



May 30, 2018

## Executive Offices

- **The annual call for committee service is open through June 30, 2018.** To volunteer for service on [one or more of the committees](#), please fill out the [committee appointment form](#). Contact [Corporate Secretary Curt Millay, ASLA](#), with any questions.
- The [annual election for 2019-2020 president-elect](#) is open through June 4, 2018, 11:59 p.m. PDT. All Full, Associate, and International members in good professional standing are eligible to vote and will receive a paper and/or email ballot to participate. Also on the ballot is approval of a new International Student membership category. Contact [Corporate Secretary Curt Millay, ASLA](#), with any questions.
- **President Greg Miller, FASLA**, is visiting the **Utah Chapter** this week for its annual meeting. He will be **presenting on the future of the profession and the value of connections**.
- The **ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture** hosted a meeting of the members of the landscape architecture **CEO Roundtable**, including **Finance VP Tom Mroz, FASLA**, on May 18-19. EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA, provided an update on priority programs and issues and discussed ways in which the roundtable members and their firms could support ASLA. Education Director Susan Apollonio and Career Discovery and Diversity Manager Shawn Balon, ASLA, also met with the group to discuss **career discovery and diversity** issues and initiatives.
- **Immediate Past President Rinner, FASLA**, represented ASLA at the **Landscape Architecture Foundation** Board meeting in Washington, D.C., on May 17-18. The agenda featured discussion of “*The Future of the Professions*,” the New Landscape Declaration action strategy, and strategic planning. Rinner and several ASLA staff also attended LAF’s **Fellowship for Innovation and Leadership Symposium** and 2018 awards dinner.
- EVP Somerville and communications intern Andrew Wright attended a **Renewable Natural Resources Foundation** public policy roundtable focused on ocean acoustics at the **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration** today. The roundtable is a lead-in for the RNRFCongress on Ocean Policy to be held later this year.
- Recently, EVP Somerville and the Center hosted the annual meeting of the **Real Estate and Built Environment (REBE) Association CEO Summit**. Discussion items included the economy, industry trends, a recent legislative challenge to licensure and private certification programs in Louisiana, and the soon-to-be-launched joint REBE **online career discovery portal Careers Building Communities**.
- **Contributions to the 2018 ASLA Fund continue to grow**, totaling just over \$22,000 to date compared to just under \$18,500 for the same period last year. The Fund will continue to seek support via promotional inserts in *Landscape Architecture Magazine*, monthly emails to members and friends, and solicitation letters to past donors. For more information, see the [ASLA Fund page](#).
- **Manager Balon will be leaving ASLA** to return to practicing landscape architecture. Also leaving ASLA to join a landscape architecture firm is **LAM Writer/Editor Kat Katsma, ASLA**. Recruitment for the open human resources manager position is underway, with candidate interviews scheduled in the coming weeks. Recruitment for the open accounting technician position will begin in June.

- Secretary Curt Millay, ASLA, Consultant Kevin Fry, and representatives from VIKA and Oemhe, van Sweden conducted interviews to select permit expeditors for the **Chinatown Green Street** project.
- **Team ASLA, led by LAM Senior Editor Jennifer Reut**, hit the road on May 19 in Washington, DC's only closed-road, car-free, recreational **20-mile bike ride**.

### Government Affairs

- **The Government Affairs priorities survey closes this week!** ASLA is requesting feedback from all members on state and federal policy issues important to the profession. Survey input helps determine ASLA's federal policy agenda for the next Congress in 2019-2020 and helps chapters tailor their state-level advocacy efforts. **Please take this [short survey](#) by tomorrow and help shape the political landscape!**
- Recently, the Federal Highway Administration's Shari Schafflein addressed ASLA leaders on "Accelerating Multimodal and Small Project Delivery," a presentation that provided guidance, resources, and other information to assist landscape architects in designing federal transportation projects. Director Schafflein's [presentation](#) is posted on the ASLA Advocacy Day webpage.
- Last week, the House Appropriations Committee voted 34-17 to approve the fiscal 2019 Transportation-HUD spending bill that would provide \$71.8 billion in funding for the departments of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, an increase of about 2 percent from fiscal 2018. The measure maintains funding for the Community Development Block Grant program at \$3.3 billion. However, the **Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development (BUILD)**, discretionary grant program, which replaced TIGER grants, would be cut from \$1.5 billion in fiscal year 2018 to \$750 million under the bill. That figure is still well above the \$500 million appropriation the program had in fiscal 2017. **ASLA is working with coalition members to strategize a plan for increasing funding for the program.**
- Both the House and Senate have begun work on their versions of the **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)**, which authorizes Army Corps of Engineers projects and other water projects across the country. Both measures have passed full committee and are ready to move on for full House and Senate consideration. The Senate version of the measure, S. 2800, America's Water Infrastructure Act, includes green infrastructure provisions. Specifically, it includes the text of [S. 692, the Water Infrastructure Flexibility Act](#), which ASLA leaders promoted on Capitol Hill during Advocacy Day 2018. Government Affairs team is working to maintain this language in the Senate bill and to include it in the House version.
- Federal Government Affairs Director Roxanne Blackwell, Hon. ASLA, participated in the [Environmental and Energy Study Institute's stakeholders/federal policy representatives meeting](#) to discuss the **Disaster Recovery Reform Act (DRRA)** and to strategize on including green infrastructure provisions in the final bill.
- On May 17, State Government Affairs Director Elizabeth Hebron and State Government Affairs Manager Bradley Rawls participated in the **Professional Licensing Coalition's discussion** of draft federal legislation that would provide treble damage coverage for licensing board members in exchange for state-required occupational licensing reform measures. ASLA is satisfied with the current direction of the bill and will continue to provide input in its development.
- ASLA and CLARB staff continue to plan for the upcoming 2018 ASLA-CLARB Licensure Summit. From June 22-24, nearly 80 individuals representing ASLA chapters and state licensing boards will

convene in Columbus, Ohio, to work on chapter-board relationship building as well as licensure education, advocacy, and defense.

