



FLORIDA CHAPTER ASLA TRUSTEE REPORT

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YOUR ASLA MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the 21th piece of my Trustee report series where I share a few notes and items from our national organization over the last month or so. Remind people who may have lapsed in their membership to rejoin and that *payment options* are available. Please feel free to contact me at Trustee@FLASLA.org if you have any questions or concerns about ASLA issues.






Let me know if you submitted for an ASLA Annual Meeting education course. I hope you get selected if you did submit (one of 412 submissions for about 120 courses). Florida is underrepresented at the Annual Meeting in my opinion. Will I see winners in the ASLA Design Awards? It would be nice to see some of the work of our landscape architects celebrated.

Governance and Administration




- **A kick-off meeting** was held last week with the **ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture** general contractor (Coakley Williams Construction), architect Gensler, and project manager Akridge. Discussions included project schedule review, project controls and communications, and site logistics.
- Staff participated in a conference call with **Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julian Castro** following the announcement of the winners of the **National Disaster Resilience Competition**. One billion dollars has been awarded to 13 states/communities for resilient infrastructure and housing projects. **Green infrastructure, wetlands restoration, and other landscape architecture approaches are incorporated in many of the winning proposals.**
- **President Chad Danos, FASLA, presented to the Louisiana civil engineers yesterday.** Danos focused his presentation on green infrastructure and the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach to solving storm water issues.
- Great news! GSA National Director of Landscape Architecture **Christian Gabriel, ASLA, has confirmed the U.S. General Services Administration's (GSA's) commitment to pursue SITES® certification for all capital projects beginning in FY 2017.** Both EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA, and Federal Government Affairs Director Roxanne Blackwell, Hon. ASLA, participated in a conference call last Thursday with Gabriel and **U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) and Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI)** staff to hear the news. ASLA and USGBC/GBCI will coordinate communications/announcements to share this significant SITES milestone with members and stakeholders.

Government Affairs


- Recently, the U.S. Senate began consideration of the Energy Policy Modernization Act (EPMA) that includes a bipartisan compromise reached by Senate Energy and Natural Resources Chairman Lisa Murkowski (AK) and Ranking Member Maria Cantwell (WA) to **permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**. Recently, amendments were filed to strike or weaken the Murkowski-Cantwell LWCF proposal. ASLA activated the iAdvocate Network to request that members take action to oppose any amendments attacking the LWCF provision in the bill. Thus far, 312 members sent 640 messages urging support for the Murkowski-Cantwell LWCF provision. ASLA also sent a letter to all senate offices urging them to oppose any amendments attacking the LWCF provision. As of press time, senators had not voted on the LWCF amendments and the EPMA was still being considered on the Senate floor.

-  ASLA joined with public lands and conservation organizations in sending a letter to the U.S. Senate urging them to oppose Amendment 3023 to the EPMA authored by Senator Mike Lee (UT) that would gut the Antiquities Act to block the designation any new public lands as national monuments.
-  On February 2, the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy, and Consumer Rights held a hearing entitled, “License to Compete: Occupational Licensing and the State Action Doctrine.” **The hearing examined how state licensing boards controlled by active market participants can affect competition and the role of antitrust law** in preventing consumer harm after the Supreme Court’s decision in North Carolina Board of Dental Examiners v. FTC. Senators questioned panelists on the growth of state licensing boards, disparity between licensing laws in the states, the impact on job mobility, and the economic impact of licensing on low and moderate income workers. The subcommittee intends to monitor further Federal Trade Commission actions and examine the federal government’s role in state occupational licensing.
-  ASLA activated the iAdvocate Network to send an information alert to members about a new [report](#) released by the **Environmental Protection Agency’s Green Infrastructure program**, which summarizes tools, strategies, and lessons learned from green infrastructure projects across the country.
-  Recently, ASLA participated in the [2016 Annual Transportation Research Board \(TRB\) Annual Meeting](#), which included education sessions and workshops on issues covering all modes of transportation. EVP Somerville presented on the **Chinatown Green Street Demonstration Program** as one of the panelists for an education session entitled “Complete, Green, and Exceptional: Creating Streets of the Future.” Director Blackwell was a guest of the Landscape and Environmental Design Committee, which includes landscape architects working at state Departments of Transportation and other transportation outlets. The committee is chaired by Keith Richardson, ASLA, of CALTRANS.
-  Recently, the **National Complete Streets Coalition** hosted the Sixth Annual Complete Streets Dinner in Washington, D.C. The evening assembled advocates, supporters, partners, and friends to celebrate 10 years as a coalition, over 845 Complete Streets policies passed at the state, regional, and local level, and the passage of a federal Complete Streets policy. Gregory Ballard, former mayor of Indianapolis was the guest speaker. ASLA, along with the National Association of Realtors, and MIG, a planning and design firm, sponsored this year’s dinner.


Public Relations and Communications


-  The **call for nominations for [ASLA 2016 Honors](#) is open until March 25**, so please be thinking about deserving candidates to nominate for the [medals](#), [Landscape Architecture Firm Award](#), [Community Service Award](#), and [Honorary Membership](#). Individual professional members and chapters may make nominations. Guidelines for each honor are posted online. Should you have any questions, please contact [Honors and Awards Coordinator Carolyn Mitchell](#).
-  Starting February 1, ASLA is once again offering members a **free internship posting on [JobLink](#)** during the months of February, March, and April. An email and *LAND* article will promote this opportunity next week. There are currently **88 [JobLink](#) postings**.
-  The **[Call for Entries](#) for the 2016 Professional and Student Awards is now open and once again the award program is online**. Entry submissions and payment must be received by March 18 for the Professional Awards and May 13 for the Student Awards. The [press release](#) announcing the call was posted on ASLA’s website and disseminated to the media.

Professional Practice

-  After previous surveys on PPN members’ favorite spaces, career paths in landscape architecture, and inspired design, Manager Shawn Balon, ASLA, and Coordinator Ali Hay are once again collecting opinions and responses from PPN members. This year’s set of questions was put together with the assistance of the [PPN leadership](#). **If you are a PPN member and have not yet completed this [brief survey](#), please**

take a few minutes to do so. The responses will be described in the “PPN News” section of *LAND* and used to spark ideas for the Online Learning series or *The Field*.

 ASLA is once again taking the lead with the **parklets planning** committee for the [2016 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference](#) taking place February 11-13 in Portland. On January 28, Manager Balon held a conference call with the committee to finalize the planning process. Five parklets will be designed and displayed during the conference. The organizations involved include the Local Government Commission, U.S. Forest Service, PlaceMatters, Walkable and Livable Communities Institute, City of Oregon's Urban Design Studio, Toole Design Group, Greater Places, and DOTankDC.

 On January 19, the **Historic Preservation PPN's Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) Subcommittee** held its first quarterly conference call to review highlights from the 2015 ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO, upcoming milestones including the [National Parks Service's Centennial](#) and [National Historic Preservation Act's fiftieth anniversary](#), and promotion for the [2016 HALS Challenge](#).

Resource Development

 **Pledges to the campaign for the Center for Landscape Architecture** now total \$974,623 or **65** percent of the goal of \$1.5 million. Please contact [Director Ron Sears](#) for more information.