

# Zeynep Toker, Ph.D.

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California State University Northridge  
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## topics of interest

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Community participation in urban planning, sustainable urbanism, urban design, role of gender in urban planning, qualitative research methods, walkable and bikeable neighborhood design

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## education

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- 10/2004 – **University of Cambridge** **Cambridge, UK**  
07/2005 **Post-Doctoral Researcher, Department of Architecture**  
*Project Title: "Designing Dynamic Environments for the Performing Arts"*
- Developed case study methodology, performed interviews and archival research for the Arts and Humanities Research Council funded research project.
  - Reviewed the inception, programming, design, and building processes of a number of recently completed buildings for the Performing Arts in different parts of the UK.
- 08/2000 – **North Carolina State University** **Raleigh, NC, USA**  
05/2004 **Ph.D. in Design**  
*College of Design, Community and Environmental Design Concentration*
- Doctoral Dissertation: "Women's Spatial Needs in Housing: Accommodating Gender Ideologies, Use Patterns, and Privacy"
  - Research into the increasing need for new housing types to accommodate unconventional households in the United States, and women's new roles in such households.
  - A comparative multiple case study methodology utilizing interviews, time diaries, systematic observations, and plan analysis. Compares cohousing and neo-traditional housing.
  - Funded by American Association of University Women Educational Foundation (AAUW) - International Fellowship.
  - <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/theses/available/etd-03292004-182715/unrestricted/etd.pdf>
- 09/1998 – **Middle East Technical University** **Ankara, TURKEY**  
06/2000 **Master of City Planning in Urban Design**  
*College of Architecture, Urban Design Graduate Program*
- Master's Thesis: "Housing Production Processes: Can User-Oriented Methods of Production Replace the Conventional Ones?"
  - Reviews conventional and participatory processes of providing housing for the masses in last two centuries in Western Europe and the United States with their shortcomings.
- 09/1994 – **Middle East Technical University** **Ankara, TURKEY**  
06/1998 **Bachelor of City and Regional Planning**  
*College of Architecture, Department of City and Regional Planning*
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## administrative experience

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- Since 08/2023 **California State University, Northridge** **Los Angeles, CA, USA**  
Chair, Department of Urban Studies and Planning
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- 08/2014-08/2015 **California State University, Northridge** **Los Angeles, CA, USA**  
Acting Chair, Department of Urban Studies and Planning
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**community design experience**


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Since 08/2016

**California State University, Northridge****Los Angeles, CA, USA****Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning***Project Title: "Chatsworth Park Urban Planning Magnet Elementary School"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2022) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of Topanga canyon Boulevard and Devonshire Street intersection and conducted an interactive board workshop and cognitive mapping with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers at the Urban Planning Magnet Elementary School to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve mobility at the intersection where the elementary school is located.
- Community partner: Chatsworth Park Urban Planning Magnet Elementary School

*Project Title: "Resilience Plan for North Hills East"*

- As part of URBS 690 Field Project in Urban Planning course (Fall 2022) graduate students conducted analysis to assess elements of resilience through observations, interviews, and archival research.
- Community partner: North Hills East Neighborhood Council

*Project Title: "Nordhoff Street"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Spring 2022) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of Nordhoff Street between Wilbur Street and Zelzah Street and conducted questionnaires with pedestrians to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve mobility.

*Project Title: "Resilience Plan for Sylmar"*

- As part of URBS 690 Field Project in Urban Planning course (Fall 2020) graduate students conducted analysis to assess elements of resilience through observations, interviews, and archival research.
- Community partner: Sylmar Neighborhood Council

*Project Title: "Guidelines for Social Distancing: Urban Design Guidelines for Devonshire Street"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2020) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of Devonshire Street between Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Balboa Street to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve mobility while maintaining social distancing due to COVID-19.

*Project Title: "Resilience Plan for Pacoima"*

- As part of URBS 690 Field Project in Urban Planning course (Fall 2019) graduate students conducted analysis to assess elements of resilience through observations, interviews, and archival research.
- Community partner: Pacoima Beautiful

*Project Title: "Devonshire Street: A Walkable Street Proposal"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2019) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of Devonshire Street between Topanga Canyon Boulevard and Balboa Street and conducted questionnaires with pedestrians to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve mobility.
- Community partner: Chatsworth Neighborhood Council

*Project Title: "Designing A Bioswale on CSUN Campus"*

- As part of URBS 490C Field Work course (Spring 2019) students conducted site analysis assessing longitudinal and side slopes and distance to permanent structures, soil infiltration rates and clay concentration in addition to mapping non-motorized vehicle circulation. We identified possible sites on campus for a bioswale.
  - Community partner: CSUN Institute for Sustainability
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**community design experience (continued)**


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*Project Title: "Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation on Zelzah Avenue"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2018) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of Zelzah Avenue next to CSUN campus and conducted questionnaires with pedestrians to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve mobility.
- Community partner: CSUN

*Project Title: "Resilience Plan for Chatsworth"*

- As part of URBS 690 Field Project in Urban Planning course (Fall 2018) graduate students conducted analysis to assess elements of resilience through observations, interviews, and archival research.
- Community partner: Chatsworth Neighborhood Council

*Project Title: "Improving traffic safety on Sepulveda Boulevard"*

- As part of URBS 490C Field Work course (Spring 2018) students conducted site analysis assessing traffic safety on Sepulveda Boulevard between Nordhoff and Rinaldi Streets and questionnaires with pedestrians and businesses to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve traffic safety.

