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# *InSites* - 2013

The Department of Landscape  
Architecture and Environmental  
Planning Magazine

**75<sup>th</sup>**  
anniversary  
celebration  
toward a century of excellence  
AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 1 2014



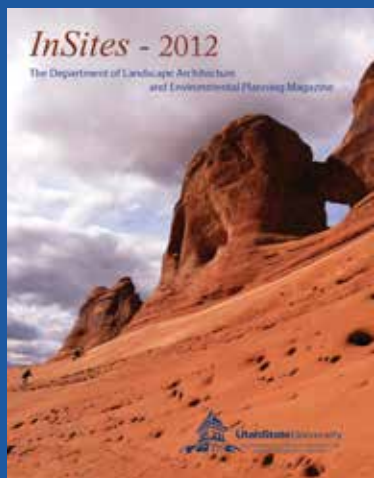
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**Cover Photo** - Michael Timmons  
LAEP 3100 students Jessica Christensen and Bo Pang in the Tetons



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***InSites* 2012**  
winner of a  
Communications  
Merit Award from  
Utah ASLA

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# Greetings

## From the Department Head

**I**t happened in 1939. The most important event in the history of Intermountain West landscape architecture transpired that year. It was the tail end of the Great Depression. Laval S. Morris ambled north from Provo, up a two-lane highway where today we find I-15, across the goat path of Sardine Canyon, and into the broad valley that greeted him and his family. An Aggie himself (BS, '23), Morris had come home, and brought landscape architecture with him.

Nearly three-quarters of century later, the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning is preparing for a momentous occasion. On Memorial Day Weekend of 2014 we will welcome back LAEP alumni from far and near. The program's 75th Anniversary Celebration is a milestone for all of us who have been a part of this great legacy. Planning and preparations have been underway for the past two years, and I can assure you that this will be a homecoming not to miss. So call up your classmates, mark your calendars, and get ready for a great time.

This past April 9th was an important date for both LAEP and USU, as the College of Agriculture, the department's administrative "home" since 2010, announced its new name: The College of Agriculture and Applied Science. Why a new name? As the college has continued to diversify and grow, this milestone change was imperative to express who we are through a name that conveys our breadth. The naming event, which occurred in USU's Kent Concert Hall, featured the American Festival Chorus and Orchestra.

Changes in the Department's

facilities continue to take place. Through the generous donations of LAEP Advancement Board members the third and final phase of the "Alumni Jury Room" transformation was completed this winter. The space has been thoroughly revamped, making its old cave-like atmosphere hard to recall. We have also begun demolition in the adjacent Grad Studio's south end. The design will create a new teaching space, while retaining the natural light and easy egress our MLA students currently enjoy. On a much larger scale, master planning for the LAEP "Field Studio", our forthcoming 5-acre outdoor learning lab, has made tremendous progress, and we are seeking donors who can enable this unprecedented project.

The evolution of LAEP's faculty has been a major factor in fueling our growth. However, few recent changes have been as important as the re-merging of regional scale planning into the Department. In 2012, Prof. Richard (Dick) Toth, who joined Utah State in 1972, announced his phased retirement. For some time before the news was made public, we have been collaborating to assure the ongoing impacts of the MS in Bioregional Planning, and the role of land planning at USU. In Fall, we began an international search for a new faculty hire in this area. Candidates visited campus for interviews in March, with our new colleague to join us in August of this year.

Two new student scholarships have been added this year, helping support our BLA and MLA students' financial needs. The Utah Chapter of ASLA has generously created a new \$1000 scholarship to recognize students with significant potential to "provide visibility to the profession and benefits to the general community in Utah". We are very grateful for the impact this decision will make on tomorrow's



*Sean rafting the River of No Return*

practitioners. Secondly, my colleagues and I are proud to announce the new LAEP Faculty Scholarship (\$1000). This annual award—the first of its kind at USU—is the result of individual faculty gifts, and will be used to recognize and support outstanding future leaders.

