



International Federation of Landscape Architects
Fédération Internationale des Architectes Paysagistes

Newsletter

IFLA

No. 75

M a r c h

2 0 0 8

Dubai Discussions



info@iflaonline.org

IFLA website
www.iflaonline.org

online journal
www.iflajournal.org

IFLA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President
Diane MENZIES
commissioner.menzies
@justice.govt.nz

Secretary General
Virginia LABORANTI
virginialaboranti
@fibertel.com.ar

Treasurer
James HAYTER
jhayter@oxigen.net.au

Vice-President
Americas Region
Darwina NEAL
darwina_neal@nps.gov

Vice-President
Asia/Pacific Region
Tong-Mahn AHN
ahntm@snu.ac.kr

Vice-President
European Region
Fritz AUWECK
fritz.auweck@fh-
weihenstephan.de

Editor IFLA News
John CLEMENS
john.clemens
@canterbury.ac.nz

The Gulf Landscape Architecture Design Awards & Conference 2008 (GLADAC08) was held in Dubai in January. IFLA partnered with conference organiser and passionate landscape enthusiast Jen Young of Infinity Events to hold both a one-day conference with speakers from throughout the globe, and an Africa Forum. To support the event, IFLA Executive Committee held their annual business meeting in conjunction with the conference.

Jen Young wrote: "2009 will see the first-ever design awards take place, while launching GLADAC08 may not have been possible without the full support of IFLA's President & Executive Committee throughout 2008. The presence and participation of GLADAC's high profile international industry leaders and affiliations has helped secure the integrity of this landscape architect conference, as well as serve as a much needed boost to the industry. The voice of landscape architecture has been heard and addressed; we look forward to exciting developments, anticipated growth, and ongoing support from our peers. Thank-you, IFLA".

Diane Menzies
President



http://www.gulfnews.com/yoursay/sub_story/10186490.html

GLADAC08	Diane Menzies	2
IFLA Africa Forum	James Taylor	3
South African landscape architecture	David Gibbs	6
The carbon landscape	Craig Pocock	9
What is site planning?	from In Situ	11
The title <i>landscape architect</i> in Europe	Robert Holden and Pierre-Marie Tricaud	11
Alfonso Vergara receives King Jaime I Award		15
Studying landscape architecture in Puerto Rico		15
Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Gold Medal Award		16
April – Landscape Architecture Month		16
IFLA2008 World Congress and International Student Design Competition		17



GLADAC08

Diane Menzies

To the visitor or tourist, Dubai appears as one vast building site. "Look at me" buildings individually attract the eye, rejecting the more standard global glass box design. They have yet to form a cohesive city though, and the infrastructure changes daily as it is built and transformed with furious speed. Landscape architectural firms are numerous and many practitioners are working long hours to respond to the demands of the rapidly developing city. How Dubai appears to a local Emirati who understands the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in different cultural terms, or even resident expats, is less clear.

However, the sponsors of the Gulf Landscape Architecture Design Awards & Conference 2008 (GLADAC08), Al Barari, had a vision of developing a sustainable community using native plants, recycled water, and local materials in their development adjacent to a wildlife reserve in the desert.

Speakers included Perry Howard, American Society of Landscape Architects President; Nigel Thorne, Landscape Institute President; and David Gibbs, President of the South African Institute (ILASA), as well as Alphonso Vergara, from Spain, past president of ISOCARP. The purpose of the conference to raise the profile of the landscape architecture profession in Dubai, and the support of the Dubai Municipality, which has a particular interest in conserving cultural heritage, were welcomed.

And yes, camel riding in the desert, a dhow cruise in the "creek", and an Africa Forum evening with a Kenyan band were held for visitors, despite the city flooding a few days before the event. IFLA now looks forward to the development of the new association in Dubai. The group have applied to the Municipality for name approval, GALA (Greening Association of Landscape Architecture, UAE), before they can formally proceed. GALA's next step is to develop articles of association and, we hope, to join IFLA.

We most warmly thank Jen Young for her support. Jenny confirms plans are already underway for GLADAC09 as well as other landscape architecture focused events. IFLA have been invited to return and participate in the jury of the design awards.



IFLA & VIP Delegation at the camel ranch, 19 January 2008

Standing L-R: Tong Mahn Ahn (IFLA V-P Korea), David Gibbs (ILASA President, South Africa), Abigail Khonje (Department of Housing, Malawi Government), Virginia Laboranti (IFLA Secretary General, Argentina), Cecilia Gayle (independent landscape architect visitor to GLADAC08), Perry Howard, (ASLA President, USA), Darwina Neal (IFLA V-P Americas Region, USA), Amb. Andebrhan Giorgis (Crisis Group International, Kenya & Brussels), Nigel Thorne (President Landscape Institute, UK), Johan Barnard (Treasurer, SACLA South Africa), Jason Andrews (GLADAC08 Team, Dubai), Jim Taylor (IFLA, Chairman Education and Africa committees, Canada), James Hayter (IFLA Treasurer, Australia), and Edward Hayter. *Seated:* Diane Menzies (IFLA President, New Zealand), Jenny Young (GLADAC08 Organiser, Dubai), Fritz Auweck (EFLA President, and IFLA V-P Europe Region, Germany). *Off-picture, on camera:* Alistair Russell (Director and GLADAC08 Sponsor, Dubai).



IFLA 2008 Africa Forum

James Taylor
Forum and Africa Committee Chair

Overview

An Africa Working Group was established by IFLA in 2005. It was chaired by Grant Donald and set out to explore how it might effectively advance the profession on the African continent, and how to develop strategic program(s) for implementation at the World Level by IFLA. A program with the following objectives was adopted by IFLA:

- To assist in the development of the profession of landscape architecture through enhancing recognition, improving educational opportunities, organizing professional associations, developing means for communication and through capacity building.
- To engage existing IFLA associations, individual members and trained landscape architects on the continent in developing the program.

Following the development of a Network of practicing African landscape architects and others interested in the objectives of the program, it was determined that a Forum that included leaders from the various regions of the continent would be an essential tool for advancing the profession in Africa. The Gulf Landscape Architecture Design Awards & Conference 2008 (GLADAC2008) provided a venue to hold the Africa Forum.

To date, the Committee, in addition to establishing the Network has provided educational assistance through a visit to Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUT) in Kenya. This established BLA program is now producing 15 to 18 graduates a year to serve the country and the greater region. Members of the Committee and the IFLA Executive Committee have worked to formalize collaboration with allied professions (UIA and ISOCARP) and United Nations agencies such as UNESCO and UN-Habitat, and the United Nations Environment Program in Nairobi. The specific objectives of the Africa Forum are to document the current state of the profession in each region, identify issues, and develop a basis for forming a strategy of support.



Bo-kaap, Cape Town

Forum meeting

A meeting of the Africa Forum was held on 22 January 2008 at the Knowledge Village Conference Centre, Dubai, United Arab Emirates. There were 26 participants from 17 countries, including five African countries.

