

WASLA Newsletter

Washington Chapter American Society of Landscape Architects

OCTOBER 2011

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Messages

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Jeff Bouma, RLA, ASLA
AECOM



Photos by Erika Matthias and Josh Lathan, AECOM

I have always been intrigued by the concept of time and the change that occurs over time - change is constant. Why does time (and change) seem to move so slow in one instance, yet so fast in another? Change over time, in our lives and in the physical world we live in, can occur in a heartbeat or may take generations. In the present, change over time may appear to be minimal. In looking back, time accumulated and accelerated shows how significant it can be - a search for 'time lapse' videos on YouTube will attest to such. Our role in this field of work is to promote and affect change (or lack thereof) in our physical environment - for the benefit of this earth and the lives of its inhabitants. Our decisions, designs, and actions can have immediate effects

Events Calendar

October 15-19

[Out/In/Front](#)

October 18

[Selecting Wetland Mitigation Sites Using a Watershed Approach](#)

October 19

[Using the Credit-Debit Method for Estimating Mitigation Needs](#)

October 24

[Section 106: Agreement Documents](#)

October 27

[Consultation and Protection of Native American Sacred Lands](#)

October 27, 29 & 30

[Experience the Waterfront](#)

November 2

[Landscapes We Can Live With: IPM and Plant Health Care Strategies](#)

November 14

[The Role of Water in a Healthy Landscape: Practical IPM and Irrigation Scheduling](#)

November 15

[Irrigation Training Course Series: Design, Maintenance, Scheduling, and Troubleshooting](#)

December 6

[Bioretention, the Robust Green Infrastructure Tool](#)

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but long-lasting implications. It is always important to consider time with regard to a project's design intentions - whether it be the form of the landscape or the materials used within. Delicate natural materials can be ephemeral, such as the icicles used in Andy Goldsworthy's land art, which disappear once the sun warms the day. On the other hand, materials may last for centuries or more. What is planted as a spindly grouping of 2" caliper trees today could become a stand of magnificent oaks that define a landscape hundreds of years from now. Take the time to think about time. Spend a little time reading the following newsletter.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Carrie Culp, RLA, ASLA



WASLA Members -

I am writing to introduce myself and to let you know that I have officially taken over the role of WASLA Chapter President as of mid-September. First, I would like to thank Len Zickler for his service to the Chapter and to our profession. His early resignation from the Executive Committee is due to an illness, and we all wish him the best in his recovery. Please keep him in your thoughts.

Moving forward into 2012, my personal focus will be two-fold. First, I want to assure that our organization continues to provide a variety of local, affordable and informative opportunities for satisfying our Practice Act's continuing education requirements and continuing to grow professionally. We have energetic and organized committees working to provide these opportunities, and I truly appreciate their hard work. Second, with the Board, I hope to continue to strengthen our relationship with AIA, APA and other related organizations in an effort to educate the public about the importance of design in our lives - and

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WASLA Executive Committee

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the importance of creating and maintaining a sustainable, healthy environment in Washington and throughout the world. Our involvement in the Seattle Design Festival this September is one recent, successful effort in that direction, and we look forward to participating in that event for years to come. Thanks again to our hard-working committee for assembling a wonderful tour of some of Seattle's most interesting parks and spaces.

I also believe it is important to create community within our membership. I hope to work with the Executive Committee to continue to create opportunities for fun social gatherings as well. Lastly, I will remain active with the University of Washington - both in continuing to run the Mentorship Program and the Student Awards program there.

Please know that your thoughts are important to me and to the Board. We welcome your feedback or questions at any time.

Cheers!

