



March 20, 2019

## Executive Offices

- **At the recent Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) conference, President Shawn Kelly, FASLA,** provided an ASLA update for the CELA board and the program administrators. The presentations covered ASLA's mission, vision, and values, with a perspective on STEM, climate change, diversity, licensure threats, and legislative activities. The advocacy network was highlighted with the common message that "we are all ASLA." Accreditation and Education Programs Manager Kris Pritchard provided updates to both groups for the **Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board**.
- **President Kelly also presented a brief welcome at the Sierra and Northern California Chapters' reception.** The Sierra Chapter was **represented by President Kim Garza, ASLA,** and the Northern California Chapter by **President Katrina Majewski, ASLA.** The reception was an excellent mix of practitioners and educators, renewing old relationships and having rich discussion.
- The annual **program and priorities surveys** are open. Surveys were sent to the Board of Trustees, Chapter Presidents Council, and staff, and should be **completed by Friday.** Please contact [Corporate Secretary Millay, ASLA](#), with any questions.
- Special Asst. Keith Swann hosted the **first international group to visit the green roof** this year. The professor and students from Doshisha University, Japan, were given a presentation on the Center, green roof, and the upcoming green street project.
- Staff from Executive Offices, PR and Communications, and Information are reviewing design approaches and selecting case studies for the **ASLA Center exhibition on *Smart Policies for a Changing Climate*,** the report of the interdisciplinary ASLA Blue Ribbon Panel on Climate Change and Resilience. The exhibition, partially funded by a **grant from the National Endowment for the Arts,** will have an online component to accompany the exhibition.

## Public Relations and Communications

- **World Landscape Architecture Month 2019 begins April 1!** Remember to ask your colleagues to share their favorite landscape architect-designed spaces on social media with #WLAM2019. You can find this year's digital "This is Landscape Architecture" card and more information at [asla.org/wlam](http://asla.org/wlam). To order physical copies of WLAM cards, please contact [J.R. Taylor](#).

## Government Affairs

- Last week, ASLA celebrated **another legislative victory with The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management and Recreation Act signed into law.** This sweeping public lands package, the largest conservation legislation in a decade, creates over 1.3 million acres of new wilderness, including the designation of four national monuments, 650 miles of wild and scenic rivers, and the expansion of existing national parks by 42,000 acres. The centerpiece of this new law is the permanent authorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Government Affairs has been at the forefront advocating diligently for this legislation.
- On March 13, **Washington State Governor Jay Inslee issued a proclamation declaring April 2019 as Landscape Architecture Month.** The **proclamation affirms that the state benefits from the licensed practice of landscape architecture** and that the profession has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Additionally, the proclamation affirms STEM



knowledge is at the core of the profession, emphasizes that landscape architects design spaces that prioritize equity, and highlights that landscape architects create sustainable and resilient landscapes.

- **State legislative tracking is now publicly available on our [new interactive legislation map](#)**, and as of yesterday, State Government Affairs is tracking 150 occupational licensing bills in 40 states. States continue to address licensure reforms through five various categories: direct deregulation of occupations, including landscape architecture; “Consumer Choice” acts; formal studies/reviews of licensed occupations; “Right to Earn a Living” acts (or similar versions thereof); and reducing barriers to mobility and entry to various occupations. Staff is also tracking pertinent legislation affecting the business of landscape architecture, including proposals requiring businesses with state contracts to use verification tracking software. An [updated summary](#) of these threats is available now on our Advocacy News.
- Last week, **ASLA [submitted comments](#) to the District of Columbia’s Department of Transportation (DDOT) addressing the second draft of their small cell guidelines**. ASLA thanked DDOT for amending their draft guidelines by incorporating language that better protects existing and future street trees. However, ASLA did reiterate its recommendation to DDOT to amend the title of one section to better reflect the section’s objective of protecting street trees.
- Recently, ASLA [submitted comments](#) to the **National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) opposing the National Zoological Park Supplemental Perimeter Fencing plan**. The plans are detrimental to the design of Fredrick Law Olmstead and limit public access. NCPC approved the plan in spite of ASLA’s and others’ objections.
- ASLA has joined with coalition partners of the **Sustainable Urban Forest Coalition** in sending testimony to the House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies to protect and encourage funding for important environmental programs, including the Urban and Community Forest Program, Landscape Scale Restoration Program, Forest Health Management, and others.
- ASLA signed on to [a letter](#) calling for national support for federal legislation to create the **State Flood Mitigation Revolving Fund**. Congressman Charlie Crist (FL) has since introduced legislation that would establish a state revolving loan program to help fund flood mitigation projects for communities.