Leading landscape architects from the IFLA Africa Network presented the state of practice and issues in their countries. These included Robert Kariuki (Kenya), 'Niyi Kehindi (Nigeria), Abigail Khonje (Malawi), and David Gibbs (South Africa). Benard Ouma, a student of landscape architecture from Jomo Kenyatta University (JKUAT), had been invited to participate but could not attend due to the conflict in Kenya. Dr Jala Makhouri (Lebanon) was also invited and provided insights from the Northern African and neighbouring Middle Eastern regions. Hitish Mehta, a native Kenyan and international consultant, contributed to the roundtable discussion following the formal presentations.

David Gibbs presented an overview of the profession and the activities the Institute of Landscape Architecture of South Africa (ILASA). The Institute has progressive goals including the objective of reducing the carbon footprint as part of the design process. *Ubuntu*, meaning humanity, is a guiding principle for landscape architects in South Africa.

Abigail Khonje provided an overview of the geography and history of Malawi and described her role as the chief landscape architect in the Ministry of Works. She noted that there now were only two landscape architects practicing in Malawi, and there is a great need for people in her department and at the two University of Malawi campuses (Bundi Agricultural College and the College of Polytechnic Architecture School) that offer courses in landscape. She noted that either location could provide a base for establishing a school of landscape architecture. It is very difficult to attract or fill positions due to the lack of schools and the low wages in Malawi.



Robert Kariuki outlined the development of the profession in Kenya over the past 30 years. He noted the 1981 IFLA Conference and the establishment of a Landscape Architects association within the Kenyan Architects organization 1982. Melanie Richards was the first delegate to IFLA from Kenya. An important IFLA Seminar was held in 1994 in Nairobi that focused on landscape architecture education in Africa. This initiative was promoted by past presidents Zvi Miller and George Anagnostopoulos, and the seminar was organized by Robert Kariuki and Hitish Mehta. The goal of the work was to establish educational programs in Africa; to promote cooperation with allied professions; and to strengthen the network of landscape architects. A BLA program was developed and approved at the University of Nairobi in the 1990's, and is now producing graduates.

Robert suggested that major issues facing the profession include the lack of a comprehensive green industry to support the execution of landscape architectural projects. The government needs to recognize the profession and establish positions for graduating landscape architects. The profession is not well understood, and there is a need to build a case for the value that landscape architects can bring to the built environment.

'Niyi Kehinde from Nigeria noted that landscape architects are few in number in his country. However, two schools are now established and are producing graduates. He discussed the concept for a new capital city for Nigeria and his role in the new Capital Authority as a landscape architect. He noted the importance of educating government officials with regard to the potential role of landscape architects in all aspects of the environment. It was suggested that the African Union should be approached with respect to the development of landscape architecture, as in Europe and the European Union. 'Niyi proposed that new ways of practice responsive to the local environment must be found, and that the scope of the field be expanded in his country.



Freedom Park, Pretoria



Cape vernacular, Groot Constantia Jonkershuis

'Niyi Kehinde provided background of the history and politics of Nigeria. His full paper can be read at <http://www.iflaonline.org/publications.php> as can that of David Gibbs, part of which has been abstracted below. David kindly provided the images that have been used in this and the following articles.

Roundtable

David Gibbs, Abigail Khonje, Robert Kariuki, 'Niyi Kehinde, and Hitish Mehta engaged in a roundtable discussion. Input was invited from special guest participants Jala Makhzoumi (Lebanon), Mark Olweny (Uganda), Ingrid Duchhart (The Netherlands), Nigel Thorne (President, Landscape Institute UK), Perry Howard (President, American Society of Landscape Architects), Wataru Iwamoto (Director of Social Services Research and Policy UNESCO, Paris), Diane Menzies (President, IFLA), and the members of the IFLA Executive Committee. The findings of the roundtable discussion tabled below are organized around the principal elements of the IFLA Five Year Plan for Africa.

The key issues, opportunities and needs are seen as:

- Sustainable design, such as eco-tourism
- Design respecting local cultures and environments
- Increasing foreign investment (with potentially negative results)
- Negative impact of multinational resource developers (for oil, mining, etc.)
- Deforestation in many regions of Africa

Issues and proposed actions follow:

ISSUES

Professional Development - Recognition

1. Lack of awareness of the profession
2. Need for more visibility in media
3. Landscape architects must assume a leadership position in environment design and landscape management
4. Lack of input to international environmental policy (Millennium Guidelines and others)
5. Need for more landscape architects in the public service
6. Low salaries for professionals in Malawi
7. Need for government recognition of the profession, protection of the title and a framework for regulation (positioning landscape architecture within the political context of Kenya and other African countries). SA presents a model
8. Lobbying of government required to advance the goals of the profession
9. Lack of local by-laws and regulations requiring a minimum level of landscape content and professional input on development projects
10. Lack of a green industry to support landscape projects in many African countries, including Kenya

Professional Development - Education

1. Need for increased student support (bursaries, competitions and prizes, etc.)
2. Need to establish a school of Landscape Architecture in Malawi with outside support (including funding, faculty)
3. Department of Landscape Architecture at JKUAT is well developed but requires increased support to serve the region
4. Shortage of faculty for existing Schools in Africa
5. Need for African research in landscape architecture
6. Accreditation of developing and existing education programs

Professional Development -New/existing Associa'ns

1. Profession needs a focus or base of operations in South Africa

Professional Development - Communications

Professional Development - Capacity Building

1. Need for skills to allow landscape architects to work effectively at the grass roots level with local communities
2. Need for a dramatic increase in landscape architects to accommodate demand in South Africa and elsewhere
3. Professional development and advanced education required to provide existing landscape architects in Malawi to advance in government and private practice

Exploring Means for External Support and Partners

1. Development of the profession in Africa requires a sustained effort from IFLA and others.
2. Need for greater collaboration and multidisciplinary information exchange
3. Time sensitive financial assistance

PROPOSED ACTIONS

1. IFLA to organize missions to promote the profession (specifically Malawi and Nigeria)
2. Create awards programs to recognize good African landscape architecture
3. Establish broad public education initiatives to raise awareness
4. Advance the IFLA Global Landscape Charter with UNESCO and allied professionals to serve as a guidance document for the developing countries of Africa
5. Develop a program to educate governments in Africa about the potential role of landscape architects in government service and the need for recognition of the profession

1. Support developing schools with faculty exchanges.
2. Educate and encourage "hybrid instructors" with a interdisciplinary backgrounds and capabilities to respond to more advanced curriculum development
3. Consider holding a forum in Africa with leading academics and selected participating academics from other universities outside the continent. This could lead to an academic version of "Landscape Architecture without Borders" as proposed by ASLA President Perry Howard where professors could visit African Universities to deliver lectures and educational support for a specified period

and Individual Members

1. Provide model constitutions and by-laws for local association development and/or professional regulation. Also for local site development standards
2. Broaden the representation of the Africa Committee: James Taylor (Chair), David Gibbs, Abigail Khonje, Robert Kariuki, 'Niyi Kehinde, Hitish Mehta, Mark Olweny, Ingrid Duchhart (representing Europe), with IFLA past-president Martha Fajardo and Grant Donald to continue in advisory roles
1. Promote programs to make available publications to African universities and practitioners. LI, ASLA, IFLA
2. Publish case studies of significant projects and practitioners.
3. Provide publications (Uganda's electronic journal) (LAM) (LI)
4. Develop exhibitions and presentations of Landscape Architectural works

