

## **SUMMARY REPORT - FINAL**

### **CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD** **Landscape Architects Technical Committee**

January 22, 2009  
University of California Davis  
Davis, 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 (Board)  
Vickie Mayer, Assistant Executive Officer, Board  
Mary Ann Aguayo, Program Manager, LATC  
Don Chang, Legal Counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA)  
Carmen Alexander, Examination Coordinator, LATC  
Angelica Franco, Licensing Coordinator, LATC  
Ethan Mathes, Special Project Analyst, LATC  
Terri Villareal, Enforcement Coordinator, LATC  
Kris Grangaard, DCA, Strategic Organization, Leadership & Individual Development (SOLID)  
Cindy Kanemoto, DCA, SOLID

#### Guests Present

Sean Cogan, Budget Office, DCA  
Kerry Daaneloux, Moore, Iacofano, Goltsman, Incorporated  
Mark Francis, Faculty, University of California Davis (UCD)  
Byron McCulley, Faculty, UCD  
Steve McNiel, Faculty, UCD  
Skip Mezger, Faculty, UCD  
Patsy Owens, Faculty, UCD  
Michael Rios, Faculty, UCD  
Steve Wheeler, Faculty, UCD

**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 8:20 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. Presentation on the LATC’s Role in Workforce Shortages and Current Economic Impact by The CENTRE for Organization Effectiveness**

Karen Stashower from THE CENTRE for Organization Effectiveness presented as part of the Governor’s goal to streamline efficiencies within boards, bureaus and committees. She reported on the LATC’s role in future workforce shortages and projected employment and census data. The LATC questioned the validity of projected landscape architecture workforce needs presented due to the uncertain economic climate. Stephanie Landregan noted the emerging green industry in California as an impact on the long-term growth of the profession.

Andy Bowden remarked on the recent trend of layoffs in the design profession. David Taylor noted that this trend may have a direct impact on unlicensed activity. The LATC discussed the value of licensure and the potential growth of the profession, as well as its impact on subset professions (e.g. certified professions). In addition, they discussed the visibility of the landscape architecture profession, the green movement and its impact on landscape architecture, the impact of the global economy, generational differences impacting the approach to the working environment, the effect of the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) on ensuring licensure reciprocity, the focus on LATC’s mission of health, safety and welfare and consumer outreach, and the limitations of staff and the challenge of responding to internal needs versus strategic plan goals.

**C. Approve November 18, 2008 LATC Summary Report**

Ms. Landregan requested further elaboration of Don Chang’s statement of his opinion under Item D regarding the authority of local jurisdictions to impose restrictions on state-licensed activity. Ms. Landregan also noted that she should have been cited for the comment regarding accreditation standards under Item H and not Mr. Lang. Richard Zweifel requested a change under Item H to differentiate the statement of LATC’s promotion of the landscape architecture profession to regulation of the profession. Mr. Bowden requested the term “investigating” be changed to “researching” under Item D.

- **David Taylor moved to approve the November 18, 2008 LATC Summary Report as amended.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

**D. Program Manager’s Report**

Ms. Aguayo reported the Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Budget calls for the elimination of the LATC but continued licensure under the Board. Staff has been meeting and disseminating all available

information to the LATC in the last several weeks. Christine Anderson and staff will be conducting an outreach presentation to UCD landscape architecture students in March with the hope of making this an ongoing effort. Ethan Mathes provided an update on changes to proposed regulatory and legislative language [California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2649, CCR sections 2613, 2615, 2621, 2623, 2649 and various other non-related sections for cleanup, Business and Professions Code section 5651, and Senate Bill 1595].

Carmen Alexander reported that the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) will post changes to accreditation standards on its website and that staff did not receive a response regarding an inquiry as to whether the LAAB would consider conducting reviews of the California extension certificate programs on contract with the LATC.

Mr. Bowden inquired about the number of new landscape architect licenses that have been issued per year. Mr. Zweifel proposed tracking the number of new licenses per year in order to monitor the trend change. Mr. Lang asked about current Applicant Tracking System (ATS) issues. Staff reported they continue to work with ATS staff and that some major issues will be resolved by contracting the administration of the Landscape Architects Registration Examination (LARE) to CLARB.

