

November 9, 2016

Executive Offices

- **Immediate Past President Chad Danos, FASLA**, was in Ithaca, NY, for a student chapter visit at Cornell University. He visited studios, gave a presentation on ASLA programs, and had breakfast with the student chapter officers.
- EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA, presented on “Landscape Architecture and Healthy, Resilient Communities” as part of the panel “Working Together: A Call to Action for Healthy Communities” at the **American Public Health Association** meeting in Denver on November 1. A joint industry statement and a press release promoting partnerships between public health officials and the planning and design professions are in the works. Professional Practice Manager Shawn Balon, ASLA, and Public Relations Manager Karen Trimbath participated in the development of the Call to Action and the APHA panel.
- EVP Somerville and **Past President Barry Starke, FASLA**, recently participated in the Board meeting of the **Renewable Natural Resources Foundation (RNRF)**. Agenda items included RNRF’s upcoming [Congress on Harnessing Big Data for the Environment](#), to be held December 6-7. Also attending was **Virginia Chapter Trustee LuGay Lanier, FASLA**, who is **stepping in as ASLA Representative to RNRF**. Starke will continue to serve on the RNRF Board and Executive Committee as a public interest member.
- **The substantial completion date for the ASLA Center has been moved back to December 23.** The staff move back to the building is planned for the week between Christmas and New Year’s. Staff is also participating in weekly conference calls with the design and construction team until completion. The calls are supplementing the biweekly meetings to track items that are critical to maintaining the December substantial completion date. **The dates for the open house and donor celebration will also be moved back, and may be planned in conjunction with midyear.**
- The **2017 Council of Fellows Call for Nominations** is now open. Chapter executive committees received lists of eligible members from their chapters in June. Please visit the [Council of Fellows website](#) or contact [Corporate Secretary Curt Millay, ASLA](#), for more details or questions. The deadline for completed submissions to ASLA is Friday, January 20, 2017.
- The **ASLA Fund** continues to solicit donations to the **Campaign for the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture**. ASLA President Vaughn Rinner, FASLA, is now reaching out the Society’s more than 600 ASLA Fellows asking for their support. To date the campaign has raised \$1,120,319 or **75 percent of the \$1.5 million goal** from ASLA chapters, firms and individuals. To see who has already given, please see the [ASLA Center Donor Honor Roll](#).

Government Affairs

- On November 8, Donald Trump was elected the 45th President of the United States. ASLA Government Affairs staff will begin working with the transition team on federal legislative and regulatory issues important to the Society.
- ASLA and the Potomac Chapter moved **another step closer to achieving licensure in the District of Columbia**. This week, the District of Columbia’s Subcommittee on Boards and Commissions unanimously passed Bill 21-790, the *Regulation of Landscape Architecture and Professional Design Firms Amendment Act of 2016*, which would establish licensure in the District of Columbia. The bill now moves on to the full Council for consideration.



- **New [Overtime Pay Rules](#) take effect on December 1** and most salaried, white-collar workers earning less than \$913 a week (\$47,476 a year) must receive overtime pay for working extra hours. Landscape architecture professionals who meet the new salary requirements, will likely be exempt from overtime pay under the “learned professionals” exemption. However, employers are encouraged to consult with a human resources professional and/or legal counsel to ensure compliance with the new rule. The Department of Labor (DOL) has published a [Small Entity Compliance Guide to the Fair Labor Standards Act’s White Collar Exemption](#) to assist small businesses, like small landscape architecture firms, understand and comply with the new rule. There is also a [DOL](#) website devoted to resources and other guidance.
- [ASLA joined in signing a letter](#) from the National Parks Second Century Action Coalition thanking appropriations chairs and ranking members for a **continuing resolution that extends the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA)** through September 30, 2018. Without this extension, public lands would have lost over \$300 million annually. Management of our national parks is funded primarily by appropriations and the coalition is committed to working with the congressional committees to provide additional resources and identifying supplemental sources of funding.
- The **Federal Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJ IWG)** will host a webinar on **November 10 from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. EST** titled [“Working Together: Lessons Learned from Collaborations for Community Revitalization.”](#) This webinar is part of the Access & Awareness Webinar Series, a monthly event, to provide public access to the working group and to increase community awareness of federal agency environmental justice strategies and holistic community-based solutions to address environmental justice issues.
- Register Now! EPA’s Green Infrastructure program will host a webcast on **November 15 from 1:00 – 2:30 PM EST** titled [“Building the Case for Green Infrastructure: Outreach and Education.”](#) Designing, implementing, and maintaining green infrastructure at the local level requires support and participation from the community. In this webcast, speakers from the Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection and the City of Columbia, MO will highlight lessons learned and strategies from two dynamic outreach and education programs.
- American Trails will host a webinar on **November 17 from 1:00 – 2:30 PM EST** titled [“Trails and Greenways: What’s Next?.”](#) The webinar will cover the latest trends in the planning, promotion, and conservation of trail and greenway corridors.
- The U.S. Forest Service recently announced the launch of the new [Urban & Community Forestry \(UCF\)](#) and [National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council](#) websites, which have been migrated to the Forest Service’s new, modernized web platform, and the information has been streamlined and updated to reflect communities’ contemporary priorities. The site also features a slideshow of partnership organizations, including the innovative collaboration and coordination happening with the **Sustainable Urban Forest Coalition**, of which ASLA is a member.

