

# FUTURE LEADERS IN PLANNING

2009-2010



HOUSING  
URBAN

ENVIRONMENT  
TRANSPORTATION

COMMUNITIES  
PLANNING

EXPERTISE

GMAP  
LAKE

MCHENRY  
DUPAGE

HUMAN  
SERVICES

BURNHAM  
LEADERS

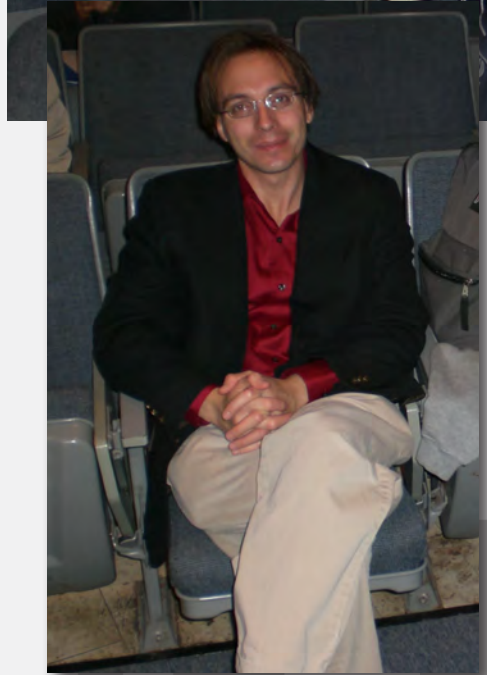
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT

WOOD

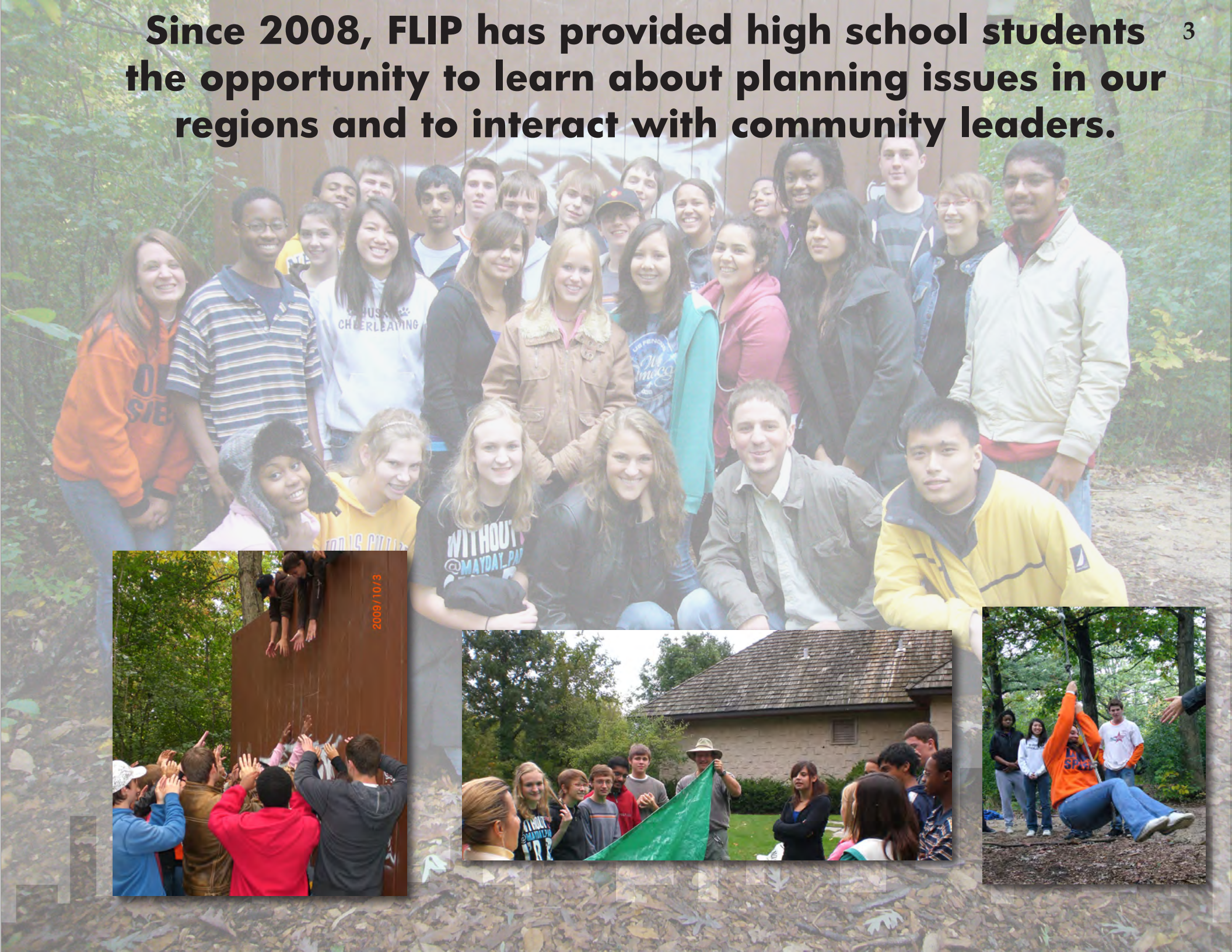
KENDALL  
CHICAGO

# RETREAT

Professor Schniederman gave us all a lot to think about, and we began to understand how planning draws on many different subjects. Focusing on Chicago, he began with the story of the creation of the city, which at its origins had very few people. As he moved through the decades and the city grew he addressed the different industries that settled in the Chicago area to make it as powerful as we see it today. Then along came Daniel Burnham, one of the most influential people to help organize and lay out the region. Burnham, one of the first planners, pulled ideas from European cities to create a plan for Chicago. The courthouse, city hall, and museums all looked like they belonged in ancient Rome; Grant Park was supposed to be saved forever so that all citizens could enjoy the lake front.



Since 2008, FLIP has provided high school students the opportunity to learn about planning issues in our regions and to interact with community leaders.



# SESSION ONE



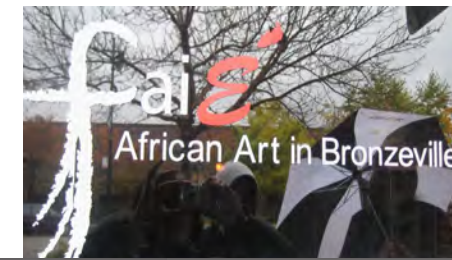
At the retreat students chose which of the groups they wanted to join. The first week of splitting into our groups gave us each a chance to start learning about specific issues. Each group went out to individual sites that emphasized the need for urban planning in our communities. Guided tours and firsthand knowledge of what is happening behind the scenes was vital when trying to understand the different challenges that are presented to us. After each tour group was back in the Willis Tower (and of course after lunch) each group presented and taught their classmates what they learned on their tour

- HUMAN SERVICES - CITY FARM AND MERCY HOUSING**
- TRANSPORTATION - CTA OPERATIONS CONTROL ROOM**
- ENVIRONMENT - CHICAGO CENTER FOR GREEN TECHNOLOGY**
- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - BRONZEVILLE COMMUNITY MARKET & LITTLE BLACK PEARL**
- HOUSING AND LAND USE - THE POLISH TRIANGLE**



## Local Business

- Attracts people to the area and provides goods and services to the community.
- Mixed use.



## Questions for Further Investigation

- ▶ What is the future of alternate transportation?
  - High speed rails
  - Walking, biking,
  - BRTs
- ▶ How can we achieve a unified transport system for Chicago?
- ▶ How can we acquire money for new projects?
- ▶ What improvements could be made to our current system?

## Wrap Up

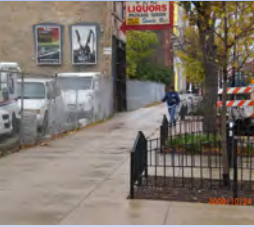
Human Services is more than just one segment of planning for the city. Many overlapping planning issues (environment, housing, economics, transportation) meet in a locus at Human Services. The City Farm and Mercy Housing projects contribute to the Human Services of Chicago in multiple unique ways.

“Leaders of their own generation”

-Patrick T. Reardon  
Chicago Tribune

## Our Ideas

- More bike friendly/safer
- More grass/nature
- Cleaner transportation entrances
- Cleaner park (in general)
- More convenient transportation information
- More community involvement





# SESSION THREE

The 5th of December began as all other FLIP sessions, with the gathering of students from the far reaches of the Chicago metropolitan region. The first subject addressed by Erin Aleman was about the preferred scenario for the GO TO 2040 plan.



8

All of the groups were given a chance to present a revised plan and then the city council was given time to deliberate. When the council came back and presented their new plan there was near riot as few were completely happy with the new plan. This activity provided an opportunity for our students to experience how difficult it is to satisfy every interest group in real life. In addition, our participants get to practice their persuasion skills. By the end of the exercise the wave of arguments could only be stemmed by lunch.

