



Northwest Section - Work Plan 2017

- I. Overarching Goals and Objectives for the Year**
 - a. Grow Northwest Section membership**
 - i. Outreach to WWU and students; City and County jurisdictions; Consultants; Nonprofits
 - ii. Work to create Student Mentor Program and an Annual NW Section Student Scholarship
 - b. Continue to provide interesting speakers and AICP CM credits at Planner's Forums**
 - i. Continue to coordinate with Commerce representative
 - ii. Survey membership 2x year to ensure that Board is adding value to members.
 - iii. Broaden the geographic reach of Planner's Forums by hosting them in a wide array of communities accessible to members throughout the Section
 - c. Update Northwest Section web page <http://www.washington-apa.org/northwest-section> at least 1x quarter, or more often, as needed.**
 - d. Convene Board of Directors 1x quarter in advance of Planner's Forums, or more often, as needed.**
 - i. Maintain all elected and appointed positions on the Northwest Section board of Directors.
 - ii. Find a Legislative Liaison or make a solid connection with APA Legislative Committee Chair
 - iii. Identify potential candidates for elected positions in 2017
- II. Calendar of Events**
 - a. Winter Quarter 2017 (January – March)**
 - i. December 2016/January 2017 – NW Board of Directors meeting
 - ii. January – NW President & Vice President engage WWU students and faculty
 - iii. January 18, 2017 Winter Planners Forum – Sedro-Woolley, WA
 - b. Spring Quarter 2017 (April - June)**
 - i. April 2017 – NW Board of Directors meeting
 1. Identify possible candidates for Board elections
 - ii. April 19, 2017 Spring Planners Forum – Ferndale, WA
 - c. Summer Quarter 2017 (July - September)**
 - i. July 2017 – NW Board of Directors meeting
 - ii. July 19, 2017 Summer Planners Forum – Anacortes, WA
 - d. Autumn Quarter 2017 (October - December)**
 - i. October 2017 – NW Board of Directors meeting
 - ii. October 18, 2017 Autumn Planners Forum – Bellingham, WA

2017 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, which makes it one of only 16 nationally accredited undergraduate planning programs in the nation. The Northwest Section of APA looks forward to strengthening its relationship with WWU. To that end, the Northwest Section Board of Directors has been contemplating the following ideas:

- a. Getting more WWU students to become APA members at the student discount rate. Now that WWU's planning program is accredited, APA membership may be free for active students.
- b. Creating a "mentoring program" for WWU Planning students to ask working professionals about their work and for advice on entering the planning profession.
- c. NW Section is considering the creation of a modest annual scholarship for a 3rd or 4th year WWU Planning students in the form of a cash award toward tuition.

2017 AICP CM Credit Opportunities for Northwest Section Members

Each quarterly Planner's Forum typically offers AICP members the chance to about 4 CM credits, which annually offers up to half of the 32 credits needed per 2-year AICP Certification Maintenance cycle.

APA Washington Northwest Section Planner's Forum Schedule, 2017				
Quarter	Date	Forum Address	Location	Time
Winter 2017	Wednesday, January 18, 2017	City Hall, City Council Chambers 325 Metcalf Street, Sedro-Woolley, WA	Sedro- Woolley	9:00am – 3:00pm
Spring 2017	Wednesday, April 19, 2017	Whatcom Educational Credit Union 5659 Pacific Highway, Ferndale, WA	Ferndale	9:00am – 3:00pm
Summer 2017	Wednesday, July 19, 2017	Yet-to-be-determined location	Anacortes	9:00am – 3:00pm
Autumn 2017	Wednesday, October 18, 2017	City Hall, City Council Chambers 210 Lottie Street, Bellingham, WA	Bellingham	9:00am – 3:00pm

In addition to that, the Northwest Section has partnered with the [Whatcom Council of Governments \(WCOG\)](#) in subscribing to **APA's AICP webinar series** (See below). A subscription to the webinar series allows only two viewing location licenses so in agreeing to this partnership, the Board made sure that there would be a relatively central location in both the northern and southern portions of our very broad and diverse Section geography (Whatcom, Skagit, Island, and San Juan Counties).