1. Develop means for professional exchange
2. Consider a program for workshops and forums in Africa sponsored by IFLA and other partners such as the UNESCO Chair of Landscape and the Environment at the University of Montreal.
3. "Landscape architecture without borders"

1. Identify aid organizations, both within African countries and at a regional, national or international level
2. Strengthen the relationship with United Nations agencies including UNESCO, UNEP, UN-Habitat, and their programs



South African landscape architecture: a synopsis

David Gibbs
President, ILASA

Landscape Architecture in South Africa is a young, dynamic and growing profession. Considering our geographic location as well as our political history, we are faced with unique environmental, social, and economic challenges which require critical thought and strategic input to effect changes – in perceptions, in attitudes, and in human living conditions. Our work is thus underscored by both environmental and humanist values. We see ourselves as leaders in site planning and place making design, placing emphasis on the importance of context and recognizing our social responsibility.

Although approximately 350 landscape architects have graduated from South African universities over the last 40 years, we currently rely on 130 registered professionals practicing countrywide to spearhead our discipline. What we perhaps lack in critical mass we more than compensate in spirit and motivation. The Institute of Landscape Architects of South Africa (ILASA) is an active organization, involved in many exciting initiatives, and engaged in promoting Landscape Architecture as a profession to young people considering career choices.

ILASA defines Landscape Architecture as: the holistic application of the skills of architecture, the science of ecology, the power of art, and the responsibility of 'Ubuntu' (a traditional African concept meaning 'humanity') to design, restore, protect and manage places that connect us to the land in meaningful ways. We further strive to design dignified and vital social spaces within the public environment by identifying, connecting, and constructing with local material and human resources, thereby augmenting the essence of place and minimizing the carbon footprint of our projects. Landscape Architecture in South Africa is a challenging field in which problems are resolved at multiple scales, through interdisciplinary collaboration with built environment professionals, planning authorities, and communities.



Agricultural valley, south Western Cape

In our fast developing context, Landscape Architects are assuming increasingly significant roles, particularly in the realms of environmental planning, in urban landscape design, and in cultural heritage management. There can be no formulaic approach to design, as each project is uniquely fraught with its own challenges and opportunities. There is little room for arrogance, ego or whimsy. Each decision must be strategic and thoroughly defensible, making the most of limited resources. In South Africa, Landscape Architecture is perhaps the most challenging, stimulating, gratifying and rewarding professional discipline to pursue. It calls for passion, innovation, dedication and determination. The scope is broad, the possibilities are endless.

From where we have come

Before the profession was formally established in South Africa, many of the more well known historic landscapes were designed and built by architects and horticulturists. Large municipal gardens were established under by Public Works departments and similar governmental offices. Such civic landscapes now include the Company's Garden in Cape Town, cultivated (on earlier Khoi grazing lands) as a vegetable garden by the Dutch East India Company during the 17th Century, later becoming an English Landscape Park, and still today the green heart of the city; and the Union Buildings Garden in Pretoria, designed as a foil to Sir Herbert Baker's British Imperialist masterpiece (the image of colonial power), now reinvented as the seat of the South African democratic Government. Elsewhere in the country, public parks, wildflower and nature reserves, national parks and wilderness lands, were owned and operated by national or provincial administrations or municipalities, which prioritized the conservation of unique or spectacular environments. Kirstenbosch National Botanical Gardens, the flagship estate of the National Biodiversity Institute in Cape Town, is perhaps the most internationally recognizable of these.



During the 1960s, the property division of the mining conglomerate Anglo-American commissioned Joane Pim as landscape architect to design the Greenfields mining town of Welkom in the Orange Free State. With its wide boulevards and grand traffic circles, extensive lawns and expansive open spaces, this mining town remains an excellent example of the approach to town planning prevalent during that period. Truly a pioneer, Joane Pim brought to the attention of a much wider audience, an understanding of the role played by the landscape architect in planning and design. Her book, *Beauty is Necessary*, published in 1971 (three years before her death) further emphasized the valuable role of the landscape architect. By advocating the application of sound environmental planning principles, Joane called (vehemently) for an immediate moratorium on the environmental degradation then taking place in South Africa.

Collegial support

ILASA was founded in May 1962 by Joane Pim, Ann Sutton, Peter Leutscher, and Roelf Botha. This mobilized the next phase of the development of the profession: establishing a university degree course to provide for Landscape Architectural education within South Africa. Prior to this, as Ian Ford recalled, all Landscape Architects practicing in South Africa had obtained their training abroad at American or British universities. Each had their various approaches and teaching methods, but all were influenced by the pre-eminent names of the day: globally McHarg, Halprin, Eckbo, Church, Jellicoe, Lynch, Crowe, and Colvin; and locally, and more modestly, our own tenacious Joane Pim.

A school of Landscape Architecture was officially opened at the University of Pretoria in 1971 with Professor Roelf Botha appointed as first lecturer. Ben Farrell (later to become Professor Ben Farrell) was enrolled as the first student in the programme. Initially structured as a four year (and later five year) undergraduate degree, the course is now restructured as a three-year Bachelor's degree; followed by a one-year Honours degree, in turn followed by a one-year Masters degree. Since the programme's inception, the curriculum has continued to evolve responsively, interfacing with the related disciplines of architecture and interior architecture, and enjoying regular input from practicing professionals. For almost thirty years, it remained the only school of Landscape Architecture in Southern Africa, and it is still the only school with a specialized undergraduate programme.

In February 2000, after more than 20 years of preliminary discussions and preparations, the University of Cape Town launched a two-year MLA (Master of Landscape Architecture) programme, incorporating environmental planning and detail design, with Bernard Oberholzer at the helm.

Operating in parallel with postgraduate programmes in architecture, urban design, city and regional planning, the MLA course produced its first graduating class in December 2001. Generally postgraduate students with a first degree in architecture are accepted into the course, but mature candidates from related non-design disciplines (such as horticulture, botany, environmental management, geographical science, and fine art) are also considered after the completion of a one-year conversion course.

Both universities are producing fine graduates who are extremely sought after in the employment market. Our students are head-hunted before the final results are even published. In terms of supply, we cannot yet meet the demand.

What we are teaching and learning

After 8 years teaching at the University of Pretoria, Dr Finzi Saidi currently convenes the MLA programme at the University of Cape Town. He observes that "the Landscape Architectural profession is in a state of continuous flux: the practice of Landscape Architecture continually adjusts according to changes in society. Understanding the social context is perhaps the one area in which all Landscape Architects are *forced* to respond - as most projects involve considerable social stakes and public expectations. Knowledge of the *process* of negotiating *delivery* therefore becomes critical. These societal changes dictate that educators take the lead in ascertaining what is taught, what should be taught, and how the teaching and learning process should manifest.

