This publication is produced by elected members of the Executive Committee in an effort to inform our Chapter Membership about relevant stories, opportunities, and items of interest on both the local and national levels. In the production of this publication, many contributors are often enlisted to share their professional and personal opinions. These opinions do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (GA|ASLA) nor the national association of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). The chapter’s positions on various topics are aligned with ASLA National’s positions, which can be found at the ASLA website. For archived issues of the LA Letter, simply go to the chapter website at www.gaasla.org for further information. All archived issues are found in the “Publication” navigation bar and listed as “eNewsletters.” If the issue you are looking for is not found, please contact the Communications Member at Large (mal_comweb@gaasla.org).

The Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects seeks to support a healthy planet through environmentally conscious production and distribution of its quarterly publication. In an effort to strive for sustainable financial stewardship, the Chapter has dedicated the formerly accrued printing / mailing expenses from the LA Letter to better serving the membership.

TO THE READER
FRONT COVER:
DAVID LILLY PLAZA, MINNEAPOLIS, MN
PHOTOGRAPH BY WOLFGANG OEHME, 1989

BACK COVER:
KIAWAH RESIDENCE, KIAWAH ISLAND, SC
PHOTOGRAPH BY ROGER FOLEY, 2006

BOTH PHOTOGRAPHS ARE INCLUDED IN THE NEW AMERICAN GARDEN: THE LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE OF OEHME, VAN SWEDEN NOW ON DISPLAY AT THE UGA CED CIRCLE GALLERY

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FEB 5, 2019 - UGA CED CAREER & INTERNSHIP FAIR

FEB 6-7, 2019 - UGA CED SHORT COURSE

MAR 9, 2019 - ZONES 7&8 (GA|ASLA) AWARDS GALA

MAR 21, 2019 - UGA CED ATLANTA ALUMNI SOCIAL

MAR 25, 2019 - PARK PRIDE PARKS & GREENSPACE CONFERENCE

APR 4-6, 2019 - LABASH 2019

JUN 2-4, 2019 - ASLA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

VISIT GAASLA.ORG AND CED.UGA.EDU/CALENDAR FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS
Call for Entries!
Submissions due: January 9, 2019 at 5pm
Awards Gala: March 9, 2019 at 103 West (Atlanta)

2016 Merit Award in General Design Category
Cruz Plaza, Mercer University (Macon, GA)
Designed by HGOR

PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE BIENNIAL GA|ASLA AWARDS GALA ON SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2019 IN ATLANTA AT 103 WEST.

COME SOCIALIZE, NETWORK, AND CELEBRATE THE EXCEPTIONAL WORK OF GEORGIA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS.

MARCH 9, 2019 | 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM | 103 WEST PACES FERRY RD NW, ATLANTA, GA 30305
BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL ATTIRE REQUESTED, VALET PARKING PROVIDED

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A SPONSOR? CONTACT SARAH BOYER AT TREASURER@GAASLA.ORG
JOIN THE GEORGIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTERS OF ASLA FOR THE 2019 ASLA SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE FROM SUNDAY, JUNE 2 - TUESDAY, JUNE 4 AT THE HYATT REGENCY LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA.

EARLY BIRD PRICING IS AVAILABLE NOW THROUGH MARCH 1.

CLICK HERE FOR INFORMATION ON SPEAKERS, ACCOMMODATIONS, SCHEDULE, ACTIVITIES, AND MORE.
Some parts of the Chattahoochee River are already pretty well-visited. More than 2.7 million people visited the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area last year, according to the National Park Service. Other parts of the river in metro Atlanta are less accessible and less well-known. The stretch that forms the county line between Cobb and Fulton Counties, which is also the border of the City of Atlanta, has few places for people to get to the river.

A current study will look for ways to change that, and open up access to the river for a 100-mile stretch, from Buford Dam on Lake Lanier, to Atlanta. south to Chattahoochee Bend State Park, near Newnan.

“We’re trying to take a comprehensive look at the Chattahoochee River corridor to understand issues of public access, public connections, and ongoing questions of water quality and environmental sustainability,” said Byron Rushing, bicycling and walking program manager at the Atlanta Regional Commission.

The ARC, along with the City of Atlanta, Cobb County and the Trust for Public Land, is commissioning the 18-month, $1.5 million study. Rushing said one goal is to find places where transit corridors and the river intersect and river access could be improved. Another is to find ways to connect trails like the Silver Comet, the Proctor Creek Greenway, local and county parks, and those at the National Recreation Area.

“The biggest challenge really with the Chattahoochee River is access,” said George Dusenbury, Georgia state director for the Trust for Public Land. “That is going to be the focal point of this, is identifying those areas where we can increase access to the river.”