Community partner: City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation – Vision Zero Initiative

*Project Title: "Improving mobility around Porter Ranch Community School"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2017) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of the streets around Porter Ranch Community School, cognitive mapping with middle school students, and questionnaires with pedestrians to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve mobility.
- Community partner: Porter Ranch Community School

*Project Title: "Resilience Plan for Northridge"*

- As part of URBS 690 Field Project in Urban Planning course (Fall 2017) graduate students conducted analysis to assess elements of resilience through observations, interviews, and a community workshop.
- Community partner: Northridge Vision

*Project Title: "Safe Routes to Schools"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2016) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of commercial streets and questionnaires with residents and businesses to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve walkability in San Fernando.
- Community partner: City of San Fernando and County of Los Angeles

*Project Title: "Connecting Reseda Boulevard and CSUN"*

- As part of URBS 690 Field Project in Urban Planning course (Fall 2016) graduate students conducted site analysis and questionnaires on Reseda Boulevard to improve mobility.

Community partner: Council District 12

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08/2010-  
08/2016

**California State University, Northridge**

**Los Angeles, CA, USA**

**Associate Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning**

*Project Title: "Improving Mobility in Sun Valley"*

- As part of URBS 490C Fieldwork course (Fall 2015) students conducted site analysis and questionnaires for assessing conditions of mobility on Vineland Avenue in Sun Valley and prepared design guidelines to improve mobility.
  - Community partner: Pacoima Beautiful
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**community design experience (continued)**


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*Project Title: "Walkable Chatsworth Street"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2015) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of Chatsworth Street in Granada Hills and questionnaires with residents to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve walkability.

*Project Title: "Walkable and bikeable Reseda Boulevard"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2013) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of Reseda Boulevard adjacent to California State University, Northridge and questionnaires with residents to prepare design guidelines and design proposals to improve walkability and bikeability.
- Community partner: Councilmember's Office, Council District 12 (City of Los Angeles)

*Project Title: "City of San Fernando - Design Guidelines for a Walkable and Bikeable First Street"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2012) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of First Street in City of San Fernando and questionnaires with residents to prepare design guidelines.
- Community partner: City of San Fernando

*Project Title: "Community Design Overlay for Santa Monica Boulevard"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2011) students conducted site analysis for assessing pedestrian and bicycle friendliness of one mile stretch of Santa Monica Boulevard and questionnaires with residents to prepare design guidelines.
- Community partner: West Los Angeles Neighborhood Council

*Project Title: "Walkable Streets around Sylmar High School"*

- As part of URBS 490 Fieldwork course (Spring 2011) students conducted cognitive mapping and walkability assessment exercises with 70 high school students at Sylmar High School to identify and redesign the streets, which are heavily used by the students.
- Community partner: Sylmar High School

*Project Title: "Pacoima Wash RIO – River Improvement Overlay"*

- As part of URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design course (Fall 2010) students developed a set of design guidelines based on available data collected around Pacoima Wash since 2008. The design guidelines were used to prepare the RIO.
- Community partner: Pacoima Beautiful (An environmental equality focused non-profit organization)

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08/2006 – **California State University, Northridge** **Los Angeles, CA, USA**  
05/2010 **Assistant Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning**

*Project Title: "Walkable Streets around San Fernando High School"*

- As part of URBS 450 Urban Problems Seminar course (Spring 2010), students conducted cognitive mapping exercise with 391 high school students at San Fernando High School to identify and redesign the streets, which are heavily used by the students.
- Community partners: Youth Speak! Afterschool Program, San Fernando High School

*Project Title: "Public Open Space along Pacoima Wash"*

- As part of URBS 450 Urban Problems Seminar course (Spring 2009), in collaboration with FCS 690H Interior Design of Selected Settings students organized a community workshop and conducted 158 interviews to prepare public open space alternatives for one of four focus areas of the Pacoima Wash Revitalization efforts of Pacoima Beautiful supported by a PLACE Initiative Grant of Los Angeles County.
  - Community partners: Pacoima Beautiful, Vaughn Charter School
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**community design experience (continued)**


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*Project Title: "MacArthur Park"*

- As part of URBS 150 Urban Scene course (Fall 2008), in collaboration with URBS 310 Sustainable Growth and Development of Cities students collected data and prepared a presentation about impediments on economic development in MacArthur area, which accommodates mostly ethnic minority and low income population in Los Angeles. .
- Community partners: Los Angeles Housing Partnership, Heart of Los Angeles Afterschool Program

*Project Title: "Pacoima Mixed-use Development"*

- As part of URBS 450 Urban Problems Seminar course (Spring 2008), students organized two community workshops and conducted 339 interviews to prepare mixed use development alternatives on a site currently occupied by an asphalt recycling plant in a residential section of Pacoima. A final report was submitted to Pacoima Beautiful.
- Community partner: Pacoima Beautiful

*Project Title: "Aliso Canyon Park"*

- As part of URBS 450 Urban Problems Seminar course (Spring 2007), students organized two community focus group meetings and prepared two alternatives for the newly acquired five acres addition to the Aliso Canyon Park in collaboration with the Councilman Greg Smith's Office of the City of Los Angeles.
  - Community partner: Neighborhood Councils of Council District 12 (City of Los Angeles)
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02/2004  
06/2004

