



**Sadik Artunç, PLA, FASLA, FCELA**

Professor and Department Head  
Department of Landscape Architecture  
Mississippi State University

Landscape Architecture Facility  
845-3 Stone Boulevard  
Mississippi State, MS 39762-9725 662.325.7894  
sa305@msstate.edu

**Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal**



**ASLA**  
MISSISSIPPI

P.O. Box 3085  
Madison, MS 39130

**Executive Committee:**

Matthew Copp, Trustee  
Mark Levy, President  
Rob Anders, V.P./President Elect  
Brantley Snipes, Treasurer  
Jason Walker, Secretary  
Matthew Copp, Past President

**At Large Members:**

Caitlin Buckner  
Brad Jones

---

February 2, 2023

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

RE: Nomination of Sadik C. Artunç, PLA, FASLA, FCELA for the Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal

Dear ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

On behalf of the ASLA Mississippi chapter, it is with great honor and privilege to nominate Professor Sadik C. Artunç for the 2023 Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. Over his 40-plus years as a landscape architecture educator at Louisiana State University (1981-2007) and Mississippi State University (2007-present), Professor Artunç has mentored, taught, and inspired generations of landscape architecture students. The following expresses Professor Artunç's influence on the landscape architecture profession through his teaching, leadership, and advocacy.

Sadik is a native of Turkey and a naturalized United States citizen. He earned a B.S. and M.S. in forestry and forest engineering from the University of Istanbul and received a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Michigan. Professor Artunç is a licensed landscape architect in the United States and a registered forester and forest engineer in Turkey. As a landscape architecture educator, Sadik has committed his academic career to fostering students' capacity to realize their potential. His teaching philosophy focuses on students developing comprehensive critical-thinking abilities to resolve design and environmental issues.

Sadik has taught a range of landscape architecture courses including design studios, professional practice, and construction classes. Over his academic career, teaching recognition and awards have consistently marked his time as a landscape architecture educator. In the 1980's, LSU's School of Landscape Architecture awarded him the Outstanding Teacher of the Academic Year twice, and he received the same recognition four times in the 1990's. In 1999 and 2002 he received the LSU Distinguished Faculty Award. In 2019, Sadik earned recognition as the Scholar of the Year from the Turkish Society of Landscape Architects and LSU named him as a Legacy Professor in the Dr. Robert S. Reich School of Landscape Architecture.

Sadik's influence as a landscape architecture educator extends beyond the traditional university studio through his scholarship endeavors. Sadik's publications and presentations (150+) address cultural heritage, environmental stewardship, service-learning, design, and planning issues that further the discipline's understanding of the role and relationships between landscape architecture and the built environment. Furthermore, his efforts developing study manuals and

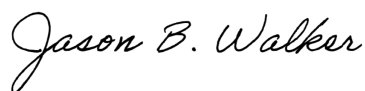
supplemental course texts that better prepare pre-professionals to pass the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination (LARE) is a noteworthy contribution to the profession. Along with his award-worthy teaching and scholarship, Sadik's leadership and advocacy for the profession is significant.

Sadik's memberships in ASLA, IFLA, CELA, ECLAS, and LAAB goes well beyond being an active member of these organizations to demonstrating leadership and professional advocacy. The ASLA Council of Fellows inducted Sadik in 2000 in the Knowledge category. Sadik served as the Louisiana Chapter ASLA President-Elect, President, and Past President from 1988-1991 and as chapter Trustee (1996-2001). From 2002-2004, he served as the Vice-President of Membership for ASLA (national), and he continues to serve ASLA on various national and chapter committees. From 2020-2022, Sadik served as President-Elect, President, and Past President of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture. In 2022 he received the President's award for his service to the organization. At the 2023 CELA conference, the CELA Academy of Fellows will induct Sadik as a Fellow. This distinction recognizes and honors outstanding landscape architecture educators and is the highest achievement within CELA.

