



SCHOOL OF  
ARCHITECTURE,  
PLANNING & PRESERVATION

# Spring 2021 Commencement Program

*Architecture*

*Urban Studies and Planning*

*Historic Preservation*

*Real Estate Development*

*PhD in Urban and Regional Planning and Design*

**20 May 2021 | 1:00 pm**

VIRTUAL

[www.commencement.umd.edu](http://www.commencement.umd.edu)

MARYLAND'S BUILT ENVIRONMENT SCHOOL



To the Class of 2021:

It is an honor to celebrate our community of graduates today. You have shown incredible dedication, resilience, and adaptability over the last several weeks, at a time of overwhelming uncertainty. We are at a pivotal time in history, and you are poised to write our future. I challenge you to make your mark on the world with the determination, creativity, and values you showed at Maryland.

I am so proud of your achievement and look forward to following your successes as you go fearlessly into the world.

Go Terps!

**Donald W. Linebaugh, PhD, RPA**

*Interim Dean*

*School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation*

# 2021 May Commencement Ceremony

## WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS

**Donald W. Linebaugh, Ph.D., RPA,**

Interim Dean, School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation

## KEYNOTE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

**Robert G. Stanton**

15<sup>th</sup> Director of the National Park Service,  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## DEAN'S AWARDS

**Donald W. Linebaugh, Ph.D., RPA**

Interim Dean, School of Architecture, Planning & Preservation

## STUDENT COMMENCEMENT ADDRESSES

**Carlos A. Manjarrez**, PhD in Urban and Regional Planning and Design

**Jemimah Asamoah**, Master of Architecture

**Michael Christopher Bryan**, Master of Historic Preservation

**Daniella Acosta Saavedra**, Master of Community Planning

**Weishi Zhang**, Master of Real Estate Development

**Marcelino Defngin**, Bachelor of Science in Architecture

## RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

**Brian Kelly**, AIA, Director, Architecture Program

Associate Dean for Development & Faculty Affairs

**Madlen Simon**, AIA, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Outreach

**Clara Irazábal**, Ph.D., Director, Urban Studies & Planning Program

**Dennis J. Pogue**, Ph.D., Interim Director, Historic Preservation Program

**Maria Day-Marshall**, J.D. LL.M., Director, Real Estate Development Program

**Hiro Iseki**, Ph.D., Interim Director, PhD in Urban and Regional Planning and  
Design Program

# Graduating Students

## DOCTORAL DEGREE

### PHD IN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING AND DESIGN

Maria Beltran Rodriguez

Binbin Peng

Hyunjoo Eom

Carlos A. Manjarrez

## DUAL DEGREE

### MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE + MASTER OF REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

Rachel Marisa Cain

Andrew Colin Walker

Tochi Ohakawa

### MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE + MASTER OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Hannah Grady

Jared Schmitz

### MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE + MASTER OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

Andrew Mazer

Shayne Michelle Piltz

### MASTER OF COMMUNITY PLANNING + MASTER OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Hassan Tariq

### MASTER OF COMMUNITY PLANNING + MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Sebastian Velez-Lopez

## MASTER'S DEGREE

### MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE

|                       |                            |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Jemimah Asamoah       | Zuzanna Nowosielska        |
| Jefferson Choi        | Christopher Pearce         |
| Leah Christina Clark  | Daniel Ryan Peragine       |
| Jazmin Inoa Reyes     | Melonee Raquel Quintanilla |
| Soyeon Jeong          | Christian Romero           |
| Andrew Roger Koenings | Daniela Toni               |

### MASTER OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

|                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Daniella Acosta Saavedra | Lilian Muren          |
| Luke Stanley Benson      | Julia Marie Rodricks  |
| Will Bien Duggan         | Catherine Skeeter     |
| Jonathan Paul Katz       | Kenneth James Turscak |
| Melanie Marino           | Rachael Warner        |

### MASTER OF REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Steven Paul Bernard      | Catherine Roach |
| Domynique Jacole Garrett | Kia Jovon Smith |
| Yuan Hu                  | Mohsen Teimouri |
| Siyue Huang              | Nathan Veliz    |
| Jessica Liliana Ramirez  | Weishi Zhang    |

### MASTER OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION

|              |                           |
|--------------|---------------------------|
| Jeff Brammer | Michael Christopher Bryan |
|--------------|---------------------------|

