transect

Landscape Architecture Program
Oklahoma State University
News Magazine
2012 - 2013
The Landscape Architecture Program has developed a partnership resulting in a collaborative design studio with the School of Architecture. On the third floor of the architecture building, Landscape Architecture and Architecture students live, breathe, and design together. Teams were set up with one landscape architect and three or four architects working together throughout the design process on a project. Multidisciplinary environments are essential to quality design.

Here is what students Lance Shaw (currently enrolled in the class, fall 2013) and Audrey Clark (enrolled in the class, fall 2012) had to say about their experiences with making new friends while learning new approaches and realities of design.

**What has been your favorite part of the class?**

**Lance Shaw:** I always heard that LA students become a close-knit group and over the past four years we have definitely became one. In some ways it is like a “family.” It’s hard not to when you are spending lots of late nights and early mornings together in the studio working on projects. Since being over in the architecture studio, our “family” has grown. Getting the chance to see a different side of design has been interesting and very beneficial.

**Audrey Clark:** The entire experience of this class was great for a hundred different reasons. The best part (and probably most important) is finding solutions to the challenges of uniting the architecture and landscape architecture in a way that makes sense aesthetically and functionally. Working with students from a different (but intrinsically linked) design discipline introduced us to a lot of different ideas that really inspired creativity. Also, the architecture program has a lot of great physical resources (library, printers, large design studios, etc) and it was nice to be in that environment as well.

**What has been the biggest thing you have learned through this class?**

**Lance Shaw:** It is exciting to be a sponge, soaking up knowledge and know how from someone from the other side of design. In this case, from the other side of our campus. I have enjoyed the feedback from the architecture professors, from their design perspective, bringing forth ideas a landscape architect may not have considered. I want to maintain this expanded thinking of having a better concept of the “big picture” when I get out in the real world.

**Audrey Clark:** This class was one of the highlights of my college career because of the experiences I had working with an interdisciplinary team. I am the type of person that wants to be doing different things everyday with a variety of people. I can't really imagine another major having that experience on a daily basis. This kind of multidisciplinary work is something you do in the real world, and this intensive semester helped me feel better prepared for my career.
Cross-disciplinary Design Charrette

On October 4-6, 2012, 55 OSU faculty and students from the School of Architecture, the Landscape Architecture Program, and the Interior Design Program came together in cross-disciplinary teams to provide design ideas for ASCO, a Belgian aerospace company opening a production site in Stillwater. The facility will incorporate machining and assembling operations for complex parts made of titanium, steel, and aluminum. The intense design effort provided ideas focused on creating a vibrant image for ASCO in the Stillwater community and will provide a positive, productive, and exciting work environment for ASCO employees. Landscape Architecture participants included eight students, Brandon Burlingame [2013], Audrey Clark [2013], Cameron Rouze [2013], James Hazzard [2014], Keith Jacobi [2014], Tyler Maly [2014], Anna Oosting [2014] and Hannah Walmeirer [2014], and two faculty, Cheryl Mihalko and Nick Nelson.

OSU Students Mess with Texas

On March 8th, 2013 Tulsa Landscape Architecture students and faculty visited five days. The first stop was in Dallas where students visited Brad Goldberg, landscape architect and stone artist, and tour the office of James Burnett. Tyler led the students on a tour of Brochstein Pavilion and Brockman Hall for Physics. Scott McCreasy of SWA gave the students a tour of the Buffalo Bayou, a large river corridor reclamation / recreation project that runs through downtown Houston. From there the group traveled to Austin, where Kevin Anderson of Horsby Bend talked to the students about wastewater treatment and habitat reclamation. Phyllis Fisk, Co-Director, Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems, led the students on a tour of his sustainable research facility. While in Austin, students also met with alumni Nicole Warns [2003], Kelly Taylor [2003] and Andy Hutton [2000].

Professional Leads Design Charrette

On March 8th, 2013 Tulsa Landscape Architect, Carl Szafrański [1986], led approximately 30 Landscape Architecture students in a three hour design charrette. The project focused on form and space making at a residential scale. Members of Professional Advancement Committee (PAC) worked alongside the students on the design project.

Get Out the Hammers and Nails

Sixteen students in the LA 4894: Construction 3, Material and Methods Class constructed a 12’ x 16’ shade structure at the OSU Botanic Garden in November of 2012. The new structure houses the Botanic Garden’s “Give and Get” plant adoption center. Professor Michael Holmes designed the wooden structure that his class constructed as an in-class, hands-on learning experience. Hands-on projects like this provide a great opportunity for students to apply what they are learning in the classroom.