Sadik's leadership and advocacy in various landscape architecture organizations reveals his willingness to serve, promote, and advance the profession. Being Sadik's colleague since his arrival at Mississippi State University, I attest that his passion for the landscape architecture profession is unwavering. He continues to influence his students through his teaching in the classroom and shows leadership beyond the university.

In Sadik's academic career, he has made a significant impact as a landscape architecture educator through sustained excellence in teaching and through his leadership to the profession. Professor Artunç embodies the highest moral character and is an exemplary landscape architecture educator. As the Mississippi Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects Secretary, representing the Chapter Executive Committee, the Mississippi Chapter presents our recommendation for Professor Sadik C. Artunç for the Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason B. Walker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason B. Walker, ASLA, PLA  
Associate Professor & BLA Undergraduate Coordinator  
Department of Landscape Architecture  
[Office: 662-325-4561](tel:662-325-4561)  
[jbw156@msstate.edu](mailto:jbw156@msstate.edu)  
[lalc.msstate.edu](http://lalc.msstate.edu)

February 06, 2023

Jot D. Carpenter Medal Nominations  
c/o ASLA Honors and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Sir or Madame,

It is an honor and privilege to write this letter of endorsement for Sadik C. Artunc, PLA, FASLA, FCELA, Professor and Department Head of the Department of Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University (MSU), for The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. Sadik has dedicated his academic career to educating students and serving as an advocate for the profession and education of professionals. Professor Artunc has been Department Head at MSU for 16 years (since 2007). He also taught in the School of Landscape Architecture at Louisiana State University (LSU) from 1981 until 2007.

Sadik Artunc is extremely worthy of receiving The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal for his exemplary teaching, research, and service contributions. Sadik is a registered Landscape Architect in the State of Louisiana and a registered forester and forest engineer in Turkey. Sadik has logged over 40 + years of teaching, scholarly, and professional activities, including ASLA, CELA, CLARB, LAAB, ECLAS, IFLA, and Turkish Society of Landscape Architecture (PEMAT and PEMDER). He has promoted the visibility and knowledge of the profession in the United States and Turkey. Sadik Artunc has over 150 publications, including refereed journal articles, proceedings of professional conferences, national registration exams, magazines, and book chapters that speak to his impact on the landscape architecture profession.

Professor Artunc is a committed educator. He excels in helping students establish and develop their strengths so that they may realize their full potential. The focus of his teaching is on comprehensive problem-solving in the areas of planning, design, and environmental issues. He encourages his students to take risks and has built a studio environment where risk-taking is valued instead of dreaded. Sadik Artunc has received numerous awards and recognition for teaching, including the 2019 Scholar of the Year by the Turkish Society of Landscape Architects (Izmir Chamber) and the 2019 Legacy Professor Award at the LSU Dr. Robert S. Reich School of Landscape Architecture. At LSU, he was awarded the Distinguished Faculty Award in 2002 and 2019 and received the Outstanding Teacher of the Year for Landscape Architecture on six occasions.

As a scholar, Sadik Artunc has focused on service learning, community engagement, cultural heritage, planning, design, and land management. His research contributes greatly to understanding the relationships between the physical environment and people. His research is valued worldwide. He has

also made extraordinary contributions to the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination (LARE), contributing over 35+ publications and study manuals for the exam.

Sadik Artunc has provided exemplary service to landscape architecture education. He was inducted into the ASLA Council of Fellows in 2000 and has served ASLA in various leadership capacities and levels, including the Louisiana Chapter President-Elect, President & Past President (1988-1991) and Louisiana chapter trustee (1996–2001). At the national level, he served as ASLA Vice-President of Membership (2002–2004). He has served on many ASLA national committees, including ASLA National Continuing Education Committee and the ASLA National Annual Meeting Proposal & Papers Committee. He has also overseen several successful Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) accreditation reviews and currently serves on the Roster of Visiting Evaluators (ROVE).