## BACHELOR'S DEGREE

### BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ARCHITECTURE

Addison Abbott

Minor: Real Estate Development

Minor: Construction Project Management

Pedrum Aidun

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Amram Joshua Amselem

Minor: Real Estate Development

Niko Borkovic

Minor: Art History

Jacob Norman Walter Buhaj

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Aysel Zeynep Ciger

Zenden Cole

Minor: Real Estate Development

Caleigh Crawford

Stephen Tyler Crews

Minor: Real Estate Development

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Wanjiru Duncan

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Minor: History

Elias Fekadu

Justin Søren Ferrari

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Nataly Garcia De La Rivera

Ali Garmchi

Ivonne Gonzalez Moreno

Minor: Construction Project Management

Dieu Merci Kamate\*

Minor: Technology Entrepreneurship

Madison Amanda LaQuey

Alexendra Ilene Lee

Minor: Computer Science

Torria Lightner

Minor: Entrepreneurship & Innovation

Ryan Patrick Maloney

Minor: Construction Project Management

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Alyssa Paige Miller\*

Minor: Real Estate Development

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Magnolia Anahita Mozayeni

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Sara Neild\*\*

Minor: Real Estate Development

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Minor: Geographic Information Systems

Matthew Parsons

Sabah Rana

Cayla Robinson

Rafael Christopher Sanabia

Jeremy Schachter

Terrena Marie Shephard

Cole Christopher Shigo

Minor: General History

Guadalupe Terrazas-Dominguez

Minor: Real Estate Development

Deisy Noemi Velasquez

Minor: Construction Project Management

Brandy Alexandra Walterhoefer

Lillian Warfield

Minor: Real Estate Development

Bailin Zhu

\*Cum Laude

\*\*Magna Cum Laude

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE**

**Bethel Eva Afful**

Minor: Construction Project Management

**Angelica Arias**

Minor: Construction Project Management

**Alexandra Rose Encarnacion**

**Atienza\*\***

Minor: Construction Project Management

**Melissa Lauren Baum\*\***

**Blake Austin Bissen\*\***

Minor: Construction Project Management

Minor: Sustainability Studies

Minor: Spanish

**Kaitlyn Nicole Briller\*\***

Minor: Construction Project Management

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Andrew Chen**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Frednel Creer**

**Marcelino Defngin**

**Emma Forest Fudge**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Samanty Habib**

Minor: Construction Project Management

**Madison Nasha'e Hamer**

Minor: Construction Project Management

**Aminatou Hann**

**Kevin Alexander Hernandez**

**Jessica Michael Hosmer**

**Samantha Jamero**

Minor: Geographic Information Science

**Kimberly Koorey**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Jihee Lee**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Chuen-Chi Loh**

**James Renwick Long\***

**Kareem-Khori Mcleggon\***

**Lauren J McNamara**

Minor: Archaeology

**Megumi Miyaoka**

Minor: Japanese

**Emanuel Benjamin Mordekhai**

**Darrian Moreno**

**Emily Morina**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Alice Mulongo\***

**Juzer Murtaza Patanwala**

**Chayapon Pipatpongsa\*\***

**Ben Plugge**

**Austin Register**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Meghan Reynolds\***

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Vasilea Christine Roberts\***

Minor: Construction Project Management

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Aaron Sanders**

Minor: Construction Project Management

**Nicholas Thompson**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Cody Robert ViPond\***

**Thomas Day Vite**

Minor: Sustainability Studies

**Andrew Wohlstetter**

### **Maria Beltran Rodriguez – *The People’s Park: A Study of the Relationship Between Design and Convivial Behavior in Superkilen***

This research project investigates the relationship between design solutions and convivial behavior among users of urban landscapes, particularly within areas characterized by diverse populations. By unpacking the physical features and signs of convivial behavior at play in a People’s Park, this analysis provides insight into the role design can have in promoting convivial behavior. This is particularly important in Europe, which has long struggled to accept diversifying population and where urban neighborhoods are increasingly heterogeneous. This current diversification has tremendous implications for the ways people live together.

