

TRAVIS KRAUS – CURRICULUM VITAE

School of Planning and Public Affairs
University of Iowa
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EDUCATION

2013 M.S., Urban and Regional Planning, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
1999 B.A., English, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA
1999 Secondary Teaching Certificate, Education, University of Iowa,
Iowa City, IA

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND APPOINTMENTS

2020-present Associate Professor of Practice, School of Planning and Public Affairs,
University of Iowa
2018-present Director, Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities, University of Iowa
2022-2023 Faculty Fellow for Engaged Teaching and Scholarship, Office of Community
Engagement, University of Iowa
2017-2018 Assistant Director, Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities, University of
Iowa
2016-2017 Program Coordinator, Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities,
University of Iowa
2014-2016 Commissioner, Mid-America Port Commission, Quincy, IL
2014-2016 Executive Vice President, Mount Pleasant Area Chamber Alliance (Mount
Pleasant Area Development Commission, Mount Pleasant Chamber of
Commerce, Henry County Tourism)
2013-2014 Regional Planner, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission,
Burlington, IA

AWARDS AND HONORS

Faculty and Staff Recognized by the Graduating Class of 2024.

Presidents' Civic Engagement Leadership Award, Iowa and Minnesota Campus Compact, 2021.

PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS (SELECTED)

Matched and supported 306 community engagement projects across the state of Iowa through IISC since 2016 (out of 410 total IISC projects since 2009); served as primary faculty advisor for 33 IISC projects.

Researcher and contributor, “Closing the Gap: A study of transportation barriers and mobility for individuals with brain health/mental health and disability needs in East Central Iowa,” <https://iisc.uiowa.edu/sites/iisc.uiowa.edu/files/2023-09/Final%20Report%20-%20ECR%20Transportation%20Gap%20Analysis.pdf>, 2023

Steering Committee, “Iowa City Solar 2035, A Strategy for Expanding Solar Energy in the Comin Decade, Johnson Clean Energy District and the City of Iowa City,” <https://johnsoncleanenergydistrict.org/blog/iowa-city-solar-2035/>, 2022.

Lead Author and Developer, [Grow Black-Owned: A Story Map Highlighting Black-Owned Businesses, Non-Profits, and Entrepreneurs in Johnson County, Iowa](#), 2021.

Tate, E., Strong, A., **Kraus, T.** et al. Flood recovery and property acquisition in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. *Nat Hazards* 80, 2055–2079, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11069-015-2060-8>, 2016.

Lead Planner, [Lee County, Iowa Multi-Jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan](#), Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, 2014.

Lead Planner, “City of Wayland, Iowa Comprehensive Plan,” https://www.waylandiowa.com/vertical/sites/%7B66BF1712-A26F-4097-97D9-123794577CF0%7D/uploads/Wayland_Comp_Plan_-_final_12-9-13.pdf, 2013.

Bjornstad, C., Karlovits, K., **Kraus, T.**, Owusu-Daaku, K., Schrader, S., & Shoemaker, P., “Schools, Neighborhoods, and Student Outcomes: The Intersection of Education and Community Development in Dubuque, Iowa.” University of Iowa, <https://doi.org/10.17077/db7x-nw2q>, 2013.

INVITED LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED):

“Sustainability and Resiliency Outreach at Iowa’s Public Research Universities and Opportunities for Community Engagement,” Panelist, American Planning Association Iowa Chapter, October 16, 2024.

“University of Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities: Overview of program and services available to counties,” Iowa State Association of Counties Annual Conference, August 22, 2024.

“Communities and Solar,” Panelist, Energy Analysis and Policy Workshop: Satellite Data to Support Solar Energy Decision-Making, University of Iowa School of Planning and Public Affairs and Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at University of Wisconsin-Madison, August 18, 2024.

Facilitator, FANCE Tea Time, Resilient and Sustainable Futures for Iowa City, July 1, 2024.

“Using StoryMaps to gather impact data from past partnerships,” Presenter, EPIC-Network conference, June 23, 2024.

“Unpacking Placemaking: Definitions and Applications for Authentic Community Development,” Presenter, EPIC-Network conference, June 24, 2024.

“Unpacking Placemaking: Definitions and Applications for Authentic Community Development,” Presenter, Engagement Summit, University of Iowa Office of Community Engagement, April 9, 2024.

