SAT-A09 Campus Transformation: Living Laboratories for Learning

Campus design is an important laboratory for both landscape architects and campus inhabitants in applying lessons of urban ecology and place making. This session will look at higher education campus projects in different regions and landscape architects’ roles in transforming them from vehicular to pedestrian campuses while connecting them with their culture and place.

Moderator:
Frederick Steiner, FASLA
Frederick Steiner is the dean of the School of Architecture and Henry M. Rockwell Chair in Architecture, University of Texas at Austin. As a Fulbright-Hays scholar in 1980, he conducted research on ecological planning at the Wageningen University, The Netherlands. In 1998, he was the National Endowment for the Arts Rome Prize Fellow in Historic Preservation and Conservation at the American Academy in Rome. He is the 2013-2014 William A. Bernoudy Architect in Residence at the American Academy in Rome. He is a Fellow of both the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture. He was a visiting professor at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China. Dean Steiner has worked with local, state, and federal agencies on diverse environmental plans and designs. Currently, he co-chairs the University of Texas at Austin campus planning committee. In that capacity he has worked with Sasaki Associates and others on a new campus plan.

Speaker Bios:
Warren Byrd, FASLA
Warren T. Byrd, Jr. is founding principal of Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, Professor Emeritus of the University of Virginia and a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects. He has led the firm in a broad range of public park, campus and town planning projects throughout the United States and internationally including Holland and China. A major focus of Warren’s work has been the understanding and adaptation of natural systems and regional plant communities as they might best influence sustainable strategies of design in the public landscape.

Shavaun Towers, FASLA
Shavaun Towers, FASLA, established the New Haven, CT office of Towers|Golde in 1981. Widely published and the recipient of numerous design awards, she practices landscape architecture as a responsive art. Her extraordinary sensitivity to the character and potentials of each specific site, her deep understanding of architectural aesthetic and historical style, her commitment to social purpose, and her empathy with client aspiration all help frame her analysis of each design challenge and guide her vision for its unique solution. Shavaun received a BA in Architecture from Smith College and her MLA from the University of California-Berkeley.

Christine Ten Eyck, FASLA
Christine E. Ten Eyck, after a raft trip down the Colorado River in 1985, moved west from Texas to Arizona where she established a thriving landscape architectural practice emphasizing regional residential, campus, hospitality and public projects. After 22 years in Arizona, she returned to Texas and started the Austin studio in 2007. With a mission of connecting the urban dweller with nature, her firm strives to create transformative landscapes that celebrate the region, culture of its people and the sacred paths of our most precious resource, water.

Learning Objectives:
Campus Transformation: Living Laboratories for Learning
- Discover how regional and cultural influences can drive campus design
- Learn how to create sustainable and maintainable landscapes
- Explore successful communication strategies during the interview and design phase
- Understand the importance of hydrology and its effect on campus form

Outline:
I. Introduction (Fritz Steiner)
   A. Opportunities for Landscape Architects in Campus Transformation projects
B. Preparing a new plan for the University of at Austin and the new Dell Medical School District with Sasaki Associates
C. Panel introduction
D. Outcomes/take-aways from session summary

II. Warren Byrd case studies: Southeast and California - Recovering lost and remnant landscapes, resurrecting compromised hydrologies, renewing and reinterpreting regional ecologies

A. University of Virginia
B. Georgia Tech
C. Auburn University

III. Shavaun Towers case studies: New England case studies - role of cultural sustainability and scale
A. University of Massachusetts - Stockbridge District, Amherst, MA
B. Smith College, Northampton, MA
C. Yale University, New Haven, CT
D. Gateway Community College, New Haven, CT

IV. Christine Ten Eyck case studies: Southwest - hydrology, regional landscapes, interpreting regionalism in urban conditions, from vehicular to pedestrian
A. University of Arizona
B. Arizona State University Polytechnic University
C. University of Texas @ El Paso
D. University of Texas Belo Center for New Media

V. Conclusion: Lessons Learned
   A. Collaboration with client, facilities and design partners essential
   B. Hydrological influences in campus design
   C. Sustainable / maintainable
   D. Challenges/ opportunities

VI. Discussion