



# WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

April 2007

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## Messages

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Curtis LaPierre

Happy Landscape Architecture month! I can't believe we get a whole month. Next Thursday, April 19, is our official landscape architecture month reception. We promise to be heavy on the socializing and light on the chapter announcements. The reception is a chance to connect and hear (briefly) about some important chapter activities.

Our Chapter's focus this year has been primarily on upgrading our licensure bill. Thanks to the energetic efforts of our Government Affairs Committee and others we nearly got there. Although we had to negotiate our way out of a temporary derailment, we are in a great position to get back to Olympia next January.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful consultant working for us and we would have been left on the Capital steps without her dedication and experience (she happens to be a licensed Landscape Architect). The services of retaining a consultant costs money and have led to the temporary increase in dues. WASLA has also received a grant from ASLA national to help pay for our consultant. Next we will be asking out of state licensees and the private landscape architecture firms in Washington to contribute with funding for our next go-around in Olympia.

A few weeks ago the Chapter showed what we can do when motivated to call and email our legislators. One Senator was heard to say: "I didn't know what a landscape architect was but I sure heard from a lot of them in my district." During the next legislative session we hope to have individuals at each firm, university and agency responsible for informing their offices and students about the status of

- **2007 WSU WASLA AWARDS COMPETITION APRIL 13, 2007**

- **WASLA LEED-ACCREDITATION STUDY SESSIONS TO BEGIN MAY 30**

### Upcoming Events...

- **April 17**  
**Housing Our Future, Speaker #3**
- **April 19**  
**Celebrate National Landscape Architecture Month**
- **April 27**  
**LARE Study Session - Section C**
- **May 5**  
**Bainbridge In Bloom Garden Tour 2007**
- **May 11**  
**LARE Seminar: Grading, Drainage & Stormwater...**

### Our Sponsors...



**Click here to request information on sponsoring this newsletter.**

### Join our list

the bill.

Thank you for your support of the licensure bill and please try to join us for the reception at the Swedish Cultural Center next Thursday April 19 from 5:30-7:30.

[More information on reception...](#)

### **LETTER FROM THE EDITOR: Reflections on the 2007 WASLA Conference: Innovate, Initiate and Integrate**

**By Liz Westbrook**

The 2007 WASLA Conference was a great success. The beautiful views, the incredible line-up of presenters, the great opportunities to network with new people, to reconnect with familiar faces, and the energy and ideas generated from the event. The same generation of energy and ideas that keeps this region at the forefront of landscape architectural design in the world.

The day's events included: presentations on sustainability by Nate Cormier, Nancy Rottle, and Deb Guenter. Two keynotes presented progressive thoughts for the future of the environment by Alison Van Gorp and Janet Ranganathan. Also, a diverse list of presentations by Architects Without Borders (Non-profit design), Sean Michael's Security Design, arborist Favero Greenforest's amusing and informative presentation, and Jay Beckwith's in depth presentation on Playgrounds and Child Development. The technical side was also covered by soil specialists David McDonald, Sandy Salisbury and Rod Tyler discussing Compost Uses, a presentation on Exterior Topcoats, and on LED Lighting.

The highlight of the day was witnessing the Panel on Professional Leadership, moderated by Chris Overdorf; this tell-all brought together legends Ilze Jones FASLA, Kenichi Nakano FASLA, Grant Jones FASLA, Bruce Dees FASLA, Dave McNeal FASLA, and Tom Berger FASLA. It was a remarkable lesson on Landscape Architecture history and business that inspired us all.

The Saturday Soils Workshop and Garden Tours were also great successes. These events allowed for a more in depth look at the importance of compost and an opportunity to tour the newly completed Olympic Sculpture Park Tour with its designers.

Thanks to all of those who attended the conference. You are what make it worthwhile and let us know that we are

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doing the right thing. If you are interested in helping out the WASLA Awards please contact the WASLA office at [office@wasla.org](mailto:office@wasla.org).