Further, students need to understand the multicultural, heterogeneous, context in which they will have to operate. In order to achieve sustainability in different contexts, Landscape Architects must learn how to develop a value system that respects and enhances opportunities in other cultures' perception of open space systems. In our urban context, particularly in economically disadvantaged communities, the public environment becomes the platform for social interaction and human engagement. Understanding people perceptions of landscape – without asserting preconceived assumptions – enables far more meaningful intervention. The learning process of Landscape Architecture therefore should include experiential learning in preparation for professional practice."

Acknowledging our social responsibility

As we continue to learn through doing, the importance of Landscape Architecture as a social imperative becomes increasingly more evident and pronounced. Perhaps, as professionals we could be criticized for having become too serious, too conscious of performance and sustainability, as our



design decisions are seldom taken without thorough justification and motivation. Given the context of our most necessary work - extreme environmental conditions, (drought, flooding, soil paucity); social injustice (abject poverty, unemployment, lack of education) and economic disempowerment - moral consciousness dictates such an approach.

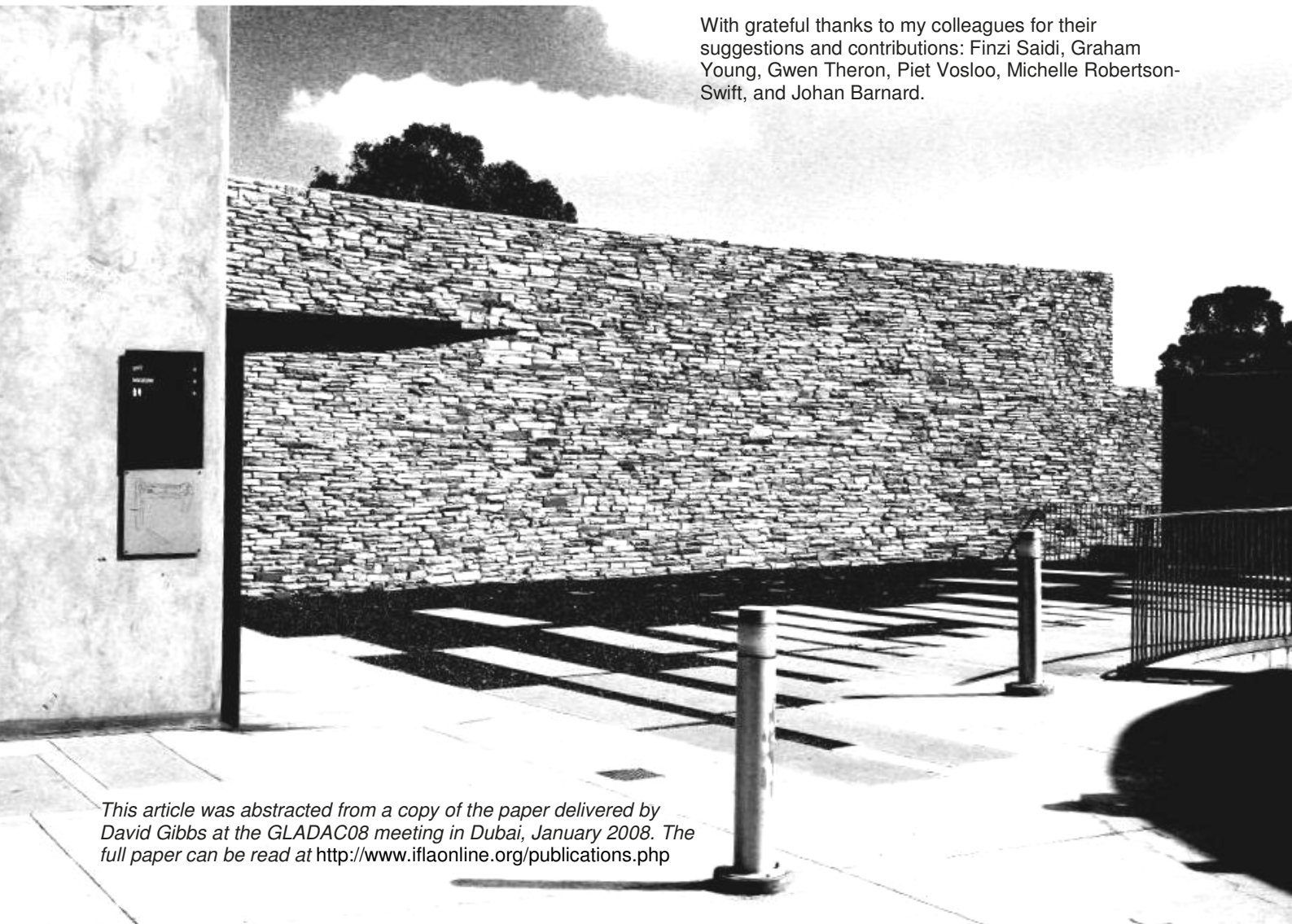
Where there is such great human need, there is much practical work to be done. These challenges can inspire great creativity and innovation. To reinforce an old adage: out of ancient Africa, always something new. But due to our limited professional human resources capacity (remembering there are only 130 of us!) there is insufficient research currently underway. Professional landscape architects seldom have the time to reflect on their projects, to record successes and failures, and thus the opportunities to record and publish this valuable experience is limited.

With our incredible biodiversity, richness of human culture, and natural landscapes of phenomenal natural wonder, we have the potential to further advance the theoretical foundation of our profession as pertinent to the South African condition. And to affirm our position as an academic discipline, we have an obligation to do so.

With sufficient human resources and support (networking, communication, scholarships and bursaries) students, academics and theorists would have the opportunity to pursue research topics that not only inform local practice, but which have global application in similar conditions.

Topics of inquiry are as diverse as defining the role of landscape architecture within informal settlements and place-making, exploring empowerment through cooperative urban agriculture, determining the value of landscape cultural heritage, understanding the psychology of landscape, and documenting lessons learned from actual projects. The potentialities are staggering, the need is there. The ongoing observation, interrogation, evaluation and recording of this data (as a process of academic and professional collaboration), is essential if we are to develop capacity, gain in confidence and professional stature in South Africa. Our experience may inspire other developing regions, and we in turn may offer our assistance. Although there are many challenges, difficulties, and frustrations, living and working in Africa brings so many rewards. I would have it no other way.

With grateful thanks to my colleagues for their suggestions and contributions: Finzi Saidi, Graham Young, Gwen Theron, Piet Vosloo, Michelle Robertson-Swift, and Johan Barnard.