- **Sandhills Family Heritage Association** **Spring Lake, NC, USA**  
**Design Consultant - Project Title: "Sandhills Community Center"**

- Participated in organizing a focus group meeting and two community workshops in order to involve community members in the renovation planning process of the Sandhills Community Center.
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01/2003  
06/2003

- **Laguna Department of Education** **Laguna, NM, USA**  
**Design Consultant - Project Title: "Laguna Child and Family Education Center"**

- Participated in organizing and designing a series of interviews and two community workshops for Laguna Child and Family Education Center for eight Native American tribes in Laguna, New Mexico.
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08/2000  
06/2003

- **North Carolina State University** **Raleigh, NC, USA**  
**Research Assistant (Ph.D. in Design Program, College of Design)**

*Project Title: "Eastern North Carolina Housing Project"*

- Developed participatory techniques in coordination with a community development corporation to be used in community building for a housing project to accommodate people who have lost their houses due to flooding.

*Project Title: "Mebane Downtown Revitalization Project"*

- Participated in organizing three community workshops in order to involve stakeholder groups for a sustainable downtown redevelopment, which included reuse of abandoned buildings, economic revitalization through local retail business encouragement, and increasing walkability and connectivity.

*Project Title: "Pamlico Government Offices Relocation Project"*

- Participated in organizing three consecutive workshops and to prepare a series of surveys to involve employees in decision-making processes for the relocation of government offices in Pamlico County.
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02/1999  
06/1999

- **UNICEF** **Ankara, TURKEY**  
**Researcher, Project Title: "Children Working/Living on the Streets"**
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**teaching experience**


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|-------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Since 08/2016     | <b>California State University, Northridge</b>  | <b>Los Angeles, CA, USA</b> |
|                   | <b>Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning</b>  |                             |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ URBS 150 Discover the City</li> <li>▪ URBS 310 Growth and Sustainable Development of Cities</li> <li>▪ URBS 340B Qualitative Urban Research Methods</li> <li>▪ URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design</li> <li>▪ URBS 490 Fieldwork</li> <li>▪ URBS 685 Qualitative Research in Urban Planning</li> <li>▪ URBS 690 Field Project in Urban Planning</li> <li>▪ DCDL 600 Methods: Qualitative and Quantitative</li> <li>▪ DCDL 698 Capstone Graduate Project</li> </ul>   |                             |
| 08/2010-08/2016   | <b>California State University, Northridge</b>  | <b>Los Angeles, CA, USA</b> |
|                   | <b>Associate Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning</b>  |                             |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ URBS 150 Urban Scene</li> <li>▪ URBS 310 Growth and Sustainable Development of Cities</li> <li>▪ URBS 340B Qualitative Urban Research Methods</li> <li>▪ URBS 490 Fieldwork</li> <li>▪ URBS 450 Urban Problems Seminar</li> <li>▪ URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design</li> <li>▪ SUST 300 Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Sustainability</li> <li>▪ URBS 685 Qualitative Research in Urban Planning</li> <li>▪ URBS 690 Field project in Urban Planning</li> </ul> |                             |
| 08/2006 – 05/2010 | <b>California State University, Northridge</b>  | <b>Los Angeles, CA, USA</b> |
|                   | <b>Assistant Professor, Department of Urban Studies and Planning</b>  |                             |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ URBS 150 Urban Scene</li> <li>▪ URBS 340B Qualitative Urban Research Methods</li> <li>▪ URBS 440 Community Based Urban Design</li> <li>▪ URBS 441 Advanced Urban Design</li> <li>▪ URBS 450 Urban Problems Seminar</li> </ul>  |                             |
| 10/2009 – 12/2009 | <b>Art Center College of Design</b>   | <b>Pasadena, CA, USA</b>    |
|                   | Guest lecturer & reviewer, Design Matters Program   |                             |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Urban health and sustainable urban form</li> </ul>   |                             |
| 10/2004 – 07/2005 | <b>University of Cambridge</b>  | <b>Cambridge, UK</b>        |
|                   | Guest Lecturer, Department of Architecture  |                             |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Graduate Seminar on “Alternative Approaches in Research: Interpretivism and Constructionism”</li> </ul>  |                             |
| 08/2001 – 05/2004 | <b>North Carolina State University</b>  | <b>Raleigh, NC, USA</b>     |
|                   | Guest Lecturer, PhD in Design Program, College of Design  |                             |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DDN 702 Research Paradigms in Design; DDN 701 Research Methods in Design; DDN 776 Community Design; DDN 795a Research Methods; ARC 546 Theory of Building Types</li> </ul>   |                             |
| 03/1999 – 06/1999 | <b>Middle East Technical University</b>   | <b>Ankara, TURKEY</b>       |
|                   | Teaching Assistant, Department of City & Regional Planning  |                             |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ CRP 290/ 190 Summer Practice: Mapping- Topography and Computer Representation</li> </ul>   |                             |

