South Dakota Board of Regents
Intent to Plan: Community and Regional Planning

| UNIVERSITY: | South Dakota State University |
| DEGREE(S) AND TITLE OF PROGRAM: | B.S. in Community and Regional Planning |
| INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION: | Fall 2016 |

University Approval
To the Board and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this intent to plan, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

President of the University  
Date

After approval by the President, a signed copy of the proposal should be transmitted to the Executive Director. Only after Executive Director review should the proposal be posted on the university web site and the Board staff and the other universities notified of the URL.

1. What is the general nature of the proposed program? What is the expected demand for graduates in South Dakota? What is the need for the proposed program?

South Dakota State University (SDSU) requests permission to plan a Bachelor of Science degree in Community and Regional Planning within the Geography Department. The purpose of the program is to educate students to pursue careers in planning agencies at the city, county, state or regional level, seek positions as city managers, community planners, or in organizations such as housing agencies, community and neighborhood development corporations, economic development agencies, federal agencies and private development firms and foundations in South Dakota and the surrounding region. SDSU does not intend to request new State resources to develop or implement this program.

The program will be interdisciplinary and include courses and faculty expertise from Geography, Sociology, Economics, Architecture, Engineering, Natural Resource Management, Landscape Architecture, Plant Science, and the cross-disciplinary management faculty. There will be a core set of courses required of all students in the program along with emphasis areas designed to prepare students for more focused areas in the discipline (i.e., land use planning, environmental planning, community development, economic development, housing and transportation, etc.) The program will draw upon current courses and several new or revised courses to enable students to meet the defined competencies. Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) standards will be used to guide the development of the curriculum with the goal of seeking accreditation in the future.

A bachelor’s degree in Community and Regional Planning supports the system strategic goals¹ (Policy 1:21):
- Contribute to workforce development & quality of life by expanding academic programs to meet our future workforce needs.
- Increase college participation rates.
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- Improve completions, i.e. increase retention rates, increase the number of graduates by at least 4-11 each year, and close achievement gaps.

The proposed program will also serve to provide an alternative career path for students in related areas including interior design, engineering, and architecture. SDSU added the architecture program in 2009 and has been authorized to deliver the interior design and engineering majors for decades. It is common for institutions with the before-mentioned programs to also offer some type of community planning major. At times students move among these related programs as they develop a more accurate understanding of the various fields, content areas, and identify their own strengths, abilities and interests.

**Expected Demand for Graduates in South Dakota**

Though a need for planners exists, a planning degree is not offered at any of South Dakota’s institutions of higher learning. The South Dakota Department of Labor projects that the need for “Urban and Regional Planners” will increase by 6.5% from 2012 to 2022. For the U.S., it is a projected increase of 10%, from 38,700 to 42,700 respectively for the same years. This proposed program is needed to meet this demand as well as the demand for community development professionals to fill positions in the non-profit sector.

The American Planning Association website also provides insight into the expected demand for graduates of a Community and Regional Planning major from a national perspective; for example, the month of August 2014 had 147 job announcements. The median salary for planners is $30.82 per hour nationally.

**Need for the Proposed Program**

The Executive Director of the First District Association of Local Governments states on behalf of the six South Dakota planning districts that community and regional planning is becoming more relevant and more important as demographic and community dynamics change in South Dakota. He believes that it is necessary for SDSU to have an undergraduate program in order to educate South Dakota’s future planners.

The President of the South Dakota Planners Association also provides support for the proposed program by noting that communities and developers are demanding professional advice in both urban and rural development. Furthermore, he believes that SDSU could provide South Dakota’s planning profession with the competitive pool of planners that are necessary to serve South Dakota’s needs in planning expertise.

Current professionals in areas related to planning and community development have identified the need for a community and regional planning major in the state to serve the growing need for individuals with the knowledge skills and experience to provide this specialized expertise to South Dakota communities.

1. [http://www.sdbor.edu/policy/1-Governance/index.htm](http://www.sdbor.edu/policy/1-Governance/index.htm)
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2. What is the relationship of the proposed program to the University’s mission as provided in South Dakota statute and Board of Regents Policy?

The statutory mission of South Dakota State University is provided in SDCL 13-57-1:

Designated as South Dakota’s land-grant university, South Dakota State University, formerly the state college of agriculture and mechanical arts, shall be under the control of the Board of Regents and shall provide undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, family and consumer sciences, nursing and pharmacy, and other courses and program as the Board of Regents may determine.

A community and regional planning program addresses SDSU’s mission “to meet the needs of the State and region by providing undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences . . .” In responding to SDSU’s land-grant mission the program would develop graduates equipped to work with South Dakota’s communities to address change – whether from economic or demographic changes, results of natural disasters including floods or tornadoes, and/or community/city expansion or environmental improvement.

Currently, SDSU has several faculty members in departments and colleges across campus who teach courses that would support a community and regional planning major. The Geography Department would be at the core of the major as the department currently has faculty members with planning and community development expertise and existing courses which may be required for the major. These courses include those in geographic information sciences (GISc).

The new architecture program at SDSU would be another main pillar of a community and regional planning program with faculty expertise and support courses for the proposed major. Also, it should be noted that acceptance into the Master of Architecture program is highly competitive. The addition of the Community and Regional Planning major is a closely related discipline that may appeal to those who do not continue in architecture.

In addition to Geography and Architecture, a number of faculty members in other departments and colleges offer courses that could serve a community and regional planning degree. They are Sociology, Economics, Natural Resource Management, Plant Science, Political Science, Civil Engineering, Construction Management and Design Studies (i.e., Landscape Architecture; Interior Design, etc.)

