



# WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects

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APRIL 2009

## Messages

### WASLA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MONTH ACTIVITIES

As noted in recent newsletters, April is Landscape Architecture Month. The chapter is celebrating with these activities:

1. The WASLA Annual Conference was held on April 3 - see article below;
2. The WASLA/NPS-RTCA Sinclair Inlet Charrette to be held on April 24-25, 2009 - see article below; and
3. A demonstration Japanese Maple garden project with South Puget Sound Community College in the Olympia area to be held sometime this month (contact Ed Winkley, WASLA Chapter President, at 360-570-6674 or [winklee@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:winklee@wsdot.wa.gov) for details).

### ASLA MID-YEAR TRUSTEES MEETING AND LOBBY DAY April 30 - May 2, 2009

**Don Benson, ASLA, AICP**

As your Trustee, I will be attending the ASLA Mid-Year Meeting and Lobby Day later this month. If you have any issues you would like me to raise or relay at the meeting, please contact me (Don Benson, 206-438-2027 or [don\\_benson@urscorp.com](mailto:don_benson@urscorp.com)).

## Events Calendar

**April 17**  
[Emerging Professionals Happy  
Hour Series](#)

**May 15**  
[Emerging Professionals Happy  
Hour Series](#)

**May 20**  
[BC Land Summit](#)

**June 19**  
[Emerging Professionals Happy  
Hour Series](#)

**August 21**  
[Emerging Professionals Happy  
Hour Series](#)

**2009 WASLA CONFERENCE: A GREAT SUCCESS!**

September 18

[Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series](#)

October 16

[Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series](#)

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The 2009 WASLA Conference, Engaging Change: A Green(er) Perspective was held April 3 at the Seattle Center's Northwest Rooms. Landscape architects, designers, students and allied professionals from around the state gathered at the Center for a day of exciting presentations and panel discussions. The diverse conference program tackled topics ranging from growing green youth to succeeding as a young professional in our industry. Discussions focusing on transportation corridors and livability, climate change, sustainable communities, modern marvels and current global challenges and opportunities rounded out a day of professional growth and networking. A highlight of the day-long event was keynote speaker Alex Steffen's insightful and often humorous call to action, "Building a Bright Green Future that Works."

In the end, the 2009 WASLA Conference was a huge success and WASLA would like to thank all of those who were able to join us. A big Thank You to the conference committee, our sponsors, presenters and panelists for all their time and support!

#### Conference Sponsor

Pacific Earth Works, Inc.

#### Luncheon Sponsors

Northwest Playground Equipment, Inc.

Rain Bird

Seattle Public Utilities

#### 2009 WASLA Conference Committee

Kellye Hilde and Kari Stiles, Committee Co-Chairs

Katie Bang

David Hilgers

Liz Birkholz

Liz Umbanhowar

Maureen Colaizzi

And a BIG thank you to our chapter staff, Andrew Estep and Ann Macfarlane.

**AIA/WASLA HAPPY HOUR SERIES A HUGE SUCCESS AT SWIFT AND COMPANY**

## Barbara Swift, ASLA

The Happy Hour Series is important as part of a larger effort to break down barriers, engage discussion and build relationships. This is required to meet the goal of serious strong multidisciplinary work which demands engaged professionals who are comfortable with soft definition and a flow of thinking. Talking with each other helps build relationships that shift us from specific roles to a team and shifts thinking from viewing design as object focused to system focused.

Swift Company hosted the March 2009 event and coupled it with a celebration for the design community beleaguered by the economic environment. The times are challenging and we all needed a break. Swift chose this gathering as a way to show support and bring the community together for a night out. An evening blow-out of good food, drink and video streaming on large weather balloons set the tone for the 200 plus revelers who were finally tossed out at 10 PM. No overt marketing was allowed - i.e. no projects were presented - just good conversation and good will. While it is too early to know what the long term benefits will be, it allowed everyone to enjoy an evening with good people and support the relationships which really make this all work.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

If you would like to contribute to the WASLA Monthly Newsletter please send inquiries to Jocelyn Freilinger at [jocelynlf@mac.com](mailto:jocelynlf@mac.com).

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## Announcements

### EMERGING PROFESSIONALS HAPPY HOUR SERIES

**Friday, April 17, 2009**

Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series  
Hewitt Architects Inc., Seattle WA  
101 Stewart Street, Suite 200  
Seattle, WA 98101  
April 17, 2009  
5:30-7:00 pm

Join us April 17th at Hewitt Architects for the 2009 AIA/  
WASLA Emerging Professionals Happy Hour Series.

The AIA/WASLA Happy Hour Series has been a great success since its launch last year. Students, young professionals, interns, senior staff, management and principals have enjoyed a great evening of food and drink as design offices in the Seattle area have showcased their firm as well as award winning projects. Be there at 5:30 on April 17th as Hewitt Architects continues the series at their downtown Seattle office.