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**publications**


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| <b>book</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sanoff, H., <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2003) <i>Three Decades of Design and Community</i>. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University Office of the Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement and the College of Design.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>book chapter</b>                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Olwert, C., <b>Toker, Z.</b>, Minnassians, H. (2023) Best practices from 28 planning program-community partnership projects. In J. Mittal and M. LaFrombois. (Eds.), <i>Partners in Planning: University-Community Partnerships in Planning Education</i>. Oxfordshire, England, UK: Routledge.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>peer reviewed journal articles</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b>, Minassians, H. (2018). Miscalculated opposition of businesses to street improvements. <i>Urban Design and Planning</i>. 171:2, 55–60,</li> <li>▪ Rigolon, A., <b>Toker, Z.</b>, &amp; Gasparian, N. (2018). Who has more walkable routes to parks? An environmental justice study of Safe Routes to Parks in neighborhoods of Los Angeles. <i>Journal of Urban Affairs</i>, 40(4), 576-591.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2015) Walking beyond the Socioeconomic Status in an Objectively and Perceptually Walkable Pedestrian Environment. <i>Urban Studies Research</i>, vol. 2015, Article ID 919874, 15 pages.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b>, Minassians, H. (2012) Good cities and healthy communities in the United States <i>Urban Design and Planning, Special Issue on Quality of Life</i>. 165:3, 137-145.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b>, Pontikis, K. (2011) An Inclusive and Generative Design Process for Sustainable Urbanism: The Case of Pacoima. <i>Journal of Urbanism: International Research on Placemaking and Urban Sustainability</i> 4:1, 57-80.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2010) New Housing for New Households: Comparing Cohousing and New Urbanist Developments with Women in Mind. <i>Journal of Architectural and Planning Research</i> 27:4, 325-339.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker Z.</b> (2007) "Recent Trends in Community Design: The Eminence of Participation" <i>Design Studies</i>. 28.3, 309-323.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b>, Toker, U. (2006) "Community Design in its Pragmatist Age: Increasing Popularity and Changing Outcomes." <i>METU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture</i> 23:2, 155-166.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2001) "Influences of Cultural Differences on the Formation of 'Home' Constructs," <i>International Association for People-Environment Studies (IAPS) Autumn 2001 Issue of the Bulletin of People-Environment Studies: Special Issue on Housing</i>.</li> </ul> |
| <b>articles in peer reviewed conference proceedings</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sanoff, H., Toker, U., <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2005) "Research Based Design of a Child and Family Education Center" in Proceedings of the 36<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA 36).</li> <li>▪ Barrett, P., Short, A., Sterry, P., Sutrisna, M., and <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2005) "Briefing for Arts Construction Projects: Capturing the Needs of Arts Clients" In: Kazi, A. S. (Ed.), Volume 3: Systematic Innovation in the Management of Construction Projects and Processes, CIB 2005 Symposium: Combining Forces - Advancing Facilities Management and Construction through Innovation Series, Helsinki.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2003) "Gender Division of Household Space through Housework" in Proceedings of the Gender Bound?: Representations of Difference in Environmental Design Symposium. Tempe, AZ.</li> <li>▪ Toker, U., <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2003) "Family Structure and Spatial Configuration in Turkish House Form in Anatolia from Early Nineteenth Century to Late Twentieth Century," in Proceedings of the Fourth International Space Syntax Symposium. London, UK.</li> <li>▪ Toker, U.; <b>Toker, Z.</b>, Rifki, F. A. (2002) "Research Based Decision Making in Architectural Programming of Workplaces: Case of Pamlico County Government Offices, North Carolina," in Proceedings of the ARCC/EAAE 2002 International Conference on Architectural Research, Montreal. Quebec, Canada.</li> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b>, Toker, U., Rifki, F. A., (2001) "Promoting Sustainable Development through Participatory Design in a Small Town: Mebane, North Carolina" in Proceedings of the Association Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) 2001 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference, Cleveland, OH.</li> </ul> <hr/>   |

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**publications (continued)**


