

## EDUCATION

### Master of Landscape Architecture, 1992

University of Michigan, School for Environment and Sustainability

### Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, 1988

University of Florida, College of Design, Construction, and Planning

## PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

State of Florida (LA#0001383)

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

2021 – present, University of Texas-Arlington, Department of Landscape Architecture Advisory Board, Member

2019 – 2021 Member, Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board  
2021 Secretary, Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board

2015 – present, Member, Black Landscape Architect Network (BlackLAN)  
2021-2022, Scholarship Committee and Awards Juror

2008 – present, Member, Roster of Visiting Evaluators (ROVE), for the Accreditation of Professional Landscape Architecture Programs

2005-2008, Art in Architecture, pro bono Design Consultant

2004, Florida A&M University Member, Department of Landscape Architecture Advisory Board

2000-2006, Member, Harry P. Leu Botanical Garden, Board of Directors,  
2006 Chair of the Board of Directors

1993, Central Florida Teen Achievers Program – volunteer instructor Orlando, Florida

1992 – 1996 Summer Education and Engagement for Kids Symposium (SEEKS) program – pro bono

## Ramon V. Murray, ASLA, PLA

Principal, Murray Design Group, Inc.

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: **Service**

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Florida Chapter ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate Ramon V. Murray, ASLA, PLA, for your consideration.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Over a thirty-five-year career Ramon V. Murray has advanced knowledge of the landscape architecture profession and provided service to ASLA and LAAB through his pro bono services to community and service organizations, educational institutions, his ASLA Chapter, and the nation.

His passion for service and advocacy began as a student at the University of Florida and has continued throughout his professional career. In gratitude for his advocacy, he received the 1988 Department of Landscape Architecture Service Award at the University of Florida, College of Design, Construction, and Planning. He was the first Black landscape architecture student to receive this award.

After graduation from the university, Ramon's local community service continued as a volunteer with the YMCA Teen Achievers, a national college and career readiness program that helps students achieve higher education and career goals. He shared his passion for landscape architecture and raised awareness of the profession with a particular emphasis on African Americans. Ramon guided each of the 15 participants to an understanding of the profession.

Ramon volunteered in the Summer Education and Engagement for Kids Symposium (SEEKS) program in Michigan, which educates high school students about the importance of wetlands to the environment and humans. Levering the fundamental tenants and values of landscape architecture as the baseline for the class, Ramon taught this two-week course on a recurring basis for four years. Over this period, he was able to engage a total of 50 students. Many of these students later chose environmental and landscape architecture careers.

Through Art in Architecture—a central Florida pro bono program that promotes the development of affordable housing with the Housing and Neighborhood Development Services (HANDS) of central Florida and the Hannibal Square Land Trust, Ramon was the only landscape architect among the team of architects and civil engineers providing design and permitting services throughout the Orlando metro area. As a result of his effort, the two agencies aided over twenty-five families of color and boosted the rate of black ownership.

***As a student, Ramon clearly trained to become a leader in outreach and youth education. As a professor, his community involvement projects continued to inspire clients to seek change in lives—not just environments. His ability to connect with individuals and organizations on many levels, even as a student, helps make him a stellar ambassador for our profession. His gracious generosity and infectious joy in our profession is a model few can match.***

Sara Katherine Williams,  
FASLA  
Associate Professor  
Emeritus  
Dept. of Landscape  
Architecture  
University of Florida

**INVITED LECTURES /  
PRESENTATIONS**

2022 – University of Massachusetts-  
Amherst, Department of Landscape  
Architecture

2021 – University of Michigan,  
Department of Landscape  
Architecture, Alumni Panel Series

2021 – University of Michigan,  
Department of Landscape  
Architecture, MLA Networking Day &  
Portfolio Review

2006 – Morgan State University,  
Department of Landscape  
Architecture, Guest Critic G. Smith  
Studio

2005 – University of Florida,  
Department of Landscape  
Architecture, Guest Critic P. Carr  
Studio

1994 – City College of New York,  
Department of Landscape  
Architecture, Guest Critic G. Smith  
Studio

1996 – University of Michigan,  
Department of Landscape  
Architecture, Discussion Series,  
Guest Panelist

**SELECTED HONORS AND  
AWARDS**

Florida Chapter ASLA Service Award  
- 2005

Hannibal Square Land Trust  
Appreciation Award – 2005

Central Florida YMCA Black  
Achievers Award - 1993

University of Michigan LA Alumni  
Award - 1992

Sigma Lambda Alpha Honor Society -  
1995

University of Florida BLA – graduated  
with High Honors - 1988

National ASLA Certificate of Honor -  
1988

**Ramon V. Murray, ASLA, PLA**

As an extension of his academic career, Ramon's pro bono work guided University of Florida students through community involvement and master planning for a storm-ravaged community on Florida's gulf coast and the Shingle Creek Corridor Study for the South Florida Water Management District. Also, in collaboration with the College of Architecture at the University of Florida he directed graduate students in a project that involved a new pier to separate cruise and cargo operations in Bridgetown, Barbados. These student assistance efforts provided service to communities and knowledge of landscape architecture to over 45 graduate and undergraduate students, informing their career choices within the profession.

Ramon has continued his service to the profession at the national level with his involvement on the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). As a visiting team member and later a board member, Ramon advanced the mission of LAAB through his service on several committees and evaluation of graduate and undergraduate programs throughout the US and Puerto Rico.

**IMPACT: ACADEMIA AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

During his junior and senior year spring breaks at the University of Florida, Ramon volunteered to present his studio coursework and distribute brochures about the profession of landscape architecture to high school drafting students. Ramon took the lead in working with two fellow students to develop landscape architecture departmental education materials, which did not exist within the College of Design at the time. These materials were used to educate Rockledge High School juniors and seniors about a landscape architecture career path. In recognition of this significant and far-reaching service activity, Ramon was awarded the 1988 Department of Landscape Architecture Service Award from the University of Florida, College of Design, Construction, and Planning. The review panel recognized Ramon's tireless efforts to share his college career experiences studying landscape architecture to over 120 high school students at his alma mater, Rockledge High School in Rockledge, Florida.

In 1993, Ramon received the YMCA Central Florida Black Achievers Award for his service work with the Teen Achievers initiative, a national college and career readiness program that provides guidance and assistance to middle and high school students. In gratitude, Ramon donated over one-hundred hours creating and teaching a landscape architecture curriculum appropriate for students from predominantly low-income and African American neighborhoods in Orlando, Ramon aided students in identifying and achieving their higher education goals serving as a mentor and advocate as a landscape architect professional. Participants prepared individual plans that highlighted their ideas relative to environmental perceptions of their community landscapes. This service activity impacted 15 students.

***Ramon's ability to listen and absorb the viewpoints of others has been a hallmark of his decades of professional service activity success. As a member of BlackLAN and the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB), Ramon has served on key committees, accreditation teams, and most recently as LAAB secretary.***

***Through his diverse professional practice and academic teaching experience, and collaborative people skills, he continues to provide strategic expertise to both BlackLAN and ASLA.***

Glenn LaRue Smith,  
FASLA  
Co-Founder PUSH  
studio  
Founder BlackLANstudio  
Founder BlackLAN

## EXPERIENCE

### 2013-present

Principal Landscape Architect,  
Murray Design Group, Inc., Orlando,  
FL

### 2009- 2013

President and Landscape Architect,  
Smith + Murray studio, Inc.,  
Washington, DC and Orlando, FL

### 2004- 2008

Director of Design, Miller Einhouse  
Rymer and Boyd, Orlando, FL

### 1998 - 2004

President and Founder, Land  
Concepts, Inc., Orlando, FL

### 1996 - 1997

Landscape Architect, Edward D.  
Stone and Associates, Inc., Orlando,  
FL

### 1993 – 1996 and 1997-1998

Assistant Professor, Department of  
Landscape Architecture, College of  
Architecture, University of Florida,  
Gainesville

### 1992 -1993 and 1988-1990

Landscape Architect, Glatting  
Jackson, Kercher Anglin Lopez  
Rinehart, Inc., Orlando, FL

## Ramon V. Murray, PLA, ASLA

From 1992 to 1996, after graduating from the University of Michigan and returning to Florida, Ramon dedicated pro bono service to the Summer Education and Engagement for Kids Symposium (SEEKS) program at Adrian College, a private liberal arts institution in Southeast Michigan. Through this service activity he was able to introduce students to the profession of landscape architecture via design and sustainability coursework. The Adrian College program focused on educating its students about the significance of wetlands. Ramon lectured on the importance of wetland preservation and habitat management, organized field trips to local communities to show the students well executed examples of preservation and cluster development, and exposed students to the study of ecosystems through visits to nurseries. Although SEEKS was a statewide program, this course was the only one taught by and through the lens of a landscape architect.

Each of the four years Ramon self-funded the SEEKS classes with plans and materials (bags of Chartpak markers, Prismacolor pencils, and modeling supplies) to conduct rendering and model building exercises. By the completion of each course, students had designed and rendered landscape plans of sites around campus and constructed models of their work to understand the spatial application of each design. Students of color from the Cass Technical School in Detroit constituted fifteen percent of the participants. Two former students went on to be accepted to Michigan State University as landscape architecture majors.

***Ramon Murray served two terms on the Harry P. Leu Gardens Board of Trustees becoming Chair during his final year. Ramon made significant contributions to the operations and management of the garden through his steadfast dedication, insightful directives, and support. Ramon's capacity for developing clear objectives during the strategic planning process was invaluable as the garden responded to budget cuts and three hurricane catastrophes in 2004. Ramon has represented the landscape architecture profession well.***

Robert E. Bowden  
Executive Director  
Harry P. Leu Gardens  
City of Orlando

In March 1993, the "Storm of the Century" struck the gulf coast of Florida with a storm surge that devastated the town of Keaton Beach. As an assistant professor at the University of Florida, Ramon guided juniors through the intricate process of community involvement, yielding the Keaton Beach Master Plan that delineated creative design solutions for rebuilding the coastal town. This community service activity expanded the communities understanding of landscape architecture during 3 community meetings and provided 25 students with expanded knowledge of environmental and design planning strategies.

Further, as a professor at the University of Florida, Ramon directed a comprehensive community-based study of the Shingle Creek corridor, a small waterway in central Florida at the northernmost headwaters of the Everglades, for the South Florida Water Management District. Working with a class of 25 undergraduate seniors, Ramon stressed the importance of regional analysis, resulting in the Shingle Creek Land Use Case Study. He also introduced students to the nuisances of working in diverse communities and serving the water management district with pro bono services. The class learned from interaction with community members at 5 meetings within the community. As a result, the Shingle Creek Regional Trail covering 32 miles was constructed and the site analysis documentation guided conservation and development strategies.

Collaborating with an architecture studio within the College of Architecture at the University of Florida, Ramon participated in a joint design studio study to investigate design opportunities for a cruise terminal in Bridgetown, Barbados, which resulted in the 2000 Bridgetown Port Master Plan. He directed 10 graduate students, enhancing the architecture students understanding of landscape architecture and its environmental and economic importance. This study had far-reaching impact for Bridgetown and has resulted in the construction of a new cruise terminal and increasing economic viability to the island.

As a continuous advocate of local community service, Ramon served six years on the Board of Directors for Harry P. Leu Gardens in Orlando, Florida and was the only landscape architecture Board member during his tenure. Listed on the National Register of Historic

## Ramon V. Murray, PLA, ASLA

Places, this botanical garden includes almost fifty acres of semi-tropical and tropical plants collections. As the only Board landscape architect, he was able to bring increased awareness of the profession to efforts to revitalize the gardens after the tropical storms of 2004-2005 destroyed over 50% of the plant collections. In addition to serving as the Board Chair for one year, he participated in a Strategic Plan designed to strengthen the Gardens' education mission, and provide strategies, actions, and a timeline for re-establishing the garden's lost plant collections.

From 2005 to 2008 Ramon participated in Art in Architecture—a central Florida pro bono program that provides design and permitting services for the Housing and Neighborhood Development Services (HANDS) of central Florida and the Hannibal Square Land Trust. This program develops affordable housing neighborhoods throughout the Orlando metro area and provides comprehensive, private housing counseling sessions within the City of Orlando. As the only landscape architect amongst the team of architects and civil engineers, Ramon designed landscape and irrigation plans for several veterans and disadvantaged, first-time homeowners. The homes are in Hannibal Square, a historically Black community in Winter Park, and the Heroes Commons at Jefferson neighborhood project in south Orlando. As a result of his effort, the two agencies aided over twenty-five families of color and boosted the rate of black ownership.

As an ad hoc member of the Executive Committee of the Florida Chapter of ASLA, Ramon served as Chair of the Audit committee in 2004-2005. He was responsible for monitoring financial distributions and bookkeeping of the then-1000-member chapter and provided oversight of final reporting and related internal controls. For this effort, he received the 2005 Chapter Service Award.

### **SERVICE IMPACT: DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE EDUCATION**

Ramon has served as a panelist and guest critic in landscape architecture design studios throughout his career. He has shared his knowledge of site planning, construction documentation and professional practice with students at the University of Florida, the University of Michigan, City of College of New York, and Morgan State University - Baltimore, Maryland, and Florida A&M University, both HBCUs. In 1996, Ramon participated in the University of Michigan Alumni Panel Series, and he returned to the University of Florida in 2005 as a guest design studio critic. In 2021, he took part in the MLA Networking Day. The program specifically targeted African American graduates of the School of Environment and Sustainability in professional practice to offer one-on-one virtual discussions with students regarding their career goals and review of portfolios. The impact of Ramon's diverse professional experience assisted graduate students during the session.

Ramon was on the Steering Committee that developed and hosted the first meeting of the Black Landscape Architects Network (BlackLAN) in 2010 at Howard University, which also coincided with the ASLA National conference in Washington, DC. Since that first meeting, he has provided strategic guidance to the steering committee as the organization moved to a nonprofit status in 2020. Ramon currently serves on the BlackLAN Scholarship Committee, which has awarded two 2022 Edward Lyons Pryce, FASLA scholarships to Black students currently enrolled in landscape architecture programs in the United States.

Ramon's service to the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) includes his work as a member of the Roster of Visiting Evaluators (ROVE) for 14 years. As a ROVE member Ramon has participated on twelve nationwide visits, including Puerto Rico, to universities seeking re-accreditation of their landscape architecture degree programs. His role as a practitioner team member assisted in documenting the twelve review findings and recommendations associated with each program's attainment of the Accreditation Standards in accordance with the LAAB.

In 2016, Ramon was elected to the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board. During his sixth year of service, 2021, he served as Secretary of LAAB. One-hundred undergraduate and graduate landscape architecture programs in the United States, Puerto Rico, and Beirut, Lebanon were evaluated and accredited during his team service on the LAAB. He was also instrumental in drafting the Board's first operating Policies and Bylaws. Ramon also served as Principal Reader and guided the evaluation and interim reporting of 13 accredited programs. The LAAB Strategic Plan was an intensive effort that outlined areas of strategic priority and he took a key role around Communications. Ramon chaired the Communications committee which was charged with initiating and monitoring effective conveyance of information between LAAB, ASLA, volunteers and landscape architecture programs.

***Ramon has demonstrated dedication to our profession as an enthusiastic and committed member of the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). We have worked on several board-related initiatives and for the past year we were on the LAAB leadership team. From my perspective, Ramon's contributions to the board have had a measurable impact over the past six years particularly regarding advancing the quality of education in professional programs.***

Lynn Ewanow  
Chair LAAB and  
Associate Dean, Emerita  
Kansas State University

## Ramon V. Murray, ASLA

In the wake of the George Floyd murder and the increased focus on social injustice, Ramon led five of the twenty-five town hall sessions, which provided professionals, students, faculty, and underrepresented groups an opportunity to share their stories to address Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the LAAB Standards.

As the reality of the pandemic unfolded in the early months of 2020, the LAAB determined the need to pivot from in-person to virtual site visits. Ramon participated in drafting, developing, testing, and the establishment of visitation and evaluation protocols, which were created due to the Covid pandemic. Nine programs were granted accreditation by way of virtual site visits this past year.

