



Sandra Gonzalez Elected Chair of LATC and Linda Gates Elected Vice-Chair

At its April 24, 2001 meeting, the LATC elected Sandra Gonzalez as Chair and Linda Gates as Vice-Chair. Officers serve a one-year term.



Sandra Gonzalez

Ms. Gonzalez has been a member of the LATC and the former Board of Landscape Architects since 1993. Currently, she is a Vice President for EDSA Landscape Architects and Planners in Santa Monica, California and teaches for the University of California at Los Angeles Extension Certificate Program. She has also served as head of the Project Management Division for the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. Ms. Gonzalez has been recognized by the American Society of Landscape Architects and CLARB for her leadership in serving the State of California on the LATC and the former Board. Ms. Gonzalez is a 1984 graduate of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Her appointment to the technical committee expires June 1, 2002.

Linda Gates is a principal with David Gates & Associates, a landscape architecture firm in Danville, California. Ms. Gates has extensive experience as a Project Manager for urban design and master planning projects in both the private and public sectors. Her experience also includes park/recreation planning, residential community planning, construction documentation, and administration. Ms. Gates is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley and did postgraduate work at the University of Osaka, Japan. Her appointment to the technical committee expires June 1, 2002.



Linda Gates

NEW WALL CERTIFICATES

Wall certificates have a new look! Included with this newsletter is a replacement certificate that we're sure you'll be proud to display. Is your license current and valid? If not, you'll receive your new wall certificate once you've renewed your license.

Upcoming Events

May - June 2001	Client Focus Group Sessions	Sacramento, Los Angeles
June 11-13, 2001	L.A.R.E.	Sacramento, Riverside
August 17, 2001	LATC Meeting	San Diego
November 2001	LATC Meeting	TBA
December 3-4, 2001	L.A.R.E.	TBA
January 2001	LATC Meeting	TBA

Market Conditions Assessment

By Gretchen KJose, Program Administrator

In our last newsletter, I promised to include updates on what we, the LATC, are doing to prepare for the 2002 sunset review. But before I get into that, let me say that it has been a delightful experience to work for this organization and all of you for the last two years. Although I've been with the Department of Consumer Affairs since 1986, I've not had the pleasure of witnessing such passion and creativity amongst professionals trying to make a difference and it truly makes my job easy. Thank you.

The first phase of the Market Conditions Assessment is underway. Five focus groups have been selected to gather broad-based input that will be used to update the LATC's strategic plan in 2002. The first group, representing the insurance/legal market segments met in Sacramento on May 23, 2001. General topic areas of discussion included:

- industry perceptions
- current trends/technology
- the changing scope of practice and boundaries of the profession
- views on education, the examination, and continuing education

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LICENSE RENEWAL

After your initial license period, your landscape architect license must be renewed by the last day of your birth month every two years. The renewal notice, sent to your address of record approximately 45 days prior to the expiration date, asks you to disclose whether you have been convicted of a crime or disciplined by another public agency during the preceding renewal period. Failure to answer this question or sign the form will delay the renewal process. To avoid problems, please complete the renewal notice accurately, both front and back, and return it with the renewal fee prior to the expiration date.

As you may be aware, there is a 30-day grace period after your license expiration date before a \$150 delinquency fee is assessed to the renewal fee. Please remember that the grace period applies only to the renewal fee. Once your license has expired, you cannot practice landscape architecture until it has been renewed.

Many times, failure to report a change of address is the reason for not receiving a renewal notice. Please note that a change of address must be reported to the LATC within 30 days of the change. This can be done on the LATC's web site at www.latc.dca.ca.gov, by e-mail sent to latc@dca.ca.gov, by fax, or by regular mail (please include your old and new address, your license number, and signature, if applicable).

You should also be aware that a license not renewed within three years of its expiration cannot be renewed, restored, or reinstated. You may contact the LATC for information on applying for and obtaining a new license.

Student Outreach

The LATC began a student outreach program last November when we met on the Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo campus and spoke to the first year design class. Since then, we developed a PowerPoint presentation which was given on April 24th to landscape architecture students at UC Davis. Also, we have met with students in both the UC Extension Certificate Programs. The goal is to make students aware of the licensing requirements early in their academic career so that they can plan for the broad range of experience they'll need to round out their education and prepare for the licensing examination.

