The American Planning Association’s Community Planning Assistance Teams (CPATs) initiative provides a cost effective, on-the-ground, collaborative planning methodology through which teams of planners provide pro bono planning services in an era of shrinking local agency budgets. The skills planners develop and provide in this capacity help local governments (many with limited economic resources) expand their collaborative decision making skills and support the increased use of alternative dispute resolution in local policy development processes.

The CPAT approach has a proven track record of building consensus now over a dozen planning work sessions in several states, including South Carolina. CPATs and other nation-wide programs like them are gaining more notoriety among communities and neighborhoods as a way to leverage limited resources, shed new light on difficult local planning issues and help define planning to the public.

SCAPA Takes on the CPAT Challenge

In 2014, the City of Hartsville, South Carolina benefitted from having an APA CPAT team assist developing a place-based neighborhood revitalization strategy for South Hartsville, with residents acting as visionaries (read more on page 3). This CPAT effort has been a great success, leading SCAPA to determine that a key initiative in 2015 for our chapter is to organize a CPAT program in South Carolina. Many communities across South Carolina could benefit from the planning experience and expertise available through the SCAPA membership. At the Fall 2014 SCAPA Conference, Kara Drane, ACIP, APA Board member, led a session that gave an overview of the national CPAT program and reviewed successful state CPAT models (Illinois, Washington, Mississippi, and New Jersey). We also heard directly from SCAPA member Brenda Kelley about the immediate impact that a CPAT project has had in her community of Hartsville. Lastly, during the session, Ernie Boughman, AICP, Chapter President, presented the case for why we, as SCAPA members and professional planners, should embrace this opportunity to help our communities.

Why CPAT in South Carolina?

While CPAT is an important program that has achieved great success on the national level and within several Chapters of APA, we must ask the question, “Why CPAT in South Carolina?” This is a question that the SCAPA Executive Committee has considered and the answer is four-fold:

1. **The “Planning Gap”** – South Carolina is a predominately rural state with many small to mid-size communities that do not have the personnel or resources to support the local planning that is needed. CPAT is an avenue for SCAPA to provide assistance to bridge this “planning gap” and foster quality development in all communities in South Carolina.

2. **Giving Back** – It is our responsibility as professional planners to promote quality planning in all communities in our state, regardless of those communities’ resources and capabilities. A SCAPA CPAT will assist in building capacity in these communities and provide direction and confidence moving forward.

Continued on page 10
Message from the President

It is with great excitement and pride that I write my first President’s Message to the membership of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (SCAPA). I am excited with the direction of our organization and the strong leadership team we have in place. Equally, I am proud to see all of the hard work of those who have served before producing such positive results for our membership. It is with confidence that I tell you that it is my belief that SCAPA has never been stronger. As an organization, we are poised for greatness in our role as leaders in the communities where we live and work.

In recent months SCAPA has demonstrated its strength and vibrancy through both local and national events. Here are several of the highlights:

- Robby Moody, Josh Stephens, and I had the pleasure to represent SCAPA in Washington, DC in late September as we participated in APA’s Policy and Advocacy Conference.
- To kickoff Community Planning Month on October 1st, APA recognized King Street in Charleston as a 2014 Great Street as part of the National Great Places program.
- With 200 attendees, 60 speakers, and a variety of topic areas, SCAPA’s Fall 2014 Conference at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach October 15-17 was a great success.
- The newly redesigned SCAPA website also premiered in October. If you have not visited it, I encourage you to do so, as it is an impressive step forward. Much appreciation to the SCAPA members who served on the Website Development Committee.
- SCAPA’s biannual awards were presented on the final day of the Fall Conference and I had the distinct honor of personally awarding SCAPA’s 2014 Planning Advocate Award to Elaine Harris, Mayor of Pacolet at the November Spartanburg County Council meeting.

