August 22, 2012

Richard S. Hawks, FASLA, Chair
Department of Landscape Architecture
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
One Forestry Drive
Syracuse, NY 13210

Dear Professor Hawks:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board at its July 27-28, 2012 meeting granted accreditation to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at the State University of New York at Syracuse. 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, 2018. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2018.

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,

Mary Myers, ASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Cornelius B. Murphy, President
Summary of Recommendations and Suggestions

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation:

1. Develop a plan and timeline for updating and expanding program facilities to meet the needs of the program (Standard 7).

Suggestions for Improvement:

1. The department should become more active in long range planning involving both the current and new faculty in assessing and defining the future of the program (Standard 1).
2. Steps should be taken to encourage a clearer and more active role for the advisory board (Standard 6).
3. Provide all students with adequate work stations and gathering areas to meet their needs and support collaborative learning (Standard 7).
4. Develop facilities that better support and promote the work of the college’s centers (Standard 7).