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| <b>encyclopedia entry</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2014) "Sidewalks" in Mark Garrett (Ed.) Volume 3 Encyclopedia of Transportation: Social Science and Policy, Los Angeles: Sage Publications, 1222-1225.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>non-peer reviewed publications</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2020 Resilience Plan for Sylmar – plan prepared for Sylmar Neighborhood Council (with Dr. Olwert)</li> <li>▪ Resilience Plan for Pacoima – plan prepared for Pacoima Beautiful (with Dr. Minassians)</li> <li>▪ 2019 Designing A Bioswale on CSUN Campus – report prepared for the Institute for Sustainability of CSUN.</li> <li>▪ 2019 Devonshire Street: A Walkable Street Proposal – report prepared for Chatsworth Neighborhood Council</li> <li>▪ 2019 Pedestrian and Bicycle Circulation on Zelzah Avenue – report prepared for the Institute for Sustainability of CSUN.</li> <li>▪ 2018 Walkable and Bikable Porter Ranch – Report prepared for Porter Ranch Community School</li> <li>▪ 2018 Improving Traffic Safety on Sepulveda Boulevard – Report prepared for LADOT</li> <li>▪ 2018 Resilience Plan for Chatsworth – plan prepared for Chatsworth Neighborhood Council (with Dr. Olwert)</li> <li>▪ 2017 Resilience Plan for Northridge – plan prepared for Northridge Vision (with Dr. Olwert)</li> <li>▪ 2017 Improving Walkability of a commercial Area: The Case of the City of San Fernando – report prepared for City of San Fernando</li> <li>▪ 2017 Improving mobility around Porter Ranch Community School – report prepared for Porter Ranch Community School</li> <li>▪ 2016 Connecting Reseda Boulevard and CSUN – plan prepared for Council District 12 (with Dr. Olwert)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>non-peer reviewed publications</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2016 A Proposal for Enhancing Mobility in Sun Valley -report prepared for Pacoima Beautiful</li> <li>▪ 2014 Reseda Boulevard: A Walkable and Bikeable Street Proposal</li> <li>▪ 2013 City of San Fernando: Design Guidelines for a Walkable and Bikeable First Street – report prepared for City of San Fernando</li> <li>▪ 2012 CSUN Bicycle Report for the Institute for Sustainability (with Dennis D'alfonso, Anna Cordova, Helen M. Cox, Ph.D., and Laura Yetter).</li> <li>▪ 2012 Santa Monica Boulevard: Design Guidelines for a Walkable and Bikeable Neighborhood – report prepared for West Los Angeles Neighborhood Council</li> <li>▪ 2011 Walkable Streets around Sylmar High School – report prepared for Sylmar High School</li> <li>▪ 2010 Walkable Streets around San Fernando High School – report prepared for San Fernando High School</li> <li>▪ 2009 Pacoima Wash: Public Open Space Proposal – report prepared for Pacoima Beautiful</li> <li>▪ 2008 Pacoima Mixed Use Development – report prepared for Pacoima Beautiful</li> <li>▪ Toker, U., <b>Toker, Z.</b> (Guest Editors) (2006) "Special File: Contemporary Interpretations of Community Design." METU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture 23:2, 123-124.</li> <li>▪ Hamdi, Nabeel. (2006) "Community Design Today" METU Journal of the Faculty of Architecture (Eds.) Umut Toker and <b>Zeynep Toker</b>. 23:2, 125-130.</li> <li>▪ Toker, U., <b>Toker, Z.</b> (2006) "Revisiting Hampstead Garden Suburb: A (Cautionary) Tale of Spatial Determinism" in Focus, 3:1, 32-37.</li> </ul> |
| <b>journal article under review</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Toker, Z.,</b> Guandique, C. (Under review after approval of pre-submission). Understanding the physical activity experience of Latinas with young children: A Qualitative examination of practiced gender role identities and perceived neighborhood characteristics. <i>American Journal of Health Promotion</i>.</li> </ul>   |
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## conference presentations

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- **Toker, Z.** (2023) Expectation to perform community engagement tasks from women of color in urban planning practice: A gift or a burden? Paper presented at the American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Chicago, Illinois.
  - **Toker, Z., Olwert, C.** (2023) How to improve any street: Common perceived pedestrian environment characteristics in different socio-economic status neighborhoods. Paper presented at Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Mexico City, Mexico.
  - **Olwert, C., Toker, Z.** (2021) Community Resilience Plan Priorities for Four San Fernando Valley Neighborhoods, Paper presented at the American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2019) "Latinas Involvement in Urban Planning" Paper presented at Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Brooklyn, New York.
  - **Chaudhari, L., Toker, Z., Chu, T.** (2018) "Role of philanthropic organizations in offering physical activity related programs addressing health disparities in the San Fernando Valley" Poster presented at American Public Health Association (APHA) Conference, San Diego, CA.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2018) "Language and change for community design in Latino communities of Los Angeles" Keynote speech delivered at Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Oklahoma City, OK.
  - **Guandique, C., Toker, Z.** (2017) "Physical Activity in Latinas' Daily Routines: The Role of Cultural and Gender Identity and Neighborhood Characteristics." Paper presented at Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Madison, WI.
  - **Toker, Z., Olwert, C., Taimoorian, S.** (2016) "Minor Interventions for Great Streets: A Case from Los Angeles." Paper presented at EDRA 47<sup>th</sup> Environmental Design Research Association Conference, Raleigh, NC.
  - **Rigolon, A., Toker, Z., Gasparian, N.** (2016) "Who has more walkable routes to parks? An environmental justice study of Safe Routes to Parks in neighborhoods of Los Angeles." Paper presented at the American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Portland, OR.
  - **Toker, Z., Minassians, H.** (2015) "Missed by the merchants: Benefits of improving infrastructure for pedestrians and bicycles and public transportation" Paper presented at the American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Houston, TX.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2015) "The power of perception: The perceived quality of the streets and reported walking in three different socioeconomic status neighborhoods" Paper presented at EDRA 46<sup>th</sup> Environmental Design Research Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
  - **Tamoorian, S., Toker, Z.** (2015) "From Garden City to New Urbanism: The Questionable Success of Green Open Spaces" Poster presented at EDRA 46<sup>th</sup> Environmental Design Research Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2014) "Everyone likes green and hates trash: Common perceived pedestrian environment characteristics in different socio-economic status neighborhoods" Poster presented at the Active Living Research Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2013) "Fostering Walking Behavior in Neighborhoods: Enumerated Street Characteristics and Safety Indicators in Two Cities with Opposite Socioeconomic Conditions" Paper presented at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Providence, RI.
  - **Toker, Z., D'Alfonso, D.** (2012) "Moving Forward: Better Bike Accommodations for a More Sustainable Campus" Poster presented at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
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**conference presentations (continued)**


