Executive Offices

The Executive Committee, led by President Shawn Kelly, FASLA, held its winter meeting at the ASLA Center on January 18-19. Agenda items included a results and outcomes analysis across program areas, the 2018/2019 financial report, an LAF update, approval of a new student chapter at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, review of demographic and trend data on the profession, and a climate change discussion.

On January 15, President-Elect Wendy Miller, FASLA, moderated the panel discussion at the ASLA Center, “Reshaping Urban Environments for Disruptive Transport,” with panelists Michael Johnson, ASLA, director of urban design, SmithGroup, and William (Billy) Riggs, Ph.D., AICP, LEED AP, assistant professor, University of San Francisco. The presentation drew an audience of landscape architects and allied professionals to the Center for a thought-provoking discussion on the future of our city streets and landscapes in an era of disruptive transport.

Great News! Last week, the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act was signed into law. Thanks in part to the continued efforts of ASLA advocates, this legislation promoting green infrastructure projects is now law. Over the last decade landscape architects have been at the forefront of advocating for green infrastructure policies that improve community infrastructure, including water and stormwater management. EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA, issued a statement to the membership announcing the legislative victory.

Government Affairs

Recently, State Government Affairs met with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) staff to discuss opportunities for continuing the chapter/board relationship building initiative begun in 2018. The goal of the initiative is enhanced licensure education and defense. Activities for 2019 will include joint webinars focused on licensure threats and responses, updated contact lists, new and updated resources on current and emerging licensure threats, and continued participation by national staff in the ASLA Advocacy Summit and CLARB annual meeting. Additionally, chapters will soon receive a 2019 calendar of events.

This week, a new ASLA-supported national study entitled Dangerous by Design 2019, was issued by Smart Growth America and the National Complete Streets Coalition. ASLA is a founding member of the coalition and a long-time advocate for complete streets policies and practices that elevate pedestrian safety as a top priority. The report finds that an astonishing 6,000 pedestrians were struck and killed by vehicles in 2017, adding to a deadly decade in which 49,340 people were killed on the nation’s streets between 2008 and 2017. Compounding this national tragedy, victims are disproportionately from vulnerable groups, including people of color, those living in low-income communities, native peoples, and the elderly. ASLA members are encouraged to participate in the public webinar about the report’s findings on Thursday, January 24, at 2:30 p.m. EST.

Last week, Government Affairs participated in the Ninth Annual Complete Streets Dinner in Washington, D.C. Tamika Butler, a national leader in transportation equity was the keynote speaker. In her remarks, Butler illustrated how the concerns of people of color are rarely, if ever, acknowledged by other communities and she provided a road map to change this paradigm and move toward more equitable communities.

Last week, Manager Daniel Hart participated in the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Landscape and Environmental Design Committee’s annual meeting. He updated the committee
on ASLA’s federal transportation activities and also shared information about the new Congress and upcoming transportation and infrastructure bills.

- On January 11, Director Roxanne Blackwell, Hon. ASLA, and Manager Bradley Rawls represented ASLA at the CEO Summit and Resilience Building Coalition meeting, a coalition of design and construction industry CEOs working to address climate change and resilience in the built environment. This meeting provided an opportunity for member organizations to highlight special projects, research, and reports that address climate change and resilience. ASLA highlighted the ASLA Blue Ribbon Panel report *Smart Policies for a Changing Climate*.

- **Nominations for the ASLA Advocacy Awards are open.** Each year, ASLA recognizes the extraordinary advocacy efforts of individuals and chapters with three awards: the Chapter of the Year Advocacy Award, Rising Star Advocacy Award, and the Advocacy Leadership Award. Please click [here](#) for more details about each award category, including eligibility and evaluation criteria. All nominations must be submitted by the chapter president using [SurveyMonkey](#) no later than February 28, 2019. For questions regarding the Advocacy Awards, please email ASLA Government Affairs.

**Public Relations and Communications**

- Working with Erik Herter Design Group and 1over0 Technology on planning and design, the web team released an updated ASLA.org featuring the new brand guidelines. ASLA.org has a new color palette and footer, which is now easier to read. The website features the new ASLA Retina Book font as well as a bolder link style. Page-level adjustments will be ongoing over the next two weeks.