### **INTERDISCIPLINARY CAREER FAIR**

**College of Built Environments, University of  
Washington, Seattle  
Wednesday, April 22, 2009**

Connect your firm with a valuable pool of student talent! The UW chapter of ASLA is organizing this year's career fair together with the AIAS chapter, and also expects attendance from students in the Urban Design & Planning and Construction Management programs. Regardless of whether you're actively hiring at present, this fair is a great way to make contact with a range of potential candidates for future positions and internships, and to make your firm better known at these exemplary professional academic programs.

Complete information and registration forms are available from [cbecareerfair@u.washington.edu](mailto:cbecareerfair@u.washington.edu)

### **WASLA/NPS-RTCA CHARRETTE UPDATE**

## Sinclair Inlet (Gorst to Missouri Gate) Concept Plan Friday-Saturday, April 24-25, 2009

This is one of the chapter events being conducted in conjunction with Landscape Architecture Month. See the others listed separately in this newsletter.

The charrette planning is being finalized. Several landscape architects have volunteered to be on one of the four teams established for the upcoming event, and we will have two LA co-captains for each team along with a couple of additional LA's for support. In addition, I am pleased to announce that several University of Washington LA students will participate.

Friday afternoon (April 24) will be set aside for site orientation and visits, Friday evening will involve dinner and talks/announcements by dignitaries. Saturday (all day) will be devoted to the charrette and products. On early Saturday evening there will be a presentation to the public of the charrette results. If you still would like to participate, I may be able to squeeze in a couple of more LA's so please contact Don Benson, ASLA, AICP, WASLA Trustee at 206-438-2027 or don\_benson@urscorp.com if you are interested. Thank you.

## GLOBAL GREEN LECTURE SERIES

**Wednesday, April 29, 2009**

The Green Futures Lab at the University of Washington invites you to:

GLOBAL GREEN: A lecture/panel series showcasing Sustainable Planning and Design in the Pacific Northwest and Denmark

SPRING 2009: TOWARD A WALKABLE SEATTLE: DRAWING ON INTERNATIONAL EXAMPLES

Guest Lecture by Helle Søholt, Architect, MAA Partner and Managing Director, Gehl Architects, Copenhagen, Denmark

**Wednesday, April 29, 2009**

7:00-8:30 PM

Architecture Hall, Room 147

University of Washington, Seattle

Danish architect Helle Søholt will compare her firm's recommendations for improving walkability in Seattle with successes in other cities across the globe. A founding partner at Gehl Architects, Helle Søholt has extensive international urban design experience and is a frequent lecturer and

keynote speaker at international conferences and events. She received a MA in Architecture and Urban Design from the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen, Denmark as well as an MA from the University of Washington, Seattle.

For more information, visit [www.be.washington.edu](http://www.be.washington.edu)

The Green Futures Lab would like to thank our co-sponsors for this event: The Scan|Design Foundation; The Northwest Danish Foundation; International Sustainability Institute; UW College of Built Environments; UW Department of Landscape Architecture; and the UW Scandinavian Studies Department.

To request disability accommodations contact the UW Disability Services Office at least 10 days in advance of the event.

Phone - 206.543.6450

Fax - 206.685.7264

TTY - 206.543.6452

or contact: [dso@u.washington.edu](mailto:dso@u.washington.edu)

This lecture is free and open to the public.

## BICYCLE BOULEVARD FUNDAMENTALS

**Thursday, May 14, 2009**

The Initiative for Bicycle and Pedestrian Innovation at Portland State University is organizing a professional development workshop for May 14, 2009. The workshop, entitled Bicycle Boulevard Fundamentals, is a one day course intended for urban and transportation planners, landscape architects, designers, engineers, advocates and others involved with bikeway planning and design. It will include both classroom time (on the Portland State University campus), as well as a field tour of several bicycle boulevards within the inner Portland area.

Bicycle boulevards are low-speed, low-volume bikeways that are becoming increasingly popular in communities seeking to enhance their bicycle network and boost ridership. This course will cover the fundamentals of bicycle boulevard planning and design process through lecture, discussion, in-class exercises and a field tour. Examples of successful bicycle boulevards from Portland and other communities will be highlighted during the day.

The course will be taught by Mia Birk, principal at Alta Planning + Design, and Rob Burchfield, City Traffic Engineer for the Portland Bureau of Transportation.

Information about the course can also be found on the web: <http://www.ibpi.usp.pdx.edu/bikeboulevard.php>. The full flier

and registration form can be downloaded at <http://www.ibpi.usp.pdx.edu/media/bike%20boulevard%20course.pdf>.

Registration for the course is \$295, and the registration deadline is May 7, 2009.

Please visit <http://www.ibpi.usp.pdx.edu/media/Spring%20Courses%20Flier.pdf> to see IBPI's full spring/summer workshop schedule.

Feel free to contact us with questions.

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