July 2017

President's Report

**July 2017– President's Report**

**2017-2018 PGASLA Executive Committee Officer Election** ballot has been solidified. We opened up the ballot last week for voting. Voting will remain open for 4 weeks. Please exercise your civic duty - and vote!

**Social Club!** I want to thank everyone that came out to unwind at the Chicken & Pickle in North KC a few weeks ago. The event was a success and everyone in attendance had a great time. I also want to give special thanks to Michael Killleen and Ninah Butler for planning and organizing the event. They are now working on plans for the fall PGASLA social event. Stay tuned for more details.

There are a couple of exciting **PGASLA LINKS** events on the short horizon. The next event will be held at Center for Architecture & Design on Thursday, July 27th from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Please join us and Tim McKay with Unique Lighting Systems for a presentation on landscape lighting! The event will provide 1.0 Health, Safety, and Welfare Continuing Education Credit.

The August PGASLA LINKS event will be Monday, August 21st from 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm at The Garden Center at Loose Park. There will be 3 speakers engaging in a panel discussion and workshop that are nationally recognized experts on the topic of research, mitigation and management of Rose Rosette. Rose Rosette is a disease which is a significantly prevalent and ever-increasing threat to the future of commercial and recreational growth and enjoyment of roses. Please join us for that event, as it will be very informative and will provide 3.5 Continuing Education Credits.

As always, please keep your eyes peeled for upcoming **PGASLA LINKS** event invites via email.

David Stokes, PLA, ASLA  
President, Prairie Gateway Chapter

Diamond Level Ad
Trustee Report

Submitted by David Contag
June 26, 2017

Hope everyone is getting outside and enjoying this great summer weather!!! Lots of activity nationally is going on with ASLA right now legislatively, and especially with an Executive Order to re-evaluate the level of protection for existing monuments and parks that are maintained under the Antiquities Act. Refer to the notes under government affairs and write your comments to the government at the appropriate link in Government Affairs.

Good news for ASLA that Full Memberships are still growing by 2% annually and a good surprise that more student members are joining with a jump by more than 6% this year!

Don’t forget to register for the Annual Meeting in Los Angeles and meet the early-bird deadline of this Friday, June 30th. This year’s meeting will focus on finding more “Common Ground” for sustainable design and consensus building. I hope you will plan to attend. Please contact me at decontag@dlrgroup.com if you have any questions.

Executive Offices

- President Vaughn Rinner, FASLA, was the keynote speaker at the ASLA Southeast Regional Conference in Charlotte last week. Rinner discussed ASLA’s latest programs and priorities as well as the Center for Landscape Architecture. The conference was comprised of the North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia Chapters.

- Planning is underway for the design development kick-off meeting for the Chinatown Green Street Demonstration Project team, task force, and key stakeholders. Preliminary work with key District of Columbia agencies continues, as do discussions with potential
founders.

- Special Assistant to the EVP Keith Swann hosted Boston landscape architect David Warner, ASLA, with a building and green roof tour last week. Warner, president of Warner Larson Landscape Architects, discussed the company’s complete street project in Washington, D.C., that his firm is working on with Corporate Secretary Millay.

- EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA, and Managing Director Susan Cahill, Hon. ASLA, met with Jim Urban, FASLA, and Eric Smith, CEO of the TREE (Tree Research and Education Endowment) Fund, to discuss mechanisms for supporting/promoting Fund research that reflects landscape architects’ priorities.

- Recently EVP Somerville attended the annual Real Estate and Built Environment CEO summit where a key agenda item was review of the concept for an online talent development (aka career discovery) collaboration, developed as a result of discussion at last year’s summit. The agenda also included discussions on advocacy priorities and the current political climate, membership trends, and governance.

Government Affairs

- On June 1, President Trump announced that his administration is withdrawing the United States from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, a landmark accord also known as the Paris Agreement signed by former President Barack Obama in 2015. Recently, EVP Somerville hand delivered a letter signed by nearly 2,000 landscape architects and others, addressed to Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Scott Pruitt urging the administration not to withdraw the United States from the Paris Agreement, and to discontinue its current efforts to roll back U.S. climate policies.