Meetings

- **If you attended the annual meeting but have not completed your [Annual Meeting Attendee Survey](#), please respond today.** Your feedback is important in helping us prepare for next year’s meeting.
- The Meetings team is wrapping up details from the 2016 annual meeting, working on logistics for the Winter Executive Committee meeting, PR Summit, and Winter LAAB Meeting, and planning for the 2017 annual meeting. The team travels to Los Angeles November 30 – December 4 for the **2017**

Annual Meeting Host Chapter Kick-Off event, Annual Meeting Education Advisory Committee Meeting, and annual meeting venue planning.

Landscape Architecture Magazine

- Along with Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (D-New York), and **Mary Alice Lee, Honorary ASLA**, and Melissa Potter-Ix of the Trust for Public Land's NYC Playground Program, *LAM* Editor Brad McKee will be presented with a [President's Award](#) by **ASLA New York President Jennifer Nitzky, ASLA**, at the chapter's annual gala November 10. Sen. Gillibrand is being honored for her advocacy of state and national environmental issues, including incorporation of the BEE Pollinator Protection Act into the most recent six-year surface transportation bill. Lee and Potter-Ix are being honored for their transformations of "barren asphalt schoolyards into vibrant, green, and safe community playgrounds." McKee is being honored for a "modern approach to media" in support of landscape architecture.
- Brad McKee took part November 2 in a **roundtable about landscape architecture and the corporate workplace, hosted by Landscape Forms at the Google headquarters** in Mountain View, California. Among the attendees were Louise Mozingo, ASLA, of UC Berkeley; Bry Sarte, Affiliate ASLA, of Sherwood Design Engineers; Allison Arieff of SPUR and the *New York Times*; Kevin Conger, FASLA, of CMG Landscape Architecture; Jacinta McCann, FASLA, of AECOM; James Haig Streeter, ASLA, of AECOM; Gavin McMillan, International ASLA, of Hargreaves Associates; and David Walker, FASLA, of PWP Landscape Architecture. Mary Davidge, the director of campus design at Google, moderated the discussion, which covered a growing emphasis among technology companies to focus as much on exterior environments as interiors in the design of productive workplaces, and ways to measure the results of that focus.

Member and Chapter Services

- On November 7, chapter leaders received the monthly **Membership Minute** which provided information on the different resources available to chapter membership chairs. Chapter leaders also received their monthly chapter renewal reports.

Public Relations and Communications

- Director Terry Poltrack represented ASLA at the **Association of Architecture Organizations'** conference in Miami on November 2-4. Focus was on resilience strategies and the role of designers in anticipating and minimizing the effects of natural calamities.
- The web team debuted the **virtual reality tour of Underpass Park** at ASLA Central on the EXPO floor in New Orleans. Almost 100 people came by to try the Samsung Gear VR headsets. Since then, the VR film has been watched 350-plus times on YouTube and is "trending" on Samsung VR, which means it's one of the most popular videos. *ArchNewsNow's* covered its release.
- A [press release](#) describing the results for the **third quarterly 2016 Business Quarterly survey** was distributed on October 19 via several wire services. [Archinect](#) and [Total Landscape Care](#) published articles about the survey, with additional interest coming from *The Construction Specifier*.
- PR Manager Karen Grajales today represented ASLA at the bimonthly meeting of the **D.C. Environmental Education Consortium** in Washington, D.C.



Education Programs and LAAB

- Annual meeting **attendees received instructions on how to access their professional development attendance certificates** along with a request to complete education session evaluations. Speakers received a post annual meeting survey.
- The **Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™)** has **221** active providers offering **1,173** courses. There are **no** new provider applications pending review.
- The **Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB)** conducted program site visits at **University of Massachusetts (BSLA)** October 30 – November 2, **Ball State University (MLA)** and **Purdue University (BSLA)** November 6-9 and will be conducting program site visits at **Clemson University (MLA)** and **University of Nevada Las Vegas (BLA)** November 13-16.

Professional Practice and IT

- Managers Linette Straus, ASLA, and Lauren Martella, and Coordinator J.R. Taylor attended the [Cities Alive: 14th Annual Green Roof & Wall Conference](#) in Washington D.C., at the University of the District of Columbia. There were engaging discussions at the ASLA table in the expo space with a focus on green infrastructure, green roofs, and green walls. Highlights from the educational sessions included a presentation by **Hallie Boyce, ASLA**, The Olin Studio, of the Highline-inspired 11th Street Bridge Park, a pedestrian bridge design over the Anacostia River in Washington, D.C., scheduled to begin construction in 2018.
- **Education VP David Cutter, ASLA**, and staff members Balon, McKee, Millay, and Somerville were among the **beta testers of the SITES AP examination** on October 25. Exam results will become available in three to four months. Professional Practice Manager Straus is **planning a chapter-based contest to promote participation in the SITES AP exam.**
- On October 31, the **ASLA ASHRAE Working Group** along with Managers Balon and Straus and Director Cahill met via conference call to continue the **discussion and work reviewing model codes within ASHRAE 189.1 specific to site sustainability and water use efficiency.** Through this endeavor, ASLA staff and members of the workgroup look to evaluate, contribute, and revise ASHRAE Codes within 189.1 (Standard for the Design of High-Performance Green Buildings).
- On November 3, Manager Balon met with staff from the **National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)** to discuss **ideas for creating parklets at the 2018 International Builders' Show (IBS)** in Orlando, FL. Balon presented the existing process of ASLA's collaboration with the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference and the team brainstormed how these ideas could be implemented into the International Builders' Show to better represent landscape architecture and the design of outdoor space.

Deadlines and Reminders

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