**Agenda Item #12: Professional Licensure Policies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To review and approve the proposed changes to ASLA’s suite of public policies on professional licensure.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**History and Background:** In 2002 the Board of Trustees approved a suite of Professional Licensure policies. These policies have not been updated since. Given the progress made over the last two decades in achieving practice acts in 48 jurisdictions and title acts in three, as well as the current anti-licensure political environment, the Policy Committee felt a review of the Licensure policies was warranted. Below is a short summary of key revisions and updates to the attached policies.

**Professional Licensure:** The proposed amended public policy on Professional Licensure strengthens the policy position of the organization by emphasizing that the only effective means of protecting the public’s health, safety, and welfare is by professional licensure of the practice of landscape architecture. Additionally, the amended policy stresses that licensure is granted through a statutory process where education, experience, and examination demonstrates competency and qualification for landscape architecture professionals to provide services that protect the public’s health, safety, and welfare, and helps to ensure that landscape architects can compete within the regulated marketplace of design professions.

**Definition of Landscape Architecture:** The amended Definition of Landscape Architectural Practice policy emphasizes that the definition of the scope of practice provides the basis for the regulatory system and identifies work for which a professional license is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the public. The proposal also provides greater detail on services that are included in, but not limited to, the licensed scope of the professional practice.

**Prerequisites for Landscape Architecture:** The amended Prerequisites policy emphasizes the necessity of the three-prong basis for licensure (education, experience, and examination) to establish “minimum professional competency” in the protection of the public’s health, safety, and welfare. Additionally, the amended policy states that ASLA supports LAAB accredited programs as well as alternative education pathways.

**Reciprocity:** The amended Reciprocity policy stresses that reciprocal licensure should “promote” the interstate practice of professional landscape architecture and protect the public’s health, safety, and welfare.

**Enforcement:** The amended Enforcement policy highlights that enforcement is essential in protecting the public’s health, safety, and welfare.
**Universal Designation:** In 2011 the Board of Trustees adopted the Professional Licensure: Universal Designation policy. This policy was reviewed alongside the other Professional Licensure policies, however the Policy and Licensure Committees determined amendments were not needed at this time.

**Governing Rules/Procedures:** ASLA Bylaws, Section 802: Adoption, amendment, or repeal of public policies on matters of professional interest or concern shall require an affirmative vote by two-thirds (2/3) of the entire voting membership of the Board of Trustees.

**Strategic Objectives:**

- Advance the image, visibility, and understanding of the profession with client groups, public policy makers, allied professions, media, and the general public.

- Promote adoption of laws and regulations that: enhance the design, planning, and stewardship of the natural and built environment; and foster a business and regulatory climate that supports the practice of landscape architecture.

- Keep the profession and the Society in the lead on critical and emerging practice areas and issues.

**Financial Impact:** N/A

**Action Requested:** Review of the full policy and approval of the policy statement revisions as recommended by the Policy Committee and endorsed by the Executive Committee.

**Staff Contact:** Elizabeth Hebron