- On April 26, President Trump signed Executive Order 13792 instructing the Department of the Interior to review national monuments designated since 1996 under the Antiquities Act and that are larger than 100,000 acres, or where Interior Secretary Zinke determines the designation was made without adequate public outreach or support. In conjunction, the Department of the Interior also announced the first ever, formal public comment period on monument designations under the Antiquities Act, and on a list of monuments under review under the president’s executive order. ASLA is encouraging members and chapters to submit comment on this important issue, which are due by July 10. For additional information or questions, contact ASLA Government Affairs Manager Mark Cason.

- ASLA has endorsed the Water Infrastructure Flexibility Act (S. 692, H.R. 2355). The bipartisan legislation would promote the use of green infrastructure to address local stormwater and wastewater management issues. Specifically, the legislation would allow local communities and municipalities to incorporate green infrastructure projects into integrated planning permits to meet Clean Water Act compliance. ASLA is working with Senate and House staff to move the bill through the legislative process.

- The Environmental Protection Agency has produced a guide titled Green Infrastructure in Parks: A Guide to Collaboration, Funding, and Community Engagement to encourage partnerships between park agencies and stormwater agencies to promote the use of green infrastructure on park lands. The guide includes recommendations on the types of projects that are most likely to attract positive attention and funding, and which provide a wide range of benefits.

- Occupational licensing continues to be an active issue in several states. Recently, the Idaho Lieutenant Governor signed an executive order directing a comprehensive review of Idaho’s occupational licensing requirements. On June 2, Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper signed into law SB 17-218, legislation continuing landscape architecture licensing in Colorado through September 1, 2028. Additionally, on June 6, Michigan state representatives introduced HB 4693, HB 4694, and HB 4695, bills that would deregulate landscape architects. The Michigan Chapter and ASLA State Government Affairs staff have met and are devising an advocacy strategy.

Landscape Architecture Magazine

- The July issue of LAM is off to press! The cover article is an interview with Martha Schwartz, FASLA, about her recent move back to the United States after a dozen years in London, plus two recent projects by Schwartz’s firm in Beijing. We also feature Liz Sargent, FASLA, and her practice in documenting cultural landscapes; and an article on collecting data through public fixtures such as park benches. Departments include stories about carbon-cutting concrete by Meg Calkins, FASLA, podcasting about landscape architecture, and an introduction to readers of the Center for Landscape Architecture.

Member and Chapter Services

- On June 13, the Emerging Professionals Committee held an “Ask Me Anything” event, featuring Barbara Deutsch, FASLA. It was streamed live on the ASLA Facebook page and remains available for viewing. So far, it has been viewed over 2,000 times.

- Student and Associate Advisory Committee nominations are due June 30. The purpose of these committees is to increase the ability of ASLA to gain insight on the priorities of emerging professionals and learn how best to provide membership value to student and associate members. Committee selections are made from candidates who have been nominated by the chapter president of the professional chapter. Contact Managing Director Julia Lent, Hon. ASLA, for more information.

- Membership continues to show a slight drop overall from 2016, yet a modest increase from 2015. Full members are growing at a rate of nearly two percent since 2016 and up four percent since 2015. While associate membership has dropped since last year, student membership is on the rise, up nearly six percent since 2015.

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Public Relations and Communications

- Dana Davidsen started on June 12 as the intern for PR and Communications. Davidsen is a first-year graduate student of landscape architecture and environmental planning at the University of California, Berkeley. She will be contributing to The Dirt blog as well as researching and updating resource guides on climate change, sustainable transportation, residential design, and other topics. She also served as scribe for the ASLA SuperSummit, held June 9-11, and will draft a report of the proceedings.