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- D'Alfonso, D., **Toker, Z.**, (2012) "Not Just a Bike Path: Assessment of Bike Culture at California State University, Northridge" Poster presented at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference, Los Angeles, CA.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2012) "Pedestrians' Streets: Assessment of Walkability Criteria on Santa Monica Boulevard in Los Angeles" Paper presented at the American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Cincinnati, OH.
  - **Toker, Z.**, Hernandez, C. (2012) "Developing research Based Design Guidelines for a river Improvement overlay in Northeast Los Angeles" Paper presented at 41<sup>st</sup> Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Seattle, WA.
  - **Toker, Z.**, Richter, D., de Oliveira, S. O. A. A., de Souza, L. C., de Souza, V. C. (2012) "Walking in the City: Comparing High School Students in the U.S. and Brazil" Paper presented at the 41<sup>st</sup> Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Seattle, WA.
  - **Toker, Z.**, Prieto, E. (2011) "Campuses and their surrounding communities collaborating for sustainability: U.S. and Brazil" Paper presented at the American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
  - **Toker, Z.**, Minassians, H. (2011) "Good cities and healthy communities" Paper presented at the American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Salt Lake City, UT.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2011) "Reading the Home Landscape of an Immigrant Community: The Case of City of San Fernando" Paper presented at the International Conference of The University of Massachusetts Amherst Center for Heritage and Society: Why does the Past Matter?, Amherst, MA.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2010) "Designing a Walkable Neighborhood with the Pedestrians" Paper presented at the 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2010) "Farmers' market: The new piazza on the block" Paper presented at 41<sup>st</sup> Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Washington, DC.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2009) "Community, again? Sustaining life outside of home and work in a neighborhood fighting against environmental injustices" Paper presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Urban Affairs Association in Chicago, IL.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2008) "Community Participation in Los Angeles: With and Without" Twentieth International Association of People-environment Studies (IAPS). Rome, Italy.
  - **Toker, Z.** (2007) "View from the Alley: Hidden Faces of Suburban Houses in Los Angeles." Tenth Annual Conference of the American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences (AABSS). Las Vegas, NV.
  - **Toker, Z.**, and Toker, U. (2007) "Women in Academia: A special Case for City Planning Departments in California." Thirty Eighth Annual Conference of Environmental Design research Association (EDRA). Sacramento, CA.
  - Kocher, S., **Toker Z.**, (2006) "Siting a Coastal Trail: A Phenomenological Approach." Poster presented at the 37th Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference, Atlanta, GA.
  - **Toker, Z.**, Lasai, C. (2003) "Characteristics of Current Cohousing Developments around the World" Poster presented at the 34th Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference. Minneapolis, MN.
- Toker, Z.** (2001) "Current Practices of Community Design Centers: A New Phase or a New Definition" Paper presented at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) Conference. Edinburgh, Scotland.
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**invited speaker**


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- “Physical activity in San Fernando Valley: Availability and Nature of Services Focusing on Physical Activity” Invited speaker with Lisa Chaudhari at **Valley Providers Collaborative** event, February, 14, 2019, Zev Yaroslavsky Family Support Center, Los Angeles, CA.
  - “University-Community Partnerships for Environmental Justice: An example from the San Fernando Valley” Invited speaker at the CSUN/UCLA hosted event titled **Exploring the Big Question: Nonprofit Sector Research in Southern California**, March 26, 2015, UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, Los Angeles, CA.
  - “Sustainable Urbanism & Transportation Planning: Making a case for pedestrians, cyclists, and transit users” Invited speaker at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Valley Green Building Education Conference and Expo titled **Building the Green Economy**, June 7, 2012, CSUN, Los Angeles, CA.
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**grants**


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| <b>external grants</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Participating faculty in U.S. Department of Education’s <b>Fund to Improve Post-Secondary Education (FIPSE)</b> Grant with U.S.-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program for the “Urban Planning and Sustainability Project” (Grant period: September 2009 - May 2013)</li> <li>▪ Participating faculty in <b>Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) CARE</b> (Community Action for a Renewed Environment) Grant with the non-profit organization Pacoima Beautiful (Grant period: October 2007 – September 2009)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>applied external grants</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>National Institute of Health:</b> Assessing and modifying measures to reduce physical activity barriers among Latinas (with Dr. Chaudhari), Date submitted: March 2024, Amount: \$396,078 (Under review)</li> <li>▪ <b>National Science Foundation:</b> Improving Outreach for Community Resilience Plan Preparation (with Dr. Olwert and Dr. Minassians), Date submitted: January 2024, Amount: \$169,624 (Under review)</li> <li>▪ <b>National Endowment for the Humanities:</b> Women’s struggle against ideological barriers to practice urban planning in California from 1870 to 2020, Date submitted: 4/8/20, Amount: \$60,000 (Not funded)</li> <li>▪ <b>Haynes Foundation:</b> Women in Urban Planning: Overcoming Obstacles in California for More than a Century, Date submitted: 12/9/19 Amount: \$12,000 (Not funded)</li> <li>▪ <b>National Institute of Health:</b> Assessing and modifying measures to reduce physical activity barriers among Latinas (with Dr. Chaudhari), Date submitted: 6/17/19, Amount: \$398,749 (Not funded)</li> <li>▪ <b>National Endowment for the Humanities:</b> “Municipal housekeeping:” Women’s roles in urban planning practices in Los Angeles County at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Date submitted, Amount: \$60,000: 4/11/18 (Not funded)</li> <li>▪ <b>Haynes Foundation:</b> Walking Beyond One’s Socio-economic Status: How Communities Might Defy the Statistical Odds in Southern California, Date submitted: 12/10/2012 (Not funded)</li> <li>▪ <b>National Endowment for the Humanities:</b> Reading the Home Landscape of an Immigrant Community: The Case of City of San Fernando, Date submitted: 4/10/11, Amount: \$60,000 (Not funded)</li> </ul> |
| <b>internal grants</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>College of Health and Human Development Interdisciplinary Innovation Grant</b> – Spring 2023 / \$6,000 (with Dr. Chaudhari), Spring 2024 / \$5,000 (with Dr. Chaudhari)</li> <li>▪ <b>RGS Seed grant</b> – (with Dr. Chaudhari) Summer 2018 / \$1,500, Summer 2022 / \$1,500, Summer 2023 (with Dr. Olwert)</li> <li>▪ <b>Community Engagement Faculty Engaged Research Grant</b> – Fall 2020 / \$1,000 (with Dr. Olwert)</li> <li>▪ <b>BUILD PODER writing group</b> – spring 2021 (\$2,000), spring 2022 (\$2,000), spring 2023 (\$2,000)</li> <li>▪ <b>Campus Quality Fee Funding</b> for improving bike racks on campus (2012-13 / \$30,000, 2013-14 / \$30,000)</li> <li>▪ <b>Sabbatical Leave</b> for Academic Year 2012-13 and for AY 2021-2022</li> </ul>  |
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**grants (continued)**


