

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Zach Peterson, President, PLA, ASLA

And just like that, my tenure as President of the Iowa-ASLA is coming to an end. Soon, I will be led out to pasture and Lara Guldenpfennig will be taking my place as our new President. When I first “enlisted,” it seemed like the three-year “tour of duty” required for this position would be overwhelming and here I am, amazed by how fast the time has gone by.

Is this the part where I am supposed to write out my memoirs? Did I achieve what I wanted to during my extended term? Looking back, there are some regrets. Given uncertainty brought on by the pandemic, with current work levels being what they are, and collective burnout (including me) reaching epic proportions, I am not so sure our membership was really in a social mood, and I may have been a little ambitious in pushing ahead with our social event calendar. A special thanks to those that stepped up and coordinated and those who attended the Summer socials and Alumni Tailgate. I anticipate more will attend future offerings as we get some much-needed rest from the daily grind, especially when we can finally put this pandemic in the rear view window.

There was definitely more I would have liked to have accomplished but given a lot of pandemic-related challenges, the mere fact that we were collectively able to deliver two outstanding conferences in 2021, in both virtual and in-person formats, should be seen as a crowning achievement. These conferences would not have been possible without building and sustaining effective partnerships. I am grateful for our relationship with the Iowa State University Department of Landscape Architecture and the continued inclusion of the P.H. Elwood Lecture as the centerpiece of the Spring



Outdoor Recreation Products

www.outdoorrecreationproducts.com

9840 South 168th Ave., Ste. 3

Omaha, Nebraska 68136

Phone: 402-289-0400 or 800-747-5437

Bringing fun to playgrounds.

Conference offering. A special thanks to Mr. Carl Rogers, Department Chair for spearheading this initiative. As further means of strengthening this important relationship, I am pleased to have Carl on board as Education Chair as an official member of our Executive Committee. I also want to thank the LA Department staff, particularly Hans Klein-Hewett for stepping up and doing the heavy lifting on this year’s PARKing Day. Without his contributions, the event would not have been as successful. We are looking forward to committing to this event on an annual basis.

And as for the Fall Conference. After a year delay, we were finally able to execute our plans to hold the Fall Conference at the beautiful Honey Creek Resort in Moravia, IA. For those unable to attend, Chad Pregracke with Living Lands and Waters gave the audience a humorous and engaging keynote session as part of our offering to “THINK BIG: Parks, Landscapes, and Destinations” and we learned about the special initiative that made the Honey Creek Resort a built reality. Special thanks to Pat Dunn for continuing in his role in coordinating the conference, even after completing his service as Trustee last year.





And so, this ride is almost over...

I initially accepted the nomination to become Chapter President because I had always intended to serve in some capacity within chapter leadership. The lure of paid trips to the National Conference in the Fall and Washington, D.C. in the Spring sweetened the deal, plus it doesn't look too shabby to have on the ol' resume. I have expressed my gratitude before at whomever nominated me but there are many more to thank for the opportunity I was presented with a few years ago.

Thank you to my fellow Executive Committee members for accepting me within your ranks despite having had no previous experience with the organization. Thank you to the Chapter Membership for electing me and taking a chance on an "East Coast outsider." I have truly enjoyed getting to know a lot of you better and as a result I feel much more connected to the design community within the State of Iowa. I am glad to have been able to provide a voice for my region of the State and I hope many more from outside the Des Moines area will follow suit and do the same as part of future leadership. Thank you to Lara Guldenpfennig for stepping up and agreeing to take over as President Elect when we were faced with the sudden departure of that position and furthermore thank you for

agreeing to take on an additional year in that role along with me when the replacement candidate pool came up short-handed.

Lastly, but not least, thank you to Kristina Sickels, our Association Manager for being the glue that holds this circus together. Thank you for being the keeper and go to source of institutional knowledge. Your guidance has helped me immeasurably and has helped keep me (usually) from making an embarrassment out of myself.



Bison Bridge Project Seeks IA-ASLA Chapter Endorsement.

