August 22, 2018

Mark Westa, ASLA
Associate Professor and Program Coordinator
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06269

Dear Professor Westa:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its July 13-14, 2018 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional BSLA degree at University of Connecticut. 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, 2024. Accordingly, the BSLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2024.

In making its decision, LAAB considered the program's self-evaluation report, the visiting team report, and the program’s response to the report.

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,

Kenneth Brooks, FASLA, FCELA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Susan Herbst, President
SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. The institutional knowledge that exists within the existing faculty needs to be exercised in the near term to formulate a detailed long range plan that can serve as an active document and guideline that will allow incoming faculty to maintain the excellent program that exists and provide direction for growth of the program (Standard 1).

2. Seek resources from the college and/or university to increase the administrative capacity in the department office to allow direct support of the landscape architecture program (Standard 2).

3. The program coordinator should be included by the department head in arriving at budget decisions for the program, in the performance of faculty reviews, and in the process of promotion and tenure (Standard 2).

4. Enlarge the available work area and common spaces for all three classes in order to provide adequate space for each student. This should include looking beyond the current building to other spaces that might be available elsewhere on campus (Standard 7).