

# APA Ohio

Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association

## Annual Report FY 2018

July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018



American Planning Association  
**Ohio Chapter**  
*Making Great Communities Happen*

The First Statewide Association of Citizens &  
Planners



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This report of the Chapter's activities during FY 2018 (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018) was TBD by the APA Ohio Board of Trustees at their September 14, 2018 meeting.

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### ***Did you know?***

- We are on Instagram at **apaohiplanning!** Tag #becauseweplan and #apaohiplanning.
- Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine was added to the list of APA Great Places in America in 2017.
- APA Ohio offered/facilitated over 75 hours of AICP CM credits in FY2018.
- Two APA Ohio members were inducted into the Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP), bringing Ohio's total up to 21.
- Twenty-one APA Ohio members passed the AICP exam in FY2018.



## President's Report

I am pleased to provide our membership with this report of the Chapter's activities during FY 2018 (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018).

APA Ohio is a statewide, non-profit association of planners, citizens and allied professionals committed to promoting a comprehensive approach to planning for communities in the State to improve quality of life for all Ohioans. APA Ohio is a state chapter of the American Planning Association (APA). APA Ohio operates under the leadership of a volunteer Board of Trustees according to adopted bylaws. Administrative operations are superbly managed by Christine Dersi Davis, AICP, the Chapter's Executive Director since 2011.

The Board's activities are guided by a Strategic Plan which sets goals and priorities for achieving the APA Ohio mission—advancing the art, science and profession of good planning—physical, economic and social—to create vibrant communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live. This past year, the board began the practice of crafting an annual work plan, which takes a tactical, task-oriented approach to achieving the vision of the Strategic Plan.

In the last fiscal year our activities increasingly focused on policy and advocacy for planning in Ohio. In December 2017, led by the good work of the legislative committee, the APA Ohio Board adopted its first policy platform clearly outlining the Chapter's professional position on 24 key priority issues facing Ohio. The Chapter also forged a relationship with APA's policy and advocacy staff and participated in their State Advocacy Pilot Program. The Chapter used APA's Engage tools to promote state legislation supporting health and equity in all policies.

The Chapter took the next big step in its Because We Plan initiative with the creation of a Great Places in Ohio program. Modeled on the national Great Places program, these awards will recognize great places in three categories: residential neighborhood, commercial district and public space. Because we plan, great places exist across Ohio. By showing the outcomes of good planning, we can have a bigger impact in our local communities.

We'll see the results of other projects and changes soon. The governance committee proposed a major overhaul of the Chapter bylaws, on the ballot in 2018, which will position our organization to better meet the needs of our members. National level changes to student and new professional memberships are swelling the ranks of young planners involved in APA. We'll continue to identify ways of providing programming for all, while engaging and retaining these groups.

In this annual report we've presented an overview of the Chapter's activities and finances as well as services provided to APA Ohio members over the last fiscal year. As a volunteer-led organization, APA Ohio relies on its members to provide their time and talents for the betterment of the association and to elevate the planning profession. I encourage you to explore opportunities to get more involved in Chapter activities or in your local section.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kimberly Lieber'.

Kimberly Lieber, AICP  
APA Ohio President



## Executive Director’s Report

It has been another successful year here at APA Ohio! As always, it is my pleasure to work daily with APA Ohio Board’s twenty-two (22) board members, eight (8) board committees, and six (6) sections.

As staff person to APA Ohio, it is my primary directive to support the above entities and, more specifically, to manage the following:

- Office & Organizational Administration
- APA Ohio Website
- The Ohio Planner’s News
- Outreach (Social Media & Email Communication)
- Board & Committee Meetings
- Finance & Investments
- Organization Development
- Sponsor/Advertiser Development
- Membership Development
- Conference Coordination
- Networking & Section Support

Some of the larger initiatives we’ve been working on at the ground level here at APA Ohio are below. I urge you to contact me at any time should you want more information, or if you would like to get involved!

### ***Team Work Makes the Dream Work***

It’s true! And thanks to the support of APA Ohio President Kim Lieber, we’ve got a robust (yet doable) APA Ohio Board work plan that we’ve been picking away at over the last year. Look at all the things we’ve been working on at <https://bit.ly/2vIRvpJ>.

### ***The Ohio Planner’s News***

In partnership with the APA Ohio Membership Committee, you will notice a new section to the OPN – a member spotlight. Each edition will feature an APA Ohio member, to be interviewed and reported on by a Membership Committee board member. Be sure to look at [www.ohioplanning.org/newsletter](http://www.ohioplanning.org/newsletter)! If you are interested in being featured, contact APA Ohio President Kim Lieber.

### ***APA Ohio Website***

As our members are spread geographically throughout the state, our website is the primary method of communication and outreach. The website is updated at least once a day with calendar events, news items, workshop information and registration, job postings, and much more. We’ve recently added some ‘meat’ to the legislative and advocacy page, which has been a long time coming. Take some time to peruse all that APA Ohio has to offer online at [www.ohioplanning.org](http://www.ohioplanning.org).

### ***Let’s Be Social***

Last year, we made a commitment to increase our presence on social media. You may have noticed an increased presence of APA Ohio on the Facebook and Twitter social media platforms—and we are now on Instagram. It is our goal to post at least three (3) times a week to keep our members interested, engaged, and in the know. If you have not already liked or followed us, please do!