On a personal note, I am honored to have begun my term as president of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) in March. LAEP was also selected in a competitive national process to host the 2015-16 CELA Annual Conference in Logan. My tenure in the organization's leadership will help us to plan for an outstanding event. It is our intention to utilize that event as a crowning demonstration of the state of our program. With hundreds of our academic peers traveling to the Northern Wasatch to attend, there can be no better means to do so!

On a final note, I hope that each of you will take time to connect with the Department. We appreciate each opportunity to meet alumni, welcome them back for the Speaker Series, or simply hear updates. Stay in touch, and we'll do our best to do likewise.

**GO AGGIES!**

Sean E. Michael, PhD  
Professor / Dept. Head  
sean.michael@usu.edu

# Field Trip - 2012



Trip logo prepared by LAEP  
Student Dallin Slater



In early May, immediately following the USU commencement, professors **Keith Christensen and Phil Waite** took a group of 25 LAEP students to Chicago, Illinois for the 2012 Travel Course.

In preparation for the trip each student prepared a report on an aspect of Chicago's history, architecture, or landscapes – in essence becoming the field trip's resident expert on a given topic. Even though many of the hotels were full because of a national restaurant convention and the NATO Summit meeting, the students and faculty were able to secure lodging immediately downtown near the Chicago River and just three blocks from the Navy Pier, placing the vast majority of their tour locations within walking distance. (The NATO riots happened the day after they left!)





With pleasant late spring weather and good walking shoes the students were able to see many sights. Highlights included: Millennium Park, Navy Pier, Lake Shore East Park, Grant Park, the Chicago Architectural Foundation, the Art Institute, University of Chicago (guided tour from the campus planner), Frank Lloyd Wright's Robie House, Jackson Park (site of the 1893 World Columbian Exposition – the layout of which was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted), and an entire day at the Chicago Botanic Garden. Also featured were office visits with the landscape architectural firms, including the Hitchcock Group and the Daniel Weinbach Partners.

Many students did independent tours of the Sears Tower, Oak Park (home to many of F.L. Wright's best works), Lincoln Park, Graceland Cemetery, Poetry Foundation, and Wrigley Field (for a home game between the Cubs and the Atlanta Braves – the Cubs won!) Many also explored a wide variety of gustatory adventures including world famous Giordano's deep dish pizza and Cajun food at Heaven on Seventh.





## Ivan Contreras - BLA '13 Fallingwater

Ivan Contreras (BLA, '13) follows in Laura Reyes' (BLA, '12) shoes as the Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning Department's second consecutive intern at Fallingwater in Pennsylvania. In 1986, Department Head Sean Michael served as Fallingwater's first landscape intern, and his former advisor, Professor George Longenecker, became the Intern Program director the next year. Prof. Longenecker remains the Intern Program director, and was able to work with both Laura and Ivan at the iconic Frank Lloyd Wright designed home.

