

October 12, 2016

Executive Offices

- **Preparations for the governance meetings and annual meeting** continue in top gear across all departments. The October 26 edition of the *Leaders Express* will be the annual meeting wrap. Safe travels to all who are attending the conference this year!
- Recently, **President Chad Danos, FASLA**, attended and assisted the **Tennessee Chapter** with its annual awards program in Memphis, then opened the meeting with the keynote address on the Influence of Landscape and the Connection to Spaces and Places. Upon the **conclusion of the conference**, **President Danos** travelled to California where **he participated in a student chapter visit at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo**. He then travelled to Los Angeles **to participate in Greenbuild**, then **attended the Southern California ASLA Awards Banquet** at Disney's Grand Californian Resort in Anaheim. **For his efforts in speaking and presenting the Award of Excellence, the chapter presented him with Mickey Mouse ears.**
- **President-Elect Vaughn Rinner, FASLA**, paid a **leadership visit to the University of Georgia in Athens**, where she presented to students, faculty, and **Georgia ASLA Chapter** members. Discussion included ASLA activities, with an emphasis on advocacy as well as programs for students and emerging professionals. Along with **Daniel Martin, Affiliate ASLA**, she spent a day visiting studios and discussing projects with students in the BLA program. The student chapter leaders were great hosts!
- **President-Elect Rinner** also attended the **Virginia Chapter Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony** at Fort Monroe in Hampton, a recently designated national monument. The interesting meeting focused on resiliency, and Rinner also presented on ASLA's initiatives and climate change.
- EVP Nancy Somerville, FASLA, presented **testimony on the FBI Square Guidelines at the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPD)** meeting in Washington, D.C. last week. The testimony focused on maintaining the Kiley-designed plaza and tree plantings on the Pennsylvania Avenue side of the FBI building, as well as the need to include environmental sustainability concerns in the recommendations. The FBI Building will be sold to a developer as part of a land exchange arrangement for relocating the FBI to a larger facility in the D.C. suburbs. The U.S. General Services Administration is pushing for a substantial reduction in the sidewalk area to maximize revenue from the land sale. NCPD has proposed a compromise that retains two of the three rows of trees and provides some protection for the viewshed.
- **Immediate Past President Richard Zweifel, FASLA**, participated in the **Michigan Chapter's annual meeting "Art in the Landscape"** and dinner September 28-29. He provided an ASLA update on significant national activities/programs and presented the chapter's annual professional awards. Also, IPP Zweifel was in Philadelphia recently conducting **leadership visits at Philadelphia, Penn, and Temple universities**. At each day-long visit, he presented a keynote speech to students and faculty **outlining influences to the profession, future opportunities, and updates on ASLA programs and resources**. He also met with students for board critiques and discussions about encouraging participation in chapter activities.
- The recent ASLA staff **hard hat tour of the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture** has ramped up excitement for the move back, which is currently scheduled for December 1.



- Donations to the **ASLA Annual Fund** for the first quarters of 2016 are up 282 percent over the same period in 2015. Additional solicitations will go out to all members in November and December to support the Fund's programs.

Finance, Meetings, and Business Operations

- CFO Mike O'Brien has **closed out September 2016** and reports to the Executive Committee and Board of Trustees next week at the Annual meeting in New Orleans. The third quarter results exceed the budget by just over one percent. We hope to see all our members in New Orleans.
- **The 2016 LAM advertising contracts** now total **98 percent** of the budget.
- **The 2016 EXPO booth sales** total **97 percent** of the budget and will continue through the end of the week. It's SHOWTIME!
- **The time is now!** Almost 4,300 people have registered for the [annual meeting](#). ASLA is now over 100 percent of the registration and ticket goals. Although eight of the 15 field sessions are sold out, it's not too late to [register](#) and sign-up for those remaining. There's also workshops, the Fellows Investiture Dinner (almost 400 tickets sold), the President's Dinner (over 200 tickets sold). Almost 40 schools have signed up for the Alumni Tailgate. Three prizes will be awarded the best decorated space/team spirit. EXPO Only passes are also available [online](#) through attendee registration. And don't forget to download the [annual meeting mobile app](#). For immediate questions: please contact [Meetings Manager Kelli Bland](#); phone (202) 216-2328.

