



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

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November 6, 2025

Reissued April 7, 2026

Lorena González Robles

Director

Architecture Department

International School of Design and Architecture

Universidad Ana G. Méndez (UAGM Gurabo Campus)

Gurabo, PR 00778

Dear Professor González Robles,

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB), at its meeting on October 28, 2025, considered the deferred action from the July 31-August 1, 2025 meeting and approved the waiver request and granted accreditation for a period of four (4) years to the course of study leading to the professional BSLA degree at Universidad Ana G. Méndez (UAGM). This status is subject to review of an interim report to be submitted by June 1, 2027, together with annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

The program requested a waiver to Standard 2.D regarding faculty. Based on a review of the initial request dated July 30, 2025 and additional information dated October 3, 2025, including the hiring of a third full-time faculty position, LAAB determined that the program met the conditions of the Board for granting a waiver. Therefore, LAAB voted to approve the waiver of minimum number of full-time faculty, based on the institutional policy constraints of the university and the program's documentation of adequate human resources to meet all relevant Standards. The length of approval for this waiver is aligned with the term of accreditation. The program should work towards compliance with Standard 2.D by the next accreditation visit or, if necessary, apply for a new waiver at that time.

The interim report should provide an update, with supporting documentation, when necessary, on each Recommendation Affecting Accreditation (RAA) from this Final Action Letter 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 review and decide to accept that the RAA(s) have been addressed or, if not, the program will be given two more years to resolve the issues, which will be evaluated by the visiting team at the next accreditation visit. 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 then the program may be moved to provisional status, suspended, or in some cases have its accreditation revoked.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The four-year period of accreditation ends June 30, 2029. Accordingly, the BSLA program at Universidad Ana G. Méndez is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2029.

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. After review of this information, LAAB decided to remove the RAA relative to Standard 2 regarding program administration based on the program's response.

Enclosed is a list of RAA(s) (to be responded to in the interim report via the process laid out above) and an Interim Report template. This list was developed and approved by LAAB after its review of the materials 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 'Weimin Li', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Weimin Li, Ph.D., ASLA
LAAB Chair
Enclosure

cc: Dr. José F. Méndez Méndez, President

Universidad Ana G. Méndez
BSLA Program
LAAB Meeting
October 28, 2025

SUMMARY OF RCOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. Provide all required program disclosure information on the Program's website and consolidate this information as a single document for easy access for prospective students (Standard 1.E.1).
2. Acquire an additional full-time faculty member with a landscape architecture degree to meet the LAAB faculty number requirements (Standard 2.D.2).
3. Incorporate more rigorous standards for student work through the curricular sequence (Standard 3.B.2.3).
4. Increase student exposure and knowledge of the profession in and outside the region (Standard 3.D3).
5. Engage students in the development of competencies related to the profession through activities and experiences that foster technical skills and exposure to the variety of forms of professional practice in landscape architecture(Standard 4.A.1 and C.3).
6. Provide mentoring, time, funding and guidance directed to faculty professional and academic development (Standard 5.A.1, B.1, B.2, and C.1).
7. Ensure consistent communication with alumni and other practitioners to share departmental activities and updates on student and faculty involvement. Highlight the significant professional accomplishments of alumni and benefactors to both the institution and the public (Standard 6.A.1 and A.2).
8. Support the development of opportunities that provide guidance and mentorship to the administration and faculty in areas such as curriculum, professional development, student work quality and rigor, and current trends in the profession (Standard 6.B.2 and B.4).
9. Ensure adjunct faculty have access to office and meeting space (Standard 7.A1 and A2).
10. Facilitate safe storage solutions for students' materials throughout the semester (Standard 7.B3).

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 the 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)