

UIC COLLEGE OF
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT CHICAGO URBAN PLANNING
& PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Commencement

May 8, 2009



Dear Graduates,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, I offer my heartfelt congratulations on your successful completion of the degree requirements!

Today we celebrate with you and your classmates as members of the 1st graduating class of urban and public affairs, the 31st graduating class of public administration, and the 35th graduating class of urban planning and policy.

This year's commencement is especially poignant for our first group of eleven students who will graduate from our Urban and Public Affairs program with a Bachelor of Arts degree. This is a crucial moment especially for this group at the cusp of their careers as public servants or of furthering their education with advanced degrees.

When you began your degree program in CUPPA some two or maybe four or more years ago, the world was a different place. Our nation is under different leadership and a different economic outlook. We find our current position similar in some ways to one of the most difficult economic periods in our country's history, the Great Depression. While the statistics and forecasts of our economy are daunting at this moment, we are called to remember the unprecedented optimism that gripped us during the 2008 presidential election and the enormous possibilities it portended for all of us.

We are now in the throes of what can only be viewed as a sea change in the nation's view of public service, community organizing and governance. For those already in or soon to join the honorable professions of government and nonprofit service and to engage in civic discourse and action to move your community forward, the knowledge and dedication to solving the problems that plague society will suit you well. As graduates of CUPPA, you are prepared to meet these challenges head-on. You entered into this arena with a dedication to improving the human condition, and I firmly believe you will do just that—despite the unprecedented challenges at your door.

Your academic achievements and, perhaps just as important, your perseverance and hard work to earn your degree are a tribute to you, as well as to your parents, your partners, your families, and your friends. I salute you and those who have afforded you their guidance, comfort, and support during your undergraduate or graduate school journey. Many scholars and other mentors have played a crucial role during your academic experience and have helped you along your path of discovery. I encourage you to continue those relationships and the exchange of knowledge with those who teach others. We will be here for you during the next steps of your journey, and we hope you will continue to teach us as you continue along your path of discovery.

Thank you and congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Pagano". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael A. Pagano

Dean Michael A. Pagano Presiding

PROCESSIONAL

- Platform Party and Faculty of the College
- Doctoral Degree Candidates
- Master’s Degree Candidates
- Bachelor’s Degree Candidates

“America the Beautiful” Circle Center Brass Quintet
Lyrics on page 44

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS Michael A. Pagano

KEYNOTE SPEAKER Randal S. Blankenhorn
Executive Director, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES Marya Schechtman
Associate Dean of the Graduate College
Michael A. Pagano

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES (see list on page 41) R. Michael Tanner
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENTS Michael A. Pagano

STUDENT SPEAKERS John Alex Colon
Urban and Public Affairs
Lauren Bowman
Public Administration
Hannah Sokol
Urban Planning and Policy

GREETINGS FROM THE CUPPA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Robert Rice, MUPP '02
President, CUPPA Alumni Association

CLOSING REMARKS Michael A. Pagano

RECESSIONAL

Graduates and guests are invited to join Dean Pagano and the faculty at a reception immediately following the ceremony in Meeting Room C, UIC Forum.

CEREMONY OFFICIALS

Marshall of the Day	David Perry Professor, Urban Planning and Policy; Director, Great Cities Institute; Associate Chancellor for the Great Cities Commitment
Commencement Marshall	Albert Schorsch III Associate Dean
Banner Carriers	
UIC	James Thompson Head, Public Administration
CUPPA	Martin Jaffe Head, Urban Planning and Policy
Name Reader	Valerie Werner Assistant Dean for Student Services, Director, Urban and Public Affairs Undergraduate Program
Musical Accompaniment	Circle Brass Quintet

KEYNOTE SPEAKER**Randy Blankenhorn, Executive Director, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning**

Randy Blankenhorn is executive director of CMAP, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (<http://www.cmap.illinois.gov>), which is responsible for comprehensive planning across the seven-county region. Under his leadership, CMAP takes an integrated approach to the region's challenges, with an emphasis on changing how development and infrastructure investment decisions are made. In addition to core competencies in data and analysis related to land use, the environment, and transportation, CMAP addresses interrelated issues such as jobs, housing, and economic development. Randy and his staff are developing GO TO 2040 (www.goto2040.org), metropolitan Chicago's first truly comprehensive regional plan, to be published in 2010. Prior to joining CMAP in 2006, he was bureau chief of urban program planning for the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), coordinating activities of the 14 metropolitan planning organizations across Illinois.

MARSHALL OF THE DAY**David Perry, Professor, Urban Planning and Policy; Director, Great Cities Institute; Associate Chancellor for the Great Cities Commitment**

David Perry is the director of the Great Cities Institute and professor of urban planning and policy in the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He also serves as associate chancellor for the university's Great Cities Commitment. The Great Cities Institute is a university-wide research center, and, as a core element of UIC's Great Cities Commitment, it has attracted well over 150 faculty from 35 disciplines from UIC, the nation, and the world to study cities from an engaged research perspective.

Perry is the author or editor of ten books, including two recently published volumes titled *The Global University and Urban Development: Case Studies and Analysis* and *Universities as Urban Developers*, edited with Wim Wiewel, and over 100 articles, book chapters, and reports on urban "anchor" institutions; urban and regional economic development policy; race, politics, and urban violence; contested cities; public infrastructure; and the production of urban space. Perry's work has appeared in such nonacademic places as the *New York Times*, *The Nation*, and *Metropolis* magazine. David is an equally experienced policy practitioner having worked with numerous community partners and having served on national and local public boards and commissions, including, most recently, Chicago's Zoning Reform Commission, the Urban Land Institute's National Public Infrastructure Committee, the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, and the Rudy Bruner Award Selection Committee.

