

February 1, 2023

**RE: HONORARY MEMBERSHIP NOMINATION**

**Nominee:** Kristopher Pritchard, Director of Accreditation and Education, ASLA

**Nominator:** Ebru Ozer, Associate Professor, Florida International University

Dear Executive Committee Members and Board of Trustees,

It is my privilege to nominate Kristopher Pritchard for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). With nearly a decade of remarkable service to ASLA, Kris has contributed to the ideals and principles of the ASLA and played a very important role in its success, particularly in the areas of education and accreditation.

Kris is the Director of Accreditation and Education at ASLA, serving as the main staff for the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB), the official accrediting body for first professional degree programs in landscape architecture in the United States. Prior to this role, he served as Manager of Accreditation and Education. At the ASLA, he works closely with the LAAB's chair and members, and provides counsel and direction on its policies and priorities. He also regularly makes presentations on LAAB's behalf to the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors. Kris also leads the ASLA's Student Support and Engagement Committee and develops initiatives to better connect students and faculty to ASLA. Lastly, Kris oversees the planning efforts for the student-led annual LABash conference and supports volunteer students behind the scenes.

Kris is a key connector between our landscape architecture degree programs and the LAAB. He works closely with the faculty, chairs, and directors, helping them manage their accreditation processes. As a former high school Mathematics teacher, he genuinely understands the day-to-day challenges of educators and educational institutions, and tirelessly searches for methods to improve the communications between the institutions and the LAAB. By capitalizing on his education and expertise in higher education administration, Kris has helped LAAB to develop a robust accreditation training program. His training sessions have significantly helped to educate both the accredited institution representatives and accrediting team members on better understanding accreditation expectations, which has greatly eased the stress and anxiety on program faculty and administrators, paving the way for successful accreditations.

Kris's work also bridges academia and practice. With Kris's contributions, the LAAB has improved and advanced its accreditation standards, ensuring they reflect the expectations of contemporary landscape architecture practice. His leadership on programmatic accreditation has helped ensure that students in accredited programs are getting a quality education with the skills required to enter the landscape architecture profession fully equipped to succeed.

Kris also provides annual and 5-year reports to academic administrators to communicate the state



of landscape architecture education in all accredited US institutions. His reports have included topics like diversity, equity, and inclusion, and panel discussions on improving student recruitment.

The information he provides helps program administrators to evaluate and compare their own standings, pinpoint current trends, and collaborate on best practices.

Along with his contributions to the LAAB and accreditation, Kris also leads the ASLA's Student Support and Engagement Committee and helps with developing initiatives to better connect the students and faculty to the ASLA. With the recent free student membership initiative, now almost one quarter of ASLA's members are students. Thanks to his leadership, the ASLA now offers webinars to welcome students at the beginning of each academic year and ease their transition to associate membership at the conclusion of their educational journeys.

Kris also now oversees the planning efforts for the student-led annual LABash conference. After of the newly formed partnership between Land8 and ASLA, Kris was appointed to assist the LABash student team with all aspects of conference planning. His coordination and leadership skills helped make the recent LABash Conference in Baton Rouge a great success.

In summary, Kris has made significant contributions to the ASLA through his work on education and accreditation. His dedication to the ASLA is unwavering. He has facilitated the improvement and advancement of the accreditation standards to ensure they reflect the expectations of contemporary practice. He has transformed the accreditation experience for many faculty and administrators by increasing the transparency and by providing necessary education to both accrediting team members and program representatives. He has helped improve the planning of the LABash Conference to make it a meeting point for students, educators, professionals, and vendors.

Kris has generously dedicated the last decade of his career to the ASLA. He richly deserves the opportunity to be an honorary member of our ASLA.

Truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ebru Özer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Ebru Özer, ASLA, CELA**

CARTA Director of Strategic Planning + Initiatives

Associate Professor, Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design

Florida International University

<http://carta.fiu.edu/landscape/>

Principal, LandscapeDE, LLC.

[www.landscapeDE.com](http://www.landscapeDE.com)

---

February 21, 2023

Honorary Membership Nominations  
c/o Honors and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Members of the ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

I have the pleasure of submitting this letter of recommendation for Kristopher (Kris) D. Pritchard in support of consideration for Honorary Member, ASLA.