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- internal grants**
- **HIRI** – AY 2018-19 / \$3,000 (with Dr. Chaudhari)
  - **Building Connections for Success Faculty Learning Community** (AY 2012-13 / \$2,200)
  - **2011-12 Research Fellow from College of Social and Behavioral Science** (AY 2011-12 / 12 units reassigned time and \$5,000 for Spring 2012)
  - **College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Competition** at CSUN (2006-7 / \$1,250, 2007-08 / 3 Units reassigned time in Spring of 2008, AY 2010-11 / 3 Units reassigned time in Spring 2011, AY 2012-13 / 3 Units reassigned time in Fall 2013, Fall 2022 / 3 units reassigned time in Fall 2022)
  - **University Research Competition** (AY 2010-11 / 3 Units reassigned time in Fall 2010)
  - **Probationary Faculty Support Program Grant** (AY 2009-10 / 3 Units Reassigned Time in Spring of 2010)
  - **Instructionally Related Activity Grant** for the Community Design Program in the Urban Studies and Planning Department (AY 2009-10 / \$2,000, AY 2010-11/ \$2,000, AY 2011-12 / \$3,000, AY 2012-13 / \$3,000, AY 2013-14 / \$3,000, AY 2015-16, \$3,500, AY 2016-17/ \$3,000, AY 2017-18 / \$3,000, AY 2018-19 / \$3,000, AY 2019-20 / \$3,000, AY 2020-21 / \$3,000, AY 2021-22 / \$2,000)
  - **Interdisciplinary Community Learning Project and Research Grant** from the Center for Innovative & Engaged Learning Opportunities (with Dr. Pontikis) (Spring 2009 / \$5,000, Spring 2010 / \$4,000, Spring 2011 / \$5,000)
  - **Discipline Oriented Service-Learning Project Grant** from the Center for Innovative & Engaged Learning Opportunities at CSUN (Spring 2008 / \$2,000, 2012-13 / \$2,000)
  - **Judge Julian Beck Learning Centered Instructional Project Grant** at CSUN - AY 2008-09 / \$6,000 (with Dr. Covington).
  - **Student Scholar Grant** from the Center for Innovative & Engaged Learning Opportunities at CSUN (AY 2008-09 / \$1,000)
  - **College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Summer Research Stipend** (AY 2006-07 / \$5,000, AY 2007-08 / \$2,500, AY 2008-09 / \$3,000, AY 2010-11 / \$5,000, 2011-12 / \$2,250, 2014-15 / \$5,000, 2016-17 / \$3,000, 2017-18 / 3,000, 2018-19/3,000, 2019-20/ \$5,980)
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**institutional service**


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- Department of Urban Studies and Planning**
- Department Chair (Since Fall 2023)
  - Graduate Program Coordinator (Spring 2015-Spring 2023)
  - Member, Assessment Committee (AY 2015-16)
  - Acting Chair, Urban Studies and Planning Department (AY 2014-15)
  - Chair, Department Personnel Committee (AY 2013-14, 2016-17,2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21)
  - Member, Department Personnel Committee (AY 2012-13, 2017-18)
  - Chair, Student Scholarship Applications Review Committee (AY 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23)
  - Member, Student Scholarship Applications Review Committee (AY 2010-11, AY 2012-13, 2016-17)
  - Chair, Department Chair Nominating Committee (AY 2013-14)
  - Lead, Program Review Committee (AY 2010-2011)
  - Chair, Screen and Search Committee for tenure track faculty position with concentration on community planning (Fall 2010)
  - Chair, Curriculum Committee (Fall 2009-Spring 2014, AY 2016-17, 2019-20, 2020-21, 2022-23)
  - Editor of the Department's Newsletter (AY 2007-08, AY 2008-09, AY 2009-10, AY 2010-11)
  - Department's Website Liaison (Spring 2007-Spring 2011)
  - Equity and Diversity Representative (AY 2009-2010)
  - Department's Graduation Reception Coordinator (2007-08 and 2008-09, 2009-10, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2022-23)
  - Alumni Council Committee (Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2007, Spring 2008)
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**institutional service**


