



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

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Stanton Jones
Program Coordinator
Landscape Architecture Program
School of Natural Resources and Environment
3546 Dana Hall
University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Dear Professor Jones:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its February 5-6, 2016 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at University of Michigan. This status is subject to review of annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends December 31, 2020. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2020.

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

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in annual reports) and considerations for improvement. 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 'Gary Kesler', is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Gary Kesler, FASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Mark S. Schlissel, President

**University of Michigan
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
February 5-6, 2016**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

N/A

Considerations for Improvements

1. Relative to assessment, explore and develop strategies to record information necessary for iterative/ongoing evaluation and long term planning (Standard 1).
2. The program has five full time faculty members with accredited degrees in landscape architecture and meets the recommended requirement. However, one faculty member has a major university level administrative appointment and has a reduced appointment in the program. A process should be implemented to restart efforts to correct this deficiency (Standard 2).
3. Efforts should be made to continue to expand the racial diversity of both the faculty and student body to achieve a composition more consistent with the general population (Standard 2).
4. Explore strategies to foster a more productive and interactive digital design environment in studios that facilitates the sharing of ideas (Standard 7).
5. Explore methods to increase access to large format and 3d printing and expand physical modeling capabilities (Standard 7).