



October 1, 2017

Florida Chapter:

ASLA hosted the [Blue Ribbon Panel on Climate Change and Resilience](#) on Thursday, September 21 through Friday, September 22, 2017, led by President Vaughn Rinner, FASLA. The panel was comprised of 11 experts from various disciplines (to include EVP Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA) who will make recommendations for mitigating and adapting to climate change through resilient design. The guest speaker will be the Hon. Parris Glendening, past governor of Maryland. See more on the blue ribbon panel in the [press release here](#). After the panel concludes, videos of all participants as well as a video overview will be added. The panel will publicly present its findings and policy recommendations in the form of a report in January 2018.

Recently, 30 chapters (including our own Emily O'Mahoney) convened in Milwaukee, WI for the 2017 Advocacy Summit. The football-themed Summit focused on licensure threats and licensure advocacy. Specific sessions showcased recent chapter licensure battles and victories, best practices for using the Landscape Architecture Licensure Handbook, and working with a lobbyist. Participants were also involved in an advocacy site tour that included Wisconsin State Senator LaTonya Johnson and staff from U.S. Senator Ron Johnson's office.

Last week, the **U.S. House of Representatives voted 211-198 to pass the \$1.23 trillion fiscal year 2018 omnibus spending package**. The bill would eliminate funding for the highly popular, Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Grants Program. During consideration of the measure, the House voted to include the Woodall Amendment, which allows state Departments of Transportation to give back funding meant for small projects like biking and walking infrastructure. ASLA is working with policy makers and coalition partners to preserve TIGER funding and remove the Woodall Amendment language in the Senate version.

ASLA joined with allied organizations and coalition partners in sending a letter to Congress opposing **H.R.3354, the Fiscal Year 2018 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations** bill ("Make America Secure and Prosperous Act, 2018"). The bill would cut funding for the Environmental Protection Agency by \$500 million, including an 18 percent cut to Clean Water State Revolving Funds. The bill would also cut funding for the National Park Service and Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Membership remains steady since 2015, yet the **full membership category, which accounts for two-thirds of all members, continues to grow**. While associate membership has dropped since last year, **student membership is on the rise, up over two percent** since last year and 13 percent since 2015.

Member Type	9/20/2016	9/20/2017	Change %
Full Member	10,745	10,861	1.1
Associate	1,876	1,584	-15.6
Student	1,744	1,777	1.9
Total	15,441	15,460	-0.1

Donations to the Campaign for the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture now total \$1,255,147 or 83.7 percent of the campaign goal. ASLA is asking firms, individuals and chapters who have already given to consider making a second pledge to the campaign. ASLA will then feature the money pledged in ASLA Center Matching Challenge solicitations that that would

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offer to match new or increased contributions by other ASLA members and friends. Please click on [ASLA Center Honor Roll](#) to see who has already given.

The **2017 EXPO booth sales** remain at **101 percent** of the budget with one month out from the conference. The **2017 LAM advertising** contracts now total **95 percent** of the budget

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Ferris'.

David Ferris, RLA