



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

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Accreditation and Education
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Paul Voos, ASLA
Graduate Department Chair & Program Director
Graduate Program in Landscape Architecture
Morgan State University
Montebello Complex, D-103
1700 E. Cold Spring Lane
Baltimore, Maryland 21251

Dear Mr. Voos:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its July 17-18, 2015 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at Morgan State University. This status is subject to review of annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends June 30, 2021. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2021.

In making its decision, LAAB considered the program's self-evaluation report, the visiting team report, the institution's response to the team report, and discussions with team members and program faculty.

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in annual reports) and suggestions for improvement (to be responded to in annual reports). This list was developed by LAAB from the materials reviewed during the meeting.

On behalf of the visiting team, I would like to thank you for the hospitality extended to them by the faculty, staff, and students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Rolley', written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Rolley, FASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: David Wilson, President

**Morgan State University
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
July 17-18, 2015**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. Increase tenured and/or tenured track positions to levels appropriate for a graduate-only program and that reflect standards put forth by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (Standard 1).

Suggestions for Improvements

1. Identify, specifically, how the planned goals and objectives in the strategic plan will be addressed and accomplish (Standard 1).
2. Develop a tracking plan that can be measured and followed to determine the progress and improvements in the newly structured School of Architecture and Planning. There should be evidence of improvement in the Program over the next several years that is evident from having met some of the goals and objectives set forth in the SER (Standard 1).
3. Improve the integration of digital technology throughout the curriculum (Standard 3).
4. Studio instructors as a group should coordinate regularly with the Program Director with regard to the sequence, content, and goals of studio (Standard 3).
5. Evaluate the role of the Program in conducting research appropriate to its graduate-only status. Results of the evaluation should be used to assess continuance or modification of the capstone choices of either a research project or a research (scholarly) thesis (Standard 3).
6. Increase opportunities for student participation in professional events and organizations (Standard 3).
7. Determine cause of low participation in extracurricular activities and enact means and methods to remedy the problem (within one academic year) (Standard 4).
8. Consider a required practicum, internship or other means of achieving this suggestion (Standard 4).
9. Establish consistent means of promoting licensure and its requirements (Standard 4).
10. Implement an analysis tool that reveals steps and a time-line raising the satisfaction metric as quickly as possible (improving these outcomes within 12-24 months would be a worthwhile goal) (Standard 4).
11. The Program should fill positions, engage and assign part time faculty as appropriate, and otherwise establish and maintain faculty assignments that assure stability and proper sequencing of course content, workloads and other responsibilities (Standard 5).
12. Continue to build on current efforts to engage the professional community, alumni and the Maryland and Potomac Chapters of ASLA (Standard 6).