Carrie Culp

Articles

SEATTLE DESIGN FESTIVAL

By Sandy Fischer, AECOM

Member at Large (Western Washington)

David Hilgers, ASLA
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Associate Member at Large (Western Washington)

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WASLA sponsored a walking tour as part of the inaugural Seattle Design Festival in September. The 2-1/2 hour docent-led tour of Seattle's Downtown Parks, Gardens and Landscapes was promoted as part of the Festival. With a theme of "Beneath the Surface," ten days of programmed events revealed the value of design and explored design processes. Volunteer docents and nearly 50 participants gathered at Freeway Park where the co-chairs of the tour, Keith Mc Peters, Kara Weaver (GGN), and Sandy Fischer (AECOM) welcomed the group. Participants received a tour guide, promotional postcard/bookmark, WASLA-produced Downtown Urban landscape Guide, and the 2010 WASLA Awards Summary. Thanks to recent graduates Hans Bauman and Jenny Hampton for creating the attractive postcard, posters and tour guide.



UW Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture Iain Robertson discussed the significance and design of Freeway Park. He explained the challenges of constructing on-structure landscapes, management of public places and discussed his role in refining the planting design several years after the installation when native species had grown beyond the designer's expectations.



We visited a recently constructed rooftop garden near the southwest corner of 5th and Madison. Kelty McKinnon, a design principal at PVS, explained the design process and the design. She discussed ideas that were explored but not implemented and commented on changes since the garden's installation. She was surprised to find the glass mosaic (constructed from recycled glass placed in the bottom of the water feature) had been removed.



Walking south, we passed by City Hall and other designed spaces as we climbed the hill to Kobe Terrace Park. Paul Byron Crane and Architect Ed Burke, author of the recently published book *Seattle's Nippon Kan*, greeted us near the park entrance where a 100-year old stone lantern, a gift from Seattle's sister city in Japan, welcomes visitors. This eclectic park, built on steeply sloping land adjacent to I-5, includes formal landscaping as well as community plots with gardens and chickens.

We gathered in the Panama Hotel for tea. Having recently read *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford, the reality of the Japanese and Chinese wartime era was further brought to life as we sat in this historic hotel and listened to Ed's engaging stories. We were spontaneously invited to tour the Japanese baths in the hotel's basement. WASLA will make a donation to the hotel owner in appreciation of her generosity during our tour and her on-going stewardship of the historic properties.



Passing through Occidental Park, we stopped briefly at the Waterfall Garden ending the tour at Nord Alley where we learned about plans to convert alleys to vibrant public spaces. Jennie explained Nord Alley is one of the City's demonstration projects. We toured the creatively designed office and event spaces accessed off of the alley. The group was encouraged to reference the WASLA guide and visit other downtown places. Thanks to all the organizers, participants and docents who contributed to this engaging, enlightening and successful tour of Hidden Places and Stories.

SENIOR PROJECT REVIEW

By David Hewitt



This past month, seniors of the Washington State University Landscape Architecture program met with seven professionals at the Interdisciplinary Design Institute in Spokane, WA to discuss and review their year-long senior project proposals as part of a Senior Project Review. Bob Scarfo, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at WSU, organized the event. "This is something we've done in past years with great success," he said. "We ask students to develop the ideal senior project based on their interests and current issues facing landscape architecture, and this lets them refine their concepts coming into the year."

Besides the practical insight that professional LAs could provide for students, Scarfo asserts that the review has other advantages in developing relationships between students and professionals. "It's very important for student to meet practitioners with diverse backgrounds," he said. "We want graduating students to feel comfortable with LA professionals and to develop partnerships with the professional world while they're still in school."

Anne Hanenburg, a landscape designer with SPVV Landscape Architects, was one of the professionals who attended the event. "Today we were able to provide input from our

experiences and provide for many students their first glimpse into professional practice," she said. "The mentorship of the next generation of landscape architects is definitely a goal of mine and my colleagues here today." Hanenburg graduated from WSU in 2002 and focused her senior project on healing gardens. "I had a background in the medical field before I studied landscape architecture at WSU, so healing gardens were a passion of mine," she said.

One of the students, Rodrigo Jimenez, is working on designing a childrens park in Accra, the capital of Ghana. He chose to focus his project on parks for children out of his own childhood memories. According to Jimenez, the knowledge and insight that the professional landscape architects in attendance brought with them to the review was important in getting students started on their projects. "They really helped us think about everything that we would need to research," he said. "They helped us develop what materials and plantings we would use, the planning stage, recommended books we should read and who we should talk with to find more information. This was all done in a conversational way that put me at ease."

