

WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects

In This Issue

Message from the President

[Thanks to Golf Scramble Sponsor!](#)

[Licensure Update](#)

[UW Mentor Program](#)

[News from UW](#)

[High Point Wins Award](#)

[Call for Entries](#)

[Support Green Energy Education Act](#)

NOVEMBER 2007

Messages

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Chris Overdorf, ASLA

Duty calls. As the new chapter president, I heard the call, answered and so should you. With everyone's schedules crammed full of work, it can be hard to imagine devoting time to the chapter but it is imperative that everyone do so. The profession of landscape architecture in our state faces challenges that require commitment from everyone.

The biggest challenge we face as a professional organization is changing the landscape architect law in the state from a title act to a practice act. The current title act provides a very thin level of protection to public health, safety and welfare because anyone can legally perform the work of a landscape architect. Given the demand for landscape architects and an increasing shortage of landscape architects, we are all at risk for seeing our work being performed by other unlicensed and unqualified people. Plus, reciprocity from a title act state to a practice act state is getting harder and may not be accepted in the future. The fact that we are the only state West of the Mississippi not to have a practice act should be an embarrassment to everyone. The Governmental Affairs Committee and Executive Committee have been hard at work for a few years now preparing the upgrade bill. The increase in dues you all saw was to cover the cost for a legislative consultant to help us get the bill approved in the 2008 session. We also were only one of seven chapters that submitted an application for a Chapter Initiative Program (CIP) Grant this year. If approved, this extra money will be used to cover the additional costs associated with the upgrade bill efforts.

Events Calendar

February 8, 2008
[USCC's 16th Annual Conference and Tradeshow](#)

March 27
[WASLA Professional Awards Reception](#)

Our Sponsors



Cascade Recreation



Pacific Earth Works



Click here to find out about sponsoring this newsletter.

Join our list

Join Our Mailing List!

Remember that together with ASLA, WASLA is the advocate for the profession of landscape architecture in the state. However, the advocates can not be limited to the handful of chapter members who volunteer their time and efforts on the Executive Committee and the various other sub-committees. Everyone needs to become an advocate and the executive committee is working with ASLA to engage the Advocacy Network to make it easier for everyone to get involved. Please [click here](#) and setup your personal profile so you can easily communicate with your respective legislators. It only takes a minute to sign up and by doing so it will make it "point-and-click" easy to engage your legislators. We need everyone to sign up and help support the licensure upgrade bill.

The chapter is at its strongest when everyone is involved. The state has well over 1000 licensed landscape architects but only about a third are members of WASLA. The more chapter members we have, the stronger the message will be to the state to approve the upgrade bill. I challenge all current WASLA members to look around their workplaces and encourage fellow landscape architects, designers and students to become members. There are tremendous benefits to becoming a member that extend far beyond just getting a copy of Landscape Architecture magazine. Please [click here](#) to review the benefits.

In an effort to galvanize action amongst chapter members, we are organizing more social and networking events where practitioners can help to inspire others, meet allied professionals and potential clients. This year's Golf Tournament was in partnership with the Washington Recreation & Park Association (WRPA) and allowed chapter members to get some one-on-one time with Parks & Recreation Directors and staff. WRPA was so pleased about the success of the tournament that they've already asked us to do the same thing this year. I am also working with several state and city trade and business development associations to develop some potential networking events between these organizations and WASLA members. We have also initiated a long-term planning effort to prepare for the ASLA National Conference here in Seattle in 2011. An effort this large will require additional support from chapter members and I urge people to come forward to help.

There is a tremendous amount of time and effort being spent at WASLA that benefits you all. I encourage you to step forward and get involved if you care about the impact of our profession in Washington. I am proud to be serving you alongside all the other WASLA volunteers whom are helping promote our profession. If you have any suggestions, comments or would like to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact me at coverdorf@jonesandjones.com.

THANK YOU SITELINES!

WASLA and the Washington Park and Recreation Association extend warm thanks and an apology to Sitelines Park and Playground Products. Sitelines was not acknowledged in last month's WASLA newsletter for its sponsorship of the October 12 Golf Scramble. Successful events depend on our sponsors, and we appreciate Sitelines, a long-time supporter of both our associations.

Committee Reports and Public Relations

LICENSURE UPDATE

**By Curtis LaPierre, ASLA
Chair Government Affairs Committee**

The 2008 state legislative session starts in January - just a couple months away. WASLA is preparing to pick up where we left off last session with our efforts to upgrade our license from a title to a practice act. A small but dedicated group of individuals is working with our legislative consultant to make this happen. We are reaching out to all the Washington licensed landscape architects for help.

You Can Easily Help

You can be highly effective in helping get the bill through the legislature with only a few minutes effort from your desk.

[Click on this link](#) and complete the Advocacy Network profile at the ASLA national web site. You will enter your home address to let ASLA know in which legislative district you vote. Please do this now so you are ready to respond to action alerts from the Washington Chapter through ASLA during the legislative session.

How it Works

At critical times in the progression of our bill, you may receive "action alerts" that ask you to call or email your legislator. We will supply talking points, suggested email text and legislator contact information. It literally requires only two minutes to send an email. You may pass along the action alert to friends, family or business contacts as well.