The groups commissioned the New York-based landscape architecture firm SCAPE for the study.

Another group called Chattahoochee Now has been interested in similar access challenges on the Chattahoochee. In 2016, they released their vision for the river, focusing on areas south of the National Recreation Area.

SCAPE STUDIO HAS PROVIDED UPDATES ON THEIR TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM FEEDS FROM THEIR DECEMBER DRIVING TOUR OF THE CHATTahoochee RIVER CORRIDOR. UPDATES CAN ALSO BE FOUND AT THEIR WEBSITE.
On January 28, 2019 the Executive Committee met for its Annual Summit – an intensive planning session to review and assess the chapter’s performance during the previous calendar year and to discuss how the chapter can continue to improve and grow. This year’s summit was hosted by Chapter Trustee Kevin Burke at the Atlanta BeltLine headquarters. During the meeting, the committee fine-tuned plans for upcoming events, such as the Zone 7&8 Awards Gala in March, and also began planning efforts for other social gatherings and educational opportunities. Strategies were discussed for how better to engage with and encourage the professional development of emerging landscape architects.

A major focus of the summit was the need for sustained advocacy to deter any potential future threats to licensure. These talks resulted in actionable ideas for better promoting our field to be sure that our value as professionals is understood to lawmakers.

2019 GA|ASLA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SUMMIT
Thanks to all who made it to **December’s Holiday Party** at **Fado Irish Pub** in Buckhead to enjoy food, drink, and great conversations with colleagues. We appreciate the support from our event sponsors, **Maglin Site Furniture** and **Border Concepts**.
The Wisdom of Landscape Architecture and the Value of Connections

One of my favorite notions presented at a recent lecture at the College of Environment and Design (CED) at the University of Georgia (UGA) was the “wisdom ladder,” described as a progression from knowledge through experience, perspective, foresight, and judgment that can lead to wisdom and a deeper understanding in what we do as landscape architects.

On Monday, November 5, 2018, outgoing ASLA President Greg Miller visited CED as part of an on-going effort by ASLA to engage educational institutions and future practitioners. After touring the landscape architecture studios in the Jackson Street building and talking with students about current projects, Mr. Miller gave a lecture to a mixed audience of faculty, staff, students and guests. The lecture entitled, “The Wisdom of Landscape Architecture and the Value of Connections,” used imagery and projects from Miller’s home state of New Mexico. He illustrated his main talking points, which supported his thesis of the value of wisdom in design and the networks that are created across our discipline.

Simplifying the Complex

Miller talked about teaching sixth-graders about the profession of landscape architecture and discovering that a summary of key connections—people to people, people to nature, and people to natural systems—was the best way to present such a multi-faceted field. These three topics are an excellent distillation of what any landscape project aims to accomplish, and making these connections is at the heart of every project.

In addition to having served as ASLA president, Miller is the principle of MRWM Landscape Architecture in Albuquerque, NM. Using his perspective as a landscape architecture professional, he shared insights and gave advice for students as they try to enter the field and apply for employment at design firms. He presented findings of recent surveys...
sponsored by ASLA that showed what employers are looking for in new hires and compared that to what students felt were important skills. For employers of new hires, writing and hand graphics were among the top needed skills. Of note, public speaking was not high on the list for employers, but it was on recent graduates’ minds. Miller noted that firms would not put new hires in front of clients or public meetings in the first few years, which came as a relief to me. Instead, the ability to create fast concept sketches was more appreciated and he noted that having the ability to create many iterations of a design using sketches on trash paper was a skill still highly sought after by employers. He praised the students on the sketches he saw during his studio tour at CED. He was happy that sketching and other hand graphics are still being taught at UGA. In his opinion, computer-generated designs, while essential to the process, often fail to capture the design process; whereas drawing and sketching actually shape it.

A reception following the lecture was hosted by the Georgia Students of Landscape Architecture (GSLA) with support from the Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (GA|ASLA) Northeast Section, CED and Permaloc. Past President Miller and Daniel Martin, Director of Marketing at Permaloc and currently serving on the Board of Directors of the Landscape Architecture Foundation, joined students, staff, faculty and GA|ASLA members for the social at Magnolia’s in downtown Athens.
NEWS FROM THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

GSBOLA CHAIRPERSON BECKY KIRK AND VICE CHAIRPERSON TIM LAKE, 12/22/18

Recent Board Activity

The past year has seen great improvement in the efficiency of the licensure application process. Many thanks to those of you who brought issues to our attention so that we could address them. Here are a few highlights from recent GBOla developments:

• We enacted changes in policy that allow Staff to issue administrative approval for confirming applications and have worked with our Director, Darren Mickler to discipline or replace non-performing staff. We are proud to say that we have a capable and responsive team in place in Macon.