### ***Planning Webcast Series***

In 2018, the Planning Webcast Series entered its TENTH year! Happy Birthday PWS! The Series offers over thirty (30) webcasts per year and has almost fifty (50) sponsoring APA Chapters and Divisions. 2017 broke the previous year’s record (13,000) by almost 500 attendees. The Series is run by myself as moderator of sessions, and Northern New England APA Professional Development Officer Benjamin Frost, AICP as session coordinator. Sessions are offered most Friday afternoons and are worth 1.5 CM credits each. When applicable, Law and Ethics credits are available. We’re always looking for great webcasts, so if you’re interested in speaking please reach out. To learn more and receive free access as a benefit of your APA Ohio membership, visit [www.ohioplanning.org/planningwebcast](http://www.ohioplanning.org/planningwebcast).

### ***Investing in our Organization***

In February 2016, the APA Ohio Board approved an investment strategy with the idea to invest organization “rainy day funds” in a strategic combination of conservative stocks, bonds, and mutual funds to help grow our pot of funds. It has been over a year since our initial investment, and we are looking to review and ‘shake up’ some of the account distributions to (hopefully) get more bang for our (conservative) buck! For more information on our financial status and outlook, visit [www.ohioplanning.org/ataglance](http://www.ohioplanning.org/ataglance).

I look forward to working with the initiatives in progress and those in the future. Again, feel free to contact me with any questions or comments at [info@ohioplanning.org](mailto:info@ohioplanning.org).

Best,



Christine Dersi Davis, AICP  
Executive Director



## APA Ohio Board of Trustees

The Board is composed of 16 at-large members elected from the general membership plus the 6 Section Directors or their designated representatives. At least four of the at-large trustees shall not be professional planners, but individuals interested in furthering the goals and objectives of APA Ohio. All board members volunteer their time. Elections for the Board of Trustees are held every other year; terms are for two years. The next Board elections will take place between July 29 and September 1, 2018.

APA Ohio has been well-served by its Board. We would like to thank all the past board members who have created and maintained a great organization.

### *FY 2018 Executive Committee*

**President: Kimberly Lieber, AICP**  
*City of North Olmsted*

**President Elect: Christopher Anderson, AICP**  
*City of Forest Park*

**Treasurer: Rachel Ray, AICP**  
*City of Dublin*

**Secretary: Nancy Reger, AICP**  
*Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission*

**Past President: Todd Kinskey, AICP**  
*City of Dayton*

### *FY 2018 At-Large Trustees*

**Eric Anderson, AICP**  
*KZF Design*

**Christopher Auffrey**  
*University of Cincinnati*

**Joyce Braverman**  
*City of Shaker Heights*

**Kelly Brooker Scocco**  
*City of Columbus*

**Tim Davis**  
**Miami Valley Section Director**  
*City of Troy*

**Jeff Kaiser, AICP**  
**Akron Section Interim Director**  
*City of Wadsworth*

**Patrick Etchie, AICP**  
**Northwest Section Director**  
*Mannik & Smith Group*

**Kyle Ezell, AICP**  
**Professional Development Officer**  
*OSU Knowlton School of Architecture*

**Amanda Golden**  
*Designing Local*

**Dan Kennedy**  
*Citizen Planner*

**Katherine Keough-Jurs, AICP**  
**Cincinnati Section Director**  
*City of Cincinnati*

**Ann Klavora, AICP**  
*City of Shaker Heights*

**Paul Logue, AICP**  
*City of Athens*

**Beth Nagy**  
*CSU Levin College of Urban Affairs*

**Chris Ronayne, AICP**  
*University Circle, Inc.*

**Jason Russell, AICP**  
*RMS Investment Corporation*

**Matthew Schmidt, AICP**  
**Cleveland Section Representative**  
*The Trust for Public Land*



# Financial Report

Rachel Ray, AICP, Treasurer

As a non-profit organization, APA Ohio relies on two primary sources for operating income—Chapter dues and conference income. The following is a summary of the Chapter’s primary income and expenses for FY 2018:

APA Ohio Annual Financial Report - FY2018 (July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018)																																																																																																																																																																										
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## APA OH Account Balances - As of 6/30/2018

prepared by R. Ray 7/27/2018

All Key Bank accounts as of 3/30/2017

Bank Accounts	4th Qtr 6/30/17 Balance	1st Qtr 9/30/17 Balance	2nd Qtr 12/31/17 Balance	3rd Qtr 3/31/18 Balance	4th Qtr 6/30/18 Balance
<i>Checking</i>					
<b>Chapter Checking</b>					
Opened 11/19/2014	\$84,614	\$122,628	\$92,684	\$65,616	\$100,825
<b>Webcast Checking</b>					
Opened 11/12/2013	\$20,976	\$20,976	\$20,976	\$22,862	\$23,787
<b>Conference Checking</b>					
Opened 5/2/2017 - Opening Balance: \$2,000	\$3,577	\$21,449	\$65,565	\$63,284	\$6,196
<i>Savings</i>					
<b>Emergency Reserve</b>					
Opened 3/16/2017 - Opening Balance: \$9,772.18	\$9,773	\$8,868	\$8,868	\$8,868	\$8,869
<b>Scholarship Fund</b>					
Opened 3/16/2017 - Opening Balance: \$19,230.98	\$19,232	\$19,233	\$27,011	\$27,012	\$28,191
<b>Investment</b>					
Opened 3/30/2017 - Opening Balance: \$30,000	\$29,725	\$30,281	\$31,048	\$30,594	\$30,418
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$167,898</b>	<b>\$223,434</b>	<b>\$246,151</b>	<b>\$218,237</b>	<b>\$198,286</b>





