



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

Kristopher Pritchard
Accreditation and Education
Programs Manager

September 1, 2017

Board Members

Educators

Jack Ahern, FASLA,
University of Massachusetts

Ned Crankshaw, ASLA, Chair
University of Kentucky

Lynn Ewanow
Kansas State University

Practitioners

Joy Lyndes, ASLA
Coastal Sage

Ramon Murray, ASLA
Murray Design Group, Inc.

Rodney Swink, FASLA
PlaceEconomics

Public Representatives

Gilbert Holmes
University of LaVerne College of Law

Tom Jacobs
Mid-America Regional Council

Lucinda McDade, Ph.D.
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

ASLA Representative

Leonard Hopper, FASLA
Weintraub Diaz, LLC

CELA Representative

Kenneth Brooks, FASLA, Chair-Elect
Arizona State University

CLARB Representative

Tom Sherry, ASLA
SPVV Landscape

Mark E. Boyer, FASLA, PLA
Professor and Director
Robert Reich School of Landscape Architecture
College of Art & Design
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA

Dear Professor Boyer:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its July 20-21, 2017 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at Louisiana 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, 2023. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2023.

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 that reads "Ned Crankshaw".

Ned Crankshaw, ASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: F. King Alexander, President

**Louisiana State University
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
July 20-21, 2017**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. The program has an unfilled position for a part-time Associate Director and should consider the benefits of distributing some of the administrative duties currently filled by the Director and releasing the Director to concentrate on the critical administrative and development needs of the Program (Standard 2).
2. The program should enhance its faculty development program with the goal of introducing and acclimating new hires to the culture of the program and advancing faculty from the rank of Assistant Professor to Associate Professor and faculty from the Associate Professor rank to Professor ranks (Standard 2).
3. Review of the MLA curriculum should continue with goals of enhancing content, sequence and integration (Standard 3).
4. The faculty should review the final year thesis and project options to ensure that in both cases a rigorous process of investigation and documentation take place consistent with a graduate level degree. Learning outcomes and standards for performance should be articulated (Standard 3).
5. The school should consider developing a standard format for syllabi to be followed for all courses (Standard 3).
6. The school should review its multiple measures approach to curriculum assessment and clearly communicate its process and outcomes (Standard 3).