• Former Secretary of State Brian Kemp put into place a new web-based system called Bridge that has improved the exchange of information between Staff and Board members. All of the information we touch during any Board business is housed here, promoting quick and easy communication between all parties for faster responses to issues.

• Secretary Kemp also changed the grouping of trades into like categories, making it easier for Staff (who each serve more than one board) to balance workloads and to leverage similar knowledge bases. For example, landscape architects were formerly grouped with nurses and cosmetologists. Now we are grouped with engineers, surveyors and architects, Much better!

• We have proposed a new rule change to allow landscape architects over 65 who are in good standing to waive continuing education requirements. This must still be reviewed by the new Secretary of State and pass through legal channels, but we are optimistic that it will be adopted.

Things That Get LAs in Trouble

Letting your license lapse. We see lapses every single meeting. Most say, “I forgot,” and some say, “I didn’t get a notice.” Come on folks, this is how we make our living. Pay attention and be responsible. Every landscape architect licensed in Georgia gets a notice every two years. The fee is small; take care of it on time. The penalty for failing to do so can be large.

Unlicensed Practice. This generally leads to an investigation and can really hurt your wallet and reputation. We won’t go deep, but here are a few things to know based on the most common issues we see:

• If you lapse and keep performing landscape architecture work, that constitutes unlicensed practice.

• If you work for a government agency and are exempt from licensure in that job but do work on the side, you must be licensed for that work. That includes professors and campus landscape architects. A state or federal exemption does not exempt you from private work licensure requirements.

• If you use the term landscape architect or landscape architecture in any marketing or advertising for yourself or your firm without having a current licensed landscape architect on staff and employed on a permanent basis, that constitutes unlicensed practice. Be sure your
GA\ASLA IS PICKING UP ITS ADVOCACY GAME IN 2019.

WITH EVER INCREASING LICENSURE DERRGULATION BILLS POPPING UP ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND OTHER IMPORTANT BILLS THAT AFFECT FUNDING OF MANY PROGRAMS SURFACING, GA\ASLA WILL BE WORKING HARD TO MAKE SURE THE INTERESTS OF THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROFESSION ARE WELL REPRESENTED.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR ADVOCACY UPDATES DURING THIS YEAR’S LEGISLATIVE SESSION (JANUARY – MARCH). WE WILL BE SHARING INFORMATION ON PERTINENT ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO PROTECT AND ADVOCATE FOR YOUR PROFESSION.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED IN ADVOCACY AT THE LOCAL OR STATE LEVEL PLEASE CONTACT THE ADVOCACY AND LICENSURE CHAIR, KIRSTIN L’ESPERANCE AT KL’ESPERANCE@TSW-DESIGN.COM.
The following statement was issued by Nancy Somerville, Hon. ASLA, executive vice president and CEO of the American Society of Landscape Architects on the occasion of the signing into law of the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (H.R. 7279). The new law provides flexibility to municipalities wishing to prioritize investments in wastewater and stormwater projects needed for Clean Water Act compliance and requires the EPA to promote the option of green infrastructure, which allows communities to use natural processes to infiltrate or reuse storm water runoff beneficially on-site where it is generated.

At a time when our nation’s infrastructure is rapidly deteriorating, the enactment of the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act represents a significant step forward in helping communities use green infrastructure to meet critical water management goals, while protecting the health, safety, and well-being of their residents.

Thanks to the continued advocacy efforts of ASLA and its members, the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act is now law. Over the last decade landscape architects have been at the forefront of advocating for green infrastructure policies that improve community infrastructure, including water and stormwater management.

This bipartisan law provides flexibility and local autonomy for vital wastewater and stormwater projects, increasing the likelihood that green infrastructure principles will be put into practice throughout the country.

Landscape architects are prepared to help implement this law by working with municipalities to develop and design projects that safeguard our nation’s water supply. These green infrastructure projects will also stimulate the creation of well-paying jobs, and create public places that enhance the quality of community life.
Global climate change is the defining environmental issue of our time. From devastating wildfires to historic storms and rising seas, the effects are already being felt and will continue to get worse. According to NASA, sea levels could rise anywhere from 8 inches to 6.5 feet by 2100. Additional impacts include increased spread of diseases; extensive species extinction; mass human, animal, and plant migrations; and resource wars over dwindling food and water supplies. Furthermore, these impacts will disproportionately affect the world’s poorest and most vulnerable communities.

