

Jeffrey Orkin
210 Old West Point Rd.
Starkville, MS 39759
February 1, 2006

American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear ASLA Emerging Professionals Committee,

For the past two years I have been passionately working to transform Mississippi State University's ASLA Student Chapter into an organization that students see as an amazing opportunity rather than another student organization that wants their money. This process has been instrumental in making me an efficient leader capable of organizing and leading diverse groups.

I began my term as President-Elect in August of 2004 and will serve until May of 2006. Over these two years the executive committee has helped to organize successful workshops that have attracted a large number of students, faculty, and professionals. These workshops have included the Mike Lin Graphic Workshop, Sketchup, and both beginner and advanced Photoshop workshops. Most recently I helped Jason Walker organize Design Workshop's Design Week that was hosted at Mississippi State University. This event pulled together over 250 students from different disciplines who worked together to help plan a healthy future for the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The strong network that we have developed between faculty, industry, and students has been the key to the success of these events and the student chapter as a whole. Seeing faculty, professionals, and students working together to expand their mental toolbox has been a wonderful reward for all the hard work.

I am extremely thankful on a daily basis that I have found a profession that I am so passionate about. ASLA has been my means for helping to enhance not only my own passion but more importantly other students and professionals. I have spent many hours helping to improve my local student chapter and develop industry relationships that can be shared throughout all of the ASLA student chapters. I want to develop personal connections through communication with the student chapters that will then allow me to use my skills combined with those of the executive committee to improve student chapters across the United States. I want every chapter to have the resources to achieve success and provide unique opportunities to the students. The student representative position is an ideal way to efficiently develop these connections and also increase the benefit by involving ASLA at a national level with the issues that arise at the student level. It is vital for national ASLA to be aware of the issues that students are facing so that, in the theme of LABASH, they can "*be the change*". Molding the experience that the students have is essential to sculpting the future leaders and members of ASLA.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to the opportunity to serve as the student representative to the ASLA board of trustees.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Orkin

Jeffrey R. Orkin
ASLA President
Student Chapter MSU

Jeffrey R. Orkin · Student ASLA Chapter President

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EDUCATIONAL

Mississippi State University (January 2004 – Graduate May 2007)

Starkville, Mississippi

Landscape Architecture and Landscape Contracting

Hinds Community College (August 2002 – December 2003)

Raymond, Mississippi

Landscape Management Technology

HONORS AND ACTIVITIES

ASLA – President of Student Chapter

ASLA – Student Member

ALCA – Student Member

Sigma Lambda Alpha Honors Society

Phi Kappa Phi Honors Society

Alpha Beta Gamma Honors Society

Agriculture and Life Sciences Scholarship

ALCA Presidents Scholarship

ALCA Glowacki Family Scholarship

National Deans List

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES – ORGANIZATIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITIES

WORKSHOPS

I initiated, researched, and organized these events with the help of the ASLA student chapter executive committee. All of these required me to:

- Develop a professional relationship with the company or instructor
- Arranged location for hosting the workshop
- Determine student, professional, and professor fees
- Organize a registration process and keep track of the money
- Distribute promotional material
- Delegate tasks to executive committee

Mike Lin 2 Day Graphic Workshop- November 2004

We attracted over 100 professionals, professors, and students from all over the United States generating a profit of more than \$2,500 for the student chapter.

Sketchup 1 Day Beginner & Intermediate Workshop – November 2005

We attracted over 60 professionals, professors, and students generating a profit of more than \$1,300 for the student chapter.

Beginner Photoshop Workshops – November 2005-January 2006

These were free workshops that I taught in order to prepare students for the upcoming advanced workshop and share a skills set that has proven beneficial for our profession.

Advanced Photoshop Workshop – February 2006

This workshop is a two day workshop scheduled for February that is expected to attract a diverse crowd of over 100 students, professionals, and professors to generate a sizeable profit for the student chapter.