## FAICP Honors / APA Ohio Awards

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*The Awards/FAICP Committee is responsible for running APA Ohio's biennial awards program that corresponds with the Chapter's State Conference. The committee is also responsible for identifying a list of potential Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP) nominees.*

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**Co-Chairs:** Joyce Braverman and Ann Klavora, AICP

### FAICP

The Ohio Chapter submitted two nominations for consideration—Nancy Reger and Robert Eichenberg. Bob was admitted into the FAICP and honored at the 2018 APA National Conference in New Orleans. Wendy Moeller was nominated to FAICP by the \_\_\_\_\_ Division and also honored at the 2018 APA National Conference in New Orleans. Learn more about Ohio FAICP inductees at [www.ohioplanning.org/FAICP](http://www.ohioplanning.org/FAICP).

### APA Ohio Awards

Our biennial awards program honors outstanding planning and planning leadership in Ohio, recognizing the highest levels of achievement. We received 30 award nominations in 7 of 9 potential categories. We presented nine awards at the 2017 APA Ohio Statewide Planning Conference in Athens, OH on September 28 (visit [www.ohioplanning.org/awards](http://www.ohioplanning.org/awards) for details). The nominations were reviewed, and winners selected, by a jury of 13 professional planners from the APA Wisconsin Chapter. The APA Ohio committee also served as a jury for the APA Wisconsin chapter awards, reviewing 22 nominations.

### \*NEW\* Great Places in Ohio Awards



We announced a new awards program in May 2018—Great Places in Ohio.

The APA Ohio “Because We Plan” initiative is an effort to share the positive outcomes of planning activities across the state of Ohio with our constituents. **The vital message the organization should be shouting from the rooftops is that because we plan, good things happen.** The goal of this effort is to create a simple and effective way of telling the planning story as well as rallying greater support and interest in planning by citizens, allied professionals, and both local and state officials.

The new biennial awards program is designed to recognize and celebrate Ohio's best places (see [www.ohioplanning.org/becauseweplan](http://www.ohioplanning.org/becauseweplan) for details). The inaugural awards will be presented at the 2018 OKI Regional Planning Conference in Cincinnati.

### 2019 Goals

- Curate a successful awards presentation for Great Places awards.
- Consider a special award in recognition/celebration of APA Ohio's 100 years.

## **Background**

Plan4Health is a three-year project designed to strengthen the connection between the planning and public health professions. It connects communities across the country, funding work at the intersection of planning and public health. Anchored by members of the American Planning Association (APA) and the American Public Health Association (APHA) and supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Plan4Health supports creative partnerships to build sustainable, cross-sector coalitions. These coalitions are made up of APA chapters, APHA affiliates, local non-profits, schools, parks and recreation departments, universities – and more! These coalitions are working to launch and to strengthen strategies for healthy planning.

## **Plan4Health Coalitions**

As previously reported, APA Ohio received funding over the past two years for three projects in Ohio (Columbus, Summit County and Lake County). For more information on specific projects, visit [plan4health.us](http://plan4health.us).

## **Planners4Health**

The Planners4Health initiative marks the three-year culmination of APA's \$9 million Plan4Health program. APA Ohio received \$45,000 in grants this last phase. This six-month initiative began in February 2017 and ensures planners and public health professionals have access to information and resources to help their communities support and implement healthy living choices. APA Ohio is using the grant funding to broadly share knowledge and resources on building coalitions with public health professionals and more strongly integrating public health into local and regional planning practices. The program serves both as an opportunity to disseminate lessons learned from previous coalition work, and a chance to sustain the health agenda within APA.

## **Purpose**

To institutionalize the relationship between planning and health at the Chapter level.

- How can APA Ohio continue the momentum established at the national level?
- How can APA Ohio disseminate experiences and lessons learned from Cohorts One & Two to membership in an impactful way?

## **Deliverables**

1. Conduct an assessment of health and planning in Ohio (Completed)
2. Host a roundtable with key stakeholders (Completed)
3. Host a joint conference with the Ohio Public Health Association (Completed)

## **2018 Public Policy Institute**

As a deliverable of the Planners4Health initiative, APA Ohio partnered with the Ohio Public Health Association on a one-day conference to discuss the intersection of planning and public health. What a success it was! Over 40 participants gathered on June 21 in Columbus to talk shop. A post-conference report was sent to all participants with more information to keep the conversation going. With all this momentum building up, we look forward to continuing the discussion at the 2018 OKI Conference this October in Cincinnati.