<http://www.wasla.org/hotnews.htm>

LOOKING FOR GREAT PROJECTS

Awards Entry Deadline: Friday, December 16, 2011

WASLA invites members and colleagues to submit their pride and joy, their great projects, their amazing accomplishments for consideration in the 2012 Professional Awards. Any landscape architect registered in the State of Washington is eligible for this competition. Winners will be showcased on the website, submitted to the newspapers, and celebrated in our newsletter.

Once again we have assembled a top-rank professional jury from across the nation. This is an unparalleled opportunity to have your work reviewed by your peers and to stand out from the crowd.

The categories for the 2012 Professional Awards are: General Design, Residential Design/ Design Build, Research, Planning and Analysis, Public Works, Works in Progress, and People's Choice.

The Call for Entries will be in the mail next week and posted to the website for immediate information. The submission deadline is Friday, December 16, 2011. Once the jury has done its thing, we'll all gather to whoop it up at the Shilshole Bay Beach Club on Thursday, April 26, 2012.

Show your props, pull out the stops and get those entries in to WASLA. You'll be glad you did!

WASLA 2012 CONFERENCE

By Courtney Landoll, The Watershed Company



The WASLA 2012 Conference CHANGING CONVENTION is coming!

Based on the success of last year's conference, WASLA has decided to provide our conference annually! Mark your calendars for Friday, March 29, 2012 for a full day of educational offerings, expo and an evening social hour. The conference committee has been hard at work coming up with a theme, a call for proposals that will come out later this month, and securing our venue, The Lynnwood Convention Center. Conveniently located off of major highways and just north of downtown Seattle, the Lynnwood Convention Center offers sun-lit halls and spacious rooms, ample vendor space, and a striking landscape designed by local landscape architects, Thomas Rengstorf & Associates. Additionally, the convention center is committed to going green through the use of:

- automated faucets, flushing, lighting, hvac systems;
- donating excess food to local food banks and feeding staff;
- composting of food service materials (coffee cups, stir sticks, napkins, etc.) and food residuals;

- recycled products;
 - locally sourced, seasonal produce and wines;
 - line caught fish and naturally raised meats.
- Stay tuned for more information!

PARK(ing) DAY

Washington State University Landscape Architecture Club (WSU LAC) recently participated in PARK(ing) Day, a global event started in San Francisco in 2005. Metered parking spaces are turned into public parks for a day to call attention to the need for more open spaces in urban areas. According to David Hewitt, president of the WSU LAC, they converted a single parking space in front of Ferdinand's ice cream shop in Pullman, WA into a park for a day. For photos and news coverage, go to:

<http://www.wsunews.wsu.edu/pages/publications.asp?Action=Detail&PublicationID=27606&TypeID=25>

<http://www.klewtv.com/news/129998698.html>

http://m.dnews.com/mobile/article_946fd813-7488-570d-9991-bae8126ee99b.html

Committee Updates

Professional Development Committee

<http://www.wasla.org/committees/ceu.htm>

Activity Report

We have been working on two multi-session events and thinking ahead to meet members' needs for the next year. Many recently joined us for the Science and Practice of Sustainable Sites evening sessions in Seattle and will receive certificates of completion later this month. Now, mark your calendar for a December 6 late-afternoon workshop presenting the latest in bioretention implementation and design considerations for long-lived, high-performance landscapes. [Registration](#) is underway for "Bioretention, the Robust Green Infrastructure Tool: What Works, How and Why". You can find event details below.

Landscape architects often ask us about WASLA's role in tracking their participation in continuing-education events. In Washington, you maintain your own records on the Landscape Architect Professional Development Worksheet, provided on the Department of Licensing's continuing education webpage. Courses registered with [LA CES](#) help with recordkeeping and also link to the details from past

events.

