

**THE
UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS
AT
CHICAGO
URBAN
PLANNING AND
PUBLIC
AFFAIRS**



Commencement
May 8, 2015





Congratulations and best wishes to all graduates! The faculty and staff of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs are proud of your accomplishments, and we honor you on this special day, the day you commence your life's next chapter.

Your academic achievements and, perhaps just as important, your perseverance and hard work to earn your degree are a tribute to you as well as to your parents, your partners, your families, and your friends. I salute you and those who have afforded you their guidance, comfort, and support during your undergraduate- or graduate-school journey. Many scholars and other mentors have played a crucial role during your academic experience and have helped you along your path of discovery. I encourage you to continue those relationships and the exchange of knowledge with those who teach others. We will be here for you during the next steps of your journey and we hope you

will continue to teach us along your path of discovery.

You have been enriched by your education and have come to a greater appreciation of the importance of advanced planning, managing, and analyzing public policy issues and problems. I'm sure that the recent excitement that resulted from CUPPA Hall's movement and slippage has also given you greater appreciation for planning and managing the unpredictable and unknown. Both sets of skills will serve you well.

You are now embarking upon a new chapter in your lives, one that will bring you joy in your work and address your passions. As you touch the future and make it better for humanity, do not forget to look back and remember where your journey started and the places you traversed in search of truth. CUPPA is one of those stopping off points where you were challenged to expand your mind and to extend your passion so that your aspirations for enhancing the human condition and leaving the world a better place might be met.

This leg of your journey is over and you are now secure in the knowledge that you have far more influence on future events than you had when you started your degree.

You are invited to reach back to your alma mater and give a hand up to the future students who, like you, are driven by the same impulse to make a difference, to do good, and to do it well. CUPPA has invested in your education, in your future, in your success. Become involved in furthering the opportunities for the next generation of students who are only now commencing their UIC chapter of life.

We raise our glasses and salute your accomplishments. And we hope to keep connected with you virtually or in real life on a return visit to UIC! Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Pagano".

Michael A. Pagano
Dean

Class of 2015

Dean Michael A. Pagano **Presiding**

PROCESSIONAL

- Platform Party and Faculty of the College
- Doctoral Degree Candidates
- Master’s Degree Candidates
- Bachelor’s Degree Candidates

“AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL” **Circle Center Brass Quintet**

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS **Michael A. Pagano**
Dean

GREETINGS FROM THE UNIVERSITY **Robert A. Easter**
President of the University of Illinois

Michael D. Amiridis
Chancellor of the University of Illinois at Chicago

KEYNOTE SPEAKER **Lee Fisher**
President and CEO, CEOs for Cities

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES **Michael A. Pagano**
Laura Lee Junker
Associate Dean of the Graduate College

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES **Robert A. Easter**

INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENTS **Michael A. Pagano**

PRESENTATION OF SILVER CIRCLE AWARD **Michael A. Pagano**

Silver Circle Award Recipient **Brenda Parker**
Assistant Professor, Urban Planning and Policy

STUDENT SPEAKERS **Ross Kinkade**
Urban and Public Affairs

Justine Reisinger
Public Administration

Kyle Terry
Urban Planning and Policy

GREETINGS FROM THE CUPPA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION **Michael McDermott, MUPP ’07**
President, CUPPA Alumni Association

CLOSING REMARKS **Michael A. Pagano**

RECESSIONAL

Audience is requested to remain seated until the academic recession is completed. Graduates and guests are invited to join Dean Pagano and the faculty at a reception immediately following the ceremony in the tent across Rochford Street.

CEREMONY OFFICIALS

Marshal of the Day	Ting Wei Zhang Professor, Department of Urban Planning and Policy
Commencement Marshal	Albert Schorsch III Associate Dean
Banner Carriers	
UIC	Jered Carr Head and Professor of Public Administration
CUPPA	Curt Winkle Head and Associate Professor of Urban Planning and Policy
Name Reader	Albert Schorsch III
Musical Accompaniment	Circle Center Brass Quintet

MARSHAL OF THE DAY



Ting Wei Zhang, PhD, Professor

Ting Wei Zhang is professor of urban planning and policy and director of the Asia and China Research Program in the Great Cities Institute in the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a guest professor of urban planning at Tongji University, Shanghai, China.

He was president of IACP (2005–2007) and a member of the Global Planning Committee of AICP (2001–2005). He served on the International Conference Committee of ACSP (2001–2005) and the Advisory Committee of IACP (2008–present) in the United States. He is also a member of the China National Planning Expert Committee and a planning adviser to several Chinese cities, including Wuhan, Guangzhou, Zhuhai, Shenzhen, and Shanghai.

He serves on editorial boards of several academic journals, including *City Planning Review*, *Urban Planning Forum*, *Planners*, *Urban Planning International*, and *Time and Architecture*. His research interests cover planning theory, China’s transition and urban policy, and urban development in American cities. He has published over 130 articles and book chapters in China, the United States, the United Kingdom, and France and authored or coauthored nine books published in China and Switzerland (the UNISD).