Music Rings Loud

If you found yourself in Ag Hall in December of 2012 you might have been surprised what you heard coming from a
Peruvian student was paired with OSU 4th year students enrolled in LA Studio 4424: Ecological Design and charged with developing a context for the architectural piece that emphasized sustainable landscape principles.

Students Enter Competition

Students from the LA 3324: Design 2 Studio entered a design competition, the 69/70 Project, during the 2013 spring semester. In total there were over 300 entries from 48 countries in the competition. Competition participants were asked to re-envision the circulation areas and passages of two blocks in Salt Lake City’s downtown. The entrants prepared comprehensive ideas for these in-between spaces, developing them into the connective tissue linking the area’s cultural amenities. Over spring break, several students visited Salt Lake City to research the project. One of our student team’s project proposal, PE.D.A.L., was featured prominently in a local Salt Lake City news broadcast.

Student Organizations

Boy Scouts Learn about Landscape Architecture

Eighteen Boy Scouts earned their Landscape Architecture Merit Badge on Saturday, April 6, 2013. Sigma Lambda Alpha (the Landscape Architecture Honor Society) led the four-hour educational workshop where scouts learned about the profession, design, plants, and drawing. Participating scouts were from Stillwater, Cushing, Perry, and Enid. The workshop was lead by Hannah Whalin-Leary (2014), Haley Dugger (2015), Rita Woodson (2015), Monica Concienne (2014), and Jason McElroy (2013).

Student Attend Career Days

Eleven OSU students attended PLANET Student Career Days this spring on the beautiful campus of Auburn University in Auburn, Alabama. Sixty-four schools competed in over 20 landscape related events and well over 50 companies were there interviewing students for internships and jobs. This year OSU brought a great mix of landscape management, landscape architecture, and turf students, and even brought a business student minoring in horticulture. The students: Tyler Maly (2014), Tyler McClure (2013), Matt Bolan (2014), Tyler Maly (2015), Anna Oosting (2014), Robby

Exhibition: The Cross Timbers in Winter

The Planting Design class, LA 4034, explored the ecology and the artistry of the Cross Timbers landscape in winter through photography. To understand the massing, form, species diversity and quantity, as well as the aesthetic qualities unique to this four season landscape ecology, each student creates photographs that transcend the common to capture and show the spirit of place in their work. Students were asked to use the camera as an extension of their mind and allow the viewer to learn—and experience—the Cross Timbers as a winter landscape. The exhibit The Cross Timbers in Winter was displayed in Gallery North from February 15- April 1.
Students journey to Phoenix, Arizona to attend ASLA National Conference

by: Audrey Clark [2013]

In late September 2012, a significant portion of OSU’s Landscape Architecture Program made the 1100-mile journey to Phoenix, AZ to attend the Annual ASLA Meeting and Expo. This was the first time in recent memory that a group from OSU had formally attended the event and it turned out to be well worth it: connections were established, knowledge attained, and memories created.

The first round of networking took place in the snug 15 passenger van. Sharing truck stop meals, fighting over the music, and playing backseat road games ensured that acquaintances became close friends by the time the hostel was reached. These friendships continued throughout the year resulting in a very interactive studio environment among the different design classes.

Phytotechnology, award-winning case studies, lighting design, native prairie design, are but a handful of the educational sessions attended by students over the course of the Expo. These sessions enriched the knowledge base of professors and students alike in a way that simply cannot happen during regular class time due to time constraints. Fortunately, this knowledge made it back to the classroom to be dispersed between students, making the Expo’s benefit extend to all.

Question and answer periods with speakers following the sessions allowed students to form meaningful connections based on topics that were truly of interest to them. Many students found this informal networking to be a great way to explore new opportunities across the country, and more than one follow up meeting occurred that weekend.

Despite being a relatively small program, OSU had one of the largest turnouts at the Alumni Reunion. Some “lost” alumni were rediscovered and long-lasting relationships strengthened. Outside of the Cowboy family, connections were made with professionals and students from other alma maters over conversations of sleepless nights, studio shenanigans, and those experiences that are unique to a landscape architecture education.

