

landscape architecture urban design

ASLA Executive Committee c/o Carolyn Mitchell 636 Eye Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20001-3736

Re: Nomination of Professor Linda Jewell for Jot D. Carpenter Medal

Dear Executive Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I support Randy Hester's nomination of U.C. Professor Linda Jewell to receive the Jot D. Carpenter Medal for distinguished teaching in our profession.

Linda is truly a jewell – one of the greatest in our profession who has devoted her career to teaching. I first met her in 1974 when she was in her final year as a graduate student at Penn. As her faculty advisor on an independent thesis I was struck by her talent, insight, drive, and intelligence. Her project – a housing project for Roosevelt Island in New York City ended up as one of the honorable mentions in an international competition. Two years later she returned to Penn as Bob Hanna and I recruited her to teach the Undergraduate Design of the Environment program. My student became my colleague and we team taught the next 4 years. She was brilliant, inspiring and extraordinarily perceptive regarding the student's needs and those of the evolving profession and American society. When she left to return to North Carolina to practice and teach there, we were bereft, for Linda had become a fixture in the firmament that revolved around Ian McHarg and Peter Shepherd – two of the greatest landscape teachers of our time. Several years later as I was wearing down as chairman of the Department at Harvard I concluded that I needed to recruit young faculty, especially women of promise, to be there after my departure. I coaxed Linda into coming at some serious sacrifice to her growing practice, as I knew she would be a great teacher in that important but difficult institution. She came, and again was spectacular in her teaching. Her students shone, and so did she. I quietly withdrew to Philadelphia, and as I'd hoped after a search Linda Jewell became the first woman chair at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. She was a brilliant teacher, and those who were there during her tenure all attest to her brilliance, devotion to the students and profession, her stress upon social issues, building,

Robert J. Bedell Dennis C. McGlade Laurie D. Olin David A. Rubin Lucinda R. Sanders Susan K. Weiler

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craft, passion, and the art of design. Her warmth, depth of knowledge, and concern for ecological and social process in our endeavor in her teaching at Harvard are to this day unsurpassed at that great school. Eventually, she too, moved on, this time coaxed to U.C. Berkeley, where she remains today as a pillar of the Department. There she has inspired a generation of students – men and woman alike – with her insight, knowledge, and remarkable breadth. Linda knows construction from the ground up and shares her passion for building and making, but she also loves history, art and literature, a passion for which she shares constantly, as well as her concern for human society, justice and community. She is as passionate today as she was as a young graduate student, while she has grown continuously.

Linda is a jewell. She is one of our finest. She is a great teacher. Everyone who has ever met her knows it.

Our society should honor and thank her by bestowing the Jot Carpenter Medal on her, and hope she continues to teach for many more years.

Sincerely,

Jamis Oh

Laurie D. Olin, FASLA, Hon. AIA, Hon. RIBA, AAAS, AAAL, FAAR

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## Dear ASLA Awards Committee,

I am pleased to write in strong support of Linda Jewell who has been nominated for the Jot T. Carpenter Teaching Award. Linda is an excellent teacher who cares about teaching in the classroom, but more importantly teaches with thought to producing future practitioners and academics that will shape the profession.

Linda was my professor in graduate school back in the early nineties, where she inspired me to pursue a teaching career. My most formative course with Linda was her landscape construction course where she passionately instilled a love of materials and details in many of the students. I have later come to know that the way she teaches the course is quite unique. She emphasizes the importance of design, meaning and art, in addition to functional performance in material selection and detail design. She uses exemplary built landscapes to teach this critical connection between design and details, then gives students several opportunities to practice this critical connection.

In design studios, Linda teaches students to look at larger issues of a place, site specific design and materiality simultaneously. She recognizes that this is how the best Landscape Architects work, and she offers many opportunities for students to work on projects in this way. Her dedication to student development is consistent and thorough regardless of a student's level.

Linda's dedication to the quality of the built environment is present in everything she does as a teacher, and her teaching does not stop with the classroom door. She is involved with projects in the community in both a pro bono and a professional capacity. I worked on a community garden in Berkeley with her where she was as passionate about teaching community members and decision makers about design of the built environment as she is about teaching landscape architecture students. She is adept at tailoring the content of her teaching to many different types of project stakeholders, and levels of students.

Linda continues to be a career long mentor to me, and to several of her former students, staying in touch, and advising us on various career decisions and research projects. She has provided me with many opportunities that have positively shaped my career. She suggested my name to Bill Thompson at Landscape Architecture magazine as someone who could write articles for the "Details" and "Ecology" columns. Many articles I wrote for the magazine were shaped by the ways she taught me to understand the relationship between materials and overall design of a place.

Not only has Linda instilled a love of design, materials and details in hundreds, maybe thousands of practitioners, but she has taught many how to teach. She has served as a role model for many current academics, including myself. When I reflect on my development as a teacher, I can see the influence of Linda in just about everything I do. And I developed my passion for landscape architecture and care for student learning directly from her.

Linda has had a tremendously positive influence on the profession of landscape architecture thorough her tireless teaching efforts both in and out of the classroom. I can think of no more deserving recipient for the Jot T. Carpenter Teaching Award.