The typology of the People’s Park is one of the contexts where this will play out. I define a people’s park as an everyday space with the potential to promote social well-being. It is characterized by an intent to design spaces for and with all members of a community. I define conviviality as a social condition contributing to everyday quality of life. I examine the people’s park as an institution for fostering convivial behavior in public life. The ultimate goal is to inform urban planning policies addressing social life in the public realm in multi-ethnic or diverse communities. The means to that goal is the development of a methodology for studying the relationship between design and convivial behavior that can guide park design to promote convivial coexistence and that can assist in assessing and improving existing underperforming parks.

Research on these questions was undertaken using a single case study site, Superkilen, a park in Copenhagen’s multi-ethnic Nørrebro district. This case study tests the methodology I developed for this research, examining different areas of the park, in an attempt to ascertain what attributes of urban design are associated with convivial behavior, comprising the activities of eating, playing and chatting. Through the findings on Superkilen, I present the People’s Park as a useful model in helping diverse communities live together, through ordinary convivial behavior activity. Superkilen shows a possible path for societies that have historically been perceived as homogenous and must make space for difference and must deal with cultural diversity, as in Copenhagen, Denmark, but also many other European cities.



### **Hyunjoo Eom – *Recent Intra-Metropolitan Patterns of Jobs and Workers: Implications for the Spatial Mismatch Hypothesis***

Since the seminal work of John Kain in the 1960s, scholars have explored the spatial mismatch between suburban job opportunities and the residential segregation of low-income Black populations in the inner city. Since then, the spatial structure of U.S. metropolitan areas has undergone dynamic changes and reshaped the demographic landscape and economic geography, which have important implications for the spatial patterns of mismatch in the 21st century. Particularly, the movement of Black populations to the suburbs has the potential to perpetuate spatial mismatch if those newly suburbanized Black populations continue to be spatially segregated in suburbs apart from where jobs have relocated. Although previous studies provide evidence for continued residential segregation, it is yet unclear how it affects spatial patterns of mismatch for suburban Black populations as well as the changing geography of opportunity.

In this dissertation, I examine the spatial patterns of mismatch with a particular focus on whether the spatial distributions in the 21st century continue to disadvantage the Black population in accessing job opportunities. I also estimate the differing relationship between the neighborhood job accessibility and labor market outcomes by the residence in the city and the suburb, availability of auto, and the level of residential segregation. By incorporating the geographic scale of segregation and inequality, the measures used in this dissertation capture the spatial interactions with neighboring areas that take into account the spatial clustering as well as the concentration of opportunities and disadvantages.

The results reveal geographical evidence of a shift in the geography of spatial mismatch into the suburbs into which Black populations have predominantly moved since the 1980s, indicating that changes in urban structures contribute to the expansion of inequality of opportunities beyond the boundaries of the inner-city. Further, there is an increasing trend of within-neighborhood subarea inequality in both cities and the suburbs, which suggests a greater spatial heterogeneity at the local geographical level. The study concludes by arguing that the spatial mismatch is not disappearing from U.S. metropolitan areas. Rather, the geography of the spatial mismatch has merely shifted in such a way that the same pattern of neighborhood disadvantages now exists in the suburbs.

## PhD in Urban and Regional Planning and Design

### **Carlos A. Manjarrez – *Small, Slow and Steady: Assessing the Impact of Arts District Designation and Arts-Led Development Strategies on Business Enterprise Growth in a Small Mid-Atlantic Town***

Researchers and planning professionals have become increasingly interested in leveraging arts and culture programming and investments as strategies for community revitalization. Arts-themed strategies employed by local governments and community organizations include arts and music festivals, commissioning public art, physical development of cultural facilities, artist live/workspaces and more. As these practices expanded in the early 2000s, local actors began concentrating arts-led development activities in designated arts districts. Many of these new districts received their designation from state agencies hoping to bolster tourism, support local business and attract artists, knowledge economy workers and creative industries.

Despite their impressive growth, evidence of arts district effects on local economies is limited. Past research has focused narrowly on single sites, without the benefit of controlled comparisons, or has pooled many different arts districts into the same model, ignoring the unique effects of the different arts-led development strategies they employ. This project offers a middle ground, one that combines quantitative and qualitative methods to examine the impact of arts district designation and programming on business enterprise growth.