I am grateful to those who served on the Executive Committee in the immediate past term; their efforts and hard work are to be applauded. As President, Robby Moody provided stellar leadership to the organization and has placed SCAPA in a position of strength as the recognized professional organization for planners in South Carolina. It is with great humility that I take up the mantle behind him with the hope that I can carry on his vision. I would like to particularly thank three members of the immediate past Executive Committee who are stepping down, but hopefully will remain active leaders. Susan Britt cycles off the Executive Committee following over a decade of service in the roles of Director-at-Large, Secretary-Treasurer, President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past President. Thank you for your service, Susan. As our Secretary-Treasurer for 2012-2014, John Danford provided a steady hand on the finances, helped us to not take ourselves too seriously, and left an indelible mark on the Chapter through the establishment of the Emerging Planners Group. Stephen Allen served as Director-at-Large for 2012-2014, particularly focusing on service to the membership, and I thank him for his contributions.

SCAPA officers for 2014-2016 were installed at the Fall 2014 Conference in Myrtle Beach on October 17th. We have a very strong leadership team, and I look forward to serving with each of them. We will hold our annual Executive Committee half-day retreat on December 12, 2014 in Columbia. Our time together will be dedicated to refining our mission, focusing our vision for the organization, planning the events of the year ahead, and putting a budget in place to support those plans. Most importantly, we will be striving to find ways to make SCAPA a stronger organization that can serve the needs of our members as well as the communities we serve.

Moving forward into 2015, SCAPA’s future looks very bright. We are in the process of completing a proposal to seek a portion of APA’s Healthy Planning Coalition grant monies. We will also be working to establish a Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) program at the Chapter level to provide professional planning expertise to communities in South Carolina. If you have not been actively involved with SCAPA, I encourage you to find your planning passion and make it a part of SCAPA. If you have been involved, please stay involved – it takes all of us to make this organization successful. SCAPA is positioned for great things and it is my desire that each and every member be a part as we advance together.

Ernie
SCAPA President
Hartsville, South Carolina, a community of 8,000 residents, has experienced the same economic ups and downs as other small communities. While downtown is presently prospering with several major construction projects, other parts of the community lag behind. South Hartsville, a predominantly African American neighborhood, is one area suffering after years of change and disinvestment. Absentee landlords, the migration of the middle-class, and an aging population on fixed incomes, have all contributed to a decline in housing quality. A once thriving community with beauty and barbershops, daycare, and a neighborhood grocery store, today few viable businesses remain.

In recent years, community members and city officials have come together to revitalize the area through local funding resources and grants. Years of neglect have been addressed with new infrastructure, including water mains, hydrants, and upgraded recreational facilities. In 2001, the city began dedicating a portion of its budget to razing abandoned homes and buildings which detract from the area and pose a safety hazard. In 2008, the city received a grant from the Byerly Foundation to collaborate with Clemson University to develop a plan for the mixed-use Sixth Street Corridor. This effort focused on the establishment of the Butler Heritage Foundation, a non-profit formed to preserve the history and campus of the Butler High School — the segregated black high school closed in 1982. The facilities and programming of the Butler Foundation can serve as an anchor for turning the neighborhood around. Currently housing Head Start and the Boys and Girls Club, the campus includes a renovated auditorium/meeting space used by several community groups. Future plans include opening a museum and working with the area residents to identify other needs.

The City of Hartsville requested a CPAT to develop a place-based neighborhood revitalization strategy for South Hartsville, with residents acting as visionaries. The effort should lay the groundwork for deepening community involvement in all future planning processes and identify the assets of the area to be nurtured, as well as the challenges to overcome. Ultimately, this effort aims to support the strong tradition of South Hartsville being a great place to live, work, play, grow, and connect.

To learn project updates throughout 2014, click here.
I had the great privilege of attending the American Planning Association’s 2014 Policy and Advocacy Conference with Ernie Boughman and Robby Moody. The conference was held in Washington D.C. from September 28 – 30. The conference was comprised of two major parts. The first two days consisted of several sessions that focused on legislative issues affecting planning across the nation. These sessions brought planners together from around the nation, and we were able to share and discuss experiences and strategies related to how best to address legislative challenges in a way that promotes planning for strong and healthy communities. Personally, I learned the value of staying connected with other state chapters on legislative issues in order to leverage combined resources to stay ahead of important issues. I also learned additional strategies related to policy advocacy that can be used in South Carolina. One of those strategies is to find organizations that SCAPA could partner to better promote specific policies.

