

OKLAHOMA PLANNER



American Planning Association
Oklahoma Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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www.okplanning.org



Note from Susan Connors, President of APA OK

The first quarter of 2016 has been a very exciting time for OKAPA. We learned that Dr. Charles Leider was accepted as a Fellow of the AICP, and our past president, Paula Dennison, was named APA's 2016 Chapter Presidents Council (CPC) Leadership Award recipient for Chapter President Recognition. In addition to these two outstanding individual awards the Oklahoma Chapter is the recipient of the 2016 Chapter Presidents Council Karen B. Smith Chapter Award for "Overall Chapter Achievement." Congratulations to Charles and Paula and to all the OKAPA members who, through your efforts, have made the chapter a better organization.

On a sad note it is with sorrow that we remember our colleague, Dr. Charles Graham, Dean of the College of Architecture at the University of Oklahoma, who passed away on February 12, 2016. In 2009, Dr. Graham brought his experience and leadership to the University of Oklahoma as Dean of the College of Architecture. While at OU, he carried out a vision for expanded student educational programs, and shared his expertise in building methods to improve housing and structures for impoverished communities internationally. He was a supporter of Planning both at OU and in the larger community and we will miss him. In his honor the OKAPA Board voted at their board meeting in March to have an essay contest on affordable housing with the winner receiving a scholarship to an OKAPA conference in Dr. Graham's name.

Members of the Board are busy planning for the Fall Conference to be held in late September at Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center. Last fall at the quad-state conference it was decided that the conference in 2016 should be at a State Park. Very few of Oklahoma's State Parks can accommodate a conference of around 100 to 125 people. Quartz Mountain Resort is one that can. It is located 17 miles north of Altus in the Wichita Mountains of southwestern Oklahoma near the Texas border, Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center is ideally located just two and a half hours from Oklahoma City. We seldom hold the state conference in the western part of the State so this is a good opportunity for all of us to experience a new place.



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Note from Susan Connors, President of APA OK cont.

I hope to see many of you at the national conference in April in Phoenix. It is always an eye-opening experience to see and hear about what other communities are doing to advance planning in their states.

Our newsletter continues to be a great way to stay informed so please send us articles regarding your community and all the important planning work that is happening across the State. As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions on ways to continue to improve the Chapter and continue to serve the chapter members. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Susan F. Connors, AICP

APA Oklahoma President

American Planning Association to Recognize the Oklahoma Chapter

We are excited to announce that the American Planning Association is recognizing the Oklahoma Chapter not once, but twice in 2016!

APA's 2016 Chapter President's Council Leadership Award recipient for Chapter President Recognition is our very own Paula Dennison! Now the immediate Past President, Paula led our chapter with enthusiasm, a spirit for collaboration, and a desire for growth the last two years. Under her leadership the Chapter established relationships with allied organizations, expanded outreach to members, and enhanced training and networking opportunities. Congratulations to Paula on this well deserved recognition!



APA's 2016 Chapter President's Council Karen B. Smith Chapter Award recipient for Overall Chapter Achievement is the Oklahoma Chapter! Our Chapter has been making strides in internal management and growing our presence in Oklahoma through increased outreach, education, and partnerships. Since 2000, the Oklahoma Chapter Membership has increased from 175 members and has remained strong at approximately 200 members since 2013. AICP Membership has increased from 57 to 85 since 2013. All positions on the Board have been filled for the past year and they have been working hard to create policies for the Chapter and providing information to our members through the website, facebook, and our quarterly newsletter.

The awards program will be held during the 2016 National Planning Conference in Phoenix at the APA/AICP Annual Meeting and Leadership Honors on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 from 9:30am – 10:45am. If you are attending the conference we hope to see you there!

APA's 2016 National Planning Conference—OU RCPL Reception

Planners from all over the Country will be in Phoenix, AZ April 2-5, 2016 for the National Planning Conference. Look for your fellow Oklahomans at the OU RCPL reception on April 4 from 6:30 to 8:30 as part of the "Combined University Reception." *Location details will be provided in your program.*

AICP College of Fellows to Induct One of Our Own

This year the AICP College of Fellows will induct 61 new Fellows. Election to Fellow is one of the highest honors that AICP bestows upon a member. Fellows are exemplary figures in the field of planning who have significantly affected the profession, the communities they have served, and the careers of other planners. 508 Fellows have been inducted since the College was formed in 1999. The 2016 Induction Ceremony will occur in Phoenix on April 3, 2016.



