INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN URBAN PLANNING

PANEL TOPICS

Using Urban Simulation and Data Science to Evaluate Land Use

Strategies for Municipal Services by Using Emerging Technology

Transportation and Technology in the Urban Environment

March 17th, 2018
SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY
MLK Library Room 225
9:30 am - 3:30 pm

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9:30am - 10:00am: Registration & Breakfast

10:00am - 10:10am: Introduction by Urban Planning Coalition Board

10:10am - 10:20am: Special Presentation by Julia Lave Johnston: APA NorCal President

10:20am - 11:00am: Keynote Speaker: Paul Waddell, introduced by Dr. Shishir Mathur

11:00am - 11:10am: Break

11:10am - 12:10pm: Panel #1: Using Urban Simulation and Data Science to Evaluate Land Use

12:10pm - 1:00pm: Lunch

1:00pm - 2:00pm: Panel #2: Strategies for Municipal Services by Using Emerging Technology

2:00pm - 2:15pm: Break

2:15pm - 3:15pm: Panel #3: Transportation and Technology in the Urban Environment

3:30pm: Event Concludes
Ryan Wold - Civic Studio
Ryan studied Digital Communications at Sacramento State, then earned a Master’s in Public Administration while improving financial systems and people processes, working in a County Auditor’s Office. He continued to build software tools for public agencies from the private sector at Granicus. More recently, Ryan has consulted with innovative nonprofits and startups, and international enterprises working alongside customers, modeling a disciplined form of agile product development. In his free time, Ryan enjoys coffee shops, reading graphic novels, and the Lego architecture series.

Jerry Zeyu Gao - San Jose State University
Jerry Zeyu Gao is a professor at the Department of Computer Engineering at San José State University. Now, he is the director of SJSU’s research center on smart technology, computing, and complex systems. He has over 20 years of academic research and teaching experience, and over 10 years of industry and management experience on software engineering and IT development applications. He has published three technical books and over two hundred publications in IEEE/ACM journals, magazines, international conferences and workshops. His current research areas include smart cities, big data analytics, cloud computing, Testing-as-a-Service, software engineering, test automation, and mobile cloud services.

Allen Tai, AICP - City of Alameda
Allen Tai serves as the Planning Services Manager for the City of Alameda. Allen is responsible for overseeing current planning, interdepartmental project review, and IT projects in the Permit Center. He has served in this role since 2013 where he has brought a business approach to the City’s operations while completing an overhaul of the Permit Center. These improvements included developing new business processes and applying customer triage, plan review, and open access technologies. A product of this modernization effort is the Alameda-At-Your-Service program, a concierge approach to bringing businesses to Alameda. This program has facilitated significant investments in alternative energy, beverage manufacturing, and many new exciting industries in Alameda.

Dr. Paul Waddell
Dr. Paul Waddell is a Professor of City and Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley. His research focuses on the assessment of the impacts of land use regulations and transportation investments on outcomes such as spatial patterns of real estate development and prices, travel behavior, emissions, and housing affordability. He is also working on ways to engage public participation in making complex policy choices. Dr. Waddell has served on the editorial boards of the Journal of the American Planning Association, Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice, Journal of Transport and Land Use, Transportation Letters, Applied Spatial Analysis and Planning, and International Journal of Microsimulation. His research is published broadly in journals in planning, geography, transportation, and urban economics.

Dr. Waddell leads the development of the UrbanSim model of urban development now used in places as diverse as Denver, Detroit, San Francisco, Paris, and Johannesburg, and the development of Urban Canvas for 3D urban design and visualization. UrbanSim is an open source model system used by Metropolitan Planning Organizations and other local and regional agencies for operational planning purposes in a variety of U.S. metropolitan areas and internationally. Urban Canvas is a new visual platform for urban planning and design, with integrated analytics.

Dr. Shishir Mathur
Dr. Shishir Mathur serves as the Associate Dean of Research in the College of Social Sciences, the Director for Advanced Certificate in Real Estate Development, and professor of Urban and Regional Planning at San José State University. He has over two decades of experience in academia, the corporate sector, and consulting. His body of work includes two books and more than 80 journal articles, book-length manuscripts, book chapters, working papers, conference papers/presentations, and consulting projects in the fields of public finance, urban & real estate economics, housing, international planning, transportation planning, growth management, land use planning, emergency management, and systems analysis.