Why it Works

You would be amazed to learn how effective calls and emails from constituents are. I can guarantee that our legislators will be receiving emails from individual landscape designers and contractors who wrongly perceive that our practice act bill will

affect their ability to conduct business - in spite of our efforts to work with their organizations. Unless there is a strong showing of constituent support for the bill - those few negative emails could stop the bill dead.

It Has to be You

The action alerts may be targeted to only a few key legislative districts or statewide if necessary. In most legislative districts outside of Seattle and Spokane we have only a couple ASLA members (if any at all) so please do not assume that someone else will take care of contacting their legislator. It has to be you.

So please take a moment now to fill out your profile and be ready for action!

UW MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

By Carrie Culp Membership Chair

After many successful years of the WASLA/UW Mentorship Program, it is time again to organize student-professional pairs for the 2008 program. We are currently looking for professionals to mentor students in their 2nd and 3rd year of the BLA and MLA programs at the University of Washington. The students have decided to focus the mentorship efforts on these students in particular.

Your time commitment would be approximately 2-4 hours per month. Activities include introducing your student to working in an office, taking time to review their projects and possibly attending reviews. The idea behind the program is that the student and mentor "design" a program that works for them.

I am hoping to attract approximately 25 professionals. Please reply to Carrie Culp at carriec@highridge.com or by phone at 425-864-9824. Include your contact information (email and phone), firm name, and areas of specific interest or focus. Please also feel free to call with questions.

Thanks for your past participation and your interest in helping with the career development of students at the UW this year.

CASTLE ROCK-LEXINGTON TRAIL LOOP CHARRETTE

**By Don Benson
WASLA Trustee**

The Castle Rock-Lexington Trail Loop Charrette was conducted on November 2-3, 2007. The charrette was the 7th charrette conducted under the partnership agreement between the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program (NPS RTCA) and the Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (WASLA). Additional co-sponsors for this event were the Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (OASLA) and Cowlitz On the Move (COTM), a group promoting healthy lifestyles. A local volunteer trail committee also participated in the charrette planning and activities. The main charrette product was to prepare a conceptual plan for a 12-mile trail loop connecting the City of Castle of Rock and unincorporated Lexington (north of Kelso), linking local and visitor recreation areas and activities along the Cowlitz River.

Participants included members of WASLA and OASLA, students from three universities (Universities of Oregon and Washington and Washington State University), local community members and local agencies. The group of WASLA and OASLA and student participants was the largest group of participants for any of the seven charrettes. This charrette was also shorter in duration than past charrettes (1.5 days instead of 2.5 days) and was the first multi-state charrette collaboration.

The charrette began on Friday afternoon (Nov. 2) with a site tour, introduction of the team members to the five design teams, followed by a dinner on Friday evening with speakers representing the Department of Health, a local State Representative, Cowlitz County and Castle Rock, the National Park Service as well as WASLA and OASLA. The design teams were Safety, Coordination and Transportation; Natural Resources/ Park Programming; Cultural Resources/ Interpretation; Infrastructure/ Maintenance; and Access/ Recreation. On Saturday (November 3), sleeves were rolled up and the teams prepared an overall conceptual plan with additional supplemental drawings and data related to the teams' areas of focus. The conceptual plan and supplemental data were presented to the community at an open house on Saturday evening.

The next steps in the process will be for the agencies and local community members to draft an overall plan with recommended actions and then to adopt and implement the plan. It is hoped that adoption and implementation will occur by Earth Day in April 2008.

By Fritz Wagner
UW Faculty Representative

Professor Emeritus, Richard Haag, founder of the department, has been selected to receive the prestigious ASLA Design Medal. The medal was presented at the ASLA Annual Meeting in San Francisco in October.

40 new students joined the Department's two professional degree programs this fall. This diverse group of new students includes international students from Estonia, India, Japan, and Taiwan, as well as students from California, Florida, Idaho, and Utah.

Open Space Seattle 2100, a project led by Professor Nancy Rottle, was presented an ASLA honor award in the Analysis and Planning Category.

For two days in early February, over 300 professional and community members participated in the "Green Futures Charrette," collaboratively sketching their 100 year visions for Seattle's future open spaces. Landscape Architecture students taught by Professor Nancy Rottle and lecturer Brice Maryman co-led the 22 teams of participants that tackled every part of the city to envision integrated civic, park, transportation, drainage and habitat spaces. To see the results, [click to visit website](#).

This fall Nancy Rottle's studio is proposing master plans for UW Tacoma reflecting sustainable design principles. Students are addressing the complex issues of designing for a more sustainable future, including the challenges of social justice, ecological health, and technological relevance.

Jeff Hou took a group of students to Taipei and Tokyo to look at mapping micro-urban landscapes as part of a UW Explorations Seminar

This quarter Jeff Hou is hosting an exchange group from Taiwan who will be spending 3 weeks in Seattle working with the Children's park project which is a focus of the Cultural Landscape Studio.