The capability and impact that Kris Prichard demonstrates as ASLA Accreditation and Education Director is unparalleled. Because of Kris' leadership and expertise, the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) continues to make significant advancements. His knowledge of, experience with, and passion for accreditation has allowed us to create a better system for program administrators and members of the LAAB as well as practitioners on the Roster of Visiting Evaluators (ROVE). All of which is focused on achieving educational excellence as a predicate to professional excellence and preparing students to succeed in a changing world.

Kris's first LAAB meeting in 2015, marked the beginning of major improvements in the accreditation process. While prior accreditation visits and associated activities were conducted in a professional and efficient manner, the structure and updated process which he implemented were transformational. The more detailed, frequent and effective training which he facilitated resulted in ROVE members being far better equipped to carry out their responsibilities, and our customers, the programs and students, continue to be better served.

Kris' diligence at facilitating ongoing communication between the LAAB, the client schools/programs and peer organizations has expanded LAAB's impact and substantially broadened its partnerships and influence. The LAAB includes representatives from the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) and ASLA. Kris' ongoing collaboration with the staff and leadership of these organizations has strengthened LAAB's standing as an autonomous organization, while reinforcing our shared values and interests. This is also the case with the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) and the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA).

His knowledge and networking with the accrediting bodies - Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA), and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA),

---

which accredits LAAB, enhances our ability to function as the accrediting organization for landscape architecture programs within educational institutions chartered in the United States and its territories. His familiarity with peer accrediting agencies including the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) and the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), as well as non-design related accrediting bodies, serves to enhance LAAB's effectiveness and parity with other accreditors.

Furthermore, Kris's presence, visibility and professionalism have become the face and personality projected by LAAB in those CELA/CLARB/ASLA/LAF/CSLA/ASPA/CHEA engagements. This is a significant responsibility on behalf of LAAB and the profession of landscape architecture, one in which his stature and professional presence continues to rise.

Finally, Kris never forgets that LAAB members are volunteers. He treats us well, thanks us in ways large and small, and works diligently to ensure that our efforts are successful and simultaneously enjoyable.

I hope that Kristopher Pritchard receives your favorable consideration for Honorary Member of ASLA. His work through LAAB and ASLA on behalf of our profession represents excellence that is of national significance and influence.

Sincerely,

*Juanita Shearer-Swink*

Juanita D. Shearer-Swink, PLA, FASLA  
Chair, Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board  
Chair, ASLA Council of Fellows  
Member, North Carolina Freedom Park Board of Directors

January 24, 2023

Honorary Membership Nominations  
c/o Honors and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

I am writing with enthusiastic endorsement of Kristopher Pritchard for honorary membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). This honor would recognize the national scope of Kris's positive influence on the profession of landscape architecture through his outstanding administration of the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board and ASLA education programs.

Kris joined the ASLA as the Accreditation and Education Programs Manager for the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) in 2014. His employment coincided with my appointment as Chair of the LAAB and we worked closely with one another to establish systems, develop a proactive board, and improve the efficacy of the Board. I was impressed by Kris's ability to embark on a mission of learning about landscape architecture while immediately putting to use his expertise in accreditation best practices. He started strong and has made positive improvements each year since, in the process becoming a tremendous advocate for landscape architecture students, faculty, and professionals.

I have witnessed the positive impact of Kris testifying to the Council for Higher Education Accreditation on LAAB's behalf; developing open and consultive relationships with academic programs; and, supporting academic programs and professionals during the pandemic. Whether helping one person with an accreditation question or representing LAAB and ASLA in public forums, Kris looks for solutions that advance the interests of all and especially those of the profession. The impact of his work can be seen in many tangible outcomes including:

- Training sessions for faculty and site visitors building collective understanding of accreditation expectations;
- Annual and 5-year reports clearly communicating the state of landscape architecture academic programs;
- Continual improvement and advancement of LAAB Standards reflecting the expectations of contemporary practice; and
- Legions of students, faculty and professionals who have benefited from ASLA education programs.

Each of these strengthen the profession and facilitate our growth and development. Thank you for the opportunity to support this nomination for honorary membership in ASLA. Kristopher Pritchard deserves the honor of carrying out his work as a member of the Society he serves and advances so well.