- The student awards jury convened June 2-4 and selected 26 award recipients from the 295 submissions received. This is a just under a 10-percent increase from 2016’s 271 submissions. The winning entrants were notified this week, and the awards will be announced in late August to coincide with the release of the September issue of LAM, which will feature the student and professional awards ceremony. Jury comments will be compiled and shared with the non-winning entrants to assist them in improving entries for future competitions.

- Work on the rebrand continues. The rebranding task force will hold an update webinar with the design team prior to the summer Executive Committee meeting.

- A press release announcing the 2017 Honors recipients was distributed yesterday via several wire services. Early interest has come from Archinect.com, Bustler.net, PRISM, Landscape Architect and Specifier News, Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, and World-Architects.

- Yesterday, EVP Somerville was interviewed by Kriston Capps, a staff writer at CityLab, from The Atlantic. Capps is writing a story about the future role of landscape architects in cities reshaped by autonomous vehicles and drones.

Education and LAAB

- The Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™) has 238 active providers offering 1,061 courses. There are three new provider applications pending review.

- This past weekend, June 9-11, ASLA hosted the 2017 Diversity SuperSummit at the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture. The SuperSummit invited all past attendees back to Washington, D.C., to: review past summit discussions and ideas; identify current, real-world obstacles; create action items for ASLA and the new career discovery and diversity role; and discuss the future of the Diversity Summit. Twenty-three past attendees attended for the culmination along with six new attendees. The SuperSummit was facilitated by Juanita Shearer-Swink, FASLA, and Manager Balon.

Professional Practice

- Today, ASLA’s Online Learning presentation was Creating Pollinator Habitat Along Roadsides (1.0 PDH) presented by Jennifer Hopwood, Robert LaRoche, Jessie Byrd, ASLA, and Ellen Barth Alster, ASLA. There were 34 registrants. The next presentation will be on June 19: Designing Trees into the Urban Landscape & Integrating Stormwater Management (1.0 PDH), presented by Jeremy Bailey and hosted by the Sustainable Design and Development PPN. Today’s presentation was hosted by the Transportation PPN.

- On June 6, ASLA staff toured 600 Massachusetts Avenue with Gould Properties staff and Rodrigo Abela, ASLA, of Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, who designed the building’s many landscaped terraces and streetscapes. Gould Properties is one of the main stakeholders for the Chinatown Green Street Demonstration Project.

- Two SITES education sessions will be presented during the 2017 ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO. Straus will be co-presenting the SITES Workshop with GBCI. ASLA is again organizing a SITES AP exam opportunity at the annual meeting. Discussions are ongoing with GBCI for their SITES events planned during the annual meeting. Two sessions with a focus on SITES have been approved for the 2017 Greenbuild Conference.

- Director Ron Sears and Manager Straus collaborated on a grant submission to the EPA Clean Water State Revolving Fund for the Chinatown Green Street Demonstration Project. The grant would be in addition to the recent grant award ($1.295M) from the DOE on behalf of the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. The purpose of the grant would be for the cost of construction for the roadway portion.

- On June 1, Professional Practice Coordinator Alexandra Hay attended Urban Expeditions: Exploring Sustainable City Solutions at National Geographic headquarters in Washington, D.C., the first in an event series exploring the interrelated and critical issues facing cities, including climate, transportation, food, and sustainable urbanization. Also on June 1, National Geographic opened the call for submissions for its CHASING GENIUS Challenge, which focuses on three critical issues: sustainable planet, global health, and feeding nine billion people. The call for submissions closes July 31.

The Public Practice Advisory Committee held its monthly webinar to advance its work on developing online learning opportunities aimed at students and emerging professionals highlighting the scope of work within the public realm within the field of landscape architecture.

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LINKS

July LINKS: A Practical Approach to Fundamentals of Design

July 27 | 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Center for Architecture & Design | 1801 McGee, Suite100, KCMO

Join Tim McKay with Unique Lighting Systems for a presentation on landscape lighting!

