



Stephanie Rolley, FASLA, FCELA

Professor and Department Head Landscape Architecture
Regional and Community Planning at Kansas State University

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JOT D. CARPENTER TEACHING MEDAL

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January 23, 2020

Jot D. Carpenter Medal Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards
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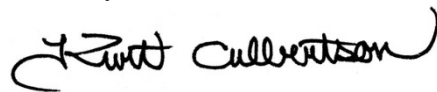
Dear Sir or Madam,

Over a decade ago, I had the pleasure of serving on an LAAB accreditation visit chaired by Stephanie Rolley. It was a particularly difficult assignment - a program with a number of challenges. I was astonished by Stephanie's ability to navigate a delicate situation with grace, skill, and diplomacy, yet at the same time with firmness. Because of Stephanie's efforts, the administration, faculty, and students received our message in a clear yet constructive way. This was true leadership!

Since that time, I have lectured at Kansas State on a number of occasions and of leading a Design Week session, a one week vertical studio involving both landscape architecture and planning students. Through these experiences I have met many of the Kansas State landscape architecture faculty and seen firsthand the impact of her leadership. I have hired many of her students. Like Stephanie, they are thoughtful, inquisitive, well rounded and driven – qualities that radiate throughout the program. I knew Jot Carpenter and am certain that Stephanie is precisely the kind of person, he would want to honor for a lifetime of teaching. Her energy and the breadth of her involvement in the professional is remarkable.

For her sustained contribution to landscape architectural education of the highest quality, I heartily nominate Stephanie Rolley for the ASLA Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal.

Sincerely,



Chairman/CEO







2019

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February 7, 2020

Jot D. Carpenter Medal Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards
American Society of Landscape Architecture
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

RE: Stephanie Rolley, Immediate Past President LAF

Dear Selection Committee:

I am honored and delighted to recommend Stephanie Rolley for the ASLA Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal in recognition of her sustained and significant contribution to landscape architecture education. I have known Stephanie best through her extraordinary leadership as President of the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF). During this time she has been both a strategic critical thinker and effective advocate for students, faculty, the landscape architecture education system, and the profession. In her 6 years of service for LAF, Stephanie has left indelible marks on LAF's research, scholarship, and leadership programs and events which are transforming education and practice and cultivating the next generation of leaders. In addition, she has an incredible work ethic, keen sense of humor, and demonstrated track record of success that I'm sure makes her students proud to become a landscape architect.

Let me give you just a few examples:

"Stephanie, the LAF Task Force for the 2016 Summit on Landscape Architecture and the Future would like you to lead a panel with all the landscape architecture capacity organizations including ASLA, CELA, and LAF to see what each organization is doing about the defining issues mentioned by all the speakers on the previous day and facilitate a conversation about what we can and need to do all together to make a difference. Will you do it?" "Sure, no problem." And she did, effectively and diplomatically navigating a particularly challenging conversation about what organizations were doing about climate change that went on to influence LAF's climate change strategies and the call to action in the New Landscape Declaration, which inspired students and professionals alike.

"Stephanie, the staff would like you to lead the 33 person board in a 2 hour discussion agenda item about the book "Future of the Professions" by Richard and Daniel Susskind and facilitate them in developing short- and long-term strategies as a result for the LAF strategic plan. Will you do it?" "Sure. No problem." And she did. She developed a discussion guide and organized the board into small groups and led 1-2 conference calls with each team before the meeting so we would get to the strategic discussions in person at the meeting. These discussions were as you can imagine far-reaching and her academic

experience and perspective was invaluable in facilitating a conversation to achieve strategic outcomes that were inclusive and holistic of education for the profession.

"Stephanie, the Nominating Committee would like you to be next President-Elect of LAF. They want you because in particular we need your help leading the development and implementation of the next 5 year strategic plan, managing LAF's growth, and developing and implementing the concept for the next Summit. Will you do it?" Pause. "Let me understand more about it". So I tell her more about the roles and responsibilities, LAF's priorities, and why she has what LAF needs now. "Sure. I am humbled and honored."

Perhaps the most notable contribution Stephanie has made to LAF is the un-glamorous heavy-lifting work she has done as President. She is effectively managing a challenging transition and growth period for LAF, both strategically and operationally. LAF is achieving its priorities under Stephanie's leadership.

It is a pleasure to work with Stephanie. She is always prepared, accessible, collaborative, ambitious, energetic, and enthusiastic. She is a straight-forward and direct communicator who doesn't shy away from difficult conversations necessary to make progress. Though I do not have a working knowledge of her work at Kansas State University, I can only imagine with these skills her influence and success within her department as well as higher administrative positions.