This past Spring Quarter, the Department sponsored a public lecture by renowned landscape architect Laurie Olin. Over 140 professionals, alumni and students attended the talk and reception. This fall Dieter Grau, AKNW Atelier Dreiseitl, Landscape Architects, gave from Überlingen Germany, gave a lecture titled "Sustainable Strategies for City Landscapes: Celebrating Water in Urban Design." The lecture hall was filled with students and faculty from the entire college.

The Safe Passage Entry Garden project led by Professor Daniel Winterbottom's Guatemala Design Build Studio

(Summer 2006) was awarded an ASLA Honor Award in Community Service.

The Guatemala Design/Build studio, led by Professor Daniel Winterbottom, is back in Guatemala City working on a new project, this time to create the best playground for the children, one that provides them with ample opportunity and encouragement to learn about and explore the natural world, develop healthy physical and social skills, and of course have fun. (For more information and photos, [visit the Department's website](#).)

STUDENT INFO:

National Planning Award given to CAUP Interdisciplinary Studios. Students from an interdisciplinary landscape architecture and urban planning studio won one of only two National Student Awards given by the American Planning Association for their project, "Pioneering Palmer's Future: Strategies for Managing Growth." The resulting recommendation from this studio project addressed growth management, downtown revitalization, and landscape preservation for this historic Alaskan town.

FACULTY INFO:

Professor David Streatfield was named Professor Emeritus at the end of the 2006-2007 academic year. Prof. Streatfield has taught in the Landscape Architecture department since 1971, and was the department Chair from 1992-1996.

Professor Daniel Winterbottom received the prestigious S. Sterling Munro Public Service Teaching Award for his exemplary leadership in community-based instruction.

Professor Fritz Wagner received a \$300,000 Universities Rebuilding American Partnerships (URAP) - Community Design grant that will target the needs of the low- to moderate-income populations of Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, to increase affordable housing, public facilities, and employment opportunities.

Professor Nancy Rottle presented 100 year plans for Seattle's green infrastructure at the national AIA Livable Communities Conference. She and lecturer Brice Maryman have a more extensive article on the Green Futures Charrette results in the November issue of Landscape Architecture Magazine. ASLA Award was give for this project.

Professor Thaisa Way, PhD joined the faculty to teach history and theory courses as well as design studios. She has degrees from Berkeley, UVA, and Cornell University.

HIGH POINT NAMED ONE OF FIVE GLOBAL AWARD WINNERS

ULI Seattle is delighted to announce that the Urban Land Institute has awarded its most coveted award - the ULI Global Award for Excellence - to High Point, the Seattle Housing Authority's mixed-income, sustainable community in West Seattle. High Point is one of only five projects to win this award; the others are in Philadelphia, France, Poland, and Hong Kong.

Please join ULI Seattle in congratulating Seattle Housing Authority and the High Point team, including Mithun, the City of Seattle, and SvR Design.

[Click here](#) for more details on the project and award.

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Call for Entries for the WASLA 2008 Professional Awards is available on [our website](#). Print copies will arrive in your mailbox soon. The deadline for this exciting contest is Friday, December 7. The competition is open to all landscape architects registered in the State of Washington, and to members of WASLA and non-members alike. Entries may be located within or outside the State of Washington.

A distinguished jury of nationally-known experts is being recruited to judge the five categories, which are:

- I. General Design
- II. Residential Design
- III. Planning and Analysis
- IV. Research and Communication
- V. Works in Progress

Opportunities are still available to sponsor the buffet reception for the Awards Celebration, to be held on Thursday, March 27, 2008 at the Burke Museum, and to advertise in the Summary of Professional Awards. This new publication will describe all the winning entries and will be distributed widely-a great opportunity to publicize member activities and highlight a commitment to excellence in landscape architecture. Contact Ann Macfarlane at 206-442-9484 or office@wasla.org by Thursday, November 1 for more information on sponsorship.

WASLA thanks Electrical Representatives West and Pacific Earth Works for sponsoring the 2008 Professional Awards program.

SUPPORT THE GREEN ENERGY EDUCATION ACT

Support The Green Energy Education Act Take Action!
Ask [Senate Committee](#) to Consider H.R. 1716

Please contact your Senators today and ask them to urge the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources to take action on H.R. 1716, The Green Energy Education Act of 2007. ASLA needs your help to pass this important legislation which would help prepare the next generation of landscape architects and building professionals to develop buildings that use less energy and are more environmentally-friendly.

The bill would create a partnership between the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation to support undergraduate and graduate programs with curricula focusing on the design and construction of high performance buildings. As you may recall, The Green Energy Education Act of 2007, sponsored by Congressman Mike McCaul of Texas, unanimously passed the House of Representatives in early June and included an amendment that specifically included landscape architects in the category of design professionals that are critical to designing energy efficient buildings. However the Senate has yet to consider the bill.

America's 81 million buildings consume nearly 40% percent of our nation's primary energy, more than any other sector of the U.S. economy. Equipped with the latest green building strategies and techniques, landscape architects and other design professionals can help make buildings more sustainable and energy efficient. Contact your Senators now and ask them to encourage the Natural Resources committee to consider H.R. 1716.