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# WSU LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

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## Spring Semester Newsletter

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### Spring Events

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**April 30**

LA Senior Capstone Review

**May 4**

Student Portfolio Presentations

**For more SDC news & events**

[News & Events](#)

### School & Program Updates

**Ryan Smith, SDC Director**

Hello Landscape Architecture alumni and friends! The school and landscape architecture program successfully transitioned to online education over spring break and we've nearly completed the spring semester. While summer classes are also online, fall term remains uncertain. We do aspire to be back on campus in some capacity.

The situation has been disruptive for our students, faculty and staff, and for the communities that the landscape architecture program engages with each semester. I am impressed and grateful to work with excellent faculty colleagues who have embraced the challenge and demonstrated their commitment to our educational mission.

“Necessity is the mother of invention” – and our academic community is rising to the need with incredible solutions that will forever change our approach toward more equitable, dynamic, and efficient means of learning and engaging in the social and physical environment. Onward!

**Jolie Kaytes, LA Program Head**

Spring greetings from the Palouse. When our semester started in January we readied for chilly site visits, a sodden study tour, and ongoing engagement with communities. By mid-March the world changed and everyone's approach to work also changed.

As you can imagine, the cascading effects of the pandemic and WSU's switch to Zoom impacted students in multiple ways. Even so, our students persisted in their work with resiliency and grace.

While students and faculty were disappointed that final reviews were online, the situation certainly allowed us to increase our connections with professionals from afar. For this we are grateful. Thank you for all that you do and exemplifying the promise of landscape architecture, especially in these tempestuous times. Go Cougs!

## Give today

[Landscape Architecture  
Excellence Fund](#)

[Landscape Architecture  
Course Development Fund](#)

[Ken Struckmeyer Student  
Scholarship Endowment](#)



Welcome to Wazzoom: Students and faculty prepare for reviews

## Student Highlights

- Sophomores worked with the Pullman Community Action Center to develop designs for a low income, mixed-use community project on a 4+ acre new construction site. Students explored cottage housing and pocket neighborhood design ideals for increased civic engagement.
- Juniors worked on a master plan for the "Gateway District" between WSU and Downtown Pullman. Their plans included recommendations for land use, new building locations, transportation options, and landscape restoration strategies, with overarching goals of building resilience in the climate crisis.
- Seniors in the Capstone studio worked with the City of Port Angeles to generate designs that support the region's future needs. Students' projects pertain to the interrelated issues of resilience, restoration, displacement, and adaptation, and broadly consider the Dungeness-Elwha Watershed.

Site visits and study tours for all of the LA courses were made possible in part by the the LA Excellence Fund and LA Course Development Fund.

Thank you for your support!

## LA Faculty

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Steve Austin  
Assistant Professor



Jolie Kaytes  
Professor & Program Head



Katy Kraszewska  
Assistant Professor



Michael Sánchez  
Assistant Professor



LA seniors visit Port Angeles, WA for Capstone Study Tour



LA juniors interact with Pullman community members



LA sophomores on a site visit in Pullman

**LA Professional Advisory Board**

**Craig Andersen**  
AHBL

**Jason Anderson**  
Design Two Four/Two Six

**Mark Brands**  
Site Workshop

**Katie Bang**  
Seattle Parks & Recreation

**Kerstin Dettrich**  
The Land Group

**Derrick Eberle**  
Bruce Dees & Associates

**Peg Staeheli**  
MIG | SvR

**Lucas Vannice**  
The Watershed Company

**Holly Williams**  
KPG Interdisciplinary Design



April Advisory Board Meeting: LA faculty Katherine Kraszewska Zooms in from Pullman. LA and Central Advisory Board member Derrick Eberle Zooms in from his family homestead in Sequim, WA

**LA Professional Advisory Board Notes**

The LA Professional Advisory Board (LAPAB) met via Zoom in early April. The board spent time with SDC Director Ryan Smith to learn about the state of the school. Following this, they discussed and supported using multiple online tools to sustain industry engagement with students during the pandemic. The LAPAB also decided to continue planning — in a strategic and measured way — for a WSU Landscape Architecture Fundraising Event, date to be determined.

The board looks forward to the prospect of convening in person and meeting with students in Pullman sometime sooner than later. The next LAPAB meeting will be in the fall.