## **APA Ohio Task Force**

Christine Davis, AICP  
Project Manager/Planning Consultant

Scott Ulrich, AICP  
Public Health Consultant

## **APA Ohio Board Representatives**

Chris Auffrey  
Rachel Ray, AICP  
Nancy Reger, AICP

Matt Schmidt, AICP  
Kim Wenger, AICP



## Membership and Outreach

*The Membership and Outreach Committee is responsible for developing activities to expand and serve the membership of the Chapter. The Committee shall be responsible for working with APA Ohio staff to develop and implement any policies or strategies related to outreach to the chapter's various constituents as outlined in the strategic plan. These responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, developing avenues for "telling the planning story" to members and non-members alike; develop additional methods of outreach to planners, planning officials, and allied organizations, and similar activities that may be identified in the strategic plan.*

**Co-Chairs:** Kim Lieber, AICP & Amanda Golden

### Planners in the Spotlight

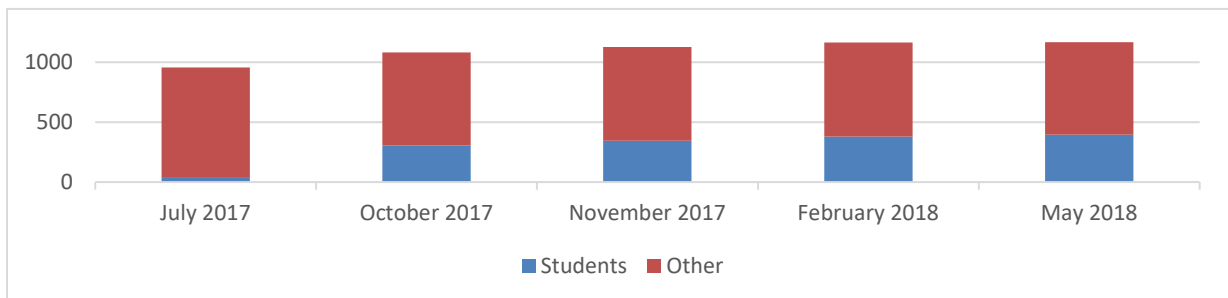
Two of the membership committee's tasks over the last year focused on member recognition. To share more information about planners doing interesting things around the state, the committee is producing a regular member spotlight feature that is included in each edition of the *Ohio Planners News*. The committee also put together the framework for a certificate program to recognize long standing APA Ohio members. This launch of this program will be coordinated with the 2019 state planning conference. Another committee objective has been to develop relationships with allied organizations to share information of upcoming programs and to spark cross-collaboration between our like organizations. A small number of organizations were targeted for initial outreach, with the goal being to nurture meaningful and long-lasting relationships with these groups.

### 2019 Goals

- Over the next year, the committee will continue to work on establishing partnerships with allied organizations. These may be formalized through an MOU to identify expectations for both groups. If successful, this approach can be repeated and expanded with other organizations.
- A second goal is to work with Sections to identify and share best practices for connecting with students and new members. The committee recognizes that APA's recent student membership programs have resulted in a huge increase in student members. We need to more actively plan for this substantial member segment.

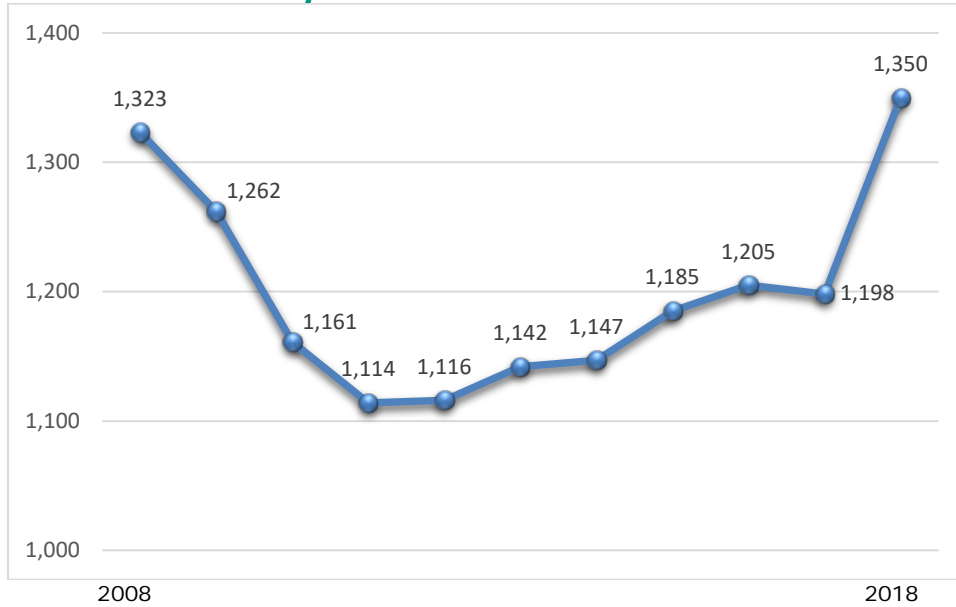
### Membership Trends

Overall membership has increased quite dramatically due to a new program through APA National that offers free student memberships. So, welcome students!

