The Department of Urban Planning at the University of Kansas offers a two-year (48 hours) Master of Urban Planning degree, which is accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board. The department offers five joint degrees at the graduate level with American Studies, Architecture, Geography, Law, and Public Administration. Beginning with the next academic year, we have also initiated a joint degree for the Bachelor of Architectural Studies and the Master of Urban Planning. Students are offered four specialties: 1) environmental planning; 2) housing and development planning; 3) land-use and urban design; and 4) transportation planning. Each specialization is organized with a sequence of courses focusing upon theory and policy, methods, and implementation. The primary aim of the curriculum is to prepare students for careers as professional planners.
1. Mission, Goals and Strategic Direction

Mission of the Unit. The department’s mission is to prepare students to become urban planners by offering a professionally accredited degree that will enable them to enter planning practice within the public and private sectors. They can specialize in environmental planning, housing and development planning, land use and urban design, and transportation planning.

Unit Goals and Policies. The department’s goals and policies are extensive. See the attached addendum.

Short Mission Statement. KU has a Department of Urban Planning because the quality of places people use should enrich and ennoble our society.

Role of Unit. The Department of Urban Planning not only prepares students for planning practice but also serves other disciplines such as architecture, geography and public administration. Our primary aim is to prepare students for planning practice in the U.S.

Need and Impact Statements. The Department of Urban Planning is a primary provider of urban planning education in the state of Kansas. Our graduates are largely located in Kansas and the Midwest. However, graduates live and work across the U.S.

Inventory of Instructional Programs. The department offers several programs:
1) Master of Urban Planning (professional 2-year degree program);
2) Joint Master Degrees with American Studies, Architecture, Geography, Law, and Public Administration;
3) Joint Degree with the Bachelor of Architectural Studies (approved by the Kansas Board of Regents in February, 2010).

2. Faculty Productivity and Quality

Who is Doing the Teaching? Full-time faculty members include: 1) Assistant Professor Bonnie Johnson; 2) Professor and Chair James M. Mayo; 3) Professor Kirk McClure; 4) Lecturer Daniel Serda; and 5) Associate Professor Stacey White. In addition, there are 6 part-time faculty members (most involved directly in the planning profession) who teach
one or more courses. They include: Dr. Phil Englehart, Mr. Michael Grube, Dr. Charles Miller, Dr. Dale Nimz, Ms. Marcy Smalley, and Mr. Scott Schulte.

Who is Doing the Advising/Mentoring? Faculty members in their specializations are assigned to advise graduate students in regard to the specialization they are pursuing. When a student is unsure about one’s area of study, the Department Chair is typically the student’s advisor.

What is their workload? The normal workload of a full-time faculty member is 4 three-credit-hour courses per academic year. The typical workload split is 40% teaching, 40% research/creative work, and 20% service.

Quantitative and Qualitative Indicators of Faculty Productivity

1) Overall counts/FTE: At this time, the department has 34 students enrolled in the MUP degree. Including tenure-line positions, lecturers, and part-time instructors, the department’s FTE is 7.25. The numbers of new students enrolled in the past six years include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (Summer/Fall)</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students Enrolled</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2) Tenure-track, other, GTA: Currently, there are 4 tenure track positions. The Department has 1 full-time Lecturer, 6 part-time Instructors, and 1 Adjunct Professor from Architecture. There are no GTAs in the Department.

3) Demographics: The median faculty age for full-time faculty members is 43.
Faculty in the Department

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Full-Time</th>
<th>Part-Time</th>
<th>Adjunct</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. White</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native-American</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian-American</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scholarly Output:

a. Published Work: Historically, urban planning has been the most productive department for scholarly output in the School of Architecture, Design and Planning. Assistant Professor Johnson (4 years at KU) has 4 journal articles and 1 book review. Professor Mayo (37 years at KU) has 3 books, 4 book chapters, 52 journal articles, and 21 book reviews. Professor McClure (23 years at KU) has 6 book chapters, 25 journal articles, and 14 book reviews. Associate Professor White (12 years at KU) has 11 journal articles and 4 book reviews.


