



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

Board Members

August 12, 2022

Educators

Lynn Ewanow
LAAB Chair
Kansas State University

Brad Davis, ASLA
Associate Professor and MLA Coordinator
Program in Landscape Architecture
College of Environment + Design

Weimin Li, Ph.D., ASLA
California State Polytechnic University

University of Georgia
Athens, Georgia 30602

Daniel H. Ortega, ASLA
University of Nevada Las Vegas

Practitioners

Erin Degutis, ASLA, RLA
Duke Energy

Dear Professor Davis:

Dale Jaeger, FASLA
WLA Studio

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its July 7-8, 2022, meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the professional MLA degree at University of Georgia. This status is subject to review of a special report regarding Standard 2(C), the Diversity and Inclusion Plan, and Standard 3, MLA degree length, to be submitted on December 1, 2022 and an interim report for the remaining Recommendations to be submitted by June 1, 2024, together with annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Juanita Shearer-Swink, FASLA, PLA
LAAB Chair-Elect

Public Representatives

Gilbert Holmes
University of LaVerne College of Law

The interim report should provide an update, with documentation demonstrating compliance when necessary, on each Recommendation Affecting Accreditation (RAA) in order to demonstrate compliance, or steps towards compliance, with the respective standard. In accordance with LAAB policy, programs have 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. A second Interim Report will be due to the LAAB on or before four years from the receipt of this Accreditation Action Letter. If the RAA(s) 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 this Accreditation 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.

Derrek Niec-Williams
Howard University

Patty Reece
The Volland Store

ASLA Representative

Kona Gray, FASLA
EDSA

CELA Representative

Roxi Thoren., ASLA
LAAB Secretary
Pennsylvania State University

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends June 30, 2028. Accordingly, the MLA program at University of Georgia is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2028.

CLARB Representative

Christine Anderson, ASLA, PLA
Mark Thomas

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

Director

Kristopher Pritchard

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in the interim report via the process laid out above) 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,

Lynn M. Ewanow

Lynn Ewanow
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Jere W. Morehead, President

**University of Georgia
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
July 7-8, 2022**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. The CED, the faculty, and the students shall make the creation and implementation of the college Diversity and Inclusion plan an immediate priority, directing time and resources towards crafting and implementing a plan that all can support (Standard 2).
2. The CED faculty and administration together review and clarify the 2015 college standards for promotion and tenure. In particular, the written standards for promotion to full professor need to match the university expectations (Standard 2).
3. Bring all accelerated MLA degree programs into compliance with the LAAB's Minimum Requirements for Achieving and Maintaining Accredited Status #3 and #4 regarding degree length requirements and related policies for awarding advanced standing, including but not limited to the 1 year, 30 credit MLA option for students with 10 years of prior professional experience. Provide documentation of the policy and process of reviewing candidates for advanced placement and waiving courses for different applicant groups (Standard 3).
4. Develop a plan for ADA compliance for all CED buildings (existing and proposed) to include detailed architectural plans, commitments for funding, schedules for work completion, and start and completion dates. Should "reasonable accommodations" be cited within the context of this plan, provide specific narratives detailing the University's policies and protocols and procedures for the provision of said accommodations, to include specific examples of instances where such accommodations have been made for CED (Standard 7).

Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board

Interim Report

Submitted By:

Submission Date:

Section 1.

Name of Institution:

Name of Department:

Name of Program:

Date of Decision Letter:

Section 2.

Recommendation Affecting Accreditation: (Copy/paste 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.)

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)

Section 4.

Prior Action Taken by Program: (If applicable, attach any prior Interim Report related to the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation described in Section 2 of this Report)