Professor Zhang earned his BE (architecture) from Tongji University, Shanghai, China (1968); his ME (city planning) from Tongji University, Shanghai, China (1981); and his PhD (urban planning and policy) from the University of Illinois at Chicago (1992).

Professor Zhang will retire from the University of Illinois at Chicago on June 30, 2015.

COMMENCEMENT MARSHAL

**Albert Schorsch III**

Albert Schorsch III serves as associate dean of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at UIC. Dr. Schorsch began graduate studies at UIC in 1981 and was awarded his PhD in public policy analysis, urban planning and policy, in 1992. During and after his studies, he taught a variety of courses in the Department of Urban Planning and Policy, including microcomputers, ethics and leadership, and policy analysis. Schorsch returned to UIC in 1994, joining the Center for Urban Economic Development as senior economic planner and research assistant professor, later serving also the Survey Research Laboratory as research assistant professor. Schorsch moved to the Dean's Office in the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs in 1996. After working to establish the Great Cities Urban Data Visualization Lab as part of CUPPA's 1997 Strategic Plan, he led the UDVL from 1998 to 2001 and from 2004 to 2007. In 1999, he was named associate dean, a position he has held to this day. Schorsch served as acting dean of the college from 1999 to 2000.

Associate Dean Schorsch will retire from the University of Illinois at Chicago on June 30, 2015.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Lee Fisher****President and CEO, CEOs for Cities**

As president and CEO of CEOs for Cities, Lee Fisher leads a national innovation network of cross-sector urban leaders who share the smartest ideas and practices for city and regional economic competitiveness and success. Lee is also a senior fellow with the Center for Economic Development at Cleveland State University's Levin College of Urban Affairs and an urban scholar with the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs and the Great Cities Institute at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

As CEO of CEOs for Cities, Lee has significantly expanded the national membership network and attendance at the organization's two annual national conferences. He also has curated one of the largest city and regional economic development resource libraries of its kind in the country.

Lee has served as lieutenant governor of Ohio; director of the Ohio Department of Development; chair of the Ohio Third Frontier Commission; chair of the Ohio Economic Growth Council; member of the Ohio Venture Capital Authority; chair of the Clean Ohio Council; Ohio attorney general; a state senator; a state representative; president/CEO of the Center for Families and Children; and a partner at the law firm of Hahn Loeser & Parks.

Lee is a graduate of Oberlin College and served on the Oberlin College Board for 12 years. He earned both a law degree and master's degree in nonprofit organization from Case Western Reserve University and received the law school's first-ever Distinguished Recent Graduate Award.

Lee is a graduate of a number of leadership programs, such as Harvard University's Program for Senior Executives in State and Local Government, where he was a Chase Public Leadership Fellow; the Center for Creative Leadership's Leadership at the Peak program; the Case Western Reserve University Weatherhead School of Management's Professional Fellows Program; and Leadership Cleveland. As a Case Western University presidential fellow, Lee taught two seminars on leadership, innovation, and collaboration.

STUDENT SPEAKERS



Ross Kinkade
Urban and Public Affairs

Ross Kinkade is earning his Bachelor of Arts degree in urban and public affairs. Ross came to UIC in 2012, looking to change the world through urban planning after a mission trip to Nicaragua. Following his internship at the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), he used his UPA education and experience to focus on nonprofit administration and social entrepreneurship. After graduating from UIC, Ross plans to start a career as a fundraiser/grant writer at a nonprofit while launching a social enterprise incubator for youth as a personal project. Ross is very thankful that UIC has provided him the opportunities, connections and education that are only available here in Chicago.



Justine Reisinger
Public Administration

Justine Reisinger is receiving her Master of Public Administration.

Justine joined the Illinois Department of Transportation as senior policy advisor to the secretary in February 2015. She oversees implementation of the secretary's policy priorities, including efforts related to increased transparency, performance-based programming and decision making, and long-range planning, among others. Prior to IDOT, Reisinger worked in communications for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), where she was involved in a variety of policy-driven and agency-wide efforts. She served as project manager for plan preparation and communications aspects of the GO TO 2040 comprehensive regional plan update from 2013 to 2014 and also lead day-to-day project management operations of the FUND 2040 campaign for a regional infrastructure fund in 2014. She uses her project and program management, strategic planning, and communications skills to improve people's lives through development and implementation of better public policy. Reisinger graduated with a bachelor's degree in journalism and political science from Northwestern University.



Kyle Terry
Urban Planning and Policy

Kyle Terry is graduating with his Master of Urban Planning and Policy degree. He has served as a policy fellow for the Department of Redevelopment for the City of Gary, Indiana, for the past 11 months, working on everything from streamlining property acquisition and disposition processes to community arts initiatives to economic development analyses and everything in between. Prior to working for Gary, he performed qualitative and quantitative research for the Village of Tinley Park's Economic Development Department, the Chicago-based Metropolitan Planning Council, and the University of California, Merced.