NORTH: The northern hub for viewing all of the AICP webinars will be the [Whatcom Council of Governments \(WCOG\)](#) conference room, located at **314 E. Champion Street, Bellingham, WA 98225**.

SOUTH: The [Skagit Council of Governments \(SCOG\)](#) will host some webinars, but has also arranged webinar viewing at the Swinomish Nation and at the City of Sedro-Woolley, as listed below:



2016-2017 AICP Certification Maintenance Credit Webinar Broadcast Schedule and Locations for Viewing					
Date	Time	Webinar Title	AICP CM Credits	South Location	North Location
10-19-2017	12:00 – 1:00pm	The Big Chance Lecture	1.0 CM	Swinomish Nation 17337 Reservation Road La Conner, WA 98257	WCOG 314 E. Champion St Bellingham, WA 98225
12-7-2017	12:00 – 1:30pm	Ethics and the Digital World	1.5 CM	SCOG, Conference Room C 204 W. Montgomery St Mount Vernon, WA 98273	WCOG
1-25-2017	12:00 – 12:30pm	Preparing for Planning Commission Meetings: Writing Staff Reports	0.5 CM	Sedro-Woolley 325 Metcalf St Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284	WCOG
2-15-2017	12:00 – 12:30pm	Managing the Planning Commission Meeting	0.5 CM	Sedro-Woolley 325 Metcalf St Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284	WCOG
3-15-2017	12:00 – 12:30pm	Legal Decision Making for Planning Commissioners	0.5 CM	Swinomish Nation 17337 Reservation Road La Conner, WA 98257	WCOG
7-5-2017	12:00 – 1:30pm	Planning Law Review	1.5 CM	SCOG, Conference Room G 204 W. Montgomery St Mount Vernon, WA 98273	WCOG

This will allow Northwest Section members to earn up to an additional AICP CM credits at no cost.

Northwest Section Budget for 2017

The Northwest Section does not request additional budget funding from APA Washington beyond the quarterly funding based on Section membership.

According to Treasurer Brandon Black, the Northwest Section budget is in good shape with an end of 3rd Quarter balance of \$4,690.43. As mentioned above, the Board has been surveying members in 2016 seeking consensus on appropriate uses for the Section budget and has appropriated funds for bringing StrongTowns founder Charles Marohn to Bellingham, partnering with WCOG to provide supplemental AICP webinars for extra CM credits to members, as well as catered lunches in support of the quarterly Planner's Forums. In 2017, the Board proposes to establish an annual scholarship fund in the Section budget at a yet-to-be-determined amount for a WWU Huxley College under-graduate Planning Student.

Northwest Section Board of Directors 2017

Executive Officers

- Chris Comeau, AICP-CTP, President [Bellingham Public Works Engineering]
- Derek Koellmann, AICP-CEP, Vice President [Anchor QEA Environmental Consulting]
- Samya Lutz, AICP, Secretary [Bellingham Community Development]
- Brandon Black, Treasurer [Skagit County Planning & Development]

Appointed Representatives

- Jackie Lynch, AICP-CEP, Professional Development Coordinator [Bellingham Planning]
- Beckye Frey, Communications Coordinator [Island County Planning]
- Michael Stubbs, Education Representative [WWU Planning Student]
- Vacant, Legislative Liaison

The Northwest Section's Rick Sepler is President-Elect of APA Washington!

On the broader stage, the Northwest Section is proud to announce that its own Mr. Rick Sepler is now President-Elect for APA Washington. Rick is the current Director of Planning and Community Development for the City of Bellingham and he has been involved in APA for a very long time. In addition to that, Rick serves as adjunct faculty teaching Planning at the University of Washington. The Northwest Section looks forward to having a close relationship and working with Rick and the APA Washington Board of Directors over the next several years.