Landscape lighting is one of the fastest growing segments in the green industry today. This one hour landscape lighting design course will cover the essentials of landscape lighting and design. It will focus on all types of LED landscape lighting, the fundamentals of lighting, and the best of all it will discuss creating lighting portraits.
Learning objectives:

1. Types of Landscape Lighting.
2. Fundamentals of Lighting.

Course will provide 1.0 continuing education credits.
Course will provide Health, Safety, and Welfare - Yes

Lunch will be provided, please RSVP by noon Monday, July 24th

Register Here

August LINKS: Rose Rosette Workshop

August 21 | 12:00pm - 4:00pm
The Garden Center at Jacob Loose Memorial Park | 5200 Pennsylvania Ave, KCMO

In recent years rose growers and horticultural enthusiasts in the Kansas City region have become aware of the increased prevalence of Rose Rosette disease also known as Witches’ Broom of Rose in the local rose population. First appearing in the area in the late 1990’s, this disease is found in plants in the Rosa genus and is transmitted by a small mite that travels passively through the wind or from contaminated clothing or equipment. It is recognizable through the appearance of red pigmentation of the underside of leaf veins and followed by sharply increased growth of vegetative shoots which are typically more succulent than normal and colored in various shades of red, deformed foliage and blooms, and increased prickles. Plants that contract the disease are usually killed within two to five years. There are ways in which the disease can be managed and much of this is contingent upon how roses are used in the design of ornamental landscapes and how they are maintained once installed.

The American Rose Society has identified Rose Rosette Disease as the greatest threat to the future of commercial and recreational growth and enjoyment of roses. As part of its mission to promote interest in roses and rose gardening, the Kansas City Rose Society wants to encourage local rose enthusiasts and green industry professionals to keep growing roses, but stay informed about how to recognize and manage this disease once it is discovered. As part of this mission, the Kansas City Rose Society, in conjunction with the Mid America Green Industry Council, will present an informational workshop for green industry professionals, landscape architects and designers and ARS Consulting Rosarians about the disease. This workshop will feature three nationally recognized experts in the study of the disease in order to provide attendees with the most current research and management practices on Rose Rosette.

$25 Registration
3.5 CEUs

Register Here

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PGASLA News

Please click here for the latest PGASLA News

LA's in The News – PGASLA is looking for information regarding your activity in the community, especially if it is newsworthy. Or perhaps you or your firm have been in the news! Either way, please forward any information to the PGASLA president at president@pgasla.org. We will be happy to send news of your accomplishments to our media contacts.

ASLA Membership – ASLA National is offering a monthly installment option for payments of membership to ASLA. When your membership renewal is due, and if you are interested in this option, please contact the national office to receive details.

Job Opportunities - Landscape Architect

PGASLA is on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter and Land8lounge. Please join us for local professional and event discussions.

http://www.facebook.com/find-friends/browser/?ref=ler#t!PGASLA
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?qid=2475447&trk=hb_side_q
http://land8lounge.com/group/pgaslaprairiegatewaychapterofasl

ASLA Amazon.com Store

ASLA Amazon.com store, Check it out!

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Diamond Level Sponsor
Center Updates

KC Design Week: Recruiting Happy Hour

Do you love KC Design Week and want to help shape the events for KCDW 2018? We're having a happy hour just for you! Join us at the Center for Architecture & Design to learn more about getting involved. Drinks and snacks will be provided.

Design has the power to inform, connect, and inspire our lives. It exists in our buildings, our products, our landscapes, our media, and our environments. Kansas City Design Week is a series of events that celebrate the value of design and highlights its impacts on our society. This collaborative experience offers the community opportunities to interact with all areas of design through meaningful events.

Not able to attend the happy hour, but interested in learning more? Email Randi Mixdorf at rmixdorf@sfsarch.com

Have ideas for speakers, workshops, or events? Email Dawn Taylor at dtaylor@aiakc.org

Register Here

Designers Who Coffee: My, Oh My KCI

You've seen the headlines, you've heard the rumors. But have you decided whether you are an advocate for the new KCI Airport Terminal or not?

