



July 10, 2018

Florida Chapter Members:

The Tellers Committee convened on June 26th to verify the annual ASLA election. Wendy Miller, FASLA, was elected 2019 president-elect. Also on the ballot was an amendment to the ASLA constitution to add an International Student member category; the amendment was approved.

Secretary Millay is working with Professional Practice Managing Susan Director Cahill, Hon. ASLA, and Manager Katie Riddle, ASLA, on updates and revisions to the PPN and committee guidelines. The revisions will be presented to the Executive Committee for action at the summer meeting.

Senator Kamala Harris (CA) introduced the Living Shorelines Act in the U.S. Senate. According to a message from her staff, Senator Harris's interest in the bill is a result of the California delegation's visit with the office during ASLA Advocacy Day 2018. ASLA activated the iAdvocate Network to inform the membership about this legislative accomplishment and to urge them to contact their legislators to cosponsor this measure. Currently, over 1,200 messages have been sent to legislators from ASLA advocates.

On June 20, State Government Affairs Director Elizabeth Hebron and State Government Affairs Manager Bradley Rawls attended a congressional hearing, "Occupational Licensing: Reducing Barriers to Economic Mobility and Growth," which questioned the need for many occupational licenses in the states and the concern of mobility. In response to the hearing, ASLA, along with 17 other organizations submitted a statement that highlighted the role of licensure and licensing boards in a free market and the steps currently underway to streamline and reduce barriers.

LAM received an EXCEL Gold Award from Association Publishing and Media for Best Single-Topic Issue in its circulation category (10,001-20,000) for the February 2017 issue, "Found Ground." The issue focused on deck and overpass parks as well as new spaces beneath underpasses in cities. Another Gold Award was given in this category to The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers for "The Technology Issue." A Silver Award was given to the same entrant for "The M&A Issue," and a Bronze went to the National Contract Management Association for the "Legislation and Legal Issue."

ASLA membership has fallen by 3.6 percent since 2015, primarily from the drop in associate membership during that period. The primary cause of the overall drop is associate membership, which has dropped 35.2 percent, likely due to the drop in student enrollments and membership related to the recession (37.7 percent drop since 2008). The pipeline drought is beginning to impact full membership as well, which is leveling off after several years of growth. Student membership also remains

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steady. The Membership team is developing a new communications strategy for communicating the value of membership and highlighting key benefits.

Last month the first of two groups for the 2018 Student & Emerging Professionals SPOTLIGHT mini-series kicked off the mentorship and planning process. PPN mentors Hunter Beckham, FASLA, Emily O'Mahoney, FASLA, and Eric Gilbey, ASLA reviewed the work of Yadan Luo, Associate ASLA, and Zixu Qiao, Associate ASLA. Planning efforts will continue through the summer, leading to live presentations as part of ASLA's Online Learning series.

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

Best Regards,

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

David Ferris, RLA