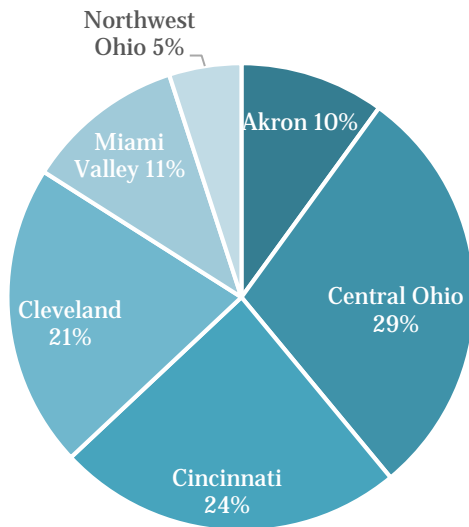


Date	National	Ohio Only	Total
September 2017	878	90	968
December 2017	961	89	1,050
February 2018	1,180	89	1,269
May 2018	1,259	91	1,350

### APA Ohio Membership



### 2018 APA Ohio Membership by Section



### Looking Ahead

The committee has established several milestones to reach over the coming year:

- Support membership mapping efforts to better understand where APA Ohio members live and work in the State and assist with advocacy efforts. This can also identify areas of low membership where greater education and outreach are needed.
- Spotlight an APA Ohio member in each edition of the Ohio Planners News
- Leverage APA's recent student and new member rates to increase Chapter membership.
- Establish a list of allied organizations to send notices of upcoming programs to – this to spark cross-collaboration between our like organizations.



## Professional Development

The Education Committee is responsible for identifying appropriate educational programs that may be offered during workshops, conferences, webinars, or other forums. The committee also works with the Sections and the Conference Committee to identify emerging topics or issues that may need to be addressed during educational programming.

**Education Committee Co-Chairs:** Christopher Anderson, AICP & Katherine Keough-Jurs, AICP  
**Professional Development Officer:** Kyle Ezell, AICP

The Chapter supports our members through a variety of professional development activities. APA Ohio provides general educational programs for all members and continuing education that qualifies for certification maintenance credits for AICP members.

### Planning Webcast Series

Established in 2008, the Planning Webcast Series continues to grow each year. Reorganized in 2011, the Consortium is now officially managed by APA Ohio Executive Director Christine Dersi Davis, AICP, with assistance from the Northern New England Chapter Professional Development Officer Benjamin Frost, AICP. The Consortium currently includes 38 Chapters (of 47 total) and 16 Divisions (of 21 total) nationwide. Access to the monthly webcasts is free to APA Ohio members and is a great membership benefit. Each year, at least one webcast qualifies for Law and one webcast qualifies for Ethics certification maintenance (CM) credits. There are currently one of each available for Distance Education CM credits.



	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Webcasts	39	35	30	31
Participants	9,750	13,100	11,250	n/a
CM Credits Available	58.5	54	45	46.5

\*Total scheduled for 2018 (Jan 1 – Dec 31)

### Educational Events

The Ohio Chapter and its Sections regularly organize education events for members across the state, including state and regional planning conferences, local Planning & Zoning Workshops and individual events.

Key events included:

- 2017 APA Ohio Planning Conference, September 2017
- Joint Public Health Conference, June 2017
- Annual Planning & Zoning Workshops in:
  - Central Ohio, May 2018
  - Cleveland, November 2017
  - Miami Valley, December 2017
  - Northwest Ohio, November 2017
  - Northeast Ohio, June 2018

### ***2017 APA Ohio Planning Conference***

The 2017 APA Ohio Planning Conference was hosted by the Central Ohio Section at Ohio University in Athens on September 27-29. The conference theme was “Smart Planning—The Art and Technology of Planning Smart.” Over 215 Ohio planners attended this event.



### ***Planarama! APA-Ohio hosts the OKI Regional Planning Conference in Cincinnati***

The Education Committee revised the OKI Conference Manual Updated the Memorandum of Understanding with the Kentucky and Indiana Chapters. As local host to the 2018 OKI Conference, the Cincinnati Section recruited a conference host committee, including representatives from Indiana and Kentucky. Monthly host committee meetings began in July 2017.

### ***AICP Exam***

The Chapter provides resource materials to assist members in preparing for the AICP exam, including the Chapter Presidents Council Study Manual, an updated webpage of resources ([www.ohioplanning.org/aicpexam](http://www.ohioplanning.org/aicpexam)), a yearly in-person study session at either the state conference or OKI conference, exam survey (see below), and provides reduced rate scholarships for exam applicants.

Congratulations to the following twenty-one (21) APA Ohio members who passed the exam during the November 2017 and May 2018 exam periods:

#### **Nov 2017 Exam**

Arin Blair  
Michael Blau  
Jack Daugherty  
Chris Harkness  
Zachary Moore  
Michelle Nocht  
Katie Sieb  
Meredith Snyder  
Alyssa Taylor  
Joshua Vidmar  
Jordan Whisler

#### **May 2018 Exam**

Mariel Colman  
Julia Elmer  
Alex Harnocz  
Jonathan Heider  
Nichole Martin  
Krysta Pesarchick  
Isaac Smith  
Zachary Sunderland  
Melinda Vonstein  
Edward Wilson

### **AICP Exam Survey**

Beginning in 2013, APA Ohio has conducted a survey of Ohio members who have been approved to take the AICP exam. Once the testing period is opened, APA Ohio sends a survey invitation link to all those who have been approved to take the exam. Our hope is to develop a robust database of information on how much time and effort it takes to both apply for and study for the AICP exam, and advice on the best study materials and test taking tips.

To date, a total of 78 members have participated in the survey; the results are summarized below:

- *Pass Rate of Respondents*  
91%

- *Application Preparation*

	No. of Hours	Timeframe
<b>Average</b>	9.5 Hours	2 Weeks
<b>Range</b>	2-35 Hours	1-4 Weeks

- *Test Preparation*

	No. of Hours	Timeframe
<b>Average</b>	65.5 Hours	11 Weeks
<b>Range</b>	3-300 Hours	1-16 Weeks

- *Advice for Future Test Takers*  
The survey provides respondents an opportunity to share their studying advice on what worked and didn't work for them. Not surprisingly, test takers have provided a wide range of tips to the open-ended question. Common suggestions include: start early; use common sense/practical knowledge; go beyond APA/AICP review material; and don't rely on APA's Planning Prep website.

