

UPDATE - for the Year 2008-09

Newsletter of the Landscape Architecture Program at Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, Oklahoma

Prepared by: Dr. Charles L. Leider

Invitation

You are welcome to visit and walk through the new program facilities in Ag North (AgN) anytime you are on campus. The building is open all day on Monday through Friday and Saturday 7 am to 12 pm. The Landscape Architecture pre-professional phase of the program now has “state of the art” studio, lecture room and lab facilities in the AgN building across the street from the Animal Science building on Monroe Street south below the corner of Hall of Fame Avenue. The professional phase of the program – 4th & 5th year studios continues to be located in Ag Hall near the computer lab. Stop in and see the new facilities whenever you are in Stillwater or call 405-744-5420 if you wish to make an appointment to see the facilities after hours.

The 4th and 5th year studios and computer lab may be moved to Ag N when University Mailing Services, which is located in the northeast corner of AgN, is moved in the near future to another location creating an opportunity to combine the entire LA Program into one building.

Distinguished Service Awards 2008

Gregg Sutton received the Distinguished Landscape Architecture Alumni Award from the Landscape Architecture Program. After graduating Gregg worked for Joe Braun in Tulsa before joining EDSA at Ft. Lauderdale, FL approximately 15 years ago. He was recently named as a principal at EDSA.

Dean Chambers, landscape architect, from Tempe, AZ received the Distinguished Landscape Architecture Service Award from the Landscape Architecture Program. Dean has been a member the Landscape Architecture Professional Advisory Council (LA/PAC) for nearly ten years. Dean is one of the longest serving members of the Council where he is currently serving as Vice Chair. During his tenure on the LA/PAC he headed a number of key committees. He is currently a candidate for the position of Chair for the LA/PAC at the Fall meeting.

Program Activities

Accreditation Visit Spring 2009

It has been six years since the last accreditation visit. The accreditation team will visit the Program sometime during Spring 2009. Work on the accreditation report was started this the summer. The report will be submitted the ASLA’s Accreditation Board in the fall.

Landscape Architecture to offered courses in Tulsa Campus

The LA program plans to offer two evening courses on the Tulsa campus during the Spring semester. Georgia Muenzler will teach a Survey of Landscape Architecture and Contracting, and Ricky Jones will teach Land Use and Community Planning. Both courses will meet course credit requirements for the BLA degree.

Agreement with OSU/OKC

OSU/OKC has agreed to create a pre-design track of course work to fit the BLA program requirements on the Stillwater campus. The track is designed to be two years of course work so a student can take art, graphics, surveying, and science at OSU/OKC and then transfer these courses into the BLA program to start the design sequence at the beginning of the fall semester in the third year.

Emphasis Area in Landscape Architecture Offered in Masters Degree

In response ASLA's White Paper discussing the high demand and lack of landscape architecture graduates to meet the demand in practice and higher education the OSU's Landscape Architecture Program proposed and received approval to recommend to the administration an **Option** in landscape architecture be established initially in the Master of Science in Horticulture with the idea of developing an Masters in Landscape Architecture when the program meets university enrollment criteria. The recommendation to create the program was strongly supported the LA/PAC White Paper Committee chaired by Karl Bieberstein with Ralph Ochsner, James Graber and Michael Terry as the committee members. The one year, 30 credit hours, masters program **Option** was designed for landscape architects with experience in practice who wish to return to school to develop an area of specialization. Proposed focus areas include: Green/Sustainable Design & Planning, Preservation of Historic Cultural Landscapes, Urban Planning, and Environmental Planning. It was determined the proposal could not generate the required number of students to meet the graduate college's criteria for an **Option**. Therefore an **Emphasis Area** with the above specializations for a Masters of Horticulture is being offered. It is hope as the enrollment in the **Emphasis Area** grows it can than be offered as an **Option** and eventually a as masters degree in landscape architecture.

Changes in the LA Curriculum Discussed and Explored

The LA faculty has sought the advice of the LA/PAC members regarding a Long Term Internship Program. The LA/PAC members indicated they are not interested in hiring a student interns until they had completed at least their 4th year in Landscape Architecture. Three options are being considered as a substitute for Design V in the fall semester. A long term six or seven month internship for the summer term and fall semester, a summer internship with a fall semester abroad program with the Texas A&M's program in Italy, or course work on a minor or an emphasis in a related field if the student was not able to obtain an internship. Only offices which have a registered landscape architect which agreed to provide a mentor, had a formal internship program, or LA/PAC offices which agreed to these terms should be approved for an internship. Other offices would be considered for internships if they agreed with these terms.