Another strategy discussed at the conference centered on efforts related to positioning state chapters as a resource to local legislators. The cornerstone of this approach is built around simply spending time with policy makers and their staffs to discuss the importance of planning. Ernie, Robby and I got to put this into practice on day three, Day on the Hill. We all met with staff from Senator Graham’s office and Senator Scott’s office. In addition, Ernie met with staff from Representative Gowdy’s (District 4) office, Robby met with staff from Representative Mulvaney’s (District 5) office, and I met with staff from Representative Duncan’s (District 3) office. Our meetings focused on discussing the importance of adequately funding transportation and community development block grants. We were able to effectively communicate the importance of these programs by showing how these programs have directly impacted communities in South Carolina.

In short, the conference was a huge success for SCAPA. Important issues were discussed with key decision makers, and more importantly, relationships were formed with the people who sit at the table where decisions are made that directly affect communities in South Carolina. Building on these relationships and incorporating lessons learned during the conference into SCAPA’s legislative strategy is going to be crucial to SCAPA’s overall success in carrying out its mission to “encourage planning that will contribute to the public well-being by developing communities and environments that meet the diverse needs of South Carolina.”

NEW SCAPA MEMBERS

| Judy Boone, Lancaster County | Natalie Rosario, Student |
| Nicholas Cauthen, Lancaster County | Ashley Kale, Student |
| Lisa Lamb, Jasper County | Ryan Kreuger, Student |
| Lance Estep, AICP | Brittni Olesen, Student |
| Charles Garren, Lexington County | Ronald Rutherford, Student |
| Thomas Hamed, Student | Brennan Hansley, Student |
| Lisa McCray, Charleston County | John Taylor, Jr., Student |
| Gwendolyn Moultrie, City of North Charleston | Allison Wright, Student |
| Andrew Livengood, City of Columbia | Zulifiya Abdulkhalikova, Student |
| Thomas Trawick | Elham Masoomkhah, Student |
| Rhonda Sloan, Anderson County | Thomas Trwaick, Student |
| David Lipstreu, AICP | Ashley Pruitt, Student |
| Andy Rowe, Lancaster County | Ryan Trelevan, Student |
| Lina Wayman, Student | Nelson YaksicVera, Student |
| Lauren Ponder, SCNHC | Ashley Powell, Richland County |
| William Brewer, Student | Jerre Threatt, City of Columbia |
| Nikki Navio, Student | James Moore, City of Florence |

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

| SCAPA Chapter Total: 473 members |
| Number of Members with AICP: 217 (46% of membership) |
| Number of Members with FAICP: 7 (1% of membership) |
Emerging Planners Group Hosts Clemson Tailgate

Aaron Baggarly, AICP, SCAPA Director-at-Large and Jennifer Folz

As we embarked on our first anniversary of the SCAPA Emerging Planners Group (EPG), we had a couple of successful events with the SCAPA membership. The Upstate Emerging Planners, in conjunction with the Clemson Student Planners Group and Clemson University’s College of Planning, Design, and Preservation held the first ever SCAPA football tailgate on October 4 in the courtyard of Lee Hall. While cheering on the Tigers to a victory, approximately 30 SCAPA members, including new planning department faculty, current planning students, alumni, and planners from across the Upstate, spent the day networking and getting to know each other better.

At the SCAPA Fall Conference, two sessions were dedicated to the EPG. David Schwarz, AICP led the Emerging Planners in a roundtable discussion. This was an interactive conversation between the seasoned planners and the newbies to the field. Several topics were discussed including: planning lingo, how to deal with Boards and governing bodies, and professional development and job advancement. On Thursday night, the EPG had a night out. The group gathered along with a few others to play walleyball. It was a great time had by all, and most importantly nobody was injured.

While the turnout for Emerging Planners was low, the conference was still a success. We would like to thank the significant turnout by the Clemson University and East Carolina University Planning students.

The EPG is looking for volunteers to lead the Midlands and Lowcountry sections for the upcoming year. Our goal is to have quarterly events in each division for all planners. We are currently soliciting ideas for events. If there is an exciting planning-related event in your area, please contact Aaron Baggarly at the email address provided below. We encourage everyone to attend conferences and training opportunities in the future. While many non “young” planners attend conferences regularly to obtain continuing education credit, please encourage your junior staff to attend as well. While budgets might be tight, SCAPA has scholarship opportunities for young planners to attend conferences. We look forward to seeing you at a future conference or EPG event.

