

W A S H I N G T O N WASLA

Washington Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I'm not going to say a word about volunteering for Chapter Offices or Chairpersonships.

What I do want to discuss is the Business and Professions Disciplinary Act (BPDA) that is being proposed by the Business and Professions Division of the Department of Licensing. This proposal will likely be submitted to the Legislature at its session, next year. The BPDA provides a set of uniform standards that can be used by all licensing programs. It provides the licensing programs with more flexibility in the use of various sanctions as well as a mechanism to address unlicensed practice. For affected programs (landscape architect registration) the grounds for initiating disciplinary actions will be expanded. The BPDA will provide for a variety of remedies so that cases can be resolved in a manner

which best protects the consumer and maintains the integrity of the regulatory program. It will give the programs the ability to initiate administrative proceedings to curtail unlicensed activity along with the authority to seek injunction or refer a criminal complaint.

Licenses in Washington should read and understand this proposed act and comment as to its worthiness. Please contact me for additional information or Margaret Epting, Administrator of the Landscape Architect Registration Board at mepting@dol.wa.gov

An issue that is related to the BPDA and has been kicked around for years is whether or not we should pursue a Landscape Architect Practice Act in this state. Oregon is currently pursuing a practice act and Alaska passed theirs last year. Their experiences

are models that could guide us in determining if WASLA should pursue a practice act. There are many issues to consider and many voices to be heard. I believe there are many arguments for a practice act in this state and I have heard several arguments against it. The Executive Board needs to hear from you on this issue. Is this something we need to pursue or is everything just fine the way it is? Please let us know by contacting anyone on the Executive Board, or by attending an E-board meeting. Meetings are held at 5:00 on the third Thursday of every month at the offices of Susan Black and Associates. All are welcome, and your input is desired and appreciated.

*Charles Warsinske, ASLA
WASLA Chapter President*

WASLA SPRING EXPO AND CONTINUING EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The second annual Spring Expo topped last year's successful conference with over 85 people from across the state attending the daylong event. Comments from both exhibitors and attendees were very positive, and many had suggestions that will make it even better next year. Keynote speakers Paul Morris, FASLA, Vice President of Public Affairs, ASLA, and State Representative of the 43rd District Edward Murray provided the crowd with their insights on the profession of landscape architecture and the political landscape of Washington.

Eleven educational sessions were offered, with topics ranging from sports field

design to environmental restoration and mitigation projects to artists and landscape architect collaboration. Our thanks are extended to all the speakers and panelists who shared their time and expertise with the conference attendees. The Exhibitor Fair was a big success as well, with industry representatives attending from California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia. A special thanks goes out to the 19 vendors who exhibited their products and services. Their continued financial support of WASLA supports the chapter-operating budget, funds student scholarships, and allows us to embark on new projects throughout the year.

Again this year, the event would not have been possible without the efforts of the WASLA Executive Board and especially Margaret Hayes. Margaret's creative persistence made this year's event a success. Susan Black and Associates, Inc. is also recognized for providing the many hours of staff time necessary for this event to occur. Without Margaret's hard work and SB&A's generosity, this event would not take place. If you have ideas for seminar topics or would like to volunteer for next year's event, please contact Margaret at Margaret@sbassociates.com or (206) 283-7090.



Late in April we welcomed the WASLA Awards jury to Gould Hall for the annual professional student awards. We are grateful to Erik Sweet of David Evans & Associates who was this year's jury Chair and to jury members Kas Kinkaid and Renee Freier of Cascade Design Collaborative, and Brooks Kolb of Talley Kolb for spending two very full and busy days reviewing over 90 submissions. You can read more about these awards on the wasla website.

Our students continue to successfully compete for awards beyond the Department. This summer graduating BLA student Heidi Watters will leave for a year's study in the United Kingdom having won the Garden Club of America's prestigious Martin McLaren scholarship. This national award sends one American to Britain and one Briton to America to study horticulture at major public gardens.

Also departing for foreign shores are two MLA students and one BLA student. The MLAs are Brian Thomas Oles who received a Valle scholarship to study in Denmark where he will be pursuing his thesis research, and Daniele Spirandelli who will be an exchange student at the University of Melbourne, Australia for two quarters. Daniele received a UW Graduate School Chester Fritz

Grant to assist her with her travels which will include visiting several Southeast Asian cities as part of her thesis research. BLA student Audrey Swanson will spend the summer in France participating in the American Academy in France program and helping restore the grounds of a historic Chateau.

Returning from abroad were several students who participated in the Department's autumn quarter Landscape Studies in Italy program led by Professor Streatfield. Andrea Leuschke was assisted by a William P and Ruth Gerberding fellowship which funds students studying in Rome at the UW's Palazzo Pio. Andrea, Jade Takashima, and Beth Dodrill were recipients of a very generous new scholarship for studying in Rome provided by the College's former Dean and his wife, who is a faculty member in Architecture, the Jerry and Gunilla Finrow Scholarship.