“Community Partnerships with the UI School of Planning & Public Affairs” Presenter, Annual Conference, Iowa City/County Management Association, March 29, 2024.

“Connecting Iowa communities with UI learning to advance shared goals,” Presenter, IRDC Zoominar, Iowa Rural Development Council, January 26, 2024.

Panelist, “Community-Engaged Teaching & Learning,” Graduate Engagement Corps Orientation, University of Iowa Office of Community Engagement, January 10, 2024.

“Sustainable Alliances: Bridging City Year Partnerships and Engaging Communities in Sustainable Research,” Panelist, Growing Sustainable Communities Conference, April 24, 2024.

“What does meaningful community engagement look like? Lessons from IISC,” Presenter, University of Iowa Libraries Staff Development & Diversity, April 22, 2024.

“Solar Energy Policy in Iowa,” Panelist, Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative, University of Iowa College of Law, October 11, 2022.

“Resilience Webinar Series – Partnership Projects, Outcomes, and Impacts on Local Resilience: Keokuk, Iowa and University of Iowa”, Panelist, Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities – Network (EPIC-N) and US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), February 24, 2022.

“Economic Development as Social Justice — An Obermann Conversation”, Panelist and Moderator, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies and Iowa City Public Library, December 2, 2021.

“Challenges and Opportunities for Increasing Solar PV in Iowa; Decarbonizing Iowa 2040 - Behavioral and Public Policy Research Needs for Solar Energy”, Panelist, University of Iowa Office of the Vice President for Research, October 27, 2021.

“Policy and Persuasion: How to Effectively Communicate Your Policy Proposal”, Workshop Presenter, Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference, September 16, 2021.

“Ensuring Reciprocity & Sustainability in Community Engagement”, Workshop Presenter, University of Iowa Office of Community Engagement, November 4, 2021.

Environmental Brunch Seminar, Guest Speaker, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Iowa, April 21, 2021.

“Sharing (and Updating) Success Stories”, Guest Speaker and Facilitator, EPIC-Network Call Series, March 4, 2021.

“Borrowing from Participatory Design to Enhance Collaborative Lawyering”, Panelist, Southern Clinical Conference and Bellow Scholars Workshop, October 19, 2018.

“Tuning in to Your Town’s Needs”, Panelist, Iowa’s Living Roadways Annual Celebration, November 16, 2018.

“Rethinking Incentives”, Panelist and Moderator, Professional Developers of Iowa Annual Conference, September 27, 2018.

“Where Do We Go From Here? Creating a New Path for Your Community”, Workshop Presenter, Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference, September 13, 2018.

“From Service-Learning to Community-Engaged Learning: Digging into a Participatory Approach”, Panelist, EPIC-N Sustainable City Year Annual Conference, April 10, 2018.

“Art Doesn’t Happen Here”, Panel Moderator, Art in Public - The 6th Biennial Grant Wood Symposium, September 29, 2018.

TEACHING:

University of Iowa courses:

URP:6273 Community Development through Creative Placemaking, Spring 2021 – present

URP:6209 Sustainable Communities Lab, Fall 2020 – present

PBAF: 6210 Master of Public Affairs Capstone, Spring 2022 - present

Capstone Advising:

“Burlington & West Burlington Shared Service Study,” 2025

“Reducing Administrative Burdens for Families in Need,” 2025

“Burlington & West Burlington Arts, Culture, and Wayfinding Master Plan,” 2025

“Bondurant Parks, Trails, and Greenways Master Plan,” 2024

“Bondurant Public Safety Study,” 2024

“Dubuque Green Alleyways Policy Analysis,” 2024

“Dubuque Public Library Policy Recommendations for Mental Health Crises and Neurodivergent Services,” 2024