Please contact Aaron Baggarly or Jennifer Folz for more information about the Emerging Planners Group.

Aaron – abaggarly@cglcompanies.com or 803.622.9910
Jennifer – jfolz@cityofclemson.org

HELP PLAN THE FUTURE OF APA

APA’s Development Plan and Budget Committee, chaired by APA President-Elect Carol Rhea, FAICP, invites members to apply their skills toward developing a comprehensive, long-term plan for the association’s growth and progress. Please start by considering the big questions which can frame later conversations. Join us on MindMixer, respond to a brief survey, or send an e-mail to getinvolved@planning.org. We look forward to hearing from you!
SCAPA Fall 2014 Conference in Myrtle Beach was Great Success

Ernie Boughman, AICP, SCAPA President

The South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (SCAPA) held its Fall 2014 Conference at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach October 15-17, 2014. With more than 200 in attendance, 60 speakers, and mobile and training workshops, the SCAPA Fall 2014 Conference was one of our best ever. The theme, “Planning for All” not only highlighted our professional obligation to serve the public, it also showcased how SCAPA conferences are designed to meet the needs of all professional planners and our affiliates. Four educational tracks included topics on professional development, food systems, recreation and heritage tourism, technology, community resiliency, waterfronts, airport compatibility, planning law, and ethics. In addition, the Conference had a wealth of sessions and activities for emerging professionals, mobile workshops, and networking events.

Prior to the conference officially starting, two pre-conference workshops were held on Wednesday afternoon. “Tech Tools for Planners” provided demonstration and training surrounding technology software and platforms that can make our lives as planners easier. Presentations were made pertaining to tools offered by NOAA’s Digital Coast, GIS Cloud, Google Sketchup, Poll Everywhere, CANVIS, Google Earth, and Code For America. The second workshop was presented by Michael Romero, Director of American Projects for The Prince’s Foundation for Community Building. Participants were trained on The Prince’s Foundation’s unique planning tool for bringing together key stakeholders to collaborate on a vision for a project. Different from the basic ‘consultation exercises’ that simply gather superficial input, the process engages the community by gathering comprehensive input, collaboratively pursuing solutions, and creating buy-in throughout the process. Following these workshops on Wednesday evening, the conference officially kicked off with the Opening Reception. Attendees had the opportunity to catch up with old friends and colleagues and get to know those newer to the organization.

The conference was bookended by two inspirational and educational keynote addresses presented by national planning leaders. Thursday morning’s Opening Keynote entitled “Prepare for the Biggest Paradigm Shift in 75 Years” was presented by Ian Lockwood, PE. Ian has devoted his career to advancing inclusive public realms, multimodalism, and community health. He presented the reality that times are changing as are community values and measures of effectiveness in planning. Through real world projects that have been visioned, designed, and constructed to bring a greater quality of life to communities throughout the United States, he demonstrated how cities are repairing and repositioning for these changing priorities. The Closing Keynote, “Leading in the 21st Century” was delivered by Carol Rhea, FAICP, President-Elect of APA. Carol, a longtime member and friend of SCAPA, spoke to the changing landscape of leadership. Planners were challenged to be leaders within our communities and profession and core leadership qualities were explored.

Other highlights of the conference were the President’s Reception on Thursday night, the “Rye and Shine” mobile tour of New South Brewery in Myrtle Beach, and the East Coast Greenway bicycle tour. The conference concluded with SCAPA’s biannual Awards Luncheon featuring Ron Daise as emcee. Awards were interspersed between Ron’s educational and entertaining presentation on Gullah Geechee heritage.

If you missed the SCAPA Fall 2014 Conference, you certainly missed out on a grand time on the Grand Strand! SCAPA thanks our local host committee, speakers, conference sponsors, and most certainly our attendees who all made this year’s fall conference a resounding success. If your community is interested in hosting a future SCAPA conference, please contact Andrea Pietras, SCAPA President-Elect and Programs Chair.
SCAPA conducts an awards program every two years to recognize outstanding efforts and achievements that advance planning in the Palmetto State. At the SCAPA Fall 2014 Conference, the following awards were presented:

- **Outstanding Planning Project Awards**: Award submissions were evaluated on originality of concept or appreciable refinement of existing techniques; potential application to other areas or other projects; excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, presentation, or communication; success and effectiveness of project or potential if not already implemented; consideration of planning principles and public and private objectives; overall importance at local, regional, and/or state planning levels; degree to which the plan, policy, project, etc. is designed to achieve economic, social and environmental sustainability; and overall benefit of the plan in relation to the amount of resources (i.e. staff time, consultant fees, direct expenses, etc.) expended on the project.

