Recent Awards
APA National Small Town and Rural Planning Award for a Student Project
City of Delano Strategic Plan
Cal APA Academic Merit Award
Downtown Delano
Urban Design Studio
Cal APA Academic Merit Award
City of Benicia
Climate Action Plan

New/Old Digs for CRP
Under CRP’s new sign in Engineering West, CRP class of 1970 alumni Jeffrey Webster, Don Pinegar, Bruce Baracco, Richard Heckendorf, and James Uribe, inform Department Head Hemalata Dandekar that CRP was originally housed here, on the upper floor. This move from Dexter gives more space to students, and offices with windows for faculty! Read more about the upgraded CRP computer lab and new exhibit gallery on page 2.

“Learn by Doing” in Action
Since 2009, CRP partnered with 13 communities to provide professional-level planning assistance, carried out by students under the leadership of faculty. The clients have ranged from Benicia to Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, and planning topics have ranged from climate action to revitalization and placemaking in downtown cores.

By and large, city, state, and non-profit agencies have sponsored these studios, thereby creating accountability and expectations that the student work will receive serious consideration by the agency. The collaborations have strengthened students’ learning and enhanced the value of their degree. Furthermore, they have created “real world,” resume-building experience to parlay into professional endeavors.

Our faculty expertise in teaching community participation techniques is evidenced by the fact APA has contracted with Professor Umut Toker to publish a book about community design methods.

Community Planning Studios, 2009-2010

Students in CRP 341 prepare to survey residents and visitors in Pismo Beach.

To discuss collaboration opportunities, please contact Hemalata Dandekar at hdandeka@calpoly.edu.
**New Computers! Thanks, Errett-Fisher Foundation!**

Thanks to generous funding from the Errett-Fisher Foundation, CRP has new high-end Apple desktops in its computer lab. With state-of-the-art technology, and both MAC and PC operating systems, students are more equipped than ever to use CAD and GIS, and create 3D modeling and design.

Greg Errett tells students, “As an alumnus of the CRP program I am very glad that my family’s foundation can make a small contribution back to the program ... and continue to enhance the learning environment for future city planners. I wish you all the best with your careers.”

Errett-Fisher Exhibit Gallery: Thanks to the foundation’s support, the main CRP corridor, flanked by CRP faculty offices, labs, lecture space and computer lab, now features a rotating gallery exhibit of exemplary work of BSCRP and MCRP students.

**Books**

Department Head Hemalata Dandekar’s Michigan Family Farms and Farm Buildings - Landscapes of the Heart and Mind, was recently published by the University of Michigan Press. The book explores relationships between Michigan’s farm buildings and the families that own them.

Contemporary Urbanism in Brazil: Beyond Brasilia, edited by Professors Vicente Del Rio and Bill Siembieda, has recently released in paperback.

Both are available at Amazon Books.

**PDCI: a new institute for advanced studies of the built environment**

The Planning, Design and Construction Institute (PDCI) assembles CAED faculty, students and professional affiliates to work on grant supported applied research and projects. CRP faculty and students are key players in a majority of PDCI’s initiatives.

With a $1.5 million grant, one of PDCI’s major projects is the State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP) update, currently under active review.

This was the perfect opportunity for recent master’s graduate Brian Laughlin. “I’m really interested in hazards. [The] impacts of the disasters we’ve been experiencing seem to be getting worse because of the way we use our land,” Laughlin said. ”I want to get involved in designing communities to help build them safer.”

The Cal Poly-led 2007 SHMP update earned “Enhanced Plan” designation, bringing in millions of federal dollars to California. For more information, contact Bill Siembieda (wsiembie@calpoly.edu).

**Leading Climate Action Planning**

The award winning Draft Benicia Climate Action Plan (CAP), based on a studio project by third-year students of professors Adrienne Greve and Zeljka Howard, was adopted by the Benicia City Council. The plan addresses the challenges of climate change through a greenhouse gas emission inventory and reduction targets. Benicia is the first city in Solano County to address climate change through comprehensive planning, thanks to funding from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

The City of San Luis Obispo followed with its own grant for Dr. Greve and students to create the City’s first CAP. Visit www.SLOCool.org for more information.

