



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

Ron Leighton
Accreditation Manager

August 16, 2011

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Lee-Anne S. Milburn, PH.D., ASLA, LEED-AP
Associate Professor and Chair
Department of Landscape Architecture
California State Polytechnic University
3801 W. Temple Avenue
Pomona, CA 91768

Dear Professor Milburn:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board at its August 1-2, 2011 meeting granted accreditation to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at California State Polytechnic State University. This status is 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 June 30, 2017. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2017.

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 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.

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,

Whitney Talcott, FASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Dr. J. Michael Ortiz, President

**California State Polytechnic University
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
August 1-2, 2011**

Summary of Recommendations and Suggestions

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. The Library collections should be expanded to include critically important databases and indexes for landscape architects. These should include:
 - Garden, Landscape, and Horticulture
 - Environment
 - Ecology
 - Proquest (UMI)(Standard 7)

Suggestions for Improvements

1. Program must update its long-range plan to include periodic evaluation processes and procedures. (Standard 1)
2. The Department and College need to do everything in their power to address the issues of student to faculty ratios and faculty teaching loads (Standard 2)
3. Require and enforce the systematic development and distribution of syllabi, particularly among part-time faculty. (Standard 3)
4. Develop course-tailored student evaluations for all courses. (Standard 3)
5. Develop a long-term teaching plan and departmentally sanctioned course schedule to avoid scheduling problems noted by students. (Standard 3)
6. Student advising needs to be more thoughtfully recognized as critical and the advising needs to be made consistent and updated. (Standard 4)
7. Re-institute the professional advisory committee. (Standard 6)
8. Upgrade access to the convenient College of Environmental Design library collections by creating a digital catalog connected to the university on-line search system. (Standard 7)