Terri Villareal updated on latest enforcement actions (three complaints were opened and one was closed for the month of December).

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

##### **1. Nomination of Official Delegate to Represent the LATC at the February 27-28, 2009 CLARB Spring Meeting**

Ms. Landregan reported the CLARB Spring meeting will be in South Carolina. CLARB will also be attending an upcoming LATC meeting. She requested that all interested members volunteer to serve as an officer or on the nominating committee. Mr. Lang volunteered to attend the CLARB Spring meeting. Ms. Aguayo encouraged the LATC members to volunteer for the LARE grading team.

- **David Taylor moved to nominate Steve Lang to attend the February 27-28, 2009 CLARB Spring Meeting.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

Ms. Anderson expressed her interest in serving on the nomination committee. The LATC discussed the merits of members serving in various capacities at CLARB and the importance of representing the interests of California. The LATC members agreed to inquire with Dennis Otsuji about his interest in serving as Treasurer or Vice President at CLARB. Mr. Zweifel volunteered for nomination to CLARB Treasurer.

- **David Taylor moved to nominate Christine Anderson to the CLARB Nomination Committee, Richard Zweifel to CLARB Treasurer, and Dennis Otsuji to CLARB Vice President.**
- **Andy Bowden seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0-1 (Christine Anderson abstained).**

Ms. Aguayo referred to the agenda item attachment #3 chart and explained the difference between CLARB requirements and LATC requirements to qualify and sit for the LARE. The LATC discussed licensure requirements for reciprocity candidates as it pertains to requirements for examination in California. Ms. Aguayo referred to agenda item attachment two referencing extension certificate requirements as a response to the LATC's request that CLARB recognize the landscape architecture extension certificate programs. The LATC agreed to put the issue on the next Region V meeting agenda and also to request the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) address the issue at its Board of Trustees meeting. Mr. Bowden will follow up with ASLA.

#### **F. Update and Report from Sunset Review Subcommittee**

Ms. Landregan asked about LATC's effort to address sunset review concerns and increase expenditures on the enforcement program (Sunset Review Item #6). Ms. Aguayo reminded the members that staff enforcement expenditures encompass not just the enforcement coordinator but also her, Board executive management and legal office expenditures. Additionally, staff is in discussion with the Contractors State License Board to participate in joint enforcement activities. Ms. Anderson suggested finalizing the review of existing education and experience requirements (Sunset Review Item #2). The LATC agreed and Mr. Lang recommended this could be addressed in the strategic planning session. Ms. Landregan pointed out that Iris Cochlan has been a part of the LATC for some time as a representative of the public (Sunset Review Item #3). She also highlighted the changes to the definition of landscape architecture in legislation (Sunset Review Item #7) have addressed concerns of sunset review. The LATC agreed that noting these items would fully describe how the LATC is focusing on sunset review concerns.

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

Ms. Aguayo reported on the recent progress described in the July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 Strategic Action Plan. The LATC discussed the Division of the State Architect stamping issue (Organizational Relationships – LATC and Staff Assignments #1).

#### **H. Part I of Strategic and Communications Planning Review Session**

The LATC held its annual strategic planning session, facilitated by Kris Grangaard and Cindy Kanemoto from SOLID.

Ms. Grangaard and Ms. Kanemoto facilitated the discussion for drafting the July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 Strategic Plan. Included in the discussion were LATC's accomplishments over the last year and identification of issues from SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis. The discussion will be incorporated into the July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 Strategic Plan and presented at the next LATC meeting. Upon approval by LATC, the Plan will be presented to the Board for final approval.

## **I. Discussion with University of California Davis Faculty on Current Activities**

The LATC, Staff and UCD faculty introduced themselves. Mr. Lang assured UCD faculty that the LATC desires to create a dialogue with universities in order to address their concerns and determine how the LATC could better support them and also educate landscape architecture students. Further, the LATC seeks to develop and foster interaction between the professional, regulatory and academic fields.