Sincerely,



Stephanie A. Rolley  
FASLA, FCELA, AICP  
Professor and Head Emeritus  
2020 ASLA Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal Recipient

1251 Seville Road | Santa Fe, NM 87505  
785-341-3990 | srolley@ksu.edu



**West Ashland Farm**  
3881 South 20<sup>th</sup> St.  
Manhattan, KS 66502

February 4, 2023

Honorary Membership-Letter of Support

Dear Members of the ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees,

I am delighted to write a letter in support of Kristopher Pritchard's nomination to become an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Kristopher and I have worked closely together on the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) since 2017. As the LAAB Secretary (2 years), Chair-Elect and Chair, I served on the LAAB leadership team and directly experienced Kris's growth and development as a transformative leader. From my direct observation, Kris's contributions to the board and to our profession have had a measurable impact over the past six years, particularly regarding advancing the quality of education in professional programs.

Kris is an outstanding and helpful colleague.

Many members of the board transition from being a site visit team member to a board member. One might think it would be an easy "next step" to go from being on a visiting team to being on the board, but it is sobering because you have moved away from evaluating one program to evaluating many programs as well as advocating and advancing the profession at the national level. As I was making this transition, Kris was providing encouragement and bringing other board members into the process of helping the newcomer. Looking back to 2017, Kris was transmitting the larger culture of the LAAB and building ownership. This is brilliant, and essential, if you are leading a working board!

During the past six years, Kris and the board have been focused on how to best refine our mission and purpose considering societal/global dynamics, how to best educate future landscape architects and to strengthen our presence through strategic collaboration with our sister organizations. To initiate this undertaking, you need a leader, like Kris, who is open to new thinking and how change can lead to powerful outcomes. I believe Kris, through his skill at building positive and inclusive relationships, has positioned the board to be evermore capable of supporting our programs and our profession in a dynamic world. The CLARB+LAAB International Equivalency Work Group was just established in 2022. This group is working together to determine if we can/should develop a framework for enabling/facilitating access to practice for internationally educated landscape architects. This is an example of Kris, along with other leaders and board members engaging in a process of examining our collective tolerance for risk as we seek innovative and strategic solutions.

Another example of managing risk while innovating and adapting took place as we were grappling with the impact of the pandemic on site visits. Typically, each semester, we send ten site visit teams of three to four people to different programs to complete the site visit portion of the accreditation process. We were partially through the spring semester visit schedule when we had to pivot. Kris, along with the



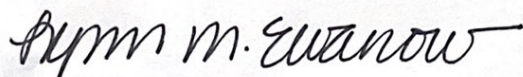
board chair, quickly developed a solution to this unprecedented challenge, communicated with the board and programs then moved onto establishing a committee to examine the reliability of and efficacy of doing virtual site visits. Long story short, LAAB went through this process in approximately six months. Along with leading and supporting this effort, Kris's belief in innovation to make positive change helped LAAB to serve our programs during a very challenging period for which there was no precedent.

I love working with Kris because he thinks a lot about how to accomplish our mission and the entire time he is listening, carefully, to a very broad and diverse group of people. While I was serving as Chair, we met weekly. The first part of our agenda was focused on current or rapidly approaching issues. We would consider who we needed to bring together to best address the issue/concern. Kris is committed to transparency and inclusion while also being respectful of everyone's time. Usually during the second half of the agenda we focused on topics such as building board capacity and diversity, educating volunteers, program leaders, professionals, faculty and students about our standards and procedures, strategic planning and improving our communications.

Kris's passion and commitment to the profession is deep and real. Kris has told me he thought he might want to become a landscape architect. While I have not had the opportunity to talk to Kris, recently, about this idea, just knowing he would consider changing his profession reflects Kris's interest in working at the intersection of different disciplines and optimizing the outcomes for others. For all these reasons, and many more it is a true honor and pleasure to support Kris's candidacy for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects. This honor would recognize Kris's many contributions to the profession through his leadership of LAAB, his love of people and commitment to making the world a better place for all.

Please contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



**Lynn M. Ewanow**

Former Chair and member, Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board

Associate Dean and Associate Professor, *Emerita*

College of Architecture, Planning & Design

Kansas State University

(785) 556-0237



**Kristopher D. Pritchard**  
Director of Accreditation and Education  
636 I St. NW  
Washington, DC 20001  
202.216.2359 | [kpritchard@asla.org](mailto:kpritchard@asla.org)  
[www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org)