**Henry Oppong-Sem Ayakwah**

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**Education**

PhD in Architecture, Urbanism and Built Environment

Morgan State University May 2025

Master of Urban and Regional Planning

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University May 2018

Bachelor of Arts (Humanities)

St. Mary’s Seminary and University May 2014

**Research Interests:** Climate Change + Renewable Energy + Built Environment + EV Transportation + EV Charging Stations + Equity

**Experiences**

**Adjunct Faculty – Towson University** Department of Geography and Environmental Planning Feb’ – Present

* Develop and implement course curriculum that aligns with the learning objectives of the course.
* Plan and deliver engaging lectures and facilitate class discussions that promote active learning.
* Create and grade assignments, including exams, quizzes, and homework assignments, and provide timely feedback to students.
* Foster a supportive learning environment that encourages student engagement and academic success.
* Collaborate with other faculty members and administrative staff to ensure the course is meeting the needs of the students and the institution.
* Utilize technology to enhance the learning experience, including learning management systems, online resources, and multimedia tools.
* Maintain accurate records of student attendance, grades, and other relevant information.
* Adhere to institutional policies and procedures related to course delivery, grading, and student conduct.

**Planner II, Development Review** Baltimore County Government Department of Planning Oct’ 22 – Present

* Receives petitions for development and distributed them to community planners and other agencies.
* Work with the Administrative Law Judge to coordinate Zoning Advisory Committee cases and act as a link between the planning department and other agencies.
* Reviews and submitted comments for limited exemption developments, minor subdivision petitions, undersized lots, and assisted living facility petitions.
* Serves as the planner in charge of reviewing the northeast sector of Baltimore County for the Zoning Advisory Committee.
* Assisted in the research, drafting, and implementation of materials in the upcoming Baltimore County 2030 Master Plan
* Serves as the Baltimore County Department of Planning representative on the Council on Environmental Quality.
* Serves as planner in charge of State of Maryland programs like surplus property requests and state clearinghouse reviews.

**Planner I, Development Review** Baltimore County Government Department of Planning Oct’ 20 – Oct’ 22

* Met with public officials, developers, and the public regarding development plans and land use.
* Administered government plans or policies affecting land use.
* Reviewed and discussed suggestions on site plans submitted by developers.
* Assessed the feasibility of proposals and development applications and identified needed changes.
* Recommended whether proposals, development applications, and plans be approved or denied.
* Participated in project presentations to communities, planning officials, and planning commissions.
* Received petitions for development and distributed them to community planners and other agencies.
* Worked with the Administrative Law Judge to coordinate Zoning Advisory Committee cases and act as a link between the planning department and other agencies.
* Reviewed and submitted comments for limited exemption developments, minor subdivision petitions, undersized lots, and assisted living facility petitions.

**Planning and Zoning Associate, GIS** Baltimore County Government Department of Planning Oct’ 18 – Oct’ 20

* Analyzed spatial data using the GIS software.
* Discovered patterns and trends through the spatial mapping of data.
* Designed digital maps with geographic data and other data sources.
* Assisted with the CZMP process, aiding the office and the public with remap zoning change requests.
* Performed data munging and cleaning to convert the data into its desired form.
* Edited the address data of the commercial corridors in Baltimore County in the county GIS system.
* Created "shapefiles" to merge topographical data with external data by layering external data over a topographical map.
* Designed maps for presentation and other purposes

**Graduate Assistant** Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA Jan ’16 – May ‘17

Teaching Assistant (TA) Duties:

* Led discussion sections and labs, prepared lesson plans, and graded student work for undergraduate courses.
* Provided additional support and guidance to students during office hours and in one-on-one meetings.
* Collaborated with the course instructor to design assignments, exams, and course materials.
* Maintained accurate records of student attendance, grades, and other relevant information.
* Assisted with the development and implementation of new course materials and syllabi.

Research Assistant (RA) Duties:

* Conducted literature reviews and gathered research materials in support of research projects.
* Contributed to research design, data collection, and analysis using statistical software.
* Organized and managed research data, including coding and cleaning data sets.
* Worked collaboratively with research team members to identify research questions and hypotheses and design studies to test them.
* Assisted in the preparation of research proposals and supported documentation.
* Prepared reports and presentations summarizing research findings and provided recommendations to research team.
* Stayed up-to-date on emerging trends and best practices in the field through attending conferences, workshops, and professional development opportunities.

Graduate Assistant (GA) Duties:

* Assisted with administrative tasks, such as event planning, scheduling, and record keeping.
* Provided support to faculty and staff in various departments, such as preparing materials for meetings, workshops, and presentations.
* Conducted outreach activities to promote university programs and events.
* Assisted with grant writing, budget management, and fundraising activities.
* Provided support to students, such as answering questions and providing guidance on university policies and procedures.
* Maintained accurate records of all activities and progress reports