Finally, I'd like to acknowledge that it is rare to have an educator be the President of LAF. This is a real testimony to who Stephanie is and how she embodies the ideals and criteria for the Jot D. Carpenter Medal. I therefore very much appreciate the Selection Committee's kind consideration in support of Stephanie's nomination and look forward to hearing the outcome of your decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barbara", with a stylized, flowing script.

Barbara Deutsch, FASLA
CEO



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

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January 22, 2020

Dear ASLA Executive Committee,

I am honored to write this letter of endorsement for Professor Stephanie Rolley who is being nominated for the 2020 ASLA Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal Award. I met Stephanie several years ago through The Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) annual conference. More recently, as CELA President, I have had the opportunity to communicate and collaborate with her during her role as the Landscape Architecture Foundation President.

Professor Rolley's commitment to education is exemplified through her service and recognition of excellence in administration, critical to a career in higher education. She has served in leadership positions with ASLA's Council on Education, the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board, and the Landscape Architecture Foundation and has received CELA's Outstanding Administrator Award. Her colleagues also nominated and inducted her to the CELA Fellows, where she currently serves as Incoming Chair. In addition to these prestigious positions and recognitions by organizations and her colleagues, she was named one of the Most Admired Educators by *Design Intelligence* for three consecutive years, inducted as an ASLA Fellow, and has received the K-state Presidential Award for Outstanding Department Heads. Collectively her service and recognition demonstrate a strong connection between the landscape architecture profession and education, as well as dedication to excellence ranging from her home institution to leading national organizations.

I fully endorse Professor Stephanie Rolley's nomination for the 2020 ASLA Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal Award as a way to recognize her indelible mark on landscape architecture education.

Sincerely,

Ashley Steffens, ASLA
Associate Professor, College of Environment + Design
President, Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture



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1 July 2019

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Re: Stephanie Rolley, PLA, FASLA, FCELA, AICP

It with great enthusiasm that I endorse Stephanie Rolley, Head of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional & Community Planning for the Jot D. Carpenter Medal. It is my understanding the Jot. D. Carpenter Medal is awarded to landscape architecture faculty members who have made sustained, significant contributions to a landscape architecture program and advocated for ASLA and the landscape architecture profession to students. As such, I would hold Stephanie up as a most worthy recipient on all fronts. In her ten years as head of the department, Stephanie has simultaneously leveraged her long-standing excellence as a teacher of students into a deeply effective advocate of her department, an unparalleled mentor of her faculty, and a national champion of the profession and of landscape architecture in academia and in practice.

In her time as department head, Stephanie has stewarded the department through two highly successful LAAB accreditation visits, particularly significant as the program is the first non-baccalaureate professional Master of Landscape Architecture program in the United States. A very significant contributor to the laudatory accreditation reviews lies in transforming the expectations of the 5th year master thesis project in line with the metrics of the profession as well as those of the Graduate School at K-State. Additionally, Stephanie has shepherded many innovative learning initiatives aimed at increasing the efficacy of our graduates, including 'vertically integrated' studios comprised of students from each year level, 2nd through 5th, and the use of 'Tech modules' aimed at increasing students' abilities in digital research and production. She has also transformed some of the traditions of the department, such as Design Week (now Design Days) to better align with the pedagogical objectives of the program while also opening the event up to students and faculty from the other disciplines within our college and across campus. Design Days has transformed into a highly visible 'quick strike' charrette study focused on our campus and Manhattan communities.

The cumulative effect of her leadership efforts contributes significantly to the consistently high national rankings in Graduate Program in Landscape Architecture in an annual survey of professionals conducted by DesignIntelligence®. While rankings are significant, another example of student achievement points to the national prominence of the programs in her department and the potency of collaboration between her department's constituent disciplines. In 2013, a team of students comprised of three K-State LARCP students, one architecture student from KU and a real estate development student from UMKC placed first out of 171 teams in the Urban Land Institute Gerald D. Hines Student Urban Design Competition. The team, led by the students from both disciplines in Stephanie's department, planning and landscape architecture, bested finalists from the most prestigious programs in the country. Since then, Hines Competition Teams with APDesign Landscape Architecture students have pulled in two additional honorable mentions.

While still engaged in teaching both lower and upper level graduate students, Stephanie is truly distinguished as a 'teacher of teachers.' Her mentorship of faculty has resulted in countless national, regional and university awards garnered by her faculty, reflecting the quality of her mentorship, as well as her efforts in leading and aligning the faculty to carefully craft the curriculum coursework so as to allow her faculty to deploy and build on their expertise.