Julia Lave Johnston - APA NorCal President-Elect
Julia Lave Johnston runs Planwell Consulting which focuses on planning, land use and sustainability policy and program development. She is currently the President-Elect for the California Chapter of the American Planning Association. Julia has a Bachelor’s degree in English Literature from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Master’s degree in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon.
Richard Kos, AICP - Moderator Panel #1
Richard Kos, AICP teaches graduate-level GIS, community engagement, and Master’s thesis preparation courses at San José State University. He brings over 25 years of experience in municipal planning and consulting into the classroom to guide his students in the initial stages of their urban planning careers. Richard earned a Bachelor’s degree in Environmental Planning and Design from Rutgers University as well as a Master’s in Regional Planning from UNC-Chapel Hill. His primary research and teaching interests revolve around GIS, community assessment, and substantive community engagement.

Dr. Serena Alexander - Moderator Panel #2
Dr. Serena Alexander is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at San José State University and a Research Associate at Mineta Transportation Institute. Her primary research interests are in the areas of environmental planning, climate action, land-use and transportation planning, and sustainable urban design. Much of her work is targeted toward practitioners interested in the dynamics of plan implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Before joining the SJSU faculty, Dr. Alexander conducted community economic development and environmental policy and planning research at the Center for Economic Development and the Great Lakes Environmental Finance Center at Cleveland State University, where she also received her doctorate in Urban Studies, specializing in urban policy and development.

Dr. Joseph Kott - Moderator Panel #3
Dr. Kott holds a B.A. from Wayne State University in Detroit, Master’s degrees in urban and regional planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, a degree in transport planning and traffic engineering from Monash University in Melbourne, Australia, and a PhD in urban and regional transport planning from Curtin University in Perth, Australia. He wrote his doctoral dissertation on the subject of planning, design, and assessment of sustainable arterial streets. His doctoral dissertation advisors were the world-renowned scholars in planning sustainable cities, Peter Newman and Jeffrey Kenworthy. Dr. Kott teaches courses in both the San José University Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the Mineta Transportation Institute at San José State, as well as in the Program in Urban Studies at Stanford University. He also serves as an instructor for the Technology Transfer Program in the Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California, Berkeley. He has had over 35 years of professional experience in urban and regional planning.

Sam Blanchard - UrbanSim
Sam Blanchard is the Manager of Product Development and a Data Scientist at UrbanSim. At UrbanSim he specializes in land use modeling and multi-modal transportation network and accessibility analysis. He has a diverse background in both transportation planning and the geospatial sciences, having worked with MPOs and the New York City Municipal Transportation Agency’s Subways Division of Research. He has conducted research on developing new methods to measure regional transit accessibility and worked on environmental topics ranging from forest fire risk to food environment and public health to carbon sequestration. Sam has a Master’s of City Planning from UC Berkeley, focusing on transportation planning, and a M.A. in Geographic Information Science from Clark University, specializing in urban geography and land cover/land use change analysis, mapping, and modeling.

Adam Garcia - Greenbelt Alliance
Adam Garcia is the Planning and Research Manager at Greenbelt Alliance. His role is to support the organization’s efforts for thoughtful plan implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Before joining the SJSU faculty, Dr. Alexander conducted community economic development and environmental policy and planning research at the Center for Economic Development and the Great Lakes Environmental Finance Center at Cleveland State University, where she also received her doctorate in Urban Studies, specializing in urban policy and development.

Yanwen Luo - Guangxi University
Yanwen is a doctoral student from Guangxi University, China and currently a visiting student at San José State University. She earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees of Urban Planning in China. Yanwen and her colleagues have been working on research to effectively generate 3D city models for large urban areas for urban planning and design purposes. Elements of the study explore how to use a rule-based modeling tool to generate city models for a historical district and support its reconstruction design. The project has been ongoing for nearly two years, and they have published several academic papers.

Di Meng - Gensler
Di Meng is a Designer at the Gensler San José office. She also serves as the Creative Media Group Studio Leader at Gensler, where she leads the integration of digital technology to bridge design and project visualization. She received her Master’s of Architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania and her Bachelor’s degree from the University of Washington. While at University of Pennsylvania, she studied at the Architecture Association in London where she was exposed to the exploration of mechanisms for architectural design. At Gensler, Di’s projects range from retail shops and wine bars to corporate workspace interiors. She also helped with the recent San José Bridge Housing community project.