



Michigan ASLA e-Newsletter

The official e-newsletter of the Michigan Chapter of ASLA
e-Mail: manager@michiganasla.org | Phone: (517) 485-4116

January 12, 2009

Letter from the President

Dear Landscape Architect:

As President of the Michigan Chapter of ASLA, it is my pleasure to announce that on January 12, 2009, Governor Granholm signed HB 5025 and HB 5026 into law under Public Acts 490 and 491, thus regulating the practice of landscape architecture in the State of Michigan rather than merely protecting the right to use the title 'landscape architect.' Full licensure levels the playing field for Michigan Landscape Architects by eliminating a competitive disadvantage on a state, regional and national basis for related work and improves our economic businesses standing.

On behalf of the Michigan Chapter of ASLA, I would like to thank the Michigan Chapter Executive Board, both past and present; National ASLA; State Representatives and Senators that both sponsored and supported our bills; and all the landscape architects that have provided knowledge and leadership throughout this endeavor, for without your support and past attempts, this effort would not have been a successful one. Take pride in knowing that Michigan is the 43rd state to regulate the practice of landscape architecture!

Our licensure success ensures we are fully committed to retaining Michigan's professional's young and old alike. It empowers us as Landscape Architects, the "creative class" of design professionals, by providing a new platform to create a diverse Michigan. We have a stronger position as a profession and as an integral contributor to making Michigan a better place to live and work with a new professional standing and strengthened leadership role to forge the new Michigan that we envision.

As you know, our State has two of the finest accredited college of Landscape Architecture programs in the country with a bachelor's of landscape architecture at Michigan State University and a master's in landscape architecture from The University of Michigan. As landscape architects, we want to make sure these students have every reason to continue to live, work, and call the State of Michigan home. This legislative effort makes a commitment to and encourages our landscape architecture graduates to stay in the state of Michigan rather than moving to another state that has "full" professional licensure rather than "title" only legislation.

Please join with me in embracing and celebrating this historical achievement and let it renew your desire and commitment to landscape architecture. Remain as an active landscape architect through mentoring, lobbying, community outreach, and participation in Chapter events that support the profession of landscape architecture. I challenge you to be a significant part of this positive change.

To receive more information on Public Acts 490 and 491, licensure in general, or an update on what is happening around the State, please go to our website at www.michiganasla.org.

Yours Truly,
Brian Mulligan, RLA, ASLA
President, Michigan Chapter of ASLA

News & Notes

The call for nominations for ASLA 2009 Honors is open until February 13, so please consider nominating deserving members in your chapter for the **medals**, the **Landscape Architecture Firm Award**, or the **Community Service Award**. Individual professional members and chapters may nominate deserving individuals and organizations for recognition. Nominations are very simple to submit and guidelines for each honor are posted online. Should you have any questions, please contact Coordinator Carolyn Mitchell at 202-216-2331 or cmitchell@asla.org.

ASLA 2009 professional awards program. The deadline for entries is Friday, February 6, and for submissions is Friday, February 20.

The **National Transportation Research Board's Landscape and Environmental Design Committee** will meet in Washington, DC, on January 14. Jon Burley, ASLA, chair of the group's Subcommittee on Formal Papers and Programs, and a member of the ASLA's Context Sensitive Solutions in Transportation PPN, will report on the subcommittee's activities.

The 8th **Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Building Safe, Healthy and Livable Communities** conference will be held in Albuquerque, NM, January 22-24. ASLA continues as a sponsoring organization and will participate in the exhibit area.

U of M Landscape Architecture | Spring Break Internship Program | Feb. 23-27, 2009

The Landscape Architecture Program at the University of Michigan provides a valuable link between classroom/ studio learning and the world of design practice by helping students gain experience. We sponsor a one-week unpaid "internship" during spring break for 2nd and 3rd year MLA students interested in learning more about the practice of landscape architecture.

The host firm is asked to expose the student to the working world of landscape architecture, providing the student with a variety of activities to learn more about his/her intended profession.