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**College of  
Social and  
Behavioral  
Sciences**

- Member of the Academic Planning Committee (APC) of College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (Spring 2009, Fall 2010, Spring 2010, Fall 2011, Fall 2019, *Fall 2020, Fall 2022, Spring 2023*)
  - Chair of the Academic Planning Committee (APC) of College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (AY 2017-18)
  - Member of the Master of Sustainability Working Group (AY 2019-20)
  - Member of the CSBS Task Force on Online and Hybrid Teaching (Spring 2012)
  - Member of CSBS research fellow selection committee (2009-10, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2016-17, 2018-19)
  - Served as a Marshall at the CSBS Commencement (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011)
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**California  
State  
University,  
Northridge**

- Member of Graduate Studies Committee (2022-23, 2023-24)
  - Member of the working group for designing the Masters in Diverse Community Development and Leadership Program in College of Humanities for Tseng College (2018-19, 2019-2020)
  - Member of the transition team for Institute for Sustainability (2017-18)
  - Member of the working group for designing MA in Sustainability (2017-18, 2018-19)
  - MPA faculty search and screen committee member and ed equity rep (2016-17)
  - Member of Advisory Board for Center for Urban Water Resilience (AY 2015-16)
  - Member of the Campus Environment Planning Board (Fall 2011-Fall 2013)
  - Member of the Green Core Team of the Institute for Sustainability (since Fall 2009)
  - Chair of Transportation Working Group (TWG) of the Institute for Sustainability (Fall 2011-Fall 2013)
  - Member of Transportation Working Group (TWG) of the Institute for Sustainability (Fall 2010, Spring 2011)
  - Co-author of the CSUN Sustainability Plan (Responsible for the Transportation Section)
  - Presenter at CSUN Faculty Retreat (2013, 2014)
  - Member of sustainability manager search and screen committee (Fall 2013)
  - Member of parking manager search and screen committee (Spring 2014)
  - Member of review committee for development of service-learning courses within U.S. Department of Education's five-year grant to promote graduation rates and retention of CSUN undergraduate students in five colleges (Fall 2010-Spring 2012)
  - Presenter at the Teaching and Learning Bytes (October 2010)
  - Facilitator for the Research productivity faculty learning community (Summer 2012)
  - Co-facilitator of the Faculty Development workshop, Developing Learner-Centered Teaching: A showcase of Classroom Strategies (September 2010)
  - Co-facilitator of the Faculty Development and Community Engagement Department's Spring 2009 Faculty Book Group (Developing Learner-Centered Teaching: A Practical Guide for Faculty)
  - Presenter at the Annual Community Engagement Faculty Symposium (Spring, 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2010)
  - Presenter at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Campus Sustainability Day (Fall 2009)
  - Participant at Heart of Los Angeles (HOLA) After School Program in MacArthur Park for College Round Table event
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**mentorship/advising**

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- Mentor in BUILD PODER program (since Fall 2015)
- Mentor in the GE Honors Program (since Fall 2010)
- Mentor in the McNair Program (AY 2010-11, AY 2011-12, AY 2012-13)
- Advisor to the Associated Students Bike Club (Fall 2011-Spring 2015)
- Advisor for the Student Association of the Department (Fall 2007-Spring 2011)
- Advisor of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual American Planning Association California Chapter Los Angeles Section Student Symposium held on November 14, 2009 at CSUN
- Academic Advising (Fall 2006, Spring 2007, Fall 2007)

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**professional service**

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- Member of the Urban Design Committee for **Expo Line Phase 2** (Rail transit connecting Culver City and Santa Monica)

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**refereeing experience**

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- Design Studies
- Journal of Architectural and Planning Research
- Cities

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**professional memberships**

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- Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)
- International Association of People-Environment Relationships (IAPS)
- American Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)
- American Planning Association (APA)
- American Public Health Association (APHA)

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**awards / honors**

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- CSBS Student Success Impact Award – spring 2020 and spring 2021
  - 2018 American Planning Association California Chapter Academic Project Award (with Dr. Olwert and the cohort of graduate students)
  - 2016 Association of Environmental Professionals' Achievement Award
  - Polished Apple Award -2016
  - Sabbatical Leave in Spring 2013 and in Fall 2021
  - 2011-12 Research Fellow at CSUN from College of Social and Behavioral Science
  - Nominated for the 2011, 2014, and 2023 Visionary Community Service Learning Award at CSUN
  - Hagman Scholar at UCLA's Extension's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Land Use Law and Planning Conference
  - 2004 Reviewer Recognition Award, Designshare Inc. – for programming and design of the new Laguna Child and Family Education Center, Laguna, New Mexico, USA (with Henry Sanoff and Umut Toker).
  - 2003 - 2004 Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC), King Student Medal for Excellence in Architectural + Environmental Design Research.
  - Recipient of American Association of University Women (AAUW) 2003-2004 International Fellowship (\$20,000).
  - Member of the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi.
  - Member of the Honor Society of Tau Sigma Delta in Architecture and Allied Arts.
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