The primary focus of the project is Frederick, Maryland, a small city 43 miles northwest of Washington, D.C., which received formal recognition from the State of Maryland in 2002. The first part of the project uses the Synthetic Control Method to compare the enterprise growth rate of the Frederick arts district to that of a statistically-derived synthetic comparison unit over a 20-year time period. Frederick's business growth rate was found to be significantly larger than its synthetic counterpart and enjoyed a more robust recovery after the Great Recession. The second part of the analysis employs a site-based qualitative analysis of interviews, local media and administrative records, and an analysis of visitorship using a unique dataset derived from the point-of-interest cell phone location data. Triangulating findings from these different sources provides a more robust basis of evidence to assess arts district impacts, detailing the ways in which arts-based development efforts, concentrated in narrowly targeted areas, can result in significant business enterprise growth in small communities.

### **Binbin Peng – *Exploring Public Health Risks and Vulnerabilities to Extreme Heat Through Urban Built Environment***

Extreme heat events have rapidly increased over the last several decades and are a leading cause of health threats in cities and communities worldwide. Despite the seriousness of this situation, urban planning scholars have yet to sufficiently examine the multidimensional nature of health risk to extreme heat in the scope of the built environment. Furthermore, literature that empirically explores relationships between extreme heat scenarios and road safety in cities is scant. This dissertation research focuses on the intersection of extreme urban heat, public health risk and the built environment; it presents three interconnected and standalone studies. To synthesize what we know to date on how heat-related risks and associated health outcomes manifest in urban planning and the built environment, this study systematically reviewed urban areas' extreme heat and health mortality and morbidity. The literature review used empirical evidence drawn from refereed manuscripts to bring attention to the built environment factors that are significant but understudied public health threats in times of extreme heat events. The review highlighted the linkages that have been least explored and/or in the germane literature and expatiated on key challenges in conducting research on associations between extreme heat and health risk in the context of urban environment.

The first empirical study applied latent variable analysis analytics to explore the dimensionality of health risk associated with extreme heat by integrating a wide range of data sets from multiple disciplines, including but not limited to public health, applied geography, environmental science, and urban planning. Socioeconomic and socioenvironmental factors related to extreme heat are examined altogether with human behavioral risk factors in the dimensionality analysis.

The final empirical piece examines the relationship between extreme hot days and non-motorized traffic crashes from a spatiotemporal perspective. Using a series of spatial econometric approaches, I found significant associations between extreme hot days and both the occurrence and severity of non-motorized crashes. I suggest that future research needs to adopt a dynamic traffic risk management approach that considers both urban climate and spatial dependencies when making transportation safety management plans.

This dissertation is the first attempt to utilize latent variable analysis technique in a more sophisticated way to explore the dimensionality of health risk to extreme heat and the underlying factors resulting in different degrees of health risk associated with heat. It is also the first trial to quantify the spatiotemporal relationship between heat extremes and the mobility exposure and consequences, i.e., non-motorized traffic crashes.

# Retiring Faculty and Staff

## 2021 Dean's Award



**Uri Avin**, Clinical Research Professor of Urban Planning, has dedicated more than 30 years to teaching and research excellence at the University of Maryland. Uri came to MAPP from a long and distinguished career in urban and regional planning for both the private and public sector, which helped the school gain prominence as an innovative pedagogical and research powerhouse. His understanding of how the university could be useful to state and regional agencies has built lasting partnerships, guided significant research discoveries for the National Center for Smart Growth and opened the door to more meaningful, hands-on learning for students through studios and programs like PALS, where he served as the founding director. In both his considerable research work and his fierce dedication to students, Uri has been guided by the transformational impact that good planning can have on creating equitable, sustainable and vibrant communities.

## 2021 Dean's Award



**Dennis Pogue**, has delivered excellent teaching, tireless leadership and dedication to MAPP's historic preservation community for nearly 10 years. The school has been fortunate to benefit from Dennis' extensive work as an archeologist, historian, researcher and teacher. He holds a lifelong belief that archeological preservation should be fun—something he readily shared with his students—and that it is steadfast in its role for the greater good; his work, both at Mount Vernon and through his efforts to document Virginia's slave housing, has illuminated the underlying social narratives of the colonial period and makes a critical contribution to the depth of that time period's history. Dennis' mission to bring equity and inclusion to the practice is reflected in his leadership and is at the core of his teaching, where he pushed students to champion the preservation and protection of heritage that has been historically left out.