Sustained, meaningful commitments and actions to substantially reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from all sectors of our economy can help avoid the worst of these negative impacts. The benefits of these actions will be measured in lives saved and communities spared.

In 2015, the international community gathered in Paris, France, and agreed to a landmark cooperative framework for limiting global temperature rise to “well below” 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. In order to meet this goal, GHG emissions will need to peak by 2020 and fall to zero by 2050. This is an immense goal, but also achievable.

Landscape architects are helping to shift us to a carbon neutral future. Landscape architects plan and design dense, walkable communities that reduce emissions from transportation and sprawl. They make the built environment more energy and carbon efficient with strategies like green roofs, water-efficient design, and use of sustainable materials and construction practices. They defend and expand carbon-sequestering landscapes such as forests, wetlands, and grasslands, helping to drawdown atmospheric carbon dioxide. All of these efforts also enable communities to better adapt to climate change and improve their resilience.

The threats posed by climate change are immense, and there is no single strategy that will solve the climate crisis on its own. Instead, mitigation requires an “all hands on deck” approach as we seek to reduce GHG emissions wherever possible. Achieving a carbon neutral future will only come about through the cumulative effect of countless individual actions. Every one of those individual actions counts.
ASLA CONvenes 2019 Public Awareness Summit In New Orleans

01/08/19, LAND, Updates From ASLA

The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) convened its 2019 Public Awareness Summit in New Orleans, Louisiana from January 4 to 6. Representatives from 48 of ASLA’s chapters attended the summit to brainstorm public awareness strategies and help plan ASLA’s communications plan for 2019.

The agenda included two presentations from ASLA staff members, Paul Azzolini and J.R. Taylor. Azzolini, ASLA’s web designer/front-end developer, discussed updates and methods of implementation of ASLA’s brand standards digitally. Taylor, ASLA’s PR & Communication Coordinator, gave a tutorial on the basics of paid social media advertising.

Four attendees also presented examples of successful public awareness efforts from their local chapters to the summit. First, Jennifer Nitzky, ASLA, outlined the New York Chapter of ASLA’s outreach plan for promoting their awards program. Next, Matt Hisle, Associate ASLA, presented the Kentucky Chapter of ASLA’s publication, “Terrain,” which is a celebration of the chapter, its award winners, and work of its members.

On the second day, Nate Sweitzer, Associate ASLA, detailed the process and results of the Tennessee Chapter of ASLA’s Instagram takeover in April 2018. Finally, Dalton LaVoie, ASLA, and Andrew Wickham, ASLA, from the California – Sierra Chapter of ASLA presented potential ideas for future public awareness campaigns focusing on the “why” of landscape architecture.

Throughout the summit, attendees also participated in three breakout group discussions to help inform ASLA’s communications efforts. Group discussions topics included what resources can ASLA provide chapters to help their public awareness efforts, how to better promote national awards on a chapter level, and chapter awards on a national level, and determining themes for national public awareness campaigns.
ASLA 2019 Professional Awards Call for Entries
Deadline for entry fees: Friday, February 15, 2019
Deadline for submissions: Friday, March 1, 2019, 11:59 p.m. PST

Click here for other upcoming ASLA nominations and honors deadlines.
The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) has installed Shawn T. Kelly, FASLA, PLA, as its president for the 2018-2019 term. Kelly was sworn in during the October 22 President’s Dinner at the ASLA 2018 Annual Meeting and EXPO in Philadelphia. He succeeds Gregory A. Miller, FASLA.

In his remarks at the dinner, Kelly outlined his vision for the Society and the role of landscape architects in addressing such critical environmental issues as the growing worldwide scarcity of potable water. He also called upon members to help him raise public awareness about the profession.

“ASLA is growing in scope and reach, as it must to be the voice of our ever-changing profession,” Kelly said. “While we must honor our roots, our ‘why’, we also need to embrace the opportunities for progress. We are, in fact, a vehicle for that positive change. We must also be the authors for that positive change.”

Kelly has practiced landscape architecture and planning in Arizona, California, and Wisconsin, with projects on three continents and multiple countries, as well as multiple states in America. He is principal of the Kelly Design Group, LLC, in Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

Kelly also teaches full time at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in the Department of Landscape Architecture. He earned his master’s degree in landscape architecture from the University of Arizona.