In 2021, Ramon served as a special guest to the ASLA Licensure and State Advocacy Committee. He assisted in CLARB's effort to investigate more detailed Uniform Standards (education, experience & examination) for licensure requirements to use in its Landscape Architecture Model Law. Before drafting the Uniform Standard, CLARB requested the ASLA Licensure & State Advocacy Committee provide a recommendation for traditional and alternative educational pathways to licensure. As a panel member, he provided input for recognizing the value of accredited landscape architecture programs during this process.

Ramon has begun his first-year term as the second African American to sit on the University of Texas-Arlington Advisory Board. Based on his LAAB experience, he has been assigned to advise the upcoming accreditation preparations.

### **Summary by Chapter President:**

Ramon V. Murray has worked tirelessly over thirty-five years through his professional service activities to promote landscape architecture within the academic, local community, and national sectors. He is unique in the sense that he began his service efforts while a student at the University of Florida. Given this early service, Ramon has influenced and equipped over one hundred high school and university students with an appreciation for landscape architecture. As his career advanced, he has continued to serve and further the awareness of the profession of landscape architecture.

The service honors that Ramon has been awarded over the years are further evidence of his focused promotion of landscape architecture within and outside the profession. He works steadfastly to bring more Black landscape architects into the profession and his participation on various Black Landscape Architects Network (BlackLAN) committees creates a pronounced service dedication. Ramon has not waned in his support the mission of landscape architecture accreditation. Because of his sustained service to the profession in Florida and national levels, it gives The Florida Chapter of ASLA great pleasure to recognize and nominate Ramon V. Murray for ASLA Council of Fellows in the Service category.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Daoulas, ASLA Florida Chapter President  
Nominating Body: ASLA Florida Chapter ExCom

## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture,  
Ball State University, 1995

## NATIONAL ASLA SERVICE

2017-present: Member Services  
Committee; Chair, 2019-present

2015, 2016, 2018: Public Awareness  
Committee and Summit, Indiana  
representative

## INDIANA ASLA CHAPTER SERVICE

2017-present: Public Awareness  
Committee; Chair, 2015-2016, 2019,  
2021-present

2020-present: Indiana Chapter  
Diversity & Emerging Professionals  
Committee; Chair

2017-2021: Public Relations  
Committee; Chair, 2019-2021

2019-2021: Emerging Professionals  
Committee

2013-2021: Continuing Education  
Committee; Chair, 2013-2017

2011-2021: Event Committee

2018-2020: Fellows Committee;  
Chair, 2019-2020

2011-2015, 2020: Member-at-Large

2017-2019: President-Elect,  
President, Immediate Past-President

2016: Vice-President

## SERVICE HONORS AND AWARDS

### National:

2019: National Outstanding Service  
Award, ASLA

### Regional, state, local:

2021: Outstanding Alumni Award,  
Ball State University College of  
Architecture & Planning

2018: Outstanding Service Award,  
INASLA

2014, 2017: Special Recognition  
Award, INASLA

2016: Claire Bennett Legacy Award  
for outstanding service and  
leadership, INASLA

## April Westcott, ASLA

Senior Project Manager, MG Landscape & Irrigation, Indianapolis  
Council of Fellows Nomination: SERVICE

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Indiana Chapter ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate April Westcott, ASLA, for your consideration.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** April Westcott received the 2019 National ASLA Outstanding Service Award – one of only two people to receive this high honor, out of more than 15,000 members nationwide – and for good reason. April exemplifies commitment and service to ASLA, with the intent of building a bigger tent for all to have a place within the organization. Whether it is introducing the profession to young students, promoting awareness of landscape architecture to the public during annual Earth Day celebrations, or strengthening our outreach to ASLA members through her many volunteer committee positions, April has selflessly devoted herself to the organization through more than a decade of intense service, acting as the bridge between people and organizations, between the profession and public.

- In Indiana ASLA, as chair of six committees and as Vice-President and President, April has made dramatic improvements in the chapter's internal and external communications, and she has led the charge in creating a powerful presence for ASLA in the public eye.
- As Chair of ASLA's national Member Services Committee, she initiated creation of an array of resources for onboarding new members and chapter leaders. Those tools have transformed the effectiveness of state chapters' onboarding processes across the country and energized the presence of new members. Her clever initiative in having "Landscape Architecture Day" and "World Landscape Architecture Month" proclaimed in Indiana – then prodding other cities and states to follow suit – has given landscape architecture a vibrant public presence.
- She has found creative ways to partner with major community organizations, such as Newfields (one of the nation's largest art campuses), seizing opportunities to launch public discussions and engaging activities focused on the work of landscape architects.
- She has educated hundreds of children and teenagers about landscape architecture and mentored many dozens of landscape architecture majors at Purdue and Ball State Universities, serving as a sounding board and source of networking contacts.

*April's exceptional leadership contributions to ASLA's Member Services Committee continue to play a significant role in the vitality and long-term health and well-being of the Society. At both national and chapter levels, her inventiveness, creative insight, and skilled communication provide measurable benefits in helping to sustain and grow membership in ASLA, one of the most important issues facing the Society.*

K. Richard Zweifel, FASLA  
ASLA President 2014-2015

For April, all of these service activities – to ASLA, to community organizations, and to students – are interconnected. She understands that each organization, each group of people, is stronger and more effective when it works with one other. And behind all these connections, April serves as the catalyst and bridge.

## **SERVICE TO INDIANA ASLA: BOOSTING OUR MISSION AND IMPACT**

April's history of service to the Indiana Chapter of ASLA (INASLA) is as deep as it is wide. She joined the Events Committee in 2011 (and remains a member today), then threw herself into a half-dozen other committees over the following decade. For most, she has served as a chair – of the Public Relations Committee, Public Awareness Committee, Continuing Education Committee, Fellows Committee, and Diversity & Emerging Professionals Committee. In all these positions she was not simply a figurehead who showed up for meetings, to get another line on her resume; instead, she took on each role with a commitment to finding ways to improve the work of INASLA and create positive change.

## OTHER SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF THE PROFESSION

2017-present: Ball State University College of Architecture and Planning (CAP) Alumni Society Executive Advisory Board

2001-2018: Irrigation Association

2001-2018: Indiana Nursery & Landscape Association member, INASLA liaison

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

2012-present: Earth Day Indiana presenter/exhibitor, INASLA rep.

2016-present: Hendricks County Alliance for Diversity

2013-present: Outside the Box volunteer

2021: Introduction to Landscape Architecture course volunteer, University of Buffalo

2013-2017: Indy Chamber Monumental Awards, INASLA liaison, jury member

2017: Cultural Landscapes Foundation, "What's Out There," volunteer and tour guide

2016: *Ten Parks that Changed America*, PBS screening & panel, organizer

2013-2015: *Hendricks County Home* magazine, contributing landscape writer

2012: *Women in the Dirt*, film screening and panel, Newfields, organizer & moderator

2002-2005: Westcott House, Springfield, OH, volunteer, docent

## EXPERIENCE

2020-present: Senior Project Manager, MG Landscape & Irrigation, Indianapolis

2018-2020: Landscape Designer & Project Manager, Mark M. Holeman, Inc., Indianapolis

2001-2018: Manager of Design & Specifications, Irrigation Design Source, Fishers, IN

1998-2001: Manager of Landscape, Growing Image, Inc., Avon, IN

## April Westcott, ASLA

It's no surprise, then, that April was selected to serve as the chapter Vice-President, followed by President-Elect, President, and Immediate Past-President, from 2016-2019. April is naturally driven to set up new initiatives and expand on existing programs, to move things forward, and fellow INASLA members know that when April is involved, things will *get done*.

Some of her service has been fixing chapter problems – perhaps finding gaps or unmet needs in chapter procedures, then providing practical solutions. As Continuing Education Committee Chair, for instance, she created a system for the unwieldy task of tracking professional credits earned by attending INASLA events. When LA CES (a data management system aimed at continuing education) became an option, April quickly incorporated it into her work with the committee, making the process easier, more streamlined, and more efficient for everyone. She then taught INASLA members at Purdue and Ball State University how to use LA CES, so that their lectures could be valid options for professionals seeking or renewing their licensure. Since 2013, she has overseen or validated 3,514 credit hours given to licensed professionals and 216 educational events.

As Chair of both the Public Relations and Public Awareness Committees, April dedicates many dozens of hours each year to making sure that news of chapter activities and events is disseminated to ASLA members, to allied professionals, to vendors, and to the public. Approximately 80% of INASLA news currently distributed through social media is April's work. She takes photos, writes articles, then gets them posted or published. She has streamlined and normed the chapter PR protocol, too, and in doing so has increased participation on social media sites (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) by more than 300% since 2013.

As Chair of the Diversity & Emerging Professionals Committee, April carefully reviews 12-30 chapter events each year, to be sure that INASLA is reaching out to as many diverse groups as it can and is addressing topics that are important to other cultural groups. She attends information sessions to better educate herself on diversity in the profession, then passes on what she has learned to INASLA members. And she encourages people from all walks of life and backgrounds to consider landscape architecture as a field of study and profession. That work – as in all of her service roles to INASLA – starts with helping the public learn what landscape architecture is all about, through events like Earth Day Indiana.

Indiana's annual Earth Day celebration is one of the largest free Earth Day events in the country, attracting more than 6,000 visitors each spring. When April joined INASLA's Events Committee in 2011, she wondered why the chapter had no presence at Earth Day Indiana. By the next summer, it did, because of April.

She established two key goals for INASLA's booth at the fair: to find creative ways to attract visitors of all ages to the booth, and to be sure that every visitor who stops at the booth will walk away with new understanding of the work that landscape architects do. Each year, she starts by gathering a team of enthusiastic INASLA volunteers, including Ball State and Purdue University student members. She then comes up with engaging activities that introduce children and teens to landscape architecture in a way that's fun and easy to understand. "If you can get a kid in a seat for five minutes, you can explain what landscape architecture is, and you can teach them that landscape architects create parks, like the park where Earth Day Indiana festivities are held. You can plant a seed of knowledge in that kid's mind," April explains. She is especially excited to do this when kids from diverse Indianapolis neighborhoods show up – kids who may have never thought of college or a career, much less a career in landscape architecture, or how parks are created. But when they walk away from INASLA's Earth Day booth, with a package of wildflower seeds and LA Activity Packet in hand, they just might consider all of these things.

With adult visitors to the booth, April often talks to educators who are looking for new career opportunities to share with students. Such contacts have led to some of April's 25 visits over the last dozen years to both elementary and high school classrooms throughout central Indiana. April also makes sure that Earth Day photos and highlights of INASLA's booth get posted on social media, spreading



## April Westcott, ASLA

awareness about landscape architecture to an even broader swath of the public. The booth has been so successful that it was featured on the front cover of *Landscape Architect* magazine in 2020, inspiring other chapters to get involved with their own state's Earth Day activities.

Given these and many other activities, INASLA has recognized April with four separate awards, all specifically acknowledging her service to the chapter: the Special Recognition Award (2014 and 2017), the Outstanding Service Award (2018), and, most important, the Claire Bennett Legacy Award (2020), which has been given to only 15 people in the chapter's history, in recognition of outstanding service and leadership.

### **NATIONAL SERVICE TO ASLA: EXPANDING THE IMPACT OF MEMBERSHIP AND MESSAGING**

Much of April's experience from service to the state has been parlayed to the national level, through both ASLA and other state chapters. That work began in 2015, when April represented INASLA at the ASLA Public Awareness Summit and served on the Public Awareness Committee for three of the next four years. She also accepted the invitation to join the national Member Services Committee and two years later became committee Chair, a position she still holds today. In this role she has again been a *connector*, a *problem-solver*, and a *resource person* for state chapters across the U.S.

Much of her work has been aimed at creating better onboarding tools for new members. Oftentimes, when individuals join ASLA, they know that they'll get a magazine in the mail but little else. April has therefore led the initiative to create onboarding presentation tools that chapters can use to educate new members, or that professionals can use to help colleagues learn what their benefits are as ASLA members. Some of the tools and initiatives are geared specifically toward young, emerging professionals who may not yet understand the vital importance of networking and active involvement in our profession. Those efforts have paid off, as ASLA has seen a resurgence of young volunteers. During the two-and-a-half years that April has served as Chair of the Member Services Committee, in fact, young professional membership has increased by 56%, and volunteer activity has increased by 300%.

Another one of her key initiatives has been to improve the onboarding process for new chapter leaders. Because most chapter board memberships turn over every year or two, a new treasurer or secretary or president-elect may not know what they're expected to do. April therefore led the Member Services Committee in creating welcome materials for every for every board position. Now, when somebody joins a state chapter board, they receive a welcome letter, with information about the position's expected duties and the rewards of serving in that role, and assurances that they can turn to April or other committee members when they have questions. This initiative has generated increased activity by state chapter committee members across the country.

April also leads the ASLA National Member Services Committee in identifying membership needs and goals, then creating resources and events in response. For example, her updated "Chapter Excellence Checklist" and "Guides to Using Chapter Operations Workbook" are distributed to all state chapter boards, along with other templates that chapter leaders can adapt to their own specific circumstances. For several years, too, under April's leadership, the committee has hosted events and campaigns for Membership Chairs across the country, including Membership Chair Town Halls, First-Time Attendee Lounges at ASLA Conferences, portfolio reviews for emerging professionals at ASLA conferences, and Each One, Reach One phone call campaigns to membership chairs and presidents. What is perhaps most remarkable about April's role as Member Services Chair is that she calls the work "lots of fun." She is not the reluctant leader who serves purely out of a sense of duty; she does it because she loves helping make ASLA a better organization and helping its members truly become part of our professional community. When a chapter membership chair calls for help, April eagerly responds.

Another one of April's long-lasting impacts at the national level also began at local and state levels. In 2016, she worked with the Indianapolis mayor to have "Landscape Architecture Day" proclaimed by the city, then worked with the governor's office to have "World Landscape Architecture Month" proclaimed by the State of Indiana. Both proclamations were widely publicized and served an important role in elevating awareness about landscape architecture. Soon eight cities across Indiana were issuing similar proclamations, with INASLA guidance and the template that April created. But their impact didn't stop at the state level. As a member of the INASLA Public Awareness Committee, April gave a presentation at the national ASLA conference about simple steps that other states could take to have similar proclamations declared. Over the next two years, Landscape Architecture Month proclamations were declared in Florida, Kansas, Nevada, New Mexico and Washington, in each case using April's template and verbiage. Other states have gone on to use the proclamation process as a valuable public relations tool, and ASLA saw its value vividly demonstrated when the mayor of Nashville, Tennessee, proclaimed November 20, 2021, as Landscape Architecture Day, in honor of the national conference held there. Besides their impact in

*Each year, April and her ASLA team put together a first-rate exhibit for Earth Day Indiana. She helps elevate our mission with activities and materials that engage visitors and educate them on sustainable practices. Kids, in particular, always have a great time at the ASLA booth! Earth Day Indiana has gone through some challenging times because of COVID, but partnering with someone like April – who's incredibly easy to work with – makes the job that much easier.*

Greg Ziesemer, Earth Day Indiana  
Executive Director, 2019-present



## April Westcott, ASLA

raising awareness about landscape architecture among states' citizens, such proclamations also serve as a tool of validation for landscape architects who are fighting for licensure. It's evidence that a state's government recognizes our profession's "legitimacy," and it's yet another example of April's creative strategies for elevating landscape architecture in the public eye and her powerful role in pushing state-level strategies to a national level.

April also crossed that state-to-national level of impact in September 2021, when she was chosen by the INASLA President to co-host a two-day visit to Indiana by ASLA's CEO, Torey Carter-Conneen. She facilitated and documented the entire visit, putting Carter-Conneen in front of 59 landscape architects, professionals, and faculty, as well as 80 students of landscape architecture. He and the ASLA national staff said the visit and documentation set the standard for all such state visits in the future. Furthermore, ASLA's new 2022-2024 Strategic Plan was clearly inspired by the CEO's visit to Indiana and included many topics of conversation that Carter-Conneen had with students, faculty, and professionals. April's state-level efforts generated yet another array of national impacts.