Also, several professionals in the local community are available to support the program (i.e., providing internship sites, serving as guest lecturer, recruiting students, hiring graduates) including the current Brookings County Planning, Zoning, and Drainage Director and the Executive Director of Brookings Economic Development Corporation.

3. Are there any related programs in the regental system? If there are related programs, why should the proposed program be added? If there are no related programs within the system, enter “None.”

Currently, the Department of Geography at SDSU offers an emphasis in planning within the geography major and a graduate Planning minor in cooperation with other programs. The
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Department of Sociology also offers a specialization in Community Development (through Great Plains IDEA) in its M.S. degree. SDSU also has a program in architecture. The proposed program in community and regional planning would build on and increase the synergies among these existing programs.

4. Are there related programs at public colleges and universities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming? If there are related programs in these states list below under each state and explain why the proposed program is needed in South Dakota. If there are no related programs in a state, enter “None” for that state.

Minnesota
Minnesota State University Mankato - Bachelor’s degree in urban and regional studies.
St. Cloud State University - Minor and a bachelor’s degree in community development.

North Dakota
North Dakota State University - Landscape architecture major has a Rural Community Development option.

Montana
University of Montana - Community and environmental planning option for its bachelor’s and master’s degrees in geography.

Wyoming
University of Wyoming - Planning concentration for its bachelor’s degree in geography.

5. Are students expected to be new to the university or redirected from other programs? How many majors are expected in the first years of the program? How many graduates are expected?

This program will attract new students to the university. However, it also will attract current students who find this program more appropriate for pursuing their career paths. It is expected that the program will attract 10-15 majors in its first year and ultimately graduate 5-10 students a year.

6. Does the university intend to seek authorization to deliver this entire program at any off-campus locations? If yes, enter location(s) and intended start date(s). Does the university intend to seek authorization to deliver this entire program by distance technology? If yes, identify delivery method(s) and intended start date(s).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Off-campus</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distance delivery</td>
<td>Yes, on-line fall 2016</td>
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7. **What are the University’s plans for obtaining the resources needed to implement the program?** Indicate “yes” or “no” in the columns below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reallocate existing resources</th>
<th>Development/Start-up</th>
<th>Long-term Operation</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apply for external resources</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ask Board to seek new State resources</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ask Board to approve new or increased student fee</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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As mentioned in section 1 above, SDSU will not ask for additional State resources to fund this program. Rather, the program will be developed and delivered through the use of existing faculty development funds, reallocation due to student movement into the program from other programs, tuition funds gained from new students attracted to SDSU due to the proposed program. In addition, funding from the strategic reinvestment pool will be requested in FY15.

8. **Curriculum Example:** Provide (as Appendix A) the curriculum of a similar program at another college or university. The Appendix should provide the required and elective courses in the program. Catalog pages or web materials may be used. **Identify the college or university and explain why the program may be used as one model when the proposed program is developed.**

The Iowa State University: B.S. in Community and Regional Planning provides a good model for use when the proposed program is developed. ISU has a similar mix of program areas from which to draw upon and similar outcomes and target audiences are identified. ISU is also the land-grant institution in Iowa.
Appendix A

Curriculum Example: Iowa State University
Additional information regarding the B.S. in Community and Regional Planning program at Iowa State University may be found at:
http://www.design.iastate.edu/communityplanning/degree.php

The Department of Community and Regional Planning offers a four-year undergraduate program leading to a Bachelor of Science in Community and Regional Planning. Entry into professional program takes place in two ways: completion of the Design Core, or transfer from another curricula or accredited institution.

Planning Core: (24 Credits)
CRP 201 The American Metropolis (3 cr.)
CRP 293 Environmental Planning (3 cr.)
CRP 301 Planning Methods Studio (4 cr.)
CRP 383 Theory of the Planning Process (3 cr.)
CRP 391 Field Travel (1 cr.)
CRP 432 Community Planning Studio (6 cr.)
CRP 492 Planning Law, Administration and Implementation (3 cr.)
CRP 498 Portfolio Development and Review (1 cr.)

Planning Electives: (24 Credits)
CRP 291 World Cities & Globalization (6 cr.)
CRP 320 Urban Form (3 cr.)
CRP 331 Professional Practice Seminar (1 cr.)
CRP 376 Rural, Urban and Regional Economics (3 cr.)
CRP 416 Urban Design and Practice (6 cr.)
CRP 417 Urban Revitalization (3 cr.)
CRP 425 Growth Management (3 cr.)
CRP 427 Comparative Urbanism and Urban Studies (3.0)
CRP 429 International Planning (3.0)
CRP 435 Planning in Small Towns (3.0)
CRP 436 Planning in Small Towns (3 cr.)
CRP 442 Site Development (3.0)
CRP 445 Transportation Planning (3 cr.)
CRP 451 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3 cr.)
CRP 452 Geographic Data Management and Planning Analysis (3 cr.)
CRP 454 Fundamentals of Remote Sensing (3 cr.)
CRP 456 GIS Programming & Automation (3 cr.)
CRP 458 Web Mapping/GIS (3 cr.)
CRP 460 Social Justice and Planning (3 cr.)
CRP 475 Grant Writing (1 cr.)
CRP 479 Public Finance and Planning (3 cr.)
CRP 481 Regional and State Planning (3 cr.)
CRP 484 Sustainable Communities (3 cr.)
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CRP 491   Environmental Law and Planning
CRP 494   Senior Seminar in Planning (3 cr.)
CE 350   Introduction to Transportation Planning (3 cr.)

http://www.design.iastate.edu/communityplanning/degree.php