### **2019 Goals**

- Host a successful OKI Conference in Cincinnati on October 3-5.
- Transition to the 2019 State Planning Conference to be held in Cleveland.





## Legislative Committee

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*The Legislative Committee monitors pending state legislation of interest to the Chapter and its members and participates in APA Legislative matters. The Legislative Committee is a forum for discussing legislative issues related to planning and zoning in Ohio and develops recommendations to the Board.*

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**Co-Chairs:** Todd Kinskey, AICP and Jason Russell, AICP

During FY 2018, the Legislative Committee and APA Ohio Board continued to ramp up its legislative and advocacy efforts to keep our members informed about important state and national issues and to promote the profession of planning.

Our accomplishments last year include:

- Drafting and vetting by members of the first ever Policy Platform for APA Ohio, which was formally adopted by the Board on December 8, 2017.
- Policy Platform webinar conducted on February 22, 2018 to garner feedback from APA Ohio members as well as help inform the Legislative Committee about future topic areas to include in the 2018-19 Policy Platform.
- Issued special bulletins to our members regarding legislation that may impact planners.
- Provided a letter of support for an appeal to the Ohio Supreme Court for the City of Broadview Heights' appeal of *Wesolowski v. City of Broadview Heights Planning Commission* regarding an issue of home rule authority. With acceptance of this case by the Supreme Court, APA will submit an amicus brief. Agreed to collaborate with APA National on a new state legislative alert program.
- Actively encouraged members to join the Planners Advocacy Network.
- Served on the APA Chapter President Council's Policy and Advocacy Committee.

### **2019 Goals**

- Revise and update the Policy Platform for adoption by the Board in 2019.
- Have at least five new members on the Legislative Committee.

## Governance Committee

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*The Governance Committee reviews the APA Ohio Code of Regulations and make any suggested modifications to the Board for consideration. The Committee is also responsible for the development of any guides, governance plans, or written policies as it applies to the operations of the Chapter including, but not limited to, financial policies for the Sections, rules for meetings, or orientation materials for new Board members.*

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**Co-chairs:** Rachel Ray, AICP and Chris Anderson, AICP

### **Biennial Board of Trustees Election**

APA now requires that all Chapters and Divisions participate in a consolidated election process, synchronized with APA's national election schedule and process. The Governance Committee ensured that the Chapter's 2018 Board of Trustees election followed the schedule and procedures established by APA.

The Governance Committee was also responsible for serving as the Nominating Committee and worked to identify a slate of diverse and highly qualified candidates from across the state. The Governance Committee also completed a comprehensive review of the Chapter's bylaws. APA



recommends that Chapters review their bylaws no less than every five years. The bylaws were last amended in 2016 to make minor revisions to the election process to follow the procedures by APA National, but it had been more than five years since a comprehensive review had taken place. The amendments included on the 2018 ballot ensure that the bylaws are aligned with current Board organization and management, the Board’s strategic plan and annual work plan, and updated policies.

### **2019 Goals**

- Develop and adopt a Chapter election policy and procedure manual and update the Board of Trustees member commitment letter and orientation materials
- Explore Board leadership succession planning strategies with the Executive Committee

## **Communications Committee**

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*The Communications Committee is responsible for production of the Chapter newsletter and for overseeing and updating the chapter’s website activities in conjunction with the Executive Director.*

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**Co-chairs:** Ann Klavora, AICP & Katherine Keough-Jurs, AICP

### **Preparing a Communications Game Plan**

The Communications Committee is responsible for soliciting newsworthy items from the membership and production of the Chapter newsletter on a regular basis to the membership. The Communications Committee is also responsible for overseeing and updating the chapter’s website activities in conjunction with staff.

Four (4) quarterly issues of the *Ohio Planner’s News* were distributed via email during FY 2018, and all issues are accessible to members on the website. Also, to maintain the effort of providing succinct and applicable information to members, a section-specific APA Ohio eNEWS is emailed every Wednesday to all APA Ohio members.

In FY 2018, the Communications Committee met several times in person and by phone conference to discuss our responsibilities and prioritize actions. The Committee decided to focus on four issues: completion of the FY 2018 Annual Report, creation of a Public Relations/Communications Plan, establishing an Instagram Account, and refreshing the website.

The Communications Committee completed the FY 2018 Annual Report—you are reading it! The Committee also successfully created an Instagram account. Please follow APA Ohio at “apaohioplanning.” The Committee encourages all members to help populate the Instagram account and tag it as often as possible, share it and suggest that others follow it. APA Ohio Executive Director Christine Dersi Davis will ensure that all Section Chairs and Committees receive instructions to post to the account to ensure that content is regularly updated.

