Chair's Appeal

My name is Kene Okigbo. I serve as chair of the Associate Advisory Committee. Spring brings this newsletter among many other goals and objectives, we report to the Board of Trustees and ASLA Executive Committee on matters which are simple next step is to click the link below that reads “Committee Applications.”

I have been an ASLA member for 24 years. I was asked to step up as the Emerging Professionals chair of the Nebraska/Dakotas Chapter. Since then I have participated in the Diversity Summit, Advocacy Day, Spring Meeting, and the Conference on What’s Next?

Why We Care?

There are 215 bills which ASLA is currently tracking because they deal with occupational licensure. There are 113 bills which specifically address the landscape architecture profession. There are 215 bills which ASLA is currently tracking because they deal with occupational licensure.

The purpose of Advocacy Day is to highlight landscape architecture as it pertains to laws and regulations at the federal and state levels. It is also pertinent that landscape architecture are at the forefront of issues that impact our industry and our environment. An additional goal is to have the House of Delegates pass the Honor & Awards Committee, the Associate Advisory Committee, and the Associate Advisory Committee, Service on these committees started as a simple next step is to click the link below that reads “Committee Applications.”

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Beyond mentoree leadership, advocacy is how we get legislation passed. Senator Fischer, after meeting with landscape architects from Nebraska, introduced the Water Infrastructure Flexibility Act into session. The bill passed, and we now have the ability to build on our current and existing infrastructure without having to go through the cumbersome process of going through the approval process. This is a big win! It’s specifically a huge deal because it reinforces that we are capable of great change, as long as we take part in the process of democracy!

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We have this platform and avenue to make a difference within the organization because we took advantage of the opportunity to call out Landscape Architecture. When legislators are not educated to what landscape architects do, they are less likely of understanding that we are not tradesmen. We are licensed professionals who undergo rigorous training in school and after graduating to ensure we are qualified to perform incredible feats.

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