Joining Kelly on the 2019 Executive Committee are (click on link for biographical information):

- Wendy Miller, FASLA, 2019 President Elect
- Gregory A. Miller, FASLA, Immediate Past President
- Haley Blakeman, ASLA, Vice President, Communications
- Lake Douglas, FASLA, Vice President, Education
- Kona A. Gray, FASLA, Vice President, Professional Practice
- SuLin Kotowicz, ASLA, Vice President, Finance
- Eugenia Martin, FASLA, Vice President, Government Affairs
- Dennis R. Nola, ASLA, Vice President, Membership
HOW CAN CITIES GET A HANDLE ON ELECTRIC SCOOTERS?

ALISON KENNEDY, ASLA, PLA, LEED AP ND, 01/16/19, DIRT.ASLA.ORG

Electric scooters have become a familiar sight throughout the country. Dotting street corners in tidy rows in the mornings, placed haphazardly outside office buildings after the lunch hour, and zipping down streets and sidewalks at all hours of the day, electric scooters are fast becoming a ubiquitous feature of the urban landscape. The rapid expansion of electric scooters has drawn both support and criticism. By understanding the pros and cons of electric scooters and various regulatory considerations, landscape architects and urban planners can help cities make the most of this significant private investment in the public realm.

The potential benefits of incorporating electric scooters into a city’s transit infrastructure are substantial. Leading electric scooter companies, such as Bird and Lime, tout their products as an alternative non-vehicular means of transportation, a zero-emission people-moving mechanism that can reduce short distance single-occupant car trips. Commuters who use public transportation for the bulk of their commute and who cannot or do not wish to use a bike for the final distance to the office can avoid a taxi or ride share trip by hopping on a nearby electric scooter. As many scooter riders will tell you, electric scooters also have the benefit of being fun to ride. Tourists are a major subset of electric scooter riders, as they enjoy the ability to see a new city at a leisurely pace without breaking a sweat.

Renting an electric scooter for a ride isn’t quite as simple as hopping on and zipping off. Riders must first download each company’s app using a smart phone. The app shows locations of nearby scooters that are currently unoccupied and ready to be checked out. Typically, scooters are placed in neat rows in groups first thing in the morning, after being charged overnight. Later in the day, scooters may be distributed in more irregular groups as they are ridden and parked in various places by the riders. First-time users of an app also need to enter a credit card for payment (entered one time then used for all subsequent purchases, similar to the way the Uber and Lyft apps work), and a photo of a driver’s license to verify age.

Critics have noted these requirements limit use across the socioeconomic spectrum; Washington D.C. is hoping to develop a method for cash payment. Rides are priced by the minute, timed from check-in to check-out using the
app. Some apps also require riders to take a photo of the scooter where it is stopped at the end of the ride, in order to record potentially illegal parking practices used by some riders. Riders can expect to pay a typical fee of $1 to unlock the scooter, plus $0.15 per minute.

Electric scooters may have launched in California, but 2018 saw the trend spread across the country and throughout the world. With such exponential growth, many cities have multiple competing brands of scooters within the same area. Austin, Texas, has had such high rates of usage that scooter providers have needed to schedule mid-day servicing of their fleets to charge scooters’ batteries. The usefulness of scooters in urban settings and the potential to replace short car trips has increased enormous investment to electric scooter companies. Ford recently purchased Spin for nearly $100 million, while Uber has partnered with Lime.

The first of many regulatory challenges comes with the way a scooter company might choose to launch a fleet in a new city. Several companies initially gained the industry the reputation of “begging for forgiveness rather than first asking for permission” after launching electric scooter fleets without consulting city officials. This prompted San Francisco to temporarily ban all electric scooters, eventually offering two permits to electric scooter companies Skip and Scoot. Other cities issue permits to a certain number of total electric scooters, split among different providers.

If an electric scooter company approaches a city first to request permission to operate locally, how might a city respond? Some jurisdictions might be glad for the private investment in public transit and permit operation without caveats. Others, hesitant of the demands electric scooters place upon the public right of way, may take a different approach — as did New York City, when, considering the density of sidewalks and bicycle lanes without scooters, issued a firm “thanks, but no thanks” to scooter companies.

State regulations may also play a role in whether electric scooters must operate on city streets, sidewalks, or not at all:

- **California**: State regulations prohibit riding an electric scooter on the sidewalk or on roadways with speed limits in excess of 35 miles per hour.
- **Colorado**: State and local regulations classify electric scooters as “toy vehicles” which must be ridden on the sidewalk and are prohibited from operating on the roadway or bike path.
- **Wisconsin**: A state regulation classifies electric scooters as motor vehicles, therefore requiring individual vehicle registration with the state.