## **LETTER FROM THE EDITOR: LARE Study Groups**

**By Kellye Hilde**

With the June LARE approaching, WASLA would like to take this opportunity to invite those who are studying for the exam and looking for a study partner or group to email Kellye Hilde at [khilde@triadassoc.com](mailto:khilde@triadassoc.com). This is a great opportunity for aspiring landscape architects to connect, share study materials, quiz and prepare for the LARE. The test is very difficult but preparing and studying for the exam with others who are in the same boat can make the experience less intimidating.

Good Luck in June!!

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## **Announcements**

### **ASLA: VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE TO BE CLOSING KEYNOTE SPEAKER FOR 2007 ANNUAL MEETING**

WASHINGTON, April 6, 2007—The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) has announced that former Vice President Al Gore will be the closing keynote speaker for its 2007 Annual Meeting on October 8 in San Francisco. He will present *An Inconvenient Truth*, the visually stunning multimedia presentation that inspires audiences to confront environmental issues in the world today.

The Society's mission is to lead, educate, and participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning, and artful design of our cultural and natural environments. In 1992, ASLA presented then-Senator and soon-to-be Vice President Al Gore with its Olmsted Medal, the highest honor the Society may bestow upon an individual outside the profession of landscape architecture.

"It was only the third time the medal had ever been presented and this early honor turned out to be very prescient given Al Gore's steadfast leadership, vision, and stewardship of the environment," said Nancy C. Somerville,

executive vice president and CEO of ASLA. "His speaking tour and documentary have educated millions on what we must do to protect our planet for ourselves and for generations to come. Landscape architects are on the forefront of designing our built environment and protecting our natural resources and his presentation will provide a rallying point for the profession."

The ASLA Annual Meeting is the largest annual gathering of landscape architecture professionals in the world and will be held October 6-9 at the Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco. More than 7,000 attendees are expected to participate in over 80 educational sessions and to tour the 500-booth product EXPO. Information on meeting registration will be available on the ASLA web site, [www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org), next week.

[More information...](#)

## WASLA CELEBRATES NATIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MONTH!

Thursday, April 19

5:30 – 7:30 pm

[Swedish Cultural Center](#)

1920 Dexter Ave. N

Seattle, WA 98109

Join colleagues and friends to lift a glass of beer, snack on sausage, and celebrate National Landscape Architecture Month.

WASLA is gathering to:

- Thank the state senators who sponsored our licensure legislation and the members who have worked hard at getting it passed
- Present the Chapter Leadership Awards for 2007
- Update our plans to continue the licensure upgrade effort next year
- Present exciting opportunities available to mentor youth through ACE
- Mingle, snack, and enjoy fabulous views of Lake Union

Your presence will help advance our profession, support your chapter, and be a great opportunity to network.

### **LEGISLATION**

This year we fought hard for our licensure upgrade. The bill

didn't make it, but we're committed for the long haul. Our efforts this year make a strong springboard for the 2008 session. Getting bills passed is a long and messy process. German Chancellor Otto von Bismarck remarked long ago that: "There are two things you don't want to see being made: sausages and legislation." In honor of his quote, we're featuring sausage snacks and beer, with other nibblies and soft drinks available. We are inviting several of the Seattle-area senators who have supported our efforts.

### **ACE**

The nationwide theme of National Landscape Architecture Month is "Discover Careers in Landscape Architecture." The chapter is developing exciting relationships with schools through ACE, a mentoring consortium established by design and engineering professionals. Landscape architecture is the fastest growing of all the design professions (Bureau of Labor Statistics). By reaching out to students we are cultivating our future.

Register for this event today at [www.wasla.org](http://www.wasla.org). The minimum donation is \$10—larger gifts gratefully accepted! Advance registration ends Monday, April 16 at noon. Friends, colleagues, students, partners, spouses and anyone interested in supporting our profession are welcome. Free parking is available at the venue and on the streets nearby.

[For more information...](#)

## **CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER**

Stand up, pat yourself on the back and congratulate yourself. The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) has honored your visions and initiatives toward a new vision of integrated green infrastructure with an [Honor Award in the Planning and Analysis category for Open Space Seattle 2100](#).