Not surprisingly, April was awarded ASLA's Outstanding Service Award in 2019 – clear evidence of the amazing scope and reach of her service on a national level. Given to only two ASLA members nationwide each year, the award places April in elite company with ASLA's most dedicated, effective leaders in service.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE: JOINING FORCES, MULTIPLYING IMPACTS**

April's two decades of service to Indiana communities have been intimately intertwined with her work with INASLA and celebration of the work of landscape architects. Once again, she has served as a *bridge* between people and between organizations, with a foundational ethic of supporting one another's initiatives, of *lifting up* one another. For 18 years, she was a member of the Indiana Nursery and Landscape Association (INLA) and served as a liaison to the organization, recruiting Indiana ASLA volunteers for INLA's annual convention. In 2013, as part of ASLA's Year of Public Service, she volunteered to help Outside the Box (an Indianapolis-based program for adults with developmental and physical challenges). She helped create an outdoor garden in a design-build project and has continued volunteering with Outside the Box, long after the initial project was completed. In fact, April is one of the reasons that Outside the Box and INASLA have a strong, mutually supportive relationship today. In 2017, April was a senior volunteer for the Cultural Landscapes Foundation's annual "What's Out There" event, arranging tours of cultural landscapes in Indiana. In all these volunteer activities, April has educated, promoted, and raised the public awareness about landscape architecture.

April's most important community outreach and partnership has been with Newfields (formerly the Indianapolis Museum of Art, or IMA). In 2012 she established Indiana ASLA's partnership with Newfields for its annual Horticulture Symposium. She made it her mission to inform landscape architects statewide about the symposium and also to facilitate licensure credits for their attendance. The Newfields collaboration that April is proudest of, though, involved the museum's 2012 showing of *Women in the Dirt*, a documentary about seven groundbreaking landscape architects. April seized the opportunity to create a panel of Indiana female landscape architects, of all ages, to speak after the documentary and share their perspectives as women in the profession. Moderated by April, the event was a huge success, with approximately 120 visitors attending the film showing and learning the vital importance of landscape architects' work.

Seeing the potential of film to engage the public with landscape architecture, April adopted a similar strategy for a 2016 showing of

*Ten Parks that Changed America*, a PBS documentary that showcases the work of landscape architects. This time, April made INASLA a co-sponsor of the event with Indy Parks & Recreation, then assembled a panel of representatives from city and state park agencies and a local landscape architect. Her real triumph, however, was getting the film's producer, Dan Protess, to come to Indianapolis to introduce the film and then moderate the panel discussion about the importance of parks to Indianapolis and the state as a whole. The event informed 150 attendees – a broad range of citizens and city officials – about the role that landscape architecture plays in everyone's lives.

April's impact on the community through such events is no accident. It's a direct result of her initiative, creativity, and forethought. She *pays attention* and looks for opportunities for INASLA to join forces with other organizations and capitalize on events. Dan Protess could have gone anywhere in the country for the premiere of *Ten Parks*, but he didn't; he came to Indianapolis, because of April.

*April initially made her mark on Newfields in designing irrigation systems but was even more valuable as a volunteer, especially in coordinating adjunct activities related to the showing of "Women in the Dirt." April also represented Indiana ASLA at our staging of the popular Horticulture Symposium. She actively promoted it among her professional colleagues and arranged for them to receive educational credits for their participation. Their collective attendance helped elevate the status and significance of our symposium.*

Mark Zelonis, Honorary ASLA  
Retired Deputy Director of Environmental &  
Historic Preservation, IMA/Newfields

## April Westcott, ASLA

### **SERVICE TO STUDENTS: MENTORING FUTURE PROFESSIONALS**

As with her work in the community, April's service to students is deeply intertwined with her commitment to spreading awareness about landscape architecture, and in some cases, it also involves mentoring the next generation of landscape architects. In Indianapolis, she speaks to a fourth-grade classroom each year, explaining the basics of our profession and how landscapes help create or improve the places that kids care about, like parks and playgrounds and nature centers. In high school classrooms, she goes into "recruitment mode," encouraging them to consider landscape architecture for their future careers and telling them about Purdue's and Ball State University's nationally recognized LA programs. For several years, at one Indianapolis high school, she gave presentations through Project Lead the Way, a national program that emphasizes hands-on learning, collaboration, creative problem-solving, and STEM skills for K-12 students.

April's greatest student outreach, though, involves landscape architecture students at Ball State and Purdue. Here, as in her other service activities, April acts as a bridge between individuals and organizations. She encourages students from the two programs to view one another not as competitors but rather as collaborators, instilling in them the importance of working together in the profession and in service to communities. At INASLA's annual meeting, for instance, she enthusiastically mentors a dozen Ball State and Purdue volunteers, with the goal of fostering relationships that will long outlast their time in school. She then recruits them to volunteer at Earth Day Indiana and other INASLA outreach activities. At both universities, April is frequently asked to serve on juries, review portfolios, or conduct mock interviews; she never says "no." Each year, she speaks to a Purdue Landscape Contracting and Maintenance class about best practices in irrigation. Last year, she responded to a call for professionals to help with online breakout groups in an "Introduction to Landscape Architecture" course at the University of Buffalo. Purdue and Ball State landscape architecture students often seek her guidance in finding internships or jobs. As April gets to know students' strengths and interests, she can help match them with a professional's style or a firm's mission, and because of her work with ASLA at the national level, her network of contacts is vast. Students reap the benefits with a jump-start to their careers.

*On the national level, April's groundbreaking advocacy to declare Landscape Architecture Month has served as a model for other chapters. Her leadership in ASLA committee work and the Chapter Presidents Council ensured a lively, productive exchange of ideas, encouraging emerging leaders to engage with the group and test their own leadership skills. All in all, April has had a profound impact on ASLA's advocacy and awareness goals and the support of emerging leaders throughout the Society.*

Julia McFeely Lent, Honorary ASLA  
ASLA Managing Director, Member and  
Chapter Services, 2001-2020

April has also served Ball State as a member of its College of Architecture and Planning (CAP) Alumni Society Executive Advisory Board since 2017. There she serves as a bridge between ASLA and Ball State alumni, capitalizing on common goals and values that the two organizations share: encouragement of personal and professional relationships, initiatives to increase diversity in the profession, and support of young, emerging professionals. She therefore works to involve Ball State alumni and INASLA members in one another's organizational events. As April explains, "When you see people and organizations with the same goals, doing the same thing in two different lanes, there's an opportunity to do the same work *in the same lane* – and it creates a bigger impact." The repercussions of April's generous service to students, to the university, and to her profession have not gone unnoticed; in 2021 she was honored with CAP's Outstanding Alumni Award.

**SUMMARY BY CHAPTER PRESIDENT:** April Westcott doesn't know how to be a bystander or to simply "show up" to events. When someone calls for volunteers, her hand shoots up. She is a *doer*, not simply a talker. She works tirelessly to build community, always seeking practical ways to open doors for landscape architects – from seasoned experts to emerging professionals to student members – and to connect landscape architects to community members and organizations in innovative activities. She actively seeks ways to make connections and share resources – to lift up one other, to support one other, to celebrate one another's activities publicly. That's the "secret" of her success in community service. And in the process, she generates synergy that spreads the impact of each organization and the entire profession of landscape architecture.

ASLA has benefited in countless ways from the spirit, enthusiasm, and dedication of April Westcott, and as an organization we are better because of her sustained service and leadership. Without question, she is worthy of elevation to the ASLA Council of Fellows.

Sincerely,



Rebecca Ludwig, ASLA President  
Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

## **Galen S. Drake, ASLA, PLA, CPESC, LEED AP**

Senior Landscape Architect, J2Design

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination - **Service**

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Arizona Chapter, it is my privilege to nominate Galen S. Drake, ASLA, for your consideration.

### **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture,  
University of Arizona, 1977

### **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

2019 – 2020, 2015 – 2016/  
AZASLA Chapter President

2017 - Current, ASLA (National)  
Licensure & State Government  
Affairs Committee Chair ('18-'19)

2018, Landscape Architecture  
representative Juror 38th annual  
Arizona Forward Environmental  
Excellence Awards.

1987 - Current, AZASLA  
Professional Design Awards  
Program Founder and Chairman

2017, Jury Facilitator, ASLA  
Washington State Chapter  
Professional Design Awards

2017, Jury Facilitator, ASLA  
Oklahoma Chapter Professional  
Design Awards

2017, Juror, Arizona State  
University MLA Final Project Review

2016 – Current, AZASLA  
Advocacy/Government Affairs  
Committee Chair

2016, Jury Facilitator, ASLA  
Northern California Chapter  
Professional Design Awards

2016, 2010, Juror, AZASLA Student  
Honor and Merit Awards

2016, Juror, ASLA Sierra Chapter  
Professional Design Awards

2013, 2014, Juror, ASLA Texas  
Chapter Professional Design  
Awards

2012, ASLA ACE Mentor Legacy  
Project Co-Chair

1982 – 1983, AZASLA Chapter  
Treasurer

### **Executive Summary**

As a leading force in landscape architecture at the national, regional and local levels, Galen Drake has dramatically advanced the credibility of the profession over his 40 plus years of service. Galen's advocacy for landscape architecture understanding is the foundation of his courageous and spirited leadership in defending landscape architecture licensure throughout the United States. His licensure defense has proven to be the template used by states experiencing legislative threats. Deeply committed to defending the licensing of the profession Galen, served for five years on the National ASLA Licensure and State Government Affairs Committee, including two terms as chairman. For these gallant efforts Galen received the National ASLA Award for Outstanding Service to the Society in 2020; and the National ASLA Advocacy Chapter of the Year Award in 2017.

Galen established the Arizona Chapter Professional Design Awards Program over 35 years ago achieving recognition and visibility for landscape architecture practice excellence. The Awards Program serves as an advocacy tool for promoting understanding and value of landscape architecture to elected officials and general public. Galen continues to chair and lead the awards program with the Annual Awards Gala event which provides the sustainable revenue stream for chapter advocacy efforts and landscape architecture student scholarships at Arizona State University and the University of Arizona.

At the community level, Galen tenaciously advocated for the professions' role in environmental education, volunteering with the Phoenix Madison School District where he led the creation of educational gardens as an integral part of the school curriculums. His leadership enlightened students, parents and faculty; resulting in the development and construction of the educational gardens. Expanding on environmental education and visibility of the profession Galen led the ACE Mentor Legacy Project at Phoenix Metro Tech High School. He enthusiastically mentored students while chairing the program, bringing an understanding of the connection between the environment and landscape architecture. As a tangible result of his leadership mentoring in the program a student of his is now a successful practicing landscape architect in training.

### **Advocacy for Landscape Architecture Licensure**

Galen courageously championed the defeat of legislation poised to eliminate the licensure of landscape architects in the state of Arizona. In the Fall of 2015, the Arizona State Board of Technical Registration came up for Sunset review. Under Galen's leadership as President, he collaborated with a lobbyist, and met with committee members; influencing their vote to unanimously approve continuation of the Board of Technical Registration. In February 2016, State legislators with the support of the Governor, introduced a bill to eliminate the licensure of landscape architects.

*"It is my honor to endorse Galen's nomination for Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects. His tenacity and advocacy efforts successfully defeated Arizona's legislation eliminating licensure. The "lessons learned" presentation Galen shared at the joint ASLA/CLARB Licensure Summit provides other chapters an advocacy action plan and road map for similar situations. He is highly regarded by his peers for his sustained service to the profession, Arizona ASLA as well as surrounding chapters."*  
**Eugenia Martin**, FASLA ASLA  
Vice President of Government  
Affairs, 2017 - 2019

## Galen S. Drake, ASLA, PLA, CPESC, LEED AP

### SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

#### National Awards

2020 ASLA Outstanding Service Award for leadership, defending licensure

2017, ASLA Advocacy Chapter of the Year, ASLA

1999, Environmental Excellence Award, Excellence in Wetlands and Ecosystems State Route 87, FHWA

1996, American Society of Landscape Architects, Merit Award, Downtown Phoenix Streetscape, Phoenix, AZ

1995, FHWA, Design for Transportation, Merit Award, Downtown Phoenix Streetscape, Phoenix, AZ

1995, National Endowment of the Arts Presidential Design Awards for Landscape Architecture, Arizona Interstate Rest Areas, Statewide, AZ

#### Regional/Local Awards

2018, Distinguished Service Award AZASLA

2017, Award of Appreciation, AZASLA

2013, Landscape Architect of the Year, AZASLA

2004, Outstanding Professional Achievement, AZASLA

2001, Transportation Project of the Year, American Public Works Association (APWA) Arizona Chapter, US 93 Kaiser Spring

2000, Honor Award for Design, Madison Simis Elementary School Hummingbird, Butterfly and Bat Wildlife Habitat Gardens, AZASLA

2000, Crescordia Award of Excellence, Madison Simis Elementary School Reading Garden, Valley Forward Association

Galen's immediate and thorough formation of a task force created an emergency advocacy plan. His plan included engaging the ASLA Governmental Affairs Committee, CLARB, and the AZ State Board of Technical Registration for support; and the retention of a political strategist. In addition, Galen quickly rallied students and faculty of Arizona's universities' landscape architecture programs to aid in defeating the legislation. Galen's leadership role continued by collaborating with allied professionals in establishing a lobbying program and developing talking points for chapter members in advocating with legislators. His leadership during this time became a catalyst assisting the neighboring state of Nevada to successfully defend licensure. The advocacy approach Galen created became a national template for proactively defeating legislative threats to landscape architecture licensure.

Galen's heroic efforts in defense of licensure were highlighted in *Landscape Architecture Magazine's* seminal article "Licensure on the Line." From the article, Galen is quoted: "It became clear that legislators had no clue what landscape architects did. Let us educate them as to what we do." As a result, his on-going advocacy focused on education by authoring and publishing a brochure "This is Landscape Architecture." The brochure distributed to legislators, showcased award-winning Arizona projects informing them and the public of the landscape architects' role in addressing health, safety and welfare. Specific examples of water conservation, storm water management, natural environment preservation and public space design (linked to tourism and economic vitality) are utilized in ongoing advocacy efforts.

Because of Galen's sustained passion of advocacy for landscape architecture licensure he was chosen by ASLA to speak at the ASLA National Advocacy Summit in 2016. He shared his leadership experience in defeating de-licensing legislation with his presentation "Arizona's Legislative Challenge." He continued his avid support of advocacy and education, speaking at the 2018 ASLA/CLARB National Licensure Summit, "Legislative Threats to Landscape Architecture Licensure" and the ASLA National Advocacy Summit in 2019. Galen's presentation "Heritage District Site Tour with Legislators" expressed his strong stance on education for licensure. His presentations became a national roadmap for other Chapters in their defense of licensure. In 2020, Galen was recognized for his dedication to the profession with the National ASLA Award for Outstanding Service to the Society; "for his staunch advocacy, leadership, and perseverance along with his giving spirit in meeting the strategic priority of promoting and defending licensure. Galen has consistently championed the communication, visibility, and understanding of the profession." For the recognition of his leadership in the defense of licensure and advocacy, the Arizona Chapter received the National ASLA Advocacy Chapter of the Year Award in 2017.