To address safety concerns, electric scooter companies require all scooter...
riders wear helmets and meet a minimum age requirement. These requirements are frequently violated by users, as are regulations requiring scooters be ridden on the sidewalk, roadway, or in a bike lane. Conflicts between pedestrians, bicyclists, vehicles, and scooters are difficult to avoid without formally set and well-understood rules for where and how a scooter should operate. One particularly active period of reported scooter accidents in Austin, Texas, led the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to partner with Austin city government to study the most common source of incidents. This study is currently underway, but Austin is already planning to put a safe riding ordinance into effect in the spring of 2019.

Electric scooter companies are beginning to put money and effort toward improving the safety of scooter riders. Bird scooters recently announced plans to form a Global Safety Advisory Board, led by the former head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, with the goal of improving electric scooter safety. Bird has also proposed a funding strategy whereby $1 daily per vehicle in a city’s fleet would be dedicated to a fund for improving bicycle lanes and infrastructure in that city. Bird scooters currently offers cities data on usage within that city, which can be a valuable data metric in understanding the flow of people through the city, scoping a site pre-development, or for post-occupancy analysis.

Electric scooters can replace much more vehicular use, particularly single-occupant, short-distance car trips, in congested urban environments. At the same time, city management and planning authorities must carefully weigh the risks to public safety before approving electric scooter programs for operation. With clear rules and robust public awareness campaigns to ensure all users understand the rules for legal operation, scooters may come to safely co-exist with existing users of the public right of way. Electric scooters are here to stay, and cities have the opportunity and challenge of establishing a safe framework in which citizens and visitors can enjoy the full benefits of this technology.

CLICK THE LINKS BELOW FOR LOCAL UPDATES:

ATLANTA CITY COUNCIL LAYS DOWN LAW ON SCOOTERS
AJC, JANUARY 7, 2019

AS ATLANTA LAWMAKERS MULL DOCKLESS VEHICLE RULES, UBER LAUNCHES BIKE-SHARE PROGRAM
CURBED ATLANTA, JANUARY 7, 2019

SHAREABLE DOCKLESS MOBILITY DEVICES (RULES AND REGULATIONS SUMMARY)
CITY OF ATLANTA, CITY PLANNING
RE: NOMINEE FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

A LETTER FROM ASLA TO THE PRESIDENT, 12/17/2018

Dear Mr. President:

With the departure of Secretary Ryan Zinke, we know that you are putting great thought and deliberation into your search for a new Secretary of the Interior. On behalf of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), I respectfully request that you ensure your eventual nominee is devoted to protecting and preserving America’s environment and natural resources for current and future generations.

The stated mission of the Department of the Interior (DOI) is to conserve and manage our nation’s natural resources and cultural heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the American people. We believe that the next Secretary of the Interior should hold true to that mission and ensure that all Americans have access to our national parks, monuments, and wildlife refuges. Our national parks and federal lands are at a crossroads with the ever-growing $12 billion backlog in deferred maintenance and the expiration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The next Secretary should work with Congress to alleviate the backlog without further compromising LWCF.

Climate change is threatening the world’s ecological system. The next Secretary should recognize the effects climate change is having on our public lands and proactively work to ensure those impacts are addressed throughout DOI. ASLA strongly believes in adapting to global climate change through resiliency, green infrastructure, and conservation, and DOI should be a leader in climate change, adaptation, and resiliency through its management of public lands.

Lastly, DOI should have a diverse and inclusive atmosphere for staff and all visitors to feel welcome to enjoy America’s public lands. The many landscape architects who work with and for DOI are committed to upholding values of inclusion and diversity, and those values should be demonstrated by the Secretary of the Interior and the entire agency.

Since 1899, ASLA and its members have been stewards of our national parks and public lands by working at all levels of government and in the private sector to guarantee that our natural wonders are lasting and accessible for all. We believe in resiliency and sustainability, and we practice these beliefs in our work and everyday lives. We have been leaders in preservation, conservation, and protection of our natural and built environments, and ASLA believes the next Secretary of the Interior should be one as well.

Please take the above into consideration when naming the next Secretary of the Interior. DOI should be headed by a Secretary who is truly dedicated to the protection and preservation of our public lands.

Sincerely,

Nancy C. Somerville, Hon. ASLA
Executive Vice President and CEO
American Society of Landscape Architects
Emily and Mitchell Rales, the founders of Glenstone, one of the largest privately-owned museums in the U.S., want you to slow down.

As you get out of the car park at their expanded museum in Potomac, Maryland, you embark on a 10-minute journey along a gravel path, over a small creek, and between two large hills. Walking the path becomes an act of meditation, but also a journey of discovery as you come across surreal bits of hyper-nature.

After a few minutes the new pavilions designed by architect Thomas Phifer emerge into view.

