



*Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture*

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Kristopher Pritchard  
Accreditation and Education  
Director

September 13, 2019

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Ron Henderson, FASLA  
Program Director and Professor  
Program in Landscape Architecture  
College of Architecture  
Illinois Institute of Technology  
Chicago, Illinois 60616

Dear Professor Henderson:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its August 2-3, 2019 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at Illinois Institute of Technology. This status is subject to review of an interim report to be submitted by June 1, 2021 and annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

The interim report should provide an update on each Recommendation Affecting Accreditation (RAA) in order to demonstrate compliance, or steps towards compliance, with the respective standard. Programs will be given up to two years to resolve their RAA(s). Upon receipt of the two-year Interim Report, the LAAB will accept that the RAA(s) have been addressed or, if not, the program will be given two more years to resolve the issues. For any RAA(s) that have not been resolved, a second Interim Report will be due to the LAAB on or before four years from the receipt of the Action Letter. If the RAAs are not successfully resolved or, in the case of longer term issues, substantial and verifiable progress has not been made at that time (after four years from the Action Letter) then the program may be moved to provisional status, it may be suspended, or in some cases the program's accreditation may be revoked.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends June 30, 2025. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2025.

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

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in an interim report) and an Interim Reporting template. 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,



Rodney Swink, FASLA, PLA  
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Alan W. Cramb, President

**Illinois Institute of Technology**  
**MLA Program**  
**LAAB Meeting**  
**August 2-3, 2019**

**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Recommendations Affecting Accreditation**

1. Translate the long-range plan – MLA+U Prospectus – into a strategic plan to identify the goals and measures of progress and success to define its implementation. The goals, mission, long range plan, and education objectives all need to be interconnected and part of the same criteria and outcome for the department. These items will then help determine the needs of the department and plan for growth, including the specific contributions of a full complement of three full-time faculty (Standard 1).
2. The program needs to change the current faculty composition to increase stability in program and progressive levels of status (Standard 2).
3. The program must address instability by increasing the number of long-term faculty positions (Standard 5).
4. The facilities have multiple learning resources that are compromised by their failure to be accessible to all students and the school needs to provide ADA compliance and make all program facilities and resources accessible (Standard 7).

**Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board**

**Interim Report**

**Date:**

**Section 1.**

**Name of Institution:**

**Name of Department:**

**Name of Program:**

**Date of Decision Letter:**

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**Section 2.**

**Recommendation Affecting Accreditation:** (Describe verbatim the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation identified in the Decision Letter that is the subject of this Report and attach the Decision Letter. If Decision Letter identified more than one (1) Recommendation Affecting Accreditation, complete an Interim Report for each Recommendation.)

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**Section 3.**

**Action Taken by Program:** (Describe the action taken by the Program to address the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation identified in Section 2 of this Report. Attach any appropriate documentation that supports the action taken by the Program)