Grants and Contracts (Past 3 Years):


h. Stacey White, Co-Investigator, 2009–2014. KU Center for Sustainability, Institute for Policy & Social Research, grant from the NSF EPSCoR Program ($2,700,000). “Farmers’ Decisions to Grow Crops for Fuel.” The project investigates dynamics of climate change, water availability and quality, and land use to investigate Kansas farmers’ decisions to grow crops as feedstocks for renewable energy production.

i. Stacey White, Co-Principal Investigator, 2009–2011. KU Transportation Research Institute ($125,000). This grant supports the development of research infrastructure for examining farmers’ decisions to grow crops as feedstocks for the production of transport fuels.

6) Awards (while at KU):


d. Stacey White: Jack and Nancy Bradley Award for Excellence in Teaching, School
Graduate Faculty Status & Dissertation Chair Status and Criteria for These
Designations: All tenured faculty members are graduate faculty members. Since
the department does not offer a doctorate, the dissertation chair status criterion
does not apply. However, faculty members often serve on doctoral committees
and master committees. Since the Master of Urban Planning is a professional
degree, most students in our department take a comprehensive examination rather
than write a thesis.

Maintaining Quality

1) Faculty Recruitment and Retention: At this time, we want to recruit a
transportation planner to fill a much needed position. However, with the current
state budget situation, we are unable to pursue this option.

2) Faculty Succession Plan: With a small full-time faculty succession is one step at
time. The major succession issue will be when the current department chair, Jim
Mayo, steps down. He encouraged Professor Kirk McClure to be a member of a
site-visit team in order to experience how an urban planning department at
another university functions. He has encouraged Associate Professor Stacey
White to participate in the KU Senior Administrative Fellows Program and she
was recently accepted.

3. Student Profile, Program Productivity and Quality

Undergraduate-level. The Department of Urban Planning is strictly a graduate program.
However, in February, 2010, the Kansas Board of Regents approved a joint degree for a
Bachelor of Architectural Studies and the Master of Urban Planning. The Department
offers courses available to undergraduates so that they can become familiar with the
planning profession and the department’s degree offerings and faculty members

Graduate-level

1) Students in Profile:
   a. Test Scores: The department requires all applicants to take the Graduate
      Record Examination (GRE). The average GRE scores for current students in
      our Department are as follows:
         Math       597 (48th percentile)
         Verbal     526 (69th percentile)
         Analytical 4.18 (49th percentile)
b. **Financial support:** At present, the department has two scholarships, which were created in the past 10 years, the Alan Black Scholarship (about $7,000 per year) and the Alumni and Friends Scholarship (about $1,500 per year). At this time, a former student is in the process of endowing another scholarship at the entry funding level ($30,000). Typically, there are two planning students who are RAs at the KU Transportation Center. Our department makes recommendations, and the center’s director makes the selection decisions. Most students have internships in the Kansas City area, making an hourly wage of $12 to $13 per hour. Internships are strongly encouraged so that students can gain practical experience and add job experience to the resume before seeking a job. The department has fortunately received $6,000 per year from the Student Senate to fund students from diverse backgrounds. It is very important for us to receive this grant to help low-income students from a variety of racial and ethnic backgrounds.

c. **Demographics:** The median age of our students is 24.5 years old, and the average age is 28 years old.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment Status &amp; Gender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native-American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian-American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

d. **Student Applications, Admissions and Yield:** Student applications, admittance, and enrollment show some definite trends. Although not statistically illustrated below, there has been a significant reduction in international students who enroll. In addition, we believe the increase in out-of-state tuition rates has resulted in fewer applications from domestic students.
Students Applied, Admitted, and Enrolled: 2004-2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year (Summer/Fall)</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students Applied</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Admitted</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students Enrolled</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied to Admitted Yield (%)</td>
<td>94.7</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>75.6</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>67.4</td>
<td>68.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admitted to Enrolled Yield (%)</td>
<td>52.8</td>
<td>63.6</td>
<td>54.8</td>
<td>57.5</td>
<td>58.6</td>
<td>50.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2) Program Productivity:
   a. **Class Size, Advising/Mentoring Models**: The largest size of any class is about 25 students. These are classes in the core curriculum which all students are required to complete. In specializations, class size typically is less than 10 students. Faculty members in specializations are in charge of advising students who select that specialization. Advising occurs throughout the academic year.

   b. **Time to degree**: The degree is a 48 hour 2-year master degree. Most students graduate in this time period. About 15% take longer than two-years due to employment obligations.

   c. **Degrees awarded**: Since the department’s inception in 1975, 486 students have graduated with a Master of Urban Planning degree. In August, 2010, we will have our 500th graduate. We have made a concerted effort to have students graduate in two years, with the exception of part-time students. The table below illustrates that our students do not prolong their education.

