



NORTHWEST SECTION WORK PLAN – 2021

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND INITIATIVES FOR 2021

A. Grow Northwest Section membership

- a. Develop the “Benefits of NW Section Membership” link on the NW Section webpage and link to the APA WA website.
- b. Outreach to Western Washington University (WWU) and students, city and county jurisdictions, consultants, and non-profit organizations.

B. Support the WWU Planning Program

- a. Modify the NW Section Scholarship Program for WWU Planning Students to combine with Board Student Representative responsibilities and increase from \$500 to \$750.
- b. Redefine and promote the NW Section Internship Program for WWU planning students.
- c. Work with WWU faculty and intern on WWU Planning Club activities.
- d. Work with WWU Planning Club to create a student mentor program.

C. Provide high quality NW Section Planner’s Forums

- a. Recruit interesting speakers and offer AICP CM credits to members, creating funding partnerships with other organizations if needed to fund well-known speakers for the events.
- b. Continue to coordinate with WA State Department of Commerce and the PAW representative.
- c. Survey membership to ensure that the Board is focused on adding value for its members.
- d. Host meetings on a virtual platform to allow people to attend from all over the region safely, abiding covid-19 precautions.

D. Continue efforts to communicate to members about the States Growth Management Act redevelopment process

- a. Continue efforts to inform and provide communication opportunities between membership and WA legislative bodies developing to redefine and re-envision the State’s Growth Management Act.
- b. Provide materials and contact information to members for input into the GMA redevelopment process.

E. Provide proactive communication with membership

- a. Update the Northwest Section webpage at <https://www.washington-apa.org/northwest-section> as needed, with notifications of updates sent to members.
- b. Produce quarterly Board Reports for APA Washington that will also be sent to NW Section members.

F. Convene the Board of Directors as needed

- a. Maintain elected and appointed positions of the Northwest Section Board of Directors.
- b. Make a solid connection with the APA Legislative Committee Chair.
- c. Identify potential candidates for elected positions in 2021.
- d. Meet at least once quarterly.

NORTHWEST SECTION BUDGET FOR 2021

The Northwest Section does not request additional funding from APA Washington beyond the quarterly funding based on section membership. 2021 Northwest Section budget highlights are listed below:

- Treasurer Kevin Cricchio reports the Section budget is in good shape with an end of Fourth Quarter balance of \$4,221.
- The Board has a reserve fund of \$1,500 set aside for unanticipated costs to cover Section operating costs for a full year in the event that revenue unexpectedly disappears.
- The Board hopes to recruit a well-known speaker on planning issues to the Northwest Section which may require stipend.
- In 2020 the Board approved modifications to the Northwest Section WWU Scholarship, increasing the annual amount to \$750 and combining it with the responsibilities of the Board Student Representative position. Board interns are eligible for this scholarship.

WWU INTEGRATION WITH NORTHWEST SECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In November 2016, WWU's Huxley College Urban Planning and Sustainable Development program received national accreditation from the Planning Accreditation Board, making it one of only sixteen nationally accredited undergraduate planning programs in the nation. The Northwest Section of APA has strengthened its relationship with WWU with both faculty and student representatives serving on the Board, hosting Planner's Forums on campus, and the development of an annual scholarship to support a WWU planning student. To that end, the Northwest Section Board of Directors continues to pursue the following objectives:

- A. Now that WWU's planning program is accredited and APA membership is free for active students, encourage more WWU students to become APA members.
- B. Create a mentoring program for WWU planning students to ask working professionals about their work and for advice on entering the planning profession.

2021 ELECTION AND LEADERSHIP POSITIONS ON THE NORTHWEST SECTION BOARD

Like every other organization and agency across the country, the activities of the all-volunteer Board of the Northwest Section were severely impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic starting in March of 2020. As a result, the recruitment of new officers or the compliance of APA election dates were not priorities as the Board struggled with other work issues. To compensate, existing Board members agreed to stay on through 2021 to keep the section on track until the election process could be properly completed in 2021.

In 2021, the following positions are up for election:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary

Descriptions of the duties of each position are available in the Northwest Section bylaws posted on the Northwest Sections webpage at: https://www.washington-apa.org/assets/docs/NW_Section/2017/nw_section_bylaws_2017_final.pdf.

2021 APA WASHINGTON NORTHWEST SECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Board Elected Positions	Name	Service Term(s)	Term End	Current Employer
President	Meredith Penny	2019-2022 ⁱ	11/1/22	Island County Planning
Vice President	Nora Pederson	2019-2021 ⁱⁱ	11/1/21	Swinomish Indian Nation
Secretary	Melissa Fanucci	2020-2021	11/1/21	Whatcom Council of Governments
Treasurer	Kevin Cricchio	2021-2022	11/1/22	Skagit County Planning
Past President	Chris Comeau	2020-2021	11/1/21	Bellingham Public Works
Appointed (Non-Voting) Positions	Name	Service Term(s)ⁱⁱⁱ		Current Employer
Professional Development Coordinator	Ian Munce	2021-2022		Retired
Membership Coordinator	Mary Anderson	2019-2022		Whatcom Transportation Authority
WWU Faculty Representative	Tammi Laninga	2018-2022		Western Washington University
WWU Student Representative	<i>Vacant</i>			

ⁱ *President-Elect for one year, then President for two years, then Past-President for one year.*

ⁱⁱ *Due to COVID-19, the Northwest Section missed the 2020 election cycle. Elected Board members volunteered to stay on for an additional year.*

ⁱⁱⁱ *Appointed positions are not subject to the two-term limit.*