

# WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects

NOVEMBER 2009

## In This Issue

[Join Us on Facebook and LinkedIn](#)

[Executive Committee Retreat](#)

[Seattle Mayor-elect seeks your input](#)

[Professional Awards](#)

[Trustees Report](#)

[UW Mentorship Program](#)

[UW MLA Open House](#)

[New Reseller Permits](#)

[Multiple Victories Workshops](#)

## Events Calendar

December 11

[UW MLA Open House](#)

March 25

[Awards Program](#)

## Our Sponsors

## Messages

### JOIN WASLA ON FACEBOOK AND LINKEDIN

WASLA has joined our professional comrades and entered the 21st century of social networking. Please join us or become our biggest fan on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#). You'll get the latest up to date news on events, lectures, happy hour series, etc. This is a great way to stay connected, reunite with old friends and co-workers and be in the know.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

If you would like to contribute to the WASLA Monthly Newsletter please send inquiries to the chapter office at [office@wasla.org](mailto:office@wasla.org).

## Announcements

### WASLA HOLDS FIRST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RETREAT



[Cascade Recreation](#)

Cedar Grove Composting  
[www.cgcompost.com](http://www.cgcompost.com)



[Play-Creation](#)



[Sitelines](#)

The WASLA Executive Committee held the first ever committee retreat at the Watershed Company in Kirkland on Saturday, October 24. The committee focused on how WASLA can better serve the Washington design community and how we as a state chapter can lead the design industry at a regional level. Topics under discussion included providing more support for state universities, creating WASLA sponsored opportunities for continuing education, hosting regular social events both on the western and eastern side of the state, "bridging the gap" between western, eastern, and southwestern Washington, and utilizing our networking opportunities with design and environmental organizations, among many others. The team left the retreat inspired and invigorated, but realizes that this is a grand vision to pursue which cannot be done without the support of our members. Be on the look out by year's end for the development of many sub committees and volunteer your time with a committee that you are passionate about. With your support and dedication we can lay the groundwork to begin the new face of WASLA.

## SEATTLE MAYOR-ELECT SEEKS YOUR INPUT

Seattle Mayor-elect Mike McGinn seeks the input of committed thinkers on urbanism, land use and sustainability. View his explanation of the project [here](#) and contribute your thoughts at this [link](#) by 6:00 pm on **Sunday, November 22**. All comments will be compiled by Great City and provided to the Mayor-elect for his consideration as he sets the direction for Seattle under his administration.

## WASLA TO HOST PROFESSIONAL AWARDS AT JANUIK WINERY



Click here to find out about sponsoring this newsletter.

**Join our list**

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

The WASLA awards committee has been working hard on the awards program to be held at the Januik Winery on Thursday March 25, 2010. Jurors will include Diana Balmori, Ph.D., ASLA, founding principle of Balmori and Associates out of New York; Kenneth Helphand, FALSA, Knight Professor of Landscape Architecture at the University of Oregon; Miriam 'Mia' Gutfreund Lehrer, FASLA, founding principal of Lehrer and Associates out of Los Angeles, and Bill Thompson, FASLA, former editor-in-chief of Landscape Architecture Magazine.

Submissions for the awards are due **Friday, December 11**. The entry categories include general design, residential design, planning and analysis, research and communication, works in progress, and people's choice. We are still in great need of sponsorship support and have many sponsorship opportunities available. For more information about the awards program, submissions, or sponsorship opportunities contact Andrew Estep at 206-443-9484, email at [office@wasla.org](mailto:office@wasla.org), or visit our [website](#)

## TRUSTEES REPORT

### ASLA Trustees Meeting Report

September 17-18, 2009

**Don Benson, ASLA, AICP, Washington Chapter Trustee**

The ASLA Trustees met prior to the Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois on September 17-18. The following is a summary of topics discussed in that meeting.

#### **Finance, Building Operations and Governance**

Due to the slow economy, budget cuts and cost deferments by staff were made to the overall 2009 ASLA budget to offset projected revenue shortfalls related primarily to Landscape Architecture advertising and a slight decrease in membership. ASLA staff has worked very hard to monitor the budget and come up with budget reductions on three different occasions for the remainder of the year. Some items cut and some deferred items from this year's budget

will be restored in 2010. The good news is that the budget reductions were made without a significant impact on ASLA services to its members. The 2009 budget amendments and the overall 2010 ASLA budget were voted on and approved by the Board of Trustees. Jon Mueller, FASLA (Idaho-Montana Chapter) was selected to be ASLA President-Elect for 2010-2011. Three new officers were elected for terms of service through 2011. These Vice-Presidents are: VP of Communications (Liz Birkholz, ASLA from the Washington chapter); VP of Education (Richard Hawks, FASLA); and VP of Government Affairs (Stephanie Landregan, ASLA). Green Roof Education and outreach continues and the ASLA Headquarter Green Roof has been a very popular tour in Washington, D.C.

### **Government Affairs**

Several successes have been registered this year in licensure as part of the 50 by 2010 campaign (three new state practice acts, including Washington). Staff and members have advocated for action on many key issues, including Complete Streets, transportation priorities and sustainable design alternatives, several of which have been incorporated into the vehicle for climate change legislation or the surface transportation reauthorization bill. ASLA also helped several state chapters fight licensure board or related reductions by state governments. The Emeritus Program by-laws were amended and adopted and amendments were adopted to the Education, Professional Development and Research policies.