*"It's noteworthy when a busy professional steps forward to serve a greater cause and do so with sustained focus, energy and discipline. I worked side by side with Galen Drake in response to the threat to licensure in Arizona, and nation. During our service together, his leadership of the ASLA Licensure Committee modeled the absolute best in citizen- professional advocacy, greatly contributing to preserving the integrity of regulation in the public interest—locally and nationally."*

**Joel Albizo**, FASAE, CAE,  
Hon ASLA Chief Executive  
Officer at American Planning  
Association, Former Chief  
Executive Officer Council of  
Landscape Architectural  
Registration Boards (CLARB)

# Galen S. Drake, ASLA, PLA, CPESC, LEED AP

## Regional/Local Awards (continued)

- 1999, Outstanding Performance, State Route 87, Arizona Department of Transportation
- 1998, Presidents Award, State Route 87, Valley Forward Association
- 1995, Governor's Environmental Excellence Award, Arizona Governor, Downtown Phoenix Streetscape, Phoenix, AZ
- 1995, Award of Merit- Environmental Excellence, Valley Forward Association, Downtown Phoenix Streetscape, Phoenix, AZ
- 1993, Crescordia Award of Excellence, Cholla Neighborhood Park, Valley Forward Association
- 1991, First Place Residential Estate, Arizona Landscape Contractors Association
- 1989, Crescordia Award of Excellence, Encanto Park, Valley Forward Association
- 1988, Award of Distinction Residential Estate, AZALCA
- 1988, Honor Award for Distinguished Service, AZASLA
- 1982, Outstanding Service AZASLA

## PUBLICATIONS

**Written and produced by Galen:**  
*This is Landscape Architecture in Arizona*, 2016

**Featured in:**  
*Landscape Architecture Magazine* September 2021, "Licensure on The Line", by Stephen Zacks

*Landscape Architecture Magazine:* April 1999, "Sonoran Synergy", Kathleen Ingley

*Arizona Republic*, Jan. 1998, "Highway Fuses nature, technology"

1997, *National Geographic Book* "The Future, American Legacy- Our National Forests", Kenneth Brower

1993, *Converting to Xeriscape* Arizona Municipal Water Users Association

## Advocacy in Education and Community Awareness

Galen's persistent initiative sought other effective avenues of advocacy to achieve landscape architecture's credibility and public understanding of the profession. Through his volunteer work with communities and schools he focused on positive environmental outcomes. Galen addressed these principles at the grass roots level working with the Madison School District and Metro Tech High School in Phoenix.

The legacy Galen created with the DIGGS (Discovery is Growing Gardens at Simis) program at Madison Simis Elementary and Meadows Middle Schools, has continued to impact the lives of students, parents and teachers for over two decades with award winning native habitat designs and environmental education programs. This began with the Simis Environmental Reading Garden as a living outdoor environment created by the community. With leadership and inspiration from Galen, the creation of the garden involved students, volunteers, teachers' staff and parents. He collaborated with a professional artist in the display of student generated tiles; and led in procuring plant materials and garden construction with students and parent volunteers. The Simis Environmental Reading Garden was so successful it was honored with the 2000 Arizona Valley Forward Environmental Excellence Award. With the success of the environmental Reading Garden, he participated in additional projects emphasizing ecological environments for outdoor gardens. Galen coordinated inputs from school volunteers, curriculum leaders, Arizona Game and Fish and Wildlife Biologists, to create the Hummingbird/Butterfly Wildlife Habitat and the Bat Habitat Gardens; which served as extensions of the school science curriculums providing students an opportunity to gain knowledge of native flora and fauna and an awareness of environmental issues. In addition to the design of the garden, Galen, also mentored to students explaining the importance of plants, habitats and water conservation.

In 2012, Galen continued his leadership and advocacy for landscape architecture bringing this message to faculty and students at Metro Tech High School in Phoenix, AZ. He volunteered and led the ACE Mentor Legacy Project to a successful renovation and installation of their campus landscape, including a courtyard and food producing gardens integral to their core curriculums in horticulture, and culinary arts. Through Galen's mentoring, students were given a hands-on learning experience, gaining first-hand knowledge and understanding of the profession and design process; achieved through a series of design charrettes and field survey workshops led by Galen. He utilized this opportunity to also make students aware of university programs in landscape architecture and the career path to become a landscape architect. One of the students he mentored later received his BSLA degree from ASU, becoming the first in his family to graduate college.

## Advocacy Expanding the Role of Landscape Architects

The impact of Galen's advocacy in practice has resulted in the required participation of landscape architects in all ADOT (Arizona Department of Transportation) construction projects on federal lands. His example of the

*"Galen's environmental education legacy at Madison Simis Elementary School and Meadows Middle School is profound. The DIGGS (Discovery is Growing Gardens at Simis) program Galen helped found over 23 years ago, continues as a beloved and critical part of the school day. The curriculum provides engaging and relevant hands-on learning opportunities for our students. DIGGS is an award-winning science-based environmental education program has touched the lives of thousands of students and volunteers."*

**Mitra Khazai**, DIGGS Program Director 2006-2015, Madison ESD Governing Board Member, 2014 – Present, Madison School District

## Galen S. Drake, ASLA, PLA, CPESC, LEED AP

### PRESENTATIONS

2019, ASLA National Advocacy Summit, "Heritage District Site Tour with Legislators"

2018, ASLA/CLARB National Licensure Summit, "Legislative Threats to Landscape Architecture Licensure"

2016, ASLA National Advocacy Summit, "Arizona's Legislative Challenge"

2016, Southwest Horticulture Annual Day of Education (SHADE), "Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans"

2016, AZASLA Town Hall Meeting, "Arizona's Legislative Challenge"

2014, ADOT Resident Engineers Annual Meeting, "Role of Landscape Architects in the Field"

2013, Southwest Horticulture Annual Day of Education (SHADE), "ACE Mentor Program"

2007, ADOT Resident Engineers Annual Meeting, "Salvage Nurseries on Large Scale Rural Highway Projects"

2004, Guest Lecturer/Field Presentation, Arizona State University, School of Landscape Architecture "Role of Landscape Architect in the Field"

2002, Guest Lecturer, Arizona State University, "Tree Salvage"

### EXPERIENCE

2015 – Present, Senior Landscape Architect, J2 Design

1987 – 2015, Senior Project Landscape Architect, Cella Barr Associates - Stantec

1981 – 1987, Landscape Architect, Peter E. Cure and Associates

1981 – 1981, Landscape Designer, Wheat and Associates

1978 – 1981, Landscape Designer, Architectural Development Concepts

1977 – 1978, Landscape Designer, Sakato & Sakato

skills sets that landscape architects bring as environmental leaders resulted in changing the minds of the engineering community.

In his liaison position with the National Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, ADOT and Federal Highway Administration Galen brought synergy to these diverse agencies, who were initially at odds on roadway design and construction impacts to natural environments on federal lands.

In 1997, through Galen's influence, ADOT took the unprecedented step of requiring a landscape architect in the field full time to lead environmental mitigation efforts on roadway projects through environmentally sensitive desert terrain in the Tonto National Forest. Galen was specifically selected for the role based on his native Sonoran Desert expertise, multi-agency coordination experience bridging the gap between disciplines and agencies. Through advocating the expansion of the landscape architect's role, monitoring the salvage of over 4000 native cacti and protected species, he became the leading liaison between the forest service and ADOT. Galen's initiative expanded his role during the project to include review of roadway alignment, native seeding, and erosion/ sediment control. Galen's outstanding efforts were recognized in *Landscape Architecture Magazine's* article "Sonoran Synergy", and *National Geographic's* book, "American Legacy Our National Forests". Galen's leadership as a landscape architect directed implementation of environmentally sound procedures and designs, for roadway mitigation throughout the mountains and deserts of the arid southwest. His leadership, thoughtful counsel and expertise have led him to become the environmental mitigation educator for Arizona engineers. Recognized in this role with these national awards: FHWA Environmental Excellence Award in Wetlands and Ecosystems, Tonto National Forest State Route 87, National ASLA Design Award, Downtown Phoenix Streetscape, and the National Endowment of the Arts, Presidential Design Award for Landscape Architecture Excellence, Arizona Interstate Welcome Centers/Rest Areas

*"I worked with Galen on scenic highway improvements traversing over three million acres of National Forest lands protecting fragile natural resources assuring environmental mitigation of roadway impacts through salvaging/replanting native plants, implementing erosion control measures and restoring landforms as "natural" features. Galen expanded the role of landscape architect with strong skills in diplomacy between Contractor, State DOT and Forest Service which led to the agency's requiring landscape architects on all future projects designs and implementations."*

**Robert S. Ingram, US**  
Forest Service,  
Environmental Resource  
Specialist and Highways  
Project Coordinator

### Sustained Advocacy

Shortly after joining the Arizona chapter in 1982, Galen realized the need to establish visibility for landscape architects and took initiative to create the Arizona Chapter Design Awards Program in 1987, building it from the ground up. Over the next 35 years he continued to lead and expand the program with its associated Awards Gala which grew into a sustaining financial and advocacy force for the chapter. Through Galen's commitment and leadership role in the awards program he became an ambassador to other chapters through the Chapter Reciprocal Jury Program. He is highly respected by his peers and the state chapters of Arkansas, California, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Oklahoma, Texas, Minnesota, Nevada and Washington State. His inclusive outreach to increase the visibility of the profession through the Reciprocal Jury Program established a network of chapter awards advocacy communications, becoming a defense tool against subsequent de-licensing legislation in other states. Galen's awards program prominently



## Galen S. Drake, ASLA, PLA, CPESC, LEED AP

### PRO BONO/ VOLUNTEER WORK

2017, Envision Horse Therapy Program Facility Master Plan, The Bridge United Methodist Church, Phoenix, AZ

2012-2014, ACE Mentor Legacy Project, Co-Chair, Metro Tech High School, Phoenix, AZ

2012, Master Plan, Humane Society of Payson, Payson, AZ

2010, Master Plan, "Growing Together...a giving garden", Phoenix, AZ

2004, Madison Meadows Middle School Memorial Garden, design and construction. Phoenix, AZ

2001, Madison Simis Elementary School Bat Garden, design and construction, Phoenix, AZ

2000, Madison Simis Elementary School Hummingbird and Butterfly Habitat, design and construction. Phoenix, AZ

1999, Madison Simis Elementary School Reading Garden, design and construction, Phoenix, AZ

1998-1999, Co-Chair of the DIGGS (Discovery is Growing Gardens at Simis) program

places award-winning project boards on display throughout the State of Arizona, in libraries, municipal offices, universities and the state legislature each year; promoting the visibility of the profession to elected officials, decision makers and public. In addition, Galen, organized and led the annual Chapter event "Breakfast at the State Capitol", where award-winning projects on display provide opportunity for landscape architects to meet legislators and discuss how the profession protects the health, safety and welfare of the public. Galen's dedicated service leaves a valuable legacy of the Awards Program and Gala event as a major revenue stream for the Chapter. The income from program sponsors has a threefold result: economic stability for the chapter, funding for landscape architecture scholarships to the state universities, and critical funding for advocacy efforts and retention of a professional lobbyist. Galen's life long, work within the profession, is all about advocacy of landscape architecture, making it visible and understandable through the recognition and publicizing of design excellence and relating environmental impacts to the quality of life, at the national, regional and local levels.

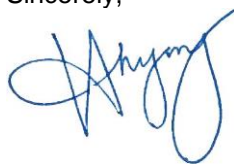
### Chapter Statement of Support

Galen Drake, a valued member of the Arizona Chapter for over 40 years, has demonstrated outstanding service to our profession. His exemplary service stems from his desire to promote the visibility of landscape architecture and its role in improving the lives of people. Through the years he has helped others in so many ways; from advocacy of licensure at the most critical moment of our professions' licensure deregulation; to volunteering year after year as both our Chapter's awards program leader and as a highly sought-after jury member for other ASLA chapters. His notable contributions throughout his long history of service have made for our profession stronger and reflect deep commitment to the public's understanding of landscape architecture.

Galen's proven service goes beyond the ASLA chapter. He has contributed his time and expertise to volunteer projects mentoring students in environmental education programs and sharing guidance for a career path to become a landscape architect. One cannot describe the history of the Arizona Chapter of ASLA without mentioning Galen. His creation of the Chapter Awards Program over 35 years ago has become the lifeblood of the Arizona Chapter. The expansion of the program and increased sponsorship over the years has provided economic stability for the chapter, revenue for student scholarships; and more critically, funding for advocacy efforts. Galen's exemplary service continues to inspire and motivate all those he serves. For his passion and commitment to the profession he is truly worthy of the honor of becoming a Fellow.

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Arizona Chapter of American Society of Landscape Architects, it is my privilege and honor to nominate Galen Drake, ASLA, for elevation to the ASLA Council of Fellows.

Sincerely,



Valerie Ah Yong, PLA, LEED AP, ASLA Associate  
Arizona Chapter President  
Nominated by: The Arizona Chapter ExCom



## Richard Alomar, ASLA

Associate Professor, Department Chair, Graduate Program  
Director, Rutgers University

### ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: SERVICE

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the New York Chapter, it is my privilege to nominate Richard Alomar, ASLA, for your consideration.

#### Executive Summary

Throughout his nearly three decades of practice, teaching, community engagement and service, Richard Alomar has demonstrated the reach and impact of the profession specifically through his advocacy of sketching as a space for designers, students, and community groups to view, engage and build awareness of the beauty, nature and complexity of the landscape. He has used professional leadership and planning skills to help transform Urban Sketchers (USk) into an organization that funds educational programs and partners with allied organizations to promote sketching around the world.

His accomplishments in service to the profession through his volunteer leadership in Urban Sketchers (USk) has impacted a global community of landscape architects, academics, students, and the public by creating awareness of the landscape through sketching. In his capacity as a volunteer USk Instructor he has developed lectures and workshops on sketching the natural, cultural and built landscape, understanding the history and role of sketching in design communication within the greater context, and understanding the qualities of green space in cities. The audience for these is global. The service work is both engaged and educational.

Richard helped to double the number of USk chapters around the world and led the effort to be a more inclusive and diverse organization by developing recruitment policies to make the organization's leadership reflective of the community's diversity around the globe. He started a fund raising campaign that has raised over \$30,000 to date to fund grants for instructors, USk chapters, and community groups to promote sketching, the most accessible communication tool in design, in under-served communities around the world.

Over the last decade Richard has led over 100 sketch walks with over 2,000 participants, published and contributed to over 20 articles and books on sketching landscapes, and his methods are followed by many ASLA chapters, LA pro-

#### EDUCATION

Master of Landscape Architecture, Louisiana State University, 1994

Bachelor of Science in Agronomy, University of Puerto Rico, 1982

Registered Landscape Architect, New York State, Lic. # 1924, 2004

Certificate Japanese Garden Design Seminar, Kyoto School of Art and Design, 2014

#### PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

2010-2022:  
Urban Sketchers  
President and Community Workshop Grant Director,  
Vice President and Membership Director, Chapter Administrator and Advisor  
Board Member, Workshop Instructor and Lecturer.

2017-2018:  
ASLA Diversity Summit,  
Guest and Facilitator

2009-2019:  
New York State Board of Education, Office of the Professions, Landscape Architecture, Board Member  
2015-2017: Board Chair

2015-2019:  
Louisiana State University,  
Graduate Alumni Advisory Board

*In my view, no one is advancing freehand sketching worldwide as a powerful process of discovery across as many important fronts as Richard Alomar. Through his research, studio teaching, service projects, volunteer leadership of over 100 sketch walks, and as an instructor and key member of the Executive Board of the international non-profit Urban Sketchers, his work has been fundamental in helping all of us see the power of drawing and our own landscapes differently.*

James Richards,  
FASLA Principal  
Townscape

## Richard Alomar, ASLA

2009-2010: Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Plan NYC  
2030: New York American Institute of Architects  
ASLA NY Chapter Representative

2009-2011: New York New Visions: ASLA NY Chapter Representative

### HONORS AND AWARDS

#### National Awards

2007: First Prize, "Crossing the Drive" International Design Competition. Chicago Architecture Club.

#### Regional/Local Awards

2020: NJASLA Honor Award "Bayonne Urban Coastal Design". Bayonne, NJ., Landscape Architectural Design-Site Design.

2016: NJASLA Merit Award "The Replacement of the 14th Street Viaduct". Hoboken, NJ., Landscape Architectural Design-Site Design (w/Stantec Consulting).

2014: NJASLA Honor Award, "Gil Hodges Carroll Street Stormwater Garden". Brooklyn, NY. Landscape Architectural Design-

grams, and sketch groups around the world. His service work conveys the love of landscape and sketching in a social and educational format that reaches people outside the profession. In so doing, the effect and message is clear: "Awareness and understanding of the landscape is indispensable to the future of the global community".