Sadik Artunc has left a lasting mark on landscape architecture due to his honor, commitment, and energy as a landscape architecture educator. He is worthy and deserving of The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal.

Sincerely,



Charlene M. LeBleu, FCELA, FASLA, AICP  
Alumni Professor of Landscape Architecture  
104 Dudley Hall  
364 Duggar Concourse  
Auburn University, AL 36849  
Office: 334-844-0192  
Cell: 706-442-3063  
[leblecm@auburn.edu](mailto:leblecm@auburn.edu)



February 10, 2023

Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal Nominations  
c/o Honors and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

**RE: Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal Endorsement Letter – Sadık Artunç, FASLA**

Dear ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees,

I feel privileged to write this endorsement letter in support of Professor Sadık Artunç's nomination for the 2023 ASLA Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. Over the course of four decades, Professor Artunç has made significant and sustained contributions to landscape architecture education and consistently advocated for ASLA and the landscape architecture profession. His contributions to recruitment, learning, growth, and engagement of students are profound. Let me explain how:

Professor Artunç is a passionate recruiter for the profession. I am included among the many individuals who found landscape architecture through him. In 2004, two months after my arrival at Louisiana State University (LSU) for an expedited language education, I accidentally ran into Professor Artunç at an international event. Prior to meeting him, my intention was to return to my country the following month to complete my master's degree in architecture. Professor Artunç's enthusiasm for landscape architecture convinced me to change my plans and enroll in the MLA degree program at LSU. I am not unique in this regard. His passion and enthusiasm for the profession has helped many students find landscape architecture. Many of the students he led to the profession are now highly accomplished professionals in many different countries, leading large-scale design firms, directing parks and recreation departments, or teaching the next generation of landscape architects. His impact on spreading the word on landscape architecture has had exponential effects through his former students and the post docs and faculty fellows he mentored.

In addition to being an effective recruiter for the profession, Professor Artunç is also a gifted educator and selfless mentor. I went through two of his site construction courses, which were required of every BLA and MLA student at LSU. Through his energetic and memorable teaching style, he made every class meeting interesting and exciting. He explained complex material in engaging ways and crafted hands-on activities that helped students visualize intricate grading problems and grasp design methods. He had high expectations but did not let his students fail to master the subject. He gave his students extra credit assignments and additional quizzes allowing them to learn from their own mistakes. He always made himself available for his students, including on Saturdays and Sundays, answering questions, helping with assignments, or just listening to their personal problems and offering advice. Any student who wanted to learn, he gave the opportunity. Through his efforts, he not only ensured his pupils graduated with the necessary skillset to become their best but were also ready to tackle many different problems that the world might confront them with.

Professor Artunç's educational support has not been limited to only the classroom setting. He has continually opened his own home's doors for those students who did not have a place to stay or family to visit. Numerous international students, faculty fellows, and visiting professionals have been guests at his house. He was also known for his annual barbecues for which he invites all students and faculty to

**Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design | College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts**  
Modesto Maidique Campus, PCA 374A | Miami, FL 33199 | Ph 305.348.7560 | <http://carta.fiu.edu/landscape/>

his home for burgers cooked by him on his grill while donning a white chef's hat.

Many of his students have also benefited from his mentorship, even years after their graduation. He has found jobs, internships, and housing for his students, helped them negotiate their salaries, and connected them to his other former students, establishing a caring and supporting professional community. Professor Artunç is at the heart of a network of landscape architects connected through his contagious smile and love for landscape architecture.

Along with his contributions to recruitment, knowledge, and mentorship, Professor Artunç has also encouraged his students to engage with the ASLA. His love for ASLA is infectious. He teaches his students the value of volunteering and serving in their community. He has always been very active both in his state chapter and at the national level, connecting practitioners to his institution and involving his students in chapter meetings or ASLA conferences. He also served as ASLA's Vice President of Membership, encouraging those who were touched by him to take on local or national leadership roles. Thanks to his encouragement and support, many of his students have served as ASLA chapter presidents, trustees, and vice presidents, carrying on the flag they have taken from him.

