PROGRAM UPDATES

Phil Gruen, SDC Director

The 2015 - 2016 school year started off with exciting initiatives within the School of Design and Construction (SDC) which will positively impact students in the Landscape Architecture, Interior Design, Architecture, and Construction Management programs. The SDC continues to provide opportunities that will set our graduates apart from others through interdisciplinary integration and collaboration concepts and programs, industry involvement and lecturing, and new facility spaces. Along with the faculty and school advisory board members, I am excited to cultivate the growth of our students. Go Cougs!

Jolie Kaytes, LA Program Head

Spring greetings from the Palouse! The hills glow green. Blooms abound. Students frenetically (and joyfully) finalize their design projects. And, with much excitement, the Landscape Architecture Program completes its fourth successful year in the School of Design and Construction (SDC). Within the SDC, the program is joined by architecture, interior design and construction management. The school mirrors the collaborative workplace of contemporary design and construction practice and there are integrated course requirements for all of the school’s students throughout their education. Of course, the LA curriculum still includes core courses in landscape architecture, horticulture, soils, botany, geology and natural resources, as well as abundant study tours, site visits, and opportunities to interface with practitioners throughout the state. Being a part of the SDC has already led to professional partnerships across disciplines and an expanded community in which to celebrate landscape architecture at WSU.

The program has three promising initiatives in progress. We are developing an emphasis in Water and Green Infrastructure; we are fundraising for the LA Student Excellence Fund which assists our students and supports the highest needs for the LA program; and we are continuing to grow the Ken Struckmeyer Student Scholarship Endowment Fund.

We are grateful to all of you that are engaged with the program and appreciate all that you do. Go Cougs!

Visit the SDC website and online newsletter for detailed stories:


GIVE TODAY

Landscape Architecture Excellence Fund
This fund is the discretionary source we utilize to assist our students and support the highest needs for the LA program.

Ken Struckmeyer Student Scholarship Endowment Fund
To honor Ken’s 40+ career as professor, coach, mentor, and colleague, the Ken Struckmeyer Student Scholarship Endowment Fund awards scholarships to students who are aspiring declared majors in landscape architecture.
Students in the second year design studio, Lnd_Arch 263, are preparing a master plan and associated detailed plans for a 20 acre garden/children's activity center at Camp Korey in Carnation, Washington. Students visited the clients in Carnation twice this semester and will reveal their final designs in Pullman, April 27th.

Third year design students in Lnd_Arch 363 are examining how wilderness and wildness influence landscape architectural design and practice. Hell’s Canyon Wilderness is the site. As part of the course, students backpacked in Hell’s Canyon this spring.

Student in Design Build, Lnd_Arch 367 are working with the City of Pullman Parks and Recreation Department to develop a conceptual design for a children's garden at Mary's Park, and create construction documents for a "sound garden" (outdoor musical instruments). Students will build the sound garden this April. Unveiling is April 26th.

Students in Construction 1, Lnd_Arch 365 are learning the fundamentals of surveying, topography, interpolation, grading, drainage and storm water management and are testing these concepts and practices on The Paluthe Farm Project, an 8 plus acre farm in Moscow, ID to produce a set of final site grading plans and details. Final projects are presented to clients in April.

Students in the landscape architecture capstone studio, Lnd_Arch 485, are generating designs in response to the Puyallup River Watershed and the dynamics among urbanization, stormwater, and ecological systems. The capstone presentations are being held at the Russell Family Foundation headquarters in Gig Harbor, WA.

Site visits and study tours for all of the LA courses were made possible in part by the LA Excellence Fund. Thank you for your support.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 25-29: SDC Design Review Week
April 28: LA Senior Capstone Presentations and WASLA Review, Gig Harbor
April 29: SDC Senior Portfolio Review (ID and LA), Seattle, WA
May 7: SDC Breakfast and Commencement Ceremony
WSU ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

Laura Thompson, class of 2012, is the current WASLA President Elect. Laura works at SPVV Landscape Architects in Spokane and is involved on design projects for K-12 schools, higher education facilities, commercial design, residential design, and master planning. Her interests include community planning which focus on increasing walkability, wayfinding, community connectivity, park planning, and garden design.

Laura writes, “Attending the Landscape Architecture program at WSU prepared me for a successful career as a landscape architect. The practical, "real world", and hands on approach to learning about this profession was immediately applied to my daily work after graduation. Because of this program, I was able to get a job right out of college, take my licensing exams, and pass them all within three years of graduating. I attribute my success as a professional to the LA program that I attended at WSU.”

WSU ASLA STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

JEREMY AUER, PRESIDENT & PHILIP VANDEVANTER, PRESIDENT-ELECT

The WSU Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is the primary organization for landscape architecture students. Our chapter’s mission is to promote education, community involvement, wise planning, and artful design of cultural and natural environments.

This year, our chapter’s activities included leading community based design and outreach projects in Potlatch, ID and Tekoa, WA; hosting interdisciplinary workshops for SDC students about portfolios and internships; and sponsoring professional and student conference participation.

FACULTY

THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FACULTY FOR SPRING 2016

Jolie Kaytes, Associate Professor and Program Head
Steve Austin, Clinical Assistant Professor
David Drake, Adjunct faculty, Fabrication Lab Manager
Jena Jauchius, Adjunct Instructor
Michael Sanchez, Assistant Professor

All of the landscape architecture faculty have academic and professional experience. This experience is brought into the classroom and provides “real world” context to all of the courses. Check out http://sdc.wsu.edu/landscape-architecture/faculty/ to learn more about us.
The spring of 2016 marked the first official meeting for the School of Design & Construction professional advisory board. On Thursday afternoon, March 3, 2016, 8 members of the central advisory board were briefed about the school and programs by Director Phil Gruen and faculty. The central advisory board meets twice a year and is comprised of two members from each program. Each central board member will serve a two year term. Mark Brands and Jason Henry are the current representatives from the LA program. The first task for the Central Board was to review and approve the central board bylaws. These are available upon request. The second order of business was selecting a chair and chair-elect to the board. Mark Brands was appointed as the chair for the first year, and Jim Hillier (Architecture) was appointed as chair-elect for the second year. Phil Gruen also announced the very exciting news that the SDC was selected for the 2017 Solar Decathlon. More information can be found here http://sdc.wsu.edu/blog/wsu-team-chosen-to-compete-in-solar-decathlon-2017/

On Friday, Mar 4th, 2016, all of the SDC program advisory boards met together for a general briefing from the school director, then met individually to review their respective program initiatives for the upcoming year. The Landscape Architecture Professional Advisory Board (LAPAB) meeting was attended by Jolie Kaytes, Michael Sanchez, Steve Austin, Mark Brands and Jason Henry. Three initiatives for LAPAB were identified for the next year including recruiting new members and diversifying LAPAB; publishing an alumni newsletter in both the fall and spring semesters (led by Katie Bang and Kellye Hilde); and supporting involvement of LA students in the recently announced 2017 Solar Decathlon.

The next Central Board and LAPAB meetings are in the fall in Seattle and in March 2017 in Pullman.

LA PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

BOARD MEMBERS
Charlie Hafenbrack, GLY Construction
Dave Nelson, Land Expressions
Jason Henry, Berger Partnership
Katie Bang, City of Seattle
Kellye Hilde, City of Sammamish
Mark Brands, Site Workshop
Peg Staeheli, MIG|SVR

Join us on Facebook at WSU Landscape Architecture Alumni

LAPAB & CENTRAL BOARD NEWS