2011-2012 Report of Faculty Research & Scholarship
Virginia Tech’s School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) is a vibrant community of scholars, students and professional practitioners working together in support of outstanding scholarship and fostering the skills and knowledge needed for effective public engagement and leadership. We focus on the pressing problems of public administration, government and international affairs, and urban affairs and planning through the dynamic exchange of scholarship and practice. Our faculty members represent multiple disciplines, and we share a commitment to understanding the deep complexities of public problems in the international, national, state and local arenas, and identifying the interdisciplinary knowledge and collaborative skills required to effectively engage these problems.

This April 2012 SPIA celebrated its 15th Anniversary. University President Charles Steger spoke at a special dinner for faculty, staff, friends and supporters of SPIA in recognition of the Anniversary. He challenged faculty and students to take on the big public challenges of our time through scholarship and practice to address the growing skepticism and disappointment with the public sector and the possibilities of change and excellence. The challenge is central to our mission and we will continue to play a role through our degree programs, research and outreach. Three programs provide the foundation for our interdisciplinary School, and our multiple locations provide breadth and opportunity for contributing to the challenges of today. The Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP), Government and International Affairs (GIA), and Urban Affairs and Planning (UAP) are nationally ranked programs.

Anne Khademian
Eduniversal ranks GIA’s MPIA program 27th in North America for international management; US News and World Report ranked CPAP in the top 10 percent for public affairs graduate education and 13th overall for public management and administration; and UAP ranks 19th in the nation among planning programs according to Planetizen.

The School is located in the main campus in Blacksburg, Virginia and in the National Capital Region in Alexandria, Virginia. CPAP also offers a Masters in Public Administration in Richmond, Virginia. Because of our MPIA and MURP programs, Virginia Tech ranks among the Top 5 graduate schools in the USA for recruits into the Peace Corps. Our students are also very successful in securing prestigious fellowships, from the Presidential Management Fellowship, to the Boren Fellowship, Capital City Fellowship, Cunningham Fellowship, and many other research fellowships, and many of our undergraduate student were recognized this year with top University honors. SPIA faculty are known across the nation and the globe for their scholarship, outreach, and innovative teaching methods.

Following a very successful year of recruitment, seven new assistant professors will join SPIA in August, 2012. These hires will fill open faculty positions in all three programs. Adam Eckerd, Michael Jones, and Robin Lemaire will join the Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP), Patricia Nickel and Ariel Ahram will join Government and International Affairs (GIA), and Shalini Misra and Jocelyn Widmer will join Urban Affairs and Planning (UAP). We look forward to working with these outstanding individuals as they pursue their scholarship, teaching and outreach with Virginia Tech. This year two of our founding colleagues of the School retired, Jim Bohland and Jim Wolf. Jim Bohland served as the Chair of UAP, and was the first director of SPIA. He retired after 30 years of service to Virginia Tech as the Vice President for National Capital Region Operations. Jim Wolf served as chair of CPAP and the program director of CPAP in the National Capital Region. Jim also served as interim director of SPIA and is retiring with more than 30 years of service. Both Jim Wolf and Jim Bohland now hold the title Emeritus Professor.

This has been a strong year for SPIA, and our Annual Report provides indicators of performance by the mission areas of teaching and learning, research and discovery, service and engagement. In the annual on-line magazine of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies, http://courses.arch.vt.edu/caus12/#/10, we also share several stories that represent the dedication, innovation, and contributions of SPIA faculty, students and staff, from summer programs that provide opportunity for hands on experience in government and planning, to joint degree programs, the education and training of Virginia’s local government officials, and highlights of a SPIA-wide conference on Distressed Cities. Each story involves collaboration among our programs, across the College, among practitioners and scholars, or through direct engagement with the public so we can continue to explore pressing problems, prepare students for careers in public research and scholarship, engage the public and policy makers, and lead with innovation and knowledge.
Teaching and Learning

SPIA student enrollments at the graduate and undergraduate levels remain robust and among the highest in the College. The following table lists the number of academic majors enrolled in each degree program for Fall 2011 and Spring 2012, respectively:

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<tr>
<th>Undergraduate Academic Majors Fall 2011/ Spring 2012</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>108/114 Environmental Planning and Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>72/71 Public and Urban Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>189/185 TOTAL Undergraduate Majors</td>
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<tr>
<th>Graduate Academic Majors Fall 2011/Spring 2012</th>
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<tr>
<td>Master Degree Programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>82/88 Public Administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45/42 Public and International Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>87/94 Urban and Regional Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>214/224 TOTAL Graduate/Master Degree Majors</td>
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<tr>
<th>Doctoral Degree Programs</th>
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<tr>
<td>101/92 Public Administration and Public Affairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>54/55 Planning and Global Governance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>155/147 TOTAL Graduate/Doctorate Degree Majors</td>
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The Center for Public Administration and Policy (CPAP), Government and International Affairs (GIA), and Urban Affairs and Planning (UAP) are nationally and internationally ranked degree programs with strong reputations among our peer institutions. This is due in large part to our outstanding faculty with far reaching reputations, and the tremendous effort of time and commitment invested by faculty across the three programs in continuously working to enhance graduate and undergraduate education in the School. Indeed, recent Ph.D. graduates from CPAP, UAP and GIA have taken tenure track positions with the University of Michigan, Arizona State University, Salisbury University, University of North Carolina, Virginia Commonwealth University, and many other prestigious schools in the USA and abroad, and graduates from our Master Degree programs are successful professionals in agencies across the national, state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and organizations working closely with government.
As our high enrollment numbers indicate, SPIA’s programs are moving forward. CPAP, GIA and UAP are taking on the challenging work of building new initiatives and continuously enhancing the graduate programs. The highly successful CPAP graduate certificate in Local Government Management now has more than 73 students enrolled with courses offered at eleven sites across the State and an instructor contingent of eight. UAP’s summer Sustainable Europe Program taught in partnership with the University of Virginia is in its second year. The new dual degree program established between Virginia Tech’s GIA program in the NCR and the University of Kent will offer Master degree students the opportunity for two degrees, in two different cities, in two years. The EPP and PUA undergraduate degree programs continue to attract some of the University’s strongest students, among them Rial Tombes, EPP, winner of this years Aspire! Award for Ut Prosim, and Lida Aljabar, PUA, Alumni Association Outstanding Senior in CAUS. And SPIA’s flagship undergraduate enrichment program, the Washington Semester, was recently revived. Given our strong faculty, and locations in Blacksburg, Alexandria and Richmond, SPIA is positioned to play a leading role in the University effort to increase graduate student enrollment and to enhance the research portfolio and international reputation of the university.

Innovation in the classroom remains a hallmark of SPIA teaching: Student studios that place undergraduate and graduate students in real world settings for problem solving, incorporation of advanced technology to develop student skills as well as to enhance connectivity across campuses, a developing on-line portfolio of classes at the graduate and undergraduate levels, incorporation of faculty research into the curriculum for advanced student learning, and team and interdisciplinary approaches to teaching.

This year Yang Zhang of UAP received the CAUS Certificate for Excellence in Teaching.
SPIA faculty had a successful year in research and discovery, producing 23 books and 44 book chapters, 41 journal articles and 58 additional papers and reports. SPIA faculty members continue to be leaders in the profession with editorial board service and significant presentations at conferences and workshops across Virginia, the US and the globe. Grants and contracts continued at a similar pace as last year, but our plan is to grow the grants and contracts portfolio significantly in the coming years.

While there are many successful research initiatives underway and long standing successful research agendas of our post tenure scholars, of particular note for new beginnings and very promising results are the following: the resilience work of Margaret Cowell, the Alexandria indicators work of Matt Dull, Ralph Hall’s international work in sustainability and the Obama Singh initiative, Yang Zhang’s work in disaster relief, Jesse Richardson’s work in Agricultural law, risk and water, Laura Jensen’s NIH application for building a public health research emphasis, Ralph Buehler’s leadership in biking research and sustainable transport, Kris Wernstedt and Patrick Robert’s combined work under NSF funding to study the use of climate science in flood planning, Giselle Datz’s innovative initiative in debt financing and public pension funds, Joel Peters’ work on the European Union and the Arab Spring, and Derek Hyra’s work in multiracial gentrification.

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<th>SPIA Faculty Discovery, Research, and Scholarship Indicators, 2010-2012</th>
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<tr>
<td>Books</td>
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<td>Book chapters</td>
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<td>Articles</td>
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<td>Other papers and reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations</td>
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<td>Editorial Boards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grants and Contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>awarded and ongoing during fiscal year</td>
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<td>Value of grants and contracts¹</td>
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¹ includes awards shared with other departments, colleges, or universities.