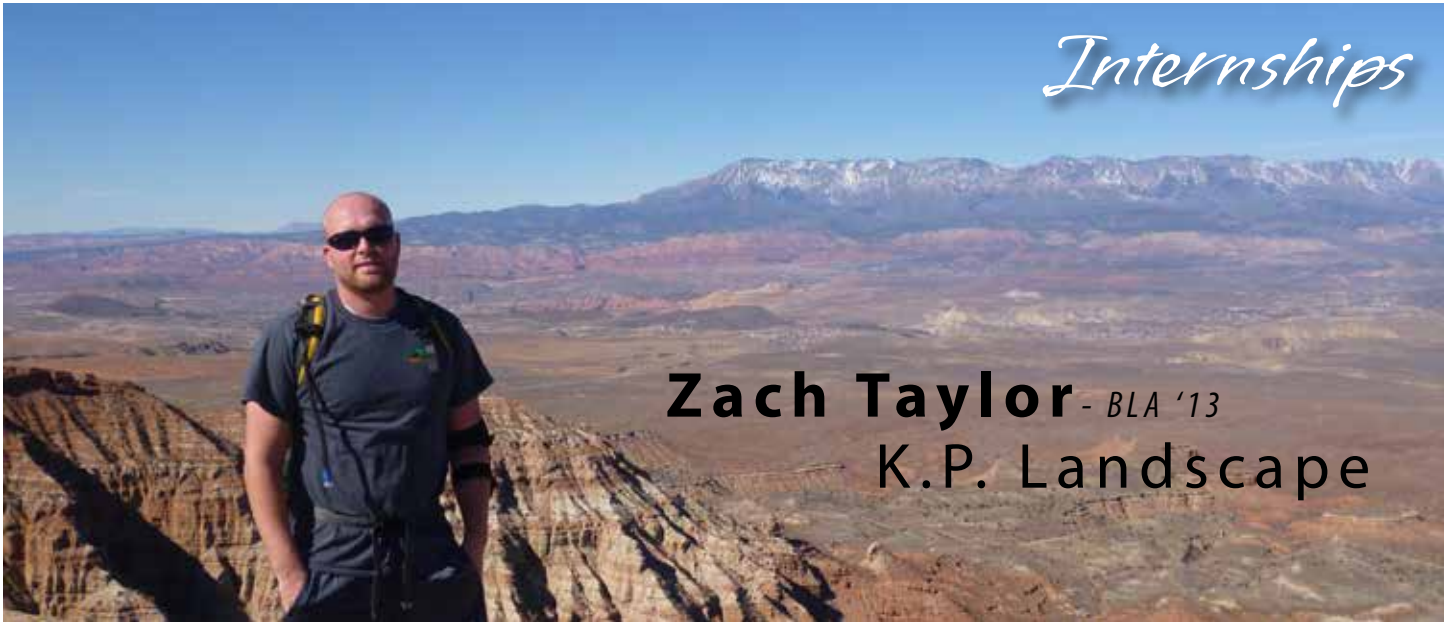
The Department hopes to continue making Fallingwater a regular internship location in the future, and expects more students to apply for the summer of 2013 internship. Interns are challenged with a range of site planning, preservation, and ecological challenges as they work to assure the authenticity and sustainable long-term visitation of the home and grounds by the 160,000+ annual visitors. Fallingwater celebrated its 75th Anniversary in 2011.



**Above:** (left to right) Sean Michael, Laura Reyes (BLA '12), Professor George Longenecker (Intern Program Director)  
**Below:** Ivan Contreras (BLA '13) at Fallingwater







## Zach Taylor - BLA '13 K.P. Landscape

Last spring, I received an e-mail to all LAEP students about a job opening with K.P. Landscape in Park City. Even though the posting was for graduating seniors, and I was currently a junior, I decided to respond. I learned that LAEP alum Kevin Linsley (BLA, '11) who was my peer mentor when I was a sophomore, worked for K.P. Landscape. Thanks to Kevin's encouragement, they were willing to give me the opportunity to intern from April – August 2012. My internship turned out to be all I hoped for, and more. My experience provided invaluable experience, techniques, and principles that I could not have gained anywhere else.

Owner Kris Parker (MLA, '02) was very patient in teaching me about different aspects of a design/build company. I had the opportunity to work on many projects, as well as learn how to operate heavy equipment, install irrigation systems, rough grade, shoot finish grade, build retaining walls, create planting designs, and solve problems. I also worked on some designs, and was able to meet with a client and prepare a rough bid for them. This was an invaluable experience in learning to design with a budget, and then work through the challenges and changes.

I chose this profession because I love being outdoors and enjoy landscape design and installation. But doing

what I love in Park City last summer, with a group of guys that have my similar interests, made the experience all the better. I'm excited to work for K.P. Landscape upon graduation, and I look forward to learning all I can about the great discipline of design/build.