A model patterned after the TX A&M internship which requires monthly reports and two case studies one on the business practice of a landscape architecture office and the other a significant built work in landscape architecture is currently being tested. Under this model the student is expected to make a 30 minute Power Point presentation on their long term internship to the faculty and LA/PAC during the spring semester at the LA/PAC meeting.

Service Training Program

The Landscape Architecture Program has established a Professional Office in Service Training to update faculty on professional practice with LA/PAC member offices. The duration of the program could be one week to several months depending on agreement. The faculty member or office can initiate request. This year John Ritter visited the Ft. Lauderdale office of EDSA and Michael Holmes visited the Design Workshop office in Denver.

Historic Cultural Landscape Self Driving Brochures

Three regional self driving tour brochures on historic cultural landscapes were prepared for the Oklahoma Department of Tourism's web site by Michelle Bryant under the direction of Dr. Leider. The regional brochures cover the area around Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Stillwater/Ponca City. The brochures summarize the features of selected case studies on historic designed landscapes prepared over the past ten years and are illustrated by drawings and photographs from the case studies. The self guided tours may be viewed after February 2009 on the following website: www.travelok.com

Currently six upper division students, Randy Becker, Andrew Loverude, Justin Kissman, Stephen Murphy and Steve Eilers are working on a case for the Oklahoma Civic Center which includes measured drawings of the site which was designed by Hare & Hare of Kansas City in the 1920s. The case study was selected from the inventory of *Survey and Analysis of Oklahoma Designed Landscapes* undertaken by Dr. Leider in 1987. The 1987 study identified 40 significant historic landscapes in Oklahoma. Up to this time 10 case studies have been completed and filed in the U.S. Library of Congress Library through the Historic American Landscapes (HALS) of the National Park Service. The drawings may be view on the NPS/HABS/HALS website.

2008 Study Abroad Programs with Peru and Japan

Twelve 4th year architecture students and two faculty members from UPC came to OSU in February and worked with the OSU Design IV students and Prof. Michael Holmes on three weeks studio exchange project.

Professor Paul Hsu led a three week study abroad program to Japan and Thailand in May 2008. The study program involved the viewing of built landscapes in Tokyo and the Kyoto-Kameoka region of Japan for two weeks and one week in Thailand.

2009 Study Abroad Programs to Peru and Japan

Professor Michael Holmes plans to lead a three week study abroad program May 15 to June 1 to Peru. The study program involved participating in a one week design studio and taking classes in outdoor sketching and Earthen Architecture followed by a tour of key built works and natural landscapes in Peru.

Professor Paul Hsu will lead a three week study abroad program to Japan and Thailand May 15 to June 6. The study program involved the viewing of built landscapes in Tokyo and the Kyoto-Kameoka region of Japan for two weeks and one week in Thailand.

Alumni Activities

Seminar II Field Trips 2008

During the first weekend of the Spring semester in January 2008 the fifth year students in Seminar II went on a field trip with Dr. Leider and Professor Ritter to view built works and tour professional offices in Boston. Kristen Hattey– 07 graduate, working Boston, hosted the group.

Alumni Assist in Fall-08 Seminar I Field Trips

OSU alumni in Tulsa and professional colleagues in Wichita assisted in organizing and showing their offices and built works to students in the Seminar I class. The students in the Seminar class are just beginning their study of design, and are currently enrolled in Design I, so the built projects viewed emphasized residential design. Field trips for the Fall 2008 semester on Friday s were to:

1. Tulsa, September 5. Host Tour Leader: Clare Ashby, and other local landscape architects including Steven Williams, Dan Alaback Tim Pressley, and Andrew Bean showed their projects.
2. Wichita, September 26. Host Tour Leaders: Kurt Yowell & Jason Gish, and other local landscape architects Thomas Montgomery, ASLA of GL and Andrew Jordan of WDM showed their projects.

Invitation to Participate Study Abroad Programs

Alumni and LA/PAC members are invited to take part in the study abroad programs to Peru and Japan/Thailand May 15 to June 5, 2009. The estimated cost for Peru is \$3,000 and \$4,000 for Japan/Thailand. For further information contact: Dr. Leider 405-744-5420 or Charles.leider@okstate.edu

Professional Advisory Council Activities

LA/PAC Program Participation

During the course of the school year the Landscape Architecture Professional Advisory Council (LA/PAC) members from EDSA, Mesa Design Group, TBG and Design Workshop have provided class problems from their office projects for Design III, V, and VI taught by Professors Ritter and Hsu.