This year Ralph Buehler and Sonia Hirt were recognized for their research accomplishments with the CAUS Certificate for Excellence in Scholarship. In addition, Kris Wernstedt, Patrick Roberts and Matt Dull were all promoted to Associate Professor with tenure, and Joel Peters and Max Stephenson were promoted to Full Professor.
Members of the SPIA faculty serve broadly across the School, College and University on committees and panels. Service across the profession is also extensive, with manuscript reviews, editorial board membership, conference organizing and panel development, presentations to broad audiences. And most importantly, service and outreach to the government and residents of Virginia, the US, and the globe remains a distinguishing feature of the work of SPIA faculty. A partnership with ITTK in India, developing with schools in China, with the City of Alexandria, with the city of Arlington, with the University of Kent, with the Virginia Local Government Management Association, and more define a robust outreach effort by the school.

It is the obligation of SPIA as a publicly funded School of public affairs to model the governance internally that we expect of government more generally, to offer insight and support for the most pressing problems of our time, and to be a voice for public service, the importance of research and knowledge in the policy making process.
Faculty

At Virginia Tech since 1980.  UAP. Ph.D. University of Georgia (1970), geography. Professor, Director of Virginia Tech National Capital Region operations, and Senior Fellow for Biomedical and Health Initiatives. Health policy and planning, policy analysis, program evaluation, research methods.

1988. UAP. Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania (1986), city and regional planning. Professor and CAUS Associate Dean for Academic Affairs. International development planning, environmental policy and planning, Latin American studies, environmental ethics, planning theory.


Margaret Cowell  

Giselle Datz  

Matthew Dull  

Wilma Dunaway  

Ralph Hall  
2009. UAP. Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (2006), technology, management and policy. Assistant Professor. Sustainable infrastructure systems.
2005. UAP. Ph.D. University of Michigan (2003), urban and regional planning. Associate Professor. Land use policy and planning, environmental planning, sustainable metropolitan development, urban design, physical planning, urban governance, international planning.


1985. UAP. Ph.D. University of Sheffield (1972), geography. University Distinguished Professor and Sr. Fellow for International Advancement. Comparative analysis of urbanization and urban planning; social production of the built environment.


Sonia Hirt

Derek Hyra

Laura Jensen

Anne Khademian

Paul Knox
1990. UAP. Ph.D. Rutgers (1979), urban planning and policy development. Professor, UAP. Housing and community development, non-profit housing, housing policy, innovation and diffusion of affordable housing technology, redevelopment, real estate market analysis.

1981. GIA. Ph.D. Washington University – Saint Louis (1981), political science. University Distinguished Professor in Political Science; Chair, Government and International Affairs; and Fellow for Arts, Humanities, and Social Science. Environmental politics, cultural studies, comparative politics, international political economy, and modern critical social and political theory, history of political thought, contemporary political theory, comparative and international politics.


1979. UAP. Ph.D. Stanford (1976), civil engineering. Professor. Environmental planning and policy, land use planning, water resources planning, energy planning and policy, renewable energy, energy efficiency.


2006. CPAP. Ph.D. University of Virginia (2005), political Science. Assistant Professor. Public policy, public organizations, federal agencies.


2010. Ph.D. Georgia Tech (1996), city planning. Professor and Chair, UAP. Transportation, land use, residential location behavior, and questions of social equity in planning; geographic information systems.

1989. UAP. Ph.D. University of Virginia (1985), government. Associate Professor, and Director, Institute for Policy and Governance. Public administration, policy implementation, non-profit organizations and management.
Gerard Toal


Kris Wernstedt

2006. UAP. Ph.D. Cornell University (1991), city and regional planning. Associate Professor. Environmental planning, urban development, hazardous waste, water resources, hazards, GIS, spatial analysis.

Jim Wolf

1978. CPAP. D.P.A. University of Southern California (1977), public administration. Professor and Chair, CPAP. Complex organizations and the applied behavioral sciences, mediation management and organizational development programs for public agencies.

Diane Zahm


Yang Zhang

2008. UAP. Ph.D. Texas A&M University (2006), urban and regional studies. Assistant Professor. Environmental planning; environmental science; research methods; fundamentals of GIS; advanced GIS applications; land use planning; planning methods; applied planning.
Honors and Awards


Technology, Globalization and Sustainable Development: Transforming the Industrial State, N. Ashford and R. P. Hall co-authors, won the best business book category at the 2012 Green Book Festival. For more information see: http://www.greenbookfestival.com/

Laverne Burchfield Award, American Society for Public Administration, Public Administration Review (April 2012).