Government Affairs

- The **U.S. Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration (FTA)** recently announced that **16 transportation planning organizations around the country will receive a share of \$14.7 million in grants** to support comprehensive planning projects that improve access to public transit. The funds are made available through FTA's Transit-Oriented Development Planning Pilot Program for communities that are developing new or expanded mass transit systems. ASLA advocates on behalf this program and continues to urge Congress to provide adequate funding. A [list of selected projects](#) is available.
- Recently, Government Affairs met with the leaders of the **National Parks Second Century Action Coalition**, and has learned that the House of Representatives leadership is planning on bringing a National Park Service Centennial Challenge bill to the floor when they return for a lame duck session in November. ASLA and other coalition members are preparing a strategic grassroots campaign to keep the momentum going in favor of the legislation. **Stay tuned for iAdvocate alerts** on the issue in the coming days.
- Last week, Government Affairs participated in a meeting hosted by the **Partnership for Active Transportation**, a coalition of organizations working on active transportation programs and policies. The meeting was held to **work toward finalizing the Active Transportation Agenda for the Next President's Administration** that includes active transportation policy and program recommendations.
- The **D.C. City Council** will hold a hearing on October 19 to consider the **Regulation of Landscape Architecture and Professional Design Firms Act of 2016**. Originally introduced in June by Council Chairman Phil Mendelson, **the bill would establish landscape architecture licensing in the District of Columbia**. ASLA National and the Potomac Chapter will meet with the office of



Councilmember Brandon Todd this week to discuss the details of the bill. For questions or additional details, please contact [State Government Affairs Director Elizabeth Hebron](#); phone (202) 216-2324.

- Representatives of ASLA and the **Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)** recently presented a seminar on the importance of and the path to landscape architecture licensure for young professionals working at Gensler. The seminar also included representatives from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards and the National Council for Interior Design Qualifications.
- The **Connecticut Chapter continues to educate leaders and advocate for landscape architecture opportunities within state agencies.** In a major victory, the Chief Architect for the CT Department of Administrative Services has said that the next Civil/Survey on-call series will include landscape architectural services and that landscape architecture firms may respond as prime consultants on those contracts. The Civil/Survey on-call series is a methodology used by the state to issue contracts to a pre-selected group of consultants without an extensive request for proposals process for every project. This change will bring important economic opportunities to local firms.

Landscape Architecture Magazine

- The **November issue of LAM** goes to press this week. The cover carries a special 58-page feature—spanning the entire feature section—on **PWP Landscape Architecture's** Barangaroo Reserve in Sydney, a colossal project that transforms a former shipping terminal into a reconstituted headland park covering 14 acres on the harborfront. Other stories in this issue include a Materials section on troubleshooting decomposed granite paths, a Health section on the military's foray into therapeutic landscapes to treat post-traumatic stress disorder with the Green Road Project at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center; a story on Native American trail trees; and a review of the new book *Ruth Shellhorn*, by **Kelly Comras, ASLA.**

Member and Chapter Services

- The **Member Services Committee** has made significant progress on its efforts to create **how-to guides for chapters**, focusing on enhancing the relationships between professional and student chapters. The committee also produced November's Membership Minute, a publication that will help new chapter Membership Chairs get started in their new role.
- The **Leadership Development Committee** has finalized its October Leadership Link publication, which will describe the seven characteristics of a leader. The committee will delve further into this topic at the October Chapter Presidents Council meeting.

Public Relations and Communications

- Senior Communications Manager Jared Green, Marketing Manager Lauren Martella, Coordinator J.R. Taylor, and Professional Practice Manager Linette Straus, ASLA, attended the [2016 Greenbuild International Conference and EXPO](#) in Los Angeles, hosting the ASLA booth, covering sessions, and supporting SITES®. **President Chad Danos** was also in attendance.
- Public Relations Manager Grajales, Accreditation and Education Programs Manager Kris Pritchard, and Professional Practice Manager Shawn Balon visited McKinley Technical High School to begin drafting the **2016-17 Adopt-a-School plan**. Other attendees included Kristin Jarrett, McKinley Tech's director of admissions and partnerships, and Nichole Hill, coordinator of the D.C. Public School

District's Adopt-a-School Program.