### Career

In 1994 Richard began his career as a landscape designer with Weintraub & diDomenico working on community outreach and public arts projects. He then joined the ASLA-NY chapter and served as a board member, treasurer, chapter representative and continues to volunteer his time with his yearly sketchwalks for World Landscape Architecture Month. As an Associate at Stantec, he was the firm's lead landscape architect on the redevelopment of Lower Manhattan after September 11, 2001, facilitating community outreach workshops to finalize the design and construction of West Thames Park. He was an adjunct lecturer at Columbia University and is currently an associate professor, department chair, and graduate program director at Rutgers University in New Jersey. He is also the director of the Rutgers Office of Urban Extension and Engagement and Core Faculty member on the Rutgers Global Health Institute. At each juncture of his career, he has been recognized for his work and service to the profession, maintained his connections to the local chapter and the national society and translated his love of the profession in service and volunteer work.

### Accomplishments in Service

His work in the public sector, engagement with communities, contributions to the ASLA-NY chapter, National ASLA and New York State Education Board of the Professions has been long and consistent. His past service positions from 1998 to 2020 include, 1) Board Member, ASLA-NY 2) Treasurer, ASLA-NY 3) Chapter Representative, ASLA-NY to the AIA-NY Transportation and Infrastructure committee and New York New Visions 4) Board Member and Chair, for the New York State Education Board of the Professions for Landscape Architecture, 5) Contributor, ASLA's Discover Landscape Architecture Activity Books for Kids and Teens and Adults 6) Facilitator, ASLA Diversity Summit and 7) Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board Volunteer (Education).

*Richard's body of work is particularly laudable for its engagement of populations of color. Through the medium of sketching, an accessible tool for all ages and linguistic abilities, Richard encourages folks to understand their world and to advocate for more sustainable and equitable landscapes. These sketch walks promote learning and social interaction among diverse populations which can result in greater understanding through an ostensibly neutral medium and activity.*

Signe Nielsen,  
FASLA Principal  
Mathews Nielsen  
Landscape Architects,  
P.C.

## Richard Alomar, ASLA

Site Design (w/Stantec Consulting)

1998: President's Service Award, ASLA New York Chapter.

### **PUBLICATIONS / RESEARCH**

2019: "Urban Sketching the practice of sketching and communicating" in *Representing Landscapes: Analogue* ed. by Nadia Amoroso. Taylor & Francis: London and New York.

2018: "Sketching Together." In *Design as Democracy: techniques for collective creativity*, ed. by D. de la Peña, R. Hester, J. Hou, D. Jones-Allen, L. Lawson, and M. McNally. Washington D.C: Island Press

2018: "Invisible and Visible Lines: landscape democracy and landscape practice." In *Defining Landscape Democracy: Perspectives on Spatial Justice*, ed. S. Ergoz, D. Ruggeri, T. Richardson and K. Jorgenson. Cheltenham, U.K.: Edward Elgar Publishing

2017: "Olana's Genius" in *Follies, Function & Form: Imagining Olana's Summer House, The Olana Partnership*, Hudson, NY: 14-15, 46-47

His interest in service to the profession and love of sketching converged in 2010 when he joined Urban Sketchers. At the time it was an international group of 150 to 200 artists, educators and aficionados who shared their sketches online and showed their world one drawing at a time. Today Urban Sketchers has over 300 international chapters with over 200,000 followers. In 2012 he co-founded an Urban Sketcher chapter in New York and began to volunteer with the international organization, which led to his election as president in 2019. He is recognized internationally as an advocate for sketching, landscape architecture, building community around sketching and for his leadership and planning skills.

### **Efforts at the local, national, and international level: Urban Sketcher service in and beyond landscape architecture**

At the local level Richard co-founded the NYC Urban Sketchers group. The group has grown with an email member list of over 2,000 with over 2,000,000 blog pageviews. Richard initiated a long standing partnership with NYC Urban Sketchers and the ASLA-NY Chapter to collaborate on yearly sketchwalk events that bring together landscape architects and the public to celebrate World Landscape Architecture Month. This event promotes a greater awareness of the profession and landscape to a larger audience. The day long walks are held all over the city, and highlight significant places of landscape architecture, urban green spaces, and social spaces. They have been very popular and well attended over the last 9 years.

These sketchwalk events have been adopted by USk groups, ASLA state chapters and Landscape Architecture university programs, demonstrating the impact of urban sketching on the profession. The Orlando, Miami, San Diego, North Carolina, Idaho/Montana, New Jersey, Ohio, South Carolina, Arizona, and Oklahoma ASLA chapters have all organized sketch walks over the last 5 years often in conjunction with their local student chapters and usually during World Landscape Architecture Month. The landscape architecture programs at Virginia Tech, UC Berkeley, Colorado State, Tennessee State, Arizona State, and Louisiana State have all organized sketchwalks as a way of educating students about the landscape. Richard is often invited to lecture at or direct these sketchwalk events using the knowledge and techniques developed as an Urban Sketcher. He has sketched with practitioners, members of communities, and with students and faculty at Rutgers University, New York Institute of Technology, Cornell, Syracuse ESF, Iowa State, Virginia

*Richard has had a major impact on reviving a culture of freehand drawing in the profession as a leader of the annual ASLA sketch crawl's "dream team". I've had the real pleasure to attend all of these annual workshops where Richard has played a major role—ever approachable and inspiring - both in his natural drawing style and through his gift as a teacher to instruct and inspire others.*

Jack Ahern,  
Ph.D., FASLA,  
FCELA Professor  
of Landscape  
Architecture University  
of Massachusetts  
Amherst

## Richard Alomar, ASLA

“Drawing Together: Using sketchbooks to gain insight on a program’s effectiveness.” *Journal of Extension*, Vol. 55, No.5

Review of “Community Matters: Service learning in engaged design and planning.” *Public Journal: A Journal of Imagining America*. Volume 4, Is. 1

2016: “The Sketch Walk: exploration, discovery and discussion of place.” *Landscape Research Record*, no. 5 (2016): 2-8

Sketching Social Media

### **ASLA Conference Field Sessions**

2021: Nashville Tooning: Nashville Conference

2020: Sketch Miami: Virtual Conference

2019: Sketch San Diego: San Diego Conference

2018: Penn to Paper: Philadelphia Conference

2017: Tinseltown Movieola: Los Angeles Conference

2016: Draw Dat: New Orleans Conference

2015: Sketch Chicago: Chicago Conference

2014: Sketch Denver: Denver Conference

Tech, Louisiana State, Mississippi State, Arizona State, and UC Berkeley.

Richard’s service as an Urban Sketcher emphasizes and demonstrates the importance of sketching and drawing. Along with Chip Sullivan, James Richards, and Bob Chipman, he continues the legacy of the profession’s reliance on observation, documentation, and analysis through sketching. The very popular and well attended sketchwalk field sessions for the ASLA conferences in Boston, Denver, Chicago, New Orleans, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, San Diego, Miami (virtual) and Nashville demonstrate the impact of his service work provided through the service, education, and social engagement. His techniques are recognized not only as fun and educational, but also as a social engagement tool. For example, Rutgers Medical School utilized the urban sketcher techniques with the medical school on health, sketching and community gardening and were published as a chapter in: “Sketching Together” in *Design as Democracy: techniques for collective creativity*.

His workshops stress observation of urban design, recognition of green space as a vital part of all cities and the documentation of daily life in the landscape. He has conducted workshops at USK International Symposiums in Barcelona, Singapore, Paraty Brazil, and Manchester. He has lectured or organized sketchwalks at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences, Chiba University (Japan), University of Costa Rica, Ontario College of Art and Design (Canada) and the Beijing Forestry University, either independently or with local USK Chapters.

As president of Urban Sketchers, he emphasizes the importance of design education in the development of workshops and events. His efforts led the organization to raise over \$20,000 to establish the Community Workshop Grant Program. The program connects instructors, chapter administrators and nonprofit organizations to provide sketching workshops for children in under-served communities around the world. Prior to the pandemic, workshops were held in North Carolina (USA), Surabaya (Indonesia), Paris (France), Buenos Aires (Argentina), Redding (England) and Tokyo (Japan).

### **Strategic Planning and Leadership in Urban Sketcher service.**

*Richard’s reputation as one of our profession’s icons is only preceded by his passion for freehand sketching. Through the International Urban Sketchers community, I have come to know his relentless passion for the art of conceptual thinking through the quick sketch. He unselfishly donates countless hours to those who wish to improve their freehand drawing skills. His leadership, from a local to international platform, demonstrates his love for the urban sketcher’s community, all foundational to the design process, for which he is a master.*

Christopher D. Flagg,  
FASLA, VP and AE  
Operations Principal  
Haskell



## Richard Alomar, ASLA

2013: Sketch Boston:  
Boston Conference

### Public Sketchwalks

2012-2019: 100+ Sketchwalks, attended by 1,200+ people in New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Arizona, Mississippi, Manchester, Chiba, Paraty Barcelona, and Beijing.

### EXPERIENCE

2012- Present: Rutgers University Department of Landscape Architecture Department Chair, Graduate Program Director, Associate Professor

Director, Office of Urban Extension and Engagement Rutgers University Cooperative Extension

2006-2012 Lecturer, School of Continuing Education, Columbia University, New York, NY

2008- 2012 Associate, Stantec Consulting Services, New York, NY

1994- 2008 Senior Associate, diDomenico + Partners, LIC, NY

The basic values of designing and advocating for sustainable, healthy, and equitable spaces for all creates leadership skills and systems that help guide, direct and implement strategies for positive change. Richard has used his landscape architecture training to help the Urban Sketchers organization grow from a loosely knit group of artists and sketching aficionados to a robust executive and advisory board with a published digital magazine, sustainable funded grant programs and sponsored partnerships with art suppliers and art institutions. His volunteer positions in USk include the following achievements: 1) Instituted the USk 3 year strategic plan and the organization's budgeting procedures, 2) Developed the Community Workshop, Reportage and Events Grant programs with sustainable funding mechanisms. 3) Created the organization's membership database system. 4) Programed events for local chapters and universities during live board meetings. 5) Developed USk volunteer and board member inclusion and diversity recruitment policy. 6) Developed online educational events and programming during the pandemic.

### Conclusion

Richard views his volunteer work, especially in USk, as a means to inform and engage professionals, students and the public to better understand the world and thus enable them to address issues pertaining to equity, the environment, and human well-being. Sketching is the space that connects education, advocacy, art and engagement.

He has dedicated his career to engaging people to see the diverse world around them and immerse themselves in the surrounding environment. He has demonstrated to ASLA, ASLA-NY, NYS Education Board of the Professions and USK, that the leadership and planning skills developed as a landscape architect can be of useful service to the profession and other volunteer organizations.

Richard has been an active proponent of landscape architecture for more than twenty years, having served the New York Chapter in many capacities. He has demonstrated leadership in service and community engagement through his work with Urban Sketchers and the ASLA. Richard's service to the communities he works has helped to remove barriers and foster understanding within those communities and has shown that sketching is a tool that facilitates comprehension of one's surroundings. With that understanding, the community may be better prepared to recognize the issues they face and help guide a framework for improvement that is built from within. This knowledge leads to landscape architecture that is inclusive and engaging for the communities that are involved.

The New York Chapter is proud to support Richard Alomar's elevation to the ASLA Council of Fellows.

Sincerely,



Carl Carlson, ASLA, Chapter President  
American Society of Landscape Architects, New York Chapter

## EDUCATION

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture,  
State University of New York  
Environmental School of Science &  
Forestry, 1987

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

- 2017 to Present  
City & County of Honolulu,  
Department of Parks and Recreation,  
Board Member
- 2014 to 2016  
City & County of Honolulu,  
Age Friendly City Initiative,  
Public Space Working Group Chair
- 2014 to 2015  
Friends of Lyon Arboretum,  
Executive Board Director
- 2013 to 2016  
University of Hawai'i,  
College of Tropical Agriculture and  
Human Resources  
Advisory Council Member
- 2011 to 2015  
State of Hawai'i Department of Land  
& Natural Resources,  
Commission on Water  
Resource Management,  
Committee Member
- 2011 to 2014  
American Society of Landscape  
Architects,  
Hawai'i Chapter Trustee
- 2010 to 2013  
Transportation Research Board,  
Landscape and Environmental  
Committee Member
- 2010 to 2014  
State of Hawai'i Scenic Byways  
Committee Member
- 2009 to 2010  
O'ahu Invasive Species Committee,  
Chair
- 2008 to 2013  
Hawai'i Restoration and  
Conservation Initiative,  
Executive Council Member

## Christopher Dacus, ASLA

Retired, City & County of Honolulu

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: **Service**

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Hawai'i Chapter, it is my privilege to nominate Christopher Dacus, ASLA, for your consideration.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:** For most of his 18-year career, Chris Dacus was a public servant at the Hawai'i Department of Transportation and Honolulu's Department of Parks & Recreation improving Hawai'i's open spaces resulting in a significant impact for the state's residents. In addition to these demanding work responsibilities, Chris also worked pro bono to improve Hawai'i's tropical environment through the advancement of the profession of landscape architecture and landscape professionals.

Chris has served on 17 boards with a cumulative total of over 75 years of pro bono service. Of these various boards, he was president of six. He has tirelessly championed environmental causes, leading statewide efforts to address invasive plant species, water conservation, and native plant conservation. His significant pro bono service work includes:

- For 10 years, he co-chaired a project to reduce the use of invasive plants, decreasing the use of the worst invasive plants by 87%.
- As President of the Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i, he promoted the use of native plants. This effort included the production of a popular native plant poster, which has been reprinted by other organizations and is used among landscape architects and landscape professionals statewide.
- Chris led a diverse team of allied professionals to produce the first Landscape Irrigation Conservation Best Management Practices, which includes 26 best management practices.
- During his 9 plus years of continuous service to the American Society of Landscape Architects, Chris held many positions—culminating in his role as Hawai'i Chapter Trustee. He promoted the Historic American Landscape Survey and led an effort to submit multiple HALS in 2011.

Through his passion, dedication and leadership, the public and allied professionals have become more aware of the impact of the work of landscape architects, and the landscape industry now employs more sustainable practices.

*Under Chris' leadership, the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii was strengthened and reenergized through his initiatives. With the volunteer board, he planned, collaborated and implemented the design and launch of a new website and new logo. He took the flagging Hawai'i Landscape newspaper and transitioned to a bi-monthly color magazine supported through ad sales and mailed to 4,000 landscape professionals. Chris has given his expertise, his enthusiasm, and his considerable talents to landscape architecture and Hawaii.*

Christy Martin, Public  
Information Officer  
CGAPS-Coordinating Group  
on Alien Pest Species

**PROFESSIONAL SERVICE  
ACTIVITIES** [Continued]

- 2008 to 2013  
Hawai'i Invasive Species Council,  
Public Outreach Working Group,  
Chair 2010-2012
- 2008 to 2011  
Hawai'i Society of Urban Forestry  
Professionals,  
Vice President
- 2007 to 2014  
City & County of Honolulu,  
Mayor's Arborist Advisory Committee  
Vice Chair 2012 to 2014
- 2006 to Present  
Landscape Industry Council of Hawai'i,  
President 2011 to 2016
- 2006 to 2013  
American Association of State Highway  
and Transportation Officials,  
Technical Committee on Environmental  
Design Member
- 2005 to 2010  
City & County of Honolulu,  
Mayor's Advisory Committee on  
Bicycling,  
Chair 2008-2010
- 2004 to 2010  
American Society of Landscape  
Architects,  
Hawai'i Chapter,  
President 2009
- 2011 to 2016  
State of Hawai'i  
Department of Health  
Effluent Reuse Guideline Advisory  
Committee,  
Committee Member

**SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS  
NATIONAL AWARDS**

- 2014 Dedicated Service Recognition  
Award, American Society of Landscape  
Architects
- 2012 President's Transportation  
Award - Environment, American  
Association of State Highway and  
Transportation Officials

## Christopher Dacus, ASLA

### ENVIRONMENTAL AND PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Chris spends his free time hiking, swimming, surfing, and taking landscape photography. He has a deep appreciation for Hawai'i's environment and ecology. Hence it is not surprising that—for over 10 years— Chris has served as a strong leader in the green industry while raising awareness about the importance of issues surrounding invasive and native plant species, and water conservation.