**Publications**

*books and monographs*

**Wilma Dunaway**


**Sonia Hirt**


**Derek Hyra**


**Paul Knox**


**Joel Peters**


**Tom Sanchez**


**Max Stephenson**

Gerard Toal

Yang Zhang

textbooks authored

Ralph Hall

Paul Knox


John Randolph
books edited

Ralph Buehler


Sonia Hirt


Tim Luke


Joel Peters


Joyce Rothschild


Max Stephenson


Diane Zahm

book chapters

**Ralph Buehler**


**Brian Cook**


**Maggie Cowell**


**Wilma Dunaway**


**Sonia Hirt**


**Paul Knox**


**Tim Luke**


**Joel Peters**


**John Randolph**


**Jesse Richardson**


**Patrick Roberts**


**Joyce Rothschild**

Tom Sanchez

Max Stephenson


Gerard Toal


Kris Wernstedt
Ralph Buehler


Maggie Cowell


Giselle Datz


**Matt Dull**


**Ralph Hall**


**Sonia Hirt**


**Derek Hyra**


**Anne Khademian**


**Paul Knox**

Ted Koebel


Tim Luke


John Randolph


Jesse Richardson


Patrick Roberts


Joyce Rothschild


Tom Sanchez


Max Stephenson


Gerard Toal

Yang Zhang


other publications

John Browder

Ralph Buehler


Maggie Cowell

Matt Dull
Dull, M. 2012. “Alexandria Quality of Life Indicators, First Indicators Report.” Draft report completed in collaboration with Virginia Tech students and project partners from the Partnership for a Healthier Alexandria and other community stakeholders.
Ralph Hall


Derek Hyra


Anne Khademian

Khademian, A. Forthcoming. Book review. “*Becoming what we are”* or “*Learning from Telling*”? *A Narrative Analysis of Profession and Discipline*. *International Public Management Journal*.


John Randolph

Tom Sanchez

Max Stephenson


**Gerard Toal**


**Kris Wernstedt**

Presentations

John Browder

Ralph Buehler


Buehler, R. 2011. “Active Travel, Physical Activity, and Public Health in Germany and the USA.” Colloquium on Assessing Active Travel: Studies, Tools, and Figures on Bicycling and Walking from Both Sides of the Atlantic, University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland. July.

Brian Cook
Maggie Cowell


Giselle Datz


Matt Dull


Wilma Dunaway

Dunaway, W. 2011. “Globalizing Semiproletarianization: Removing the Gendered Cloak of Invisibility from Commodity Chain Analysis.” Gendered Commodity Chains: Bringing Women and Gender into Commodity Chain Analysis, Binghamton University & Virginia Tech, Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY. October.
Ralph Hall


Sonia Hirt


Derek Hyra

Hyra, D. 2012. “The Implications of the New Urban Renewal.” Annual Conference on Black Columbus, Department of African American and African Studies, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. June.


Laura Jensen


Anne Khademian


Paul Knox

Tim Luke


Joel Peters


John Randolph


**Joe Rees**


**Jesse Richardson**


Richardson, J. 2012. “Plant the Best Seeds- Setting Up the Business, Knowing the Risks.” Farming is a Business- Grow it Right, Virginia Farmers’ Direct Marketing Association, Charlottesville, VA. March.


Richardson, J. 2012. “Dillon’s Rule and Local Government Land Use Regulation.” Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute, Several, including Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia, Richmond, VA. January.


**Patrick Roberts**


**Tom Sanchez**


**Max Stephenson**


**Gerard Toal**

Toal, G. (co-presenter) and A. Maksic (presenter). 2012. “Serbs, You are Allowed to be Serbs”: Radovan Karadžić and the 1990 Election Campaign in Bosnia-Herzegovina” ASN 2012, Association for the Study of Nationalities, Columbia University, Manhattan, NY. April.


Kris Wernstedt


Yang Zhang

Internal and External Funding

John Browder
Collaborative Research: Globalization, Deforestation, and the Cattle Sector in the Brazilian Amazon. J. Browder. Sponsor: National Science Foundation. $152,797.

Ralph Buehler
Benchmarking Cycling in the United States (2010-2012). R. Buehler. Sponsor: Alliance for Biking and Walking. $5,500.00
International Comparison of the Future of Electric Mobility in Europe, the Americas, and Asia (2010-2011). R. Buehler. Sponsor: INFAS Germany. $6,500.00
Analysis of Determinants of Bicycle Use in the Washington Metropolitan Area (2009-2011). R. Buehler. Sponsor: Mid-Atlantic Universities Transportation Center (MAUTC). $20,000.00
Study Abroad Subsidy for Students (with connections of Prof. Moomaw, UVA). R. Buehler, S. Moomaw, and R. Hall. Sponsor: Swiss Embassy. $10,000.00

