



Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
PUBLIC PROTECTION THROUGH EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND REGULATION

SUMMARY REPORT - DRAFT

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
Landscape Architects Technical Committee

May 4, 2007
Sacramento, CA

LATC Members Present

Christine Anderson, Chair
Linda Gates
Stephanie Landregan
Dennis Otsuji

LATC Member Absent

Steve Lang

Staff Present

Doug McCauley, Executive Officer, California Architects Board
Mary Ann Aguayo, Program Manager, LATC
Don Chang, Department of Consumer Affairs Legal Counsel
Ethan Mathes, Special Project Analyst
Mary Anderson, Exam Coordinator
Terri Villareal, Enforcement Officer
Patricia Fay, Licensing Coordinator
Jessica Molina, Student Assistant

Guests Present

Carlisle Becker, University of California Berkeley (UCB) Extension
Elizabeth Boults, UCB Extension
Heather Clendenin, UCB Extension
Iris Cochlan, California Architects Board Liaison
Chris Kent, American Society of Landscape Architects, California Council
Mona Maggio, Board of Behavioral Sciences
Anastasia Meadors, UCB Extension
Judah Rosenwald, UCB Extension
Richard Zweifel, Administrative Dean, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

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

LATC Chair Christine Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and called roll. Four members of the LATC were present and thus a quorum was established.

Ms. Anderson acknowledged Heather Clendenin from the UCB Extension program. She announced this would be the last LATC meeting for Linda Gates and Dennis Otsuji as their terms are ending June 1, 2007. Both were presented plaques commemorating their service. Ms. Anderson noted the next California Architects Board (Board) meeting would be on June 15, 2007 in Sacramento and volunteered to attend as the LATC representation.

Mary Ann Aguayo presented and summarized a letter from a licensed landscape architect appealing their delinquent fees. Don Chang commented the LATC could not act on the comment regarding delinquent fees.

B. Approve February 6-7, 2007 LATC Summary Report

Stephanie Landregan commented that the dissenting voter was not recorded in the Item F motions. Staff stated the dissenting voters on Item F. Ms. Aguayo reminded members of the importance of making motions clear in order for staff to act on them and to chronicle them accurately. Ms. Anderson requested the “rule of necessity” be referenced in Item E. Mr. Chang agreed.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to approve the February 6-7, 2007 LATC Summary Report as amended.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

C. Program Manager’s Report

Ms. Aguayo stated the Out-of-State Travel Blanket requests have been submitted for approval for three participants to attend each of the CLARB and Spring meetings, consistent with past year submissions. Additionally, several budget and fund balance projections are part of Item K. Ms. Anderson asked whether LATC members could attend the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) meeting in San Francisco. Doug McCauley confirmed that it would be acceptable since the meeting is in California.

Ms. Aguayo reported that the candidate information guide is in the process of being updated. She also confirmed that it has not been determined what, if any, user fees would be involved regarding I-Licensing and referenced an attachment stating the benefits and savings associated with the project. She also provided the Government Code section and case law regarding the update of the interested parties mailing list. The LATC expressed their concern with removing

people from the mailing list. Mr. Chang suggested notifying the interested party list an additional time. The LATC directed staff to contact the interested parties once more to gauge their interest in remaining on the list. Ethan Mathes updated on current legislation. Mary Anderson summarized the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) October and December 2006 pass/fail statistics. Richard Zweifel asked about acquiring comparative information on California LARE results versus national results. Ms. Anderson agreed to get that information for the LATC. Terri Villareal reported on recent enforcement cases and technical expert training.

D. Report on Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)

- 1. Update on Spring Conference**
- 2. Approve Nominations Committee Slate**

Ms. Aguayo presented the Nominations Committee Slate and explained the LATC would vote to approve six individuals off the provided list of names to serve on the Nominations Committee. Ms. Anderson questioned whether the qualification criteria would allow inexperienced nominees into the Nominations Committee. Ms. Landregan explained that in previous Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) discussion it was agreed these qualification criteria would allow for only the most qualified to serve.

- **Linda Gates moved to approve the Nominations Committee Slate to include Shane DeWald, Shelly Engler, Laura Gaynor-Duke, Joy Lyndes, Vincent McDermott and Tom Ridout.**
- **Stephanie Landregan seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

Ms. Aguayo stated she would communicate the LATC's Nominations Committee vote to CLARB.