The crunch of the pale grey gravel, the charismatic trees set in swaying meadow grasses — mostly little blue stem and purple top — are all designed to slow your heart rate and heighten your senses.

At the preview of the expanded museum, which is set within a 230-acre landscape, Emily Rales explained that it’s only when you are most attuned to your environment can you really take in the post-World War II artworks in their monumental new concrete pavilions.

Visitors descend stairs or an elevator to get to the main level of the pavilions where most of the modern and contemporary paintings and sculptures are found.

Pieces include a phrygian cap by African American sculptor Martin Puryear, a calendar of icons by Lygia Pape, an expansive Rothko painting, and epic site-specific installations by land artist Michael Heizer.

Collapse, one of Heizer’s works, called for the special configuration of an entire wing. Only six people are allowed to experience the piece at the same time — a 16-feet-deep hole partially filled up with rusted steel beams, set in a small ocean of rust-colored gravel, which creates a Martian monochromatic landscape.

But the building is not only a portal to the art, it’s an entry into a whole other landscape: a water garden.

Adam Greenspan, ASLA, principal at PWP Landscape Architecture, who has been working on Glenstone for the past 15 years, said the “center pool is the culminating moment.”

The entire landscape has prepared you for this. “We designed the site as a holistic experience — from the region to the site. We knitted it all together.”

The landscape that leads you to the building was molded from the soils dug up to make way for the pavilions. Hundreds of tons of soil were sculpted into hills. Some 8,000 trees were planted. There are now 40 acres of meadows within the sweeping estate. The early agricultural landscape has been transformed.
There is an underlying Japanese influence to the landscape and architectural design with the use of minimal gestures for maximum impact. Greenspan said the water garden is really “Ryoan-ji a couple of steps removed.” (Ryoan-Ji is one of the most famous Zen Buddhist gardens in Kyoto). The water garden itself is partially inspired by an Iris garden found in Hakone. “It’s similar in scale and size.”

However, the water courtyard at Glenstone also differs in some notable ways from its Japanese inspirations. PWP Landscape Architecture put the plants on a grid, which provides an underlying geometrical depth to the space. They did this for not only aesthetic reasons but also for practical ones. The squares found within the grid enable the landscape architects to create areas of different soil depths, so they can contain and define the different plant life. “Iris need 4 inches of water or less; pickerelweed needs 8-10 inches; but water lilies need 8 feet of water.” Each get their own squares.

Within the modular approach, plants can also easily be re-arranged depending on how well they are doing in one micro-climate or another. “We have a living system that can move.”

Up and out amid the hills again, you may notice that meadow grasses seamlessly extend into a green roof that covers part of the buildings. And that the glass banisters purposefully minimize the difference between building and landscape.

Beyond these banisters, you come across an awing site-specific work by Heizer, called Compression Line, opposing ditches set in his rust-metal gravel.

Trails off the main building take you to large works by Richard Sierra, Jeff Koons, and Tony Smith, as well as the first part of Rales’ museum, which opened across a pond from their home in 2006.

Atop of a hill on one of those trails, an arching Sierra entitled Contour 290 looms and then storms into full view. A matted-grass and dirt path takes you right up to the piece, creating a journey to a more elemental realm.

As you spend more time at Glenstone, you may think the art, building, and landscape must be explored again in a different season or sky. Emily Rales’ call for deeper awareness lingers: “we want you to notice the changing light.”
TWO UGA CED STUDENTS WIN TOP AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

ARTICLE POSTED TO CED.UGA.EDU ON 09/14/18

Devyn Quick (MLA ’18) and Arianne Wolfe (MLA ’18) have just been given an Honor Award by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) for their work on District Hill Cemetery in Chickamauga, GA, in the northwest corner of the state. The two recent graduates of the UGA College of Environment and Design won recognition in the communications category for their work on a master plan of this historic African American cemetery. The competition is part of ASLA’s annual nation-wide competition for both professional and educational works and is highly regarded in the field of landscape design.

The District Hill Cemetery project was part of Associate Professor Doug Pardue’s 2017 graduate level studio. It was funded in part by the Lyndhurst Foundation through a grant that is supporting work in a five county region of northwest Georgia under the direction of Danny Bivins and the Georgia Downtown Renaissance Partnership at the Carl Vinson Institute of Government. The Georgia Downtown Renaissance Partnership does master plans and helps implement strategic plans throughout the state.

