2012 Summer Newsletter

Welcome to the summer 2012 edition of the School of City and Regional Planning Newsletter. The publication serves to provide program updates, to share the work of students, and to foster connections between alumni, students, and faculty. I am excited to take over editorial responsibilities for the 2012-2013 year, and look forward to providing news and features from our community.

In this issue you will find an interview with the School’s newest faculty member, Nisha Botchwey; an update on the latest work of the Student Planning Association’s Social Justice Committee; an overview of the research conducted by Cara Woods (MCRP ’12) in completion of her applied option paper; and links to our new program website and social media communities. Please enjoy this update about your alma mater and feel free to reply with comments!

Best,
Anna Harkness, MCRP ’13
Newsletter Editor
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Getting to know Dr. Nisha Botchwey

Dr. Nisha Botchwey joined the School of City and Regional Planning as an Associate Professor in January, 2012. Botchwey comes to Georgia Tech from the University of Virginia, where she was an Associate Professor of Urban and Environmental Planning and Public Health Sciences. We sat down to learn more about Botchwey’s plans for the future at the School, and her interdisciplinary approach to research and teaching, which focuses on the intersection between the built environment and its impact on the health of communities. Read the article »

News and Highlights

The past year has seen many achievements for faculty, students, and alumni, including the designation of Georgia Tech as a Tier One University Transportation Center by the US Department of Transportation, led jointly by Professor Catherine Ross and other Georgia Tech faculty members. For an overview of more notable accomplishments by members of the community, please read on »

Atlanta’s NPU system and the changing face of community engagement

By Cara Woods

As the capstone of the MCRP program, students undertake original research in a subject relating to city and regional planning, resulting in an applied research paper or thesis. These works demonstrate the student’s ability to analyze challenges and situations they will encounter in professional practice. Here, 2012 MCRP graduate Cara Woods provides an overview of her paper.

Since the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, the way citizens and governments saw community engagement has changed drastically. More »

Congratulations to 2011-2012 Graduates

By Anna Harkness

Please join the School of City and Regional Planning in congratulating its newest alumni! Over the past 12 months, 39 students have graduated from the School’s Master of City and Regional Planning professional degree program. For more information about the graduates and their master’s projects, theses, and dissertations, please read on »

Updates from the Social Justice Committee

By Christina Span

As the community outreach component of the Student Planning Association, the Social Justice Committee seeks to create opportunities for students to practice their planning skills by participating in projects in underserved communities that lack resources, power, or voice, to raise social justice awareness at Georgia Tech. During the 2011-2012 academic year, the Social Justice Committee continued to stay busy, with a volunteer group of twenty students working on four projects. Find out what SJC accomplished in 2011-2012.

Save the Date!

Sept. 20-21: Health Committee Alumni Reunion—Sept. 20: Screening of Designing Healthy Communities and panel discussion at Georgia Tech. —Sept. 21: Healthy Communities Summit produced by the CDC’s Healthy Communities Design Initiative and The Congress for the New Urbanism Atlanta Chapter.

Sept. 20-28: Southeast Urban Planning Conference at GPA’s Fall 2012 conference in Columbus, Georgia.

Alumni Call to Comment

Working on something interesting? Want to share your garages on with out-of- touch classmates? We would love to highlight alumni work and provide a space for alumni to stay connected.

Please email newsletter editor Anna Harkness to determine how you can participate in future editions of this newsletter.

New Website!

The School has updated its website. Be sure to check it out and let us know what you think!

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