E. Approve July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 Strategic and Communications Plans

The LATC reviewed the Strategic Plan and made various edits to the Action Plan objectives and target dates. They also discussed the process for meeting Communications Plan guidelines; specifically, which outreach publications would be most important to address. The LATC agreed the consumer guides would be the most important communications publication project to undertake at this time; however, Ms. Aguayo informed the LATC that based on a prior LATC decision staff were progressing on updating candidate material. Additionally, they are moving on to general updates to the Practice Act and contact information on the LATC posters before undertaking the larger task of updating the consumer guides. Ms. Landregan expressed concern and stated that the guide should be available in Spanish. Staff responded that a majority of their current work would be completed in June.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to approve the July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008 Strategic and Communications Plans as amended.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

F. Report on Redevelopment of the California Supplemental Examination

1. Discussion and Potential Closed Session on the California Supplemental Examination [Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126 (c)(1)]

Ms. Aguayo reported on the progress of the California Supplemental Examination (CSE) development; in particular, the results of the workshops to date, future planned workshops, potential options for instituting Computer Based Testing (CBT), the examination validation process, and CSE rollout options. Ms. Landregan questioned the use of the term “legally defensible” as it pertains to the reasoning to redevelop the CSE. She suggested the term be removed from the item documents because the term has not been documented based on a legal foundation. Mr. Chang clarified that while the LATC may disagree with the term “legally defensible,” it needs to be recognized and questioned that the use of the term “examination” for the existing CSE is not accurate. The LATC agreed with this point.

The LATC also expressed concern regarding the content of the new CSE and that it may not be testing California specific laws and issues exclusively. Mr. Chang recommended moving forward with the development of the CSE while keeping California specific laws and issues as part of the discussion. Ms. Gates suggested drafting a memorandum stating LATC’s position to this fact on the record. Mr. Chang concurred, and also suggested meeting one-on-one with the Office of Examination Resources (OER). Ms. Anderson requested Mr. Zweifel draft a memorandum addressing the LATC concerns, forward it to Ms. Aguayo for members review and approval and then submit to OER. Ms. Anderson and Ms. Aguayo expressed reservation about the upcoming workshop, but the LATC did not want to delay the CSE development any further.

- **Christine Anderson moved to draft a memo to OER to document the concerns of the LATC regarding the development of the CSE.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

2. Approve Implementation Criteria

The LATC discussed the methods and merits of the presented CBT options and whether to allow testing of the CSE concurrent with the LARE sections or to allow testing after all LARE sections are passed by the candidate. The LATC also discussed the examination validation process and agreed with a proposal for 10 candidates take the CSE for the purpose of validation. The LATC deliberated setting a timeline to withdraw the current CSE and implement the new CSE. They agreed the implementation date should be pushed back from OER’s June 1, 2007 recommendation in order to give appropriate notification to candidates and staff to assemble candidate materials.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to implement the new CSE effective January 1, 2008 using the OER's CBT vendor and validate the new CSE with 10 licensees upon implementation of the new CSE.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**

The LATC continued their debate and discussion on examination rollout timelines, examination implementation, examination validation methods, study materials, and giving sufficient notice to candidates to the change in the new CSE.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to amend her motion to implement the new CSE effective December 1, 2007.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the amended motion.**

Mr. Otsuji questioned what would happen if OER were unable to fulfill the timelines set forth by the LATC motion. The LATC agreed a new motion would potentially be required at the next LATC meeting to address this issue, pending a quorum. The LATC agreed nonetheless that candidates would require sufficient notice of the change to the new CSE. The LATC continued to debate appropriate timelines to institute the new CSE as it relates to the June administration of the LARE; they wanted to allow June candidates to take the current CSE. Mr. Chang recommended against specifying an exclusive timeline for June candidates to take the current CSE, as it would not be fair to other candidates. He also recommended clarifying timeline issues with OER. The LATC decided that setting a timeline to discontinue the current CSE and implement the new CSE would be necessary and would need to apply to all candidates.

- **Stephanie Landregan withdrew her motion.**
- **Christine Anderson moved to discontinue use of the current CSE effective September 15, 2007 with a deadline to return the examination within 90 days.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

G. Report on Education Subcommittee

- 1. Update on February 27, 2006 Meeting**
- 2. Approve Draft Response to California Architects Board Inquiry Regarding Parity Between Licensure Requirements for Landscape Architects and Architects**

Mr. Zweifel presented an overview of the draft letter concerning the Board's question of parity in education credits between landscape architects and architects. He emphasized the Education Subcommittee reviewed curriculum, training avenues, and the various paths to licensure in making their recommendation. Ms. Landregan asked about the training credit exception given to landscape contractors and why a similar exception should not be given to an architect with a landscape architecture degree. The LATC agreed that despite the exception given to landscape

contractors, there is still a valid requirement for education and experience gained under a licensed landscape architect.