*“ I chose this profession because I love being outdoors and enjoy landscape design and installation. But doing what I love in Park City last summer, with a group of guys that have my similar interests, made the experience all the better. ”*



# Internships

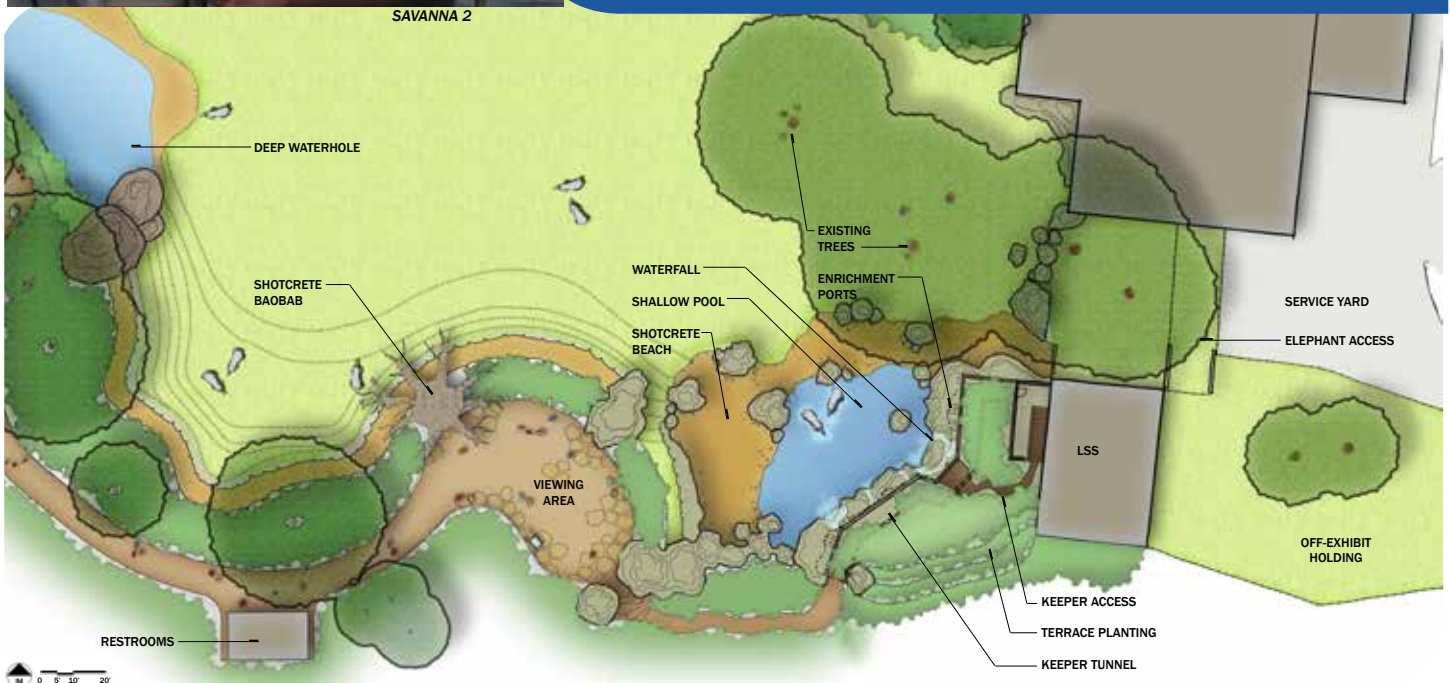
Although the LAEP program does not require internship credit, all students should consider internship experience as an essential part of their career preparation. I had the opportunity to intern for The Portico Group, a multidisciplinary firm in Seattle, WA consisting of about 70 architects, landscape architects, exhibit designers, graphic designers, and other professionals. They are a design firm that is committed to “creating opportunities to connect people with nature and culture in meaningful ways”. They work on a variety of projects such as museums and visitor’s centers, parks and open spaces, public gardens, and aquariums. But, the firm has especially established itself as a leader in zoo design. I had very little prior knowledge of zoo design before accepting this internship position, but I quickly grew to love this niche of the profession.

I was one of three Landscape Architecture students that participated in The Portico Group’s summer internship program, and I worked on two exciting projects during my three months with the firm. The largest project was for the Fresno Chaffee Zoo in California, where I helped in the schematic design and design development stages of an African-themed expansion to the zoo. I assisted with the selection of materials and plant palette, put together construction documents, and produced site plans, sections, and other graphics.