Dr. Charles L. W. Leider has been selected as a Fellow in the American Institute of Certified Planners under the category of Teaching and Mentoring. Dr. Leider, Professor and Director Emeritus of the Landscape Architecture Program, at Oklahoma State University was nominated by the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) for having demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, excellence in teaching, research, and outreach in his planning career over an extended period of time.

As a professional planner with experience in both the public and private sectors in the United States and internationally he brings a dynamic skill set to the studio with knowledge in “both worlds of practice.” Dr. Leider has demonstrated a long term commitment to planning professional education through research, teaching, outreach and mentoring by revising the landscape architecture curriculum to include a planning course emphasis with a focus on historic preservation.

It is with great pride that the Oklahoma Chapter congratulates Dr. Charles L. Leider, AICP on his induction into the AICP College of Fellows.

University of Oklahoma Regional and City Planning Division Celebrates Alumni Success

Two University of Oklahoma College of Architecture graduates recently were awarded Fellowships with the American Institute of Certified Planners. Deborah Rosenthal '78 and Robert Stalzer '79 and both earned master's degrees in regional and city planning.

Rosenthal serves on the professional advisory board for the RCPL Division as well as contributing her expertise to the American Planning Association, serving on various committees. Rosenthal was recognized in 2014 by the Division of Regional and City Planning as the Alumni of the Year, in part for her assistance in raising funds to support an endowed scholarship in the name of former RCPL Professor Robert Goins. An accomplished lawyer, she was one of the first female land-use attorneys in the United States, representing local governments and developers in California.



Stalzer currently is the deputy county executive for planning and development in Fairfax County, Virginia, and also serves as a professor of practice at the Virginia Tech School of Public and International Affairs. Stalzer's professional focus has been on public-private partnerships and joint ventures to help redevelop and build communities while creating additional tax base valuation and delivering needed services more effectively.



In Memoriam: Charles Graham, June 13, 1951 - February 12, 2016

Reprinted from The Oklahoman

Dr. Charles Wesley Graham, of Norman, Oklahoma, went to be with his Lord on Friday, February 12, surrounded by loving family. Following a miraculous four-month recovery from complications after heart surgery, Charles experienced a sudden and complete cardiac arrest. In just the twinkling of an eye, Charles left this Earth to go to his Heavenly home.

Dr. Graham was born June 13, 1951 in Kerrville, TX to Lee Roy Graham and Helen Louise (Garner) Graham. On July 12, 1974, Charles married his college sweetheart, M'Liss Shipman, in San Antonio, TX, and they began their 41-year journey together.

Dr. Graham had a lifelong love for education, which began when he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Architecture from Texas Tech University. He then went on to earn his Master's Degree in Environmental Management from University of Texas at San Antonio, and a Doctorate in Urban and Regional Science from Texas A&M University.



During a 28-year career at Texas A&M University, Charles held various roles in the Construction Science Department as Professor, Department Head, and finally as the Executive Associate Dean of the College of Architecture. In 2009, Charles brought his experience and leadership to the University of Oklahoma as Dean of the College of Architecture. While at OU, he carried out a vision for expanded student educational programs, and shared his expertise in building methods to improve housing and structures for impoverished communities internationally. He felt that there was no better way to enrich a student's college studies than to have a travel abroad experience.

He was recently recognized by Design Intelligence magazine as one of 25 Top Educators in America. At both universities, Charles left a legacy that touched the lives of faculty and students alike. Dr. Graham was an active member of the American Institute of Architects for 40 years. He served two terms as president of the College Station Texas AIA Chapter and two terms as State AIA President of Oklahoma.

Charles was very proud of his Scottish heritage and was a leader in the Clan Graham Genealogical & Reunion Association. He and his wife, M'Liss, were longtime members of Grace Bible Church in College Station, TX, and Bethel Baptist Church in Norman, OK. He greatly valued his church families over the years. Outside of being Dean Graham, Charles was an avid outdoorsman, photographer, fast car enthusiast, and wood craftsman. He has left a legacy of strong Christian faith, integrity, wisdom, value of education, and perseverance to his treasured family and friends.

Dr. Graham was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his wife, M'Liss (Shipman) Graham; daughters, D'Nae Weaver, married to Dr. Jason Weaver; M'Rhea Lochte, married to Jason Lochte; K'Rina Wolfe, married to Charlie Wolfe; and 7 dear grandchildren. Charles is also survived by his younger siblings, Milford Graham, Emily (Graham) O'Rourke, Pauline Graham, and Russell Graham. The Havenbrook Funeral Home of Norman, Oklahoma will hold a viewing on Friday, February 19th, from 11am-8pm, with family receiving visitors from 5-7pm.