   ![Annual Graduation Performance in Regard to Entering Students](data:image/png;base64,iVBORw0KGgoAAAANSUhEUgAAA...

   d. **Student Research Productivity**: Since our students are oriented to practice, we do not see this criterion as applicable.

3) Program Quality Outcomes
   a. **Learner Outcomes**: In 2009, the department instituted the requirement that all students will prepare E-portfolios to monitor their individual student success.
This method accomplishes the following: 1) students can develop a reflective webpage where they can account for their individual progress; 2) students can organize their projects so that potential employers can review their abilities. In an attempt to increase student retention, the department now requires the GRE, and student retention has improved. At most, 10% of students in an entering class will not complete the M.U.P. The number of students not retained is typically the result of students deciding not to pursue a planning career or the need to move from Kansas for family reasons.

b. **Satisfaction Surveys:** When preparing documentation for accreditation (every 5 years), the chair sends a survey to graduates in the past 5 years to describe how their education at KU prepared them for planning practice. The department’s 2009 Accreditation Report contains the most recent survey report. In their assessment of that survey, the accreditation site visit team stated that graduates were highly satisfied with their education at KU.

As all academic units do, our faculty members participate in course feedback. The overall consensus was that graduates were highly satisfied. The current student feedback scores are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Fall 2009</th>
<th>Spring 2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Content &amp; material were organized</td>
<td>4.3</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Set &amp; met clear goals &amp; objectives</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expectations were well defined &amp; fair</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expectations were appropriately challenging</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching was clear, understandable &amp; engaging</td>
<td>4.1</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouraging, supportive, and involved in learning</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available, responsive &amp; helpful</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respected students &amp; their point of view</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount learned comparable to courses at similar level</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In fall 2009, the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies conducted a survey our students, which on the surface appears different from the course assessments above. Our satisfaction ratings are down from 2005, so what changed? Students identified the major obstacles to their academic progress were: 1) work/financial commitments; 2) course scheduling; and 3) program structure or requirement. Although these indicators do not state exactly the issues, there are explanations. The recent recession has resulted in a smaller number of internships to support their education than we have had in the past.
Our internship coordinator estimates that funded internships from planning agencies and firms in the past two years have decreased approximately 50%. Due to faculty cutbacks at KU, more of our classes are taught at night so that part-time lecturers can teach the courses we need for students. The only “structural issue” we face is not having a full-time person teaching transportation planning. We believe the problems these responding students have identified have more to do with the economy and economic cutbacks than with any actions carried out by the department.

The Department of Urban Planning conducts exit surveys with its graduates. The results for the past 3 years of graduates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exit Student Surveys, 2008-2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>About the Program</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadth and Depth of the Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sequencing of Courses in the Curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size of Classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability of Core Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability of Elective Courses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effectiveness of the Computer Lab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability of Research Materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistance with Internships, Job Searches, References, etc.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>About the Faculty</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Breadth and Depth of Interests and Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Availability for Advising, Course-work Questions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsiveness to Student’s Concerns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Effectiveness of Full-time Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Effectiveness of Part-time Faculty</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Ratings – Excellent (5) Good (4) Average (3) Poor (2) Very Poor (1)*

This exit survey reveals particular strengths and weaknesses. First, in regard to the program, class size is a real strength. However, the availability of elective courses and the effectiveness of the computer lab are real weaknesses. Our student class size is an attraction, but given our size, electives are limited. However, the current budget cuts have resulted in the reduction of electives that we have offered in the past. Being short one full-time faculty member also explains the shortage. The
limited size of the departmental computer lab has been a source of student complaints in past years. Second, students have a high regard for full-time faculty members, especially their availability, but part-time faculty, who are less available, do not rate as well. Most of these weaknesses can be explained by the lack of financial support our school has to provide adequate human resources and physical facilities for students.

c. Placement Rates, Employer Assessments: It has been common for 100% of urban planning graduates to gain a professional position within one year of graduation. However, the recent recession has reduced that rate of success.

d. Student Awards

1. Daniel Peters, won the Best Student Transportation Paper, Transportation Division of the American Planning Association (APA), 2006 under the supervision of Professor Johnson.