According to the Washington Post article "Is Hawai'i 'the extinction capital of the world'? Exhibit A: The alala bird." published on April 25, 2016, Hawai'i contains 39% of all endangered animal and plants found in the United States.

### INVASIVE SPECIES LEADERSHIP

When the Hawai'i Weed Risk Assessment (WRA) was introduced to the green industry, there was anxiety about using the WRA to ban plants since there was no benefit information included in the assessment. As the head landscape architect for the State of Hawai'i Department of Transportation, Chris was front and center in the discussion. He worked with various landscape architecture and allied professionals to develop guidelines as well as a list of 134 invasive plants that should not be cultivated or planted. He traveled around the state to gather input from landscape professionals and promote the use of the WRA. The guidelines became the construction specifications for minimizing the use of and spread of invasive plants in construction. The effort decreased the use of the worst invasive plants by 87%. Now, ten years later, the WRA is widely adopted and there is no need for a black list.

Chris reached out to the conservation industry by attending countless environmental boards, often the only attending landscape industry representative. He served as the Chair of the Public Outreach Working Group of the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council in 2010-2012 and the Chair of the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee in 2009-2010.

Over a ten-year period, he wrote numerous articles for Hawai'i's landscape industry professional magazine with a readership of 17,250.

Frequently, Chris took the lead role in organizing the industry response to legislative bills. He prepared industry testimonies for legislative bills and distributed them to active landscape professionals to testify. He visited state legislator offices and shared the landscape industry's concerns.

In 2013, Chris led an effort to produce Hawai'i's first plant fashion show using non-invasive plants. Although 80 attendees were expected, the event was so popular that it required a bigger venue to accommodate 200 people, including Governor Neil Abercrombie.

*While I was the president, Chris often took initiatives of his own and sought to work with the Council. As an all-volunteer organization, Chris' efforts were especially pertinent furthering our mission to increase the use of native plants & decrease invasive species. He kept in touch with the state legislature and coordinated member efforts on legislation. The landscape industry is the better for his 12 years of service.*

Boyd Ready  
Past-President, and  
Director Emeritus  
Landscape Industry Council  
of Hawaii



## LOCAL/REGIONAL AWARDS

- 2015 Service Recognition, State of Hawaii Senate
- 2015 Service Recognition Award, Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii (LICH)
- 2009 Governor's Award for Innovation in Government, State of Hawaii, Native Hydroseed Research Project
- 2006 Employee Merit Award, State of Hawaii,

## NATIVE SPECIES LEADERSHIP

The Hawaiian Islands are the most isolated islands, located over 2,300 miles from the nearest continental shore, resulting in a large number of endemic species. Unfortunately, frequent introductions of invasive species have resulted in a large reduction in native species.

Chris collaborated with landscape and conservation professionals to create the Native Plant Initiative (NPI). The NPI provides a comprehensive strategy for the landscape industry to decrease the use of invasive and increase the use of native plants.

The cornerstone of the effort was the creation of the native plant poster with the top 25 most popular native plants used in the landscape. The poster provided essential information for landscape architects to make good plant selection decisions. Six thousand posters were initially printed, and 5,000 were inserted in an issue of the statewide LICH magazine that was focused on native plants. The poster was extremely popular and well received. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs reprinted thousands of copies.

Upon completion of the poster, Chris worked with a diverse group of landscape professionals to create the 2013 Native Plant Conference. This conference was one of the most well-attended LICH conferences. A large contingency of environmental professionals accounted for the increase. In addition, the conference included the first-ever LICH Sustainability Awards. The awards focused on projects that successfully utilized native plants.

Chris led a diverse team of conservation and landscape professionals to collect native plants not currently in nursery production. The sole purpose was to create a seed bank for the long-term propagation of promising native plants. The initial effort focused on the collection of the native Loulu palm, *Pritchardia martii*. This group conducted a dozen hikes to collect a geographically diverse set of seeds. All the seeds were propagated and subsequently planted in public spaces that would allow long-term seed collection by industry professionals.

Related to the native plant initiative, Chris secured highway funding for four hydroseed research projects to investigate the use of native grasses for highway roadside planting.

## IRRIGATION WATER CONSERVATION

Upwards of 50% of water used for landscape irrigation is wasted in Hawai'i. Chris recruited a committee of designers, installers, retailers and manufacturers and government officials to develop the State's first landscape irrigation water conservation best management practices guidelines. Final BMPs included 16 Installation and 10 maintenance BMPs.

*Knowing Chris Dacus since 2009, I've been very impressed with his innovative efforts towards native plant conservation. This exceptional work includes a very popular Hawai'i Native Plant Poster, novel research into Hydroseed applications with native seed, and a pioneering project in native seed collection and planting to enhance availability. Chris organized a Native Plant Conference, and provided testimony at the State Legislature. His work provides important models for future efforts in conservation and sustainability.*

Richard Quinn, ASLA  
Vice President,  
HHF Planners

## EXPERIENCE

### 2017 - Present

Retired

### 2013 - 2016

Executive Assistant of Historic Parks,  
City & County of Honolulu

### 2004 - 2013

Landscape Architect V,  
State of Hawaii  
Department of Transportation

### 2000 - 2004

Owner, CommerceInsight

### 1993 - 2000

Marketing Representative,  
Outrigger Hotels & Resorts

### 1989 - 1993

Senior Landscape Architect,  
William Pressley & Associates

### 1987 - 1989

Landscape Architect,  
William Pressley & Associates

## Christopher Dacus, ASLA

The resulting booklet *LICH Landscape Irrigation Conservation Best Management Practices* was distributed in 6,000 copies among landscape professionals statewide. The State of Hawai'i Department of Natural Resources and the City & County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply reprinted another 5,000 copies of the booklet for additional distribution.

Chris recruited writers and developed a special water conservation issue of Hawai'i's landscape industry magazine. The same issue promoted a conference on water conservation centered on the new BMPs.

Since then, the BMP guidelines have been incorporated into various state legislative bills promoting water conservation. Chris served on the State Department of Land & Natural Resources Commission on Water Resource Management.

### ASLA SERVICE

Chris was a member of the Hawai'i chapter of the ASLA for over 13 years of continuous service. He served in a number of positions including President and Hawai'i Chapter Trustee.

When Chris first joined the Board of Directors, he volunteered to create the chapter's first website, Hawai'iASLA.org. He chaired the ASLA Hawai'i Chapter awards. As president, he challenged each executive committee member to individually take ownership of one educational event.

In 2011, Chris led an effort to increase the number of Historic American Landscape Surveys (HALS). A couple of HALS were created, including one by Chris. In 2014, he was recognized by ASLA for his dedicated service to the profession of landscape architecture and the American Society of Landscape Architects.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE

Chris has served on several Boards of Directors at the national level: the Transportation Research Board Landscape and Environmental Committee and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials Technical Committee on Environmental Design. Locally, he has been a board member of the State of Hawaii Scenic Byways Committee, Hawaii Restoration and Conservation Initiative, Hawaii Society of Urban Forestry Professionals, City & County of Honolulu Mayor's Arborist Advisory Committee, University of Hawai'i College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Advisory Council, and City & County of Honolulu Mayor's Advisory Committee on Bicycling.

*Chris has demonstrated that he is a leader among leaders, striving to make a difference in the landscape industry. One of his many accomplishments was recruiting diverse landscape professionals and government officials to develop Hawaii's first landscape irrigation water conservation BMP guidelines. These included 26 installation/maintenance BMPs which, through his lobbying, were incorporated into various state legislative bills promoting water conservation by various water users and eventually adopted by government agencies.*

Allan G. Schildknecht, ASLA  
Past President,  
Hawaii Chapter ASLA  
Irrigation Design Consultant

## Christopher Dacus, ASLA

### CHAPTER LETTER OF SUPPORT:

For the past 13 years, Chris Dacus has served as a public servant and worked with numerous nonprofit organizations to make Hawai'i a better place for the next generation. He provided the leadership and the tools for landscape architects to make a difference. He worked with allied professions, earned the public's appreciation, and demonstrated the value of landscape architecture.

Although his career was cut short by Parkinson's disease, he has been true to himself and is now focused on improving the lives of people with Parkinson's with his website, [www.movingparkinsons.com](http://www.movingparkinsons.com). He most recently completed a 1,080-mile walk from Spain to Rome to increase awareness and share his 10 points to living well with Parkinson's disease.

He continues to serve on landscape-related organizations, demonstrating his commitment to the local community and to the profession of landscape architecture. He is an example of how service can make a sustaining difference in the community.

As Chris often says, even with Parkinson's Disease, "his best days are ahead of him." We fully expect Chris to continue to be a great service to our community.

It gives our chapter great pleasure to recognize his continuous and sustained service to the public and the profession of landscape architecture. The Hawai'i Chapter of the ASLA nominates Chris Dacus for ASLA Council of Fellow for service.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grace Zheng". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a period at the end.

Grace Zheng, ASLA  
Hawai'i ASLA Chapter President

## David Gorden, ASLA

Landscape Architect, Mark M. Holeman, Inc.

ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: SERVICE

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Indiana Chapter ASLA it is my privilege to nominate David Gorden, ASLA, for your consideration.

### EDUCATION

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, University of Illinois, 1981

### SERVICE HONORS AND AWARDS

2017, Award of Recognition, Andean Rural Health Care, Montero, Bolivia

2017 and 2000, Outstanding Service Award, Indiana ASLA

2012, Monsignor Busald Award for Sustained Service to Youth, Indianapolis Catholic Youth Organization

2010, Claire Bennett Legacy Award, Indiana ASLA

2006, Gold Leaf Award for Binford Gateway Beautification project (pro bono work), International Society of Arboriculture and Indiana Arborists Association

2006, Honor Award for Binford Gateway Beautification project (pro bono work), Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Monumental Awards

2003, Gold Leaf Award for Indiana ASLA School Tree Planting Program (pro bono project), International Society of Arboriculture and Indiana Arborists Association

2002, Merit Award for Susan Slade Community Garden (pro bono project), Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Monumental Awards

2002, Achievement Award for Indiana School for the Blind Monon Trailhead (pro bono project), Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Monumental Awards

### NATIONAL SERVICE

2017-present, LA CES Monitoring Committee, ASLA Representative

2017 Planning Committee vice-chair, What's Out There Weekend Indianapolis, The Cultural Landscape Foundation

2014-2017, ASLA Public Relations and Communications Advisory Committee

2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, ASLA Advocacy Day participant

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

For nearly 30 years, David Gorden has had a profound and long-term impact on the profession of landscape architecture nationally through his advocacy, representation outside the profession, technical advisory positions, and wide-ranging community service. He has provided a guiding presence and strong voice for the profession through his countless leadership positions on a diverse variety of local, state, and national committees, boards, advisory groups, and societies. In doing so, he has increased knowledge within the profession and greatly promoted landscape architecture to allied professionals and the general public.

The national and regional impacts of David's many avenues of service all stem from his desire to see that landscape architects are appropriately represented in initiatives where they should be, sometimes beyond the precise boundary of the profession. He regularly finds himself as the only landscape architect in many of his endeavors, and he relishes the opportunity to serve as a representative of his profession in a manner that evokes its professionalism, creativity, and breadth of knowledge. Specifically, his work with invasive plant control has brought a broader perspective on this issue to landscape architects and to people throughout the Midwest. His involvement with the Indianapolis Museum of Art has supported, promoted, protected, and enhanced nationally important works of landscape architecture. His involvement with the Indiana Chapter of ASLA (INASLA) has focused on increasing outside recognition, leading successful service projects, and engaging its members in events and issues that increase their knowledge and standing in the community.

*In every program, outreach event, and elected or appointed position he has undertaken, David's tenure is marked by lasting impacts on the profession and those associated with it. David has quietly shaped the profession like so few others have. His leadership and service have left an enduring and broad reaching legacy and have elevated the stature and awareness of landscape architecture regionally and nationally.*

Ron L. Taylor, FASLA,  
Partner, Taylor Siefker  
Williams Design Group

David is typically engaged in several volunteer commitments at once—all outside of his regular work. He not only seeks to serve where he thinks landscape architects should have a presence, but is regularly recruited by groups seeking his leadership, knowledge, and enthusiasm. David's brand of service improves environments for people, provides additional tools for practicing landscape architects, and promotes the profession beyond its chapters and practitioners.

### INCREASING KNOWLEDGE ABOUT INVASIVE SPECIES

In 2001 David became a participant in the invasive plants discussion that was formalizing in Indiana. He recognized the issue's relevance to the profession and wanted to make sure landscape architecture was represented. He stepped up as a founding member of the Indiana Invasive Plant Species Assessment Working

## David Gorden, ASLA

### INDIANA ASLA CHAPTER SERVICE

2013-present, Chapter Trustee

2002-2012, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Monumental Awards Steering Committee and Landscape Architecture Jury Chair

1997-2010, Chair, Indiana Green Expo Landscape Architecture Luncheon

2009, 2007, 2006, Chapter Representative at ASLA Licensure Summit

2005 & 1997, Annual Meeting Chair

2003, Chair, 30th Anniversary Celebration

1999-2000, Chair, School Tree Planting Program

1998-1999, INASLA President

1997, Vice President

### SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

2017-present, Cultural Landscape Committee, Indiana Landmarks

2016-2017, Pollinator Habitat Best Management Practices Committee of the Indiana Pesticide Review Board

2016-2018, Coordinator, Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society Annual Conference Sponsors and Exhibitors

2014-present, Indianapolis Museum of Art Building and Grounds Committee

2013-present, Board Member, Midwest Invasive Plant Network

2016-present, Director, Indianapolis Museum of Art Horticultural Society (President 2011-2015. Vice President 2009-2011)

2009-present, Land Use Committee, Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association

2001-present, Indiana Invasive Plant Species Assessment Working Group / Indiana Invasive Plant Advisory Committee

Group, a committee including representatives of state agencies, the nursery industry, agricultural groups, and conservation nonprofits. David remains an active member of the now-named Indiana Invasive Plant Advisory Committee as its sole landscape architect, more than 15 years after its inception. He is also the only landscape architect on the board of the Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN), a regional organization working to reduce the impact of invasive plants throughout the Midwest. During his years of service with invasive species control, David has spoken at conferences about the role of landscape architects in the management and control of invasive plants, spoken about this topic to fellow landscape architects at INASLA Annual Conferences and students at LABASH, provided updates for newsletters, guest lectured multiple times for landscape architecture classes, and enlightened his Committee and MIPN colleagues about ASLA's policies on invasive species. He has been an active participant in the ongoing statewide assessments of plants—studies to determine plants' degrees of invasiveness, based on their spread, controllability, and other science. Of particular value has been his knowledge of the commercial availability and use by the public and professionals of plants that could be considered invasive. He has helped produce and distribute educational materials for the general public and landscape professionals on invasive species, including suggestions of alternative plants.

This work is about changing procedures, understanding, and minds, and is therefore unlikely to win awards, not being a definable "project." However, David's work has become the standard reference—the standard way of doing things—across the Midwest. The tangible impact of David's service is that landscape architects, students, and the public have become more aware of the threat of invasive species and the choices of possible alternatives. Working side by side with scientists, naturalists, land managers, and other partners involved in preserving and enhancing biodiversity, he has increased the credibility of the profession with his presence and valuable contributions. Most recently he has brought his plant passion to the Tree Research and Education Endowment (TREE) Fund, a national, ASLA-supported initiative. For the 2018 "Tour des Trees," a 500+ mile bike ride, David will captain "Team ASLA," a group of cycling landscape architects, as it raises funds to connect youth with green careers.