This article was abstracted from a copy of the paper delivered by David Gibbs at the GLADAC08 meeting in Dubai, January 2008. The full paper can be read at <http://www.iflaonline.org/publications.php>



The Carbon Landscape: managing the carbon impact in landscape design

Craig Pocock

If landscape architects are to promote themselves as the solution providers for sustainable urban and open spaces we need to develop an understanding of our own environmental impacts and the best ways to mitigate them. Over the course of a career most landscape architects will be responsible for generating of thousands of tons of carbon through specifying vast material consumption.

The measures of landscape sustainability have been well known for decades, such as the issues surrounding water, materials, energy, biodiversity, community, and economics. Through globalization the relationships between landscape institutes around the world are closer than ever so it is becoming more important that the sustainability baselines set are transparent, achievable, and stand up to international scrutiny. In my opinion, "Carbon" needs to be one of these baselines.

To move forward in sustainable practices we have to review our assumptions: the reality is that sustainability assumes that there will be environmental damage and hence aims to minimize it. The carbon costs of our projects needs to be added to the equation in a transparent way, which means landscape architects should produce the carbon figures for their projects, and how the carbon figure was minimized and offset.

The illusion of progress

In the last 10 years there would be few words more over-used, mis-used, and constantly redefined to suit marketing than "sustainability". As the issue of global warming has become more widely accepted as credible, the focus of politicians, communities, and institutes has become more directed towards sustainability. Yet in this process the word sustainability keeps getting redefined to suit desire of others which often confuses the issue of sustainability with communities.



Paru Wetland, Whakatane, New Zealand: Many design firms are laying claim to creating carbon neutral urban or community developments around the world which is only confusing the issue of sustainability. The disproportionately high cost of the typical construction materials, such as concrete, asphalt, and steel, compared to the associated plantings' ability to offset the embodied energy of these materials makes the claims of carbon neutral community developments very unlikely. The carbon dioxide ratio of such materials to planting offset is 30:1 in carbon deficit. A project would have to be mainly planting with very limited use of typical construction materials.

One of the culprits adding to this confusion has been the design industry with glossy design magazines, design awards, and design firms laying claim to the latest "sustainable" designed projects. These often would not meet basic sustainable design by definition, yet often there is a lack of transparent information given to validate these claims, so no one questions the assertions and the community remained confused. Yet the word sustainable is well defined, one of the more commonly cited definitions being: meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Brundtland Commission).

If the definition of sustainability is considered and applied to the profession of landscape architects then it would be fair to say that landscape architects are responsible for considerable environmental damage. Yet this is not the way we perceive ourselves: we are a green discipline; we are responsible for the care of the land and communities. Our tools are plants and ecological systems. We create spaces of beauty with trees and lawns. How could we be responsible for environmental damage?

Landscape architects have been lulled into a false sense of environmental confidence due to the generally green looking nature of the final product. Stormwater management, biodiversity, and community collaboration have hijacked the big picture view of sustainability. Do we consider the real cost of the materials we use, how they came into being, what community and environment paid



the cost for the production of the materials used, where the waste goes after implementation, and the cost of the fuel and chemicals it takes to maintain the landscape? Without a detailed understanding of the carbon cost of a project both in its creation and in ongoing maintenance, how can a project be confidently labelled as sustainable?

The carbon cycle in the landscape: four stages

To understand how carbon is imbedded into a landscape project I have considered four stages: the carbon footprint of design, implementation, maintenance, and (the less obvious stage) the life span of the project. More stages could be considered and sub stages created but for the purpose of creating an overview of carbon consumption within landscape architecture I have kept to the basic four stages. The first three stages in the carbon life cycle are reasonably obvious. The fourth stage is not so obvious and yet potentially has the highest carbon consumption associated with it. The fourth stage of lifespan relates to how long a landscape design remains in a community before it gets removed and the space renewed. The associated carbon cost to the community and the reasons for renewal are key issues to understand if we are to become more sustainable as a discipline.

Design: To help understand how carbon is integrated into the design process it helps to consider the carbon value into three distinctive design stages at which a landscape architect can influence and potentially reduce the carbon associated with the design of a project. The three stages are; the carbon footprint of the design office, the design program and the specification of materials. Each of these three carbon stages add up to a carbon value that needs to be considered as the first part of four stages of the carbon cycle of a project.

Implementation: Most landscape architects would understand that there is a carbon cost in the construction of a project; it is one of the more tangible of the carbon stages. If it is a goal to minimize the amount of carbon within the implementation phase of a project you have to consider the options for building and planting.

Maintenance: The way a landscape architect lays out a design on the land, the materials selected and the post construction instructions given to management all influence the carbon cost associated with the maintenance of a project. Whereas the carbon cost of implementation is a one-off cost, the maintenance is an ongoing burden which could last decades if not centuries.

Life span - the carbon cost of urban renewal: After reviewing the first three stages of carbon within landscape design, the initial high cost of urban hard spaces implementation is partly offset by a

potentially lower carbon maintenance cost. This is good news: our urban spaces are durable and have a low maintenance carbon value until you consider "Urban Renewal" and the reasons for it. The initial high carbon cost for an urban space is only well spent if it continues to stay in its static form over a long period of time.

Summary

During the course of a design career most landscape architects are going to be responsible for thousands of tons of carbon emissions through the way we design, implement and maintain projects. This carbon cost is partially a fact of specifying materials, constructing and maintaining landscapes in a fossil fuel dependant economy.

This makes the issue less of whether you can create carbon neutral landscapes, but whether the carbon footprint we have created during the design process was well spent. Were strategies employed to minimize the carbon footprint throughout the three stages: design, implementation and maintenance? If so, has the design been a wise expenditure of carbon on a project that will have its lifespan counted in centuries rather than decades? As landscape architects who focus on the environment as the template for our work we should aim to create landscapes with longevity that will survive changing demographics, community growth, fashion trends and physical weathering, creating timeless landscapes.



Cathedral Square, Christchurch, New Zealand. Cathedral Square has been "reinvented" three times in a century at considerable cost to the community and the environment. If the architecture of the Cathedral can endure a century of change, why can urban designers, architects, and landscape architects not design the Cathedral's stage with the same enduring ability.

The full paper from which this article was abstracted can be read at <http://www.iflaonline.org/publications.php>
Craig Pocock is a Director of Pocock Design Environment Limited, Christchurch, New Zealand
www.designenvironment.co.nz
craig@designenvironment.co.nz
0064 3 358 3040; 021 701 308



What is site planning? / ¿Qué es la planificación de sitios?

Planners working 20 years ago in South America or those who had to deal with bilingual situations will tell you how difficult it was to convey the idea so simply stated by the English term “site planning”. It took a long time to express and accept this terminology in Spanish. It really did not mean anything.



Of course site planning was done, but the methodology was not there, and there was no clear way to evaluate the results. Nevertheless, as necessity is the mother of invention, the term became adopted, acceptable, and useful, as professionals trained in the fields of architecture, landscape architecture, and site planning, and spread the phrase throughout Spanish-speaking countries.

