

**SUMMARY REPORT - FINAL**

**CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD**  
Landscape Architects Technical Committee

April 20, 2009  
California Polytechnic State University  
San Luis Obispo, California

LATC Members Present

Steve Lang, Chair  
Christine Anderson  
Andy Bowden  
Stephanie Landregan  
David Allan Taylor, Jr.

Liaisons Present

Iris Cochlan, Board Liaison  
Richard Zweifel, Chair, LATC Education Subcommittee

Staff Present

Doug McCauley, Executive Officer, California Architects Board  
Mary Ann Aguayo, Program Manager, LATC  
Don Chang, Legal Counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs  
Carmen Alexander, Examination Coordinator, LATC  
Angelica Franco, Licensing Coordinator, LATC  
Ethan Mathes, Special Project Analyst, LATC

Guests Present

Beverly Bass, Faculty, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly SLO)  
Walt Bremer, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
Gary R. Clay, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
Joe Dunstan, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
Vangeli Evangelopoulos, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
Margarita Hill, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
Cam Man, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
Dave Mitchell, California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects  
Christy O'Hara, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
James Penrod, Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), via telephone  
Astrid Reeves, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
David Watts, Faculty, Cal Poly SLO  
Dennis Wilkinson, President, CLARB

**A. Call to Order – Roll Call – Establishment of a Quorum  
Chair’s Remarks  
Public Comment Session**

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Chair Steve Lang called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. LATC Program Manager Mary Ann Aguayo called roll. All five members of the LATC were present and thus a quorum was established.

**B. Approve LATC Summary Reports:**

**1. January 16, 2009**

Stephanie Landregan requested the January 16, 2009 be noted as a teleconference.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to approve the January 16, 2009 LATC Summary Report as amended.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

**2. January 22-23, 2009**

Ms. Landregan requested to add “approximate maximum” under Item D to reflect potential fund savings. Christine Anderson requested “CLARB” added under Item I indicating CLARB’s upcoming occupational analysis.

- **Andy Bowden moved to approve the January 22-23, 2009 LATC Summary Report as amended.**
- **Stephanie Landregan seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

**C. Program Manager’s Report**

Ms. Aguayo reported the following: Enforcement statistics included in the agenda packet are reported over three month periods and many older enforcement cases have recently been closed. The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) cannot conduct reviews of the California landscape architect extension certificate programs on contract but they would provide the names of volunteers that they have used for accreditation reviews. Staff has been making an effort to inform candidates of the change in contracting the administration of the Landscape Architects Registration Examination (LARE) to (CLARB). The Department of Consumer Affairs is scheduled to host a consumer summit in January 2010 and a design professionals summit in October 2010.

Mr. Bowden asked about the spike in new licensees in 1990 on the New Licensees 1979-2008 chart. Ms. Anderson explained that it was likely due to the implementation of the Professional

Examination for Landscape Architects in the years after 1990 and the effort of candidates to get licensed before the implementation of this new examination. Mr. Bowden suggested footnoting the differing examination periods on the chart for future reference. Ms. Landregan suggested surveying candidates in order to improve the candidate information brochures and also monitoring candidate performance on the California Supplemental Examination (CSE). Ms. Aguayo introduced Dennis Wilkinson and asked him how other member boards prepare candidates for the LARE. Mr. Wilkinson reported that British Columbia has a mentoring program for licensure candidates.

#### **D. Update on July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 Strategic Action Plan**

Ms. Landregan commented that the Professional Qualifications action plan item regarding tracking pass rates does not include the CSE. Also, the LATC should work towards completing the Professional Qualifications action plan item regarding modifying examination eligibility requirements.

#### **E. Review and Approve July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 Draft Strategic and Communications Action Plan**

The LATC and staff discussed and made edits to the July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 Draft Strategic and Communications Action Plan. The LATC agreed to agendaize a request for CLARB and the LAAB to recognize and give credit for landscape architecture extension certificates. They also agreed to resurrect the Education Subcommittee in order to address outstanding issues. Ms. Aguayo suggested adding an action item under Professional Qualifications to research requirements and develop criteria regarding associate degrees in landscape architecture. The LATC agreed, and that the associate degree issue could be brought up at with the Education Subcommittee.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to approve the July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 Draft Strategic and Communications Action Plan as amended.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

Richard Zweifel read through his suggested edits to LATC External Environment – Changes in Landscape Architecture Academic Preparation.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to include the additional amendments to the July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 Draft Strategic and Communications Action Plan.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

During the Item F discussion, the LATC agreed to form a Professional Qualifications Subcommittee and add it as an action item to the Strategic Plan – Action Plan – Professional

Qualifications. The LATC requested staff to research the California Architects Board's Professional Qualifications Committee and their current charge.