Please join the Center as we host Amy Jordan Wooden, a public affairs professional who is working with Mayor Sly James and VisitKC, for an informative presentation regarding the historical data that will impact the public vote, and why YOU should care.
Design professionals are in a unique position to provide leadership and a powerful message to the community regarding this crucial topic for our city. Don’t miss this opportunity!

Light breakfast and coffee provided
Space is limited.
$10 per person in advance; $15 at the door

Register Here

The Center Completes Second Education Outreach Program

Volunteers from the CFAD presented our Explore Design! Program to 23 8th graders from the Crossroads Academy in May. The first six sessions focused on introducing students to each discipline (architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, interior design and graphic arts) and involved a lot of fun, hands-on activities such as an architectural scavenger hunt of their school and surrounding neighborhood, designing the interior of their dream home and figuring out alternative locations for Kauffman Stadium (including one proposal to have it hover above the Missouri River by the Downtown Airport!). In the final three sessions, students divided into four teams and designed an outdoor space/classroom for their school. With the help of volunteers, each group had to develop a site plan, design the building with a floor plan, sketch of design and materials, complete room design with furniture layout and materials, determine landscape, name their building and create a logo. The students then presented their classrooms to the whole group and gave an overview of their design. Each team came up with great ideas that included a new outdoor cafeteria that could be converted to a basketball court, a student hang out area with a pool and glass roof and one group who focused heavily on making their space sustainable with recycled materials and a living wall. The students and volunteers all had a fantastic time and they learned about the importance of design in their everyday life.

This program will continue to be given in two schools a year, once each semester. If you are interested in volunteering for this fun and rewarding program, please contact Tiffany Shepherd at tiffany@aiakc.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

We are always looking for volunteers to help with advocacy, public awareness, and events hosted by the chapter. Volunteering is a fantastic opportunity for you to get involved with your peers and others in the community. Contact the chapter president at president@pgasla.org for more information on upcoming opportunities.

Gold Level Sponsor

Annual Gold Level Sponsor

ANOVA
Member Login

Within the PGASLA website there is a members only area where you can register for events, see the chapter roster and view past history of your attendance at events. To log-in, each member will need to use their ASLA member number and a temporary password (eggplant). Once logged in, members will need to change their password. If you have any questions please contact info@pgasla.org.

Diamond Level Article

Three Reasons to Specify a Rain Bird Factory Trained Contractor Install Your Next Project

The Rain Bird Factory Trained program gives landscape architects an easy and reliable way to choose a contractor with the expert skills needed to install, operate and maintain a Rain Bird central control (golf and commercial) system. You can contact Rain Bird Training Services at (800) 498-1942 or by email at training@rainbird.com to get a list of contractors with Rain Bird Factory Trained designations.

Here are three reasons why you should specify that a Rain Bird Factory Trained contractor install your next project:

#1 Sets Rigorous Standards

Factory Trained classes are comprehensive, and sets standards for proper installation, operation and maintenance of Rain Bird residential, commercial and golf systems. For central control systems, Factory Trained classes provide in-depth training on the installation and operation of IQ™, Maxicom®, and Site Control Central Control Systems, and components such as the ESP-LX Series Controller, weather stations, sensors and communication devices.

#2 Hands-on Experience

There are many hands-on exercises that reinforce installation best practices. For example, the Central Control Installer class, includes hands-on exercises that teach students how to install the central computer, satellite controllers, field decoders, weather stations, and sensors, and complete the final testing and commissioning.

#3 Tested on Knowledge

Each student in the class must pass an exam before earning their Factory Trained designation. Operator and Technician designations can be earned for each central control system.

“The exams are not easy, they are tough. They are meant to test the skills and knowledge of the student,” said Robert Pfeil, marketing group manager – services. “We want every student who takes a Factory Trained class to attain a high technical level of understanding of the products and best practices we teach. The exam helps us be confident that the students who have earned their designations have expert skills,” Pfeil concluded.

Look for Factory Trained Designations

Designations are earned by the individual (not the company) and are valid for three years. These designations are proof the contractor has the expert skills needed to install and operate the system correctly.

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