Professor Artunç's service endeavors are not limited to the ASLA. He has recently completed a three-year term as the President of Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), making a significant impact on the landscape architecture education through numerous initiatives and efforts. For many years, he has also volunteered on the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB), chairing numerous accreditation teams, and bringing his institutional knowledge to other universities. Moreover, his impact has gone beyond the geographical boundaries of the LAAB, transporting best practices on accreditation to his colleagues at foreign institutions, giving them workshops on how to establish accreditation practices and standards in their own countries.

In summary, Professor Artunç has made significant and sustained contributions to landscape architecture education, and ASLA, through his work on recruitment, knowledge, mentorship, engagement, and accreditation. He has positively impacted the lives and careers of students, faculty, and practitioners, leaving an indelible mark on landscape architecture education in the United States and abroad. Through over forty years of teaching at LSU and MSU, he has inspired and educated thousands of students, mentored hundreds of faculty and practitioners, and advanced landscape architecture education through his service on accreditation. I believe Professor Sadık Artunç, FASLA, is richly deserving of the 2023 ASLA Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal.

Thank you for considering his nomination.

Yours truly,



**Ebru Özer, ASLA, CELA**

CARTA Director of Strategic Planning + Initiatives

Associate Professor

Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design

Florida International University

Design Workshop, Inc.  
Landscape Architecture  
Planning  
Urban Design  
Strategic Services

301 N West Street  
Suite 109  
Raleigh, NC 27603  
919.973.6254

[designworkshop.com](http://designworkshop.com)

February 8, 2023

ASLA Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal Nominations  
c/o Honors and Awards  
636 Eye Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Jurors,

Sadik Artunc is a true servant leader. A servant-leader like Sadik is servant first. His motivation begins with the natural feeling that he wants to serve those around him and the organization of which he is a part - to serve first. Sadik has never been motivated to be a leader for his own sake. There is no drive for power for its own sake or personal recognition. Sadik's motivation has always been to make sure that those around him grow as individuals and become better versions of themselves, wiser and more capable. His efforts have always been focused on those less privileged in society. Sadik is that professor who swings by the studio on nights and weekends for a desk crit to make sure those in his charge are well served and moving forward in their studies. There is no better definition of a leader and educator.

I have had the pleasure to know Sadik since his arrival on the LSU campus in 1981, forty-two years ago and to maintain a professional relationship and friendship throughout that period. At LSU and now at Mississippi State he is beloved by his students and fellow faculty. Faculty like Sadik are essential to making academic programs in state universities successful, particular in states like Louisiana and Mississippi which lack the financial resources of their better known peer institutions. These programs work because of the energy and devotion of individuals who are passionate about landscape architecture and passionate about classroom teaching. That said, Sadik has also produced an impressive body of published works and presentations. He is a curious man always seeking knowledge and anxious to share with others.

I had the pleasure to know Jot Carpenter and the honor to know almost all of the past recipients of the Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal well. I can think of no one that would be a better addition to this distinguished group of recipients than Sadik Artunc. His career is a model of the academic performance that this award seeks to recognize.

Sincerely,



Kurt Culbertson  
Chairman Emeritus  
Design Workshop





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

My name is Kamel Mahadin, and I am an architect and landscape architect currently positioned as a professor at the American University of Madaba. I am also the founder of MK Associates, a landscape architecture, architecture, planning, and engineering firm in Amman, Jordan. I am submitting this letter in support of Professor Sadik Artunc's professional and academic work for The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. I have had the pleasure of knowing, working with, and connecting with Sadik for over three decades, ever since I joined the Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture at Louisiana State University for my master's degree.