A recurring theme amongst students is the desire to work in the profession while they are in school. If you have room for a student intern in your firm, there are many out there looking for employment. There are landscape architect degree programs at UC Berkeley, UC Davis, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and the University of Southern California. There are extension certificate programs at UCLA and UC Berkeley and associate degree programs at West Valley College in Saratoga, Mesa College in San Diego,

and Modesto Junior College. You can visit our web site and check the Candidate Handbook for a complete listing of the programs and contact numbers.

LATC Posters: Now Available

The LATC has developed a series of posters that depict the work of landscape architects and describe the licensure requirements. Two of the posters were selected as winners in *Landscape Architecture* magazine's "Excellence in Communications and Marketing" contest. See the June issue for a complete listing of all contest winners.

The LATC thanks the following individuals for their contributions to the poster project:

Bruce Clarke – Design Coordinator
Missy Anapolsky – Graphic Designer
Shawn Turner – Copywriter
Ric Ciardella, Tom Fox, The SWA Group – Photography

There are a limited number of posters available. If you would like to receive one, please contact us at (916) 445-4954 or by e-mail at latc@dca.ca.gov.

Examination News

The Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.) will be held on June 11-13, 2001. For the first time since the LATC began giving the exam in both northern and southern California, more candidates reside in northern California, 135 to be exact. The exam will be held at the Riverside Convention Center and Sacramento's California State Exposition and State Fair.

On May 14, 2001, 30 candidates who took Sections C and/or E in December 2000 reviewed their failed vignettes. For the review process, the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), the organization that develops and scores the L.A.R.E., marked each failed vignette to show the mistake(s) that caused the solution to fail. This is the second such review and the LATC will be tracking future pass rates of candidates who participated in this process to see whether it assisted them in passing the exam.

The LATC will be updating the California Supplemental Examination later this year and is seeking subject matter experts for two item writing workshops. If you are interested in being an item writer, and have been licensed as a landscape architect for at least five years, please contact Mary Anderson, the LATC's examination coordinator, at (916) 445-6574.

Greening of Capitol Park

Capitol Park in Sacramento features one of the finest collections of trees from various continents and climates throughout the world. Many of the large trees surrounding the Capitol Building were planted in 1870. The unique characteristics of trees, lush gardens, memorials and statues help create a memorable experience for visitors to the park. Capitol Park also provides an ideal opportunity for the State of California to showcase the concept of sustainability in landscapes using resource-efficient landscaping practices.

Because Capitol Park is unique and highly visible, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) is funding a project to explore the use of resource-efficient landscaping practices at Capitol Park. David Evans and Associates, Incorporated (DEA) has been retained by the CIWMB to assess current landscaping practices at Capitol Park, including irrigation, fertilization, pruning, pesticide usage, types of equipment used, and green material generation. In addition, DEA is determining whether composting landscape trimmings at a nearby corporation yard is a cost-effective method of diverting green material from Capitol Park. DEA will also develop a landscaping guidelines manual and provide training to park staff.

In its initial assessment, DEA found that park staff is doing an excellent job under difficult conditions in maintaining the landscape and keeping the park lush and green. However, there are so many problems inherent in the irrigation system that water is not being used efficiently. Some of the irrigation problems include:

- old, undersized, and probably leaking mainline installed in the 1940s and 1950s

- mismatched heads with different precipitation rates on the same valves
- incorrect sprinkler spacing, alignment, and leveling
- clogged nozzles
- low head drainage
- improper nozzle selection
- damaged equipment such as broken risers
- same heads watering both turf and shrub areas.

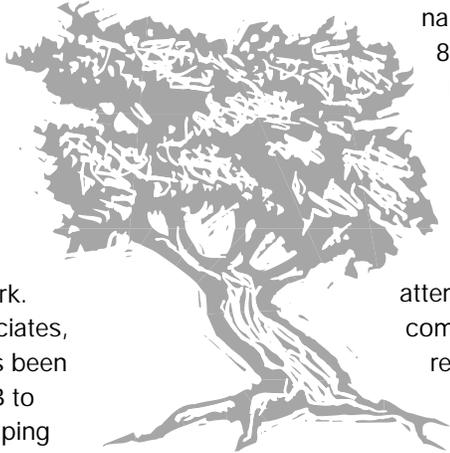
Actual water use at Capitol Park was 21% over the water budget established by the State Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (the ordinance mandates using 80% Eto as a water budget).

Based on preliminary site visits, DEA recommends that the Department of General Services (DGS) should attempt to obtain funding to complete a redesign and renovation of the irrigation system to improve water efficiency and reduce maintenance

costs. DGS should also:

- hire a water management consultant to program and manage the central control system
- reprogram the central control with CIMIS data
- develop manuals and support materials to train new and existing staff on a variety of irrigation procedures and plant cultural practices
- perform short-term inspections and repairs of sprinkler problems
- adjust irrigation schedules in shrub areas to reflect shade and different microclimate conditions.