Brian Cook
The Political Dynamics of Climate Change Policy Design. B. Cook, M. D. Jones, and A. Smith-Walter. Sponsor: Institute for Society, Culture and Environment (ISCE). $19,713.00

Maggie Cowell
District Planning and Implementation. M. Cowell. Sponsor: DC Office of Planning/Economic Development Administration. $186,920.00
Resilience of citizen engagement to local disasters. M. Cowell and K. Desouza. Sponsor: Institute for Society, Culture & Environment. $20,000.00
Building Resilient Regions. M. Cowell. Sponsor: UC Berkeley, MacArthur Foundation. $10,000.00

Matt Dull
Alexandria Community Indicators. M. Dull. Sponsor: City of Alexandria/ACT for Alexandria. $65,000.

Ralph Hall

**Sonia Hirt**

Global Suburbanisms. S. Hirt. Sponsor: York University. $22,660.00

Laws of the Land: Comparative Analysis of Regulation and Sustainability in Europe and the United States. S. Hirt. Sponsor: Inaugural Fellowship from the Institute of Society, Culture and the Environment at Virginia Tech. $27,300.00

Collaboration with German universities. S. Hirt. Sponsor: Office of International Research and Development. $1,500.00

**Derek Hyra**


Summer Scholar Fellow. D. Hyra. Sponsor: Virginia Tech’s Institute for Society, Culture and Environment. $12,000.00

**Laura Jensen**

Investigating the Factors Contributing to the Underdiagnosis of Breast Cancer in Rural Southwest Virginia. L. Jensen. Sponsor: Institute for Society, Culture, and the Environment. $19,980.00

**Ted Koebel**


Impact of Market Behavior on the Adoption and Diffusion of Innovative Green Building Technologies in Residential Firms. A. McCoy, C. Koebel, H. Rahmandad, C. Franck, and M. Cavell. Sponsor: U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. $363,475.00

Update of Housing Affordability Sourcebook. M. Cavell and C. Koebel. Sponsor: Housing Virginia. $93,774.00

Prince George’s Review of Management Functions and Operations, Department of Housing and Community Development. C. Koebel, J. Schilling, and M. Cavell. Sponsor: Prince George’s County, Maryland. $64,802.00

John Randolph
Climate Change Adaptation for Middle Peninsula Counties in the Virginia Coastal Community. J. Randolph (PI), T. Koebel, Y. Zhang, and T. Godwin. Sponsor: Virginia Sea Grant Program. $10,636
Blacksburg Energy and Climate Action Plan. J. Randolph (PI), and D. Pitt. Sponsor: Town of Blacksburg, VA. $50,000
Community Energy Program Development. J. Randolph (PI). Sponsor: Virginia Tech Office of Vice President for Research. $15,000
Building Resilience through Post-disaster Recovery. J. Randolph (research collaborator) and Y. Zhang (PI). Sponsor: Virginia Tech Institute for Society, Culture and Environment. $17,272

Jesse Richardson
Addressing Farm Leasing Risk. J. Richardson and G. Groover. Sponsor: Southern Risk Management Education Center (USDA). $36,943.00

Patrick Roberts
Emergency Management in Rural America: Decision-Makers Use of Climate Science in Flood Planning and Management. K. Wernstedt and P. Roberts. Sponsor: National Science Foundation. $399,597.00
Virginia Tech share is $192,209

Gerard Toal
The Dynamics of Secessionist Regions: Eurasian Unrecognized Quasi-States after Kosovo’s Independence. G. Toal. Sponsor: National Science Foundation.

Kris Wernstedt
Emergency Management in Rural America: Decision-Makers Use of Climate Science in Flood Planning and Management. P. Roberts and K. Wernstedt. Sponsor: National Science Foundation. $399,597.00

Yang Zhang
Using High-resolution Imagery to Assess Damage and Recovery following the 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake. Y. Zhang and W. Drake. Sponsor: GeoEye Foundation. Imagery valuing more than $15,000
The Obama-Singh 21st Century Knowledge Initiative. S. Misra, R. Hall, and Y. Zhang. Sponsor: University Grants Commission, New Delhi, India. $30,000.00
School of Public & International Affairs

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DEGREES OFFERED
B.A. in Public & Urban Affairs
B.S. in Environmental Policy & Planning
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Master of Public & International Affairs
Master of Urban & Regional Planning
Ph.D. in Public Administration & Public Affairs
Ph.D. in Planning, Governance & Globalization
  (Governance & Globalization track)
  (Urban & Environmental Design & Planning track)

PROGRAMS in SPIA
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