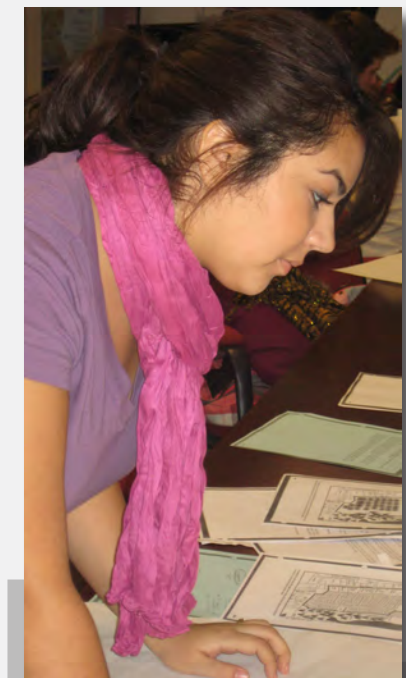


9

After lunch the "theme teams" of housing, economic development, transportation, human services, and environmental broke up and started to talk about what ideas they had for their final project. Hours passed by as the teams propose ideas and began initial research. Finally as the end of the day drew near, each team presented their top two ideas to the rest of their colleagues.



Later, the Town Council of FLIPville was called to order and concerned people were able to voice their opinion about a new development that was taking over farmland within the city. In this activity, our future leaders were designated to represent different interest groups. The groups such as the environmentalists, the real estate developers, local business owners, citizens, and even a community activist group, were present and each voiced their concern about the plan.



# SESSION FOUR



10

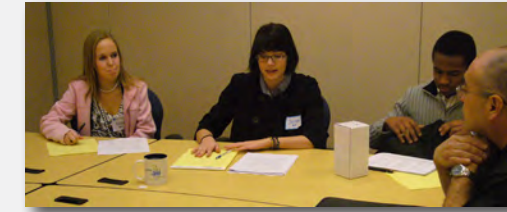
The fifth session of FLIP took place in the Willis Tower in the CMAP offices. This session may not have been the most exciting but it was certainly better than being outside all day. A large portion of the day was set aside for preparing the students for the expert interviews. The expert interviews are during the sixth session of FLIP, this is where the students are able to ask questions of experts in the field of planning and gather information on their final projects but also build interview skills. The day started off with further explanation of the final project and also the vote by the students on what their group should pursue for the final project. Once everyone was decided and received feedback from their other colleagues a presentation was given on the skills of interviewing and how to avoid bad interview skills. Then the students created questions for the interviews and after lunch the day was finished off by creating a draft of the final project.



# SESSION FIVE



11

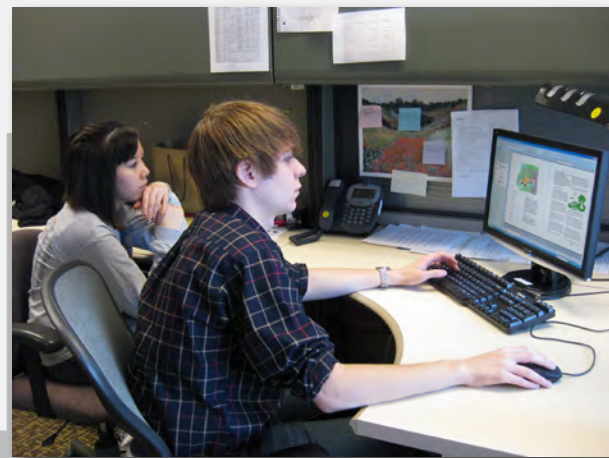


One of the final sessions of FLIP (and a momentous one at that) started on February the 6th. It was the day of the expert interviews, and everybody arrived, dressed head to toe in business attire. The day started with a little more group time for work on the final projects and also a little relaxing and preparing for the expert interviews. Once 11:00 hit, it was a whirlwind of activity, between all the experts coming and going, conference rooms, and hour long interviews the time flew by. The day was dedicated to including the next generation of leaders in the planning process by having them interact with the current leaders and exchange ideas, about the FLIP participants' projects as well as the projects the experts were working on. The pace was hectic until lunch and everybody had a chance to unwind. After sharing what went well and what could be improved upon the students had some time to apply the knowledge from the experts to their group projects and work on those for the remainder of the day.



# SESSION SIX

The final FLIP sessions were about the completion and practicing of the final presentations and projects. Each group had a chance to present to their classmates and receive valuable feedback on their presentations. They explained their final project, their desire and methods of starting it, and finally their intended goals for the project. Each group had used all of the knowledge and information presented to them over the past few months and created a project that they felt fills a need within their communities. Each group has a specific project aligned with their area of focus, transportation, housing and land use, economic development, human services, and the environment. This final project not only shows the students' dedication to the FLIP program but also their dedication to helping their communities. They have taken what they learned, looked critically at it through teenaged eyes, and have produced a project that will have broad benefits to the region.



## FLIP FAREWELL

While the FLIP staff is sad to see this group of intelligent young student leave the program, we are excited about what they have and will achieve.

If just a small percentage of their dedication to this program is applied to whatever they choose to pursue in life, they will impact the lives of everyone around them. The FLIP staff, the experts, and everyone who participated this year in the program wishes the best of luck for the students and expect big things from them in the future.