The CIWMB hopes that DEA's landscape assessment, recommendations, and training will provide a foundation in developing resource-efficient landscaping practices at Capitol Park that reduce green material generation, conserve



Market Conditions Assessment

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- enforcement issues
- communication/outreach strategies for various audiences

The other four groups, made up of landscape architects with varying years and types of practice, municipalities, and allied professionals/developers, will meet on June 6th, 8th, 14th and 15th. The results of the assessment will be presented to the LATC at its August meeting. Licensees will receive a survey shortly thereafter, developed using data from the focus groups, to gather as much insight as possible on the key issues facing landscape architects in today's market. Please take time to respond to the survey – your opinion is important!

Results of the market conditions assessment and LATC future strategies will be published in early 2002.

water, and minimize nonpoint source pollution. This project could also serve as a model in illustrating how an urban landscape is an ecosystem of plants, soils, wildlife, pests, and diseases and should be managed as a complex environment rather than relying on intensive applications of water, fertilizer, and pesticides. By managing the environment in a more holistic manner, plants will be healthier and able to exist in balance with pests, diseases, and other natural and urban stresses.

For more information, please contact Ken Decio of the CIWMB at (916) 341-6586 or kdecio@ciwmb.ca.gov

Enforcement Actions

The California Architects Board (CAB) is responsible for investigating complaints against licensees and those engaged in unlicensed activity. The LATC assists the Board in this endeavor. The Board retains the authority to make final decisions on all enforcement actions taken against its licensees.

The following are brief descriptions of recent enforcement actions taken against LATC licensees and unlicensed persons who were found to be in violation of the Landscape Architects Practice Act and Regulations.

Every effort is made to ensure that this information is correct. Further information on specific violations may be obtained by contacting the Board.

Citations

The Board issued an administrative citation that included a \$2,000 adminis-

trative fine and a Cease and Desist Order to Gary Glore for a violation of Business and Professions Code section 5640, Unlicensed Person Engaging in Practice – Sanctions. The action was taken based on evidence that Mr. Glore falsely represented himself as a landscape architect and defrauded the complainant of monies owed for services rendered. The citation became effective on March 29, 2001.

The Board issued an administrative citation that included a \$400 administrative fine to a licensee, landscape architect license #LA ____, for violations of Business and Professions Code sections 5616, Landscape Architecture Contract – Contents, Notice Requirement and 5671, Negligence, Willful Misconduct in Practice. The action was taken based on evidence that the licensee failed to include in a contract for landscape

architectural service, a notice which reads "Landscape architects are licensed by the State of California." Further, the licensee failed to complete and deliver the scope of services promised within 30 days of authorization and payment of the retainer, a specific term and condition of the contract. The citation became effective on May 31, 2001.

The Board issued an administrative citation that included a \$500 administrative fine to a licensee, landscape architect license #LA ____, for a violation of Business and Professions Code section 5640, Unlicensed Person Engaging in Practice – Sanctions. The action was taken based on evidence that the licensee represented himself as a landscape architect after his license had expired. The citation became effective on May 31, 2001.

A Reminder:

Reporting Settlements & Arbitration Awards

Licensees (or their attorneys) and insurers providing professional liability insurance to licensees are required to submit a complete report to the Board on any settlement or arbitration award in excess of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) of a claim or action for damages caused by the license holder's fraud, deceit, negligence, incompetence, or recklessness in practice. The report must be sent within 30 days after the settlement agreement has been consented to by the license holder or within 30 days after service of the arbitration award on the parties.

Failure to comply with the reporting requirement when the licensee does not have professional liability insurance is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than \$100 or more than \$1,000. Willful failure to comply is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less

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Regulatory Update

Disciplinary Guidelines:

Revised in 2000, the LATC's Disciplinary Guidelines became effective by regulatory amendment (California Code of Regulations [CCR] Section 2680) on April 13, 2001. Disciplinary guidelines assist the Board in reaching consistent decisions on disciplinary actions for similar statewide offenses under the Administrative Procedure Act. The guidelines, also used by Administrative Law Judges, attorneys, landscape architects, and others involved in the disciplinary process, are revised on an as needed basis and distributed to interested parties upon request.

