The national Sea Grant program was formed five decades ago to research ocean and Great Lakes issues. So why exactly would planners, as part of a profession with feet placed firmly on the ground, want to collaborate with a program like this?

In recent years, coastal managers and researchers have come to understand that many of the issues they face on the water are closely tied to activities on the land. As Gordon Grau, director of the Hawaii Sea Grant program, is fond of saying, “It’s all about the people.” Hawaii, with its limited carrying capacity, serves as the proverbial canary in the coal mine when it comes to coastal development issues. For instance, Grau notes that the challenges the islands face related to preserving aquatic habitats arise from how people consume and utilize land-based resources. As it turns out, there are a surprising number of ways that urban and regional planners and coastal programs, such as Wisconsin Sea Grant, can collaborate to help build sustainable coastal communities and nurture healthy coastal ecosystems.

The National Sea Grant College Program was established by Congress in 1966 as a university/government partnership to conduct research on the most pressing problems facing the oceans and Great Lakes with a mechanism to move that research to benefit stakeholders on the coast who need it most. The idea for Sea Grant was sparked a few years earlier by Dr. Athelstan Spilhaus, an oceanographer at the University of Minnesota, who said that land grant colleges were perhaps the best investment the nation ever made and should be extended to the seas. The national network of Sea Grant Colleges is administered by NOAA and now includes 33 programs located in every ocean and Great Lakes state, Puerto Rico, Lake Champlain and Guam.

The early years of Sea Grant were dominated by fishery issues and biological, chemical and physical science research. That started to change when Ronald Baird was hired as the director of the National Sea Grant College Program in 1996. With recognition of the ever-growing population along the coast and bubbling interest in planning and development issues in coastal states, the national office invested $50,000 in each program to promote sustainable coastal development starting in 2001. A robust sustainable coastal community development network has emerged. In fact, the most recent strategic plan for Sea Grant includes a specific focus area on resilient communities and economies.

Continued on page 3
Student News

On May 18, 2014, the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, the Wisconsin Student Planning Association (WSPA), and the Alumni Relations Council (ARC) held a graduation ceremony at the Pyle Center that celebrated the accomplishments of nineteen May 2014 graduates and three August 2014 graduates. The 22 spring/summer graduates are:

Khalid Aljuhani
Michael Beale
Kristofer Canto
Matthew Geanacopoulos
Jeremy Hall
Phineas Hanson
Tingting Hu
Amanda Jacobson
Benjamin Kollenbroich
Benjamin Matters
Caroline McCormack
Cory Schenn
Lihlani Skipper
Janice Soriano
Cynthia J. Sweet
Tzu-Hsuan Chung
Uyenlan Vu
John Wilson-Tepeli
Shan Xiao
Andrew Young
Sijia Zhang
Jaclyn Ann Ziebert

Also, among our graduating students, there were several 2013–14 Spring Semester Award recognitions made at the graduation ceremony. This year’s AICP Outstanding Student Award went to Lihlani Skipper, the Jessica L. Bullen Community Service Award went to Caroline McCormack, and the Jack R. Huddleston Award for Best Professional Project went to Jesse Durst.
Continued from page 1

The Wisconsin Sea Grant 2014–17 strategic plan includes a “Resilient Great Lakes Communities and Economies” focus area with a goal of encouraging coastal communities to use comprehensive planning to make informed strategic decisions. Specific objectives include:

• supporting research that will develop or enhance community planning and visualization tools that demonstrate the benefits, risks and consequences of urbanization on the coastal environment;

• supporting research that assesses the economic and social well-being of Wisconsin coastal communities to document improvements in quality of life related to coastal development plan implementation; and,

• working with Wisconsin’s coastal communities, community leaders and businesses to help them develop and adopt plans for responsible development.

These objectives tie closely to several projects that Department Affiliate and Senior Scientist David Hart, AICP, has spearheaded in recent years, including a coastal web atlas designed to help people better understand coastal issues, share coastal data and inform decision-making about sustainable use of the Great Lakes (http://wicoastalatlas.net).

Dr. Hart has also overseen the development of an interactive map that promotes coastal heritage tourism along the Great Lakes Circle Tour in Wisconsin (http://wisconsincoastalguide.org) and collaborated with the NOAA Digital Coast Partnership on a Great Lakes Coastal Resilience Planning Guide (http://greatlakesresilience.org).

In addition to Dr. Hart’s academic affiliation, what’s the planning connection? In the process of applying GIS to coastal issues in Wisconsin during the past two decades, more than a dozen of the 79 students who have contributed to these projects have been from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning.

It’s not just students. Department faculty have also worked closely with Sea Grant to build and support sustainable communities. Prof. Brian Ohm received funding from the National Sea Grant Law Center to develop model ordinances to reduce coastal hazards. (Check them out in the publication “Protecting Coastal Investments: Examples of Regulations for Wisconsin’s Coastal Communities” (http://aqua.wisc.edu/publications/PDFs/ProtectingCoastalInvestments.pdf).