During the Fall Conference Keynote Session, Chad Pregracke with Living Lands and Waters shared with the audience plans for the recently announced Bison Bridge Project. With replacement of the I-80 Bridge over the Mississippi between LeClaire IA and Rapids City, IL in the next decade or so, this ambitious project envisions the preservation and conversion of the existing bridge span as an adaptive re-use living bridge/multi-modal



connection/event venue/tourist destination anchored by a wildlife refuge at either end, complete with a roaming bison herd.

As a follow up to the Fall Conference, the Bison Bridge foundation is seeking a project endorsement from the IA-ASLA as part of their initiative to get 50,000 project supporters. A motion of support will be voted on by the Executive Committee at our November 11th meeting. For further information on the project and to become an individual supporter, please visit the project web site at www.bisonbridge.org

Iowa ASLA Awards Program Recap

Lara Guldenpfennig, PLA, ASLA

Thank you to all the submissions for our 2021 Awards Program. We had 11 submissions total (4 Professional and 7 Student). They were juried by the Nebraska/Dakotas ASLA Chapter – a BIG Thank You to the Nebraska/Dakotas Chapter for jurying. Awards results are as follows:

Professional Merit Awards –

Design (Unbuilt)

Des Moines University

Awarded to RDG Planning & Design

Planning & Analysis

Central River District Master Plan

Awarded to Snyder & Associates

Student Merit Awards –

Design (Unbuilt)

Upper Harbor Terminal – Urban Renewal Master Plan

Awarded to Mallory Sage



Design (Unbuilt)

Upper Harbor Terminal Redesign

Awarded to Megan Adams

Professional Honor Awards –

Planning & Analysis

Dubuque County Conservation Master Plan

Awarded to RDG Planning & Design

Nebraska/Dakotas Awards Recap

I'd personally like to thank the jurors that reviewed the Nebraska/Dakotas Chapter submission back in August. The jury included: Michael Gaunt, Zach Peterson, Brett Seelman, and myself. We juried 16 submissions over the course of a 4-hour Zoom session. I can speak for all of us when I say that we really enjoyed the projects that were submitted.

TRUSTEE UPDATE

Michael Gaunt, PLA, ASLA

Fall is here and the countdown is on to the ASLA 2021 Conference in Nashville! ASLA continues its commitment to a safe and enjoyable event, this includes adhering to all current CDC guidelines relating to COVID. We hope to see





Aluminum panels. Coming soon. 



as many attendees as possible at the Music City Center in Nashville, November 19-22. Included with the amazing educational programs, we currently have 193 vendors who will be on hand during the Expo.

For registration information and FAQ: [ASLA Conference](#)

Over the last few months, the Chapter Trustees have been working with ASLA leadership to prepare a revised and updated Strategic Plan. This process has led to many robust discussions, disagreements, and compromises. Our profession has a diverse and varied background that touches all aspects of the political spectrum and we are striving to develop a Strategic Plan that finds as much common ground as possible. We expect this new Strategic Plan to be rolled out to membership in conjunction with the National Conference in 2021. We look forward to sharing it with the membership.

Feeling disconnected from the profession lately? Take some time to head over to the ASLA website.

- [IFLA Climate Commitment](#)
- [ASLA Joins with Architecture 2030](#)
- [ASLA Announces 2021 Student Award](#)
- [Olmsted 200](#)

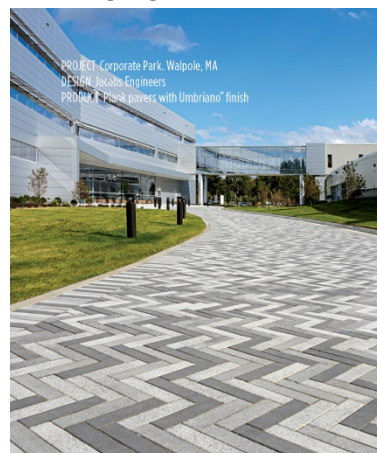
And finally, a warm welcome to the newest members of our Iowa ASLA Executive Committee and a thank you to

those outgoing committee members who are closing out the time on their terms.