Time not spent at the Expo was spent exploring the vibrant culture and landscape of the central Phoenix. Although the Phoenix metro area is a textbook example of suburban sprawl, the urban center is a unique experience. The dry climate allows for people to be outside during much of the year, and as such, various pleasant outdoor experiences have been created throughout the city. It is enough to interest any landscape architect for days. The minimal use of water, and lawns replaced by gravel and cacti provided quite a different scene from the green Bermuda grass yards of Stillwater. And as for the different trees, more than one person was overheard remarking, “I think palo verde trees are my favorite tree now.”

The evening of the Harvest Moon hike to the top of Piestewa Peak began with a homemade lasagna dinner at the
hostel. A group of international cyclists traveling cross country joined in at the oversized round table in the dining room sharing anecdotes and wisdom. After filling up water bottles, it was time to set off just as the Harvest Moon was rising.

It was estimated the trek to the summit and back would only take an hour and be relatively easy. The 1.2-mile trail and 1,200-feet climb was undemanding for some yet quite difficult for others and took around 2 hours overall. Upon reaching the summit, any soreness was rewarded by a small concert provided by another group of hikers and breathtaking views of Phoenix. The shimmering lights of the city seemed to continue into the desert forever as a handful of mountain peaks provided shadowy contrast.

This trip demonstrated the department’s commitment to increasing, expanding, and diversifying educational and professional opportunities for students. The ASLA 2012 Meeting and Expo trip is hopefully the first of an annual experience for OSU students and faculty.

5000 professionals.
2050 miles.
400 exhibitors.
130 sessions.
10 osu students.
3 osu professors.
5 days.
1 van.
Faculty Update

Faculty Scholarship

Faculty Present at Educational Conference
On March 27-30, 2013 Assistant Professors Cheryl Mihalko and Nick Nelson attended CELA, the annual meeting of the Council of Educators held at the University of Texas at Austin.

Mihalko participated in a Design Education and Pedagogy poster session. Her poster “The Unconscious Landscape” posited that the trend to quantify landscape solutions is a response to policy maker needs to qualify design decisions under current economic, cultural, and social pressures. While measuring landscape performance is valued, the degree to which quantifiable objective data is pursued can overshadow teaching and learning about design that resonate with the human soul. It further posited exposing students to themes running through myths, morphic resonance, secular spiritualism, and Carl Jung’s collective unconscious provides permission to rely on intuition.

Nelson presented work at both an education and a poster session. “Practicing Professionally, Experiential Learning” shared outcomes from the 2012 capstone studio where he turned the studio into an “office.” Students earned “salary” to receive their grades. A pay scale was established and weekly paychecks were distributed based on participation, punctuality and contribution. If students were late or missed class they were docked pay. While at the conference Nelson also presented a poster over portfolios.

Building an International Partnership

OSU Welcomes Students from China
During July of 2012 the Landscape Architecture Program launched its Summer Institute. Associate Professor Michael Holmes led a two week academic program for 17 students from Southwest Jiaotong University (SWJTU), Chengdu, China. The students majors were Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, and Architecture. Students were led through a fast paced design project that focused on a low impact stormwater management community. Upon returning to China, two student teams submitted their OSU projects in a national student design competition. They placed 1st and 4th in the International Landscape Architecture division.

In March of 2013, Holmes traveled to China recruiting students for the Summer Institute as well as the new 2+3 joint degree program. Zhiyuan (David) Yang from SWJTU is the first student to participate in the joint degree program. He completed his first 2 years at SWJTU and will spend the next 3 years in Stillwater at OSU. He is expected to complete his BLA in spring of 2016.

Building an International Partnership

Meet Cheryl Mihalko

Kybecca Lewis

Cheryl Mihalko has just completed her first year teaching landscape architecture at Oklahoma State University, but she is not new to teaching. Prior to joining the faculty, Cheryl taught courses in landscape architecture at the University of Georgia, in Athens, and at the University of California at Davis. She holds a Bachelor’s of Science degree in landscape architecture from Cal Poly San Luis Obsipo and a Master’s Degree in Landscape Architecture from Cornell University.

Cheryl has over 20 years of experience as a practicing landscape architect. Her most recent professional work was as owner and principal of Fine Gardens, a boutique residential design company in Athens, Georgia that focused on native plant material, planting design aesthetics, and the traditions of southern gardens.

Her academic positions have included formalizing community service-learning projects into the curriculum through university outreach services. While at the University of Georgia she developed local, regional, and international collaborative projects providing students with opportunities to travel within the state of Georgia and to Latin America.

