



FLORIDA CHAPTER ASLA TRUSTEE REPORT

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American Society of Landscape Architects Florida Chapter

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Hello Chapter members, my name is David Ferris and I am a recovering Chapter President. :) I am honored to continue my service in our wonderful organization and profession as your Trustee. I would like to thank Emily O'Mahoney and all of the Trustees who served before me for their hard work and dedication that was made us a well respected Chapter within the Board of Trustees. I look forward to continuing the precedent they've set and presenting your concerns/thoughts to ASLA and the Board of Trustees. Feel free to reach out to me if there is anything you would like to discuss.

During last month's ASLA Annual Meeting in New Orleans Vaughn Rinner, FASLA, was installed as ASLA President. Also installed were incoming Vice Presidents Wendy Miller, FASLA (Professional Practice), Tom Mroz, ASLA (Finance), and Vanessa Warren, ASLA (Membership). Greg Miller, ASLA, will serve as President-Elect.

The FY 2017 Annual Operating Plan and FY 2017 Operating and Capital Expense Budgets was reviewed and approved at the Board of Trustees meeting. Also approved at the meeting was an update of the Chapter Model Constitution and Bylaws, and revised Administrative Policy.

The Board also discussed the status of the Center for Landscape Architecture, were introduced to the new Student Advisory and Associate Advisory Representatives to the Board, passed the Public Policies on Open Space, National Parks, and Public Lands, and hosted panelists of the Presidents Council who discussed the LAF Declaration of Concern during the National Leadership Luncheon

ASLA hosted the SITES AP exam at the ASLA meeting in New Orleans. Other SITES events during the meeting included a workshop, SITES: Navigating the Submittal Process and Trouble-shooting Challenges with the Experts and an education session, SITES: Early Planning for Maintenance and Performance Furthers Sustainability Goals and Marketability.

Full Membership growth remains modest and steady, while student membership has shown strong growth in the past year after several years of decline. After a large spike in Associate members (6.9 percent increase in 2015), the category has shown a decline this year, but remains at a higher level than in 2014 and previous years.

Fun fact: ASLA trended number-one on social media in the New Orleans market both Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23, during the 2016 ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO, with much of the traffic generated by the morning general session.

The Council of Fellows (COF) inducted 28 members on October 23rd and our very own Kenn Bates was elevated to Fellow. Congratulations to Mr. Bates.

Hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving!
David Ferris, ASLA