



## FLORIDA CHAPTER ASLA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAVID J. FLANAGAN, PLA, ASLA

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**American Society of  
Landscape Architects  
Florida Chapter**

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Happy New Year everyone. I hope everyone had a great holiday season and you are looking forward to a successful 2017. Several of our committees have already held their first conference calls for the new year and organizing their efforts for the year.

### Education

I am excited about the formation last month of a committee led by Immediate Past President of the Florida Chapter Jonathan Haigh to evaluate and put into action a plan for creating a scholarship endowment for each of the two Landscape Architecture programs in the state, located at the University of Florida and at Florida International University. We have discussed at length ways for each of us to be proactively involved in helping these programs continue to recruit, educate, develop, and graduate landscape architects, and this is a terrific first step. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up to undertake this effort.

### Advocacy

Diana Ferguson and I have been discussing our strategies for advocacy as the new session gets underway in Tallahassee. She notified me earlier this week that there will likely be some sort of general deregulation effort in the House of Representatives, but until discussion is further along, we will not know if there will be an effort to include Landscape Architects in this effort. She will keep us apprised of the situation, as always, and will work with our Government Affairs Committee to organize in any way needed regarding this and any other pertinent issues. As discussed during several Executive Committee meetings this fall, we recently renewed Diana's contract through 2019. Diana's service has been vital to the Florida Chapter's success and we look forward to continuing to work with her.

### February Executive Committee Meeting in Gainesville

We will be having our February Executive Committee face to face meeting in Gainesville on Friday February 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday February 25<sup>th</sup>. This is a continued effort to strengthen our relationships with the Landscape Architecture programs at both the University of Florida and Florida International University. We are looking forward to interacting with the faculty and students in Gainesville just as we did this past fall at FIU.

As always, I appreciate the opportunity and honor of serving FLASLA as your President. Please contact me at [president@flasla.org](mailto:president@flasla.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

David J. Flanagan, PLA, ASLA  
2016-2017 Florida Chapter President  
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