

ASLA Leaders E-Express ...

June 21, 2006

Governance and Administration

- **Congratulations to Perry Howard, FASLA, for his election as 2007 ASLA President-elect!** The **Tellers Committee** met on June 16 to verify the election results. A record 34.7 percent of eligible voters participated in the election. Thanks to **Van Cox, FASLA**, for his strong candidacy and his commitment to ASLA.
- **President Dennis Carmichael, FASLA, Education Vice President Gary Kesler, FASLA,** and EVP Nancy Somerville represented ASLA at the June 13-17 joint meeting of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) and the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA). Carmichael provided reports on ASLA at the CELA and CSLA board meetings and also addressed the CSLA general meeting. Also in attendance was **Immediate Past President Patrick Miller, FASLA.**
- EVP Somerville and Federal Affairs Manager Scott Kovarovics met last week with their counterparts at the **National Trust for Historic Preservation** to discuss opportunities for collaboration on issues including security design and the National Land Conservation System. The Trust is a co-sponsor of ASLA's Landmark Award.

Government Affairs

- It now appears that the **National Park Service's (NPS) new management policies will conform to pre-existing park-protective policies**, despite earlier drafts of drastic changes to park policy that had provoked nationwide concern with regards to maintaining the integrity of national parks. The early drafts were particularly troublesome with regards to resources such as air quality, wilderness preservation and the quality of visitor experience. The National Parks Conservation Association, along with the Coalition of National Park Service Retirees and other groups, are now satisfied that NPS has put forth a draft document that is worthy of their support. Although not yet approved, a draft document released for internal agency review on June 19 appears to make the grade. More than 50,000 comments were submitted when the original draft was posted in the Federal Register last year—one of the most significant outpourings of public concern about a park issue in the 90-year history of the system.
- Last week, President Bush signed a supplemental appropriations bill providing nearly **\$20 billion in additional funding for hurricane relief and recovery**. The measure also funds ongoing operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, planning and preparation associated with bird flu, and border security. The **final legislation does not include a Senate provision that would have dramatically undermined the Highway Beautification Act**. That provision, which ASLA joined Scenic America and others in opposing, would have inappropriately allowed billboard companies to replace nonconforming billboards in more than a dozen states—the majority of which were unaffected by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita. Similar to previous funding measures, the bulk of the funding is provided to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and Department of Defense (including the Army Corps of Engineers). FEMA will receive more than \$6 billion for ongoing disaster relief while all funding for HUD—\$5.2 billion—is provided for Community Development Block Grants. The Corps of Engineers is allocated \$3.1 billion for flood control projects, primarily in and around New Orleans, and nearly \$550 million for construction, including \$20 million for wetland restoration that will improve flood protection for New Orleans and \$495 million to increase levee heights near Lake Pontchartrain. In addition, the bill provides \$40 million in grants to State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPOs) to help communities and individual owners to repair and rehabilitate historic properties. Properties damaged by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita that are or could be listed on the National Register of Historic Places in Louisiana, Mississippi,

ASLA Leaders E-Express ...

and Alabama are eligible. Owner-occupied dwellings and those in National Heritage Areas shall be given preference in grant-making.

Member and Chapter Services

- At the midyear meeting, the ASLA Board of Trustees discussed the granting of **dues waivers for ASLA members in active military duty in war zones**. Under the ASLA Bylaws, [waivers](#) can be granted in cases of “financial hardship, disability or other special consideration,” the latter of which would cover those members in active military duty. The ASLA Board agreed that such waivers need not be initiated by the individual member, but may be granted based on a written request from the chapter president.

If you have active duty military members in your chapter that are up for renewal or whose memberships may have lapsed while serving, and you would like to grant them a waiver for their next years' dues, email Maxine Artis at martis@asla.org. The email should include the member's name, ID, branch of service, and country of deployment. Once the waiver has been processed, a confirmation email will be sent to the recipient and the chapter president. Questions regarding this special dues waiver can be addressed to Mark Miles at mmiles@asla.org.

- **Special Request From New Student Representative Jeffrey Orkin, Student ASLA:** “I am looking forward to working with the ASLA staff this year to help improve student awareness and involvement in the organization and serve as the voice of the students to the ASLA Board of Trustees. I would really appreciate it if you, the BOT, can review [my agenda \(pdf\)](#) and offer any comments or suggestions. Constructive criticism is welcome. These are just a few things that have come to my mind that I am interested in pursuing during my term. Please review and [email me](#). I appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you all at the Annual Meeting.”