- **Planning Advocate Award**: Awarded in recognition of an individual or a group for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of quality planning in South Carolina and the exhibition of qualities which have led to successful accomplishment of planning goals, programs or projects. Nominees must have promoted the cause of planning in the public arena and can include members of planning-related boards, other appointed or elected officials, neighborhood leaders and other citizen planners or organizations. Persons earning their living as a professional planner are not eligible.

### Outstanding Planning Project - Large Jurisdiction (50,000 population or greater)

**Award Winner: Summerville Vision Plan, Town of Summerville**

As the first detailed vision prepared for the Town since its inception, the process was able to reach out to a significant number of residents and was widely embraced by its adoption. The plan covers a full spectrum of scales—touching on items as small as a new sidewalk in downtown to projects as large as overarching land use recommendations. It coordinates multi-jurisdictional public departments. And, most importantly for this particular community, the plan fully integrates future transportation improvements with land use recommendations to support more economically sustainable development, and, unlike most vision plans, provides a specific five-year action plan to move forward with implementation very quickly.

Summerville is in the direct path of regional growth. Today, it is sandwiched between several large planned unit developments and will be in direct competition with these developments for both dollars and residents. Moving forward, the Vision Plan helps strengthen Summerville’s position as a proactive, key player within the lowcountry region.

### Outstanding Planning Project - Small Jurisdiction (population 50,000 or less)

**Award Winner: Beaufort Civic Master Plan, City of Beaufort**

The Civic Master Plan builds off of the City of Beaufort’s 2009 Comprehensive Plan by thoroughly documenting the areas in need of reinvestment, identifying opportunities for partnerships or leveraged private development, and helping to prioritize public investments on an annual and multi-year basis. The plan translates the vision of the Comprehensive Plan from a high city/regional level down to a block/lot level, and provides the City with the necessary guidance for partnering with the private sector towards a common vision.

Under the direction of the city’s Redevelopment Commission, a new public-private partnership was created, bringing full-time planning consultant services into city hall under a new Office of Civic Investment for a multi-year period. The new office was able to coordinate existing city resources, build capacity within city hall for local planning and build trust with the public. The multidisciplinary team included planners, architects, market specialists, transportation engineers, illustrators and landscape architects. The diversity of the team brought a range of expertise that translated to a more successful, complete planning process.

### Outstanding Planning Project - Multi-jurisdiction

**Award Winner: “Partnership for Prosperity: A Master Plan for the Neck Area of Charleston and North Charleston”, Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments (BCDCOG), City of North Charleston, and City of Charleston**

Charleston’s Neck Area Master Plan presents a compelling vision for the future of this region’s economic hub that will guide investment over the next twenty years. The goal of the Plan is to strengthen existing neighborhoods and solidify the area’s economic vitality. It provides a transportation and development framework, which will help guide new public and private investment in responsible and cost efficient ways. Achieving this vision for the “Neck” will not only solidify the future of this area for residents, but for the entire region as the Neck Area re-emerges as a center of economic activity.

### Planning Advocate

**Award Winner: Mayor Elaine Harris, Town of Pacolet**

Mayor Elaine Harris has made outstanding contributions to the advancement of quality planning in South Carolina. She is well-respected locally and statewide for her work. Her outstanding personal and professional characteristics have led to the successful accomplishment of planning goals, programs and projects. She has promoted the cause of planning in the public arena, and she has effectively advocated for planning and planners throughout her career as a local elected official. Her example of untiring advocacy has broad potential for benefiting planning throughout South Carolina.
Another Successful SCAPA AICP Exam Prep Occurs in 2014

Kendra Cobbs, AICP
SCAPA Professional Development Officer

The 2014 AICP SCAPA Exam Prep class has drawn to a close. This year, 18 aspiring AICP members participated in the exam prep class. Three classes were held at the Central Midlands COG in Columbia on July 25th, August 22nd and September 26th. A broad range of topics covered on the exam were taught by SCAPA instructors who graciously offered their time and expertise to the class participants. A special thank you must be extended to the SCAPA instructors:

- Dan Pennick, AICP - Director, Charleston County Zoning & Planning Department;
- Barry Nocks, PhD, FAICP - Professor Emeritus, Clemson Graduate Program in City & Regional Planning;
- Tyson Smith, Esq., AICP - White & Smith, LLC | Planning and Law Group;
- Cheryl Matheny, AICP - Principal, The Matheny-Burns Group;
- Phil Lindler, AICP – Director, Greenwood City/County Planning Department;
- Gregory Sprouse, AICP – Director, Central Midlands COG Research, Planning, and Development.

I would also like to thank my predecessor, Wayne Shuler, AICP, for his assistance in making this a great, first exam prep class, on my watch.

For those interested in becoming a certified planner, the American Planning Association (APA) offers the AICP exam in May and November of each year. There is a rigorous application and preparation process, so please visit https://www.planning.org/certification/ for more information.

For current AICP members, who are still in need of fulfilling their necessary 32 CM credits before the end of the year, please be sure to visit https://www.planning.org/cm/free/ for free CM credits offered through the APA.

Web Tool Helps Planners Evaluate Projects for Airport Land Use Compatibility in South Carolina

The South Carolina Aeronautics Commission has made available the Compatible Land Use Evaluation (CLUE) tool to the general public and local permitting authorities. The web-based tool features a trial area where anyone may evaluate construction locations as to the compatibility with South Carolina state aeronautical laws (Title 55) governing development in the vicinity of a South Carolina airport. The tool will also have an area for local permitting officials (LPOs) to log in and enter information about proposed developments for the Aeronautics Commission to review and comment before permitting. The CLUE tool is a great planning tool to evaluate all types of proposed construction projects. The tool was designed to assist developers and local permitting authorities in complying with Title 55 requirements.

To try the tool, point your browser to: http://www.scaeronautics.com/CLUE.

To begin using the Local Permitting Official (LPO) portion of the tool, please contact the Aeronautics Commission to obtain a username and password for your planning, zoning, and/or building permit agency.

Questions? Contact:
SC Aeronautics Commission
Columbia, South Carolina
Mihir Shah - mshah@aero.sc.gov
Expanded Opportunities for Students to Study Urban and Regional Planning and Policy

Kevin Keenan, Ph.D., AICP
Urban Studies Program Director
SCAPA College of Charleston Liaison

Amidst racial strife and perceptions of militarization in Ferguson, MO, a growing threat of urban terrorism here in the U.S. as ISIS expands abroad, and the historical asterisk of a collapsing World Trade Center, the Urban Studies Program convened a Convocation of Majors and Minors to explore the topic of military urbanization. On October 16, 2014, Dr. Jon Coaffee from the University of Warwick in the U.K. led the students and faculty at the College of Charleston in a discussion of the effect of urban terrorism on Western cities. Dr. Coaffee, a world-renowned expert in terrorism studies, is also Director of the Resilient Cities Laboratory (ResCity Lab), a lead partner in the Warwick Institute for Sustainable Cities (WISC) and a visiting professor at New York University's Center for Urban Science and Progress (CUSP).

Dr. Coaffee's presentation focused on the emergence of “splintered urbanism,” by which he meant the creation of security cocoons to protect people and resources from terrorist attacks in dense urban areas. These security areas, such as London's “ring of steel” surrounding the downtown area, and other efforts to secure Canary Warf, are literally inscribed into the landscape with various forms of protective architecture (such as bollards, fences, cordons, and surveillance). However, these islands of security leave other areas, often poorer and more diverse, with little protection. He theorized that the terrorist threat is ultimately displaced to these areas. This thesis is supported with evidence of where bombings in London have actually occurred. The risk has been displaced to those communities with fewer resources for responding. Dr. Coaffee asked the audience to think about how security becomes embedded into the everyday practices of some aspects and locations of our lives, but not others.

Dr. Kevin Keenan, the director of the Urban Studies Program, elicited excitement about studying cities and urban issues from the college community in advance of Dr. Coaffee's visit by giving a public lecture to the College of Charleston Honors College. Dr. Keenan’s lecture focused on global themes of urbanization. Dr. Keenan, who also conducts research on terrorism, asked the students and faculty to think about how terrorism may or may not be different from other forms of violence, and he reviewed issues from global gentrification similarities to economic development strategies. These events brought a wide array of campus constituencies together to celebrate Urban Studies at the College of Charleston.