- The third quarter 2016 **Business Quarterly** survey went out to key firm contacts the first week of October. The deadline is COB midnight Monday, October 17.
- Senior Communications Manager Green and Public Relations Manager Grajales represented ASLA at the **Tenth Annual D.C. Teachers Appreciation Night** at the U.S. Botanic Garden in Washington, D.C. The event drew an estimated 300 K-12 teachers who incorporate environmental education into their curricula.

Education Programs and LAAB

- Education staff are working with annual meeting speakers to make final preparations for the meeting next week.
- The **Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™) Administrative Committee** met via conference call last week to review the LA CES Year-to-Date Activity Report, a summary of the 2016 Provider Survey, and the 2016 Monitoring Process. LA CES has 222 active providers offering 1,361 courses. There are three new provider applications pending review.
- **CLARB Executive Director Joel Albizo, Hon. ASLA**, joined Director Susan Apollonio, Director of State Government Affairs Hebron, and Manager Emily O'Connor in delivering a webinar for active LA CES providers on October 12th. The webinar informed providers about landscape architecture licensure and the role that LA CES plays in delivering professional development opportunities to the profession.
- ASLA supported the White House's efforts to raise awareness on the significant contributions that educators and academic institutions make towards **building more resilient communities by requesting that landscape architecture programs sign their Educators Commitment on Resilient Design Statement**. Twenty-eight programs signed on. The White House will announce the schools that signed the commitment later this month.
- Director Apollonio met via conference call with **CELA President Katya Crawford, ASLA**, and **Executive Director Pat Taylor, ASLA**, to discuss opportunities for collaboration in 2017.
- The annual **summary of the graduating student survey results** was published in *The Dirt* and posted to the Career Discovery site. A total of 329 graduate and undergraduate students responded.
- The **Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB)** conducted a program site visit at **Boston Architectural College (MLA)** October 2-5 and is conducting a two programs, one team site visit at **University of Florida (BLA/MLA)** October 9-13.
- Materials for the **Landscape Architecture Program Administrators + ASLA Committee on Education (COE) Meeting** were sent out to program chairs, COE members, and other educators on Friday, October 7. The meeting will take place on Friday, October 21, during the ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO in New Orleans.
- The **University of Delaware in Newark, DE**, launched a new undergraduate landscape architecture program under the direction of **Jules Bruck, PhD, ASLA**. The program has been working closely with Accreditation and Education Programs Manager Kristopher Pritchard to ensure the program meets LAAB accreditation requirements for future application of initial accreditation.

Professional Practice

- **Sign up to attend one or more [Professional Practice Network \(PPN\) EXPO Tours!](#)** These 2016 ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO show floor tours are designed to highlight PPN topic areas and will take place on Saturday, October 22, and Sunday, October 23, during EXPO hours. The tours will offer attendees the opportunity to learn about new and improved products and how these improvements and services can assist in creating a successful design project, providing 1.0 PDH (LA CES/non-HSW). Looking for ways to be more involved? Sign up to [guide a PPN EXPO Tour!](#)
- On September 29, the **PPN Council** held its third quarterly conference call to review highlights from the past quarter's Online Learning webinars and to go over the annual meeting's upcoming PPN events. The chairs of the Landscape-Land Use Planning, Sustainable Design and Development, Transportation, Urban Design, and Women in Landscape Architecture PPNs also shared updates on the call.
- On September 27, the Obama administration announced "New Efforts to Increase National Preparedness by Building Community Capacity to Recover from Disasters." The **Built Environment** section of the [U.S. Climate Resilience Toolkit](#) was officially announced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the [White House](#). **ASLA's contribution focused on built environment issues and case studies for the topic area.** Manager Shawn Balon, ASLA, and Manager Linette Straus, ASLA, contributed write-ups on the built environment subtopics of social equity and water and wastewater. The toolkit has been made available to the general public as an effort led by the White House's Office of Science and Technology and Policy and NOAA.
- In other news: the **Transportation PPN** hosted the Online Learning presentation *Bringing Bioswales to Life*; Manager Balon held a kickoff meeting via conference call with the parklets planning committee for the [2017 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference](#); and Manager Linette Straus attended the Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC).

Deadlines and Reminders

- The [Leadership Calendar](#) can be accessed on the web.