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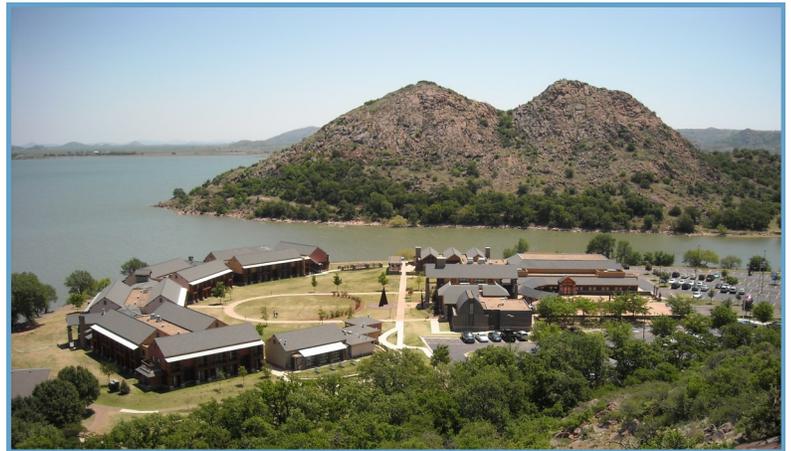
In Memoriam cont.

A Celebration of Life Service will be held 2:00pm Saturday, Feb. 20, 2016, at Bethel Baptist Church, in Norman, OK. A reception will follow the service. At a later time, Dr. Graham will be laid to rest in a historical Texas hill country cemetery which is dedicated to providing the last resting place for descendants of Texas pioneers.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the "Dean Charles W. Graham Memorial Scholarship" at University of Oklahoma. They strongly desire to carry on Dean Graham's passion for education, and this scholarship is very dear to their hearts. Please send checks to: 830 Van Vleet Oval, Gould Hall, Norman, OK 73019-6141, Attn: Erik Baker. Or, donate online at <https://www.oufoundation.org/onlinegivingweb/giving/onlinegiving/architecture?fund=0042905>

OKAPA Statewide Conference— SAVE THE DATE!

Join Oklahoma Planners from across the state at the Statewide Planning Conference September 25-27, 2016. The conference this year will be held at the beautiful Quartz Mountain Resort Arts and Conference Center, located 17 miles north of Altus in the Wichita Mountains of southwestern Oklahoma.



Do You Have Conference Session Ideas?

We will be sending out information on the conference theme and tracks in mid-April so start thinking of sessions you may want to submit!

2016 OKAPA Awards

The 2016 Awards Committee are finalizing the details of the 2016 OKAPA Awards. Do you want to submit an award? Start thinking now of a project or a person in your community you would like to recognize. More information will be available online and sent via email soon!

Award Categories:

[Outstanding Public Outreach, Program, Project, Tool, Community Initiative](#) - This award is for a specific planning tool, practice, program, project, community initiative or public outreach. This category emphasizes results and demonstrates how innovative and state-of-the art planning methods and practices help to create communities of lasting value.

[Outstanding Plan](#) - For a plan that advances the science and art of planning.

[Outstanding Citizen Planner](#) - This award honors an individual or appointed or elected official who has advanced or promoted the cause of planning in the public arena. (Non-Professional Planner)

[Outstanding Student Project](#) - Award recognizes a student or group of students in an Oklahoma planning, architecture, landscape architecture, or program for an outstanding paper or class project that demonstrates the contribution of planning to contemporary issues; best applies the planning process; or applied planning research.

[Great Neighborhood, Street, or Public Space](#) - Great Places in America single out places of exemplary character, quality and planning; places with a unique identity, cultural interest, community involvement, and a sustainable vision for tomorrow.

Need AICP Credits?

AICP continuing education credits are pending for [historic preservation lectures](#) in Tulsa in April, May and June. From historic tax credits and Route 66 to sustainable design and community character, these four lectures are sure to broaden our knowledge and dialogue of historic preservation. These lectures are free and open to the public.

Jobs and Events Needed

OKAPA is now accepting jobs and events to post on our website and facebook page. If you have not viewed our new website recently we now have a calendar page and an available jobs page.

Articles and Images Needed

We would like to hear from you about the great things going on in your community! Please share your images and interesting projects with fellow planners in Oklahoma in our quarterly newsletter! Contact Jennifer Gates at jgates@cityoftulsa.org.

Where in Oklahoma is it?



Hint: We will all be there in September!



Last Answer: Rose District,
Broken Arrow

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