*David was the first landscape architect I met who really understood the issue of invasive plants in horticulture, and he was committed to helping us do thoughtful, accurate, assessments of these plants. He was perhaps the most consistent member we had in terms of attendance, and the one most ready to share useful information about the culture and use of these species. We could not have completed our assessments without his aid.*

Ellen M. Jacquart  
Past Chair, Invasive  
Plant Advisory Committee to the  
Indiana Invasive Species Council

### PROTECTING AND SHOWCASING LANDSCAPES AND GARDENS

Driven by his love of gardens, plants, and design, David began active leadership service with the Indianapolis Museum of Art's (IMA) Horticultural Society in 2009, having been a member for many years prior. The IMA is a unique institution in that, in addition to its encyclopedic visual art collection, it curates a suite of designed landscapes and buildings, including the circa-1920's Lilly House and Oldfields landscape created by Percival Gallagher of the Olmsted Brothers firm, and the Miller House in Columbus, Indiana, with its Dan Kiley-designed landscape. The Horticultural Society is the community steward of the IMA's landscape works. David served as the Society's president for four years, overseeing fund-raising



## David Gorden, ASLA

2000-present, Advisor and designer, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

2004-2008, Indiana Board of Registration for Architects and Landscape Architects (Chair 2005-2006)

2004-2007, Board of Directors, Indiana Urban Forest Council

2000-2001, Chair, Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society Annual Conference

1998-2004, Indianapolis Art Center Building Committee

1991-1996, McKenzie Career Center Horticulture Program Advisory Committee

2017-2015, 2013-2012, 2010, 2008, 2007, St. Margaret's Hospital Guild Decorators' Show House and Gardens Design Committee

### **PRO-BONO SERVICE-RELATED SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS AND CLASSES**

2016, LABASH, "Invasives and Landscape Architects"

2014, Upper Midwest Invasive Species Conference, "The Role of Landscape Architects in the Control of Invasive Plants"

2014, 2007, 2006, Indiana ASLA Annual Meeting

Ball State University Department of Landscape Architecture

Purdue University Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

White River Gardens, Indianapolis

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

1989-present, Design Manager/ Partner, Mark M. Holeman, Inc., Indianapolis

1982-1989, Tour Escort, Ambassador Travel Club / ATA Airlines, Indianapolis

1980-1981, Landscape Designer, Naperville Park District, Illinois

1978-1979, Gardener, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL

efforts; the group's educational activities, including a regular lecture series; and its general support of the museum's horticulture staff and their work caring for and enhancing the IMA's gardens and grounds. He has organized an annual volunteer work day for seven years—bringing Society members into the historic gardens to remove invasive species and perform selective pruning. He has also served as the event or sponsorship chair of the Society's last four fundraising galas, raising more than \$100,000 for special garden projects. In 2014 the IMA tapped David to for its Building and Grounds committee, which works directly with the museum's leadership to develop and implement policies and management priorities. David is, again, the only landscape architect on this committee. His commitment to IMA has had significant impact. The stewardship of nationally significant works of landscape architecture has created opportunities for education of designers and the general public across the state, region, and nation. Though located in Indiana, these are works of national importance, from eras and designers critical to the understanding of landscape architecture overall. Few examples of early American and Modern works of landscape architecture remain, and David's stewardship of these IMA landscapes ensures they live on.

In 2017, David coordinated the Indianapolis edition of the Cultural Landscape Foundation's nationally known series of What's Out There Weekends. He designed and organized tours, planned receptions, and contributed to the publication of a guidebook and creation of a database of landscape architectural works. More than 1000 local residents participated in the weekend's events, ensuring that the general public experienced firsthand the landscapes they see every day but often overlook. As a member of Indiana Landmarks's Cultural Landscapes Committee he continues to work, beyond this one weekend, to preserve, protect, and promote his state's historic landscapes.

David has additionally provided years of volunteer service to a variety of landscape-related organizations, including five years on the horticulture program advisory committee for the McKenzie Center for Innovation and Technology, a career center for local high schools. He was twice chair of the Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society's annual conference (for which he ensured landscape architects were featured speakers), served as a board member for the Indiana Urban Forest Council, and ten times has served on the design committee for the St. Margaret's Hospital Guild Decorators' Show House and Gardens, a major fundraising event that has raised more than \$4 million during David's time of service. Five times he has received the Guild's "Maggie's Award," given annually to one landscape designer who "goes above and beyond the call of duty." While his fundraising efforts for IMA were about using a gala to raise funds for needed garden projects, the St. Margaret's service is the inverse: it uses a garden show to raise funds for local health service programs. David's landscape expertise is relied upon to make the show a success. Through landscape-related service, David

*David's background as a landscape architect and his active involvement has been extremely valuable in bringing significant attention to the museum's gardens and landscape. He has connected my staff with many others in the profession. In his volunteer activities for the museum, he has well represented the principles and skills inherent in the profession. Very importantly, he has been a loyal friend and mentor to me in managing our facility and it's important historic landscapes.*

Mark Zelonis, Hon. ASLA  
The Ruth Lilly Deputy Director  
of Environmental and Historic  
Preservation (ret.),  
Indianapolis Museum of Art

## **David Gorden, ASLA**

is helping improve health outcomes in Indianapolis. The impact of David's service goes way beyond the profession—reaching out to community members with significant needs.

### **BUILDING AWARENESS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

In addition to serving outside the profession, David has committed 20 years to the Indiana Chapter of ASLA. The focus of his work has been on increasing exposure of and recognition for the profession, serving the community, and enabling practitioners to broaden their knowledge and experiences. He has held a variety of positions with INASLA through the years, including Vice-President, President, Trustee (in which role he has served since 2013), and chair of two annual meetings and INASLA's 30th anniversary celebration. Three times David has been recognized by INASLA for his long time contributions to it and the profession. In 2017 and 2000 he received the Chapter's Outstanding Service Award and in 2010 was presented with its highest honor, the Claire Bennett Legacy Award.

David was chapter president in 1999 and coordinated the chapter's variety of ASLA centennial activities. In this critical year, David's regional service had national impact, as all ASLA chapters came together to promote the profession across the United States and beyond. David planned the placement of the ten Indiana ASLA Centennial Medallions and organized a chapter public service and awareness project called the 100 Trees School Planting Program, which won a Gold Leaf Award from the International Society of Arboriculture and the Indiana Arborists Association. With funding from an Indiana Department of Natural Resources grant, the program planted 142 trees on 25 school grounds throughout the state. Following David's guidelines, chapter members across Indiana carried out planting events that included educational sessions about landscape architecture and the value of trees. This program was entirely led by David. He wrote the initial grant application, managed the funding, coordinated volunteers, and secured the plants.

In another service project for the centennial (part of ASLA's "100 Parks, 100 Years" program), David oversaw the creation of a new trailhead on the popular Monon Trail at the Indiana School for the Blind. Working with students and staff, David coordinated design and construction and procured donated materials and construction services. He led students on planting days and then managed several post-planting clean-ups for chapter member volunteers. David has since continued his pro bono relationship with the school, and is currently working to expand the school's horticultural studies facility. His long-term service with the School for the Blind—born out of a chapter service project—has had a positive impact on hundreds of children. David shows how landscaping, horticulture, and design is a real possibility for these students, regardless of physical limitations.

From 2004 to 2008, David served on the State's Board of Registration for Architects and Landscape Architects, chairing the board in 2005 and 2006. He helped write the language for the state's initial continuing education requirements and coordinated implementation and enforcement. To educate chapter members, he wrote an overview on the new rules for the chapter newsletter and presented an educational session at the annual meeting. His knowledge of continuing education and willingness to serve garnered attention beyond the Midwest and led to his 2017 appointment with national impact: ASLA's representative to the LA CES Monitoring Committee.

Since the earliest days of his INASLA involvement, David has been the primary link between the chapter and the state's green industry. For 14 years he organized an annual luncheon at the Indiana Green Expo that featured a noted landscape architect speaking to the gathered throng of nursery and construction professionals. From 2002 to 2012 he represented the chapter in its involvement with the Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Monumental Awards by serving on the program's steering committee and as the jury chair for the landscape architecture category. This prestigious award program recognizes projects that best improve the city through development, beautification, and design. The prominent presence of landscape architects in this program introduces or reinforces the profession to other design professionals, elected officials, municipal staff members, developers, and businesses.

### **IMPROVING LIVES LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY**

David has a strong belief in giving back to the community and has done so generously and with significant positive impact. He is the sole landscape architect on the land use committee of the Meridian Kessler Neighborhood Association where he lives, in which capacity he spends his own out-of-work time reviewing development proposals for consistency with neighborhood plans and needs. He has additionally organized several neighborhood tree plantings, participated in design charettes, and even took a leadership role in developing a pocket park in the neighborhood. For this Monumental Award winning project, David was part of the pro bono design team and then coordinated and personally participated in the



## David Gorden, ASLA

construction. He continues to assist with volunteer maintenance of the park. David's service has created lasting benefit in the neighborhood. David has also worked with Binford Redevelopment and Growth (BRAG), a neighborhood group near his office. On a fully pro-bono basis, David produced planting plans for beautification of a one-mile stretch of commercial boulevard, and assisted in the organization of a volunteer work day during which more than 800 community members planted 200 trees and thousands of shrubs, perennials, and bulbs. This project also won a Monumental Award, along with recognition from the International Society of Arboriculture and the Indiana Arborists Association.

For fifteen years, David has served Keep Indianapolis Beautiful (KIB), an organization with the mission of enhancing the visual and environmental quality of the city. During that time he has participated in or led nearly twenty volunteer activities, including fund-raising events; neighborhood tree plantings; career education events; highway bulb plantings; a school landscape plan; and planting plans for street medians, a downtown park, and other community sites. In 2016 David coordinated landscape work carried out by 75 volunteers in as part of a city-wide corporate day of service.

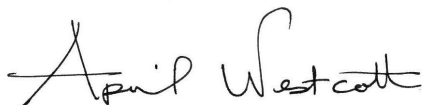
David's service to the community has extended far beyond Indiana. He has led or been a part of eleven work teams traveling to Bolivia, Cuba, South Africa, and elsewhere to carry out construction projects on medical, educational, residential, or religious sites. Most recently, in 2017, he was given an award of recognition for his work in Bolivia on a rural health care clinic. The impact of this local and international community service is the improvement of people's day-to-day lives. Because of David's service, people have more beautiful, healthier, and better functioning neighborhoods in which to live, work, and play.

For more than two decades, David has had a profound impact on the profession and on community members in Indiana, nationally, and beyond borders. He has selflessly served people and the profession by bringing his expertise, experience, and knowledge to a wide range of working groups, awards programs, neighborhood organizations, and horticultural societies. His long-term service to INASLA is exemplary, but he has not been content to work within the chapter. As president and in other roles, he has reached beyond the chapter to connect with neighborhoods, with the green industry, and with the Indianapolis government and development community. He has had significant regional and national impact in the area of his first love—plants and gardens—through his work on invasive species control and service with nationally significant landscapes at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. He has helped to beautify multiple Indianapolis neighborhoods, thereby improving quality of life for thousands of residents.

The kind of service to which David has committed does not always garner awards—though he does have many accolades of recognition. Instead, his work has variously inspired others to expand their own service, has become standard practice in the profession, or has bettered peoples' lives in myriad small ways that don't usually warrant formal thanks. David has happily served the profession outside of his regular work and without expectation of recognition, and in doing so he has improved the landscape of the region and quality of life for its residents. He has increased the tools landscape architects have available to do their work. He has actively promoted the profession through his presence on boards and committees, through his chapter service projects, and through his community workdays and fundraisers. He has raised significant sums of money for both social causes and the stewardship of iconic landscapes.

For nearly three decades of exceptional and generous service to the profession through leadership and advocacy—both inside and outside the profession, and for the resultant positive impact on the profession and the community, David Gorden is worthy of elevation to the ASLA Council of Fellows.

Sincerely,



April Westcott, ASLA, President  
Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

*David is a shining example, time and again, of how generous people can make dreams of a better, more beautiful, more healthy, and more caring city become a reality. His design talents, his extraordinary commitment of time, and his leadership have bettered more projects than we can count. He has raised money, defined our outdoor educational strategies for children, and introduced our employees to the design and nursery professions. His generosity stands out for its longevity, depth, and impact.*

David Forsell  
President, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

**Kas Kinkead, ASLA**  
Principal, Cascade Design Collaborative  
ASLA Council of Fellows Nomination: SERVICE

On behalf of the Executive Committee of the Washington Chapter ASLA, it is my privilege to nominate Kas Kinkead, ASLA, for your consideration.

**EDUCATION**

Master of Landscape Architecture Program, University of Washington, 1983-1989

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture Program, University of Minnesota, 1981-1983

Bachelor of Arts, Science Technology and Society: Urban Studies, Vassar College, 1980

**REGISTRATION**

Professional Landscape Architect, State of Washington (#765)

**EXPERIENCE**

Present from 1997  
Principal-in-Charge of Education and LID Related Projects, Cascade Design Collaborative

1997 from 1994  
Landscape Designer, Murase

1994 from 1992  
Landscape Designer, David Evans and Associates

1992 from 1989  
Environmental Planner II, TRA Architecture, Engineering, Planning, Interiors

1986 from 1976  
Wilderness Guide for 12 -18 year-olds, YMCA Camp Widjiwagan, Minnesota

1985 and 1984  
Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant, University of Washington, Landscape Architecture Program

1984  
Guide, 44-day canoe trip in NWT Canada

**PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES**

2016 and 2017 - WA Association for Learning Environments, Conference Co-Chair

2010 - Present, Phinney Neighborhood Association, Member, Board Member, Newsletter Editor and President

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Kas is a recognized leader in the profession of landscape architecture, in the City of Seattle, at the state level and at the national level. She has brought the role of the profession to the table for sustainable building, green infrastructure/ LID, and public K-12 educational facilities – elevating the conversation with her diplomacy, technical expertise, and conviction. Kas has dedicated her professional career to the public realm. For 25 years, Kas has been an invaluable part of several organizations that focus on promoting women in design, championing the role of landscape architects in the design of our public schools, developing low-impact development strategies, and strengthening communities.

**HISTORY OF SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

**ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN ARCHITECTURE – State Contributions**

From 1992 to 1998, Kas served as a board member for the Association for Women in Architecture (AWA), as president, newsletter editor, and conference planner. Kas played an instrumental role, building a network of support for women in architecture, planning, landscape architecture and construction at a time when women were becoming leaders in largely male-dominated offices. In addition to facilitating monthly meetings, numerous networking events, and editing the monthly newsletter, Kas helped establish a tradition of annual dinners (Women in Power) to honor local women leaders in the City of Seattle. Fund raising for the organization was successful enough to create an annual scholarship for women students in architecture and landscape architecture at the University of Washington (UW). One of the final conferences Kas organized honored the tenureship of Dr. Sharon Sutton, the first African American woman professor in the College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Washington.

Annual work parties were coordinated by Kas – one-day events or spanning an entire weekend – women got hands-on experience with building projects, collaborating with Habitat for Humanity and other housing non-profits. The work parties gained popularity – enough to attract leading women at UW and Seattle’s planning and housing offices. Weekend work parties gave participants the opportunity to build lasting bonds across disciplines – women contractors showed women-in-design how to wield a hammer and square a footing in the field. Though it’s been 20 years, those bonds remain.