Prof. Ken Genskow is currently working with Dr. Hart on the Wisconsin Coastal Atlas to apply social science methods to help build even more effective spatial decision support tools.

Much has changed at Sea Grant since its inception. There is growing recognition of the impact of population growth on the coast and the connection between land use and water quality. James Hurley, appointed as the third director of Wisconsin Sea Grant in 2012, is keenly aware that innovative research and outreach is needed to help build sustainable coastal communities in Wisconsin.

Hurley, a water chemist, knows well the importance of the connection between Sea Grant and planning, having served 12 years on the Zoning Board of Appeals and Plan Commission in Evansville, WI.

In his organization’s strategic plan, Hurley wrote that “Wisconsin Sea Grant is in a unique position to bring its research and engagement capabilities to support the development of resilient coastal communities that sustain diverse and vibrant economies. We can help them effectively respond to and mitigate natural and technological hazards and function within the limits of their ecosystems.”

That’s a sentiment—and a sense of collaborative connectivity—both Sea Grant and urban and regional planners can wholeheartedly endorse.

David Hart, AICP, is a Senior Scientist with Wisconsin Sea Grant. He conducts research and provides outreach to support sustainable coastal development along the Great Lakes. His activities occur at the intersection of the disciplines of geographic information science, urban and regional planning, and environmental management. David is also affiliated with the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and brings experience from his time as a planner in both the public and private sectors in New Orleans. David has taught courses in the Department including GIS workshops on land inventory and analysis methods and rethinking New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.
On behalf of the newly formed Urban and Regional Planning Alumni Relations Council (ARC), I wish you summer greetings! Summer has been slow to develop in Madison, but many good things have blossomed over the past academic year.

Perhaps the biggest accomplishment is the graduation of five Master’s candidates in December 2013, and an additional 22 graduates in May 2014. We offer our congratulations to this newest group of alumni and look forward to their professional contributions as they start their new positions around the world.

Another accomplishment has been the creation and launch of the ARC, which has been formed to provide the conduit to network and better connect planning alumni to (1) the Department, (2) fellow planning alums, and (3) current students.

The 17-member council has met four times and established a group of three key initiatives designed to strengthen ongoing relationships between alumni, faculty, students and the broader community.

One of the first initiatives was co-sponsorship of the inaugural (First Annual) Professional Project Forum on May 16. Each year, graduating MS students complete a professional project to showcase the application of their planning education to professional practice. This year’s forum offered several interesting and relevant topics, including transportation, food systems, geospatial analysis, and master planned communities.

In partnership with the Wisconsin Student Planning Association (WSPA), the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and the City of Madison Department of Planning and Community and Economic Development, the ARC was proud to actively participate in this showcase of student presentations and posters.

The event was well attended, well received, and set a firm foundation for Annual Professional Project Forums at the end of each academic year.

Another key initiative was the development and submission of a proposal for University Assessment Funds to define and implement expected learning goals and outcomes for Department MS and PhD degrees. This project will include input from current students, recent graduates, alumni, faculty and staff, and key employer groups. Dave Marcouiller, Department Chair, prepared this request in collaboration with Kurt Paulsen (Associate Professor), Ken Genskow (Associate Professor), Emily Reynolds (Student Services and Alumni Relations Coordinator), and the ARC.

A third initiative focuses on regularly scheduled annual events that bring students, faculty, alums and the broader community together. Several departments across the UW-Madison campus have demonstrated the value of these structured events and the networking opportunities they offer to all participants. We are in the process of finalizing dates and locations for events that will take place during the 2014–2015 academic year. We will share those program dates and details with you over the summer so you can make plans to join these activities.

On May 16, 2014, the Department hosted its inaugural Professional Project Forum at the Madison Municipal Building, to a crowd of alumni, area planning professionals, faculty, and students. The event included opening remarks by the City of Madison Planning Director Steve Cover. It was emceed by Mike Mathews, President of the Department’s Alumni Relations council (ARC).

There were a total of four presentations and 13 posters presented at the Forum. Awards presented at the 2014 Graduation Ceremony included:

- Best Presentation (tie): Lihlani Skipper and Shan (Nina) Xiao
- Best Poster: Uyenlan Vu

The professional project is a culmination of two years of work toward the master’s degree. The professional project consists of a written report prepared for a faculty committee as well as the presentation, which is open to the public. This is the first time presentations have been brought together as a forum event. Reception to the event was very positive, and we hope to make this an annual networking opportunity.
THE YEAR IN REVIEW:
Excellence in Teaching, Research and Outreach

The Department is well-known throughout the world for excellence in graduate planning education. For the fourth year in a row, our American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) pass rate (an important outcomes-based metric recognized by the Planning Accreditation Board) remains the highest in North America for the larger schools found in Quartiles 1, 2, and 3 (based on number of exam takers greater than 23). UW–Madison ranks the highest among competitors that include MIT, Cornell, University of Michigan, University of California schools (Berkeley, UCLA and Irvine) and Harvard. Indeed, our UW–Madison planning alumni are among the brightest and most qualified planners in North America. Further, we are in the second year of our outcomes-based survey of program graduates (at the time of graduation, 2 years, 5 years, and 10 years post-graduation), so stay tuned for more outcome-based metrics that reflect excellence in graduate planning education.

