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## Women and Planning Division Winter 2016/17

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[APA Women and Planning] Fiona Akins, Chair <fionaakins@gmail.com>

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## NEWSLETTER – WINTER 2016/17

We're celebrating achievements, sharing news and learning together as members of the Women & Planning Division of the American Planning Association!

### What's Happening?

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The latest news and things to look forward to. . .

Meet us in NYC



The Division will be well represented at the National Planning conference in May. We have [two dynamite sessions](#) on the schedule, are organizing an [awesome reception for the Division](#), and are rolling out [special initiatives in 2017](#). If you are attending the conference, be on the lookout for emails and social media posts about how to connect with other members of the Division. [NPC is our time to gather, celebrate successes,](#)

[and plan for the future](#). Check out our [website](#) for updates and specifics about conference events. Here are a couple of our sessions to look forward to:

- [Saturday, May 6, 2017 | 1 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.](#)

*Exploring Planning's Gender Wage Gap*

Explore the latest data from APA's Salary Survey on pay disparity between men and women—and discuss with a panel of planning leaders hiring managers what actions we can take to strengthen the earning power of women.

- [Monday, May 8, 2017 | 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.](#)

*Urban Influencers: Women Leaders in Allied Professions*

Distinguished leaders from APA, ASLA, and AIA discuss the challenges for women in the future of our allied professions. What will it take to close the pay gap? How have our cities begun to reflect the shift toward women in decision-making roles?

## Speaking of NYC. . .

The New Yorker has published an article about [Rebecca Solnit and Joshua Schapiro's](#) work to create "a map that reflects the remarkable history of charismatic women who have shaped New York City. Many of the women who made valuable contributions or might have are forgotten or were never named. Many women were never allowed to be someone; many heroes of any gender live quiet lives. But some rose up; some became visible; and here they are by the hundreds. [This map](#) is their memorial and their celebration."



## Exciting News for our Members!

*Are you taking the AICP exam this spring?* The APA Women and Planning Division is covering one member's exam fee (that's \$500!). To be eligible, submit an essay (no more than 500 words) illustrating the importance of women serving as leaders in the field. Not only will this be entered into the contest, but select essays will be published by the WPD online and/or through the newsletter. Submittals are due by March 31st to [Kadie Bell Sata](#). Notification will be given in early April to allow sufficient time before the April 28 test registration deadline.

*Tell us how the Division should serve you!* We've pulled together a member survey asking about future directions and priorities. Keep a look out for it landing in your inbox later this month!

## What's in a (Division's) Name?

*The Women and Planning Division recently changed its name to better articulate and communicate who we are and what we do. Our chair, Fiona Akins,*



*AICP, shares her thoughts on the division's new name, major issues facing female planners and how planning can promote social equity in this recent blogpost from APA.*

### What prompted your division's decision to change its name?

Our executive committee noticed that prospective and even existing Division members often fumble the name of the division, from "Women in Planning" to "Planning with Women" or "Women's Division."

We have an incredibly passionate membership — planners who are deeply committed to supporting women in the profession and in our communities. We wanted a division name that came quicker to mind and made it easy for others to describe our purpose and mission. "Women and Planning," our new name, best articulates who we are and what we do.

Simply put, we wanted to emphasize the unique subject of our division — women — in the first word of our name. Read more about the name change [here](#).

## Let's network and learn together!

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We'll be sharing info about members of our Division and opportunities for learning with each edition. Have you heard about info we should share? Email [Elisa Hamblin](#), Director of Communications.

### Member Spotlight(s)

Women and Planning conducted a series of interviews as part of [National Community Planning Month](#) that recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of women in planning. These interviews also explored the issues facing the planning and development of communities, cities, regions, states, and the nation related to the changing roles of women and men as a means of promoting social equity. [See Member interviews at the links below.](#)

- Public Engagement: The Key to Building Inclusive Communities: An [Interview](#) with [Jessica Garrow](#), Community Development Director for the City of Aspen, Colorado.

- The Power of Community Engagement: An [Interview](#) with [Katie Lorah](#), communications and creative strategy director at ioby, a civic crowdfunding platform in Brooklyn, New York.
- Tips for Successful Civic Engagement: An [Interview](#) with [Jennifer S. Evans-Cowley, PhD, AICP](#), Vice Provost for Capital Planning and Regional Campuses in the Office of Academic Affairs at Ohio State University.

## Division Book Club



We're looking for [TWO](#) dynamic personalities to serve as co-directors of our [2017 Women and Planning Division Book Club](#). This program launched in 2016, and we have great hopes for the next year to continue to build this program further.

### What does being a co-director entail? We're glad you asked!

- *An interest in reading!* The program covers three books per year, which you'll be responsible for reading on schedule in order to lead the program for the next year.
- *A commitment to posting 1-2 times per week.* Posts include things like quotes, discussions, articles, and the like. The ability to maintain an ongoing and insightful dialogue is key!
- *Availability.* Co-directors will hold biweekly calls in order to plan ahead.
- *A familiarity and comfort level with social media,* specifically LinkedIn, Facebook, & Twitter.
- *The ability to think critically* and extract interesting conversation starters.

We will be syncing the 2017 schedule to accommodate discussion of the first selected reading at the 2017 National Planning Conference in NYC. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to become more involved in the division and run with new ideas. Please contact [\[add name and email\]](#) with the Executive Committee if you are interested!

## Free Webinars: A Hunt for Ideas

Do you have an idea for a great webinar topic? Are there studies, research or current events that you would like more information about? Have you thought about the challenges and issues that face women in the planning field and would like to learn more about how others have found solutions? What would be fun to learn more about? The Women & Planning Division would love to dig through a list of great concepts, ideas and issues and bring back phenomenal webinars for you all to enjoy! Send your list of webinar topics to [Corrin Wendell](#) and help contribute your ideas to our Division.

## Exit Interviews

Retiring or know someone at the tail end of their planning career? Share your perspective on the past and future of planning with the Division! Reach out to [Elisa Hamblin](#) if you or someone you know is interested in sharing perspectives and stories in our new Exit Interview column.

## Kudos to our Members!

Congratulations to Mildred Warner for being featured in AARP Livable Communities. Read her interview [here](#) on How To Make Land-Use Policies Better for Women, Families, Caregivers and Older Adults.

## Make a difference today – volunteer!

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The Division is always in need of volunteers to help serve our members and expand our reach. Consider any of the following ways to get involved.



[Credit: Pontio](#)

## NPC 2017 in NYC Volunteers

Are you going to the National Planning Conference in May? If so, connect with other division members by volunteering a couple hours of your time at the conference. Please contact [Breanne Rothstein](#) to offer your help.

## APA Academic Membership Program

Division Members – we want to make you aware of an opportunity to assist with the APA’s Academic Membership Program by volunteering to join one of two working groups. The first will develop ideas for engagement and support for the academic arena, and the second will consider recommendations regarding the role of academics within the division structure, potentially considering a new Academic Interest Group or Division. This is a great opportunity, particularly if you have academic experience.

What’s required, you ask?

Monthly calls and email communication through March to May, working towards deliverables to present at the National Planning Conference in New York City. Please contact [Jennie Gordon, AICP](#) for more information and to volunteer.



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