Read “An Assessment of the Link Between Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventories and Climate Action Plans” by Professors Adrienne Greve, Michael Boswewll, and PMC’s Tammy Seale in the Autumn 2010 issue of JAPA.

**New Scholarship Endowment**

Arnold Jonas, former Director of Community Development for the City of SLO, and his wife, Gail, have endowed a scholarship for students demonstrating promise in urban design. BSCRP student Anudeep Dhavalal is the first recipient.

**Your Support is Needed!**

Please consider making a gift now at www.giving.calpoly.edu

Remember to designate: CRP Student Support

**CRP’s Global Engagement**

**CHINA** - Professor Adrienne Greve and MCRP student Chris Read participated in a Cal Poly project with Tongji University in Shanghai, focusing on sustainable development, water availability, agriculture, and energy in the Gansu Province. The Cal Poly team included students and faculty from CAED, Engineering, Liberal Arts, and Agriculture, as well as a member of the SLO County Board of Supervisors.

**Public Art Workshop Series**

A for-credit Public Art workshop series in the coming academic year will develop students’ knowledge of, and appreciation for public art. Topics will include urban design & placemaking, and the policies and process of public art. The series is a result of a partnership with ARTS Obispo, a non-profit whose mission is to advance the arts in San Luis Obispo County.

Workshops will include:
- Art in Public Places Tour of Downtown San Luis Obispo
- Urban Photography Tour
- Public Art Design Challenge

**Firm Profile**

**PMC**

Pacific Municipal Consultants

Our featured firm, PMC has been providing innovative services to public agencies for over 15 years, with some 150 planners in offices throughout California, including San Luis Obispo (pictured). Founder and President President Phil Carter explains that in large part a response to expanding client needs and hiring quality people. PMC serves its clients in areas such as climate change and sustainability, urban design and revitalization, environmental analysis, community planning, contract staff services, public engagement, transportation, and housing and redevelopment.

PMC has maintained a close relationship with CRP and hired many of its graduates. CRP alumni, along with other PMC staff, advise, mentor, and serve as guest speakers and adjunct lecturers. Notable projects managed and supported by CRP alumni include the Chico General Plan Update, San Dimas Downtown Specific Plan, Pittsburg / Bay Point BART TOD Master Plan, Mesa (AZ)

**Fiesta District Branding Plan, Central Peoria Specific Plan**, San Luis Obispo County Conservation and Open Space Element Update, and general plan and zoning code updates. The CRP alumni at PMC are spread throughout all of the firm’s service and geographic areas. The PMC team includes BSCRP alumni; Tyler Bridges, Lorel Cappel, Mike Costa, Jennifer Gaitelum, Dan Johns, Christopher Jordan, Scott Kaiser, Susan Kefer, Gerald Park, Leanne Condon, and Jennifer Venema; and MCRP alumni: Sara Allinder, Melanie Halajian, Jaime Hill, Gary Pedroni, and Adam Petersen.

**INDIA** - Department Head Hemalata Dandekar travelled to Mumbai to explore university exchange opportunities in areas of environmental planning and urban design. CRP is also partnering with the Department of Architecture to initiate a chair-awardee program at the Center for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), a premier design and planning institution in Ahmedabad.

**CHILE** - After the February 2010 earthquake and tsunami in Chile, Professor Bill Siembieda joined an assessment team of professionals lead by the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute. A report of their findings on the quake’s impact and the disaster response is available at http://www.eri.org/site/news/newsletter.

**MEXICO** - During spring break 2010, Professor Kelly Main led a group of CRP and Landscape Architecture students on a study trip to Mexico City, Puebla, and Oaxaca, and the archaeological sites of Monte Alban and Mitla.