2. In October, 2007, Professor White’s environmental planning class received the Kansas APA Chapter’s New Horizon Award for its study, “Fort Scott Revitalization Report.”

3. In October, 2008, Professor McClure’s students in his course, Local Economic Development Planning, won the Kansas APA New Horizon Award for its study, “Retail Market Dynamics: Overland Park, Kansas.”

4. In October, 2009, Lecturer Smalley’s Transportation Planning Implementation class won the Kansas APA New Horizon Award for its study, “Regional High Occupancy Vehicle HOV and Managed Lane Study for the Kansas City Metropolitan Area.”

e. Outreach/Engagement and Corresponding Impact: The Department of Urban Planning has attempted to have outreach with students and former students. The urban planning faculty recommended that the student organization initiate a brown bag luncheon series that brings KU faculty members and professional practitioners to speak. Annually, the department has held a Friday event in Kansas City to gather alumni to drink, eat, and chat. The most structural integration with students, former students, and the faculty is the department’s Advisory Board, comprised of alumni and practitioners who help to review the department’s activities as well as to seek alumni contributions. The Advisory Board is becoming a highly effective means to guide and to support the department.

4. Overall Quality

External Indicators of Quality

Accreditation: The Department of Urban Planning has been accredited continuously since 1983. Our last accreditation visit was in March, 2010. The site-visit team’s report
was very positive in regard to the quality of education being provided to our students. Re-accreditation is expected in October, 2010.

Rating Institutions: As a discipline, urban planning is not rated by the U.S. News & World Report as are some other disciplines. There is a rating system for planning provided by Planetizen, run by an individual. However, we have never participated in the Planetizen rating system. The main reason is that the organization does not provide separate rankings for departments providing both doctorate degree and master degree from the smaller departments offering only the master degree. The Planetizen ratings clearly rate departments offering the doctorate higher than those programs offering only the master degree.

Faculty Recruitment and Retention Success: Historically, the department has experienced a high success rate in retaining quality faculty members. In 2006, one faculty member left our department, because the salary increase he was offered at another university was significantly higher than what he was earning at KU. For recruitment, however, we have met recent obstacles.

Faculty Awards: Awards for faculty members are listed above.

National Academy Membership/National & International Status: One Assistant Professor is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Across the U.S. faculty, urban planning professors are typically qualified to join AICP but they often choose not to do so because it is a practice credential rather than an academic one.

Reflecting on the Mission Statement
Filling the Department of Urban Planning’s mission has become more difficult with the economic hard times and resulting cutbacks. With a small faculty, we have worked diligently to maintain standards as well as maintaining a set of objectives (see addendum) we believe will improve our department. But with a consistent erosion of financial resources, the best of efforts can destroy morale and effort. That sentiment has not yet occurred, but another round of cuts can result in such negative consequences.

Overall Assessment of the Quality of the Academic Programming
The overall assessment of the Master of Urban Planning is very good.

5. Advancement Plans

Strategic Plans: Targets for Change
1) Student Recruitment: This is the department’s major concern. Faculty members have been involved in recruiting by: attending career fairs; visiting key departments at Washburn University; sending letters to KU junior and senior students relative to their major; providing outreach to specific KU programs, such as Environmental Studies; and offering our undergraduate courses. We intend to
make updates to our department’s website within its current design parameters to attract more students.

2) **Transportation Planner:** Recruiting a transportation planner is a key ingredient to enrollment and gaining more funds for graduate students. For a variety of reasons, we have not been able to attract qualified candidates.

3) **Tom Galloway Center:** Being able to provide a high-quality workplace can make marketing our department easier than in the past. A major donation is in place to transform a classroom into a space that will house our graduate students.

**Plans to enhance quality and competitiveness**

1) **Establishing Goals, Goal-Policies, and Objectives:** Faculty members, along with its Advisory Board, have set specific aims that they want to achieve.

