Executive Office

- **President-Elect Wendy Miller, FASLA**, meets with staff this week at the ASLA Center to finalize committee selections for 2020. Volunteers will be notified of committee appointments in early September.

- The **call for potential national officer candidates** for 2021-22 is now open. Please help identify potential candidates for the office of president-elect and vice president for finance, membership, and professional practice. Forward your suggestions to Corporate Secretary Curt Millay, ASLA, by Friday, September 6.

- A summer update webinar was held for the **Board of Trustees** last Wednesday. Highlights included second quarter program and operations updates and an update on the FrameWorks project.

- The **Council of Fellows** is holding its biennial election of officers. The newsletter and ballot was sent to all active Fellows on Monday, July 29 via email. Please cast your ballot by Friday, August 30. Contact Corporate Secretary Curt Millay with any questions.

Government Affairs

- **National Site Tour Month** has officially started! We encourage you to visit our National Site Tour Month webpage, where you can see what your fellow chapters have planned and access our site tour guide and webinar. You can also access the advocacy leave behinds to use during your site tour, and two of these leave behinds can be personalized. Lastly, if your chapter is hosting a site tour and has not signed the pledge, please sign it today!

- Government Affairs prepared a comprehensive **letter** to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) requesting that landscape architecture be added to the **U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Designated Degree Program List**. The letter highlights key reasons for designating landscape architecture as a STEM discipline. ASLA’s Government Affairs and Education departments are working on follow-up actions with DHS to further convince the department that landscape architecture merits STEM designation and recognition.

- Recently, **S. 2302, America’s Transportation Infrastructure Act**, was introduced by Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Chairman John Barrasso (WY) and Ranking Member Tom Carper (DE). This **bill is the largest highway legislation in history, authorizing $287 billion over five years**, which is a 27 percent increase over previous FAST Act levels. There are also several other positive measures in this legislation, including Complete Streets, Scenic Byways, Safe Routes to School, and wildlife crossing safety. The Environment and Public Works Committee held a hearing on the bill last week and unanimously reported it out of committee. Government Affairs will continue to proactively monitor this bill throughout the legislative process.

- **The Living Shorelines Act** was highlighted during a House Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee hearing. Government Affairs composed a **letter** thanking the Subcommittee’s Chairman Jared Huffman (CA) for taking the first step to move this bill through the legislative process and for supporting efforts to create resilient shorelines.
The September issue of *LAM* is off to press. The cover is a terrific story on Andropogon, the recipient of the 2018 ASLA Firm Award. Other features include the threat to Toronto’s forested ravines and a long-term look at the remaking of downtown Boise, Idaho, by ZGF. Departments include an interview with Thaisa Way, FASLA, now at Dumbarton Oaks, and a story on the merger of AHBE Landscape Architects in Los Angeles and MIG. The portfolio in the Back section looks at a new corridor-focused approach to planning by the Regional Plan Association in New York, followed by a roundup of fall books on landscape architecture.

**Member and Chapter Services**

The Member and Chapter Services and Marketing teams are spearheading the association-wide campaign to grow membership. Key components have been identified and are in development, including a back to school campaign for students this fall, a transition plan for graduating students in early 2020, new tools for emerging professionals, and a comprehensive communication plan to demonstrate value to prospective, lapsed, and current members.

**Education and Practice**

Last week the ASLA Committee on Education (COE) held its July conference call in coordination with the Education and Practice PPN, which focused on updates regarding landscape architecture recognition as a STEM discipline, LAAB accreditation standards revisions, and planning for 2020. Additionally, LAAB and CELA provided updates to the committee. Education VP Lake Douglas, FASLA; Accreditation and Education Director Kristopher Pritchard; and Professional Practice Director Katie Riddle, ASLA, conducted the call.

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) met August 2-3 for its Summer 2019 board meeting. LAAB reviewed five renewal of accreditation programs: Colorado State University (BSLA), Illinois Institute of Technology (MLA), University of Arizona (MLA), Washington State University (BLA), and Washington University (MLA); two initial accreditation programs: Universidad Ana G Mendez (BSLA) and University of Delaware (BSLA); one candidacy program, University of Hawaii (MLA); two accreditation deferrals: Florida International University (MLA) and Temple University (MLA); and one interim report, North Carolina A&T State University (BSLA). Additionally, LAAB worked on organizational improvements and processes.

The Education team kicked off ASLA national’s participation in the National Building Museum Ward Days celebration of the LAWN, an immersive installation covering the entirety of the museum’s great hall that features a vast, sloping green space built on a scaffolding superstructure. Staff from multiple departments within ASLA volunteered to introduce thousands of visitors to the landscape architecture profession using YOUR LAND and the Brooklyn Park virtual reality experience. Participation in this event allowed staff to help visitors make connections between design, outdoor spaces and the work of landscape architects.

Manager Jennings represented ASLA at the STEM Education Coalition Briefing on “Well Rounded STEM Education: Developing Healthy Learning Environments for Students and Educators” and developed a new Career Discovery and Diversity resource “Landscape Architecture and Mental Health” with Archivist and Technical Librarian Ian Bucacink. ASLA representation is critical to the broader discussion of STEM as a collection of disciplines that promote healthy learning environments.

The Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System™ (LA CES™) has 267 active providers offering 1,209 courses. There is one provider application pending review.
During the monthly Professional Practice Committee call, the committee participated in a presentation about PlanIT Impact, a landscape performance software aimed at reduced carbon and water use. PlanIT Impact is interested in offering product discounts to ASLA members.

Directors Riddle and Susan Cahill, Hon. ASLA, hosted a call with Deltek+Avitru to review next steps for a new partner agreement for MasterSpec discounts for ASLA members. Staff is also investigating potential agreements for multiple Deltek product discounts.

The PPN Council held the third quarter call with all PPN chairs to review PPN highlights, planning logistics for PPN Live presentations in San Diego, and new networking and social media ideas to further engage PPN membership.

As a part of the public review process of the 2016 LAAB Accreditation Standards, the Committee on Education and the Education & Practice PPN leadership team will host a live webinar on August 22 at 3:00 p.m. EDT. Director Pritchard will discuss the current LAAB Accreditation Standards and how members can contribute their comments.

**Deadlines and Reminders**

The [Leadership Calendar](#) can be accessed on the web.