Ms. Aguayo presented a letter from a public member requesting the LATC consider giving credit for apprenticeship in landscape architecture in lieu of an education in landscape architecture. Ms. Anderson commented there is no substantive data to support this request; the LATC agreed.

- **Linda Gates moved to approve the draft response to California Architects Board inquiry regarding parity between licensure requirements for landscape architects and architects.**
- **Dennis Otsuji seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 3-1 (Stephanie Landregan opposed).**

3. Approve Response and Recommended Changes to the Existing Education and Experience Requirement as Requested in 2004 by the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee

- **Linda Gates moved to approve response and recommended changes to the existing education and experience requirement as requested in 2004 by the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee.**
- **Dennis Otsuji seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 3-1 (Stephanie Landregan opposed).**

H. Report on LATC Approval of University of California Los Angeles and University of California Berkeley Extension Certificate Programs

1. Approve University of California Berkeley Plan of Action to Correct Unmet Standard

Ms. Aguayo provided a background history on the University of California Berkeley (UCB) Extension Certificate Program's preliminary approval. Ms. Clendenin introduced UCB administration and staff in attendance and presented the UCB response to the LATC's request for a plan of action. She spoke specifically about UCB's proposed increase in staff time devoted to the extension certificate program and the planned market survey to address future program challenges. Ms. Landregan suggested a timeline to reflect UCB's goals. The LATC agreed this would be a good idea and also asked about the staff time issue. Anastasia Meadors responded that similar to other extension programs at UCB, the landscape architect extension certificate program is self-funded and not equipped for staffing levels proposed in the LATC's Final Report. The LATC recommended UCB come back with more definitive timelines for accomplishing its stated goals over the next five years.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to accept UCB Extension Certificate Program’s proposal to increase staff and administrative personnel time with a review of UCB’s proposal within 18 months and also review UCB timelines and their revised response of Unmet Standard at the July 2007 LATC meeting.**
- **Dennis Otsuji seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

The LATC went on to discuss the current progress of the Landscape Architect Accreditation Board’s (LAAB) review and evaluation of accreditation standards and inclusion of extension certificate program reviews into the accreditation process. Mr. Otsuji suggested the involvement of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture and offered to contact them to find out what their position is on extension program accreditation. The LATC also recommended the California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA) and both UCB and University of California Los Angeles Extension Certificate Program involvement. Ms. Landregan recommended the CCASLA write a letter addressing extension program accreditation.

I. Consider and Select Possible Recipients for the Landscape Architects Volunteer Recognition Award Program

Ms. Anderson announced Alexis Slafer was nominated for the Landscape Architects Volunteer Recognition Award and provided information as to how she met the selection criteria.

- **Dennis Otsuji moved to nominate Alexis Slafer as a recipient for the 2007 Landscape Architects Volunteer Recognition Award.**
- **Christine Anderson seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

J. Report on Sunset Review Subcommittee

Mr. Otsuji noted the Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions and Consumer Protection future is unknown. The LATC agreed they are more aware of the overarching concerns that sunset review creates.

K. Review and Preliminary Approval of Proposal to Amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2649, Fees

Ms. Aguayo distributed a corrected copy of the Originally Proposed Language.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to give preliminary approval of the proposal to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2649, Fees.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

The LATC agreed the budget condition should continue to be monitored and addressed again next year.

L. Review Candidate Education and Experience Tracking Chart Data Through April 11, 2007

The LATC reviewed the data and agreed that it was very good information and will be a helpful tool for analysis in the future.

M. Review Division of the State Architect's Requirement for an Architect or Registered Engineer Stamp on Projects Within the Realm of a Landscape Architect's License

Due to time constraints, the LATC was unable to address this agenda item and would be continued to the next LATC meeting.

N. Discuss Assembly Bill 1881 – Drought Tolerant Plants

Ms. Landregan reported that Assembly Bill (AB) 1881 would not limit the use of water conserving plants. She questioned whether the LATC has an obligation to inform interested parties of new laws such as AB 1881. Ms. Anderson and Ms. Gates agreed this fell under the responsibility of the ASLA. Ms. Landregan felt the LATC has the responsibility to notify the licensee population concerning matters of health, safety and welfare. The LATC agreed this would be the case for significant changes to the law. Mr. Otsuji suggested bringing this topic up at the next ASLA meeting.

O. Elect Officers for July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to nominate Christine Anderson to serve as Chair and Steve Lang to serve as Vice-Chair of the LATC.**
- **Linda Gates seconded the motion.**
- **The motion carried 4-0.**

P. Review Tentative Schedule for Future Meetings

The next LATC meeting is scheduled for July 20, 2007 in Los Angeles. The LATC will follow up with Ms. Slafer regarding the meeting location.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.