Some typical activities that host firms can schedule for the student during the week:

- Shadow a landscape architect
- Sit in on staff and/ or client meetings
- Go on site visits
- Assist with working drawings or building models
- Meet with different landscape architects to discuss the firm's work and the profession

The student is responsible for travel expenses to and from the internship city, living expenses for the week, and transportation to and from the firm. Most students request placement in a city where they have relatives or friends to minimize the cost. The host firm is not under any obligation to compensate the student.

If you are being contacted directly, one of our students has identified your firm as a top interest. You will receive a copy of the student's resume and if your firm agrees to participate, we will put the student in direct contact with you to make all of the necessary arrangements. By the first or second week of February, the student will call the office to verify arrival time and any other necessary details with the person in the firm designated to coordinate the visit.

If you are interested in participating in the spring break internship program, or if you need more information, please contact:

Lisa Yee-Litzenberg, Coordinator of Student Career Services
University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment
Phone: 734-615-1633 or E-mail: yeeha@umich.edu
http://www.snre.umich.edu/career_services/employer

Michigan ASLA Call to Action

Dear ASLA Members,

As an Executive Committee Board we are always looking at ways we can provide benefits to our members. Many benefits from your national ASLA membership can be found at www.asla.org (look under the membership link and membership benefits). However, it always seems that you want to know what the State Chapter does for you. Well, over the past five years we have been working hard to improve this, and the following should bring you up to speed.

In 2003, we updated our website to the version that you now see at www.michiganasla.org. In 2006/07 the executive committee revamped the newsletter into *SITES*, a more journalistic approach to promoting the Michigan Chapter. While our previous newsletter only went out the membership, *SITES* circulation is over 1500 and growing, which includes the membership, legislators, allied professionals, DDA's and local governments. With the launch of *SITES*, we also have created the E-Newsletter, which is how I am addressing you today.

Other benefits/activities include Lobby Day at the Capitol (every April), the Michigan ASLA/Contractors Golf Outing (last Thursday in July), Michigan Chapter Annual Conference (every fall), advocacy on legislative issues that could impact the profession, free three month job posting on the website, RFP posting on the website, and programming events.

In an effort to continue to provide more benefits to the chapter, I am instituting a News & Notes section of the E-Newsletter and in *SITES*. My thoughts on this are that it will provide a quick place to look up upcoming events, but more importantly I see it as a benefit to the membership for self-promotion. You may be wondering how? This is the most important part, **I need YOU to send me information on yourself, firm, clients, etc that you would like to self-promote**, such as Jane Smith was promoted to Associate, or XYZ firm, hired Jane Smith, won an AIA award or was selected by Anytown, MI to design their streetscape. Don't forget that *SITES* is going to over 1200 potential clients (minus the membership distribution, give or take a few). **HOWEVER** this will only work/survive if I receive information from YOU, the membership.

It is our goal this year to really make the Michigan Chapter a marketing tool for our membership. The only way we can do this is through your support in advertising in *SITES*, providing info four our "News and Notes", and attending the golf outing, Annual Conference, and other programmed events. Send us those job postings; know of an RFP that may not be right for you, but could benefit Michigan members? Let us post it on the website so that our membership can get the chance to respond. Have a great idea for a speaker or programming event, tell us! Have an idea on who should receive *SITES* to boost our distribution, which in-turn promotes Michigan Landscape Architects, send it to us! Want to know what the Executive Committee is up-to? Attend the board meetings on the 2nd Thursday of the month; see our website for more information.

Our chapter is only as strong as the membership. We need to hear from you, the good the bad and the ugly. As an Executive Committee we know the economic times are tough, but as a profession this is the time that we need to stick together and help promote ourselves, our firms, and our profession.

So please tell us what you think! You can find contact info on our website at www.michiganasla.org under the contact section or you can contact me directly at president@michiganasla.org.

