In the Spring Semester of 2016, graduate students in the urban and environmental planning program at the University of Virginia will be formulating and undertaking applied planning projects in a required course known as PLAN 6010. This course is intended to serve as a final capstone to their graduate school experience and should give our students “real world” experience in conceiving, planning, and implementing a community-based planning project. In 2016, the course will be co-taught by Ellen Bassett and Kathy Galvin.

To assist students in identifying good community-based projects, we would like to invite expressions of interest from our alumni, neighborhood groups, planning organizations, and the community at large.

If you are interested in having a project considered for the upcoming capstone class, please forward the following information to Ellen Bassett at bassette@virginia.edu by October 15, 2015.

1) A brief description of the project --a project is appropriate for the capstone if it is problem-centered, has a geographic aspect, and includes components of applied research, development and evaluation of alternatives, a recommended course of action, and community consultation and participation.

2) Identification of the "client"--that is, the party with which the students will work. We encourage clients that represent organizations or neighborhoods, not simply individuals.

3) A brief description of the potential (or envisioned) product that would result and how it addresses an identified community need.

4) Contact details (name, telephone number, email address) for the person submitting the request. We will acknowledge receipt of the proposed projects and students will follow up with the requestor to gather more information and parameters for the work. However, final decisions on project selection are left up to the students and those decisions will be made during the first week of December 2015.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or want more information.

Sincerely, Ellen Bassett and Kathy Galvin

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