*Kas is a national leader on the design of effective spaces that support education. She is committed to the creation of rich, sustainable and interactive places for learning that reinforce collaboration between students and the natural environment. Her work has resulted in exemplary spaces that teach by example. Her contributions and distinctive body of work have significantly influenced clients, institutions and colleagues on a Regional and National level, greatly enhancing the practice of landscape architecture.*

Gerald Butch Reifert,  
FAIA, Former Managing  
Partner, Mahlum  
Architects (Retired)

## Kas Kinkead, ASLA

Present from 2000 - WA Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction: School Facilities Advisory Board, Technical Advisory Committee, Member. 2015-2016, Chair

2015 from 2011 - WA Council of Education Facilities Planners International, Board Member

2013 from 2011 - WA Council of Education Facilities Planners International, Monthly Dinner Event Planner

2012 and 2007 - National AIA, Committee on Architecture for Education, Planning Committee

2010 from 2008 - OSPI Member

2008 and 2005 - Puget Sound Low Impact Development Advisory Board Member

2007 - Western Washington Rain Garden Handbook, Reviewed drafts and contributed graphics and plant lists for the Washington State University Pierce County Extension

1998 from 1992 - Association for Women in Architecture, President and Newsletter Editor

### PRESENTATIONS -SELECTED NATIONAL

2015 - Sustainability Ambassadors, Sustainability TALKS, School Campus Stormwater Solutions

2014 - A4LE Mac Connell Symposium Series, Learning and the Emerging Adolescent

2013 - A4LE, World Congress, How Many Cooks Does a Sustainable Project Take

2013 - A4LE, Resiliency as a Strategy for Disaster Preparedness, How School Site Design, Walkable Neighborhoods and Safe Routes to School Double for Disaster Preparedness

2012 - AIA CAE, Evolving Strategies for Public Investment in Green Infrastructure and Education, Moderator and Session Planner

2011 - A4LE National Symposium, Dallas, Making the Grade in a Net Zero World

2003 - EDRA, Learning in Place:

### MOVING TO A LARGER STAGE

Leading AWA gave Kas confidence in her standing as a professional who could work as an equal with sister professions. She found her interest in public K-12 educational facilities designs and combined her commitment to public works and her belief in the importance of bringing nature to our public spaces and into learning.

She teamed up with professors from the UW to give numerous presentations on environmental education and site learning opportunities (see sidebar) at ASLA national and other national, regional, and local venues. Partnering with professors of education, Kas was able to apply the perspective of educational pedagogies, learning theory and delivery models, and approaches of how the site could support learning. Early efforts were met with resistance, even outrage, that she was advocating 'environmental education,' grounding in learning theory, and effective approaches of teaching using hands-on-learning or project-based-learning. Kas gained valuable experience navigating the teachers' and the facility directors' worlds by introducing the importance of well-crafted, educational site design.

### SCHOOL FACILITIES ADVISORY BOARD AND TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SFAB/TAC) – State Contributions With a National Effect

In 2000 Kas was appointed by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to represent ASLA on a state review committee that provided oversight for the state's public K-12 facilities. The committee, now known as the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), is a team of allied professionals involved in the construction and management of design for publicly funded K-12 schools. Kas has served as Chair twice and contributed to a number of the ad hoc committees. She represented the landscape architects of the state and reminded architects and facility directors the importance of site and its significant impact on learning. We now have a law in the state recognizing outdoor classrooms as a valid place of learning and potentially eligible for state funding.

In 2003 LEED silver was suggested as a baseline for all publicly funded buildings including K-12 schools. As a member of the TAC, Kas served on the Washington Sustainable Schools Protocol (WSSP) committee that crafted an alternative to LEED.

Kas was instrumental in securing the inclusion of stormwater, Low Impact Development (LID) strategies, soil management and compost amended soils, as well as irrigation auditing and scheduling as part of the credits. Over the three years it took to get the law passed, Kas testified numerous times in front of the Senate and House Committee sessions reviewing the draft legislation as the bills evolved and the success of sustainable projects advanced. The effort resulted in legislative changes which require all state-assisted K-12 new construction or significant modernizations to be designed to a sustainable high-performance standard. Kas remains involved in the ongoing efforts to update the WSSP and this year drafted a new credit for outdoor classrooms. She coordinated with the curriculum directors, helping them to translate the learning objectives into design criteria. The State of Washington

*Her partnership, passion and determination to provide integrated educational learning environments are evident in her work with the Bainbridge Island School District. Kas' designs challenge students to pursue an intimate understanding of nature and sustainability while reflecting on their personal commitment to the environment. She personalizes projects through a methodical understanding of the educational goals, community values and age appropriate connections to landscape.*

Tamela Van Winkle,  
Executive Director  
Facilities, Operations  
and Capital Projects,  
Bainbridge Island School  
District



## Kas Kinkead, ASLA

Connecting Ecology, Community and Sustainability in Design of School Environments

1998 - ASLA, Designing School Sites and Surrounds as Learning Environments

### PRESENTATIONS

#### -SELECTED STATE AND REGIONAL

2014 - WA A4LE, Summer Symposium, Bloedel Reserve, Outdoor Learning - Element Attributes and Curriculum

2013 - WA A4LE, Resiliency as a Strategy for Disaster Preparedness

2011 - WA A4LE, Sustainable School Food Programs

2011 - Washington State LID Certification Program, Planning Design for Bioretention Cells

2008 - WA A4LE, Science of Play, Moderator and Session Planner

2008 and 2007 - King County Department of Health, Conference for Daycare Licensing, Keynote Speaker

2007 and 2005 - King County Department of Health, Learning Landscapes for Early Learners, Chelan and South Seattle Community College

2004 - WA A4LE, Landscapes for Learning

1998 - Northwest Regional Conference Association for Experiential Education, Envisioning School Sites as Learning Environments

### ARTICLES

2006 - Daily Journal of Commerce, Rain Gardens: Effective, Natural and Cheap, Schools are Turning to a Sustainable Alternative for Stormwater Management, with Tim Brockway

### AWARDS

#### -SELECTED INTERNATIONAL

#### A4LE, Project of Distinction

2014 - Valley View Middle School, Snohomish, WA

2012 - Issaquah High School, Issaquah, WA

now has a formalized set of guidelines that will inspire future school buildings to consider the inclusion of outdoor classrooms and gain a green credit in the process.

### ASSOCIATION FOR LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS (A4LE) (Formerly known as the Council of Education Facilities Planners International - CEFPI) - Local Chapters and National Presence

At Kas' first national A4LE (formerly CEFPI) conference in 2000, two A4LE members asked her, "As the only landscape architect here, what do you think of our award-winning projects?" Kas responded that she was dismayed and deeply concerned that there was no thought given to the site. In response they challenged her to get involved.

In 2008 Kas worked with research scientists and professors in childhood development at Washington State University to present their findings on how play affects learning. In 2011 she collaborated on a presentation with a local chef who was designing kitchens and food delivery from Farm to Table for schools. For the national A4LE symposia in 2014, Kas brought in a leading professor and author specializing in brain development patterns of emerging adolescents. In June of that year she planned a symposium for the local chapter entitled "Outdoor Learning: Elements Attributes and Curriculum," a one-day symposium at the Bloedel Reserve, a stunning landscape designed by a group of notable landscape architects, including Rich Haag. For the symposium, Kas brought in state leaders for the Next Generation Science Standards and a local school district director of curriculum to talk about the new learning standards. The setting was well suited for project-based learning, compelling architects and facility directors to participate in outdoor hands-on learning projects.

Kas was originally the only landscape architect attending A4LE events; however, today there are many landscape architects in attendance who she has inspired to get involved. Her presence in the room reminds other members that beyond the lawn and the few trees, great learning opportunities abound on every site.

Kas continues to research learning modalities in brain science, state-required learning standards, Common Core Standards, and Next Generation Science Curriculum, combining those theories with site design principles. She has crafted a series of presentations that directly relate to the educational program for each project and highlights the potential of learning from the land that surrounds their school.

### AIA-CAE NATIONAL CONFERENCES - The National Scene

As Kas engaged with other professionals, demonstrating her passion and commitment to learning environments, she was invited by leaders of the national AIA

Committee on Architecture for Education to help them plan their conferences. Kas worked on three conferences that brought together the AIA's thought-leaders in K-12 design through a rigorous, thought-provoking format of tours, lectures, and workshops. The most important outcome of her involvement was to demonstrate the value of a landscape architect's perspective, and that we could engage at a high level of discourse, going toe-to-toe on discussions of education pedagogy, educational

*I have had the great privilege to know Ms. Kinkead and be familiar with her efforts to improve design and construction for K-12 schools in the state of Washington for fifteen years. Kas's greatest accomplishments may have been her concentrated work with the development and implementation of the Washington Sustainable Schools Protocol (WSSP). I have personally known Kas to be a dedicated and valued friend who is esteemed by a great many other professionals.*

Gordon Beck, Director of School Facilities and Organization, Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (Retired)

## Kas Kinkead, ASLA

2004 - Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, Kirkland, WA

### **A4LE, James D. MacConnell Award**

2014 - Finalist, Wilkes Elementary School, Bainbridge Island, WA

2014 - Finalist, Vashon Island High School, Vashon Island, WA

2013 - Finalist, Meadowdale Middle School, Edmonds, WA

2011 - Marysville Getchell High School, Marysville, WA

2006 - Finalist, Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, Kirkland, WA

2005 - Finalist, Truman Center, Federal Way, WA

2005 - White River High School and Athletic Facilities, Buckley, WA

### **AIA-COTE, Committee on the Environment**

2006 - Top Ten Green Award, Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, Kirkland, WA

2000 - Top Ten Green Award, Bainbridge Island City Hall, Bainbridge, WA

### **AIA-CAE, Committee on Architecture for Education**

2015 - Design Excellence Award, Vashon Island High School, Vashon Island, WA

2014 - Design Excellence Award, Wilkes Elementary School, Bainbridge Island, WA

2013 - Educational Facility Award, Ingraham High School, Seattle, WA

2011 - Award of Merit, Marysville Getchell High School, Marysville, WA

### **AWARDS - SELECTED STATE**

#### **A4LE, People's Choice Award**

2010 - Muckleshoot K-12, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, WA

2009 - Bainbridge Island High School, Bainbridge, WA

#### **A4LE, Polished Apple Award**

2009 - Gray Middle School, Tacoma, WA

#### **A4LE, Merit Awards**

2010 - Muckleshoot K-12, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, WA

delivery models, and design theory. Out of state architects were often surprised to find her in attendance, but were quickly convinced of the valuable addition.

Following the conferences Kas was invited to serve as a national juror representing A4LE for the National School Board Association Awards for Schools held in Washington D.C. That same year she was invited to be a participant of a weeklong workshop run by the American Architectural Foundation's Great Schools program. In both cases, Kas was at the table as the only landscape architect.

### **LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID) / GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE – Regional Contributions With a National Effect**

Kas was invited to the first training in the state of Washington for Low Impact Development (LID) sponsored by the Department of Defense as they embarked on master planning for the army base in 1999. From contacts at that multi-day workshop, she was invited to join the advisory committee for the first Low Impact Development Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound and then again for the revisions in 2009. Lively arguments with civil engineers and state public works directors drove Kas to dive deep into the research to support her firm conviction that LID, bioretention, and compost-amended soils were vital to the system of stormwater cleansing and essential to the burgeoning field of green infrastructure. Her research into LID helped formulate her work on the state's Sustainable Schools Protocol.

By using her connections in the LID community she began to cross pollinate the LID discipline leaders with the A4LE organization, facilitating education on the new stormwater approaches. She invited a prominent LID hydrogeologist to a number of A4LE conferences to present strategies, argue LID topics, and provide evidence on the effectiveness – especially cost effectiveness – of LID strategies. Throughout the built environment community, Kas is known for having a detailed understanding of soil sciences and the process of bioretention systems. She has assisted the City of Seattle with their soil specifications, working with their soil vendors and geotechnical engineers, helping them define what is needed for success. She has been asked to review other agencies' soil specifications, most recently for the Seattle School District. Recognized as a leader in the field, Kas has been invited to present to students, enjoying the great pleasure of working with students from elementary to high schools as they take on green infrastructure on their own campus (Anacortes rain garden construction project – funded by Monsanto; and Tahoma School District, middle school). Kas provided pro-bono services to Peter Donaldson and his Sustainability Ambassadors program to create a LID manual for schools (<http://www.sustainabilityambassadors.org/lid-manual-for-schools>), and she remains involved as a Sustainability Ambassador. In 2016 she gave a presentation, titled School Campus Stormwater Solutions, now featured on their national website. I invite you to review it at <http://www.sustainabilityambassadors.org/apps/videos/videos/show/18826282-school-campus-stormwater-solutions>

*Kas has brought a professional design perspective to two capital campaigns and the strategy for ongoing management of two 100+ year old landmarked buildings. She's talked down nervous parents who wanted to deforest the campus, has come out to jump on a rotting tree stump on a Friday night to assess the damage, and makes us laugh with crazy (but true!) stories. Kas has provided significant in-kind design and regularly advises on site projects.*

Lee Harper, Phinney  
Neighborhood  
Association, Executive  
Director

## Kas Kinkead, ASLA

2009 - Tacoma Community College Early Learning Center, Tacoma, WA

**A4LE, Civic Design Citation Award**  
2012 - Ingraham High School, Seattle, WA

2011 - Marysville Getchell High School, Marysville, WA

### **Other Allied Professions**

2016 - ACEC Excellence in Engineering, Best in State Gold Award for Successful Fulfillment of Client/Owner, Venema Creek Natural Drainage System, Seattle, WA

2012 - WALP Award of Distinction, Marysville Getchell High School, Marysville, WA

2004, GreenWorld What Makes it Green? Award, Benjamin Franklin and Cottage Lake Elementary Schools, Kirkland & Woodinville, WA

### **CONFERENCE PLANNING**

2018 - Regional PNW A4LE Conference Chair

2017, 2016 - State A4LE Conferences

2012, 2007, 2002 - National AIA-CAE Conferences, respectively: Adapting to a Culture of Change; Redefining Sustainability; and Lifelong Learning

2008, 2007 - A4LE Conference Planning Committee

1998 from 1992 - AWA Conferences

### **PHINNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (PNA)**

#### **– Local Contributions Creating a National Model Neighborhood**

As part of her interest in community building and sustainability, Kas became involved with the Phinney Neighborhood Association (PNA), a model community organization recognized at the state level for providing valuable community services. The organization was taking on an ambitious expansion project to improve accessibility to its National Landmarked building. Kas served as chair on the committee that advised and provided oversight for the project, providing many hours of consultation, review, and advice to the Executive Director. Early on the PNA embraced the Living Building Challenge and an alternative project delivery – Integrated Project Delivery – which gained national attention, subsequently receiving an invitation to present at the Living Building Conference in Vancouver, BC. Kas continues to serve on the board and as site committee chair as the non-profit embarks on site improvement projects and the acquisition of new property.

### **STATE LICENSURE – State & Professional Contributions**

Up until 2000 the state of Washington had only a title act for landscape architects. When that law was set to sunset Kas worked with other WASLA members to develop and deliver testimony at the State Capitol to convince legislators that landscape architects deserved a practice act. Over the span of two legislative sessions, she headed to our state capitol to testify at critical hearings for the bills that were being proposed, coordinating with the chapter to fight back on amendments that were detrimental to the profession.

### **CASCADE DESIGN COLLABORATIVE (CDC)**

As President of CDC, Kas' mission is to focus 100% of the firm's energy and effort on improving the public realm. The CDC philosophy is that the quality of our public environment defines the quality of who we are as a culture - and the firm holds a deep commitment to the idea that few public environments are more important than those that house this nation's children. Kas has been a driver for excellent design in public education for 30 years. She is intentionally designing for the future good.

### **CHAPTER PRESIDENT SUMMARY**

As you can see, Kas Kinkead has performed exceptional neighborhood, local, state, and national service for the profession of landscape architecture. She is an excellent candidate for Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

As a professional in the State of Washington I am deeply grateful for the work Ms. Kinkead has done on our behalf. She has increased the expectations of what our profession brings to educational projects and green infrastructure. Reaching well beyond the “shrub-it-up” approach, Kas has brought to the forefront meaningful dialogue and a command of technical detail. Over the years, she has been the landscape architect shaping the outlook of architects and engineers through presentations and conferences. I love the idea that she has inserted our perspective overtly, and sometimes subtly, into the built environment conversation. Kas is an inspiration for how to get involved, influence, and effect positive change. I truly believe that she has crafted a larger role for us in the industry.

Sincerely,



**Laura L. Thompson, ASLA**  
**President, Washington Chapter, ASLA**