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SUMMARY REPORT  
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

April 24, 2001  
Davis, California

**A. Call to Order - Roll Call – Establishment of a Quorum**

Chair David Tatsumi called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and called the roll.

Committee Members Present

David Tatsumi, Chair  
Sandra Gonzalez, Vice-Chair  
Linda Gates  
Dennis Otsuji

Guests Present

Richard Zweifel, LATC Education Subcommittee Chair  
Susan Thornhill, Fraser Communications

Staff Present

Doug McCauley, Executive Officer  
Don Chang, Legal Counsel  
Gretchen Kjose, Program Manager  
Mary Anderson, Examination Coordinator  
Justin Sotelo, Enforcement Coordinator  
Patricia Fay, Licensing Coordinator

**B. Chair's Remarks**

David Tatsumi expressed his appreciation for being able to serve as the chair of the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) and contribute to the profession. Mr. Tatsumi urged the LATC to continue developing partnerships and alliances with other allied professions. He then asked Doug McCauley, the new executive officer of the California Architects Board (CAB), to introduce himself. Mr. McCauley gave a brief description of his background and stated that the CAB will continue to be a resource for the LATC.

### **C. Review of the January 26-27, 2001 Summary Report**

The January 26-27, 2001 LATC meeting summary report was reviewed.

- ◆ **Sandra Gonzalez moved to approve the January 26-27, 2001 Landscape Architects Technical Committee Summary Report.**
- ◆ **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **The motion carried unanimously.**

### **D. Public Comment Session**

There were no public comments.

### **E. Program Manager's Report**

Gretchen Kjose announced that there is still one vacancy (Governor's appointee) on the LATC and that Dennis Otsuji's term will end June 1, 2001 unless he is re-appointed.

Ms. Kjose advised that she, Mr. Tatsumi, and Sandra Gonzalez attended the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards' (CLARB) regional meeting on March 3-4, 2001 in Denver, Colorado, where Ms. Gonzalez was nominated as the Region V Regional Director. Mr. Tatsumi reported that Region V expressed continuing concerns over the cost of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) and the low pass rates for Sections C and E. He noted that many states are experiencing a shortage of landscape architects and that some schools, due to funding, set limits on the number of landscape architectural students allowed in undergraduate programs.

Ms. Kjose announced that the Winter newsletter was mailed on February 28, 2001 and that the Spring edition will be mailed at the end of May or early June.

She summarized exam activities by indicating that 159 candidates participated in the December 2000 LARE with 22 becoming eligible for licensure; 30 candidates requested red line and/or standard reviews, which will be held on May 14th; and 261 candidates are scheduled for the June exam.

Ms. Kjose stated that the LATC's proposed regulation to increase exam fees is in the final stage of approval, and that proposed regulations setting five-year time limits for becoming licensed after passing the LARE and for applying for re-licensure after allowing a license to lapse, are under review by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). She also advised that the regulation updating the LATC's disciplinary guidelines took effect on April 13, 2001.

### **F. Report on California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects Conference Calls**

Mr. Otsuji reported that he participated in two conference calls with the California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects and mentioned the Council is pleased with the regulatory changes being made by the LATC.

## **G. Budget Briefing**

Ms. Kjose gave an overview of the LATC's budget and explained that revenues for this fiscal year are exceeding projections due to an increase in exam candidates. She reminded the Committee however, that exam fees, although collected by the LATC, are passed on to CLARB to purchase the examination. She also reported that the budget for fiscal year 2001/02 has been reduced by approximately \$40,000 because funding for the market conditions assessment was for fiscal year 2000/01 only.

## **H. Review and Approval of the 2001 Strategic Plan**

The Committee reviewed a draft of the 2001 Strategic Plan making a minor revision to its educational goals and finalizing timeframes for three other objectives.

- ◆ **Sandra Gonzalez moved to approve the 2001 Strategic Plan with the proposed revisions.**
- ◆ **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **The motion carried unanimously.**

## **I. Market Conditions Assessment, Focus Group Planning**

Susan Thornhill, of Fraser Communications, reported that she had spoken to each of the LATC members to develop the goals, objectives and structure for the market research study. She presented a list of focus groups for the Committee's consideration. After discussion, the LATC decided that there should be six focus groups including two made up of landscape architects, one from the insurance/attorney/forensic fields, one with developers, homeowners associations and property managers, and one representing allied professionals. Ms. Kjose advised that the focus group meetings would take place in June 2001.

