

## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Lara Guldenpfennig, President, PLA, ASLA

Welcome Summer! I hope you've been able to get out and enjoy the season. Thank you to our Member and Associate Member-at Large, John Aceto and Dani Hodgson, as well as our Association Manager, Kristina Sickels, for planning the annual golf outing at the beginning of June. I think I can speak for all attendees and say that it was a perfect day for golf!

Please be sure to [RSVP](#) for our Summer Social, sponsored by Stacy Ernst with Site Source/Landscape Forms. The social will be from 5-7pm on Thursday, July 21<sup>st</sup> at Confluence Brewery. Similar to the Winter Social, professional and student members will receive 2 complimentary drink tickets. All non-members and/or guests will receive 1 complimentary drink ticket. Bring your bike, walk the trails, and enjoy some conversation!



join us for a...

# SUMMER SOCIAL

SPONSORED BY LANDSCAPE FORMS

Thursday, July 21st  
5:00-7:00 PM  
Confluence Brewery

ASLA  
IOWA

Happy hour with free drink(s) for ASLA Iowa Chapter and ISLA members.

Be on the lookout in the coming weeks for the Professional and Student Awards Call for Entries. After receiving feedback from some members, we will be sending the out the call a few weeks early to allow more time for preparation of submissions. A new addition to this year is the Historic Preservation Category for Professional members. We are jury swapping with the Oklahoma Chapter whose awards schedule will run in tandem with our chapter. If you'd like to jury the Oklahoma Chapter submissions, please reach out to me by email: [lguldenpfennig@jlbruce.com](mailto:lguldenpfennig@jlbruce.com) as soon as possible. We will begin jurying the week of August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 and our responses are due back to Oklahoma by September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Elections are in full swing and I want to personally thank all of you who submitted nominations this year. To our nominees this year, I speak for everyone in the membership when I say, "Thank you!" All of us on the executive board are excited for new volunteers and look forward to the year ahead. Your ballot is due by Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Finally, our fall conference will be Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at Reiman Gardens in Ames, IA. Pat Dunn has been busy planning the conference and the staff at Reiman Gardens is really looking forward to our event. Our theme for the conference is 'Think Small: Designing for Intimacy.' Reiman Garden staff are planning for a few volunteer activities during the day and attendees will also have an opportunity to do a self-guided tour of the facility. As always, we look forward to our sponsor booths at the fall conference. This year we will award a number of prizes for those attendees that interact with each of our sponsors; you'll earn a ticket for EVERY vendor you visit with during the scheduled breaks.





## TRUSTEE UPDATE

Michael Gaunt, PLA, ASLA

Save the date! A quick reminder that registration is now open for the return of the ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture! Join us in San Francisco this year on November 11-14 for over 120 different courses in 8 different education tracks as well as all the latest information from manufacturers and suppliers. The national conference is a great way to fulfill continuing education requirements as well as network with landscape architects from all across the country.

### *Government Affairs*

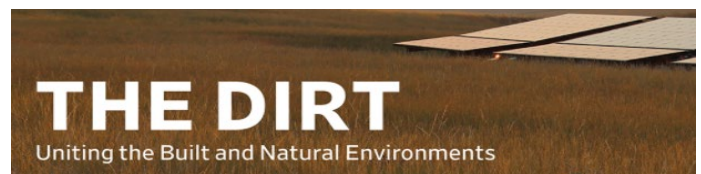
There's been a lot of activity lately within the House and Senate as well as the news of the Supreme Court ruling that will lead to weakened oversight of issues relating to climate change. In a positive direction, the House passed [H.R. 7776](#) to reauthorize approximately \$40 billion to the Water Resources Development Act. This is a biennial reauthorization and is critical to supporting a wide range of measures including about 100 environmental infrastructure projects, reviewing of green-infrastructure policies relating to open space and critical habitats, addressing climate change impacts through the Corps of Engineers, and expanding equity and environmental justice concerns related to disadvantaged communities,

rural communities, and even tribal lands. While this resolution has yet to be taken up by the Senate, ASLA continues to monitor this vital reauthorization.

Also in June, ASLA expressed its support for the [African American Burial Grounds Preservation Legislation](#). This legislation, authored by Representative Alma Adams (H.R. 6805) and Senator Sherrod Brown (S. 3667), would authorize the National Parks Service to fund and coordinate initiatives designed to identify, research, and preserve African American burial grounds that have been left unmarked, abandoned, or underserved. Because Landscape Architects play such a vital role in preservation of historic landscapes, we will monitor this legislation and continue to express our support through our Government Advocacy network.

### *Board of Trustees Annual Meeting*

The Board of Trustees Annual Meeting was held virtually in April with a major focus on elections to national positions. After interviews and voting took place, we are pleased to congratulate Monique Basse, ASLA as VP-Elect of Communications as well as the Iowa Chapter's own Chris Della Vedova, ASLA as VP-Elect of Finance. Both will be sworn into their new positions at the annual conference this coming November. Congratulations to two highly qualified and deserving candidates. We always appreciate the national level appointments from the Iowa Chapter.



Be sure to check in occasionally with The Dirt on the ASLA website. Recently, it was announced that ASLA's Center for Landscape Architecture in Washington D.C. earned the WELL Certification at the Gold level. This is the first Gold



certification in D.C. and a great recognition for the commitment and work that our profession encompasses.