You can find, follow, post and interact with us on:

- **Instagram**—follow us at **apaohioplanning**. Tag #apaohioplanning and #becauseweplan
- **Facebook**—like us at **www.facebook.com/APAOhio**. All members are welcome to post events and share articles or news. Many sections also have their own Facebook pages, including Cleveland, Cincinnati and Central Ohio.
- **Twitter**—follow us at **#becauseweplan**

### **2019 Goals**

- Create a Public Relations/Communications Plan
- Complete the website refresh (watch for changes by the end of 2018)



## APA Ohio Section Reports

The APA Ohio Chapter includes six sections organized geographically: Akron, Central Ohio, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Miami Valley and Northwest Ohio. Sections typically organize informal luncheons with speakers, and sponsor workshops and social functions to allow members to stay current on local planning issues. Each section is represented on the APA Ohio Board of Trustees. Section Directors are listed below; a complete list of the Executive Committees running each section is available on the website.

Accomplishments and events during FY 2018 for each section are summarized below.

### **Central Ohio Section**

**Director:** *Amanda Golden*

- The Central Ohio Planning and Zoning Workshop was a raging success. The workshop was held on Friday, May 18 at the downtown Columbus Renaissance Hotel and boasted over 150 attendees. The keynote featured a panel on the C-Pass, a program giving downtown employers an opportunity to ride COTA for free. Panelists included Cleve Ricksecker from the Downtown Columbus SID, Laura Kaprowski from COTA, Mary Ann Frantz with MORPC, and Shannon Fergus with Fergus Consulting.
- The Central Ohio APA Chapter participates in a quarterly joint association happy hour which includes the Central Ohio AIA, ASLA, Interior Design, PE, and Contractor chapters. This event is a great opportunity to network with others in the design field.
- The Central Ohio APA hosts a Planners Happy Hour every other month and features a bar in a different area of Central Ohio. Recently, this included a tour of Bridge Street in Dublin and a Happy Hour at Pins.
- The Central Ohio APA sponsored the End of the Year Knowlton Celebration with a review of the graduate student posters from their internships.
- The Central Ohio APA Section co-hosted a panel event with Transit Columbus at Mikey's Late Night Slice titled *Data for All: A Conversation on the Smart Columbus Operating System*. This panel event featured Jodie Bare with Smart Columbus, Michael Carroll with COTA, Harvey Miller with the Center for Urban and Regional Analysis, and Michael Stevens with the City of Columbus. The panel was moderated by Columbus City Council President Shannon Hardin. This free event was limited to 100 people and sold out of tickets within 12 days.
- The Central Ohio APA Section partners with CRPSA, Ohio State's Knowlton School City and Regional Planning Student Association.
- Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/CentralohioAPA>

### **2019 Goals**

- Engage more OSU Students
- Program more educational opportunities



Matt Leasure of Designing Local, Claire Jennings of MORPC, and Chris Manella of BASS Studio, lead their session titled *Your History is Your Future: Activating, Engaging, and Developing Through Preservation* at the Central Ohio Planning and Zoning Workshop.

### Cincinnati Section

**Director:** Eric Anderson, AICP

- *Planners at the “Pitch”:* On July 24 APA Cincinnati attended the FC Cincinnati game at UC’s Nippert Stadium as FC faced off against Valencia CF.
- *University of Cincinnati New Student Welcome and Happy Hour:* On August 18, partnered with ALSA, we welcomed new students to UC DAAP and introduce them to the Cincinnati Planning community at a special Happy Hour.
- *Hipster Overlay District BrOwn-bag Lunch:* On October 18, Donnie Warner from Calfee Zoning presented about how cultural and generational shifts are driving changes in how we spend our time and money, and it’s not just hipsters. Tattoos, car-free living, dog parks, food trucks, bike sharing, popup spaces, storefront marijuana, farmers markets... Are these part of your community’s plans? Attendees received CM Credit.
- *Holiday Party:* Partnered with APA-KY Region 4, the Cincinnati Section kicked off the holiday season and say goodbye to 2017 on December 8 at Hotel Covington in KY.
- *VISION Lecture – Focus on Haiti:* On January 18, partnered with AIA Cincinnati, Tony Costello, FAIA presented his 17-year involvement combining his teaching and practice as well as mission work that focus on both design and R&D projects in Haiti.
- *2018 OKI Regional Planning Conference:* Cincinnati Section will host the OKI conference on October 3-5 at the Hilton Netherland Plaza in downtown Cincinnati. We have held monthly host committee meetings since July.



## 2019 Goals

- Increase coordination with local allied professional groups.
- Put on an educational, fun, and successful OKI Regional Planning Conference in Fall 2018.

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/APACincinnati](https://www.facebook.com/groups/APACincinnati)

Twitter: @APA\_Cincinnati

## Cleveland Section

**Director:** Ann Klavora, AICP

- *Two P&Z Workshops:* October 27, 2017 – Cleveland P&Z Workshop in Mayfield Village. The event was sold out with 402 attendees. The workshop offered twelve sessions and two mobile workshops covering a wide variety of topics. AICP CM credits offered.  
June 8, 2018 – Northeast Ohio P&Z Workshop in Conneaut. This workshop is geared toward the northeastern most counties in the state, with most topics on rural and small town issues; 114 attendees. AICP CM credits offered.



- *We Plan 2018:* June 11-14, 2018 – We Plan 2018 built awareness of the role equity plays, or should play, in shaping the places where we all live, work and invest. The week included two Jane's Walks, a Storyteller Night (with poetry readings!). Keynote speaker Dr. Malo Hutson discussed urban equity, racial and ethnic inequalities and urban policy, and health at a lunchtime speech at the City Club of Cleveland. AICP CM credits offered.