Wolfe, Quick, and fellow studio students met with Joyce and Tom Harrison who live adjacent to the cemetery. Joyce has relatives in the cemetery, which was established in 1898, and she and Tom serve as key community contacts. The Harrisons are currently leading the cemetery plan’s implementation process. The class also engaged with Matt Whitaker, a professional landscape architect and graduate of the CED (MLA ’01) who owns a firm in nearby Chattanooga, TN, and whose expertise lies in the use of native grasses at historic sites.

To honor the lives of the deceased African Americans buried at District Hill, the students devised a planting plan featuring hundreds of white narcissus

Image above: Photographs of the District Hill Cemetery Master Plan and students walking easement road to District Hill Cemetery. Photos by: Arianne Wolfe.
bulbs that will emerge in spring, invoking the memory of the many people who contributed to life in the community but whose graves remain unmarked. (White is a color often associated with African American cemetery iconography.) The plan marks known grave sites with disk-shaped white granite markers and includes a granite pathway throughout.

Chickamauga is part of the Chattanooga, TN-GA Statistical Area and is widely known as the site of the most significant Union defeat in the Western Theater of the American Civil War. Until recently, the lives of people buried in District Hill Cemetery have gone unnoticed but for relatives and historians. The ASLA award statement praised the students’ plan for its role in historic preservation and commemoration through landscape design. According to Devyn Quick, the most challenging part was developing a very minimal, “light touch” design that still respected the natural beauty of the site, honored all those who are buried there, and educated the public about its deep connection to the history of Chickamauga.

Arianne Wolfe is currently working in Charleston for Erin Stevens (MLA ’08) in her firm Surculus; Devyn Quick is employed by the firm HamiltonAnderson in Detroit.

**SEASONALITY**

The images shown here provide a visual understanding of how the management regime would change the feeling of the cemetery throughout the seasons. In the summer (shown below) and fall when the native vegetation is allowed to grow, there would be a sense of enclosure that visitors experience as they walk the narrow footpath. During these seasons, the granite markers for the unknown graves would not be visible from those that are located directly next to the path.

During the winter months, when the vegetation is short, the cemetery would feel more open. Visitors would be able to see all of the grave markers and to explore the entirety of the site to get a full understanding of how many people are buried at District Hill. In early spring, as the narcissus bulbs bloom, visitors experience a few weeks of fleeting beauty that acknowledge those buried on the site whose graves were unable to be located and identified with granite markers.

**SEASONAL RENDERINGS**

These images show how the management strategy for the master plan would change the vegetation on the site. The natural vegetation is allowed to grow to its full height in late summer and fall. In January, the site is bush-hogged. In early spring the narcissus bulbs emerge before the rest of the vegetation, marking all of the known graves.

Image above: An excerpt from the Master Plan illustrates seasonal changes in the character of the cemetery’s landscape. Image source: CED.
DesignIntelligence recently announced its 2018 landscape architecture graduate and undergraduate program rankings. For the fourth year in a row, Louisiana State University (LSU) was deemed the “most admired” undergraduate landscape architecture program. And for the 14th consecutive year, Harvard University retained its dominance as the “most admired” graduate program, in the annual survey conducted by DesignIntelligence on behalf of the Design Futures Council.

Detailed rankings are available in the 18th listing of most admired schools, which assesses program rankings and education trends in architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design.

Respondents from 6,000 hiring professionals, 5,000 students, and 350 professors ranked the schools, a much broader survey than in previous editions.

DesignIntelligence now lists all 25 most admired undergraduate and graduate school rankings on their website for free.

**Bachelor of Landscape Architecture Degree Rankings** (top 10):
1. Louisiana State University
2. Cornell University
3. Pennsylvania State University
4. University of Georgia
5. Ohio State University
6. Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo
7. Purdue University
8. Iowa State University
9. Texas A&M University
10. Michigan State University

**Master of Landscape Architecture Degree Rankings** (top 10):
1. Harvard University
2. University of Pennsylvania
3. Cornell University
4. Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas
5. Louisiana State University
6. University of California, Berkeley
7. University of Virginia
8. University of Georgia
9. Rhode Island School of Design
10. Ohio State University

In a major change from previous rankings, DesignIntelligence now lists rankings for twelve focus areas, including: communications and presentation skills; construction materials and methods; design technologies; design theory and practice; engineering fundamentals; healthy built environments; interdisciplinary studies; transdisciplinary collaboration across architecture, engineering, and construction; project planning and management; practice management; research; and sustainable built environments/adaptive design/resilient design.

In the sustainable built environments/adaptive design/resilient design, communications and presentation skills, design technologies, design theory and practice, and interdisciplinary studies focus areas, Louisiana State University is top of the list for undergraduate programs and Harvard University takes the lead in graduate programs.
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