2) **Optimal Enrollment:** The optimal enrollment for an entering graduate student class is 25 students. This upper limit is based upon maximizing the number of students in a class while maintaining a reasonable class size for required courses without needing an additional instructor to teach that class.

6. **Evaluation of Future Progress**

We have included metrics or measures for the unit in the form of specific tasks, accomplishments and targeted completion dates for each of the goals identified in the following addendum.
Addendum: Goals, Goal-Policies, and Objectives for the Department of Urban Planning

Goal 1 (G1): Teaching and Advising Quality: To provide a high quality of teaching and advising, supplemented by faculty research that ideally enhances teaching.

Goal-Policy 1 (GP1.G1): Advising Services - Maintain the quality and regularity of advising services for all students. During the second year of study, provide students a secondary advisor in their specialization area of concentration.

Objective 1 (GP1.g1): Faculty Hiring – By 2011, acquire university funding to hire a transportation planner.

Goal-Policy 7 (GP7.G1): Guest Lectures - Maintain a guest lecturer program supported by School and outside resources.


Goal 2 (G2): Curriculum Content: To offer subject matter that reflects the state of the art of policy planning and analysis, of planning education, and of planning practice.

Goal-Policy 2 (GP2.G2): Specialization Format – Each specialization will have a sequence of courses that cover theory, policy, methods, and implementation issues.

Objective 1 (O1.GP2.G2): Environmental Planning Course – By 2010, add an additional course in environmental planning.


Objective 1 (O1.GP6.G2): Communication Evaluation – By 2012 evaluate how communication skills are emphasized within the curriculum.

Goal 4 (G4): Multi-Disciplinary Educational Opportunities: To recognize the multi-disciplinary nature of planning by providing excellent exposure for students to the contributions of the many fields that contribute to urban planning.

Goal-Policy 4 (GP4.G4): Kansas City Design Center – The Urban Planning Program will participate in an ongoing relationship with the Kansas City Design Center (KCDC).

Objective 1 (O1.GP4.G4): Faculty Research Projects – By 2010, KCDC will provide administrative support in seeking local funding for faculty research projects.

Goal 5 (G5): Program Autonomy: To become an excellent program by operating independently, with the traditional prerogatives of an academic department, and to assure the Program its fair share of University resources.

Goal-Policy 2(GP2.G5): Program Financial Promotion - Maintain fund-raising activities in conjunction with the School’s alumni boards.

Objective 1 (O1.GP2.G5): Alumni and Friends Scholarship Fund – In a year determined by the KU Chancellor, be part of a university-wide fund-raising campaign to increase the worth of the Friends and Alumni Scholarship Fund to a value of $75,000.
Goal 7 (G7): Service of Expertise: To encourage faculty members and students to contribute their expertise to 1) professional and scholarly organizations, 2) all forms of governmental entities, and 3) community and citizen groups concerned with planning issues.

Goal-Policy 1 (GP1.G7): Class Projects - Encourage class projects in which students deal with real-world problems and interact with clients outside the University.

Objective 1 (O1.GP1.G7): Kansas City Design Center Projects – By 2010, at least one planning course will be introduced at KCDC to engage in an applied policy-relevant project.

Goal 8 (G8): Student Body Quality: To achieve a high quality of students with diverse backgrounds admitted to the Program, while at the same time maintaining sufficient enrollment to meet the expectations of the University administration.

Goal-Policy 2 (GP2.G8): Off-Campus Student Recruitment - Maintain off-campus recruitment through: 1) graduate school fairs, 2) recruiting trips by faculty to individual schools, and 3) mass mailings to lists of graduating seniors.

Objective 2 (O2.GP2.G8): Recruitment Feedback – By 2010, implement an information mechanism to ascertain why students did or did not choose our program to pursue graduate work.


Objective 1(O1.GP4.G8): Kansas City Design Center – Beginning in 2010, KCDC will provide on internship focusing on urban planning and design issues for an Urban Planning student.

Goal 9 (G9): Resources: To gain sufficient fiscal and physical resources that can prudently fund faculty needs, and physical resources.

Goal Policy 2 (GP2.G9): Physical Facilities - To provide the physical facilities and materials necessary for effective teaching and research, including classroom and laboratory space, student study space, computer hardware and software, and library books and documents.