Meetings and Special Programs

- The **deadline for letters of intent to serve as CPC Chair for 2007-2008 is July 1, 2006**. Letters should be addressed to President-elect Pat Caughey, FASLA, and emailed to ggarcia@asla.org.
- The ASLA room block is continuing to fill for the **2006 ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO and 3rd IFLA World Congress**. [Reservations](#) can be made on-line at the ASLA discounted rate. [Registration](#) for the conference is in full swing and the early bird, \$100 savings promotion runs through August 28, 2006. Note that advance reservations are required for all ticketed events. Don't miss your opportunity to register for the event of your choice. Please let us know about your online registration experience by contacting Senior Planner JoAnn Brown at jbrown@asla.org with any comments or concerns.

Public Relations and Resource Development

- **ASLA has persuaded Up Country Gardens to donate the [Fermob Luxembourg chairs](#)** specified by Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates for the ASLA green roof. Tables will also be selected and donated. The chairs are very similar to those used in Bryant Park in New York and will be light for easy moving and storage.
- **[Fundraising for the ASLA green roof stands at 74 percent of goal](#)**. A special mailing is being prepared to go out to key contacts at the approximately 4,400 firms represented by an ASLA member, suggesting a \$1,000 contribution spread over three years. The goal is to gain a response from .5 to 1 percent of key contacts.
- The **[2006 student awards jury met last weekend](#)** and reviewed 252 submissions, selecting **25 student awards in seven categories**. The awards will be announced in September when schools

ASLA Leaders E-Express ...

reconvene. Staff is now working on notifying the entrants and faculty members of the results and preparing the website and other announcement materials.

- Nominations for [honorary membership in ASLA](#) are due by August 4. This is one of the highest honors ASLA may bestow upon a non-landscape architect whose contributions to the profession have had a national or international impact. **Nominations are very simple, but they must be made by a member of the Board of Trustees** (although chapter leaders and members are welcome to assist). For more information, please contact Carolyn Mitchell, honors and awards coordinator, at 202-216-2331 or cmitchell@asla.org.
- Public relations staff is fielding many interview requests lately. Highlights include: the NBC affiliate in Arizona is interviewing **Steve Martino, FASLA**, the 2006 Design Medal recipient, on residential design; the *California Real Estate Journal* is interviewing **Mark Rios, ASLA, Walter Hood, ASLA, Anne Howerton, ASLA, and Bill Callaway, FASLA**, on landscape architecture in community meeting places; and [Kiplinger.com](#), the web site for Kiplinger's Personal Finance, is featuring an article on residential landscape architecture how-to tips and trends that will include interviews with **R. Michael Schneider, ASLA, Dean Hill, ASLA, Jeff Carbo, FASLA, and Rob Tilson, FASLA**.
- *The Rocky Mountain News* covered **Mayor Daley and the Olmsted Medal**, *The Starkville Daily News* covered **Cameron Man, FASLA, and the ASLA Medal**, and the *East Valley/Scottsdale Tribune* covered **Steve Martino, FASLA, and the Design Medal**.
- Information was submitted to [NPR's Marketplace](#), qualifying ASLA as a source for experts in green building and sustainable design. Individual members who specialize in green roofs were also encouraged to submit their information.
- Public relations, government affairs, and *LAM* staff attended **the AIA 2006 Convention and Design Expo** in Los Angeles week before last. Many architects who stopped by the ASLA booth shared their love of landscape architecture and inquired about becoming Affiliate ASLA members. One student membership and two *Landscape Architecture* magazine subscriptions were sold on site, and information was distributed to hundreds of potential members and subscribers. Planning efforts before the show included a postcard that was mailed to pre-registrants, inviting them to stop by the booth for a complimentary copy of *LAM*. A special subscription offer for attendees was also offered as part of the promotional efforts.
- **The Annual Meeting and IFLA World Congress registration brochure is in its final design stages.** Efforts are being made to further streamline the brochure and reduce the size significantly, in response to strong recommendations from surveys in the past two years.
- The latest issue of [LAND Online](#) included articles announcing the selection of [Perry Howard, FASLA, as the 2007 ASLA President-elect](#), [the addition of New Hampshire as the 40th state to have a practice act for landscape architects](#), [the call for national officer candidates](#), and [the call for ASLA committee service](#). The issue of was distributed on Monday to 15,054 members and delivered to **14,607 members**, with only 447 bounces. This is an increase over the previous issue, which was sent to 14,361 and delivered to **14,155 members**.
- Web Editor Dave Connell, Web Designer Tedra Hackett, and Director of Information Services and Professional Practice, Susan Cahill met with the new host for the ASLA website on Tuesday to discuss the final stages of the **ASLA website migration**, scheduled to be completed on Friday. ASLA will maintain its site on both the old and new servers over the weekend to ensure the transition runs smoothly.

Deadlines and Reminders

ASLA Leaders E-Express ...

- The [Leadership Calendar](#) can be accessed on the web.