Her research interest is focused on exploring the regional and place identity of Oklahoma. She is currently developing a series of guides Oklahoma’s landscape patterns. The guides will aid homeowners in making garden design decisions, plant selections, and construction material choices that reflect Oklahoma’s unique regional aesthetic.

Cheryl has a passion for gardening and is currently developing her own home garden in Stillwater. She plans to investigate perennials that evoke the regional aesthetics of the prairie landscape and that meet the environmental challenges of gardening conditions in Oklahoma.

Farewells

Maronek and Struble Retire
Faculty, staff and friends bid farewell to Dr. Dale Maronek, Head of the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, and his long-time Senior Administrative Assistant Margaret Struble at a retirement reception in July. The two have served students, staff, faculty and the related professions for many years, and the number of visitors who came to send them off into retirement demonstrated the great impact they have had in that time. Their decision to retire in the same month reflects upon the strong partnership the two had in running the department. We wish them well as they embark upon the next chapter of their lives.

Dr. Ron Elliott assumed the position of Interim Head for the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture effective August 15, 2013. Dr. Elliott is a long time OSU faculty member and former Department Head in Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering.

Meet Cheryl Mihalko

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Studio Showcase 2012 - 2013

A Selection of Student Work

Brandon Burlingame (2013) sketching during a recent field trip.

From the Sketchbook of Cameron Rouze (2013)

Landscape Architecture Spring 2013 Graduates

Congratulations

Landscape Architecture Graduates

summer 2012
- Jose Perez

fall 2012
- Jessica Profitt
- Cherlyn Reeves

spring 2013
- Brandon Burlingame
- Clark Bockhahn
- Thomas Buller
- Audrey Clark
- Eric Humphreys
- Forrest Hunt
- Jason McLarty
- Dan Mesenbrink
- James Riter
- Cameron Rouze

Landscape Architecture Spring 2013 Graduates
Design 6

The students of LA4524: Landscape Architecture Capstone Studio spent the spring semester developing design concepts for a land grant interpretation of an eco-village. The conversation began around two questions. Where should an eco-village be located on Oklahoma State University’s campus? What physical form should it take? To address these complex issues, students developed concepts for multiple locations, allowing the context of each location to influence the physical form and density of the eco-village.
Design 5

Students moved temporarily to the third floor of the architecture building during the fall 2012 semester. They split up into teams with three or four architecture students to work collaboratively on two projects throughout the semester. Projects completed were a corporate campus project in Oklahoma City and an urban design for the blocks surrounding the train station in Versailles, France.
Design 4

Ecological planning and design addressing environmental and sustainable issues was the major focus of the Design 4 course. One major project during the semester was the reclamation and proposed future use of a sand mining site in Guthrie. Students also had the opportunity to collaborate with architecture students from the Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas, by designing an eco-resort in the Pisco River Valley of Peru.
Design 3

Focusing on recreational and open space design, students worked on two major projects emphasizing the interface of nature and humans within parks. These projects were the programming and design of a children's garden at The Botanic Garden at OSU and an active recreational park along the Oklahoma City riverfront.

Kayla Copeland | Concept Sketches for Flying Themed Children's Garden

Jeayeon Shin, Hannah Wahlmeier, Jay Williams | Recreational Park Concepts
Planting Design

In Planting Design students concentrated on the aesthetics and design of plants in the landscape. Students started the semester studying the Cross Timbers Ecoregion which influenced the plant palettes students worked with throughout the semester. Project highlights from the semester were the planting design for St. John’s University Parish in Stillwater and a watershed garden design for a residence in Tulsa.
In recognition of excellence in the study of Landscape Architecture, Kayla Copeland (2014) was awarded the 2013 ASLA Certificate of Honor and Clark Bockhahn [2013] the ASLA Certificate of Merit. Kayla presented work entitled “Fly Away Children’s Garden” while Clark presented “River(S) Bend: Bridging Environments Near Downtown” to a professional jury who made the selections.

Forrest Hunt (2013) was selected as a LA Foundation 2013 University Olmsted Scholar and finalist for a national scholarship.

Cody Landis (2014) was selected for a juried painting exhibition at the 2012 College of Art and Science’s Dean’s Showcase. Cody’s acrylic painting on canvas was titled “Eagle Eye.”

Brandon Burlingame (2013) presented an academic poster on April 18, 2013 at the Oklahoma Clean Lakes and Watersheds Association Conference. His presentation was titled “Landscapes That Teach: Creating a Blackwater Wetland.”