With respect to excellence in research, in 2013 our eight faculty published a total of 72 publications (average 9 per year). Of these, 16 were peer-reviewed journal articles (average 2 per year) in leading planning outlets that included the Journal of Planning Education and Research, Journal of Planning Literature, Landscape and Urban Planning, Urban Studies, Annals of Regional Science, Land Economics, Society and Natural Resources, Journal of Environmental Planning and Management, International Journal of Social Welfare, Land Use Policy, and the Journal of Extension. In addition, several faculty have produced books (2 in 2013) and book chapters (8 in 2013) published by leading academic presses including John Wiley and Sons, Edward Elgar, and Ashgate.

Finally, we are a department that values engaged scholarship and remain an exemplar of the Wisconsin idea. Much of our attention focuses on integrating research and outreach extending resources of the University to all corners of the state and beyond. During 2013, these programs have served key stakeholder groups and have resulted in 4 awards (2 national and 2 state), statewide leadership of key public policy issues (e.g. manure management, land use law, statewide recreation planning, etc.), and an array of peer-reviewed Extension monographs (2), technical reports (12), and factsheets (3).

MIKE BEALE
Presidential Management Fellow

Michael Beale was selected as a Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) earlier this year. He has yet to decide with which federal agency he will work. The PMF Program is a flagship leadership development program at the entry level for advanced degree candidates. The program is highly competitive and is designed to develop a strong cadre of potential government leaders. The PMF Program inculcates a lasting bond as well as a spirit of public service, ultimately encouraging the pursuit of a leadership role in government service. The PMF Program has a rich history going back to 1977 when President Carter issued Executive Order 12008 establishing “The Presidential Management Intern Program.”

WSPA News

David Albino, President

In collaboration with faculty, staff, the Alumni Relations Council (ARC) and the City of Madison, WSPA held a poster and presentation session at the Madison Municipal Building (see page 4). This session provided City employees, alumni, current students, and friends of the Department an opportunity to review graduating students’ professional projects. Additionally, select students provided presentations. This was a great networking event that WSPA hopes will be formally adopted as the new format required for the professional project by the faculty. The event preceded the end-of-the-year picnic, also sponsored by WSPA.

Earlier in the year, WSPA held an extremely well-attended Thanksgiving dinner for students. Everyone brought a dish to share, and significant others and friends were invited as well. Many international students attended the event and several had turkey for the first time.

Other events held this year included a series of pizza and planning-themed movie nights, an introduction to GIS workshop, a chat with distinguished alum and member of the newly established Alumni Relations Council (ARC), Roger Rupnow (MS ’65), and a brownbag with Chuck Marohn, Co-founder & President of Strong Towns. We have set high expectations for the incoming WSPA officer cohort, including official Registered Student Organization status, and expect to continue providing events, forums and opportunities for current students.
Faculty, Staff, and PhD Student News

Prof. Harvey M. Jacobs was on sabbatical leave during spring 2014. As part of that leave, he was in residence for one month at Radboud University, Netherlands, where he holds a position as Visiting Professor. During that period he engaged in collaborative research with his colleague and URPL visitor Prof. Erwin Van Der Krabben. In addition, he was invited to lecture at the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies at Erasmus University, Rotterdam, on “American Invention, Global Application? Conservation Easements for Land and Environmental Management.” He also traveled to Brussels, Belgium, for research interviews where he met with representatives of the European Landowners Organization, the European Property Federation and the European Historic Houses Association.

Later in the spring he traveled to England where he met with representatives of the Institute for Economic Affairs, the Adam Smith Institute and the Institute for European Environmental Policy. His travels were facilitated by a travel grant from the UW European Union Center for Excellence for his sabbatical project “Property Rights and the Right in and at the European Union.”

In May, Harvey was one of five international scholars invited to participate in a workshop sponsored by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy in Beijing, China, for researchers at the Chinese State Council’s Development Research Center (DRC). Harvey’s presentation focused on the experiences of OECD countries in farmland protection and natural resource management.