## Devon Gibby - BLA '13 The Portico Group

*“ I had very little prior knowledge of zoo design before accepting this internship position, but I quickly grew to love this niche of the profession. ”*



My other project was a master plan report for the Minnesota Zoo in Apple Valley, MN. I worked with the lead Zoo Designers by putting together an 80-page booklet that highlighted the extensive proposals for the zoo. I learned a great deal about the master planning process, expanded my understanding of graphic design, and got some experience with marketing. It was also a unique challenge in coordinating with all the designers to get the booklet produced.

My internship in Seattle gave me exposure to the work atmosphere of a large design firm. I really enjoyed working with people in other disciplines, and I found this type of environment to be very educational. It was very helpful to gain a basic understanding of how a firm is structured and operates. My internships also gave me experience with things I can't necessarily experience in school, such as real client demands and budget constraints.

Doing an internship is a great way to make contacts within the field. It gave me the opportunity to work side-by-side with professionals for an entire summer. As a result, I now have many contacts in Seattle who know my work ethic and skill sets. Upon graduating this year, I can turn to them for referrals and recommendations when I am searching for jobs. My internship proved to be a very unique and rewarding opportunity, and I strongly recommend one to every LAEP student.

*“My internship proved to be a very unique and rewarding opportunity, and I strongly recommend one to every LAEP student.”*



**James Leo** - BLA '13

## North Logan City

Meadow View Park. While these parks are recreation based, I also spent some time researching athletic sport fields. I became particularly familiar with the standard regulation baseball and soccer field sizes. While learning how to draw them, I also acquired knowledge of how to strategically locate them.

My internship has continued throughout my senior year. I am currently finishing a presentation master plan for Elk Ridge and Meadow View Park, which will be presented in coming weeks to city officials. My time with North Logan City has been an invaluable experience. The internship allowed me to design, plan, and work directly with the public sector.

*“I am grateful the LAEP faculty emphasized computer and public speaking skills.”*

Beginning in May 2012, I have had the opportunity to work as a Parks Design Intern for North Logan City. Under the direction of Alan Luce, Public Works Director (Utah State University, M.S. Bioregional Planning, '11) and the Parks and Recreation Committee, I have had the opportunity to design for general and specific populations. The internship challenged both my computer and public speaking skills, and I am grateful that the LAEP Faculty has emphasized these areas in my education.

Over the summer, I developed a master plan for Elk Ridge Park, as well as designed conceptual plans for



### Bureau of Land Management

For the summer of 2012, I joined two other USU students in an internship with the Visual Resource Management division of the BLM. As a recreation technician, my job was to work toward completing the state's visual resource inventories for each field office. I was specifically asked to lead the efforts for the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument inventory, as well as to help complete the Kanab Field Office inventory. This four month internship was spent both in the office and gathering data in the field.

I was employed by the BLM Utah state office, and enjoyed working in downtown Salt Lake City. While in the office, I focused on gathering and compiling data through ArcGIS, Microsoft Office and Adobe products – all while learning about the visual resource management process. I also took advantage of many of the educational seminars the state office offered throughout the summer, including safety



*“Though I learned a great deal of information while in the office, I feel that my most memorable - and some of the most educational - opportunities were working in the field.”*

lectures and general happenings throughout the BLM.

Though I learned a great deal of information while in the office, I feel that my most memorable - and some of the most educational - opportunities were working in the field. Overall, I traveled for three weeks of my internship. Two weeks were spent in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Kanab gathering field data and working with staff members to make progress on the inventories. To do this, I [fortunately] had to travel through some of the most outstanding landscapes in southern Utah, including the Escalante River corridor and Death Hollow. Much of the data collection consisted of taking characteristic photographs of the area and written records describing the landscapes. We also spent time conducting inter-agency meetings regarding visual sensitivity of the area.

One additional week was spent co-leading a charrette in Cedar City for the annual Recreation Planner conference. This charrette concentrated on making the Parowan Gap – an outstanding historic and geologic feature near Parowan

and Cedar City, Utah – more safe and inviting for visitors. Under guidance from my supervisor, another intern and I developed a variety of options for the BLM to pursue. We were able to present these ideas the final day of the conference.

