

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Zach Peterson, President, PLA, ASLA

I normally have a general idea of what I want to accomplish when I sit down to write an article for the newsletter, but writers block compounded with my back against the wall to meet a deadline has reared its ugly head so here I sit, staring at the blank screen and flashing cursor hoping for some sort of inspiration.

I am exhausted.

So let's get started by taking a victory lap: My sincerest thanks to all who were involved in the planning and execution of the Spring Conference, "Equity and Innovation in Landscape Architecture." Given the hand we were dealt with the pandemic and the limitations of delivering the conference in a virtual format, we were able to overcome some of the geographical constraints of coordinating an in-person conference by putting together a diverse lineup of session speakers that spanned from coast to coast. Technical glitches were expected and did happen but were fortunately kept to a minimum and session recordings will be made available to paid conference attendees in order to receive their HSW credit. Now that the Iowa-ASLA is an approved continuing



education provider with LACES, the Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System, records of credits received from the conference will be tracked and will hopefully ease the license renewal process come audit time. Conference attendees can view their course record at <https://laces.asla.org/>

Special thanks to Kofi Boone as our Keynote Speaker, and Kimberly Garza, our PH Elwood Lecturer. With their respective contributions, we had a perfect set of bookends to launch and conclude the conference on a high note, everything in the middle was mere icing on the cake. Part of that icing, of course was landing Torey Carter-Conneen, and Tom Mroz, CEO and President of ASLA respectively who joined us over the lunch hour to co-present their inaugural presentation on ASLA programs and priorities. Our chapter was a test run and the presentation content that made its debut at our conference will be the model for future engagements with other ASLA chapters.

Speaking of engagements, keeping membership engaged in the organization has become a critical topic within the ASLA, ESPECIALLY concerning the retention of students and emerging professionals. You may have already heard that free student membership is being offered to expose those groups to organizational offerings. As means of further building on relationships with students and emerging professionals, a national mentorship program has been established and is looking for members to pair up with interested students. The ask is a minimal time commitment to be available and make a lasting impression on someone as they begin their journey in the profession. Please visit the following link to learn more about the program and submit a profile <https://connect.asla.org/mentoring>.





Your CREATION Our TEAMWORK

Contact us for samples,
product information and
Lunch & Learns.

UNILOCK.COM | 1-800-UNILOCK



As always, our “doors” are always open. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any comments, questions, concerns you may have. We would love to hear from you! ia-asla@assocserv.com.

Happy World Landscape Architecture Month!

SPRING CONFERENCE RECAP

Lara Guldenpfennig, President-Elect, PLA, ASLA

I want to start out by thanking everyone who attended the Spring Conference. Aside from a few technical glitches, it was very successful, and we’ve had only positive feedback from the attendees. I truly appreciate everyone’s patience with this process. We’ve learned a lot from this experience and will be streamlining things for future conferences. Fingers crossed we don’t have to meet virtually for an entire conference in the future, though having the ability to offer certified HSW’s for future conferences is a major win in the chapter’s eyes. I’m happy to report that we’ve gotten the recordings of each session ready for viewing. Attendees will be receiving an email with the link to the session recordings as well as the associated quiz and evaluation form this week. A follow up email regarding which quizzes were passed and which need to be retaken in order to receive the associated HSW credit will also be sent. If by chance

you missed a session during the day, all paid attendees will have the option to view session recordings, take the quiz, and fill out evaluation form to receive credit. Session quizzes will require a minimum score of 8/10 as a passing grade in order to receive your HSW. The link will be available for viewing until Friday, May 21st, at which time the quizzes will be closed. If you haven’t already, I recommend registering with [LACES](#) so you can access your certificates that way for future reference as well. The chapter **WILL NOT** be sending certificates digitally. Stay tuned for additional information in the months ahead regarding our Fall Conference in September.

Be sure to register for FUSE 2021, this year’s Central States Conference hosted by the Nebraska-Dakotas Chapter taking place virtually May 12-14th, 2021. A total of 9 CEU/HSW’s will be available to earn. Register [HERE](#) by April 23rd, 2021 to receive the FUSE VIP KIT! The VIP kit is included in all ASLA Member, Associate ASLA Member, and Non-Member registrations.



TRUSTEE UPDATE

Michael Gaunt, PLA, ASLA

COVID isn't slowing ASLA down one bit these days. On a national level, ASLA continues to advocate strongly for Environmental Justice. In the current legislative session, the House of Representative has passed H.R. 803, the Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act. The passage of this bill and eventual signing into law will designate approximately 1.5 million acres of new wilderness and will protect nearly the same area of public lands from new oil and gas extraction. Included in this proposed legislation are two ASLA priorities: The Outdoors for All Act and portions of the Environmental Justice in Recreational Permitting Act.

The Outdoors for All Act would provide long-term authorization for the Outdoor Recreation Legacy Project (ORLP), a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant program that funds urban parks in underserved areas including Black and other minority communities.