### **Publishing and Resources**

Landscape Architecture Magazine (LAM) now is offering a digital issue (as of April 2009). LAM continues to maintain a high quality of editorial content despite two positions being frozen. A new editor (Bill Thompson has resigned) should be in place soon. The Annual Meeting in Chicago was very successful and attendance outpaced last year's (2008) meeting. A record 36 schools signed up for the Alumni Reunion. Even with a down economy, exhibitors signed up in high numbers. Thirty three Fellows-elect were inducted, and 18 individuals were selected to be Honorary Members (including Sally Reynolds who was WASLA's nominee), receive medals, Landscape Architecture firm awards, and a Community Service Award (Daniel Winterbottom, UW). There were 50 Professional Awards recipients announced to the membership and media in April.

### **Public Relations and Communications**

Strong coverage of ASLA and landscape architecture continued through a wide variety of media outlets. In addition, an ASLA Blue Ribbon panel was convened for the National Mall and a related communications plan prepared. Landscape Architecture Month had 44 chapters reporting

activities. ASLA is now an established source through blogs, web sites and search engine optimization. Land Online remains a popular site and the Dirt blog exposure has been extended.

### **Member and Chapter Services**

Membership decreased about 4.6% percent during the period from year-end to June 30, 2009. Through June 30, ASLA has approximately 16,444 members. A membership retention effort has been launched with the intent to enlist chapters in becoming more active in raising the ASLA retention rate. A comprehensive marketing campaign was launched and the corporate membership rate has increased about 20%. In-Practice and Government Practice directories and the On-Line Store modules were launched.

### **Professional Practice and Information Technology**

The Sustainable Sites Initiative (SSI) continues as a major focus. The SSI committees and staff are working on preparing the Guidelines and Performance Standards 2009 for release later this year. The SSI is currently being reviewed for adoption into LEED. Demand has surged for the Landscape Architecture Technical Information Series (LATIS) and the reports and exams become part of the Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LA CES). The Professional Practice Network (PPN) membership now exceeds 10,000.

### **Education and Academic Affairs**

LA CES has 35 approved providers. The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) will implement new standards in 2010. During the spring of this year, LAAB conducted 10 accreditation reviews, including initial accreditation reviews of two candidacy programs. The ASLA Council on Education has prepared a white paper on various university programs but maps supplementing the report have yet to be completed. The intent of the white paper is to present material to support the issue of growing the profession in the future.

## **UW MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

Our WASLA/UW Mentorship Program has gained great student interest this year! We have already gotten a strong response from the professional community, but need more mentors to match with the student interest. Please consider being a mentor. The program will kick off on or about November 20 and run through the school year.

We ask you to participate by spending 2-3 hours per month with your student as both of your schedules allow. Typical activities would include a tour of your office and perhaps a project site, desk critiques, help with portfolio building, introductions to colleagues and other professionals, and attendance at reviews.

For more information and to sign up please send your name, company, address, phone, email and areas of interest to Carrie Culp at [carriec@highridge.com](mailto:carriec@highridge.com).

## UW MLA OPEN HOUSE

**December 11, 2009**  
**440 Gould Hall**  
**University of Washington**

The Department of Landscape Architecture invites all WASLA members to the MLA Open House. Meet faculty and students, tour studios, discover the MLA program, attend final studio reviews for MLA students. REVP by December 9 to JoAnn Edwards, [slocan@uw.edu](mailto:slocan@uw.edu).

## RESELLER PERMITS REPLACE RESALE CERTIFICATES ON JANUARY 1, 2010

The way businesses buy items for resale changes in 2010. In the last legislative session, a new law passed, changing the rules for buying products without paying sales tax. On January 1, 2010, reseller permits issued by the Department of Revenue replace self-issued resale certificates.

This means resale certificates will no longer be valid after December 31, 2009. The Department of Revenue has been letting businesses know about the change while working to make it simple to adapt to the new process.

In September, the Department sent all of Washington's actively reporting businesses letters with details about the new reseller permit. More than 150,000 businesses meeting certain criteria automatically received a permit at that time. Other businesses that may need a permit can apply for free at [dor.wa.gov](http://dor.wa.gov) or by calling 1-800-647-7706.

The permits do expire, and the length of time a permit is valid depends on the type of business and when it registered with the Department.

To recoup sales tax paid on items that get re-sold, businesses without permits can take a "Taxable Amount for Tax Paid at Source" deduction on their returns or request a refund. Complete information, including a video tutorial, is posted at [dor.wa.gov/resellerpermit](http://dor.wa.gov/resellerpermit)

## **POMEGRANATE CENTER HOSTS MULTIPLE VICTORIES WORKSHOPS**

The Pomegranate Center is hosting training opportunities for community leaders with their upcoming Multiple Victories Workshop beginning in February and would love your help finding participants.

The Multiple Victories Workshop series is a training program for community leaders that want tools to help engage their community, create common goals, and build ownership and momentum in their neighborhood project. The workshop, which is funded in part by Boeing, is designed specifically to help move local projects into action and give local leaders the tools and confidence they need to make it succeed. Pomegranate Center, which is organizing and leading these workshops, is a community development nonprofit that specializes in bringing people together to build stronger communities. The Multiple Victories Workshop brings our 22 years of expertise and experience in community building to the local, grassroots level.

This workshop is perfect for both new and experienced grassroots community builders with ideas or projects they are personally trying to move forward. Participants have included folks starting community gardens, neighborhood block watch programs, park revitalization projects, local art groups, neighborhood sustainability clubs and more. And it's great for designers, planners and architects, too!

For more information contact: Katya Matanovic Managing Director, Pomegranate Center 425-557-6412 or at

katya@pomegranate.org To learn more or get the workshop flyer, visit [www.pomegranate.org](http://www.pomegranate.org)