We could not be more proud or excited about the extraordinary grassroots leadership that the people of Seattle have provided in defining a new open space legacy for the next generation of citizens. Of the projects awarded this year, Open Space Seattle 2100 is the only project that can claim such a broad base of support and civic investment. We hope this national recognition will continue to encourage city leaders to continue their leadership in defining a new vision for and continuing their investment in our green infrastructure.

With all of this work, we could not have accomplished any

of it without the extraordinary leadership of our strong strategic partners. As a coalition, Open Space Seattle 2100 is particularly indebted to the University of Washington's Department of Landscape Architecture, the Urban Land Institute and the City of Seattle for their invaluable support. And a very special recognition and appreciation for the University of Washington students whose dedication and hard- work made all of the community visions possible.

Additional thanks go to the Washington State Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Friends of Seattle's Olmsted Parks , Jones and Jones Architects and Landscape Architects, Mithun, Anchor Environmental LLC, Weisman Design Group, Groundswell Northwest, Magnusson Klemencic Associates, IBI Group, Mr. KookHyun Moon + Professor Ki-Ho Kim, Hough Beck and Baird, Swift and Company Landscape Architects, Seattle Parks Foundation , The Berger Partnership, Seattle Department of Planning and Development, Seattle Parks Department , Sustainable Ballard, Hartson Photography, Mayor's Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs , SVR Design, and J Johnson Braund Design Group, Inc.

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## Committee Reports and Public Relations

### SEATTLE GREEN FACTOR WORKSHOP

To support recent commercial land use code changes, the City of Seattle Department of Planning & Development is pleased to announce a new workshop series on the [Seattle Green Factor](#).

Presented to help applicants, landscape architects and developers understand and apply the principles of the Seattle Green Factor, the workshop series will:

- explain what the green factor is;
- reveal how the green factor works;
- connect you to experts who have successfully integrated landscaping strategies that get you the green factor credit; and
- cover techniques to successfully implement green walls, green roofs, rain gardens, rainwater harvesting, plant selection, irrigation and landscape management plans.

Seattle Green Factor is a new program intended to increase the amount and quality of urban landscaping in new

development in Commercial Zones while providing flexibility for developers and designers to efficiently utilize their properties. The green factor is one of many commercial land use code changes that became effective Jan. 20, 2007, as part of the Neighborhood [Business District Strategy](#).

Visit [www.seattle.gov/dpd/greenfactor](http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/greenfactor) for more details on the program, including background information, worksheets for calculating your green factor and the green factor plant list.

Tentative dates for the continuation of this lunchtime series include :

Apr 18: Plant Selection for Healthy Landscapes

May 2: Putting it All Together: Cascading Benefits for Green Factor and Drainage Code Compliance

May 16: Landscape Management Plans as Required

May 30: Healthy Soils for Beautiful Plantings

[For more information...](#)

## JUMP START TO A SECURE, CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE!

Please join us May 7 at Microsoft's Conference Center in Redmond, WA, to learn the latest in national efforts to accelerate and integrate alternative fuel and plug-in electric hybrid vehicle development for national security and a cleaner environment. As you can see from our opinion piece in the Seattle Times last week featuring Ford's CEO Alan Mulally, the auto industry is paying attention. Their leaders and their vehicles will be the focus of our day.

[Click here](#) to read our Seattle Times article, Recharging the Nation's Energy Policy.

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**Save the Date!**  
**Employer Assisted Housing for a Competitive Workforce**

Under Robin Snyderman's leadership, the Housing program at Chicago's Metropolitan Planning Council has intensified its ability to increase the number of informed stakeholders committed to successful public housing reform and to a range of quality housing options near jobs and transit throughout the region.

Speaker: Robin Snyderman, Housing Director, Metropolitan Planning Council, Chicago

Tuesday, April 17, 2007  
7:30 - 9:00 AM  
Bertha Knight Landes Room  
Seattle City Hall

City of Seattle event. Free admission. RSVP to [HousingSpeakers@Seattle.gov](mailto:HousingSpeakers@Seattle.gov).