- *Riparian Codes Breakfast Workshop:* May 14, 2018 – 25 attendees heard a breakfast presentation by the Chagrin River Watershed Partners (CRWP) on riparian and wetland setbacks, their benefits to communities, and available assistance to communities with code adoption and implementation. AICP CM credits offered.



- *Edgewater Beach Fireside Chat:* March 1, 2018 – Over 25 hardy souls braved the single worst day of winter weather in Cleveland (think gale-force winds, sleet, snow and power-outages) for a great panel discussion about encouraging outdoor winter activity in communities. Artist Donald Black and urban designer David Jurca presented interesting ideas at the new Edgewater Park beach house on the shores of Lake Erie.
- *Ice Cream Social:* September 7, 2017 – The annual back-to-school meet and greet for Cleveland State University and Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative students at Mitchell's Ice Cream featured guest speaker Bobbi Reichtell, Executive Director of Campus District Inc. The casual networking event was attended by nearly 40 students and professional planners.
- *A Day in the Life of a Planner:* April 3, 2018 – Professional planners representing a variety of fields and educational backgrounds participated in a moderated panel discussion followed by Q&A with CSU students. Planners shared information on their workplace, how their work fits into the spectrum of planning, and skills students need most to be successful in real world



settings. Students were able to sign up for shadowing appointments with the speakers and other APA members.

- The *APA Cleveland Planning Student Award* is presented annually to an outstanding Cleveland State University student nominated by his/her CSU professors. The 2018 award was presented May 10 to Dro Sohrabian. The recognition includes a \$1,500 cash award.

### **2019 Goals**

- Expand growth of the We Plan initiative.
- Continue great engagement with members; expand educational opportunities.

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/APACleveland](http://www.facebook.com/groups/APACleveland)

Twitter: @APA\_CLE tag #WePlanCLE

### **Miami Valley Section**

**Director:** *Tim Davis*

Miami Valley Section continues to improve upon its objectives by providing professional development.

- Miami Valley Section held the 31st annual Miami Valley Planning & Zoning Workshop on December 1, 2017. The event was an all-day workshop held in the David H. Ponitz Center at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, OH. The workshop had 30.25 credits certified by APA for the approximately 350 in attendance. The American Institute of Architects partnered for the workshop and was eligible for AIA credits.
- We sponsored the 2017 Miami Valley Crime Prevention Associations' Community Problem Oriented Policing Conference. This conference brings police officers, crime consultants and crime researchers together to discuss crime strategies and promote community safety to improve neighborhoods.
- We also sponsored the Bike Miami Valley's 2017 Miami Valley Cycling Summit. This summit aims to use the power of cycling to drive economic development in communities both large and small throughout the region.
- Miami Valley Section partnered with US Green Building Council (USGBC) of Southwest Ohio on a series of networking events to be known as Joint Associations Mixers (JAM's). The JAM's are intended to collaborate with related organizations that are committed to designing healthy and prosperous community environments that improve the quality of life.

### **2019 Goals**

- Continue to provide professional development while increasing educational opportunities for its members, local jurisdictions, elected officials, and various local planning boards.

### **Northwest Ohio Section**

**Director:** Patrick Etchie, AICP

The NW Ohio Section strives to offer productive dialogue with fellow planners and to provide guidance/educational opportunities for professional and community planners in our region:

- *The Annual Planning & Zoning Workshop* took place on November 17, 2017 at the Simpson Building in Bowling Green. The workshop had around 65 in attendance, and the keynote speaker was John Kusnier of the Davey Resource Group discussing Regional Water Quality and Planning Best Practices.
- *The Planning & Zoning Workshop Committee* held monthly meetings from May through October to plan and coordinate for the annual workshop that took place on November 17, 2017.
- Several organizational/social meetings were held over the past year to socialize with fellow planners and share planning experiences with each other. Typically, each meeting had 8 to 12 people in attendance.
- The leadership of the NW Ohio Section actively participate in local and regional planning and community organizations. One of the key regional groups our Section participates in is the local MPO (named TMACOG). Several of our members participate on committees and assist in promoting TMACOG planning functions/events.
- Section leadership are initiating a strategy in 2018-2019 to become more active in regional peer profession events and to become sponsors to get the APA Ohio name more visible and try to attract more Ohio memberships to grow our Section. We plan to sponsor/participate in events being held by TMACOG, NORED, ODOT, MVPO, and others.

#### **2019 Goals**

- Hold annual P&Z Workshop in November 2018
- Grow NW Ohio membership & participate in peer events

### **Akron Section**

**Director:** Jeff Kaiser (Interim)

- *Online Survey* distributed in December 2018 to judge interest in maintaining the Akron section and what types of events members were most likely to attend. 75% of respondents interested in attending future section events.
- *Lunch Meeting* held on March 22, 2018 in Akron, the purpose of which was to "reboot" the section, which had been inactive since January 2017. Discussed the types of section meetings and discussion topics/speakers that would be of interest at future meetings.
- *Happy Hour Meetup* held on June 27, 2018 in Akron. Discussed election of new officers and coordinating with the University of Akron to provide speakers & topics for presentations to area township and village zoning boards & commissions.
- Currently talking with University of Akron to provide training & education sessions to local township and village zoning boards & commissions at the Medina County campus.

#### **2019 Goals**

- Elect new leadership
- Get section operating on a regular schedule