Check out the latest from [The Dirt](#) or at the [Olmsted 200](#) website.

## NEWS FROM THE IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Carl Rogers, PLA, ASLA

Greetings fellow Iowa Chapter members! I hope this update finds you all well and I wish you the best for the summer. I wanted to update you on a few things related to Iowa State University's Department of Landscape Architecture. The university is currently on summer break with summer classes now entering into the second session. It is quiet on campus now with our students and faculty away till August. Many students work over the summer, and some work as interns in landscape architecture firms. For those members who employ ISU LA students as summer interns, I thank you for supporting them in their academic journey to become a landscape architect. An internship is an influential time for students as they experience the day-to-day activity of a landscape architect and gain knowledge about the profession.

Over the spring semester we interviewed five exceptional candidates for two Assistant Professor positions in the department. For one of these positions, we looked for candidates who have experience or showed interest in field teaching related to our second-year fall semester Traveling Savanna courses. For the other position we aimed to find a candidate with experience in ecological systems, or design, related to landscape architecture. We are happy to announce that Elizabeth Stapleton, and



Austin Dunn will be joining us in the fall semester as tenure-track Assistant Professors.

Elizabeth, or Ellee, recently received her doctorate in landscape architecture from the University of Oregon. Her research lies at the intersection of urban ecology and environmental justice, and, she argues that ecological analysis in design and planning research is necessary for addressing equity in the built environment. For her dissertation, she researched Portland, Oregon's publicly managed green stormwater infrastructure and evaluated how the bioecological and human communities respond to the addition of these ecological design features in three Portland communities. We are excited to have Ellee join the department, as she continues to explore her research and engage with students as they draw their one connection between what they learn through their own experiences.

Austin Dunn is a licensed landscape architect in the state of California, where he worked at Alta Planning and Design in the San Francisco Bay area. Austin is also a graduate of our MLA program and he taught with Michael Martin and Heidi Hohmann during the Savanna courses in the fall semester of 2018. While practicing in California, Austin worked on projects related to active transportation





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and multimodal mobility. He is interested in pursuing this work to research linear landscapes and multi-functional corridors as a critical function of social-ecological systems in urban and rural contexts. Through his research he aims to ensure transportation infrastructure projects center the human experience and are ecologically sound. We are excited to have Austin join the department, as he explores the opportunity for landscape architecture to address the greatest challenges of our time: climate change, social injustice, and economic disparity. Please join me in welcoming both Ellee and Austin to Iowa State University.

My final update is one that is exciting for landscape architecture and Iowa State University. In late May, I had the pleasure to visit Ken Smith Workshop in New York City with the ISU Foundation. Ken Smith graduated from Iowa State University with a BSLA in 1976 and went on to get his MLA from Harvard University Graduate School of Design in 1986. For the past three decades, Ken has been a force in landscape architecture. His work has influenced many landscape architects, including myself, as he integrates art, science, ecology, and design. Closer to home he led a team in the redesign of Cowles Commons in downtown Des Moines, transforming the 1970s space into a modern urban landscape. Ken Smith Workshop works on projects from New York City to New Mexico, and

across the globe. The purpose of the visit was to see Ken's project archives and start to document it with ISU Library archives to prepare it as part of the permanent collection. Ken is donating his project archives to Iowa State University where it will be housed and available, in the future, to academics and scholars interested in his work. This is a major donation and will join ISU library's special collections that also includes the Warren Manning papers. The department is very excited that Ken still views his education at Iowa State University as influential in his career. In addition, he and his wife Priscilla, are gifting their fashion collection to the ISU Textiles and Clothing Museum. I was honored to join ISU Foundation and the Department of Apparel, Events, and Hospitality Management, as Ken and Priscilla showed their collection. It was amazing to see the eclectic collection of clothing and a great way to cap off an amazing trip to New York City.

Finally, ISU completed its Orientation for incoming first-year students, and the department accepted 36 students into the second year of the undergraduate program. Our students truly represent a part of what is so awesome about ISU landscape architecture. The other two parts are our outstanding faculty, who continue to amaze me in the work they accomplish, and you all, either members or



alumni of our program. Thank you for all you do to support Iowa State University and the Department of Landscape Architecture. I wish you all the best, and, GO CYCLONES!!!

## PUBLIC RELATIONS UPDATE

Nate Byro, PLA, ASLA

Do you have a unique project that you'd love to show off?

Are you hosting a fun community engagement event?

Do you have a project utilizing innovative technology?

We are looking to expand our social media and website spotlighting of the phenomenal work that everyone creates. We are looking to provide a promoted spotlight per each partner firm or municipality with members, spread throughout the year! These spotlights can be anything your firm would like to promote related to landscape architecture. We welcome sketches, renderings, and photos of any step of the process, from events through construction into final photography. We also want to highlight the accomplishments of our members! If you know of any members who become licensed, have advancements, or other accomplishments to celebrate, please let us know!

Please reach out to Nate Byro, Public Relations Chair at [nbyro@iastate.edu](mailto:nbyro@iastate.edu) for a form and to get your projects shared! Just answer a few questions, provide some files, and we will get it posted to social media and our website. As always, if you tag us in a post, we will share onto our channels. @iaasla

