March 24, 2010

Ann Komara, Associate Professor and Chair

Department of Landscape Architecture

College of Architecture and Planning

University of Colorado Denver

Campus Box 126

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Denver, CO 80217-3364

Dear Professor Komara:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board at its March 5-6, 2010 meeting granted accreditation to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at the University of Colorado Denver subject to review of annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends December 31, 2015. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2015.

In making its decision, the LAAB considered the program's self-evaluation report, the visiting team report, the institution's response to the team report, and discussions with team members and program faculty.

Enclosed is a copy of the final visiting team report and a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in annual reports) and suggestions for improvement (to be responded to in annual reports). This list was developed by LAAB from the materials reviewed during the meeting. Also enclosed is a copy of LAAB’s policy on Substantive Change.

On behalf of the visiting team, I would like to thank you for the hospitality extended to them by the faculty, staff, and students.

Sincerely,

Richard Hawks, FASLA

LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Roderick Nairn, Provost and Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs

**University of Colorado Denver**

**MLA Program**

**LAAB Meeting**

**March 5-6, 2010**

**Summary of Recommendations and Suggestions**

### Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

R-1: Provide sufficient faculty resources to meet expectations for the delivery of the professional landscape architecture curriculum and to meet administrative and programmatic expectations such as relationships with other programs, scholarship and research (Standard 2).

### Suggestions for Improvements

S-1: The departmental faculty brings its discussion on a new vision for the program to a conclusion and builds a consensus to better position itself for sustained excellence (Standard 1).

S-2: Develop and implement some form of rigorous student self-assessment at the curricular midpoint to create metrics identifying appropriate advanced studio topics and electives (Standard 3).

S-3: Develop a more structured training in research methods to improve the capability of students to work with faculty on focused research topics (Standard 3).

S-4: Implement a better system for identifying instructional needs for part-time faculty earlier and give consideration for how part-time faculty can make contributions to the Department beyond instruction (Standard 4).

S-5: Develop a more complete and up-to-date alumni database (Standard 6).

S-6: Plan and implement a reading room for the College during the space planning for expansion that will occur over the next several years (Standard 9).