This month, we transition to the new WASLA year. Our committee is looking for members interested in brainstorming and implementing continuing education programs. Our meetings are easy to get to; we typically meet by conference call from 4-6 pm on first Thursdays.

Laura Davis, Chair, Professional Development Committee
professionaldevelopment@wasla.org

Committee on the Environment (COTE)

Activity Report

The Committee on the Environment (COTE) will be focusing its efforts this fall on planning informational tours/ site visits for professionals and the general public around the city. The tours, both virtual and real, will focus on various aspects of sustainable solutions in the built environment. The real tours will take place in spring and summer of 2012. We hope to make the virtual tour available in spring. If you have suggestions for projects to highlight please let us know.

COTE meets the third Wednesday of every month (October 19) from 4 to 5:30pm. We are always looking for new members to infuse their talents with our committee's mission. Please contact the committee interim chair, if you would like to join COTE.

Ida Ottesen, Interim Chair COTE
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Announcements and Events

ELECTION RESULTS

The WASLA Election results for the coming year are:

Don Benson, President Elect
Curtis Lapierre, Trustee
Katie Bang, Secretary
Jasmine Aryana, Treasurer
Courtney Landoll, Member-at-large, Western Washington
Darin Crabill, Association-at-large, Western Washington
Craig Anderson, Member-at-large, Eastern Washington
Alex Mann, Associate-at-large, Eastern Washington

Many thanks to all the members who volunteered to serve.

OUT /IN/ FRONT

When: Exhibit: October 15-29, 2011 Reception: Thursday, October 20, 2011 6:00 pm

Host: Gould Hall, Landscape Architecture Professional Advisory Council (PAC) and the University of Washington Department of Landscape Architecture

Info: Professional Design Exhibition. Northwest practitioners are invited to submit landscape architectural projects for a Professional Design Exhibition. The show is open to all projects, proposals, or activities where the work of landscape architects plays a prime role (contractual or not) in shaping the built environment.

Link: <http://larch.be.washington.edu/events/2011-oct-exhibition.php>

EXPERIENCE THE WATERFRONT



When: Thursday, October 27, 5:00 to 9:00 pm

Host: Bell Harbor Conference Center, Pier 66 - Elliott Hall, 2211 Alaskan Way

Info: Design update and idea sharing, enjoy local food trucks and live music at 5:00 pm, design update presentation by James Corner at 6:30 pm, followed by interactive stations to share your ideas. RSVP:

rsvp@waterfrontseattle.org

Link: <http://waterfrontseattle.org/>

2011 ASLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO are almost here: October 30 through November 2. [Click here](#) for all the details.

Continuing Education

BIORETENTION, THE ROBUST GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TOOL: WHAT WORKS, HOW AND WHY

When: Tuesday, December 6, 3:00-5:30 pm,

Host: Center for Urban Horticulture NHS Hall, UW, Seattle. This event is co-sponsored by WASLA and Seattle Public Utilities.

Info: WASLA is pleased to offer a professional workshop taught by seven local practitioners on bioretention implementation strategies for green stormwater infrastructure. This workshop is geared to those seeking to advance their knowledge of siting, designing, constructing, and maintenance of bioretention facilities. Focusing on specific project experiences and built examples, panelists will illustrate how stakeholder collaboration and a sound understanding of soil, water, and vegetation relationships support achievement of successful facilities.

2.5 [LA CES](#) PDH

Link: [Register now](#).

HORTICULTURE CLASSES

When: Four Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 pm - Jan. 31, Feb. 14 & Mar. 6 and Four Saturdays 10 am-12 pm - Feb. 4, 18 & 25, & Mar. 3

Host: Horticulture Department at Edmonds Community College

Info: One course will be offered this winter: HORT 255 - Focus on Green Factors (2 credits), taught by Peggy Gaynor. Learn to define and describe the goals and objectives of low-impact development, identify and discuss a variety of techniques for capturing and dispersing storm water runoff in the urban environment.

AIA EVENTS

For a listing of AIA events this month, visit the [AIA Seattle Calendar](#).