In celebration of Earth Day, an open design competition was held on the OSU campus to design a chair constructed using recycled or upcycled materials. Landscape Architecture students Forrest Hunt [2013] and Anna Oosting [2014] swept the awards. Forrest won the award for Best Overall Design, and Best Craftsmanship. Anna won the award for Best Integration of Recycled Materials, and Most Creative.

Tom Buller (2013), Forrest Hunt (2013), and Dan Mesenbrink (2013), received the first annual LA Program Capstone Award of Excellence juried by the Professional Advancement Committee. Their project was titled “The Corridor at Brumley.”

Sigma Lambda Alpia, the landscape architecture honor society inducted four new members during the spring 2013 semester. Monica Concienne (2014), Haley Dugger (2015), Hannah Wahlmeier (2014), and Rita Woodson (2015).

Three student teams were recognized for their OSU Wakeup and Dream’s Eco-village Design Competition entries. LA professional Tom Koff of DTJ Design, Boulder, CO sponsored the following Vision Awards: Audrey Clark (2013), Eric Humphreys (2013), James Riter (2013), and Cameron Rouze (2013) received 1st Place, a $1000 award. “Root to Fruit: Laying the Foundation for a Sustainable Eco-village, OSU, and You.” Clark Bockhahn (2013), Brandon Burlingame (2013), and Jason McLarty (2013) received 2nd Place, a $600. “Regenerate//OKState.” Tom Buller (2013), Forrest Hunt (2013), and Dan Mesenbrink (2013) received 3rd Place, a $400 award. “The Corridor at Brumley.”

Individual Donor Scholarships

Mike Albert Leadership ........................................................ Cameron Rouze | $250
Robert C. & Doris Rae Arens ......................................... Monica Concienne | $1000
Elmer and Mona Lewis Ritter & John Ritter ......................... Forrest Hunt | $1000
Forrest Hunt | $1000
Brandon Burlingame | $500
Louis P. Sumpter Endowed ............................................. Monica Concienne | $1000
Daniel Jordan | $500

Garden Club/Departmental Scholarships

Bartlesville Garden Center, Inc ........................................... Audrey Clark | $1000
Garfield County Master Gardener ....................................... Jason McLarty | $1000
Tulsa Garden Club ................................................................ Forrest Hunt | $1500
Lance Shaw | $1500

State/National/Industry Scholarships

Easton Sod Farms ............................................................... Brandon Burlingame | $1000
Harrison Walnut Redevelopment Corp. ............................... Rita Woodson | $500

Total Environment, Inc ...................................................... Tyler Malý | $500
remember when ...
Professor Paul Hsu led the 2001 Design 2 students on a field trip to Ken Helt’s residence, a local photographer. While at his Stillwater residence, the students interviewed the clients and did site inventory and analysis. It was an interesting design project with a photographer’s view point in mind: perspective, contrast, color balance, the rule of thirds, depth of field and time of day.

Send your favorite photo from your time in the OSU Landscape Architecture Program. Please include a three to five sentence description of the photo.

Email us: michael.holmes@okstate.edu

alumni news ...
In future publications, we plan to include updates on our alumni. Please let us know what is going on with you. Is there a interesting project you are involved with? Did your work receive an award? Were you recently promoted? Did you relocate to a new job? Let us and your fellow OSU alumni know. Send a short note or give us a call.

Email us: michael.holmes@okstate.edu
Phone: 405.744.7333

We are also trying to verify our alumni’s contact information. Please send us you current info: address, phone number, and email.

giving ... does make a difference
Long after graduation, your experiences in OSU’s Landscape Architecture Program remain with you, both professionally and personally. They are a part of you just as you are a part of our legacy. You have laid the foundation for today’s student to build on.

help to inspire
The Landscape Architecture Program is striving to provide students with diverse, engaging experiences that foster learning and inspire passion for the profession. Please consider supporting the Landscape Architecture Fund for Excellence.

Current fund raising initiatives include:
• Sponsoring student entries in design competitions
• Establishment of a professional speaker series
• Development of a summer academic camp
• Sponsoring student participation in conferences

support student scholarships
Many of you received a scholarship when you were studying at Oklahoma State University. Please consider supporting the OSU Landscape Architecture Scholarship Fund or setup an endowed scholarship.

other ways you can assist
Are you available to come to Stillwater to serve on a jury, make a presentation, or lead a special workshop for our students? Let us know how you would like to participate.

Send your donations via mail:
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Thank you for your support.