## 2021 Dean's Award



**Mary Lee Seaman**, has served the university since 2014 and has been an indispensable asset to the dean's office since 2015. Mary Lee came to UMD (after her previous retirement from over 25 years at Georgetown University failed to take) initially, as a temp for the National Center for Smart Growth before migrating to the Dean's Office where she served as the brains, and sometime brawn, for three deans while managing many of the intricate, often complex day-to-day operations of the school. Aside from the care she puts into her work, she puts equal care in developing her community. Here at MAPP, Mary Lee helmed a number of events that fostered a tightknit group, including the holiday potluck party, her favorite event of the year; at the university, she spearheaded a monthly brown bag among administrative assistants across campus to share resources and connect. She is a trusted, honest, caring part of our MAPP family who will be greatly missed.

# Thank you, Donald W. Linebaugh!



The School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation community would like to recognize and thank Dr. Donald Linebaugh for his exemplary service as interim dean over the past three years. Dr. Linebaugh has been steadfast in his efforts to advance the school in its mission during extraordinary times. His relentless support and bold, visionary leadership have galvanized our community to be thoughtful, daring, curious and innovative. Working collaboratively with faculty, staff and students, he developed the school's new strategic plan, charting a future that prioritizes equity, social justice and service to the natural and built environments. Dr. Linebaugh lobbied for the funding and support that allowed the school to usher in new dual degrees and prepare the university's first undergraduate degree in real estate development.

His leadership over the past 18 months—arguably the most difficult period in the school's history—was oftentimes the glue that kept our community together. Dr. Linebaugh navigated these difficulties with empathy and grace. His swift response to the global pandemic and mounting racial injustices fostered a setting for listening and action; under his leadership, the school devised creative ways to engage students and deliver meaningful education in a virtual setting and developed its first anti-racism plan.

Dr. Linebaugh has been an unremitting champion of our work and achievements and has poised MAPP for its next chapter. In the spirit of Henry David Thoreau, he has encouraged us to “go confidently in the direction of our dreams” and armed us with the tools, support and care to do so. Thank you, Dr. Linebaugh!

# Awards and Honors

## Architecture Awards

**The Architecture Thesis Award** is given to a graduate student for excellence in the Master of Architecture Thesis.

**Jemimah Asamoah, *Beyond Sustainability: Biophilia as a tool for Regenerative Urban Design***

**American Institute of Architects Henry Adams Medal** is a national award that recognizes a Master of Architecture degree candidate for highest academic excellence.

**Melonee Raquel Quintanilla**

**Alpha Rho Chi Medal** is a national award that recognizes graduating students in the Architecture Program for leadership, service and professionalism.

**Jazmin Inoa Reyes**

**ARCC 2020-2021 King Medal** The Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC) is pleased to be able to award an “ARCC / King Student Medal for Excellence in Architectural + Environmental Design Research” to one student from each ARCC member institution. Selection of a nominee from each member institution is left generally to the discretion of the member (school, college, department).

**Maria Beltran Rodriguez, PhD**

**Alumni Chapter Award** recognizes students for outstanding service and leadership.

### ***Master’s Level***

Andrew Mazer

Ava Omidvar

Jared Schmitz

### ***Baccalaureate Level***

Marcelino Defngin

Ryan Gott

Lauren J McNamara

Rafael Sanabia



**Faculty Award for Academic Excellence** recognizes Master of Architecture and Bachelor of Science degree candidates for academic excellence.

***Master's Level***

Jemimah Asamoah  
Jefferson Choi  
Melonee Raquel Quintanilla  
Jazmin Inoa Reyes  
Jared Schmitz  
Paris Sim

***Baccalaureate Level***

Alexandra Rose Encarnacion  
Atienza  
Melissa Lauren Baum  
Blake Austin Bissen  
Kaitlyn Nicole Briller  
Ryan Gott  
Amy Lai  
Sara Neild  
Chayapon Pipatpongsa  
Judy Tram

**Faculty Award for Academic Achievement** recognizes graduate and undergraduate degree candidates for academic excellence.

***Master's Level***

Min Na  
Ava Omidvar  
Christopher Pearce  
Shayne Michelle Piltz  
Daniela Toni

***Baccalaureate Level***

Jack Corbett  
Dieu Merci Kamate  
Chuen-Chi Loh  
James Long  
Ryan Patrick Maloney  
Alyssa Paige Miller  
Alice Mulongo  
Daquan Proctor  
Miguel Mora Rangel  
Meghan Reynolds  
Vasilea Christine Roberts  
Aaron Sanders  
Deisy Noemi Velasquez  
Cody Robert Vipond  
Brandy Alexandra Walterhoefer

**Faculty Award for Excellence in Design** recognizes graduate and undergraduate degree candidates for excellence in design.