During the spring meeting held on Thursday and Friday, March 13 & 14 the PAC/LA members juried the Design VI capstone project on Thursday evening and received the report presentations from the students participating in the trail Long Term Seven Month Internship Program on Friday morning. Also on Friday morning Dan Alaback chaired the OK/ASLA Chapter's Merit Awards Committee to select students for the ASLA's Merit and Honor Awards. Wade Peterson of the HOK Dallas gave a talk on *Landscape Architecture Practice of HOK* at the Friday lunch. While the business meeting was in progress on Friday afternoon, Mike Sottong and Chip Impastato of Mesa

Design Group, LA/PAC members, gave a charette problem to the 3rd and 4th year design students which was juried by the LA/PAC at the end of their business meeting.

The fall meeting is again scheduled to be held in conjunction with Homecoming weekend on Friday, October 17 with a business meeting in the morning and a portfolio workshop for all the students in studio design sequence in the afternoon. The luncheon speaker for the event is Jerod Costner of Denver on *The Operations of ValleyCrest and JamesHyatt Studio*, his employer.

Dan Alaback, chair of the LA/PAC, is conducting a fund drive for the LA program through the OSU Foundation in the last quarter of this year. Should you like to make a contribution to the program please contact him at:

dan_alaback@alabackdesign.com

Proposed Lecture Program

LA/PAC member offices have been requested to consider establishing lecture in their name during the Fall & Spring semesters.

Faculty Members of the OSU Landscape Architecture Program

Visiting Faculty for: Spring-08 Semester

Warren Edwards is served as a Visiting Instructor for Design II and LA 4034 Planting Design.

Ale Rivero served as an Assistant Instructor to Warren Edwards in Planting Design.

Kurt Skinner served as a Visiting Instructor for Construction I I and Professional Practice.

Visiting Faculty for: Fall-08 Semester

Ale Rivero is serving as a Visiting Instructor for Construction I and Construction III.

Mark Gregory, an instructor in Natural Resources, is offering a course in Geographic Information Systems entitled: Comprehensive Landscape Analysis for 4th year landscape architecture students

Support Faculty

Susan Bobo, Assistant Professor
Branch Librarian in Architecture Bldg.

Permanent Landscape Architecture Faculty

The full time faculty members in the Program are: Dr. Charles Leider, Professor and Program Director; Paul Hsu, Associate Professor; John Ritter, Associate Professor; and Michael Holmes, Assistant Professor.

Faculty Activities and Awards

Dr. Charles Leider

He continues to serve as Chief of the Historic American Landscapes Survey as the First District Officer for Oklahoma for the purpose of identifying and inventorying worthy sites of landscape significance for the Historic American Landscape Survey for the National Archive of historically significant landscapes.

In November he made a presentation to Oklahoma Academy of Science on *Contrasting the Great Square of Russia in St. Petersburg and Moscow* based on his visit to Russia.

He is serving as Examination Writer for the American Institute of Certified Planners' Comprehensive Examination for membership

In June he made a presentation on Historic Cultural Landscapes in Oklahoma at the National Preservation Institute special two-day seminar March at Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City, in cooperation with the State Historic Preservation Office and the Oklahoma Historical Society,

He was elected Chair of the Oklahoma State University Library Advisory Council for 2008-09. He also is a member of the Faculty Council's Campus Facilities, Security and Safety Committee.

Paul Hsu

He was received a \$3,000 Summer Stipend Award for the development of a new diversity course development from the Office of Academic Affairs.

He was involved in Japanese Student Association for the programming and development of J-Night and other academic activities, October 2006-08

He is also involved with Maejo University, Office of International Affairs for promoting studio, faculty, and student exchange June 2006-2008

He is serving as a Student Club Advisor for Asian American Student Association

Michael Holmes

In November 2007 he made a presentation to Oklahoma Academy of Science on *Rainwater Harvesting: Rediscovering a Renewable Resource*.

He is working with colleagues to design and implement therapeutic sensory garden. **Sensory Education and Therapeutic Garden, Oklahoma State University Botanical Gardens. Funding:**

He is working with Edmond, OK city staff, local professionals, and extension faculty to design a xeriscape / water conservation demonstration garden. **Xeriscape Garden at Edmond's Community Park.**

He is working to coordinate the multidiscipline team resulting in the development of site program and design. Site design includes integrated environmental practices such as bio-retention, pervious pavement, green building technologies, and riparian corridor enhancement. Currently developing research teams and seeking funding. **Integrated Environmental Research and Education Site, Oklahoma State University Botanical Gardens.**

John Ritter

Again led a field trip to Dallas to visit professional offices, view built works of new urbanism, and make a presentation of the Design 3 class' solution to a new urbanism project furnished by TBG.

