# **Department Meeting**

**March 29, 2016**

**Noon – 1:20 Gould 208J**

# **Agenda items**

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| 12:00 — 12:05 | **Vote:** To approve 3/8/16 meeting minutes | Campbell |
| 12:05 — 12:40 | **Guest: Ali Modarres**, Professor, UWT speaking on the new Master of Community Planning | Campbell |
| 12:40 — 1:00 | **Announcements** | Campbell/Others |

**Present:**

Christopher Campbell, Larissa Maziak, Don Miller, Phil Hurvitz, Bob Mugerauer, Diana Siembor, Branden Born, Jan Whittington,

PSA Rep Ariadne Brancato

Guest speaker: Ali Modarres

**No Quorum = No Vote**

**Guest:**

Ali Modarres: Here today to discuss the New Master’s Degree in Community Planning at the UW Tacoma campus

Ali came to UWT in 2013. The Tacoma campus is growing in physical space and in student population. A large interest of the UWT is connecting with the community. Part of what the planning department has been doing is redesigning the undergrad urban studies program

The Urban Studies program currently offers a Master of Science in Geospatial Technologies. This is a one year program (requires a one year GIS certificate program)

<http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/urban-studies/ms-program-overview>

Starting fall of 2016, The Urban Studies program will now be offering a Master of Arts in Community Planning

<http://www.tacoma.uw.edu/urban-studies/master-arts-community-planning>

The program’s core curriculum will be based on three tiers:

First tier: Intro to Cities, practice, community. The practice course engages the community and invites members of the community to hear what the students are doing

Second: Research

Third: Global urbanism, community development

**Process of starting the program**

UWT went through the UW Graduate School and unfortunately, it never came to the college of Built Environments or the Department of Urban Design and Planning for review prior to being approved.

A part of the inspiration for the new program was two levels, by looking to broaden the words “community” and “planning”. The intention was to first define and redefine community and then teach how they can engage planning from the sort of work that advocates for the particular outcomes they want in those communities.

How do you bring practice into theory?

First quarter they take the community development from an instructor who is by trade, a social worker

Moving forward, they will also take the following:

Strategic influence, legal, movements and organizations, power practices, real estate development (affordable housing)

Many of the students who graduated from UWT in Urban Studies, work for the Tacoma housing authority. The idea of the master’s program is to build on the theories they are taught as undergrads and now teach them practical methods.

Every two years they will assess the program

**UW Tacoma and UDP working together in the future**

There is an interest in the possibility of UWT taking MUP courses and vice versa

In the future there may be more design integrated in the program.

We want our students to know that they can absolutely come to Tacoma

Would it be possible to bring the UWT curriculum committee together with the UDP so there is a clear understanding of the tow different programs to make sure we aren’t overlapping?

It would be great if we could have UDP faculty come down every now and again so there is a larger presence.

Every year UWT hosts an Urban Forum where they invite the community.

The Urban Studies Annual Lecture Series is hosting [Susan Clark on May 12](http://www.trumba.com/calendars/tac_urban-studies#/?i=1)

**Questions/ Feedback from UDP faculty**

Would it be possible to hire our PhD students? They already are!

It would be helpful to discuss the Real Estate program offerings with Sofia.

Would it be possible for a UDP faculty to come and speak at the 100 level courses starting in autumn?

The class is T URB 103 Urban Studies offered every Wednesday from 12:25-1:25 each quarter

Fritz started the conversation with UWT early on…it’s good to pick up again.

Is it possible to have a shared mailing list?

Should get connected with the UDP Professionals Council