Sincerely,

Meg Calkins Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture Graduate Program Coordinator Ball State University

## MICHAEL VAN VALKENBURGH ASSOCIATES, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS CAMBRIDGE | NEW YORK

ASLA Executive Committee c/o Carolyn Mitchell 636 Eye Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20001-3736

Re: Nomination of Professor Linda Jewell for Jot D Carpenter Medal

Dear Executive Committee Members:

I enthusiastically lend my endorsement of Randy Hester's nomination of U.C. Professor Linda Jewell to receive the Jot D Carpenter Medal. How wonderful that she is being nominated!

Jot taught me "construction," as we called it back in the early 1970s, at Cornell, where he taught for a while before going to Ohio State. Linda embodies so many of the things that I remember so fondly about Jot—his tremendous enthusiasm about the craft of building the way that technology can become expressive in the actual form and experience of built landscapes. Linda is also a tremendous teacher and fine colleague; I can think of no one better suited for this award.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Van Valkenburgh

/jg

## PGA design INC

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

ASLA Executive Committee c/o Carolyn Mitchell 636 Eye Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20001-3736

Re: Nomination of Professor Linda Jewell for Jot D Carpenter Medal

Dear Executive Committee Members:

I am enthusiastically behind and would like to wholeheartedly endorse the nomination of U.C. Berkeley Professor Linda Jewell to receive the Jot D Carpenter Medal.

I have known Linda for over 16 years from my first acquaintance with her as her student in the Masters in Landscape Architecture program at the University of California, Berkeley. Over the last 10 years, Linda has often called me to jury for her class review, arrange tours for her class at one of our firm's construction projects, or assist in organizing an event or lecture. Linda continues to reach out to alumni and to the profession at large, as much as I'd like to think of myself as special in this regard I know it is simply Linda's habit of exposing students to the practice of landscape architecture.

Last year, as president of the ASLA-Northern California Chapter, I worked with Linda to organize a joint lecture between the ASLA-NCC and University of California Berkeley. This highly successful interaction between students and ASLA members featured Lawrence Halprin, who spoke about his experience designing and overseeing construction at Stern Grove. Linda was the main organizer and the event typified her interests, it brought students and professional ASLA members together to hear one of the professions greats in a beautiful outdoor setting.

There is another experience I had with Linda that I would like to mention that speaks to her strength of character. During Linda's first semester at Berkeley in 1991 she moved into a neighborhood that was burned to the ground during the Berkeley Hills fire which destroyed some 3000 homes. The rented house Linda was lost with everything she had; notes, slides, books, etc.. However, Linda continued to teach and managed to pull together cohesive and thought provoking lectures. Always the professional Linda was able to rise up and give us her best in spite of her family's hardship. I will always respect and admire her for that.

In closing, I would like once again to express my avid support in nominating Linda Jewell for the Jot D Carpenter Medal.

Sincerely,

Christopher Kent, ASLA, MLA

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Re: Nomination of Professor Linda Jewell for Jot D Carpenter Medal

Dear Executive Committee Members:

I enthusiastically lend my endorsement to Randy Hester's nomination of U.C. Professor Linda Jewell to receive the Jot D Carpenter Medal. I have known Linda since 1981when I was one of her students at the Harvard GSD. Here mentorship was the highlight of my graduate studies and shaped my direction and career. In addition to being her student I served as her research assistant for two years resulting in two articles published in Landscape Architecture Magazine on metals. Upon graduating, Linda was kind enough to recommend me to the editor and subsequently I researched and wrote ten articles covering a range of materials, techniques, design critiques and teaching methods that were modeled on her ideas about design and construction. These ideas are fundamental to my design/build class at the University of Washington. In many academic programs, materials and construction related courses are relegated to the category of "technical" classes, while design studios are the focus of student and faculty achievement. With passion, deeply ingrained knowledge and innovative methods of teaching, Linda established that the best practice of landscape architecture is based on rigorous thinking and comprehension about materials, building and design with the view that they are interrelated and mutually dependent upon each other. She was at the forefront of transforming construction into a scholarly subject within the landscape architecture academic culture.

Linda has shown outstanding perseverance and dedication as a teacher. Many years ago Linda called me shortly after the terrible fires in the Bay area. I had not talked to her for a while and she cut to the chase quickly letting me know that her house had burned down and she had lost all of her slides. She asked if I could send her a set of what I had to help

rebuild the image bank essential to her teaching. After suffering such a devastating setback, Linda rebounded quickly to reclaim her role as a leader in the profession, resuming her research and command in the classroom.

Linda continues to mentor, write, lecture, serve on juries and advisory boards and is a significant and visionary leader in our profession. Her publications reliably probe new paths. She is a highly sought speaker at conferences and roundtables and her professional projects continue to receive awards. More importantly, remains an accessible and compassionate mentor for her students.

Linda has a rare quality of presence, willingness to share her research ideas with her peers, help students through the transition to professional practice and nurture past and present students. In her modesty, Professor Linda Jewell would never ask for this award, however in my mind there is no one more deserving.

Associate Professor, Daniel Winterbottom Department of landscape Architecture University of Washington

Sincerely,