The sections of the Environmental Justice in Recreational Permitting Act, included in H.R. 803 requires. federal land management agencies like the National Park Service and the Bureau of Land Management to conduct a study on how well the existing systems for issuing recreational permits to outfitters, guides, and other recreational service providers serve environmental justice communities.

The bill has now been passed to the Senate for consideration. And although most of the land affected by this legislation is outside the State of Iowa, it's important in setting precedent for further legislation that could impact projects locally. To follow its progress, click here: [Congress.gov](https://www.congress.gov).



As a reminder to our Chapter members, don't forget to check out ASLA's online blog. *THE DIRT™* covers the latest news on the built and natural environments and features stories directly related to the profession of landscape architecture. The latest edition includes ten new case studies added to ASLA's Smart Policies for a Changing Climate (online exhibition). These case studies highlight landscape architectural solutions and innovations related to areas such as flooding, extreme heat, drought, and sea level rise.

Recent updates from The Dirt include highlights from World Landscape Architecture Month as well as the upcoming celebration of Frederick Law Olmstead's 199th birthday celebration.



Act Now to Secure Funding for Your Transportation Projects

Earlier this year, the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) announced that it is allowing "Member Designated Projects", formerly known as earmarks, for inclusion in its upcoming surface transportation reauthorization bill...



Urge Congress to Help Landscape Architects Design Safer Streets

The National Complete Streets Coalition, of which ASLA is a founding member, recently released Dangerous by Design 2021. This landmark report clearly demonstrates that the United States has a crisis. The number of people struck and killed while walking has gone up 45...

Check out the latest from [The Dirt](#).

And finally, I want to make sure our members are aware of ASLA's iAdvocate. This section of the website posts links and information related to pending legislation that directly affects our work and our profession. Participating is simple, once you're logged in to your ASLA account on the website, supporting legislation is as easy as clicking on one of the articles. The website will autofill a message direct to your US Representative and Senator, and feel free to add a personalized message. After you fill



in your contact information it will know which Representative and Senator to send the message.

Click here and contact your representatives today: [iAdvocate](#).

Now get out there and enjoy this warmer weather and the natural world waking back up.

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Carl Rogers, PLA, ASLA

Hello ASLA Iowa Chapter members!

I hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy. It is hard to believe that it is spring, and that ISU is headed towards the end of the spring semester. What a year it has been. Classes are going strong right now, as students work towards the finish. Like the fall semester, this semester has seen a mix of online, hybrid and in-person teaching. We continue to keep our social distance when on campus and reduce the density in classrooms. It is definitely working to reduce the spread of COVID-19 on campus, and I can't say enough, how much faculty have put time in to continue with teaching and to make sure students have what they need to be successful. We are planning for the fall semester and a return to a more "normal" look and feel on campus. Part of this planning is to slowly, and safely, open up campus to faculty, staff and students. We hope to be able to invite you and others back to campus and share the excitement we all crave for on the ISU campus.

Studios this semester have really provided students the opportunity to expand their learning and develop skill/knowledge of landscape architecture. Second year BLA students, have worked on small garden designs, as well as, just wrapped up a project looking at the redesign of the King Pavilion entrance. From bubble diagrams to study models, second year students are learning basic

The advertisement features a blue header with the logo for Commercial Recreation Specialists, which consists of three interlocking shapes in red, purple, and green. Below the header is a photograph of three people in swimwear playing in a colorful water park with rainbow arches. At the bottom of the advertisement, the text reads: "Your Complete Recreation Resource!" followed by the phone number "877-896-8442" and the website "crs4rec.com".

COMMERCIAL RECREATION SPECIALISTS

Your Complete Recreation Resource!
877-896-8442 | crs4rec.com

design skills while integrating knowledge of plant material and the science of landscapes. Third year BLA students have immersed themselves into geospatial analysis, looking at the Missouri River to develop a GIS Atlas from Omaha to the southwest corner of the state. Currently they are taking a closer look at the town of Hamburg to better understand the levee system and design innovative strategies to reduce the impact of floods. Fourth year BLA students are away from campus in either internships or semester exchange programs. For the first time in my career, ISU cancelled all study abroad programs for the spring semester. While this was a necessary move, I know that we are all looking forward to the future when we can resume these enriching programs. Fifth year BLA students are enrolled in the college's option studios, where all graduating students from all seven college programs enroll in studios taught by college faculty. This semester studios include healthcare design, a refugee center in Des Moines, Farmscape, and many other exciting opportunities for students to work with other students in the college.

Our graduate students are also busy with their studies. First year MLA students are exploring landscape architecture and working on a site design project in Des Moines's Water Works Park. These students are introduced to new design and representation skills while exploring key environmental issues. Second year MLA students are in an urban design studio and working on



designs for Des Moines’s East Village Market district. They are also expanding their digital representation skills as they explore their designs. Finally, third year MLA students are either enrolled in the college’s option studios or exploring an independent creative component.