My internship with the BLM was an absolutely incredible experience, and I learned so much in one summer. I am grateful to the BLM staff and other interns that took time to teach me about the different programs and ways to do things better. This internship has guided me toward the career realm I wish to pursue: visual resource management, public lands management and/or assessing environmental impacts of large-scale projects. Along the way, I was able to work with many USU LAEP alumni, including: Rob Sweeten, Allysia Angus, Cameron Bodine, Katie Gomm and Allan Perry. I am grateful for everything they taught me, and look forward to the new things I will learn as I return for a second internship this summer at the BLM!

## Andrew Noorlander - BLA '13

### R. Michael Kelly Consultants

R. Michael Kelly Consultants is a small firm in Millville, Utah that focuses on land planning and landscape architecture, with services provided mostly to developers. Mike had asked Professor Keith Christensen to give him the names of a few students proficient in AutoCAD and Photoshop that would be interested in working for him part time. At the end of my Junior year, I was hired on as a draftsman. I consider myself lucky to have the opportunity to learn from a talented landscape architect and land planner.

My duties generally consist of creating construction documents such as site plans, grading plans, and planting and irrigation plans. A large part of the work I do is for developers building homes in Daybreak, South Jordan. I have also had the opportunity to work on larger community developments and commercial projects throughout the state. I have been involved in rendering master plans for new communities, as well as creating photo-realistic 3D images of commercial developments. These renderings have been used as marketing tools by developers.

I have been fortunate to learn more about grading, water-wise plants and irrigation, and residential and community design. With today's unstable economy, I have learned the importance of selecting plants and materials that accomplish an aesthetically pleasing and sustainable design, while working within a tight budget. Upon completing my Bachelor of Landscape Architecture this spring, I plan on obtaining an Master of Business Administration. I am very interested in the business

*“The experience of working in a landscape architecture firm has provided me with skills and knowledge that will carry with me throughout my career.”*

aspect of landscape architecture, so the opportunity to work in a small firm has provided me with valuable insights on some of the challenges that face a small business owner. I have also seen firsthand the importance of networking and building strong client relationships.





# Internships

**M**y objective in completing an internship was to have the opportunity to apply the knowledge acquired through my coursework, while being involved in the execution of designs. Since my previous work experience included being employed by a general contractor and landscaping business, I was interested in an internship with a design-build company.

I initiated contact with several companies, which resulted in an invitation to work with Victor E Design-Build in Portland, Oregon. Numerous family vacations had led me to love Western Oregon and its lush forest and green landscapes, so the opportunity was a good fit for me.

The owner, Victor Esuk, holds a bachelor's degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Oklahoma. He had over twenty years of experience working with 7 Dee's, and now owns a design-build company in the Portland area. Since it is a small company, I was given opportunities to work on different facets of projects throughout the summer. These included transforming areas into practical outdoor living areas that included patios, hot tubs, fire pits, and retaining walls.

One major project was to design an extremely sloped, unusable yard into a functional, multi-use area. In addition, I was able to observe the

bidding process, and see how my mentor used a specific formula to accurately estimate the cost of a design. The understanding of design principles that I have gained from my experience within the LAEP program at USU clearly helped me in the design and execution of these projects.

The most valuable benefit I gained from completing my internship was the opportunity to work closely with clients. I was able to better understand the importance of how clear communication with the client leads to the right questions, appropriate design solutions, and complete customer satisfaction.

**“ I was able to better understand the importance of how clear communication with the client leads to the right questions, appropriate design solutions, and complete customer satisfaction. ”**

**Joseph Wing** - BLA '13

Victor E Design-Build



# Snapshots of Student ASLA



2011-2012 Student Chapter representatives, Tyler Thiessen, Corey Harlos and Shannon Rudd, and faculty advisory Phil Waite met with USU President Stan Albrecht to give him copies of *InSites* and *Landscape Architecture Magazine*.



2012-2013 Representatives, James Leo, Andrew Noorlander (back) and Scott Krumm present Dean Noelle Cockett with the club t-shirt, and *InSites*. Right - Alan Perry and Shannon Rudd officers from '11-'12.



LAEP Week Croquet Tournament.

This crew of students and faculty spent a lovely April afternoon playing a round of croquet. Rules were made up as they went along.



