

Winter 2019 In

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Note from Danielle Barker, President of APA OK

I hope your 2019 is off to a great start! We certainly ended 2018 on a high note with a great conference in Midwest City and having the City of Guthrie named as one of APA's Great Places in America for their historic district neighborhood.

Planning is underway for the Quad State Planning Conference to be held in Tulsa, OK from October 9 - 12. We are excited to host this year's Quad State and look forward to seeing our colleagues from the Four State area (Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma). I would like to thank all of the committees who are working diligently at putting the conference together.

Nomination time is almost upon us, so be looking out for the notification for the following positions, Vice-President/President Elect, Treasurer, and two At-Large Directors. Nominations will be accepted starting March 1.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. As always, I welcome your comments and suggestions on ways to continue to improve the Chapter and continue to serve the chapter members.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Danielle Barker
APA Oklahoma President





See you in October at the Quad State Conference!

Join Planners from across the four-state area at the Quad State Planning Conference **October 9 -12, 2019**. The conference this year will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

The conference "**Gather+Engage+Connect**" will inspire attendees with proposed focus areas of transportation, housing, and changes in planning.

Call for Sessions Open!

The **Call for Sessions** for the Quad State Conference is now open until March 31! Be sure to submit ideas for sessions and help inspire attendees to get excited about their profession and bring back great ideas or additional skills back to their communities.

Further Details

Registration for the 2019 Conference will open on June 1! Be on the lookout for further registration and accommodation details via email and social media! Be sure to like the [APA Quad State Conference](#) Facebook page to stay up-to-date as the conference is coming together.

APA Board of Directors Selects New CEO

By: Harriet Bogdanowicz, APA

The Board of Directors of the American Planning Association (APA), a nonprofit educational organization dedicated to creating great communities for all, is pleased to announce the selection of Joel Albizo, FASAE, CAE, as the new Chief Executive Officer of APA and the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), effective April 8, 2019. Albizo succeeds James M. Drinan, JD, who announced his retirement last fall after five years of service.



"Following a thorough national search, we have found in Joel a talented association leader with deep strategic and operational expertise," said APA President Kurt Christiansen, FAICP. "His impressive work in the natural and built environment makes him a perfect partner to APA and AICP as we advance planning education, research, advocacy, and ethical practice."

Albizo has more than 30 years of association management experience and is seen as an innovator within the association CEO community. In addition to original research and presentations on the competencies and development of future association CEOs, he is attuned to digital transformation and other trends impacting the nonprofit sector.

Since 2007, Albizo has been the CEO for the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), a regulatory body that works to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare by establishing licensure standards for the practice of landscape architecture. While at CLARB, he led the formation of new coalitions within the design professions (architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, and interior design) to defend regulation and promote friction-free licensure. He also facilitated development of a strategy to better understand well-being as a critical component of licensure justification, which resulted in the publication of a landmark study on the topic. These and other efforts earned Albizo an Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects in 2015. "I am thrilled to join the APA team," said Albizo. "The association has a well-earned reputation as a welcoming destination for all who value and work toward safe, healthy, equitable, and sustainable communities, and I look forward to collaborating with President Christiansen and our elected leaders, members, staff, and partners to accelerate progress and create breakthroughs in pursuit of great communities for all."

Albizo's career has included senior management positions with trade and professional associations including the Society of Actuaries, where he led an award-winning corporate branding campaign and piloted numerous change initiatives around product development and project management. He has raised significant venture capital funding as part of an entrepreneurial venture and understands how to assess opportunities, prove concepts, and think creatively about problem solving.

With APA and AICP membership at their highest levels in more than a decade, and successful launches of major initiatives including the APA Learn online learning platform, AICP Candidate Pilot Program, and the APA Foundation signature cause garnering positive feedback, the expectations to continue engaging members and providing value are high. Albizo's track record of innovation and visionary leadership are exactly the characteristics that APA leaders sought in a new CEO.

"APA and AICP have come very far over the past five years," said AICP President Debbie Lawlor, FAICP. "Joel's expertise in building strategic maturity and strong organizational brands will ensure we are poised for a new era of growth as leaders in the planning profession."

A graduate of Towson University in Maryland, Albizo earned his bachelor's degree in mass communications. He is president of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards, and a former board member and treasurer for ASAE.

APA National Planning Conference 2019

There is still time to register for the National Planning Conference that will be held in San Francisco, CA. The Conference will be held from April 14 – 16, 2019!

For further information and registration information, please visit [APA's conference website](#).



Region III Reception in San Francisco

For those who will be attending the National Planning Conference a Region III Reception is being planned. Region III includes the following states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas.

This will be a great way to meet and network with colleagues from across the region! The reception is being planned for **Monday, April 15 from 7 – 9 p.m.** It will cost \$20 per person for food and drinks.

We will need to get a count of those interested in attending, so if you have signed up for registration, be on the look out for an email very soon. For those that have not registered yet but are planning to attend the National Planning Conference, please get in touch with Danielle Barker so she is able to provide you further details.





**APA-OK
President
Recognized**

By: Nancy Warring

Danielle Barker was recently acknowledged for her work with OKAPA. She was selected as one of three nominees for the “Leadership in Action” Award by the Northwest Oklahoma City Chamber. The awards banquet was held on January 31 at the Skirvin Hotel in Oklahoma City.

Danielle became eligible for the award after graduating from Leadership Northwest, a program which prepares graduates for leadership roles in the community. She was nominated for her volunteer leadership with OKAPA. In her application, she spoke of her desire to help planners within the state remain connected and learn from each other in order to better serve our communities.

We are proud of Danielle and all the work she’s done on the OKAPA Board. Although she didn’t take home the top prize, she brought attention to APA and the planning profession.

Where in Oklahoma is it?



Hint: You may see it while attending the Quad State Conference!

Board of Directors 2019

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