



# Michigan ASLA e-Newsletter

The official e-newsletter of the Michigan Chapter of ASLA  
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**March 27, 2009**

## **Reminder: Michigan ASLA Licensure Gala!**

On Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>, the Michigan Chapter will be hosting a Licensure Gala to celebrate the recent upgrade of our licensure to a practice act. Please join us at University Club of MSU in East Lansing, Michigan from 2-4pm for the small amount of \$25.00. More information for this event, as well as registration, is available on the Michigan ASLA website. Please click [here](#) for more details.

You do not have to be a chapter member to attend. Please pass this info around as well as the formal invitations when you start to receive them.



## **Let Your Voice Be Heard! April 28<sup>th</sup> is Michigan ASLA Lobby Day**

Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup> is the Michigan Chapter of ASLA Lobby Day! This is a time to reach out to your State legislators and let them know about policies that are important to our State Chapter of ASLA. Lunch will be held in the South Corridor on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Michigan State Capitol Building.

To view more details on this event or to sign up to volunteer, [please click here](#).

## **Licensure Update**

With the passage of the chapter driven licensure legislation, many in the profession may think that the chapter work on licensure is complete. However, there is much left to finish.

First, the profession will not officially be licensed until May 13, 2009. That is the date licensure will take effect with the Department of Energy, Labor, and Economic Growth (DELEG).

Second, one of the provisions contained within the legislation was the ability for DELEG to call upon the profession through the use of a Technical Advisory Committee if/when situations occur when the department requires or would like profession feedback. To assist, the chapter has already produced and submitted a list of professionals from within the membership for DELEG to consider. The proactive nature of chapter has been welcomed by the department.

Finally, The chapter lobbyists remain diligently at work with DELEG on just how licensure will unfold. To learn more on these issues, be sure to attend the Licensure Gala this Saturday, April 24, 2009 and stay tuned to future issues of the chapter *E-Newsletter*.

Among issues the chapter is working on with the department are reciprocity with other states, continuing professional competency standards, fee collection, enforcement, department participation with CLARB, information posted on the department website, and others. If you have questions or other issues that may need to be considered, please contact Derek Dalling at [derek@kindsvatterassociates.com](mailto:derek@kindsvatterassociates.com)

## **Michigan ASLA PAC**

The successful effort to elevate licensure to a practice act in our state is only the beginning of landscape architects' involvement in the political process. It is necessary and important that the issues, interests and values of our profession are expressed, promoted and defended within the legislative process. Such effort must be made this year and every year from this point forward. The financial commitment to support this effort must also be made this year and with consistency every year.

This financial support can be easily accomplished. If each licensed landscape architect sends as little as \$10 to the Political Action Committee (PAC), the necessary minimal funding will be met. Is the strength and health of our profession within this state worth \$10 to you? Are there interests and issues that are important to you from your professional perspective that are worth \$10 a year? A contribution of \$10 will make a difference. Better yet, contribute an amount equal to one hour at your normal hourly rate. Our collective interests are at stake.

Your contribution to the PAC can be made by sending your check payable to Michigan ASLA PAC to the Michigan ASLA office (1000 W. St. Joseph Hwy, Ste 200, Lansing, MI 48915). Regulations require that contributions to the PAC must be made by individuals using their personal checks. Your interest and involvement in the political process is important. Thank you for your support.

## **Universities Give Student Awards**

Over the past month jurors from the Executive Committee and Chapter membership reviewed student works from Michigan State University and The University of Michigan for their student Honor and Merit Awards. MSU had six students nominated: Dan Bulemore, Julie Casault, Stephan Kansman, Brandon List, Andy McDowell, and Nick Voss. The winners will be announced during MSU's annual Senior Banquet. U of M has awarded the Honor Award to Rebekah VanWieren and the Merit Award to Jenna Jones. Congratulations to the students and many thanks to the jurors for volunteering your time and to the faculty for organizing the awards.

## **Universities Give Student Awards**



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