerful message.

Jing said that Interplan will be due soon and he is looking for some articles on this topic.

The next step is that Michael will connect Lyndsey and Gitta and will go from there.

### **Japan Collaboration Group- Jing**

The Division Council approved the Japan Interest Group, so it's separate from this Division. There will be no membership requirement so they can reach out to students and colleagues in Japan. Jing said he's trying to be mindful that a new interest group is created separate from the Division so he is considering that.

### **Other**

Michelle asked about sharing the videos for WTPD. Michael asked whether it's ok to share videos that had CM credits. Bruce said that the CM Credits were made for live viewing.