Professor Perry received his PhD from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University and went on to teach in the Government Department at the University of Texas at Austin and chair the Urban Planning program at the University at Buffalo. He also held the visiting Albert A. Levin Chair at Cleveland State University and was a senior faculty fellow of the State University of New York's Rockefeller Institute.

STUDENT SPEAKERS

John Alex Colón, BA UPA '09

John Alex Colón completed his Bachelor of Arts in urban and public affairs and plans to attend graduate school in public administration at the NYU Wagner Graduate School of Public Service or Rutgers Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. During his UPA studies, John Alex participated in an internship at the Chicago Department of Transportation to blend his personal passion for biking with his desire to work within a government agency that provides services to his main mode of transportation. His role has included project management and fieldwork for bike lane installation. John Alex worked with Telpochcalli Community Education Project, a nonprofit agency dedicated to working toward social justice by increasing the capacity and participation of Chicago's Little Village residents in the development of a more united, better educated, safer, and socially prepared community for his senior capstone project.

Lauren Bowman, MPA '09

Lauren Bowman, graduating with a Master of Public Administration, is the current chair of the Public Administration Student Association. She is originally from Ohio, where she received her undergraduate degree in political science from Ohio University. At UIC, Lauren worked as a graduate assistant in the Department of Public Administration, where she was able to gain valuable research experience. She was presented with the University of Illinois Alumni Association Student Leadership Award and the Chancellors Student Service and Leadership Award during in her second year at UIC. Her main area of interest is women's health, and upon graduation, she hopes to work for a nonprofit that focuses on this issue.

Hannah Sokol, MUPP '09

Hannah H. Sokol is receiving her Master of Urban Planning and Policy with a concentration in environmental planning. She is interested in sustainable urban development, particularly in policies to encourage greener building. In 2007, Hannah worked on the EPA Region 5's report "Removing Market Barriers to Green Building." More recently, she worked as a research assistant on Urban Planning and Policy Professor Rachel Weber's research, which examined the market for building material reuse in the region. Hannah also serves on UIC's Chancellor's Committee for Sustainability and Energy. She received her undergraduate degree from Earlham College.

CUPPA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

**Robert Rice, MUPP '02**

Bob Rice is president of the CUPPA Alumni Association. He also holds the position of vice president of debt for CDT, a New York-based real estate development trust that provides debt and equity to community development projects across the United States. As the head of CDT's Chicago office, he is the primary transaction manager for several key correspondent lending institutions, including JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Regions Bank, and NEF Mortgage Corporation. Prior to joining CDT, Rice was associate director of the Chicago Mutual Housing Network, where he managed affordable housing development, training, and education activities. He also was a consultant with S.B. Friedman & Company, a Chicago-based real estate and development consulting firm. Rice has a bachelor's degree in urban studies from DePaul University and a Master of Urban Planning and Policy degree from UIC.

UNITS OF THE COLLEGE OF URBAN PLANNING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Office of the Dean

Michael Pagano	Dean
Albert Schorsch III	Associate Dean
Jodi White Jones	Assistant Dean for Communications
Valerie Werner	Interim Assistant Dean for Student Services

Public Administration Department

James Thompson	Associate Professor and Head
Allyson Holbrook	Associate Professor and PhD Director of Graduate Studies
Sharon Mastracci	Associate Professor and MPA Director of Graduate Studies

Faculty

George Beam	Associate Professor
L. Vaughn Blankenship	Professor Emeritus
Mary Feeney	Assistant Professor
Megan Haller	Visiting Assistant Professor
Rebecca Hendrick	Associate Professor
Timothy Johnson	Professor
Allan Lerner	Professor
David Merriman	Professor
Karen Mossberger	Associate Professor
Michael Pagano	Professor
Richard Warnecke	Professor Emeritus
Eric Welch	Associate Professor
Yonghong Wu	Assistant Professor

Urban Planning and Policy Department

Martin Jaffe	Associate Professor and Head
Kheir Al-Kodmany	Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies

Faculty

Philip Ashton	Assistant Professor
John Betancur	Associate Professor
Shirley Buttrick	Professor Emeritus
Phillip Bowman	Professor Emeritus
Joshua Drucker	Assistant Professor
James Foerster	Associate Professor
Douglas Gills	Associate Professor

George Hemmens	Professor Emeritus
Charles Hoch	Professor
Kazuya Kawamura	Associate Professor
Raffaella Nanetti	Professor
Charles Orlebeke	Professor Emeritus
Brenda Parker	Assistant Professor
David Perry	Professor
David Ranney	Professor Emeritus
Michael Shiffer	Clinical Associate Professor
Ashish Sen	Professor Emeritus
Janet Smith	Associate Professor
Piyushimita "Vonu" Thakuria	Associate Professor
Nikolas Theodore	Associate Professor
Sanjeev Vidyarthi	Assistant Professor
Rachel Weber	Associate Professor
Wim Wiewel	Professor Emeritus
Curt Winkle	Associate Professor
Moira Zellner	Assistant Professor
Tingwei Zhang	Associate Professor

Urban and Public Affairs Program

Valerie Werner	Director
----------------	----------

Center for Urban Economic Development

Nikolas Theodore	Director
------------------	----------

Great Cities Institute

David Perry	Director
-------------	----------

Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy

Constance Dallas	Interim Codirector
Kevin Kumashiro	Interim Codirector

Natalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement

Janet Smith	Codirector
Yittayih Zelalem	Codirector

Survey Research Laboratory

Timothy Johnson	Director
-----------------	----------

Urban Data Visualization Laboratory

Kheir Al-Kodmany	Codirector
William "Max" Dieber	Codirector

Urban Transportation Center

Siim Sööt	Director
-----------	----------