NEWS FROM THE IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Carl Rogers, PLA, ASLA

Hello Iowa ASLA Members. I hope you are all well and safe. It is hard to imagine that it is the middle of October and ISU is half way through the fall semester. ISU returned to in-person teaching and thus far everything is going as smooth as it can. We continue to practice all the protocols in place since March 2020; face coverings are encouraged, everyone tries as they can to stay at least 6 feet apart when around other people, washing our hands, staying home when feeling sick, and encouraging those that are not vaccinated to do so. Campus looks pretty normal and students are learning in their respective courses. Faculty continue to excel in teaching and many of us have learned new methods for instructing students including flipping the classroom using online video lectures and more hands-on or active participation in class. Campus is very safe, with all these protocols, and everyone is doing their part to keep it that way. Here are some highlights from the fall semester.



Your
CREATION
Our
TEAMWORK

Contact us for samples,
product information and
Lunch & Learns.

UNILOCK.COM | 1-800-UNILOCK

UNILOCK





Stacy Ernst, Site Source LLC
816.678.2004
stacye@landscapeforms.com

816.444.4376
sitesource@landscapeforms.com

DESIGN. CULTURE. CRAFT.

Second year BLA students hit the road for the first trip of the Savanna fall semester. Faculty and students traveled to South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado and Nebraska before returning to Ames. Much was learned and explored while being outside, sketching, and observing all the wonders of landscapes and urban centers. Next up is the south trip, and the group will be traveling to Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, and Oklahoma. The faculty have created another great learning experience and students are gaining new knowledge about landscape architecture.

Third year BLA students participated in National Parking Day on September 17. Students, in six teams, built parklets in downtown Ames. The teams partnered with local businesses and organizations to make a connection between the parklet and the business. The chapter supported each team so they could purchase materials or items for their parklet. It was another successful experience and we look forward to participating again in the future.

At the fall conference at Honey Creek Resort, 5 landscape architecture students participated in the opening session of the conference. Elly Smith (4th year BLA), Kristian Schofield (5th year BLA), Mallory Sage (5th year BLA), Susan Pegg (2nd year MLA), Joseph Jennings (2nd year MLA)

presented their experiences from the summer or their semester away. Elly spoke about her work as an intern with the Department of Natural Resources, Kristian

presented her internship with the United States Forestry Service, Mallory showed her experience and travels to the southwest United States as well as her internship at Jeffery L. Bruce and Company, Susan showed work from her summer internship with Associate Professor Heidi Hohmann where they worked on updating the Brucemore Mansion cultural landscape plan, and Joseph presented his internship work at TBG Partners in Austin, Texas. I enjoy this session every year as it showcases the variety of learning opportunities students experience at Iowa State.

Finally, if you are attending the ASLA conference in Nashville, be on the look out for ISU students. 34 BLA and MLA students are registered for the conference. ASLA national is supporting students with a complimentary membership and registration to the conference. The department is supporting students to travel and stay in Nashville. I will also be in attendance and look forward to connecting with chapter members as well as other alumni from across the country. Stop by the ISU table during the Alumni Tailgate on Saturday, November 20, and reconnect with me, current students, former classmates, and other alumni.

I hope everyone enjoys the fall season and continues to support Iowa State University, this great ASLA chapter and all that is landscape architecture. Keep in touch by emailing me, rogersc@iastate.edu. Take care, and hope to see you soon.





MAYOR'S ANNUAL RIDE AND RUN (MARR)

Eric Holt, PLA, ASLA, Treasurer Iowa ASLA

After a one-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department was once again able to hold the Mayor's Annual Ride and Run for Trails (MARR). Money raised by this event will go to funding bicycle Fix-It Stations along city trails. Iowa ASLA sponsored the family rest stop at Easter Lake, the midpoint of the 20 mile route. This year we had three volunteers, representing the Iowa ASLA executive committee, and Iowa State University Landscape Architecture faculty and students. This event is a great way to show support for public trails and advocate for the role of landscape architects in helping to create recreation opportunities in the community. Please reach out to the executive committee if you are interested in volunteering or participating in next year's ride and run!





Take-Out

landscapeforms®



Set the Mood

Designed by Rodrigo Torres, Take-Out reimagines the concept of the connected seating table through the lens of versatility. Light enough to be picked up, arranged and rearranged, Take-Out opens up new ways for people to connect in outdoor spaces.

Stacy Ernst, Site Source

816-678-2004

stacye@landscapeforms.com

816-444-4376

sitesource@landscapeforms.com

DESIGN. CULTURE. CRAFT.