Mr. Zweifel pointed out there is a tremendous investment in landscape architecture education. The LATC could serve as a conduit to assist landscape architecture students on their path to licensure. UCD faculty remarked that the work experience requirements for licensure are unclear, LARE review sessions may not accurately represent the examination, and that the LARE may not embody the profession as practiced in California. Ms. Landregan agreed to the importance of representing the landscape architecture profession and getting a sense of the practice in California and that this would be a good issue to address in the next CLARB occupational analysis.

The UCD faculty noted that visits from the LATC and other outreach efforts are helpful and could serve as an avenue for them to get involved as subject matter experts. Mr. Lang offered that the LATC could hold yearly forums to discuss trends in the landscape architecture profession. The UCD faculty agreed a yearly forum was a good idea. Ms. Landregan remarked that the strategic plan is a central component to planning the long-term involvement of educators and students. Mr. Lang also expressed interest in obtaining the graduation rate of landscape architecture students as a measure of LATC's performance and also to better determine barriers to taking the LARE and gaining licensure. The UCD faculty noted continuing education may be an important component to keeping up with trends in the profession and that it would be worthwhile to discuss the value of implementing a continuing education program. Ms. Landregan commented any continuing education program would require a tie in to the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public. UCD faculty and the LATC further discussed the potential disconnect between the LARE and the practice of landscape architecture in California and the impact it may have on licensure.

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

Mr. Lang reported the LATC had drafted several questions related to understanding and strengthening the communication between landscape architect licensees and landscape architect program educators. The LATC would like to present the questions for review by the UCD faculty in order to get additional information and opinion from them.

*The Item was continued to the next LATC meeting.*

## **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

January 23, 2009  
University of California Davis  
Davis, California

LATC Members Present

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

Liaisons Present

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Don Chang, Legal Counsel, DCA  
Carmen Alexander, Examination Coordinator, LATC  
Ethan Mathes, Special Project Analyst, LATC  
Terri Villareal, Enforcement Coordinator, LATC

Guests Present

J.C. Miller, Director of Landscape Architecture, University of California Berkeley  
Susan Collopy, American Society of Landscape Architects, California Council

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

**Chair's Remarks**

**Public Comment Session**

LATC Chair Mr. Lang called the meeting to order at 8:10 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. Part II of Strategic and Communications Planning Review Session**

The LATC continued its annual strategic planning session, facilitated by Ms. Grangaard and Ms. Kanemoto. Discussion focused on the review of the LATC's mission, vision, and values, review of goals and objectives, and a review of the communication plan. The discussion will be incorporated into the July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010 Strategic Plan.

**C. Review Nominations and Approve Candidate for the 2009 LATC Volunteer Recognition Award**

The LATC discussed and agreed that there have not been very many recent opportunities for volunteers.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to continue this item to next year.**
- **Christine Anderson seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

#### **D. Update and Possible Action on Governor's Reorganization Plan**

Mr. Lang updated the members on the Governor's Reorganization Plan, which includes the elimination of the LATC and an approximate maximum fund savings of \$1.1 million to the State. He stated that the LATC met on January 21, 2009 at a stakeholders meeting led by DCA Director Carrie Lopez where it was clarified that there is no intention to eliminate the landscape architect license, but to eliminate the governing body and place licensure activities under the Board.

The LATC discussed the stakeholder's response to the Governor's Reorganization Plan. The Board, ASLA and American Institute of Architects, California Council all are opposed to the reorganization. The LATC agreed that the LATC is already under the Board as a committee and that no cost savings would be achieved by following the Governor's Reorganization Plan. They also addressed other areas of concern such as continued staff work required to maintain the license, continued staff work required to provide enforcement of the license, probable lack of California representation through CLARB, the impact on the extension certificate programs, and the impact on the health, safety and welfare of the public.

- **Andy Bowden moved to oppose the elimination of the LATC and transfer the license function under the Board.**
- **David Taylor seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

#### **E. Review Tentative Schedule and Confirm Future LATC Meeting Dates**

LATC meetings tentatively scheduled:

April 7, 2009, location to be determined

July 24, 2009, location to be determined

October 23, 2009, location to be determined

#### **Adjourn**

- **Christine Anderson moved to adjourn.**
- **Stephanie Landregan seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 5-0.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.