Greetings Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects!

I hope everyone is having a nice summer and staying safe during these unprecedented times. Enjoy reading the following news and activities of the Council, including ideas to improve the student scholarship program and providing input on increasing diversity in the COF jury pool. Although we will not be able to gather this fall in Miami Beach, we plan to hold the investiture dinner and business meeting virtually. Stay tuned for more details as we know them.

**2020 Council of Fellows**

ASLA has elevated nineteen members as Fellows for their exceptional contributions to the landscape architecture profession and society at large. The Fellows-elect will be elevated during a virtual special investiture ceremony this fall. The date of the event is still to be determined.

Haley Blakeman, ASLA  
E.J. Bolduc III, ASLA  
Kofi Boone, ASLA  
David M. Cutter, ASLA  
Tamás Deák, ASLA  
Michael Grove, ASLA  
Robert N. Hartnett, ASLA  
Julie Hensley, ASLA  
Colie Hough-Beck, ASLA  
Laura L. Knott, ASLA  
Matthew D. Langston, ASLA  
Joy Lyndes, ASLA  
Katharine V. Martin, ASLA  
Lauren Solano, ASLA  
Chip Sullivan, ASLA  
Nancy A. Takahashi, ASLA  
John S. Troy, ASLA  
Dawn Uchiyama, ASLA  
Brenda Williams, ASLA

**2020 Council of Fellows Scholarship Recipients**

Congratulations to this year’s COF scholarship recipients David Curry, Student ASLA, North Carolina A&T State University; Courtney Helmlinger, Student ASLA, Ball State University; Aus Perez, Student ASLA, University of Nebraska–Lincoln; and Holley Stringham, Student ASLA, Utah State University. Each student receives $5,000 toward tuition and expenses and typically receives complimentary travel and registration to the annual conference.

**The Council of Fellows Scholarship Program**

The Council of Fellows scholarship program was founded in 2004 to:  
1. aid outstanding students who would not otherwise have an opportunity to continue a professional degree program due to unmet financial need;  
2. increase the interest and participation of economically disadvantaged and under-represented populations in the study of landscape architecture; and  
3. enrich the profession of landscape architecture through a more diverse population.

Since the scholarship program’s inception, the Council has awarded thirty-six students from over twenty programs across the country. The students have had the opportunity to attend the annual conference, where they have networked
with members and attended education sessions and special events such as the award ceremonies and investiture dinner. regularly attend the Fellows business meeting where they are recognized and receive their certificates.

At the last Fellows business meeting in San Diego there was much discussion about how to improve the scholarship program and make it a more valuable tool for aiding students in need. The Council passed a fundraising goal of $1 million dollars for the scholarship fund with no time limit. In addition, a task force was formed to explore possibilities for increasing the scholarship amounts, offering multi-year scholarships, providing emergency funding for students, and several other issues. During its call last month, the task force decided to focus on offering several scholarships with two tiers of funding. For 2021, the Council will offer **three $5,000 scholarships and one $10,000 scholarship**. As funds allow, more scholarships will be offered. The scholarship investments report for 2018 and 2019 with a YTD estimate for 2020 is below. Please note, the contribution line is a combination of pledge payments, an investiture dinner ticket assessment, and contributions from members upon their yearly dues renewal.

![ASLA Council of Fellows Scholarships Investment Report](image)

Your financial support of the scholarship program is essential to meet our goal and ensure we provide the next generation with the funds they need to continue their education. Please [pledge now](#) to help us meet our target. Pledges may be fulfilled over a three-year period.

We Need Mentors!

In April, the Board of Trustees granted free ASLA membership to all students. This strategic change in student membership dues brought over 2,000 new student members into our society, and we now have 3,354 student members! We are presented with an incredible and unique opportunity to mentor them and to even consider possibly expanding this program to include emerging professionals. If we can pair each new student member with a mentor around the opening of fall classes, we will be positioned to take maximum advantage of this opportunity. Please [sign up](#) by August 31 to serve as a mentor or during the fall enrollment cycle. Once you make contact with your assigned mentee please focus on the following:

- stresses due to COVID-19 and the impact on their education
- how to approach the job market for internships and jobs
- why you are attending and encourage them to attend the annual conference on landscape architecture (virtual)
- how to maximize their participation and learning

Many members who already volunteered in the mentorship program report the fun they are having working with

![2019 ASLA Emerging Professionals Reception at the Conference on Landscape Architecture/EPNAC](image)
students. Let’s not lose this unique opportunity to demonstrate value in joining ASLA. We need you—specifically you... to take full advantage of this program. Together, we can be more. Please [signup](#) to be a mentor by August 31 so students can start the new year with your guidance!

**Interested in serving on the Council of Fellows Jury?**

As we continue to strive for diversity in all that we do at ASLA, the Council is conducting a [survey](#) to gather a larger pool of prospective jurors, please reply to the survey by August 31. We seek diversity in geography, practice type, gender, and racial and ethnic background. Jurors serve three-year staggered terms, so each year a few new juror seats need to be filled. If you are interested in serving as a juror or want to recommend someone else to be a juror, please fill out the survey. Please note, COF jurors must be current active Fellows. Filling out the survey does not guarantee a seat on the jury.

**Help your chapter identify candidates and prepare nominations for the next cycle!**

As we prepare to celebrate the incoming class of 2020 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 2021 nominations will open in late September. The nomination templates have been revised 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 2019. 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 the last meeting the death of Don C. Richardson, FASLA; Philip E. Flores, FASLA; Lynn Miller, FASLA, Richard Bell, FASLA; Joseph Yamada, FASLA; Mark Francis, FASLA; and Robert Cardoza, FASLA.

As always, we welcome any comments or questions that you may have regarding the Council of Fellows.

All the best,

Marion Pressley, FASLA
Chair ASLA
Council of Fellows