**Housing Our Workforce: Why Business Leaders Should Care**

Ron Terwilliger will address an increasing national crisis: a huge number of fully- employed people, from teachers to hospital workers, are not able to live close to where they work. He will provide a roadmap to change this pattern in a way that benefits both workers and communities.

Speaker: Ron Terwilliger, Chairman and CEO of Trammel Crow Residential, Atlanta

Tuesday, September 18, 2007  
7:30 - 9:00 AM  
Seattle venue TBD

**2007 WSU WASLA AWARDS COMPETITION APRIL 13, 2007**

By Craig Anderson, ASLA Associate-at-Large (Eastern WA)

The Annual WASLA Awards are an important opportunity to have student work evaluated by professional landscape architects. Winning an award is a significant honor and is something the students will want to have on their resumes and display in their portfolio in the future.

On Friday, April 13, a WASLA jury team of outside professionals will review student's best work in the halls of Johnson Annex in Pullman. Due to various time constraints, this year's competition will be held in a one-day session in Pullman.

The jury will assess undergraduate student work based on the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary for a professional Landscape Architect. Jury members will evaluate design ability, graphics, etc. but also look at work with an eye toward giving the student a better understanding of what they can expect with the LARE licensure exam.

Graduate work will be assessed on how it contributes to the field of knowledge for landscape architecture. Projects are expected to be of the highest professional quality.

All projects submitted should be what the student feels is their best work from the last year. Work including instructor comments on it may be submitted but the comments will not be utilized as a basis for judging. Each student submission must adhere to the criteria listed below.

The jury will assess work in the following categories, including group projects:

For more information please contact Craig Anderson at [craig@storhaug.com](mailto:craig@storhaug.com)

- Studio Projects
- Construction
- Reports & Theses (written and graphic) Reports and theses must be submitted by April 7th in PDF format. Please limit your report file size to 5MB.
- Miscellaneous (art, computer work, etc.)

For more information please contact Craig Anderson at [craig@storhaug.com](mailto:craig@storhaug.com).

**WASLA LEED-ACCREDITATION STUDY SESSIONS  
TO BEGIN MAY 30**

Do you want to become LEED accredited? In partnership with O'Brien & Company, a nationally recognized leader in sustainable design and construction consulting, WASLA is pleased to announce [training and study sessions for the LEED accreditation examination](#). (LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design and is a registered trademark of the US Green Building Council, USGBC.) At least twelve of 20 total spaces remain open and available for the upcoming series.

The sessions will take place at O'Brien & Company's office, 811 First Avenue, Suite 380, Seattle, WA. 98104, on the following dates:

Wednesday, May 30, 2007, 1:00 to 5:00pm

Wednesday, June 13, 2007, 1:00 to 5:00pm

Wednesday, June 27, 2007, 1:00 to 5:00pm

The discount fee for WASLA members is \$150 per person for the three sessions, assuming that all 20 spaces are filled, plus a nominal fee for materials and handouts provided by O'Brien – probably \$12.50 per person. If less than 20 people sign up, fees could be slightly higher.

Registrants will be expected to obtain a copy of the LEED-NC v2.2 Reference Guide, available through [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org). Since the cost of a copy is \$200 for non-USGBC members, you may also share with other participants. (Employees of firms that are members in the USGBC can receive a copy for the firm at a lower member price of \$150.) Prior to the first session on May 30, participants will be expected to read and familiarize themselves with the first 149 pages of the Reference Guide.

If you'd like to sign up, please send an e-mail to [Brooks Kolb](mailto:Brooks.Kolb) by no later than May 20; Brooks will register you for the course. Fees are payable by check to O'Brien & Co.; please bring your check to the first session. For information and driving directions, please visit [www.obrienandco.com](http://www.obrienandco.com). Please respond quickly as we expect the seats to fill up fast.

WASLA Office

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Phone: 206-443-9484

Web: <http://www.wasla.org/default.htm>

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