## Member and Chapter Services

- Registration ends this Friday for **ASLA Portfolio Review Week, March 25-31**. Currently, 76 students and emerging professionals have registered. Please encourage your local emerging professionals to [sign up](#). For more information, contact [Chapter Relations](#).
- [The LARE prep webinars](#) launched in February were recorded and are available for purchase. The sessions can be purchased individually, provide additional resources, and are close captioned. Please continue to promote these as a resource for emerging professionals. For additional information, contact [Chapter Relations](#).

## Education and Marketing

- Career Discovery and Diversity Manager Lisa Jennings hosted the **S.T.E.A.M. Stars**, an award-winning team of middle school girls from the **DMV National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Jr. Chapter** at the Center. The S.T.E.A.M. Stars developed designs for an accessible, sustainable, and fun playground on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C., as participants in the 2019



VEX IQ Competition. The STEAM Stars won the "STEM Research Project Award" at the D.C. State Championship. Lee and Associates Senior Associate **Adrienne McCray, ASLA**, guided students in the design process using the firm's NoMa Swampoodle Park project.

- The **Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™)** has **252** active providers offering **1,472** courses. There are two new provider applications pending review.
- The first quarter **LA CES Provider Update** was sent to all active providers and recapped the upgrades made last year and introduced the spring and summer webinar training schedule.
- The **Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) Chair Rodney Swink, FASLA**, and Accreditation and Education Programs Manager Kristopher Pritchard attended the **Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA)** conference hosted by University of California, Davis in Sacramento. LAAB updates were provided to the CELA Board of Directors and landscape architecture program administrators.
- At the CELA conference, Manager Pritchard presented ***Building Relationships Between LAAB-Accredited Programs and Community Colleges*** based on work from the Committee on Education and former intern **Dan Li, Student ASLA**.

## Information and Professional Practice

- Multiple **PPNs** held their monthly leadership calls to work on speaker recruitment for upcoming PPN presentations, a member survey to evaluate members' understanding of and interests in environmental justice, SITES presentation resources, and coordination with the 2019 WILA Walk organizer. Staff and leadership members from the **Design-Build, Residential Landscape Architecture, and Planting Design PPNs** kicked off planning for an online learning webinar course series targeted towards design-build and residential design practitioners.
- Several PPN leadership team members presented paper sessions at the 2019 CELA Conference in Sacramento, including **Ken Hurst, ASLA**, Texas A&M University; **John C. Anderson, ASLA**, University of Georgia; **Lake Douglas, FASLA**, Louisiana State University; **Robert Hewitt, ASLA**, Clemson University; **Chingwen Cheng, ASLA**, Arizona University; **Kofi Boone, ASLA**, North Carolina State University; **Benjamin George, ASLA**, Utah State University; **Taner Ozdil, ASLA**, University of Texas at Arlington; and **Tom Schurch, ASLA**, Clemson University.
- In celebration of **Women's History Month**, staff curated ASLA resources that highlight the work of past and present women landscape architects who have made significant contributions to the profession and have been an inspiration to many. Learn more in *LAND* in [ASLA Celebrates Women's History Month](#).
- On March 14, Sr. Manager Katie Riddle, ASLA, and Manager Jennings **introduced landscape architecture to 7<sup>th</sup> grade students at Alice Deal Middle School as a part of their Career Awareness Week**. The students participated in a career discovery presentation and engaged in exciting questions about the profession, design, and local projects around D.C. Students completed a design exercise for an existing park space adjacent to their school.
- On March 14, Sr. Manager Riddle attended the first quarter **Smart Growth Network** meeting, which was hosted at Smart Growth America (SGA). During the meeting, SGA staff presented their recently published [National Opportunity Zones Ranking Report](#).



- Yesterday, Michael Igo, Affil. ASLA, **Water Conservation PPN** officer, presented a live webinar, [Our Beloved Fountain: Making Water Features Sustainable](#), available for 1.0 PDH (LA CES/HSW), to 76 registrants. The recording will be available for on-demand viewing through the ASLA Online Learning library.
- ASLA will be **working with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to update the Occupational Outlook Handbook’s profile of landscape architects**. The profile covers what landscape architects do, the work environment, how to become a landscape architect, pay, and the job outlook. On Wednesday, Director Susan Cahill, Hon. ASLA, met via conference call with a BLS analyst to review how ASLA will be participating in the updating of the profile of landscape architects in the handbook. This is a highly referenced resource for many seeking to enter the profession as well those hiring professionals, and state and local agencies reviewing landscape architecture positions, the nature of the work, and knowledge required.

## Deadlines and Reminders

- Members of the **Board of Trustees and Chapter Presidents Council should complete the annual program and priorities surveys by March 22**. Contact [Corporate Secretary Millay](#) with any questions.
- Registration for **ASLA Portfolio Review Week, March 25-31, ends this Friday the 22nd**. Please encourage your local emerging professionals to [sign up](#).
- The [Leadership Calendar](#) can be accessed on the web.