Traveling less far but still crossing several time zones will be MLA student Ayako Harada who received a coveted EDAW Summer internship and will spend this summer in Alexandria, VA.

BLA students Heidi Watters and Jenny Szabo received Mary Gates scholarships this year. The Mary Gates Scholars program is a highly competitive university wide program that supports undergraduate

students engaged in research with faculty.

The latest awards news comes from first year MLA students who submitted entries to the student competition at the University of Oregon HOPES Conference. Kristin Kildall won first place for her work and Craig Skipton received an honorable mention. Submitted work was from a winter quarter studio with Professor Kristina Hill.

As these awards illustrate Landscape Architecture students are competing successfully for scholarships from many sources.

On another note the department is currently reviewing its Practicum Program. This program introduces students to the professional working world through a mentored training period in an office, agency, non-profit, or construction firm. The program has been in existence for almost as long as we have offered degrees -approximately 30 years, and continues to be very successful and popular. Through the participation of professionals, students are mentored and exposed to all aspects of a firm's or agency's operations; an invaluable professional complement to academic coursework.

As part of our program review, we shall be contacting professionals throughout the region to discuss how we may make the practicum experience valuable and productive for both practitioners and students. Practicums are an important part of our professional degree offering and we rely on the expertise and participation of professionals throughout the region to be able to continue this service to our students. To all of you who have participated in the past thank you! If you are interested in participating in the future or would like more information on the program please contact me.

-Iain Robertson, Professor of Landscape Architecture



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WASLA / U OF W MENTOR PROGRAM

The University of Washington / WASLA mentorship program is off to a strong start. Begun in April, this program connected twenty-three students with professionals in the field of Landscape Architecture. Meeting once a month, the participants are able to ask questions about the profession, receive feedback on projects and portfolios, and gain exposure to the many different areas within Landscape Architecture in an informal setting. Thanks go out to Rachael Watland at the University of Washington who organized the program, and to all the professionals who volunteered their time to support the University of Washington students. If you have questions on the UW mentorship program, or would like to participate, please contact Chuck Warsinske at war@sbassociates.com or (206) 283-7090 to be linked with a student.

WASLA WEBSITE

Web designer Aaron Howard was hired by the Executive Board this spring to redesign the WASLA website. The newly designed site will feature many pages available on the current site, such as the WASLA mission statement, a Calendar of Events, back issues of the WASLA newsletter, and a job posting board. In addition to those pages, the new improved site will feature a Public Info page, where a public user can find information on the profession and how to go about selecting a Landscape Architect for their project. Other features include a Marketplace page, a Discussion Board, a Members Only page with the chapter roster and other pertinent member information, and related links to other useful websites.

There are many ways for you to contribute to the website and utilize the services that it will provide. A postcard was mailed to the membership in March requesting graphics to be placed on the site. Twelve area member firms submitted project sheets and graphics. Look for those images on the website starting in June and rotating throughout the year. What a great way to show off your work to website users and potential clients!

Another valuable service the website will provide is the Firm Profile Directory. Published in 1998 and 1999, the Firm Profile Directory has been an invaluable tool for contributing firms, prospective employees looking for work, potential residential design clients, and industry advertisers. The paper version of the

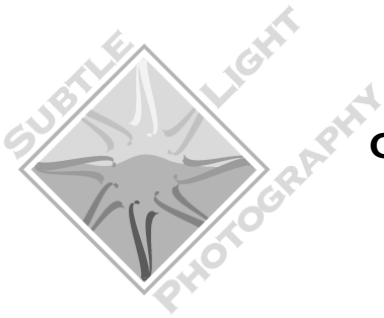
directory was a big success, and we have folks clamoring for an updated version. The online version will be more enviro-friendly, faster and more convenient to use, and best of all, free to all those with access to the Internet. Look for a questionnaire in the mail in the next few weeks telling you how to post your firm on the Directory. For more information, contact Margaret Hayes at margaret@sbassociates.com

Go to www.wasla.org in late June 2001 to see the results of Aaron's work, and visit the site throughout the year to post messages to the membership, to get information on upcoming meetings and events, and to keep in touch with your professional community.

www.wasla.org



**CRUISE ON OVER TO THE WASLA
WEBPAGE TO READ ABOUT THE
WSU AND UW STUDENT AWARDS!**



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WASLA SPRING 2001
NEWSLETTER

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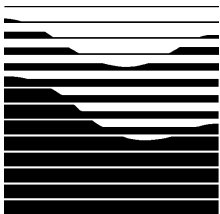
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SPRING 2001

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