## **J. Enforcement Briefing**

Justin Sotelo provided an overview of past and current enforcement activities. The Committee agreed on the importance of tracking complaint information, and requested staff to provide a report of enforcement activities at all future meetings that includes the number, type and source of complaints received, the current status, and any other information Mr. Sotelo deems pertinent.

## **K. Discussion of the California Supplemental Examination**

Ms. Kjose advised that Business and Professions Code section 139 requires all written licensing examinations administered in California to be based on a current occupational analysis. She stated that the existing California Supplemental Examination was developed using questions from an occupational analysis conducted in 1992. She indicated that, if the Committee wants to continue administering the California Supplemental Examination, a current occupational analysis would need to be completed.

Don Chang, legal counsel, explained that recent legislation repealed the requirement that California administer a separate exam testing on specific subject matter. However, he said that if the Committee

determines candidates should be tested on California laws, an occupational analysis, limited to California laws, could be conducted.

Linda Gates expressed her opinion that it is important for licensure candidates to be knowledgeable of laws specific to this state. The Committee agreed that testing candidates on California laws is necessary to protect consumers. They instructed Ms. Kjose to work with the Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Examination Resources to conduct an occupational analysis limited to those areas of practice unique to California that are not tested for on the national examination. The Committee further recommended that the current exam be continued until the new examination is developed.

- ◆ **Linda Gates moved to approve the Committee's endorsement to continue the use of the California Supplemental Examination, while proceeding with an occupational analysis for the development of a new examination.**
- ◆ **Sandra Gonzalez seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **The motion carried unanimously.**

#### **L. Review of Action and Communications Plans**

Ms. Kjose presented a new format for the Communications Plan and advised the Committee that both the Action Plan and the Communications Plan will be updated after the 2001 Strategic Plan is approved by the CAB at its June 14, 2001 meeting.

#### **M. Review and Approval of Recommended Changes to the Landscape Architects Technical Committee's Administrative Procedure Manual**

Ms. Kjose provided a copy of the Administrative Procedure Manual and indicated that it will be updated to include specific information on Committee members' duties and responsibilities.

#### **N. Review of Requests for Re-Licensure**

The LATC reviewed requests for re-licensure from Robert Lawrence Bucci, former license number LA 1268, and Bradford D. Eigsti, former license number LA 3773.

Mr. Tatsumi reported that the work samples submitted by Mr. Bucci did not provide evidence of minimal competency for entry level practice in the areas of analytical aspects of practice and planning and site design. He recommended that Mr. Bucci be required to take and pass sections B and C of the LARE prior to being issued a new license.

- ◆ **Dennis Otsuji moved to approve the recommendation that Mr. Bucci take and pass Sections B and C of the LARE prior to being issued a new license.**
- ◆ **Sandra Gonzalez seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **The motion carried unanimously.**

Ms. Gonzalez reported that the work samples submitted by Mr. Egsti demonstrated minimal competency for entry level practice and recommended that he be issued a new license.

- ◆ **Sandra Gonzalez moved to approve the recommendation that Mr. Egsti be issued a new license.**
- ◆ **Dennis Otsuji seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **The motion carried unanimously.**

**O. Election of Officers**

Mr. Tatsumi opened the floor for nomination of officers for the coming year. Ms. Gates nominated Ms. Gonzalez for Chair of the LATC. Ms. Gonzalez nominated Ms. Gates for Vice-Chair. Mr. Chang advised that these nominations could be considered as a slate of officers.

- ◆ **Linda Gates moved to approve the slate of officers.**
- ◆ **Dennis Otsuji seconded the motion.**
- ◆ **The motion carried unanimously.**

**P. Future Meetings**

Ms. Kjose indicated that the LATC had previously set the dates of July 20th, October 19th and December 14<sup>th</sup> for future meetings and asked if changes were needed. No changes were made.

**Q. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.