

March 8, 2011

Professor Rob Sovinski, ASLA, Chair
Landscape Architecture Program
Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture
Purdue University
625 Agricultural Mall Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2010

Dear Professor Sovinski:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board at its February 25-26, 2011 meeting granted accreditation to the course of study leading to the first professional BSLA degree at Purdue 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 December 31, 2016. Accordingly, the BSLA program is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2016.

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. *The LAAB is concerned about Recommendation Affecting Accreditation 2 and the visiting team's statement on page 26 of the visiting team report that there may be a number of instances of space and facilities which are out compliance with ADA and potentially other codes. Please submit information from the University facilities manager or other official responsible for code compliance on this situation by May 20, 2011.*

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. Dale Whittaker, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs

**Purdue University
BSLA Program
LAAB Meeting
February 25-26, 2011**

Summary of Recommendations and Suggestions

A. Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

- R-1: Develop a long range plan and implementation strategy addressing program objectives and how they will be achieved, so as to be proactive in determining the program's future (Standard 1).
- R-2: Develop a timeline and specific plan for addressing ADA deficiencies and assuring code compliance with respect to electrical wiring and other safety issues (Standard 7).

B. Suggestions for Improvements

- S-1: Note the accreditation status of the program in program literature and promotional material, including the web site (Standard 1).
- S-2: For recruitment purposes a process should be developed and implemented for regularly expanding information on the web in order to fully disclose the program's achievements (Standard 1).
- S-3: Develop strategies to target the recruitment and retention of more underrepresented domestic students and faculty (Standard 2).
- S-4: Plan for an orderly and productive succession in leadership and program director to maintain the current high quality of the program (Standard 4).
- S-5: Clarify and communicate the means by which student achievement of learning outcomes is assessed, and how the results are used to inform program planning (Standard 3).
- S-6: The expectations for scholarship among new faculty need to be clearly articulated and mentoring provided which encourages more visible scholarship (Standard 5).