



January 24, 2018

Executive Offices

- **President Gregory Miller, FASLA, President-Elect Shawn Kelly, FASLA, and EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA,** are attending the **Presidents Council meeting** this week, hosted by the **Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards**. An update on the outcomes will follow in the next issue. While there, EVP Somerville will be participating in **firm visits with Wimmer, Yamada, and Caughey, and Estrada Land Planning**.
- **President Miller** recently gave the introductory speech at the **2018 Think Trees Conference** in Albuquerque. The presentation discussed the **growing interdisciplinary nature of the industry and highlighted successful projects that resulted from collaborative efforts**.
- **Past President Thomas Tavella, FASLA,** is serving as a **jury member for the Sandyhook Elementary School (Newtown, CT) permanent memorial design competition**. Currently in the initial review of the submissions, finalists moving to the next round will be notified in March, then have the opportunity to refine their designs, if needed. The memorial will be adjacent to the newly rebuilt school. Next month Tavella will be in Winnipeg judging the **CSLA** national design awards.
- EVP Somerville participated in a **Funders and Partners call** hosted by the **American Planning Association (APA)** last week. The APA-organized network brings the design and planning associations together with foundations with related missions and funding interests, including the **Rockefeller and Kresge Foundations**. The group is currently focused on resilience efforts.
- **Last Call for the Council of Fellows!** The call for nominations will close on Friday, **January 26**. Nomination templates have been revised for the 2018 cycle to reflect criteria for each category. Please be sure to use the template specific to the submission category. New templates and all other information is available on the [Council of Fellows website](#). Nominations must be submitted using [the online system](#). Feel free to contact Secretary [Curt Millay, ASLA](#), with any questions.
- Secretary Millay held a conference call with **Lucy Lawliss, FASLA, and Arleyn Levee, Hon. ASLA,** co-chairs of **National Association for Olmsted Parks (NAOP)**, to discuss plans for NAOP's Board of Trustees meeting in April to be held at Center for Landscape Architecture. Also discussed were plans for **Olmsted 2022-The Legacy, the bicentennial of Frederick Law Olmsted's birth**.

Public Relations and Communications

- **Last call:** The [Call for Nominations for Honors](#) is open until January 30. Of particular need are nominations for the [Olmsted Medal](#) recognizing individuals, organizations, agencies, or programs outside the profession of landscape architecture for environmental leadership, vision, and stewardship.
- The **2018 Call for Entries** for the professional and student awards **will open this week**. Registration and payment deadlines are February 19 for professional and May 7 for students; final submission deadlines are March 5 and May 21, respectively.
- A reminder for the **fourth quarter 2017 Business Quarterly survey** went out to key firm contacts. Tomorrow is the deadline. Some 159 participants have taken the survey so far.

Finance and Business Operations

- ASLA **hosted the external auditors this week** as they performed planning and risk assessments as a part of the 2017 financial audit. Everything is moving towards a fieldwork start date of February 20.
- CFO Mike O'Brien, Hon. ASLA, and the Accounting staff are wrapping up the **December 2017 close** and reporting the results to the Finance & Investments Committee tomorrow.
- **The 2018 LAM advertising contracts** totaled **69 percent** of the budget.
- **The 2018 EXPO booth sales** reached **73 percent** of the floor space being either sold (62%) or reserved (11%).
- **Editorial, Marketing, and Sales** met with senior leaders from Royale Printing (*Landscape Architecture Magazine*) to review examples of what other publications are producing in print and to **brainstorm future ideas for the magazine**.
- **Green Purchasing Agent Les Blackmore** successfully completed the D.C. Department of Energy and the Environment **Compliance Assistance & Green Incentives training**.

Government Affairs

- This week, the **Congress took action to end the three-day government shutdown**, with a bill to fund the federal government through February 8. Congress agreed to reopen after Democrats accepted a GOP pledge to hold a vote on immigration legislation in the coming weeks. **All federal buildings and services will resume, including reopening all parks and services under the National Park Service (NPS)**. During the partial shutdown, some NPS parks had areas that remained accessible to visitors, but no National Park Service-provided visitor services, including restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance.
- **Apply for an [ASLA 2017 Advocacy Award](#)!** Last year was the year of the ASLA advocate, with **increased advocacy efforts on behalf of licensure, transportation, green infrastructure, environmental protections, climate change, national parks issues, and record use of the iAdvocate Network**. If your chapter or a chapter member accomplished important advocacy goals in 2017, submit a nomination for the ASLA Rising Star Advocacy Award (individual award), ASLA Advocacy Leadership Award (individual award), and the ASLA Chapter of the Year (chapter award). **Nominations must be completed by chapter presidents and are due no later than February 28.**
- ASLA Director of Federal Government Affairs Roxanne Blackwell, Hon. ASLA, participated in the **Resilience Building Coalition's CEO Summit**, where Kevin Bush, Chief Resilience Officer for the District of Columbia, was the featured speaker. Bush discussed his new role in leading citywide resilience efforts in partnership with [100 Resilient Cities](#)—pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation (100RC). During the meeting, Director Blackwell also highlighted ASLA's convening of the [Blue Ribbon Panel on Climate Change and Resilience](#) and the forthcoming report.
- ASLA is working with the **Office of Congressman Frank Pallone (NJ)** on his measure, [H.R. 4525, the Living Shoreline Act](#), which would **provide grants to communities to carry out shoreline stabilization projects using natural materials**. This exciting bill would provide communities with funding for projects that use natural materials, including sand, wetland plants, native grasses and shrubs, oysters and other shellfish to address shoreline erosion, recovery, and stabilization.

