APA DIVISIONS COUNCIL AWARDS

CONTRIBUTION TO PLANNING PROFESSION
PROJECT: Livable Communities for All Ages
AWARDEE: International Division
PURPOSE: Gauge awareness about techniques, tools, and best practices for planners to promote age-friendly planning in the U.S. and internationally.
IMPACT: Partnership with AARP, Arup, and Cornell University that gathered survey input from 567 planners from 33 countries on local governments and planners’ motivations, actions, and barriers to incorporate Livable Communities for All Ages considerations into planning and the effectiveness of practices and strategies to engage planners in these approaches.

OVERALL DIVISION PERFORMANCE
AWARDEE: International Division
GOAL: Promote information, offer networking opportunities and professional development related to worldwide planning issues and build capacity of planners and allied organizations in developing countries or places facing climate change.
IMPACT: National and international thought leadership through three high-quality issues of Interplan newsletter; organization and moderation of a session on the UN Habitat Sustainable Development Goals; and presentations at the 9th World Urban Forum and UN-HABITAT meetings.

EDUCATION EXCELLENCE
PROJECT: Girls Who Plan
AWARDEE: Women and Planning Division
GOAL: Partner with YEP! (Youth Engagement Planning), a nonprofit organization focused on teaching young people in grades K-12 about urban planning and civic engagement, to inspire the next generation of women planners.
IMPACT: Inspired and educated 100 students through two youth engagement events and provided 10 division members the opportunity to teach and make meaningful change in the lives of young women.

DIVISION COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE
PROJECT: Resilience Roundtable Podcast
AWARDEE: Hazard Mitigation and Disaster Recovery Planning Division
GOAL: Educate local planners and public officials on the meaning and importance of recovery from natural disasters, offer creative avenues toward problem solving and new insights into the challenges.
IMPACT: Thousands of listeners reached by three in-depth podcast episodes on recovery efforts for major disasters in 2017, including Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria, and the California wildfires.

BEST PRACTICE
PROJECT: Online Business Meeting
AWARDEE: Private Practice Division
GOAL: Use digital and webinar technology to increase division member engagement and provide an equitable opportunity for all of the division’s 700+ members to attend and participate in the annual business meeting.
IMPACT: Over 40 division members participated—more than double than the typical attendance of in-person meetings held at the annual National Planning Conference—including many members who had never attended an in-person meeting before.

BEST NEWSLETTER ARTICLE
TITLE: "Rethinking Resilience: Women’s Organizing and Adaptive Capacities in Self-Built Neighborhoods,” by Julia Duranti-Martinez
AWARDEE: International Division
SYNOPSIS: Highlighting personal experience with a case of community-led development in Los Planatanos, a self-built neighborhood of 2,000 residents in Santo Domingo Norte, Dominican Republic, the author factually demonstrates the human dimension of community resilience—the interpersonal relationships, mutual aid, and loving attachment between people and place that has the power to improve a community without disruption and displacement—and how, without taking this element into consideration, infrastructure improvement may backfire and be counterproductive.