As a graduate student pursuing my master's degree in Landscape Architecture in 1982, I took two courses taught by Sadik that dealt with planning and grading. Sadik is an enthusiastic and dedicated professor who is passionate about teaching his students how to become successful professional landscape architects. His focus on landscape grading and site planning is particularly noteworthy, and he has worked tirelessly to bridge the gap between different design disciplines, particularly architecture planning and landscape architecture. After excelling in Sadik's courses, I had the privilege of being his teaching assistant for the Landscape Construction course. Sadik was always known for his professionalism and dedication to the profession in the department. His passion for the field is contagious, and his love for the profession is reflected in the care he provides to his students. Sadik has left an indelible mark on those he has taught, and his name is often mentioned with great respect and admiration by his former students. His teachings have been invaluable in providing the best education for those who aspire to become landscape architects. He has taught us that landscape architecture is both an art and a science, requiring a thoughtful approach to designing open spaces that are aesthetically pleasing, safe, and conducive to the well-being of people.

Sadik's influence on me as a Landscape Architecture teacher and practitioner has been profound. One of the most significant lessons I learned from him was the importance of establishing a connection with students before teaching them. It is this approach that has helped Sadik become such a respected figure in the profession, both locally and internationally. He has played a pivotal role in promoting Landscape Architecture, from facilitating exchange programs to inviting guests and encouraging students to become Landscape Architects.

Years later, when I visited Louisiana State University, I was informed that Sadik had joined Mississippi State University as the department head of Landscape Architecture. I decided to pay him a visit and mentioned that one of my sons was interested in pursuing his graduate studies in Landscape Architecture. After our interaction, all of my sons - Tariq, Yazan, and Amer - successfully joined and graduated from the Master's program in Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University. Sadik

was, and still is, one of the greatest mentors to me and my sons, as we attest to his exceptional guidance, knowledge, and commitment to his students pursuing graduate degrees in Landscape Architecture.

Over the years, Sadik and I have continued to collaborate academically. I have had the privilege of visiting the Landscape Architecture department at Mississippi State University on numerous occasions. On one such visit, I was invited to give a lecture and provide freehand sketching workshops to students, and to discuss our practice overseas. There are three special characteristics that I have observed in Sadik. Firstly, his leadership in the profession from both practical and academic standpoints. Secondly, his extensive knowledge, expertise, and readiness in Landscape Architecture. And thirdly, and most importantly, his persistence in improving his teaching methods. Sadik's unique characteristics reflect his limitless passion for Landscape Architecture. He strives to introduce the field to the United States and the rest of the world, and his outreach programs have resulted in numerous achievements with the American Society of Landscape Architects. Not only is Sadik knowledgeable about Landscape Architecture in the United States, but he also has a wealth of experience and contacts across Europe, the Middle East, and his native home country of Turkey. His connections and dedication to the field are inspiring and have led to numerous advancements in the profession. Sadik is an exceptional mentor and leader in the field of Landscape Architecture, with a unique passion that knows no limits.

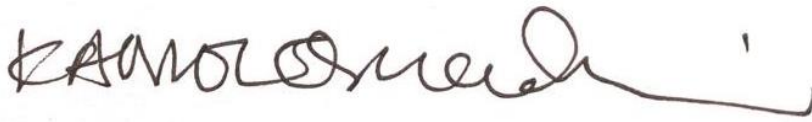
As a visual thinker with over 35 years of experience in the field, I can attest to the impact of Sadik's teachings. I had the privilege of inviting him to give a speech in Jordan 15 years ago, during which he presented the work of his previous graduate students in teaching Landscape Site Planning. One of the slides he showed included a library that required the development of a landscape grading plan. Sadik's teachings showed me how to grade and position buildings correctly, and to read the contours and environment. His guidance and dedication to his students and colleagues has undoubtedly left a lasting impression on those who have graduated from Louisiana State University and Mississippi State University.

In all my interactions with Sadik, from his outstanding teaching skills to his communications with students and faculty, he has consistently demonstrated his care for the profession of Landscape Architecture. I am writing this letter to recommend Sadik for the award of The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. As a fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architecture, Sadik has proven himself to be a person who strives to achieve his goals, always seeking to do his best and encouraging his students to do the same. Years later, when I was nominated to be a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architecture, I had the privilege of selecting an individual to walk the aisle with me during the induction ceremony. Without hesitation, I chose Sadik due to his invaluable contributions to the field.