Objective 1 (O1.GP2.G9): Galloway Center – By 2012, the Galloway Center will be planned, designed, and completed.

Objective 2 (O2.GP2.G9): Administrative Area Improvements – By 2012, the Program’s administrative area will be refurnished with new cabinets and desks.

Objective 3 (O3.GP2.G9): Faculty Office Location – By 2016 all urban planning faculty members will be located in offices on the third floor of Marvin Hall.
1. Mission, Goals and Strategic Direction
The department’s mission is to prepare students to become urban planners by offering a professionally accredited degree that will enable them to enter planning practice within the public or private sectors. They can specialize in environmental planning, housing and development planning, land use and urban design, and transportation planning.

2. Faculty Productivity and Quality
Tenure-line faculty members are well published in scholarly journals. Encompassing the entire profession, they have published in the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Journal of Planning Education Research*, *Cityscape*, and *Urban Affairs*. For environmental planning, faculty members have published in *Journal of Environmental Planning & Management*, *Journal of Environmental Education*, and *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education*. For housing and development planning, professors have published in *Housing Policy Debate*, *Journal of Urban Planning and Development*, *Housing and Human Services Quarterly*, *Netherlands Journal of Housing and the Built Environment*, *Journal of Real Estate Research*, *National Tax Journal*, and *Housing & Society*. In land-use and urban design, faculty members have publications in the *Journal of Architectural and Planning Research*, *Journal of Urbanism*, *Environment and Behavior*, *Land Use Policy*, *Land Use Law and Zoning Digest*, *Journal for Education and the Built Environment*, and *Journal of Architectural Education*. Faculty members have also served on the editorial boards or as reviewers for many of these journals. Faculty members have been named authors of “Best Article of the Year” in journals and one’s journal article was designated as the focus of an issue’s symposium.

Faculty members typically have high teaching ratings (4.0 to 5.0), and each tenure-line faculty member has won a teaching award.

3. Student Profile, Program Productivity and Quality
Students have been recognized for their quality by the awards they have received. In the past two years, graduates have been honored as Presidential Management Fellows. One student recently received the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Dwight David Eisenhower Scholarship. In the past four years, students have won three Kansas American Planning Association (APA) Chapter Awards and one National APA Award for their research projects.
4. Overall Quality

The Department of Urban Planning continues to be re-accredited on a regular basis for a five-year time period. In its recent review, the accreditation site-visit team remarked: “Overall, the department provides a positive framework for the MUP program to succeed. Its faculty works well in collaboration with each other and other programs in the University, and planning-related agencies throughout the State of Kansas and the Kansas City area. The students are enthusiastic and positive about the program. The program has increased the standards for admissions, which appears to have improved its quality. Employers were very positive about the students’ critical thinking skills, and analytical, written, and verbal communications skills. The students were highly regarded by the employers we met and were often hired for permanent positions. The alumni we met were very supportive of the program. The Kansas APA Chapter and Kansas City Section members we heard from were also supportive of the program. The association with the practicing planning professionals has enhanced and has strengthened the program and created employment opportunities for graduates. In closing, the team found that the MUP program is making positive strides to enhance its curriculum and facilities within the school and in collaboration with other units in the university. The program was found to have a good balance between theory and practice and is well respected. Overall, the MUP program is doing an admirable job in training its students and is serving its constituencies well. It has achieved a fine reputation.”

5. Advancement Plans

The department’s advancement plans focus on three main challenges: 1) student recruitment; 2) hiring a transportation planner; and 3) establishing a workspace in Marvin Hall that will enable students to have sufficient room to function as if they were in a planning agency or firm. Strategies for meeting these challenges are discussed in the following narrative.

6. Evaluation of Future Progress (A Partial List of Specific Objectives)

1) Funded Speaker Series: By 2013, establish a guest lecture fund.
2) Environmental Planning Course: By 2010, add a course in environmental planning.
3) Alumni and Friends Scholarship Fund: In the coming year, increase the worth of the Friends and Alumni Scholarship Fund to a value of $75,000.
4) Galloway Center: By 2012, have the Galloway Center completed.
5) Transportation Planner: By 2011, acquire funding to hire a faculty member in transportation planning.