- [A press release was issued](#) regarding the release of the findings of a new national study entitled Dangerous by Design 2019, issued by Smart Growth America and the National Complete Streets Coalition. (See Government Affairs section, above, for more information.)

- The **deadline for ASLA Honors nominations is Friday, February 1.** These prestigious awards recognize individuals and organizations for their lifetime achievements and notable contributions to the profession of landscape architecture. Details for submission to each award follow: The ASLA Medal, The ASLA Design Medal, The Community Service Awards, The Jot D. Carpenter, Teaching Medal, The LaGasse Medals, The Landscape Architecture Firm Award, The Landscape Architecture Medal of Excellence, The Olmsted Medal, and Honorary Membership. If you know of a deserving candidate, please submit a nomination before the deadline or forward the message to your colleagues.

**Member and Chapter Services**

- The **LARE Prep Committee is presenting ASLA LARE Prep Week 2019**, the week of February 4-8, 3:00 p.m. EST. The series is composed of five webinars covering all four sections of the licensing exam, plus an introductory webinar to review study strategies and other overall concepts. For more information or to register, please click [here](#).

**Education and Marketing**

- [The Call for Presentations](#) for the Conference on Landscape Architecture in San Diego closes at midnight PST! The Annual Meeting Education Advisory Committee will begin reviewing proposals on January 28.
The **2019 Diversity Summit Call for Letters of Interest** application deadline has been extended to January 25. To date, eight out of nine past diversity summit participants confirmed their attendance. Twenty-four new applications have been submitted to date. [Click here to read more about the application process and share this link with potential applicants.](#) The diversity summit will be held May 17-19 in Washington, D.C.

Career Discovery and Diversity Manager Lisa Jennings hosted partner meetings at the ASLA Center with the D.C. Office of Out of School Time Programs (OSTP) Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education, the American Institute of Architects, American Meteorological Society, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to discuss pipeline issues and professional development opportunities for students and educators of color.

The **Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™)** has 246 active providers offering 1,403 courses. There are three new provider applications pending review.

The **Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB)** Chair Rodney Swink, FASLA, Chair-Elect Joy Lyndes, ASLA, and Accreditation and Education Programs Manager Kristopher Pritchard attended the 2019 President’s Council Meeting hosted in Washington, D.C., January 10-11. LAAB updates were provided to the group.

LAAB Chair Swink and Manager Pritchard met at the ASLA Center on January 9 to focus on planning for the upcoming LAAB Strategic Planning Meeting and [LAAB Winter 2019 Meeting](#) later this month.

**Information and Professional Practice**

On January 15, Sr. Manager Katie Riddle, ASLA, presented, via Zoom, to the professional practice class and **Associate Professor Brad Collett, ASLA**, from the University of Tennessee. The audience included MLA students as well as students studying interior architecture, architecture, and fine arts who have potential interest in pursuing an MLA degree.

The **Professional Practice Network (PPN) Council** orientation took place on January 17, led by **Professional Practice VP Kona Gray, FASLA**. All PPN chairs and officers were invited to take part in reviewing and discussing 2019 action items.

On January 18, Sr. Manager Riddle and Manager Ali Hay hosted a call with Josh Yavelberg, senior education manager of Online Learning at the National Recreation and Park Association, to review LA CES provider requirements and opportunities for professional development collaboration between the organizations.

The **Environmental Justice PPN** hosted a call with Federal Government Affairs Manager Daniel Hart to share his expertise and insights for suggested revisions to the S.1996 - Environmental Justice Act of 2017. The PPN will continue to offer opportunities for member engagement and showcase project work relevant to environmental justice impacts in support of moving the bill forward.

The **Public Practice Advisory Committee (PPAC)** met via webinar to discuss opportunities for presenting to K-12 students on career days in 2019 about landscape architecture roles in public sector work. PPAC members are also preparing proposals for education session submissions for the 2019 ASLA Conference on Landscape Architecture.
Deadlines and Reminders

- The Call for Presentations for the Conference on Landscape Architecture in San Diego closes at midnight PST!
- The deadline for ASLA Honors nominations is Friday, February 1.
- The Leadership Calendar can be accessed on the web.