Sadik is one of the few people who has given me the knowledge and inspiration to become a landscape architect. When I was striving to become a fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architecture, I was fortunate to come across a few people who made a lasting impact on my life, and

Sadik is at the top of that list. He has a spirit, charisma, and unwavering commitment to helping his students be the best they can be and contribute to humanity through their work. As a landscape architect, I can say without any doubt that Sadik is a treasure to our profession. He has built a legacy that will last forever, and his dedication and passion for the field of Landscape Architecture will continue to inspire future generations. I wish him good luck in his pursuit of excellence, and I wholeheartedly recommend him for this award. Sadik's knowledge, experience, and leadership are an asset to the field, and he is truly deserving of this award.

Sincerely yours



Prof. Kamel O. Mahadin, FASLA, IFLA  
Founder & Chairman of the Board of MK Associates.  
Professor, American University of Madaba (AUM)



**MISSISSIPPI STATE**  
UNIVERSITY.

MISSISSIPPI AGRICULTURAL & FORESTRY EXPERIMENT STATION  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE & LIFE SCIENCES

Box 9760  
Mississippi State, MS 39762  
P. 662.325.2110  
cals.msstate.edu

February 26, 2023

RE: Letter of Support/Endorsement for Sadik Artunc  
The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal

Dear Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal Review Committee:

It is my distinct honor to write this letter in support of Sadik Artunc, Professor and Head of the Department of Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University, for your consideration as a recipient of The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. In reading the description of the honor, I can tell you there is nobody who personifies "honor, commitment and energy as an educator" more than Sadik Artunc. He too will leave an "indelible mark on landscape architecture education" not only here at Mississippi State University, but undoubtedly the Landscape Architecture profession nationally and internationally.

Sadik C. Artunc, FASLA, has been the Head of the Department of Landscape Architecture at Mississippi State University (MSU) since January 2007. Prior to his tenure at MSU, he taught in the School of Landscape Architecture at Louisiana State University. Sadik has dedicated his academic career to educating students in innovative, humanistic, and environmentally sensitive planning, design, and implementation and to serving as an enthusiastic advocate for the profession and education of professionals. His teaching involves design implementation and construction, site planning and design, and regional planning and design. His professional consulting involves large-scale planning and design with a focus mostly on recreation and tourism, resource planning, and design implementation/construction. Sadik has been an active member of various professional organizations and societies and is a tireless and enthusiastic promoter of the profession of landscape architecture and ASLA. Sadik has served at various leadership capacities and levels including: the Louisiana Chapter president (1991); chapter trustee (1996 to 2001); and finally, as the national vice-president of membership (2002 to 2004), during which time ASLA membership had a tremendous growth in numbers. Sadik was inducted into the ASLA Council of Fellows in 2000 and, most recently, he served as the President-elect, President, and Past-President of the CELA. His teaching, scholarly, and professional activities through ASLA, CELA, CLARB, LAAB, ECLAS, IFLA, and Turkish Society of Landscape Architecture have contributed to an increased visibility and awareness of the profession. He has over one hundred publications to his credit in refereed journals, proceedings of professional conferences, national registration exams, magazines, and book chapters. He has received twenty academic and professional awards during his academic and professional career from his students, his colleagues, and his peers. Sadik Artunc is both a colleague and a scholar.

As noted from the summary above, few will have as "sustained and significant contribution to landscape architecture education" than Sadik Artunc; i.e., the recognition "purpose" of The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. Sadik is committed to his craft, his faculty, his students, and the profession, and no better acknowledgement of his commitment and actions could be bestowed upon him than this recognition. He would represent this honor well and personifies its intent.

Sincerely,

Scott Willard  
Director and Dean  
Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station  
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences  
Mississippi State University