- As federal and state policy issues continue to be front and center in many communities, chapters are encouraged to use the [Checklist for state and federal issues important to ASLA Chapters](#). This checklist provides a step-by-step process to achieve member consensus and weigh in on issues important to ASLA Chapters.
- ASLA Director of State Government Affairs Elizabeth Hebron continues to work with numerous chapters on state licensure legislation including, Virginia, Illinois, Arizona, Washington, South Dakota and Kentucky. The complete list of states and links to important licensure legislation can be found [here](#).

Education Programs

- The **Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™)** has **253** active providers offering **1,279 courses**. There is **one** new provider application pending review.
- The [Call for Presentations](#) deadline for the Annual Meeting and EXPO in Philadelphia is January 31.
- On January 18, Career Discovery and Diversity Manager Shawn Balon, ASLA, presented via conference call to the **University of Tennessee's** professional practice class. Balon's presentation included a discussion on why he chose landscape architecture, his career path and influences that affected certain career choices, and information detailing ASLA's mission nationally and locally (including discussions on education opportunities, government affairs, professional practice, education, the Center for Landscape Architecture, student membership, and chapter engagement).
- On January 17, Manager Balon participated in a Q&A interview on landscape architecture for a book called *Careers Outdoors*, which will be part of the "Careers In" series developed by Grey House Publishing and marketed under the [Salem Press Brand](#). The book will give high school-aged readers a real-life look at the career options within a field, a real-life look at a particular job, and useful facts and educational resources.

Professional Practice

- Manager Linette Straus, ASLA, completed a draft memorandum of understanding between the property owner stakeholders for the **Chinatown Green Street Demonstration Project (CGSDP)** and ASLA. Together with Secretary Millay, she also continued to develop the RFQ's for several sub-contractor positions and processed them along with a proposal via the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise solicitation process. Planning for the CGSDP stakeholder meetings next week is ongoing. Discussions are also underway for the CGSDP regarding data collection, process documentation, and goals surrounding performance monitoring and partnerships.
- The **Autonomous Vehicles and Planning (AV) Subcommittee** has elected a chair, **Jean Senechal Biggs, ASLA**. Manager Straus has started AV subgroup work sessions to guide the development of the AV webpage, resources and education.
- Together with Managing Director Susan Cahill, Hon. ASLA, Manager Straus is reviewing the possibilities for creating an **ASLA Sustainable Design Model** code. The ASLA work group is currently evaluating their prior contribution with the ASHRAE 189.1 work group and the content they have developed thus far. They are developing a work process and a timeline to complete the original content they have been developing towards a completed sustainable design code.

- Manager Straus, together with Stella Tarnay of **Biophilic DC**, have finalized the plans for their collaborative lecture, "[Designing Green Roof Habitats in Cities](#)," to be held at the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture, on February 7.
- Manager Straus and Director Ron Sears had a productive call with Dawnette Zuniga of the JPB Foundation to discuss the possibility of a partnership for the CGSDP. ASLA has been asked to prepare information for the director of their environment department in order to be invited to submit a proposal.
- On January 24, Manager Katie Riddle, ASLA, and Coordinator Alexandra Hay hosted a practice presentation with **Matthew Wilkins, ASLA, Robert Anderson, ASLA, and Eric Berg, ASLA**, for their upcoming ASLA Online Learning webinar: [Utilizing BIM to Improve Design and Workflow Efficiency](#) on January 31, available for 1.5 PDH.
- ASLA staff and member volunteers attended the 2018 **National Association of Home Builders International Builders' Show** in Orlando, FL, January 9-11. With a mission to increase awareness of the landscape architecture profession among an audience of large national builders, small local builders, architects, and designers, Managers Riddle and Lauren Martella, along with Library and Archives Technical Administrator Ian Bucacink, interacted with attendees at the ASLA exhibit booth on the show floor. **Todd Bonnett, ASLA**, volunteered during the [Plan Review Sessions](#), meeting with attendees to review housing plans and discuss creative ideas to better meet the needs of today's homebuyers and builders. Todd and **Dean Hill, ASLA**, also volunteered their time at the ASLA exhibit booth, answering questions about the profession and helping to share ASLA's mission.
- On January 17, Manager Riddle hosted a conference call to coordinate the participants of the **New Partners for Smart Growth Parklet Initiative 6.0**. **Lisa Beyer, ASLA**, Senior Design Associate at Alta Planning + Design joined the team, partnering with Riverside University Health System to create a parklet entitled "commUNITY station: Connecting People and Place." The design is intended to inspire planners, landscape architects, engineers, and health advocates to work with transit agencies to think beyond the typical bus stop. The NPSG Conference will be held in San Francisco, February 1-3.
- On January 16, the [Historic American Landscapes Survey](#) (HALS) Subcommittee held their first quarterly conference call to share updates on the National Park Service's project to document National Recreation Trails; the [2018 HALS Challenge](#); and plans to promote documentation through ASLA's network of [HALS Chapter Liaisons](#) and platforms like [The Field](#). Subcommittee Chair **Chris Stevens, ASLA**, led the call.

Member and Chapter Services

- Guidelines for the 2018 Student Honor and Merit Award program were distributed to chapter presidents and program chairs this week. Chapters are encouraged to reach out to the program chairs to assist with this process. ASLA National provides blank certificates at no cost to the chapter for this program. If you have any questions, contact [Membership](#).

Deadlines and Reminders

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