



FLORIDA CHAPTER ASLA TRUSTEE REPORT

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YOUR ASLA MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the 19th 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.



Congratulations to **David Driapsa, FASLA** and **Mary Bates, FASLA** on their induction as Fellow in Chicago! The Florida contingent gathered to welcome them after the dinner and awards ceremony with drinks and cheer. Mary made quite the statement by not wearing black. She stood out amongst all the tuxes and black gowns in her stunning aqua gown.

The education courses and the expo were outstanding this year. Next year is in New Orleans. Put it on your calendar. It should be a blast as well as a learning experience. 2020 ASLA is in Miami! Be prepared to help set the stage to show off our state.


Governance and Administration

-  **The Center for Landscape Architecture** construction is beginning. **Preparations for the ASLA office move** are in top gear. The office will be closed on December 14 and 15 while the move is underway. **ASLA will reopen on December 16 in the temporary headquarters** at 601 13th Street. Phone numbers and the mailing address will remain the same.
-  EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA, attended the executive luncheon and briefing and other VIP events at the **U.S. Green Building Council's Greenbuild** last week. A **half-day workshop on SITES® was sold out**. Corporate Secretary Curt Millay, ASLA, CFO Michael O'Brien, and Director Ron Sears attended the Greenbuild EXPO.
-  As part of the **Chinatown Green Street Demonstration Project**, EVP Somerville and Secretary Millay held a conference call on Monday with Design Workshop and the developer of the 600 Massachusetts Avenue project, currently under construction, to continue the investigation of opportunities for integrating green street principles into the project.


Government Affairs


-  The **FHA is proposing a major policy change**: Instead of requiring roads that receive federal funding to be designed like highways, the agency would change its standards to allow greater flexibility. The purpose of the revisions is to ease some of the federally-mandated design standards to make it easier for communities of all sizes to design and build streets that are safer for everyone. **ASLA urges its members to review the [Federal Register notice](#) and be prepared to submit [comments](#) about the proposal.**
-  Congress is still negotiating LWCF. The **[Land and Water Conservation Fund \(LWCF\)](#) expired on September 30, 2015, and Congress is still trying to work on a deal to reauthorize the program**. As one of the most important federal programs in helping landscape architects design parks and outdoor recreation spaces, it is critical that ASLA members continue to contact their legislators about reauthorizing LWCF. Use the iAdvocate Network to [send a message](#) about LWCF today!

Resource Development

-  **Pledges to the campaign for the Center for Landscape Architecture** are now \$903,728 or 60 percent of the goal of \$1.5 million. Contributions to the newly launched Annual Fund total \$8,451 to date. Learn more about the campaign at [Center for Landscape Architecture Campaign](#). Learn more about the Annual Fund at [ASLA Annual Fund](#).

Professional Practice

 On November 30, Manager Shawn Balon, ASLA attended the **NEA Creative Placemaking & Parks Steering Committee Kick-Off Meeting**. As part of the steering committee, ASLA will participate with the project partners, The Trust for Public Land and The City Parks Alliance, to inform the creation of the Creative Placemaking Awareness and Experience survey, build knowledge about creative placemaking in parks through a colloquium, and provide input and case studies for a field guide.

 On December 1-2, **Shawn Kelly, FASLA**, and Manager Balon attended the **Renewable Natural Resources Foundation (RNRFF) Congress on Sustaining Western Water**. The congress assessed the challenges of managing scarce water resources within the economic and regulatory framework of the western states and featured discussions of methods and opportunities to sustain water resources through water transfers, land-use policy tools, and future scenario planning. Recommendations from the meeting will be shared with public policy makers and other stakeholders.