OTHER EVENTS

ASLA Plot Room – December 2005

The Department of Landscape Architecture plot room was turned over to the ASLA student chapter and needed to be revamped to create a more efficient, convenient, and effective plot room. The vice president and I accomplished this by:

- Determining the cost on plots and copies
- Adjusting the existing pricing to create profit
- Developed detailed instructions for installing the plotters to eliminate the constant need for someone to install plotters on students computers

- Organized the inventory and designed a system to track and manage it
- Established new hours

Design Workshop's Design Week – January 2006

I served as the student chapter liaison to Jason Walker helping him to:

- Obtain sponsors and donations
- Plot and organize material for the charette
- Pick up donated products

Katrina Relief Fund Raiser – September 2005

We raised and donated \$300 in one day for the American Red Cross Katrina Relief Fund.

2006 Fund Raiser

A graduate of the Mississippi State Landscape Architecture program was recently paralyzed in a swimming accident. In order to help with his medical expenses I helped to organize a fund raiser that occurred during Design Week. We raised \$750 by preparing box lunches for 250 people who donated at their will

Sketchup Educational Training Workshops

After the success of the Sketchup workshop that the ASLA student chapter hosted I have maintained a strong relationship with the company and have been working with them to develop a system that will allow me to help other student chapters organize similar workshops.

Landscape Architecture Month Lecture Series

In order to celebrate our field of study I am working with the executive committee to develop a one day lecture series hosting some of the most talented landscape architects in the area to speak about their forte and then collaborate with the other guest speakers to give the students the unique experience of watching a professional design charette and round table discussion.

EMPLOYMENT

Orkin Yard Service

Owner

Jackson, Mississippi

March 1995- present

I developed a portfolio of up to 60 clients while in school then sold the portfolio to an established landscape maintenance company when I transferred to Mississippi State University. This required me to develop a finance & transition plan to implement the sale.

KCS Landscape Management

Intern – Design Studio

Ft. Meade, Maryland

May 2005 – August 2005

Ed Castro Landscape

Intern – Crew Supervisor

Roswell, Georgia

May 2004 – August 2004

PERSONAL INTEREST

Studying design and construction through traveling, reading, listening, photographing, and experiencing successful outdoor spaces

Flying remote controlled airplanes, riding motorcycles, working on cars, playing guitar, listening to music, rock climbing, camping, working in yards, computers, and more

PRIMARY AIMS

To use my leadership skills, organizational experience, and industry connections to develop personal relationships with all of the Student ASLA Chapters that will help them improve their student chapter through increased student involvement and professional development. These connections will allow me to better understand student issues and communicate these to the national ASLA board helping to ensure future ASLA leaders and members.



Mississippi State UNIVERSITY

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February 6, 2005

American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

To The ASLA Board of Trustees:

I am writing this letter in support of Jeffrey R. Orkin's nomination to be Student Representative on the American Society of Landscape Architect's Board of Trustees.

As Head of the Department of Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University, I have known Jeffrey since January of 2004 when he transferred in to the Mississippi State University Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program from Hinds Community College. From his first semester at State, it became obvious that Jeffrey is a born leader. After one semester here, the student body of approximately one hundred and fifty majors elected Jeffrey President Elect of the MSU Student ASLA Chapter.

Since that time, he has completely recharged and reinvigorated the chapter into the largest and most proactive chapter I have seen here in my seventeen years as Department Head.

Jeffrey is a doer. He steps up and volunteers, and more importantly, he gets it done.

In my eleven years on the Board of Trustees (2 yrs. as V.P. Education, as President Elect, President, Past President, and six years as trustee from



Mississippi), I do not recall seeing a student representative as articulate, thoughtful, and as effective in motivating students.

Consequently, I support Mr. Jeffrey Orkin's nomination for Student Representative to the Board of Trustees.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cameron R. J. Man". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line across the middle.

Cameron R. J. Man FCSLA, FASLA