

## Community and Regional Planning Department Ten Year Strategic Plan 2023-2032

**Vision Statement** - The Iowa State University Department of Community and Regional Planning will be nationally recognized for professional planning education, research, and outreach.

**Mission Statement** - The Department of Community and Regional Planning will:

- Deliver high-quality education that combines innovative teaching, scholarly research, community engagement, data-driven decision making and cutting-edge technology applications.
- Educate diverse students to become professional planners, critical thinkers, and engaged global citizens who can contribute to impactful change to create a more just world.
- Partner with planning practitioners and other community professionals to create innovative practices to improve the social, natural, economic, and built environments.
- Engage with stakeholders in communities to make decisions about the future with the goal of creating vibrant, diverse, just, and sustainable places.
- Conduct transformational place-based research and scientific inquiry in Iowa, the Midwest, the United States, and globally.

**Diversity, Inclusion, Equity and Social Justice Statement** - The Department of Community and Regional Planning aspires to be a change agent advancing equity and inclusiveness in society through our work. We seek to make transformational changes by building relationships and trust. We embrace diversity as a source of strength and honor differences and unique identities to fulfill our mission. We seek to reflect the communities we serve to encourage a more diverse and just society. Our department strives to be a safe, nurturing, and welcoming place, fostering social justice and expanding opportunities for all.

Strategic Issues Program Goals	Objectives and Actions
<b>1. High Impact Learning</b>  (practices that include project-based learning, community-based learning and undergraduate research)	1. Promote and monitor participation of student engagement in high-impact learning. 2. Expand experiential, service learning, studio, and internship opportunities. 3. Nominate students for external awards. 4. Continuously review and improve the teaching evaluation process. 5. Promote student presentations at Iowa State events and external conferences. 6. Introduce and use new technologies to assist with problem solving. 7. Support efforts to internationalize the curriculum and promote study abroad efforts. 8. Promote hybrid and online teaching. 9. Promote teaching approaches that enhance experiential learning.
<b>2. Student Professional Development</b>	1. Increase the number of undergraduates who participate in internship or professional development opportunities with CRP alumni, Planning Advisory Council and/or APA members. Build exposure to diverse settings into these opportunities. 2. Create a professional learning panel for studio review and develop rubric for studio presentation critique. 3. Promote taking the CRP professional development and optional studio courses earlier in the cycle. 4. Support interdisciplinary course offerings for students. 5. Increase American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) pass rate by offering exam preparation classes/learning materials to alumni.

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Strategic Issues Program Goals	Objectives and Actions
3. Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Justice	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Attract, recruit, and retain diverse faculty of color and other underrepresented groups.</li> <li>2. Integrate justice-related objectives into the learning outcomes for all courses.</li> <li>3. Attract, recruit, and retain diverse students of color and other underrepresented groups.</li> <li>4. Understand diversity and inclusion concepts more deeply.</li> <li>5. Expand students' knowledge of the broad range of planning-related career opportunities.</li> <li>6. Educate students in inclusive engagement and outreach practices.</li> <li>7. Integrate opportunities for developing ethical judgment throughout curriculum.</li> </ol>
4. Research Culture	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote interdisciplinary research teams.</li> <li>2. Submit interdisciplinary proposals.</li> <li>3. Promote peer-reviewed publications.</li> <li>4. Engage in research that involves students.</li> <li>5. Expand funded projects.</li> <li>6. Promote presentations at conferences.</li> </ol>
5. Outreach, Engagement and Empowerment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop topic-specific courses.</li> <li>2. Encourage and support collaborative teaching.</li> <li>3. Encourage and support guest lectures.</li> <li>4. Collaborate with ISU Extension and Outreach Community and Economic Development (CED) in teaching and research.</li> <li>5. Disseminate the research knowledge produced by the faculty to decision makers at local level.</li> </ol>
6. Civic Innovation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct an annual "enduring problems and innovative solutions" lecture series.</li> <li>2. Engage in college- and university-wide innovation and entrepreneurship efforts.</li> <li>3. Engage with professional organizations and government entities in search of innovative solutions to community challenges.</li> <li>4. Use web-based communication technologies and social media to inform and update planners, policy makers, and communities about cutting-edge planning solutions.</li> </ol>
7. Build Bridges with Alumni and Practitioners	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promote collaborative teaching with practitioners and alumni.</li> <li>2. Engage ISU Extension and Outreach.</li> <li>3. Bring planning professionals to campus to inspire/attract students and promote the planning discipline.</li> <li>4. Address credential barrier (Professor of Practice).</li> <li>5. Provide continuing education opportunities for planners.</li> <li>6. Collaborate and partner with departments outside of Design, across ISU and outside ISU.</li> </ol>
8. Lifelong Learning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide "emerging topics" educational workshops for planners in Iowa.</li> <li>2. Encourage partners to engage in studios and sponsor internship opportunities.</li> <li>3. Offer AICP continuing education classes.</li> <li>4. Maintain an active affiliation with Iowa APA, CRP alumni, Planning Advisory Council and other stakeholders.</li> <li>5. Offer a GIS certificate program for current professionals.</li> </ol>

Approved by CRP Faculty: May 12, 2023