



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

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March 16, 2020

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Roberto Rovira, ASLA
Chair and Associate Professor
Department of Landscape Architecture +
Environmental and Urban Design
College of Architecture + the Arts
Florida International University
Miami, Florida

Dear Professor Rovira:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its December 20, 2019 meeting considered the deferred action taken at the August 2019 meeting on the accreditation of the course of study leading to the professional MLA degree at Florida International University and decided to grant accreditation for a period of six (6) years. This status is subject to review of a satisfactory progress report to be submitted by June 1, 2021, together with annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

The interim report should provide an update on each Recommendation Affecting Accreditation (RAA) in order to demonstrate compliance, or steps towards compliance, with the respective standard. In accordance with LAAB policy, programs will be given up to two years to resolve their RAA(s). Upon receipt of the two-year Interim Report, the LAAB will accept that the RAA(s) have been addressed or, if not, the program will be given two more years to resolve the issues. A second Interim Report will be due to the LAAB on or before four years from the receipt of this Action Letter. If the RAA(s) are not successfully resolved or, in the case of longer term issues, substantial and verifiable progress has not been made at that time (after four years from this Action Letter) then the program may be moved to provisional status, it may be suspended, or in some cases the program's accreditation may be revoked.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends December 31, 2024. Accordingly, the MLA program at Florida International University is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2024.

In making its decision, LAAB considered the institution's response to the accreditation deferral letter, the program's self-evaluation report, the visiting team's report, and the program's response to the report.

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in the interim report via the process laid out above) and an Interim Reporting template. This list was developed by LAAB from the materials reviewed during the meeting.

On behalf of the visiting team, I would like to thank you for the hospitality extended to them by the faculty, staff, and students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joy Lyndes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "L".

Joy Lyndes, ASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Mark B. Rosenberg, President

**Florida International University
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
December 20, 2019**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. A written long-range plan should be developed to provide a structured guide for the program to use in decision making. This written plan and metrics for gauging progress should articulate strengthening the stature of the program, process for review of the curriculum, establishment and development of an advisory board or other formal mechanisms for engaging program alumni and members of the professional practice community, and the setting of sustainable enrollment goals (Standard 1).

Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board

Interim Report

Date:

Section 1.

Name of Institution:

Name of Department:

Name of Program:

Date of Decision Letter:

Section 2.

Recommendation Affecting Accreditation: (Describe verbatim the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation identified in the Decision Letter that is the subject of this Report and attach the Decision Letter. If Decision Letter identified more than one (1) Recommendation Affecting Accreditation, complete an Interim Report for each Recommendation.)

Section 3.

Action Taken by Program: (Describe the action taken by the Program to address the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation identified in Section 2 of this Report. Attach any appropriate documentation that supports the action taken by the Program)