Sincerely,
Brian Mulligan, RLA, ASLA
President, Michigan Chapter of ASLA

M.R.P.A. Presents Trails Forum | February 3, 2009

The MRPA Trails Greenways and Blueways Committee presents the 2nd state-wide trails forum. The day long forum will consist of several case studies of successful trails. Presenters will include information specific to their trail on planning, construction and programming trails. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about the successes and flaws in an educational format. Case studies include trail systems of Grand Rapids, Grosse Ile, Heart of Michigan, Detroit, Columbus, and others. The lunch event will afford networking with trail experts.

The invited keynotes speaker of the forum is Tim O'Brien, former Vice President, Ford Motor Company. As deputy chief of staff at Ford, Mr. O'Brien was instrumental in Ford's initiative of intergrating sustainability into all aspects of its business strategy. Mr. O'Brien was the Ford Motor Company liason in the Rouge Gateway Partnership. This public/private stakeholder group developed the Rouge Gateway Master Plan and Greenway. He championed the revitalization of the Rouge Center with its environmentally responsible manufacturing system and the largest green roof in North America. Mr. O'Brien is now an independant consultant specializing in "environmental mediation".

Please join the MRPA Trails, Greenways and Blueways Committee for this day long forum of education and networking.

Trails Forum AGENDA: At a Glance

8:30 am-9 am	Registration Open, Continental Breakfast
9 am-9:15 am	Welcome/ Overview
9:15 am-10:30 am	Opening Session (CEU's .1): The Ford Rouge Center, A Study in Sustainable Business Practice
10:30 am-10:45 am	Break
10:45 am-Noon	Break-Out Sessions #1 (concurrent sessions) (CEU's .1) Option 1: Central Ohio Greenways Option 2: The Iron Ore Heritage Trail Experience Option 3: Building Urban Trails and Greenways
Noon-1:15 pm	All Forum Lunch
1:15 pm-2:30 pm	Break-Out Sessions #2 (concurrent sessions) (CEU's .1) Option 1: Battle Creek Bike Lanes: Planning to Implementation Option 2: Serendipity versus Strategy: Adapting the Trail Master Plan Option 3: Traverse Area Recreation and Transportation
2:30 pm-2:45 pm	Break
2:45 pm-4 pm	Break-Out Sessions #3 (concurrent sessions) (CEU's .1) Option 1: Grosse Isle Township Open Space, Greenways and Waterways Option 2: Trails and Tourism: Michigan's Upper Peninsula Option 3: The State 4H Equestrian Trail Ride

For additional information, please contact Justin Lippe at jlippe@mrpaonline.org

A Special Thanks to Our Sponsors
Riverside Kayak Connection, Hamilton Anderson, Beckett & Raeder, Inc. and ITC

Additional information is attached to this e-Newsletter

Call For Presentations for the ASLA 2009 Annual Meeting and Expo



The call for presentations for the ASLA 2009 Annual Meeting and EXPO is now open. If you are interested in presenting and sharing your knowledge with the landscape architecture profession, we encourage you to submit a proposal online for consideration. The call for presentations will be open until February 20, 2009.

Please see the below link to submit education program presentation proposals.

The annual meeting and EXPO will be held September 18-21 in Chicago and we are expecting another record-breaking attendance. The 2009 meeting theme will be Beyond Sustainability: Regenerating Places and People.

We hope that you consider submitting a proposal to enhance the educational element of the 2009 Annual Meeting and EXPO. Sincerely,

Clark Ebbert, CPSM
Education Program Manager
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736
phone (202) 216-2326
fax (202) 842-0861

Michigan Chapter ASLA
1000 W St. Joseph Hwy, Ste 200
Lansing, MI 48915
P: (517) 485-4116
F: (517) 485-9408
www.michiganasla.org

In This Issue:

• Letter from the President

• News & Notes

• UM Spring Break Internship Program

• Michigan ASLA Call to Action

• MRPA Trails Forum

• Call for Presentations for 2009 ASLA Annual Meeting & Expo