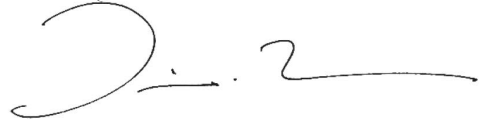
Evidence of the profound impact Stephanie has had in the department includes a significant surge in research activities by her faculty. This includes the first NSF grant awarded within the college in decades, the first Kansas NSF EPSCoR First Award application from APDesign (which is very likely the first such pursuit by a landscape architecture faculty member nation-wide), and numerous collaborations of her landscape architecture and planning faculty on grants. While the weight of funded research expenditures in her department, and the rest of our college, may not seem significant to those in the 'hard' sciences, these efforts have developed significant outlets for funded faculty-led student-engaged research opportunities. Her support of the faculty and leveraging of departmental resources has resulted in 2 Big XII Fellowships, 12 USRG funded proposals, 10 FDA funded proposals, 2 Landscape Architecture Foundation Fellowships, and LAF Grant, and consistent participation of all her faculty in conference presentation, publishing or grant-seeking. Through her leadership and strategic hires, Stephanie has been able to increase our research presence while deftly adhering to, in fact eclipsing the standards of accreditation. She has not sacrificed the preparation of the students for the profession. Rather, her faculty has augmented and expanded the capacity of the students through the alignment of research with the imperatives of practice. This is a model for the rest of APDesign as we seek to structure our research endeavors for the future.

For all of these reasons, Stephanie was awarded the Kansas State University Presidential Award for Outstanding Department Head in 2014, the Outstanding Service Award by the American Society of Landscape Architects in 2015, the Outstanding Administrator Award by the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture in 2016 and has twice been named among the nation's 25 Most Admired Educators by DesignIntelligence®.

Stephanie has shown not only an aptitude towards leadership, but sincere attention to the day-to-day management skills necessary to establish a trajectory of great leadership. She continues her involvement in the community and the profession even as she takes on the challenges inherent in leading the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional & Community Planning. She serves on the Landscape Architecture Foundation Board of Directors, currently as President, chaired both the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Stem Task Force and Strategic Planning Curricular Committees, served on the Landscape Architecture Magazine Editorial Board and served as the current chair of the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board. Her engagement in these organizations is rooted in her deep-seated belief in the transformative capacity of landscape architecture and the enriching path of landscape education.

For all of these reasons and many more I am confident the American Society of Landscape Architects will be honored to count Stephanie Rolley among the long list of distinguished Jot D. Carpenter Medalists.

Sincerely,



Tim de Noble, FAIA
Professor and Dean





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January 30, 2020

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636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

RE: Stephanie Rolley, PLA, FASLA, FCELA, AICP

Dear ASLA Executive Committee Members,

It is truly my pleasure to wholeheartedly endorse Professor Stephanie Rolley for the 2020 ASLA Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Metal Award for her long-term and distinguished contribution to landscape architecture education.

Stephanie demonstrates a level of devotion to teaching that is unrivaled, and a commitment that is inspiring. I met her 5 years ago while serving together on the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB). As Board Chair she exhibited unique skills for measured and articulate leadership, and she led the Board successfully through specific challenges. Her leadership that year exemplified her keen ability to understand problems and navigate with clarity to successful outcomes. We have stayed connected through my term on LAAB where she continues to assist us as a Board member emeritus, notably educating Program Chairs about the LAAB rules and procedures. Through our joint work on the President's Council it's apparent that her dedication to excellence remains constant, and we benefit from her ability to guide with a deft hand, resulting in constructive collaborative outcomes for all partners.

During Stephanie's distinguished career she has earned many honors for professional leadership, teaching, community engagement and scholarship; all driven by her skills at problem-solving while working across broad ranges of people and ideas. She has been named one of the Most Admired Educators by *DesignIntelligence* three consecutive years, received the national ASLA Outstanding Service Award in 2015 and was honored with the K-State Presidential Award for Outstanding Department Head.

For her excellence and dedication to landscape architecture education, skilled leadership and ability to mentor future leaders of our profession I confidently endorse Stephanie Rolley to be acknowledged with the distinction of the Jot D Carpenter Medal.

Sincerely,

Joy Lyndes, ASLA, PLA
Founding Principal, Coastal Sage Landscape Architecture
Chair, Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board

Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board
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