Now a booklet published by the American Planning Association (APA), *Los Fundamentos de la Planificación de Sitios*, fills an important gap. You can access it at www.planning.org/caces. It follows a clear methodology in explaining the process of planning in accordance with nature, design concepts, and potential outcomes. It also has a glossary with over 230 of the most common terms involved in site planning. The illustrated booklet will be particularly useful for students in Spanish-speaking schools of architecture and planning, but it also can be helpful to those with only a little knowledge of the Spanish language, and to those with a growing Spanish-speaking population.

This article is reproduced, with minor editing, from In Situ, Information Bulletin 25(1)(November 2007), which is published four times a year by the International Institute of Site Planning. Thanks to Darwina Neal and Beatriz de Winthuysen Coffin, FASLA for assistance.

The title *landscape architect* in Europe

Robert Holden and Pierre-Marie Tricaud¹

In Europe the title landscape architect varies in status from East to West. Generally, in north-western Europe landscape architecture is well established and is recognised de facto by both public and private sector. In Russia the usual title is “green engineer” and landscape architect has a lesser currency. A rough idea of the level and de facto recognition and establishment of a profession can be had from the date of foundation of the main national association of landscape architects, which varies from 1913 in the case of the oldest (the bdla in Germany) to post-1945 in much of Central and Eastern Europe (refer Table 1).

State registers

However, traditionally the strongest status for the profession has been protection of its title by legislation as a state register, often this under the auspices of architecture chambers. The position of landscape architecture in Europe does not compare with its position in, say, the USA where state registration (or licensure) is a requirement in 49 of the 51 states.² By contrast, landscape architecture is a registered profession in nine of the 47 member states of the Council of Europe: Austria, Czech Republic, Cyprus, Iceland, Italy, Germany, Hungary, The Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, and Turkey (refer Table 2), while negotiations to establish such registration status are reported to be underway in Portugal. Nevertheless the status of professional protection afforded by such registers is subject to the free market policies prevalent in much of Europe.

Note too the intermediate position of the United Kingdom where landscape architecture is a regulated profession. The professional body, the Landscape Institute, has a royal charter (of 1995), which means that its statutes and organisation have been vetted by a governmental organisation, the Privy Council. Nevertheless, there is no state register in the UK.

¹ Thanks are due to Francesca Mazzino and Clare Littlewood for checking the section on the position in Italy.

² For more details of state registration in the USA refer http://www.asla.org/members/govtaffairs/licensure/licensure_re_toc2.html



Problems in the status of landscape architecture title

However, in three western European countries, France, Spain and Italy, there are problems for landscape architects who wish to use the title, and in Ireland a threat to the use of that title has been recently resisted.

Ireland: a threat to use of title resisted

In Ireland in 2005 a bill was introduced in the *Daíl* (the Irish Parliament) to register architects for the first time. This is something landscape architects would not object to, although as originally drafted the bill would have barred landscape architects from using the word "architect" in their title. Indeed as initially drafted, if an Irish landscape architect so called themselves then they would have been liable to a fine of €5 000 or 12 months imprisonment. There would have been the crazy situation of landscape architects in Northern Ireland being free to call themselves landscape architects while not being able to do so in the south. The Irish Landscape Institute supported by EFLA successfully argued for a change in the wording and the bill was changed to avoid this threat to landscape architecture as a professional title.

France where the title is banned

In France landscape architects operated under the title *architecte-paysagiste* since the end of 19th century (as in French speaking parts of Belgium, Switzerland, and Canada) until a law of 1940 that created the "Ordre des Architectes" (Chamber of Architects) and a subsequent law of 1977 protected the title of "architect". Since then landscape architects in France have had to use the title *paysagiste*. The *Fédération Française du Paysage* has fought against this, and in January the new President of EFLA, Fritz Auweck wrote to President Sarkozy of France arguing that this restriction was counter to the European Union free market. Indeed, it was counter to the International Labour Office's draft definition of landscape architect in its current revision of the Standard Classification of Occupations³, and to IFLA's agreement with the International Union of Architects (IUA) of 2006. The EFLA President further said this was a matter that could be raised with the Court of Justice of the EU.

Spain

In Spain the situation is more difficult. Unlike in France, where landscape architecture has an accepted role at the governmental level despite the restriction on its title, in Spain, landscape architecture has been more marginal (although this varies from region to region) because of the

traditionally influential role of architects. Architects and Engineers are members of a *Colegio* or professional colleges, organised at the regional and national level, which have a very powerful role. They are bodies established in Franco's time which are now under the supervision of the Ministry for Public Works and are regulated under a law of 1974.

In consequence landscape architects may not operate under the title *arquitecto paisajista*, which is used in Latin America, and have to call themselves *paisajistas*. The *Asociación Española de Paisajistas (AEP)* has to operate under this restriction and a direct way forward to be able to use the full title is not clear. Consequently AEP is following the model of those countries in Western Europe, which are a majority, where the profession has established itself by promoting landscape architecture education, and creating a demand by exemplary work. One hope for the future is that Spain has in November 2007 ratified the European Landscape Convention, which includes a commitment to landscape education (though landscape architecture education is not so spelled out). Indeed, the Landscape Observatory in Catalonia is often quoted as a model observatory as promoted under the Landscape Convention.

Italy

In Italy the situation for landscape appears admirable: since 2001 (DPR 328) there has been legal protection and recognition of landscape architecture with an *Ordine degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti, Conservatori* (Order of Architects, Planners, Landscapers, and Conservationists), which is administered by the *Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti*. However, the problems are twofold: to become a member of the Order one must have a Masters degree, and Masters degrees in landscape architecture are very recent. Most landscape architects and members of the landscape architecture national association, AIAPP, do not have a Masters degree. The role of landscape architects is being tackled at the Provincial level. So, what on the face of it is a very good situation is fraught. EFLA has tried several times to raise this directly with the *Consiglio* without avail.

In summary

Overall in Europe, landscape architecture is in a good situation. In many countries it is a growing profession (there are well over 20 000 landscape architects throughout Europe), and there is much work at both a regional and a detailed design level. Indeed in some countries there is a shortage of landscape architects. However, the position has to be promoted and in countries where use of title is restricted, the title has to be fought for. This is a challenge for both the national associations and for EFLA.