Landscape Architecture Student Organization Activities

Class of 2008

Thirteen students graduated in May. All the graduates entered the private practice. The majority went to work for design offices several went to work for consulting field in Landscape Architecture. Offices in Oklahoma hired more students than any other state.

Student Advisory Council

The Student Advisory Council (SAC) meets once a month with representatives for each design and graphics section to discuss Program issues. The SAC was chaired by William Hillson the academic year of 2008-00. The vice chair is Justin Kissman, and the Secretary is Corbin Francis. SAC has created a mentoring program between the lower and upper division students.

Design Week Revived

The architecture students invited the LA students to participate in Design Week, September 15-19. The LA Program, through the student OSU/ASLA Chapter, sponsored one of the two lectures and took part in a joint charette problem and the Pig Roast.

Sigma Lambda Alpha Landscape Architecture Honorary Society

During the academic year of 2008-09 the pledge class participated in a pro bono park design charette problem for the City of Choctaw. The Chapter members arranged for the Design Days lunch during the spring semester and the lunch for the LA/PAC Portfolio Workshop in the fall semester. The members also sell Landscape Architecture car window stickers which they created to promote the LA program

The following new members were inducted for the 2006-07 academic year and serve in the following capacities:

President, Robert Richardson
Vice President – Seth Slifer
Secretary – Gwenn Kragenbrink
Treasurer – Mary White
Advisor Dr. Leider

ASLA Merit & Honor Awards Program

The OK/ASLA Chapter Merit Awards Committee meets on the OSU campus during Design Days of each year to receive presentations from students selected by the OSU faculty for merit awards and honors designation. The following 5th year students received ASLA Merit Awards for the 2007-08 academic year: Michelle Bryant and Darla Leach with Honors. Their awards will be presented at the OK/ASLA Annual Meeting in the fall.

OSU/ASLA Student Chapter

The chapter participated in Design Week with the architecture students during the fall semester. The new officers are:

Cody Klein, President
Nathan Boyles, Vice President
Brad Brown, Secretary
Jill Baumgartner, Treasurer
Profs. Holmes & Ritter, Advisors

Student Competition Activities

Jill Baumgartner and James Elam represented the Landscape Architecture Program by making presentations at the Collegiate Environmental Planning Section, Oklahoma Academy of Science at its Annual Meeting at the Fall 2007 Tulsa Community College Southwest Campus in Tulsa.

Mitchell Cookson, Alexandra Crothers, Tyler Jurney, Kyle Kremer and Marcia Prewitt are scheduled make presentations at the Annual Meeting October 31 at Southern Nazarene University.

2008 Wentz Scholarships research awards of \$4,500 based on proposed projects were awarded to the following students and their faculty mentor:

Robert Richardson - Dr. Leider
Jessica Moore - Prof. Hsu

The students are required completed their research work in 2 credit hour course LA 4990 under the direction of their faculty mentor and display their work at an awards program during the Spring semester

Internships

Six Landscape Architecture students, Randy Becker, Brad Brown, Easton Miller, Reid Schindler, Ian Young and Nathan Boyles participated in summer internships in Oregon, Texas, and Oklahoma. Two students, Heather Applegate and Seth Slifer are participating in the seven month long term internships in Boston and Oklahoma City.

Program Speakers Fall Semester 2008

The lectures are on Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 PM in 101 Ag Hall. These are open lectures to all alumni and any interested person. The lectures are as follows:

3:30-4:45 PM

Thursday Afternoon

101 AGH

Date	Speaker	Subject
Aug 28	Ron Van Easteren Dallas, TX	Lamberts High End Residential Design
Sept. 4	Carl Szafranski, ASLA Tulsa, OK	Szafranski & Pugh Landscape Architecture
Sept. 11	Joe Coffin OKC	Total Environment Design/Build Practice
DESIGN WEEK SPEAKER		
Sept. 18	Douglas Coolman, FASLA Ft. Lauderdale, FL	EDSA Landscape Architecture
Sept. 25	Scott Howard, ASLA OKC	Howard-Fairbairn Landscape Architecture
Oct. 2	Angie King, ASLA Austin, TX	Richardson Verdoorn (RVI) Landscape Architecture
Oct. 9	Jeff Best, ASLA Wichita	Law Kingdon Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Interior Design and Engineering Practice
Oct. 16	Mike Albert Aspen, CO	Design Workshop Landscape Architecture and Planning Practice