One final note about studios and spring semester. Final reviews will occur April 26 – 30. A more detailed schedule is being developed and I will share it with chapter members as soon as it is finalized. All reviews will be virtual using Webex or Zoom. Stay tuned for more information.

Faculty continue to work on developing engaged ways of teaching for the spring semester, while also working on their research and scholarship. No doubt, managing teaching in the fall and spring has taken lots of time, patience, and flexibility. I have been amazed at how creative faculty have been from recording lectures, to facilitating classroom discussion, and for conducting studio reviews. We all, as I imagine many of you, are exhausted from virtual teaching. There have been some really innovative teaching methods this year that I know will carry forward into a post-COVID semester. From what I can tell, when we get on the other side of the pandemic, we will be more creative than ever with our instruction and learning.



landscapeforms

Stacy Ernst, Site Source, LLC
816-678-2004
stacye@landscapeforms.com
816-444-4376
sitesource@landscapeforms.com

Typography designed by Designworks,
a BMW Group company

DESIGN. CULTURE. CRAFT.

In partnership with the Iowa Chapter, the spring conference was a huge success. Thanks to all of you who attended the day long virtual conference. The speakers were of the highest quality this year, and the topics related to environmental and social justice, as well as tactical urbanism, were inspiring. Thanks to the speakers for putting in the time and effort to share their work with the chapter. I look forward to working with the chapter on future fall and spring conferences.

That’s it for the news update from ISU. If anyone ever wants to reach out and learn more about what is happening on campus and in landscape architecture, do not hesitate to email me, rogersc@iastate.edu. Have a safe and healthy spring!! Go Cyclones!

PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE

Nate Byro, Public Relations Chair, PLA, ASLA

“Growing Together”

Happy World Landscape Architecture Month! This annual celebration in the month of April highlights the importance of the work we, as Landscape Architects, create for the public and private world. ASLA celebrates WLAM every year to highlight the importance of the profession. People love and appreciate the spaces we



Outdoor Recreation Products

www.outdoorrecreationproducts.com

9840 South 168th Ave., Ste. 3
Omaha, Nebraska 68136

Phone: 402-289-0400 or 800-747-5437

Bringing fun to playgrounds.



create. They just may not know we created them, so we hope WLAM helps showcase the power of our profession.

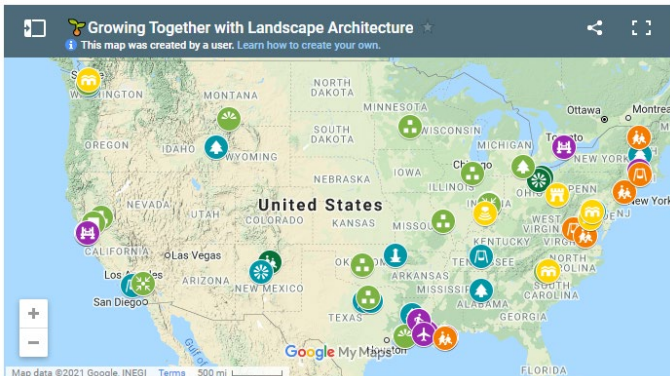
Reflecting on the past year, it is ever more apparent the importance of the outdoor spaces we create. It seems like just yesterday when many of the communal spaces within our communities were shuttered, encouraging people to get outside and safely enjoy the outdoor spaces landscape architects design. We then saw these spaces we have designed become space for discourse and to empower change. This year’s theme, “Growing Together,” celebrates the communal nature of the work we create. It will focus on the communities we impact and live within. We will show how landscape architecture creates “healthy, beautiful, and resilient places for all.” ASLA has many activities planned for WLAM this upcoming April and highlighted below are some of the many ways you can get involved.

and ability levels. We are hoping to highlight how landscape architects can be change agents to create spaces for all to enjoy.

Please consider submitting projects in your community through this [link](#) or check out the map [here!](#) Make sure to check out how the map continues to grow across the month, and share it with your friends, family and acquaintances to show the power of landscape architects!

This year, Iowa ASLA and the Iowa State Student Chapter will be taking over the ASLA National Instagram on 4/16. Make sure to follow and check it out that day! @NationalASLA

ASLA is also partnering with the Earth Day Network’s Great Global Cleanup Initiative! Gather with a group you feel comfortable with, and head out in your neighborhood to pick up some trash. After you’re done, head over to the ASLA website to register the number of bags you’ve collected so we can track the global impact of our efforts. Make sure to check out the ASLA website at <https://www.asla.org/wlam> for more information!



This year, ASLA is collecting a map of projects across the globe that capture the unique fabric of the communities they serve. Whether they are parks, plazas, community gardens, or complete streets, these projects showcase the critical role that landscape architects play in building community and shaping the world around us. ASLA is wanting to highlight projects of all communities – communities of all colors, socioeconomic backgrounds,