³ Standard Classification of Occupations draft 2152 under ISCO-08

*Table 1 Summary of European national landscape architecture associations with known dates of foundation*

Albania	<i>No known national association</i>	
Andorra	<i>No known national association</i>	
Armenia	<i>No known national association</i>	
Austria	Österreichische Gesellschaft für Landschaftsplanung und Landschaftsarchitektur ÖGLA	•
Azerbaijan	<i>No known national association</i>	
Belarus (ii)	<i>No known national association</i>	
Belgium	Association Belge des Architectes de Jardins et des Architectes Paysagistes - Belgische Vereniging van Tuinarchitecten en Landschapsarchitecten ABAJ	1935
Bosnia and Herzegovina	UIITH-Udruenje injinjera i tehniara hortikulture	2006
Bulgaria	Bulgarska Asiciacia Landshaftna Arxitektura BALA	1996
Croatia	Croatian Association of Landscape Architects HDKA	•
Cyprus	<i>No known national association</i>	
Czech Republic	Czech Landscape Architects at the Landscape and Garden Society CZLA	•
Denmark	Danske Landskabsarkitekter DL	1936
Estonia	Estonian Landscape Architects Union ELAU	•
Finland	Suomen maisema-arkkitehtiliitto - Finlands Landskapsarkitektförbund r.y MARK	1946
France	Fédération Française du Paysage FFP	•
Georgia	<i>No known national association</i>	
Germany	Bund Deutscher LandschaftsArchitekten BDLA	1913
Greece	Panhellenic Association of Landscape Architects PHALA	1982
Hungary	Hungarian Association of Landscape Architects HALA	•
Iceland	Felag Islenskra Landslagsarkitekta FILA	1978
Ireland	Irish Landscape Institute ILI	1992
Italy	Associazione Italiana di Architettura del Paesaggio AIAPP	1950
Latvia	The Latvian Society of Landscape Architects LSLA	•
Liechtenstein	<i>No known national association</i>	
Lithuania	Lithuanian Association of Landscape Architects LALA	•
Luxembourg	Association Luxembourgeoise des Architectes Paysagistes ALAP	•
Malta	<i>No known national association</i>	
Moldova	<i>No known national association</i>	
Monaco	<i>No known national association</i>	
Montenegro	Association of Landscape Architects Serbia and Montenegro ALA	1983
Netherlands	Nederlandse Vereniging voor Tuin-en Landschapsarchitectuur NVTL	1922
Norway	Norske Landskaparkitekters Forening NLF	1929
Poland	Stowarzyszenie Architektów Polskich SARP	•
Portugal	Associação Portuguesa dos Arquitectos Paisagistas APAP	1976
Romania	Asociația Peisagistilor din România ASOP	2005
Russian Fed'n	The Association of Landscape Architects of the Community of Independent States ALACIS	1956
San Marino	<i>No known national association</i>	
Serbia	Association of Landscape Architects Serbia and Montenegro ALA	1983
Slovakia	Slovak Association of Landscape Architects SAS	•
Slovenia	Društvo krajinskih arhitektov Slovenija DKAS (Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects)	1992
Spain	Asociación Española de Paisajistas AEP	1952
Sweden	Sveriges Arkitekter (vi)	•
Switzerland	Fédération Suisse des Architectes Paysagistes - Bund Schweizer Landschaftsarchitekten und Landschaftsarchitektinnen FSAP	1925
Macedonia	(Former Yugoslav Republic of) <i>No known landscape association</i>	
Turkey	Chamber of Landscape Architects of the Turkish Chamber of Architects and Engineers TMMOB	•
Ukraine	ALACIS of which the National Ukrainian Guild of Landscape Architects is a member	
United Kingdom	Landscape Institute LI	1929

*Table 2. European countries with state registers for landscape architects*

country	state register	website
Austria	Bundeskammer der Architekten und Ingenieurkonsulten (via regional chambers)	www.arching.at
Czech Republic	Czech Chamber of Architects	http://www.cka.cc/en/
Cyprus	The Scientific & Technical Chamber of Cyprus ETEK	http://www.etek.org.cy
Iceland	Ministries of Industry and Commerce	http://eng.idnarraduneyti.is/
Italy	Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti, e Conservatori	http://www.cnappc.it/
Germany	Bundesarchitektenkammer	http://www.bak.de/site/163/default.aspx
Hungary	Magyar Építész Kamara	www.mek.hu
The Netherlands	Stichting Bureau Architecten	www.architectenregister.nl/
Slovakia	Slovenska Komora Architektov	komarch@komarch.sk
Slovenia	Chamber of Architecture and Spatial Planning of Slovenia (ZAPS)	www.zaps.si
Turkey	Peyzaj Mimarları Odası (TMMOB) – Chamber of Landscape Architects	www.peyzajmimoda.org.tr

Table 3: Times of establishment of registers for landscape architects in Germany by Länder (German federal states).⁴

Länder	year/date of Protection of Title and Registration
Baden-Württemberg	1955 under the "Architektengesetz" of 5 Dec 1955
Bayern (Bavaria)	1954 by District Governments; since 1971 by Chamber of Architects
Berlin	by the Berlin Senate for Building and Dwelling; since 1984 by the Berlin Chamber of Architects
Brandenburg	1990
Bremen	1971
Hamburg	1966
Hessen (Hessia)	1969; since 2002 Town Planners are also mandatory members of the "Architects and Town Planners Chamber of Hessen"
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern	1991
Niedersachsen (Lower Saxonia)	1970
Nordrhein-Westfalen (North-Rhine Westfalia)	1969
Rheinland-Pflaz (Rhineland-Palatia)	1974; since 1989 Registration of Town Planners
Saarland	1972
Sachsen (Saxonia)	1991
Sachsen-Anhalt (Saxonia-Anhalt)	1990
Schleswig-Holstein	1964
Thüringen (Thuringia)	1990

Similarly, in Austria, state registration is via regional Chambers of Architects and Consulting Engineers for Vienna, Lower Austria and Burgenland; Styria and Carinthia; Upper Austria and Salzburg; and Tyrol and Vorarlberg. For further information refer www.arching.at

⁴ Information from Prof. Arno Schmid *Bundesarchitektenkammer*, 31 Oct. 2005



Alfonso Vergara receives King Jaime I Award

IFLA Secretary General, Virginia Laboranti, reports that Dr Arch. Alfonso Vergara, founder and current President of the urban innovation center *Fundación Metrópoli*, Madrid, Spain, has received the King Jaime I Award in the category of Sustainability, Landscape, and Urbanism. The award ceremony took place in Valencia, Spain, and was presided over by the King of Spain, Juan Carlos I. This award, which is granted by the Valencian Foundation of Advanced Studies, recognizes the strategic role of cities in the challenge of building a sustainable future, especially the concept and philosophy of “Smart Lands”.

The award was established in 1989 by the Foundation of Advanced Studies together with the Government of Valencia, Spain. It recognizes scientific research mainly developed in Spain, and involves the following categories: Basic Research; Environmental Protection; Economy, New Technologies, Sustainability, Landscape and Urbanism. The aim of the award is to bring scientific and business organizations together, both in studies and in research, to promote research and scientific development in Spain.

Dr Arch. Alfonso Vergara was the President of the International Society of City and Regional Planners (ISOCARP). He is a member of the International Committee of the Eisenhower Foundation, and adviser for a number of different cities, such as Singapore, Dublin, and Curitiba. He is also an economist and a sociologist who has devoted his life to the improvement of the human habitat. He developed a wide educative role in Europe and America, and wrote several books among which we must mention *Smart Lands*. Among other prizes, he received the European Urbanism Award in 1994 and 2006, and the Prize on Ecologic Design of Sarriguren, Navarra.