“Dubuque Affordable Housing Action Plan,” 2024

“Dubuque Alternative Transportation Action Plan,” 2024

“Clinton Liberty Square Master Plan,” 2023

“Clinton Housing Needs Assessment and Strategy Report,” 2023

“Clinton Youth Substance Abuse Prevention,” 2023

“Clinton Policy Strategies to Address Opioid Use Disorder,” 2023

“Maquoketa City Council Goal Setting and Onboarding,” 2022

“Muscatine Community College Decarbonization and Zero-Waste Policy”, 2022

“Jackson County Regional Farmers Market and Local Foods Policy,” 2022

“Maquoketa River Watershed Management Plan,” 2020-2022

“Waterloo’s Church Row Neighborhood Plan,” 2020-2021

“Manchester Strategic Development Plan,” 2020-2021

“Tama, Iowa Comprehensive Plan,” 2019-2020

“Historic Preservation Initiative in Iowa City,” 2019-2020

“Keokuk Downtown Revitalization Plan,” 2019-2020

“Keokuk Pathways and Green Streets Plan,” 2019-2020

“Linn County Windfarm Suitability Analysis,” 2018-2019

“Iowa City Automated Vehicle Adaptation and Equity Plan,” 2018-2019

“Webster City Downtown Strategic Plan,” 2018-2019

“Clinton Economic Development Plan”, 2018-2019

“Jackson County Tomorrow,” 2017-2018

“Cedar County Vision Plan” and Cedar County Comprehensive Plan,” 2017-2018

“Mason City North End Neighborhood Plan,” 2017-2018

“Regional Brownfields Inventory and Land Bank Feasibility Study,” 2016-2017

“Updating the 2006 Mason City Comprehensive Plan,” 2016-2017

“Mason City Sustainability Plan,” 2016-2017

FUNDING

Secured nearly \$699,336.72 in financial contributions and contracts for the Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities (IISC) since 2016.

Co-Investigator on funded \$6M grant from US National Science Foundation, “Project: RII Track-2 FEC: Data-Advanced Research and Education (DARE) to improve weather intelligence and localized climate change assessment and resilience in ag--based communities.”

Awarded \$3,500 Iowa City Public Art Matching Grant for community engagement and public art installation at the Pheasant Ridge Neighborhood Center in Iowa City, 2023

Awarded \$5,000 Community Engaged Scholars Grant from the University of Iowa Office of Vice President for Research (OVPR) to support community engagement partnership in Iowa City's Wonderful Westside Neighborhood, 2022.

Assisted in securing \$100,000 Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) planning grant for the Maquoketa River Watershed Management Authority, 2021.

Assisted in securing \$20,000 Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) – Iowa Center for Rural Revitalization Rural Innovation Grant for the Jackson County Economic Alliance, 2021.

TRAINING AND CERTIFICATIONS:

- 2020 Strategic Doing, Certified Workshop Leader
- 2020 Humanities for the Public Good + Liberating Structures: Course Design Microgrant Award

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

- American Planning Association
- EPIC-N Network
- Outreach And Engagement Professionals Network
- Professional Developers of Iowa
- Iowa Rural Development Council

SERVICE TO THE INSTITUTION

- 2023 - present Graduate College Representative, University of Iowa Center for Advancement Alumni Leadership Council
- 2023 - present Member, School of Planning and Public Affairs Capstone Committee
- 2023 - present Member, School of Planning and Public Affairs Awards Committee
- 2022 - present Member, School of Planning and Public Affairs Government Relations: Campus Units Committee
- 2023 Chair, Search Committee for Director of the School of Planning and Public Affairs
- 2023 Member, School of Planning and Public Affairs Tenure-Track Faculty Search Committee

2023	Member, School of Planning and Public Affairs Visiting Assistant Professor Search Committee
2022	Mentor, Underrepresented Students in Sustainability (USS) Mentoring Program
2022	Member UI Strategic Plan, High Impact Practices implementation team
2021	Member, Community Engaged Course Designation Review Committee, Office of Community Engagement, University of Iowa
2021	Member, Humanities for the Public Good Environmental Change Lab, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies at the University of Iowa
2020	Member, Graduate Institute Application Review Committee, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies at the University of Iowa

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:

Iowa League of Cities All-Star Communities Award Judge

EPIC-N Board of Directors

OEPN Conference Planning Committee

Professional Developers of Iowa Conference Planning Committee

PUBLIC SERVICE:

2024- present Member, Great Iowa City Community Development Advisory Council

2023- present Volunteer Organizer, Iowa City Repair Cafe

2022- present Member, Wonderful Westside Neighborhood Association Steering Committee

2019-present Treasurer, Public Space One Board of Directors

2021-present Advisor, Johnson Clean Energy District