- **Want to keep up with all things ASLA Advocacy?** Follow us on Twitter @ASLA\_Advocacy, which now has over 1,300 followers.

## Finance and Business Operations

- CFO Mike O'Brien, Hon. ASLA, and the Accounting staff are working on the **May 2018 close** and will be reporting the results to the Finance and Investments Committee later next month.
- The **2018 LAM advertising contracts** total **80 percent** of the budget.
- The **2018 EXPO booth sales** have reached **83 percent** of the floor space sold.

## Landscape Architecture Magazine

- Editor Brad McKee has returned from an intensive three-day urban workshop organized by the **Gehl Institute**, which **focused on ways of measuring the usage and success of public spaces in San Francisco, Oakland, and San Jose**. Participants included about 20 landscape architects, urban designers, and architects from around the world.
- Senior Editor Jennifer Reut recently attended the biennial conference of the **Construction History Society of America** at the University of Maryland, College Park.

## Member and Chapter Services

- ASLA is evaluating the impact of the **European Union's General Data Protection Regulation** on existing policies and procedures. While an initial analysis suggests that ASLA's existing policies meet GDPR requirements, ASLA is reviewing its privacy and terms of use policies, contracts, and internal controls to ensure that ASLA is fully compliant.

## Public Relations and Communications

- **Andrew Wright, Student ASLA**, joined the PR and Communications team on May 21 as a summer intern. Wright is an MLA candidate at the Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture at Louisiana State University. Prior to attending LSU, he worked in the music industry in New York City. He is excited to be with ASLA for the summer to learn and write about the issues, trends, and practitioners shaping the field of landscape architecture.
- The **Business Quarterly survey** for first quarter 2018 closed with 176 firms responding. Findings, which are generally upbeat, were released May 29, including in [LAND](#).
- At the close of the **Student Awards**, ASLA received 332 completed submissions for this year across all eligible categories. That's up from 295 in 2017.
- On May 23, the **Student Awards jury members** joined a webinar hosted by ASLA's online partner CadmiumCD to prepare them for the entry review process. This year, jurors received access to all submissions in advance to pre-screen them. The jury meets June 1-3 at the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture.



## Education Programs

- **Dan Li, Student ASLA**, started her 10-week internship in the Education department this week. Li is a PhD student in the landscape architecture department at Virginia Tech. Her efforts this summer will support accredited landscape architecture education and career discovery and diversity initiatives.
- The **Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB)**'s [Call for Comment: Proposed Revisions of Accreditation Standards](#) is open until **Friday, June 1**. Proposed revisions relate to the delivery of online courses. Comments may be directed to [Manager Kris Pritchard](#).
- The **Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™)** has **242** active providers offering **1,140** courses. There are **two** provider applications pending review.
- Manager Balon participated in the monthly **National Conference for Community Design** steering committee call to finalize plans and volunteer efforts. The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference, [Reverberations: The Roots and Relevance of Community Design](#), will convene in Baltimore, MD, June 8-9.
- The **Committee on Education (COE)**, led by chair **Keith Wilson, ASLA**, held a conference call on May 24 with updates from ASLA National and LAAB. Committee members discussed the proposed changes to the LAAB accreditation standards.

## Professional Practice

- **The Guide for Plant Appraisal** 10<sup>th</sup> edition is **planned for release in August** by the **Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers**. ASLA has actively participated in the updating of the guide over the last several years, along with AmericanHort, American Society of Consulting Arborists, Association of Consulting Foresters, International Society of Arboriculture, National Association of Landscape Professionals, and the Tree Care Industry Association.
- Two [live ASLA Online Learning presentations](#) are coming up: on June 12, ASLA will host ASLA Standard Form Contracts—In Practice, offering 1.0 PDH (LA CES/non-HSW). On June 27, the **Sustainable Design & Development PPN** will host SITES v2 Precedent Studies and Lessons Learned, also offering 1.0 PDH (LA CES/HSW).
- Manager Katie Riddle, ASLA, participated in the second quarter [Joint Call to Action to Promote Healthy Communities](#) meeting with staff from the signatory organizations. The group is developing resources to guide local partnerships and recognize collaboration between planning, public health, and allied professions.

## Deadlines and Reminders

- **The deadline for responding to the [state and federal issues priority survey](#) is May 31.**
- The deadline for responding to the **Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board [Call for Comment: Proposed Revisions of Accreditation Standards](#)** is **Friday, June 1**.
- The [annual call for committee service](#) is open through June 30, 2018.
- The [annual election for 2019-2020 president-elect](#) is open through June 4, 2018, 11:59 p.m. PDT.
- The [Leadership Calendar](#) can be accessed on the web.