



## **Strategic Plan 2016**

### **FAU's School of Urban and Regional Planning**

The School of Urban and Regional Planning was founded in 1989 as the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. It currently houses three degree programs: Bachelor of Urban Design, Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning, and Master of Urban and Regional Planning. The master's program is accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board. The School also cooperates with the School of Public Administration on a specialization in Urban and Regional Planning in the Ph.D. Program in Public Administration. It cooperates with the Department of Geosciences on the Graduate Certificate Program in Geographic Information Systems, with the Environmental Science Program on the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Restoration, and with various programs on the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies. The School has two research centers: the Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions (CUES) and the Visual Planning Technology (VPT) Laboratory.

### **Strategic Planning Process**

This plan builds on the *Strategic Plan 2014* document that was the result of a retreat held in November of that year. The current plan aims to be the first in a series of annual plans that identify goals, objectives, and measures for the School as a whole as well as each of its programs and centers. Each annual update will assess achievement of the previous year's objectives based on the measures identified and will update goals and objectives for the future. It is anticipated that the strategic plan will be updated each year during the Fall semester based on accomplishments during the previous academic year. Goals and objectives are intended to implement the School's Vision and Mission as described below.

### **Vision**

We aspire to cultivate future leaders and be an innovator in the creation, design, and implementation of solutions to the urban, environmental, and economic challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## Mission

The School of Urban and Regional Planning is committed to conducting the education, research, training, and community engagement needed to prepare planning professionals to address the urban, environmental, and economic challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This includes a focus on three specific areas:

1. Creating vibrant, livable, healthy, and equitable communities;
2. Ensuring that our communities and ecosystems are sustainable and resilient; and
3. Developing interdisciplinary solutions, bridging the public and private sectors, that are able to overcome the policy, fiscal, and regulatory barriers to sustainable, economically-viable development.

## Goals and Objectives

### ***School of Urban and Regional Planning***

Goal: Develop scholarly and professional innovations that advance the resilience, sustainability, and livability of the built and natural environments

| Objective  | Measure  | Responsible party | Target date      | Status/outcome |
|--|--|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Produce scholarly research that is published in recognized outlets | On average, faculty members will publish the equivalent of at least two peer-reviewed journal articles per academic year | Full-time faculty | June (each year) | In progress    |
| Obtain externally-funded research grants                           | External funded research grants of \$400,000 per year, including CUES and VPT Lab grants                                 | Full-time faculty | June (each year) | In progress    |

Goal: Provide service to the scholarly and professional community in advancing critical planning issues

| Objective   | Measure   | Responsible party | Target date      | Status/outcome |
|---|---|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Actively participate in national and international scholarly and professional organizations | On average across the School, each faculty member will hold at least one leadership position (e.g., board memberships or editorial board memberships) | Full-time faculty | June (each year) | In progress    |

|  |   |                   |                  |             |
|--|---|-------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Provide service as reviewers of manuscripts and research proposals | On average across the School, each faculty member will review at least six manuscripts or proposals (e.g., journal manuscripts, book proposals, proposals for research funding)   | Full-time faculty | June (each year) | In progress |
| Actively participate in local planning groups and activities       | On average across the School, at least half of faculty members will participate in a significant way in local planning groups and their activities (e.g., board memberships, serving as an advisor to a local organization) | Full-time faculty | June (each year) | In progress |

Goal: Provide and maintain a high-quality learning environment for students, including state-of-the-art classroom and meeting spaces, equipment, software, and information technology support

| Objective   | Measure   | Responsible party                      | Target date      | Status/outcome |
|---|---|--|------------------|----------------|
| Provide virtual access to most software and data for faculty and students | Virtual access program is up and running successfully                             | IT coordinator                         | June 2017        | In progress    |
| Insure that all equipment and software is updated regularly               | All faculty, staff, classroom, and workroom equipment and software are up-to-date | IT coordinator                         | June (each year) | Ongoing        |
| Revise tech fees to reflect current costs associated with each course     | New tech fee schedule is developed and submitted for approval                     | IT coordinator                         | June 2017        | In progress    |
| Secure dedicated studio space   | Dedicated studio space is identified and secured                                  | SURP director and program coordinators | June 2017        | In progress    |

### ***Bachelor of Urban Design***

Goal: Ensure that the Bachelor of Urban Design curriculum is meeting the needs of students

| Objective                            | Measure   | Responsible party                               | Target date | Status/outcome |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------------|----------------|
| Review and update the BUD curriculum | Required approvals are obtained for any catalog changes endorsed by the faculty | Undergraduate coordinator and program committee | April 2017  | In progress    |

|   |   |   |           |             |
|---|---|---|-----------|-------------|
| Review space needs for the BUD program based on new curriculum                            | Work with dean's office to secure any additional space needed | School director and undergraduate coordinator   | June 2017 | In progress |
| Revise learning outcomes for the BUD program  | New learning outcomes are defined and assessed                | Undergraduate coordinator and program committee | May 2017  | In progress |
| Expand the BUD program's involvement in the Undergraduate Research and Inquiry initiative | Designate at least two courses as research intensive          | Undergraduate coordinator and full-time faculty | June 2017 | In progress |

