Greetings Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects!

I hope everyone is having a great summer. I look forward to seeing all of you in October at the annual meeting in Los Angeles. Please join us for the Council of Fellows Investiture Dinner on Sunday night and the Fellows business meeting on Monday morning.

Also, please take advantage of the opportunity to participate in Emerging Professional Portfolio Review to be held on the EXPO floor Saturday and Sunday. What a great way for us to give back to the next generation of professionals! Sign-up information is below.

ASLA COUNCIL OF FELLOWS OFFICER ELECTION

In each odd-numbered year we nominate two Fellows for Chair-elect and two Fellows for Secretary, to be elected by a ballot of the full Fellows membership. Our nominating committee included Susan Van Atta, FASLA; Lucy Lawliss, FASLA; and Sadik Artunc, FASLA. They came up with a great slate, and now it is up to you to elect our next leaders!

Please read through the candidates’ biographies below and cast your electronic ballot before Friday, September 15, 2017. Elected candidates will be installed at the COF business meeting in Los Angeles on Monday, October 23, 2017, at 8:45 a.m. in Room 150 of the Convention Center.

CHAIR-ELECT CANDIDATES

Marion Pressley, FASLA, is a devoted professional who has contributed enormously to the designed landscape through her work in landscape architecture and the rehabilitation of public parks and private historical properties. Over the last 40 years, she has continued her strong design skills and commitment to the public landscape through a wide range of projects throughout the eastern U.S. Marion is recognized nationally for her historic preservation work and is one of very few professionals in the nation to achieve national recognition in both historic preservation and contemporary design practice. Marion’s contribution to preserving the Olmsted legacy is particularly noteworthy and includes a substantial body of work devoted to the recovery of the Emerald Necklace Park System — from master planning to the implementation of treatment design. Her portfolio of notable projects includes award-winning park designs, historic landscape preservation planning projects, and the implementation of treatment work on a wide spectrum of landscapes including parks, parkways, historic cemeteries, and private gardens. Community process and the integration of multiple perspectives is also a hallmark of Marion’s design practice. A dedication to professional organizations, non-profits, and education completes Marion’s long list of credentials. Concurrent with her design, preservation, and community service, Marion has continuously helped build the next generation of landscape architects through courses at the Rhode Island School of Design, Harvard Graduate School of Design, the Landscape Institute of the Arnold Arboretum, and the Boston Architectural College.
Sara Katherine (Kay) Williams, FASLA, served as ASLA VP for Education (2013-15) and served as Parliamentarian (2016-present). She was member-at-large for the COF Executive Committee (2009-11) and has served twice on the Fellows Jury. After two terms on the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board, including four years as chair, she was invited to participate on a MLA accreditation team in Germany and also reviewed new U.S. programs for LAAB candidacy. Teaching in the University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture and in the College of Design, Construction and Planning’s interdisciplinary Historic Preservation Program far outweighs her record of private practice. She has been licensed in the state of Florida since 1981. Active in ASLA since she was a student at the University of Georgia (BLA) and The Ohio State University (MLA), Kay was inducted as a Fellow in 2000. A consistent thread has been education and licensure issues, including co-authoring the ASLA’s 1984 UNE Study Guide and 1999 LARE Guide, and chairing the ASLA Preparation Sub-Committee.

SECRETARY CANDIDATES

Jim Burnett, FASLA, founded the Office of James Burnett in 1989 and has dedicated his career to creating meaningful spaces that challenge the conventional boundaries of landscape architecture. Throughout his career, there has been a particularly strong focus on designing landscapes that promote healthy living. Most recently, his efforts have focused on the transformation of American cities through the creation of active public spaces. Jim’s work in this area restores connections between disparate sections of cities, providing open space with a purpose through innovative programming initiatives.

The firm’s contribution to revitalizing communities has been recognized with consecutive ULI Urban Open Space Awards for Myriad Gardens in Oklahoma City, OK (2015), and for Klyde Warren Park in Dallas (2014). Jim designed the gardens at Sunnylands Center and Gardens in Rancho Mirage, CA, a sustainable desert garden that won the ASLA Honor Award in 2012. Other firm awards include the ASLA 2015 Firm Award as well as four ASLA Honor Awards. Jim was recently honored as the recipient of the prestigious 2016 ASLA Design Medal.

Forster Ndubisi, Ph.D., FCELA, FASLA, is a professor and former head of the department of landscape architecture and urban planning at Texas A & M University. He is also a Senior Fellow with the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center. He holds degrees in zoology, landscape architecture, and urban and regional planning. His teaching, research, and practice focus on ecological-oriented design and planning, community planning and design, and sustainable regionalism. He has served as a town planning and landscape architecture consultant to many communities in Canada, U.S.A., Nigeria, and Kenya. Ndubisi has delivered numerous invited lectures worldwide and received numerous research awards. In 2009 and 2010, Design Intelligence ranked him as one of the “25 Most Admired Educators” in America’s best architecture and design schools. He received the CELA Outstanding Administrator Award in 2011 and the Outstanding Educator Award in 2016. He is a past president of the Council of Educator of Landscape Architecture (1998-99) and past vice president for research for the Landscape Architecture Foundation (2008-16).