When Alfonso Vergara was the ISOCARP President, and Martha Fajardo was the IFLA President, both organizations, which have UNESCO consultative status, signed an agreement to work together in the Management of Social Transformation (MOST), a UNESCO Program. The primary purpose of the MOST Program is to

transfer relevant research and data in the social sciences to decision makers and other stakeholders. MOST focuses on building efficient bridges between research, policy and practice. The program promotes a culture of evidence based policy making at national, regional and international levels. As the only UNESCO program that fosters and promotes social science research, it is placed in a pivotal position in the overall promotion of UNESCO's goals. More information: www.fundacion-metropoli.org



Programa de Maestría en Arquitectura Paisajista
UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE PUERTO RICO

Studying landscape architecture in Puerto Rico

Acknowledged by law as an independent profession, Puerto Rico's Council on Higher Education accepted the need and challenge to train locally, future generations of landscape architects. August of 2006 saw the opening of the Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico's School of Landscape Architecture. The Master of Landscape Architecture program, the first in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean basin, takes aim at the local and regional landscape heritage, as it records the profession's history, its body of work, and its contribution to the future.

This academic term, the School attained an enrolment of 56 graduate students, diverse by virtue of their educational and professional backgrounds, as well as their primarily Latino heritage. True to the Polytechnic University's mission statement, the School serves predominantly a population of working adults, and individuals whose prior academic endeavours differ from current practice accomplishments and interests. The program serves these professionals as a mechanism to reveal achievement through their performance in this newly chosen graduate career.

The School's Faculty body is demonstrative of the profession's multifaceted interests, holding degrees in areas that include Fine Arts/Sculpture, Urban Design, Architecture, Design, Ceramics, Horticulture, Botany, and History. Myriad interests contribute to the School's scope and depth of work. In order to further the program and the profession in the Island, candidacy status will be pursued promptly with the national accreditation institution.



Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Gold Medal Award

Under the auspices of UNESCO

The IFLA 46th World Congress in Brazil, in 2009, will be the venue for the award of the second IFLA Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Gold Medal. The Medal, awarded every four years by the International Federation of Landscape Architects, pays tribute to a practising landscape architect whose merit, talent and actions are acknowledged at the international level.

This quadrennial competition is open to landscape architects throughout the world whose activities deal with landscape planning, design or management, improvement in the quality of human settlements and landscape architectural education.

Nominations for the award are made by landscape associations or IFLA members. The international jury for this award-giving is formed by Philippe Poullaouec-Gonidec, the UNESCO chair in Landscape and Environmental Design of the University of Montreal, Nigel Thorne, President of the Landscape Institute - founded by Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe - and, for the second time acting as chief judge, the Swedish Thorbjörn Andersson, head of the SWECO FFNS landscape unit, guest teacher, and design critic at a number of universities and research centers.

This highest recognition bestowed upon a landscape architect by the International Federation of Landscape Architects commemorates the remarkable contribution to IFLA of its President of Honour who served as president from 1948 to 1954. Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe (1900-1996) was an exceptional landscape architect with an extensive and rich career. His strongest interest was in landscape and garden design with a passion for water. Knighted for services to landscape architecture in 1979, he was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society's highest honour, the Victoria Medal of Honour in 1994.

The deadline for the second quadrennial is 5 pm, 2 May 2008.

For further information please contact: Christine Bavassa, IFLA Executive Secretary, efla.exsec@gmail.com

April - World Landscape Architecture Month

April was also designated World Landscape Architecture Month by IFLA last year, when the inaugural event was held. Landscape architects from many of the 61 professional associations worldwide mounted event in their countries that highlighted local and global issues. The first event was launched in Beijing China, by the Chinese Society of Landscape Architects (CHASLA). This year, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Iceland, Uruguay and South Africa will join in the celebration. Landscape architects in New Zealand will hold a conference and their biennial Pride of Place Awards presentation at the start of April.

The two largest associations of landscape architects (ASLA and LI in the United States and United Kingdom, respectively) will jointly focus their activities in April on the recruitment of students. In both of these countries, there are more retiring practitioners than new landscape architecture graduates emerging from universities. Finding good students is a priority, and in Britain they are setting up a website www.iwanttobealandscapearchitect.com to encourage prospective students.

The Argentine Centre of Landscape Architects (CAAP) is organizing many events including a student workshop coordinated by professors of the different universities where landscape architecture is taught, a commemorative tree planting and the launching of a publication of the Landscape Research Centre at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA), and the preparation of an exhibition granted by the Portuguese Association of Landscape Architects (APAP), with the sponsorship of the Embassy of Portugal. There will be lectures and roundtable discussions at the Central Society of Architects (SCA), the Museo Social Argentino University, and other related institutions with the principal aim of spreading the recognition of the profession and its achievements.

Every association - big and small - is invited to let the IFLA Executive Secretary, Christine Bavassa, know about their plans for April (email: efla.exsec@gmail.com) and to write to IFLA News Editor, John Clemens, with news and pictures of events as they happen (email: john.clemens@canterbury.ac.nz).



c o n f e r e n c e n o t i c e



45th IFLA World Congress

The 45th IFLA World Congress will be held in the Orpheus Congress Centre, Churchillplein 1, Apeldoorn, The Netherlands. It runs parallel to the Triennale, which hosts various other cutting edge landscape events. The Orpheus Congress Centre is surrounded by good hotels, restaurants, and bars, while the city centre and its attractive environment, pavement cafés, tourist attractions, and entertainment facilities are in close reach by public transport. The World Congress will be preceded by the IFLA Regional and World Council Meetings on 28-29 June.

For more information and the latest news, including the preliminary programme, please visit www.ifla2008.com

IFLA International Student Design Competition

The theme for this year's IFLA International Student Design Competition is *Transforming with Water, the Way to Paradise?* Students of landscape architecture are invited to enter the competition. The prize-giving ceremony will take place at the IFLA World Congress 2008 in Apeldoorn, The Netherlands. This IFLA Student Design Competition seeks to stimulate discussion about the specific contribution of landscape and urban planning and design to realise a new balance between nature and the human environment.

Throughout the world climate change is affecting the conditions of nature and local weather. Climate change and its impact on nature and weather conditions is a world-wide phenomenon, but in each region the impact is different, especially where it concerns changes in water quantities and qualities. What could be the new inspirational ways of planning, new ways of designing flow systems (of water, transport, energy, materials, information, etc.), and designing new spatial environments, that would create new environmental conditions?

The Assignment

- o Name the (local, regional) problem in nature or the human environment that you are most intrigued with, and link the problem to a specific site/region.
- o Invent a new, innovative, and inspirational solution for the problem and site. Your ideas should include one or more of the following concepts: utopia, autarchy, paradise, sustainability, self-sufficiency.
- o Present plans and designs that reflect your ideas. You are free to use a variety of graphic methods to present your ideas. Part of the challenge is to graphically communicate your work as effectively as possible. Scales are free.
- o Add a brief (max. 350 words) written summary of the project, including project context, ideas and issues addressed and main features.

The closing date for submissions is **1st May 2008**. For full instructions and more information, please visit www.ifla2008.com