Prof. Jim LaGro organized a panel discussion on green infrastructure at the annual Capital Area Planning Conference in Madison at the end of October. He also gave a presentation on “Green Infrastructure: Challenges & Opportunities in the Capital Region,” and he authored an essay, “Deconstructing the Policing of Conservation Subdivision Design Standards,” which was recently published by Planetizen, the online information exchange for the urban planning, design, and development community.

Prof. Dave Marcouiller contributed two book chapters to edited volumes published by E. Elgar and ABC CLIO. The first, entitled “The Rural Development Attributes of Tourism,” was included in the Handbook of Rural Development (edited by Gary Green). The second, co-authored with Alan Hoogasian (MS ’13), is entitled “The Role of Public Outdoor Recreation Providers in Supporting Rural Development,” and is an introductory chapter of the three-volume set Public Economics: The Government’s Role in American Economics (edited by Steve Payson). He also had an article published in the International Journal of Housing Policy, and finished a two-year project with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources culminating in a report co-authored with Jeff Prey and doctoral student Danya Kim entitled, Economic Impacts of the Wisconsin State Park System: Connections to Gateway Communities.

Prof. Alfonso Morales and Dadit Hidayat, a doctoral student in Environment and Natural Resources, led two Nelson Institute Capstone courses, one in the fall and one in the spring. Both courses focused on assisting the South Madison Farmers’ Market in increasing community access and attendance. Alfonso was also interviewed by Brian Standing of the radio station WORT on Latino populations in Wisconsin.


Doctoral candidates Danya Kim, Jangik Jin, and Hyun Kim presented papers at the Western Regional Science Association Annual Meetings (February 16–19) in San Diego, California.

Doctoral student Hyun Kim was awarded the Jeanne X. Kaspencer Student Paper Award from the Association of American Geographers (AAG) for his work on planning for hazards, risks, and disasters. The paper was presented at the AAG annual meeting in Tampa (April 8–12, 2014) within the Hazards Specialty Group.

Doctoral student Chris Spahr published an article on Milwaukee’s jobs and transit mismatch on the State Smart Transportation Initiative website.

Welcome from our Front-office Staff

During the past six months, we have made our way through a dramatic transition in the Department front office. As many of you know, Alice Justice moved back to her favorite role as Graduate Admissions Coordinator in the Sociology Department. During the past few months, we have made several key hires. Joining Emily Reynolds, our permanent Student Services and Alumni Relations Coordinator, we hired Amanda Braun as our new Financial Specialist. And just last month, we were able to hire Carol Kaufman as our new Department Administrator. Next time you are around the Department, pop in and say hi!
Alumni News

Jesse Durst (MS ’13) has been hired as a Senior Policy Analyst with APPRISE, a nonprofit research institute in Princeton, New Jersey. He will work on evaluating home energy assistance and weatherization assistance programs.

Allen Lovejoy (MS ’75) recently announced his retirement after a 35+ year career in planning. He was well-known across the nation (and particularly around the Twin Cities) as a strong advocate for mass transit. Read a story on him here: http://www.twincities.com/localnews/ci_25454405/ hes-light-rails-great-persuader.

Samina Raja (Ph.D. 02), has won the prestigious 2014 William R. and June Dale Prize for Excellence in Urban and Regional Planning, awarded by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Cal Poly Pomona. Dr. Raja was recognized for her leadership and scholarship on food systems.

Sean Robbins (MS ’03) was recently appointed by the Governor of Oregon, John Kitzhaber, as the new director of Business Oregon. Business Oregon is a cabinet-level state agency responsible for economic and business development in the state.

Pat Trudgeon (MS ’96) has been working in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area in a variety of planning jobs. He worked as the Planning and Development Director for North Branch, MN, and the Community Development Director in Ramsey, MN. In 2007, he began working for the City of Roseville as the Community Development Director. In May 2013, he was appointed the Interim City Manager for Roseville after the previous City Manager left. In February 2014, the City Council appointed him as the permanent City Manager. Roseville is a first-ring suburb of Minneapolis/St. Paul that is fully developed with a population of approximately 34,000. He is looking forward to bringing his city planning perspective to the City Manager role.

In Memoriam

Robert “Bob” Stanton, 87, died on February 4 in Madison, Wisconsin. Bob received his MS in 1977 and his Ph.D. in 1988. He was a long-time protégé and teaching assistant to URPL Prof. Leo Jakobson. His interest in urban planning took him around the world to conferences and on exchange programs, including Japan, Finland, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary, and the People’s Republic of China. Bob often participated in town halls and “get-out-the-vote” drives, and he was a founding member of the Students for a Democratic Society at UW. He was an early recycler; finding ways to reuse almost any material or item. Bob was an avid walker, biker, and outspoken supporter of public transportation. He was known for both his frugality for himself and his generosity to others.

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Thank you to the many alumni and friends who have supported the work of the department and its students over the past year by generously contributing to departmental accounts at the University of Wisconsin Foundation.

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Thank you. We appreciate your support!