2017 ASLA ANNUAL MEETING AND EXPO

Our annual meeting is October 18-23 in Los Angeles. ASLA will continue to provide an emeritus registration category that was implemented in 2007 to better serve its retired members, many of whom are Fellows. Emeritus members of ASLA will be able to register for the Annual Meeting for only $390. If they book their hotel room at one of the official meeting hotels when they register, this rate is reduced to $315 until September 15. Please be advised that hotels are going quickly so please book your room soon. This is a wonderful opportunity to visit with longstanding friends and colleagues. Check out the annual meeting website for more details on the 2017 Annual Meeting and EXPO.
2017 CLASS OF FELLOWS

ASLA received an impressive 78 nominations from 22 chapters and the Council of Fellows Executive Committee. The Council of Fellows Jury met March 24 and selected the following 23 distinguished individuals to be inducted into the Council of Fellows this year in Los Angeles. Please visit the Fellows website to learn more about them.

Michael Blier, ASLA
Dana Nunez Brown, ASLA
Nancy Brown, ASLA
Bruce Chamberlain, ASLA
Teresa Chenney, ASLA
Kelly Comras, ASLA
Ned Crankshaw, ASLA
M. Elen Deming, ASLA
Herbert Dreiseitl, International ASLA
Peter Flinker, ASLA
Gina Ford, ASLA
Kona Gray, ASLA
Hui-Li Lee, ASLA
James Lord, ASLA
Kamel Mahadin, ASLA
Christopher Manning, ASLA
Evan Mather, ASLA
Gavin McMillan, International ASLA
Emily O’Mahoney, ASLA
Kevin Robert Perry, ASLA
Robert Richardson, ASLA
Robert Uhlig, ASLA
Dennis Wilkinson, ASLA

As is our tradition, we will induct the newly elected Fellows at the Fellows Investiture Dinner, an elegant ceremony on Sunday, October 22. This is always one of the highlights of the annual meeting and a chance to celebrate the continuing great work of our profession. Please be sure to purchase your tickets in advance and help us honor our class of 2017. COF investiture dinner tickets can be purchased when you register for the annual meeting. If you are interested in purchasing a full table of 10 for the dinner contact Kelli Bland at 202/216-2328. Remember that $20 of each ticket purchase goes to help underwrite the annual Council of Fellows Scholarships. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

In addition, the Council of Fellows Business Meeting on Monday, October 23, is open to all Fellows in attendance at the annual meeting. Please note the meeting will be held in the Convention Center, Room 150, from 8:45 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.. This meeting is timed so that attendees will miss only one education session and those of you receiving ASLA Awards can make it to your dress rehearsal.
Congratulations to this year’s COF Scholarship recipients Casey Frederick, Mississippi State University; Alexis Griffin, University of Oregon; and Phillip Hammond, Texas A&M University. Please visit the scholarship page to learn more about each of them. They will be joining us Monday morning at the business meeting to receive their certificates.

The Fellows currently fund three, $5,000 scholarships a year to support students with financial need and help to provide diversity in the profession. These scholarships also include registration, travel, and hotel accommodations for the annual meeting.

- We need your help to raise our endowment another $45,000 in order to start funding a fourth scholarship each year.
- We need to maintain a balance of $125,000 per $5,000 scholarship.
- We currently have $415,000 in the bank. It is our goal to raise another $45,000 by the end of 2017 through dues assessment and the investiture dinner in order to support a fourth scholarship in 2018.
- You may make a pledge online by clicking here.
- We will also be collecting pledges at the investiture dinner. In 2016, we raised $26,000 in pledges at the investiture dinner, so this goal of $45,000 is well within reach. We need and appreciate your help.
- It is our goal to raise $120,000 every three years and to add one new scholarship every three years.

2017 EMERGING PROFESSIONALS PORTFOLIO REVIEW

Your expertise is needed at the upcoming ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO in Los Angeles. The Emerging Professionals Committee is seeking volunteer reviewers for the 2017 Emerging Professionals Portfolio Review.

Reviews will take place during the Annual Meeting and EXPO on Saturday, October 21 and Sunday, October 22. Review time slots are for 80 minutes. Reviewers will be placed in pairs and provide six, 20-minute reviews to students, recent graduates, and emerging professionals.
Tips and general guidelines on how to conduct a review will be distributed to the reviewer volunteers prior to the Annual Meeting and EXPO.

To participate, please go to Emerging Professionals Portfolio Review and select a time slot.

Thank you in advance for your volunteer service.

**COF TASK FORCE COMMITTEE**

The task force committee formed at last year’s business meeting to activate Fellows on the national and chapter level has identified three areas of focus: growing the profession, public awareness, and the Council as brain trust. The committee is reviewing efforts already underway at ASLA in these areas to see where Fellows can make the most impact. Look for a survey later this month to get your input.

**HELP YOUR CHAPTER PREPARE NOMINATIONS FOR THE NEXT CYCLE!**

As we prepare to celebrate the incoming class of 2017 Fellows, I want to encourage you to participate in your local chapter’s next nomination process to help identify worthy individuals to be recognized and perhaps help prepare and review nominations for potential candidates. The call for 2018 nominations will open in late September. The nomination templates have been revised this year to reflect specific criteria for each category. Be sure to use the updated versions. Chapters are receiving lists of eligible members this summer. Please visit the Council of Fellows website for all the details.

**RECOGNITION OF DECEASED FELLOWS**

It has been our custom to acknowledge all Fellows who have passed away from the time of the last annual meeting, which was October 2016. To help us compile an accurate and complete list, I would be grateful if you would send the names of any Fellows you know who have passed away since that time to Curt Millay at ASLA. We are sorry to report since the time of our last newsletter the death of Edward T. Baker, FASLA; Thomas H. Bonnell, FASLA; David Lose, FASLA; and Philip H. Lewis, Jr., FASLA.

As always, we welcome any comments or questions that you may have regarding the Council of Fellows and hope that you will join us in Los Angeles.

All the best,

Kurt Culbertson, FASLA
Chair
ASLA Council of Fellows