***Master’s Level***

Jemimah Asamoah  
Min Na  
Melonee Raquel Quintanilla  
Jazmin Inoa Reyes  
Paris Sim

***Baccalaureate Level***

Alexandra Rose Encarnacion  
Atienza  
Kaitlyn Nicole Briller  
Ryan Gott  
Chayapon Pipatpongsa  
Judy Tram  
Cody Robert Vipond  
Thomas Day Vite

**Faculty Award for Achievement in Design** recognizes Master of Architecture and Bachelor of Science degree candidates for high achievement in design.

***Master’s Level***

Jefferson Choi  
Jared Schmitz

***Baccalaureate Level***

Jack Corbett  
Madison Nasha’e Hamer  
Kimberly Koorey  
Amy Lai  
James Long  
Kayla Parsons  
Daquan Proctor

## Historic Preservation Awards

**Prince George's Heritage Fellowship Award**, established in May 1991 by Margaret Cook, is an annual competitive award for a historic preservation student who undertakes a study related to Prince George's County.

**Devon Murtha, MHP**

**St. Clair Wright Scholarship** is presented annually to a student who has involved her/himself in local preservation efforts since matriculation at the University of Maryland.

**Frankie Evans, MHP**

**Jon C. Graff, Ph.D. Endowed Prize in Historic Preservation**, established in 2018, is an award given annually to an outstanding student (or two) that includes a travel award accompanied by a medallion. Dr. Graff was an alumnus of the University of Maryland who had a successful career in biochemistry and later cyber security. As a lifelong learner, he studied paleontology and supported historic preservation in his retirement. He was an avid bicyclist and the accompanying medal reflects his passion.

**Jeff Brammer, MHP**

**Michael Christopher Bryan, MHP**

**The Director's Award** recognizes an outstanding graduating preservation student, both for their overall achievement and for producing a final project that successfully applies inter- and multi-disciplinary research methodologies in the field of historic preservation.

**Jared Schmitz, ARHP**

## Real Estate Development Awards

**MRED Outstanding Capstone Project Prize** is awarded for the best final project as determined by a jury of real estate professionals.

*First Place*

**Tochi Ohakawa, *The Pointe***

*First Place - Section II (tie)*

**Catherine Roach, *Wye Point***

**Nathan Veliz, *The Verge***

*Third Place*

**Steven Paul Bernard, *District Line***

*Honorable Mention (tie)*

**Weishi Zhang, *East King***

**Domynique Jacole Garrett, *Elysian***

**MRED Outstanding Academic Achievement Award** recognizes the Master of Real Estate Development student achieving the highest level of academic achievement represented by grade point average.

**Steven Paul Bernard**

**Nathan Veliz**

**MRED Award for Academic Excellence** is presented to Master of Real Estate Development students with outstanding excellence in academics.

**Domynique Jacole Garrett**

**Kia Jovon Smith**

**Siyue Huang**

**Weishi Zhang**

**Catherine Roach**

## Urban Studies & Planning Awards

**Larry Reich Award:** Larry Reich was Baltimore City Department of Planning Director from 1965 to 1990 and was a central figure in the City's Downtown Renaissance, a proponent of community-based planning and neighborhood initiatives, and an opponent of proposed highways that would have obliterated some of Baltimore's most historic neighborhoods. The Larry Reich Award is given annually to a M.C.P. student who has shown initiative and leadership in an area of urban revitalization or economic development.

### Luke Stanley Benson

**Robert Janes Award:** Robert Janes was a University of Maryland Sociology professor who created the University's Urban Studies program. Responding to the urban unrest of the 1960s, he established a broad multi-disciplinary program aimed at preparing practitioners who could improve city conditions. The Robert Janes award is given to an URSP graduating student for contributions to the mission of the Urban Studies and Planning Program.

### Jonathan Paul Katz

**AICP Award:** The American Institute of Certified Planners Award is for achieving the highest point average while completing the Master of Community Planning degree from the Urban Studies and Planning Program. The award acknowledges the student's commitment to scholarship and academic excellence.