Application for Licensure Following Examination & License Renewal Three Years After Expiration:

Effective June 16, 2001, two new regulations (CCR Sections 2616 and 2624) were adopted. Section 2616 establishes a deadline associated with applying for a license after passing all sections of the L.A.R.E. Under this regulation, a candidate must apply for a license within five years after the date of mailing of exam results. However, if a candidate waits more than five years to obtain a license, he/she must once again pay all exam fees and take the licensing exam (unless subject to the waiver set forth in Business and Professions Code section 5651 (b)).

CCR Section 2624 establishes a deadline for license renewal after expiration. A licensee who allows his/her license to lapse for more than three but less than five years, may attempt to establish to the satisfaction of the Board that he or she is competent to practice without passing the licensing examination. Licensees who allow their license to expire for more than five years, will be required to take and pass the licensing examination before being eligible for re-licensure (unless subject to the waiver set forth in Business and Professions Code section 5651 (b) and subject to the provisions of section 5680.2).

UPDATE ON THE 2001 State Building Code Adoption Cycle

The California Building Standards Commission is in the final stages of the 2001 code adoption cycle that will lead to the adoption and publication of the new Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations, also known as the 2001 California Building Standards Code (CBSC). The Commission remains committed to its goal of publishing the 2001 CBSC by its publication deadline of December 31, 2001. The Commission's four code-advisory committees held meetings during March and April of 2001 with public comment continuing into May 2001 to review proposed new amendments that were received by the January 3, 2001 deadline.

In October 2000, the Commission agreed that during the 2001 code adoption cycle, the 1998 California Building Code would be the basis for the Part 2 – California Building Code portion of the 2001 CBSC. The Commission is reviewing the current edition of the California Building Code (that was

based on the 1997 edition of the Uniform Building Code) with its previously adopted amendments, along with any proposed new amendments.

The Commission further agreed to use the 2000 editions of the following model codes as the basis for their respective portions of the 2001 CBSC during this adoption cycle: the Uniform Mechanical and the Uniform Plumbing Codes by the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials will be the basis for Parts 4 and 5 respectively; and, the Uniform Fire Code by the Western Fire Chiefs Association will be the basis for Part 9 – California Fire Code. Previously, the Commission determined that the 1999 National Electrical Code by the National Fire Protection Association as previously adopted with state amendments, would be used as the basis for Part 3 – California Electrical Code during the 2001 code adoption process.

Representatives of the state agencies with authority to propose and adopt

building standards reported during the Commission's October meeting that, by using the above-stated model codes as the basis for the new codes, they could be prepared relatively quickly for the 2001 code adoption cycle. This commitment should facilitate achieving the Commission's goal of publishing the new code of regulations by December 31, 2001.

To meet the publishing goals, the proposed 2001 CBSC is scheduled for the Commission's September 19, 2001 agenda for adoption. The adopted 2001 CBSC will become effective statewide 180 days after its publication date. Assuming the publication goal of December 31, 2001 is reached, the 2001 CBSC will then become effective in July of 2002.

For additional information, please visit the California Building Standards Commission's Web site at www.bsc.ca.gov, or contact the Commission at (916) 263-0916. The Commission has moved to 2525 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 130, Sacramento, CA 95833-2936.

Questions & Answers

Q: What are the required specifications for a licensed landscape architect stamp and where can they be purchased?

A: California Code of Regulations section 2606 requires that the stamp be of the design illustrated below and that it not be less than one (1) inch in diameter.



A: Your stamp can be ordered from most stationery stores.

Q: Can I use my license to practice landscape architecture in another state?

A: No. You should contact the state in which you wish to practice for information on licensure requirements.

Q: My license has expired and I am sending in my payment today. Can I still stamp plans?

A: No. You cannot practice or call yourself a landscape architect while your license is expired.

Q: If I want to view my exam scores on the internet, where can I find them?

A: Preliminary scores from either the June or December exams can be viewed on the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards' (CLARB) web site at www.clarb.org, approximately 80 days after the administration of the exam. You cannot access your preliminary scores without your candidate ID# from that exam.

Q: Can a landscape architect do design/build?

A: Only if the landscape architect also has a contractor's license.

California Architects Board
Landscape Architects Technical Committee

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If you wish to contact a staff member, you may do so by telephoning (916) 445-4954.

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Reporting Settlements & Arbitration Awards

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than \$10,000 or more than \$100,000.

For more information regarding reporting settlements or arbitration awards, please refer to sections 5678.5 and 5679.5 of the Landscape Architects Practice Act, the LATC's web site at www.latc.dca.ca.gov, or call (916) 445-4954.