### ***Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning***

Goal: Ensure that the Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning curriculum is meeting the needs of students

| Objective  | Measure   | Responsible party                               | Target date | Status/outcome |
|--|---|---|-------------|----------------|
| Review and update the BURP curriculum  | Required approvals are obtained for any catalog changes endorsed by the faculty | Undergraduate coordinator and program committee | April 2017  | In progress    |
| Review space needs for the BURP program based on new curriculum                            | Work with dean's office to secure any additional space needed                   | School director and undergraduate coordinator   | May 2017    | In progress    |
| Revise learning outcomes for the BURP program  | New learning outcomes are defined and assessed                                  | Undergraduate coordinator and program committee | May 2017    | In progress    |
| Determine if BURP should apply for PAB accreditation                                       | Decision by faculty on whether or not to apply for PAB accreditation            | Undergraduate coordinator and program committee | May 2017    | In progress    |
| Expand the BURP program's involvement in the Undergraduate Research and Inquiry initiative | Designate at least two courses as research intensive                            | Undergraduate coordinator and full-time faculty | June 2017   | In progress    |

### ***Master of Urban and Regional Planning***

Goal: Fully implement MURP curriculum changes approved during 2015-16

| Objective   | Measure   | Responsible party | Target date | Status/outcome |
|---|---|-------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Review updated curriculum to ensure that all necessary changes have been made | Required approvals are obtained for any additional catalog changes not implemented during 2015-16 | MURP coordinator  | April 2017  | In progress    |

|   |  |                  |             |             |
|---|--|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Review new advanced standing programs to ensure that they are working as intended | Meet with advising center staff to identify any problems with the advanced standing programs and submit catalog changes for faculty approval as needed | MURP coordinator | August 2017 | In progress |
|---|--|------------------|-------------|-------------|

Goal: Prepare for upcoming PAB accreditation review in 2018

| Objective   | Measure  | Responsible party   | Target date    | Status/outcome |
|---|--|---|----------------|----------------|
| Complete self-study report                            | Self-study report submitted to university administration for review and approval | School director, MURP coordinator, and MURP program committee | October 2017   | In progress    |
| Establish advisory board to assist with accreditation | Advisory board appointed and initial meeting held                                | School director and MURP coordinator                          | September 2017 | In progress    |

Goal: Ensure that the Master of Urban and Regional Planning curriculum is meeting the needs of students

| Objective   | Measure   | Responsible party                      | Target date          | Status/outcome  |
|---|---|--|----------------------|---|
| Revise learning outcomes for the MURP program   | New learning outcomes are defined and assessed  | MURP coordinator and program committee | May 2017             | Outcomes and assessment process have been revised and are being implemented |
| Learning outcomes assessment demonstrates student achievement                         | All graduating students score at least 80% on average across desired outcomes                                     | MURP coordinator and program committee | May (each year)      | In progress   |
| Post-graduation surveys completed by alumni demonstrate satisfaction with the program | All alumni state that they are satisfied with the program in response to question 3 on the post-graduation survey | School director and MURP coordinator   | December (each year) | Ongoing   |
| High pass rates on the AICP examination   | At least 80% of MURP graduates who take the exam within three years of graduation earn a passing score            | School director and MURP coordinator   | December (each year) | Ongoing   |

**Certificate Programs**

Goal: Ensure that graduate certificate programs meet current needs and reflect current faculty strengths

| Objective   | Measure   | Responsible party   | Target date | Status/outcome |
|---|---|---|-------------|----------------|
| Review and update existing SURP graduate certificate programs | Certificate programs are revised and updated with all necessary approvals | School director, MURP coordinator, and program and/or ad hoc committees | June 2018   | In progress    |

**Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions**

Goal: Take advantage of SURP and CUES facilities and expertise to support the mission of the School

| Objective  | Measure   | Responsible party | Target date      | Status/outcome |
|--|---|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Obtain significant external grant funding to support CUES activities | External grant funding is at least \$250,000 for the preceding fiscal year  | CUES director     | June (each year) | In progress    |
| Offer a public lecture series on important planning issues           | Support at least four public lectures each year using Abacoa funds  | CUES director     | June (each year) | In progress    |
| Provide support for graduate assistants                              | Stipends are provided from the Abacoa fund for at least two graduate research assistants and stipends and tuition remission are provided from external grants for at least three graduate research assistants | CUES director     | June (each year) | In progress    |
| Provide support for affiliated faculty to secure external funding    | Stipends will be provided from the Abacoa fund to support affiliated faculty  | CUES director     | June (each year) | In progress    |
| Develop 3- and 5-year strategic plan of research goals               | Strategic plan is completed   | CUES director     | August 2017      | In progress    |

**Visual Planning Technology Laboratory**

Goal: Take advantage of SURP and VPT Lab facilities and expertise to support the mission of the School

| Objective  | Measure  | Responsible party | Target date      | Status/outcome |
|--|--|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Obtain significant external grant funding to support the VPT Lab's activities, including support for graduate assistants | External grant funding is at least \$100,000 for the preceding fiscal year, including full support for at least one graduate assistant | VPT Lab director  | June (each year) | In progress    |

|   |  |                  |                  |             |
|---|--|------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Develop and offer a continuing education program that makes use of the Lab's facilities and expertise | At least two continuing education classes are offered each year in collaboration with local planning organizations   | VPT Lab director | June (each year) | In progress |
| Participate in national conferences and review panels   | VPT Lab research is presented at one or more national conferences each year and the VPT Lab is represented on at least one review panel (e.g., NSF or USEPA) | VPT Lab director | June (each year) | In progress |
| Participate in community engagement activities  | The VPT Lab is significantly engaged in at least one local community planning effort each year   | VPT Lab director | June (each year) | In progress |