### Lilian Murnen

**Melvin Levin Outstanding MCP Student Award:** Dr. Levin was chairman of the Urban Studies and Planning Program from 1978 to 1989. This award recognizes the student's high level of scholarship, as well as the student's commitment to enhancing the quality of the Program. The student epitomizes the planning student we seek to recruit and ultimately graduate into the professional planning field.

### Daniella Acosta Saavedra

**Samuel J. Lefrak Award:** Samuel J. Lefrak was one of the foremost leaders in the housing industry of the 20th century. He is credited with making several important contributions to urban revitalization in New York City. This award is presented to a MCP student in recognition of the student's scholarship and commitment to the vision and goals of the planning profession.

### Will Bien Duggan

**URSP Outstanding Graduate Assistant Award:** This award is presented to a graduating student in the Urban Studies and Planning Program whose work as a Graduate Research Assistant and/or Teaching Assistant has been outstanding.

**Rachael Warner**

**URSP Alumni Award:** The Urban Studies and Planning program created the URSP Alumni Award in 2002 for the purpose of supporting an annual alumni award to be given to a selected graduating URSP student.

**Kenneth Turcsak**

**Theresa Fiscus Moriarty Award:** Theresa Fiscus Moriarty received her Master of Community Planning in December 1994, and her bright promise was cut short by illness. This award is to honor the best paper by a URSP GA. *Columbia Values to Vision (Fall 2020 Studio)*

**Will Duggan**

**Lily Murnen**

**Anusha Jayasinghe**

**Julia Rodricks**

**Jonathan Katz**

**Kenny Turcsak**

**Melanie Marino**

**Rachael Warner**

## National Center for Smart Growth Research & Education Awards

### Outstanding Graduate Assistant Awards

**Lilian Murnen (MCP)** for work for the PLCC

**Sam McCormally (MCP)** for work for the PLCC

**Katy June-Friesen (JOUR)** for work with Willow Lung-Amam's Small Business Anti-Displacement Network

## Campus Awards

**The Outstanding Graduate Assistant Award** recognizes and honors the outstanding contributions that graduate assistants provide.

**Nohely Alvarez**

**Gesine Pryor Azevedo**

# Commencement Speaker

**Robert G. Stanton,**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Director of the National Park Service,**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

**Robert G. Stanton**, whose work significantly expanded the diversity of protected historic sites across the United States, is today's Commencement speaker.

He is a retired career civil service administrator who served for almost four decades in the United States National Park Service (NPS). Beginning as a seasonal ranger at Grand Teton National Park in 1962, Robert Stanton served the NPS as a ranger, superintendent, deputy regional director, assistant director (National Office), Associate Director (National Office) and regional director of the National Capital Region before retiring in January 1997. Later that year, Stanton was pulled out of retirement by the Clinton administration, which appointed him as the 15th director of the National Park Service and made him the first NPS careerist since Russell E. Dickenson to head the bureau and the first director to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. From 2014 to 2020, he served as a member of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

As the NPS' first African American director, Dr. Stanton has taken particular interest in increasing the diversity of parks, the service's staff and public programs to better serve minority populations. He has worked to reshape national efforts to preserve places for all people and diversify our collective history.

# Congratulations Alumni!

The School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation likes to stay connected with our alumni and are always interested in hearing their latest news.

You can keep in touch and update your contact information by emailing us at [mappalum@umd.edu](mailto:mappalum@umd.edu).



The board of the **MAPP+D Alumni Network** congratulates you on a job well done! The MAPP+D Alumni Network Board keeps alumni connected to the school through programing, engagement, and networking. We hope that as you transition from student to alumni, we can assist you. Please consider getting involved as a member of our board or one of our great committees. You can reach us at [mappdalumni@gmail.com](mailto:mappdalumni@gmail.com).

We look forward to seeing you at future events!

*Follow the MAPP+D Alumni Network on Facebook and LinkedIn.*

When you join the Alumni Association, you automatically join the **MAPP+D Alumni Network**.

Join here: [www.alumni.umd.edu/join](http://www.alumni.umd.edu/join).



ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION





SCHOOL OF  
ARCHITECTURE,  
PLANNING & PRESERVATION

MARYLAND'S BUILT ENVIRONMENT SCHOOL