Terry finished a Bachelor of the Arts degree in political science at Northeastern Illinois University after academic stops in Sacramento, Buenos Aires, and Merced, California. While he enjoys work in the public sector, Kyle plans on entering the private sector using a wide breadth of planning knowledge, including transportation issues, zoning reform, economic development, and an intimate knowledge of blight and vacancy issues to help revitalize communities immediately surrounding sports stadia in a smart, sustainable fashion.

SILVER CIRCLE AWARD RECIPIENT

**Brenda Parker, PhD, Assistant Professor**

Brenda Parker is an assistant professor of urban planning at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She received her MS and PhD in human geography from the University of Wisconsin–Madison and a BS in public policy from Michigan State University.

Brenda's research interests include gender, race, urban politics, social movements, incarceration, and household provisioning. She is also interested in feminist and qualitative research methods. Brenda has been awarded several research fellowships and has published articles and book chapters. She is completing a book titled *Gendering Urban Neoliberalism: A Feminist Exploration of Masculinities and Markets* to be published by the University of Georgia Press. She teaches a variety of undergraduate, master's, and PhD courses, including Planning Great Cities, Globalization and Urban Affairs, Community Development Theory, Gender and the City, and Research Design and

Evaluation. In addition to her academic work, Brenda has worked in the public and nonprofit sectors and as an independent consultant. She sits on several boards and committees, including the Center for Research on Women and Gender and the Honors College at UIC, the Metropolitan Planning Council Social Inequality Advisory Board, and Chicago Legal Advocacy for Incarcerated Mothers.

CUPPA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

**Michael McDermott**

Michael McDermott is a senior associate at Hickey and Associates, a global site selection and public incentives management firm. His areas of expertise include location selection, labor analytics, public incentives negotiation, and portfolio analysis using business intelligence technology. He has experience assisting clients across multiple industry sectors including manufacturing, logistics, renewable energy, data centers, and shared services.

Prior to joining the team, Mr. McDermott worked in the Global Corporate Services Group for Newmark Grubb Knight Frank. His consulting work focused on strategic alignment of real estate with the operational needs of corporate owners and tenants. Additionally, he assisted communities and regions in developing economic development strategies for targeted industries and foreign direct investment.

Mr. McDermott also worked in municipal economic development for the Village of Tinley Park, Illinois, where he conducted research on downtown redevelopment and business park competitiveness.

Mr. McDermott has his Master of Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His urban planning studies were concentrated in economic and community development with emphasis on business location analysis, real estate development finance and retail district revitalization. He also received a BA in economics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

He is a member of the Illinois Development Council Board of Directors, Urban Land Institute Young Leaders Group, and president of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs Alumni Association.

UNITS OF THE COLLEGE OF URBAN PLANNING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**Office of the Dean**

Michael A. Pagano	Dean
Albert Schorsch III	Associate Dean
Nik Theodore	Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Research
Jaime Holland	Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Affairs
Jodi White Jones	Assistant Dean for Communications
Jennifer Pietka	Assistant Dean for Administration
Joy Pamintuan	Assistant Dean for Administration
Kathy Stauffer	Assistant Dean for Administration

Public Administration Department

Jered Carr	Professor and Head
Rebecca Hendrick	Professor and PhD Director of Graduate Studies
George Beam	Associate Professor and MPA Director of Graduate Studies
Kelly LeRoux	Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies
Yonghong Wu	Associate Professor and Director of International Programs

Faculty

George Beam	Associate Professor
Jered Carr	Professor
Rebecca Hendrick	Professor
Allyson Holbrook	Associate Professor
Timothy Johnson	Professor
Kelly LeRoux	Associate Professor
Sharon Mastracci	Associate Professor
David Merriman	Professor
Michael A. Pagano	Professor
Michael Siciliano	Assistant Professor
Yonghong Wu	Associate Professor

Urban Planning and Policy Department

Curtis R. Winkle	Associate Professor and Head
Martin S. Jaffe	Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies
John Betancur	Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies

Faculty

Ning Ai	Assistant Professor
Kheir Al-Kodmany	Professor
Philip Ashton	Associate Professor
John Betancur	Professor
Teresa Córdova	Professor
Joshua Drucker	Assistant Professor
Charles J. Hoch	Professor
Martin S. Jaffe	Associate Professor

Kazuya Kawamura	Associate Professor
Brenda Parker	Assistant Professor
David C. Perry	Professor
Janet Smith	Associate Professor
Nik Theodore	Professor
Nebiyou Tilahun	Assistant Professor
Sanjeev Vidyarthi	Associate Professor
Rachel Weber	Associate Professor
Curtis R. Winkle	Associate Professor
Moira Zellner	Associate Professor
Ting Wei Zhang	Professor

Center for Public Safety and Justice

Jason Stamps	Acting Director
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Center for Urban Economic Development

Howard Wial	Director
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Great Cities Institute

Teresa Córdova	Director
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Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement

Joseph Hoereth	Director
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Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy

Beth E. Richie	Director
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Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement

Janet Smith	Codirector
Yittayih Zelalem	Codirector

Survey Research Laboratory

Timothy Johnson	Director
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Urban Data Visualization Laboratory

William "Max" Dieber	Director
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Urban Transportation Center

Steve Schlickman	Director
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