The Urban Studies Program has also advanced in the visual age, capturing in video the essence of what it means to be an urban studies student in the Lowcountry as well as how the program is preparing for the future. The College of Charleston Marketing and Communication Office, in conjunction with the Urban Studies Executive Committee and students, produced high quality videos that explain Urban Studies as a program focused on maintaining the beauty of the Lowcountry, along with planning for both functionality and practicality. (See video available at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fejttF9KGPEU.) The program also produced a video to educate the various constituencies about just how urban our future will actually be, highlighting the need to train students in sustainability and diversity. (See video available at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h62uHQ2OdCg.) These efforts communicate the identity of the Urban Studies Program at the College of Charleston: a program that is student centered, that advances intellectual inquiry on pressing urban policy issues, one that promotes sustained community involvement with an eye towards the future.

Want to learn more about the Urban Studies Program?
Visit their website:
urbanstudies.cofc.edu
3. Leadership – With the establishment of a CPAT in South Carolina, SCAPA would be one of only a handful of Chapters nationally to institute a local CPAT program; this would demonstrate our commitment to being leaders within the national planning community. Additionally, a CPAT would position SCAPA as the “go to” planning resource in South Carolina, a leadership position that we should embrace and enhance as an organization.

4. Advancing the Profession – A SCAPA CPAT will help to increase the profile of the planning profession in South Carolina. Communities that benefit from the CPAT will gain a better understanding of what planning is and why it is important to them. Also, the larger mission of APA will be fostered and advanced on the local level through the CPAT program.

The SCAPA Executive Committee is very supportive of the formation of a local CPAT program in South Carolina, but if the CPAT is to be successful it must have much broader support and leadership than just the members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is prepared to support, promote, and budget the necessary finances to make a CPAT possible; however, for true success, longevity, and legacy to be achieved, the CPAT must be a member-driven initiative. The bottom line is we need your help.

We are looking for members to stand up, raise their hand, and lead this important effort to found a CPAT in South Carolina. This is an opportunity to take a great idea and make it our own. While SCAPA may not be the first to have a Chapter CPAT, we can be the best Chapter CPAT in the nation. Others will look to SCAPA as an example and follow our model for building a first class Chapter CPAT. We have the talent and diversity of skills and experience here in South Carolina to bridge the planning gap, make stronger communities, and lead both on a local and national level. Based on the tenor of the conversation and the positive feedback from SCAPA members, the Executive Committee is set to allocate funding to help jump-start this endeavor. Robby Moody, AICP, Past-President, will lead the effort to organize the program and recruit project team members. Several members expressed an interest in serving on the organizational committee and on project teams.

If you would like to be part of the leadership that establishes and executes the SCAPA CPAT, please email Robby at rmoody@catawbacog.org. An initial meeting will be held in January.

THANK YOU to our Sponsors!
Interested in Advertising?

Sponsor a Conference

When you sponsor a SCAPA conference, you will meet local, state, and federal government leaders who make decisions about which consultants to hire for planning, transportation, engineering, and related needs. More than one third of SCAPA members hold key management positions in government agencies. These are people who can help you grow your business.

Additionally, when you sponsor a SCAPA conference, you will meet others from the private sector, with whom you might be able to partner on projects in the future. Twenty percent of SCAPA’s members—90 people—work in the private sector.

Planning professionals from all regions of South Carolina, as well as from North Carolina, Georgia, and beyond come together at SCAPA’s three annual conferences. For conference sponsorship information, contact Andrea Pietras (apietras@charlestoncounty.org or (843) 202-7219).

Advertise in the Palmetto Planner & on the SCAPA Web Site

Did you know that you can advertise in the Palmetto Planner and on the SCAPA website for one low amount? The newsletter and website both provide information about current planning topics, chapter conferences and activities, and job opportunities.

Advertisement space in the Palmetto Planner (four issues) and the SCAPA web site, www.scapa.org, is available for $200 per year.

Contact: Andrea Harris-Long
(aharris@charlestoncounty.org or 843.202.7203)
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