



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

Board Members

April 18, 2022

Educators

Lynn Ewanow
LAAB Chair
Kansas State University

Weimin Li, Ph.D., ASLA
California State Polytechnic University

Daniel H. Ortega, ASLA
University of Nevada Las Vegas

Kimberlee Douglas, ASLA, RLA
Director of Landscape Architecture Program and Assistant Professor
Landscape Architecture & Geodesign
College of Architecture and the Built Environment
Thomas Jefferson University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144

Practitioners

Erin Degutis, ASLA, RLA
Duke Energy

Dale Jaeger, FASLA
WLA Studio

Juanita Shearer-Swink, FASLA, PLA
LAAB Chair-Elect

Dear Professor Douglas:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its March 14-15, 2022, meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the professional BLA degree at Thomas Jefferson University. This status is subject to review of an interim report to be submitted by December 1, 2023, together with annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Public Representatives

Gilbert Holmes
University of LaVerne College of Law

Derrek Niec-Williams
Howard University

Patty Reece
The Volland Store

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 have 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 Accreditation 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 Accreditation 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.

ASLA Representative

Kona Gray, FASLA
EDSA

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends December 31, 2027. Accordingly, the BLA program at Thomas Jefferson University is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2027.

CELA Representative

Roxi Thoren., ASLA
LAAB Secretary
Pennsylvania State University

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

CLARB Representative

Christine Anderson, ASLA, PLA
Mark Thomas

Director

Kristopher Pritchard

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.

*Thomas Jefferson University BLA
Accreditation Action Letter
April 18, 2022
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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,

Lynn M. Ewanow

Lynn Ewanow
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: H. Richard Haverstick, Jr., Interim President

**Thomas Jefferson University
BLA Program
LAAB Meeting
March 14-15, 2022**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. Demonstrate that the program engages in a long-range planning process in the following areas (Standard 1):
 - a. develop its own long-range plan that ensures its own, congruent strategy for continuity and growth, and aligns with the overall University and College mission, and
 - b. include a process for program review, evaluation, and revision.
2. Demonstrate that the institution provides sufficient resources to enable the program to achieve its mission and goals (Standard 2).
3. Expand the articulation of student learning outcomes to include a comprehensive set of concise and tangible expectations illustrating the levels of professional skills and knowledge all students should be able to demonstrate upon completion of the program. Tie specific skills and knowledge areas to the program and institutional mission and goals (Standard 3).
4. Update and expand the construction technology and contract documentation coursework in order to incorporate a more detailed and comprehensive coverage of various site design elements, and specifically to include coverage of layout and dimensioning of key site elements (Standard 3).
5. Facilities must be code compliant. Smith House, the location of several LA seminars and design studios, is not code compliant in a variety of instances. Additionally, the institution must verify that the other two buildings used by the College also meet all current standards for life/safety, as well as ADA accessibility for exterior access, restrooms, and office spaces (Standard 7).

Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board

Interim Report

Submitted By:

Submission Date:

Section 1.

Name of Institution:

Name of Department:

Name of Program:

Date of Decision Letter:

Section 2.

Recommendation Affecting Accreditation: (Copy/paste 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)

Section 4.

Prior Action Taken by Program: (If applicable, attach any prior Interim Report related to the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation described in Section 2 of this Report)