- **Christine Anderson moved for the LATC to create a Professional Qualifications Subcommittee, determine their mission and appoint members to the Subcommittee.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

#### **F. Review and Comment on Submitted Issues Related to Strengthening Communication Between Landscape Architect Licensees and University Landscape Architect Program Educators**

Mr. Zweifel noted that a goal of these discussions should be finding an avenue to meet with faculty and staff and open dialogue on various stakeholder positions regarding licensure. Faculty would be encouraged to participate in the examination process in an instructional capacity given that they have direct access to landscape architecture students. The LATC discussed LAAB standards for accreditation, the LATC standards used to approve extension certificate programs, and the similarity of the two standards. The LATC suggested LAAB present at a future meeting its current accreditation standards.

The LATC discussed the disconnect between the education of landscape architecture students versus who would monitor whether educational institutions are equipped to prepare students to be licensed. Part of bridging the disconnect is encouraging participation of educators, practitioners and the LATC in the issue. The LATC suggested including this discussion with the Education Subcommittee or a Professional Qualifications Subcommittee. The LATC agreed to form a Professional Qualifications Subcommittee and that the makeup of the Subcommittee should include educators, LATC members, and possibly candidates. It will be added as an action item in the Strategic Plan – Action Plan – Professional Qualifications.

#### **G. Discussion with California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo Faculty on Current Activities**

The LATC, staff and Cal Poly SLO faculty introduced themselves. Mr. Lang briefed the faculty on the role and history of the LATC. Dennis Wilkinson explained CLARB, the LARE, examination development and examination grading. He also reported CLARB is developing a study in order to determine the manner of success on the LARE (i.e., variables in examination location, education, employment experience, etc.) and that they are moving up the task analysis of the landscape architecture profession.

Mr. Lang shared the LATC's concern in the education of landscape architecture students and the applicability in preparing students for licensure. The faculty and LATC discussed the format of the LARE and CSE and the whether the testing methodology used to ascertain the minimum qualifications for licensure is appropriate. The faculty noted that students' career expectations include licensure but also comprise the full breadth of the field including students seeking advancement of their career learning or pursuing alternate career avenues due to cultural

concerns for the environment. They expressed concern that the LARE may not test for or represent the actual practice of landscape architecture. The faculty also shared that more communication is needed overall and they felt the best method of communication between stakeholders was face to face or through avenues like web seminars.

#### **H. Report on Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)**

Ms. Anderson suggested forwarding to CLARB the concerns of faculty that the LARE may not test for or represent professional practice in California. Mr. Lang asked whether the LATC has received data on candidate performance on the LARE. Ms. Landregan stated CLARB has been nonresponsive to the request. Mr. Lang suggested requesting this information from CLARB again and also requesting it from Region V.

#### **I. Discussion with CLARB Representatives Regarding Program Updates**

Mr. Wilkinson reported there has been discussion at CLARB involving a study to define welfare in the testing of health, safety and welfare. Don Chang opined that California does not have a tangible definition of what welfare means and how it can be tested when it is not tangibly defined. Mr. Wilkinson reported CLARB is preparing examination materials and establishing preparatory courses through a contract with the American Society of Landscape Architects. Additionally, there are new LARE study materials that have been recently added to CLARB's Web site.

James Penrod briefed the LATC on the latest progress getting the LARE delegation contract approved by both CLARB and the LATC. In June CLARB will have their new database operational and the LATC will be able to electronically send their LARE eligible candidates so that eligible candidates will be able to sign up for all examination sections through CLARB. LARE examination scores will be automatically sent back to the LATC database and the LATC would send out official examination score results through the mail.

The LATC and Mr. Wilkinson discussed the issue of CLARB accepting the California extension program certificates into CLARB model law. Mr. Wilkinson added that if the LATC were able to attain LAAB accreditation of the extension certificates then CLARB might be able to accept the certificates into their model law.

#### **J. Elect Officers for July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010**

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to nominate Andy Bowden to serve as Chair of the LATC.**
- **David Taylor seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0-1 (Andy Bowden abstained).**

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to nominate David Taylor to serve as Vice-Chair of the LATC.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0-1 (David Taylor abstained).**

**K. Review Tentative Schedule and Confirm Future LATC Meeting Dates**

LATC meetings tentatively scheduled:

July 24, 2009, Sacramento

October 23, 2009, Pomona

January 21-22, 2010, location to be determined

**Adjourn**

- **Andy Bowden moved to adjourn.**
- **Christine Anderson seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.