



*Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture*

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Dear Professor Henderson:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its July 22-23, 2016 meeting granted accreditation for a period of three (3) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). This status is subject to review of annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The three-year period of accreditation ends June 30, 2019. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2019.

IIT became initially accredited in spring 2010. According to the program response to the Visiting Team Report, it seems it was unclear to the program during the review that once initially accredited, the program is expected to meet all criteria for programs seeking re-accreditation by the time of the next review. From spring 2010 moving forward, the program has been LAAB accredited and is expected to meet all requirements for programs seeking re-accreditation.

In making its decision, 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). 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Kesler', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gary Kesler, FASLA  
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Alan W. Cramb, PhD, President

**Illinois Institute of Technology  
MLA Program  
LAAB Meeting  
July 22-23, 2016**

**SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Recommendations Affecting Accreditation**

1. The program does not show progress towards developing a long-range plan, which was stated as a Recommendation Affecting Accreditation in the 2010 Site Visit report (Standard 1).
2. The MLA program should meet the LAAB criteria of faculty with professional degrees in Landscape Architecture (Standard 2). IIT was initially accredited in spring 2010 and was expected to meet requirements for programs seeking re-accreditation by the April 2016 review. The program did not meet the faculty requirements under the current standards nor under the revised 2016 Accreditation Standards. Given the program will next be reviewed under the 2016 version, the program needs to meet the following requirements:

Program Status	Number of Full-time Equivalent Instructional Faculty*	Number of Faculty with a Professional Degree in Landscape Architecture (could be part-time or adjunct)	Number of Full-time Faculty with a Professional Degree in Landscape Architecture
Programs seeking Initial Accreditation			
Single Program	3	3	1
Bachelor's & Master's Program	6	5	2
Programs seeking re-accreditation			
Single Program	5	4	3
Bachelor's & Master's Program	7		5

Therefore, the program is expected to have 5 FTE instructional faculty, 4 faculty with a professional degree in Landscape Architecture (could be part-time or adjunct), and 3 of the full-time faculty must hold a professional degree in Landscape Architecture by the next review in spring 2019.

3. The program shall address the issue of faculty diversity in the next hiring process. This was a stated recommendation affecting accreditation in the 2010 LAAB report (Standard 2).
4. Published protocols and systematic processes to achieve promotion and tenure for new faculty should improve and regularize the financial support provided to faculty for travel to conferences and dissemination of scholarly work (Standard 5).