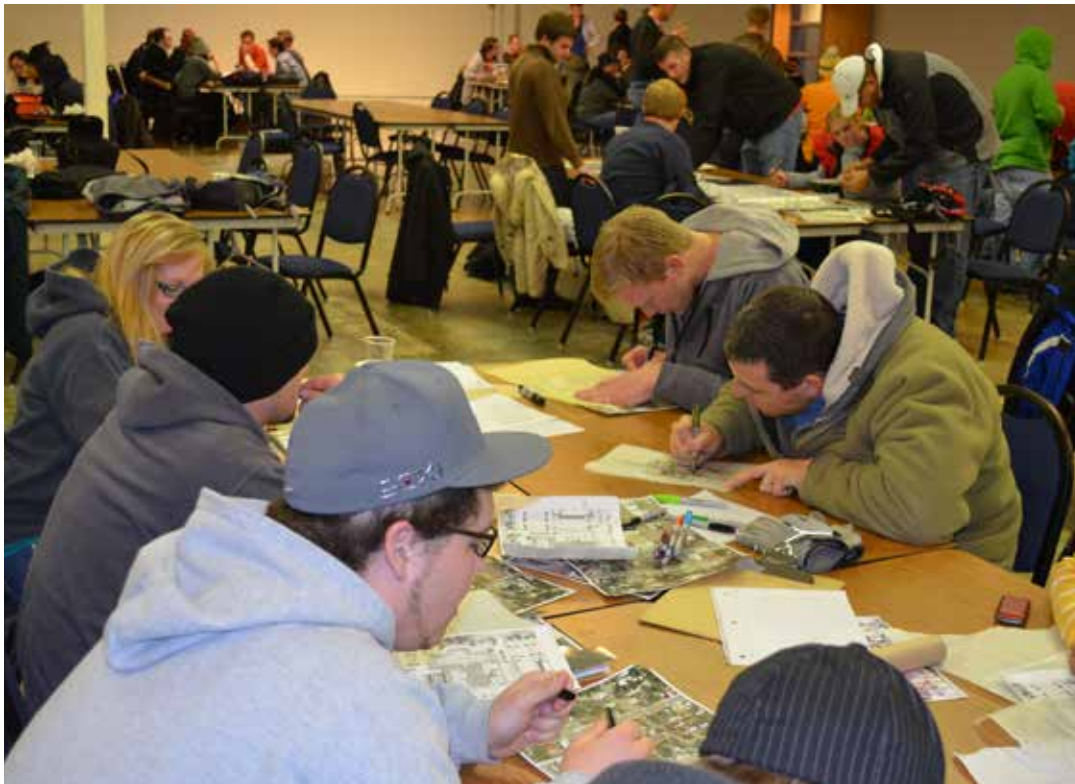
LAEP students meet with Utah ASLA Mentors at the USU Botanical Center.



# Brigham City Charrette - 2013

Brigham City was the focus of the annual LAEP Department-wide visioning charrette for 2012-2013. Working with LAEP alumnus Paul Larsen, (MLA,'94), Director of Community and Economic Development for the city, **Prof. Michael Timmons** developed a list of 15 topics to be examined by LAEP student teams. Topics were very diverse, ranging from suggestions for the Brigham City "gateways" from I-15, to detail designs for a community conference center known as Academy Square in the city center. Other topics included plans for the new USU BC campus and its interface with the adjacent community, plans for a new FrontRunner station and associated transit-oriented development, an assessment of opportunities for expansion of the annual Peach Days celebration, and an examination of future urban growth and annexation.

The Site Analysis class made an initial visit to Brigham in fall semester with **Prof. Keith Christensen**, to conduct a preliminary site assessment and collect base materials for later



**Above -** Trudging through the snow on the first day of Charrette week for a site visit.

**Left -** Students working at USU Brigham City Campus with Brigham Council and City members.

**Right -** Students meet with Brigham City stakeholders regarding the needs of the city.



use. The charrette itself occurred over a seven-day period in late January, following groundwork laid by Prof. Timmons' senior class. Individual team programs were developed by senior team captains, who researched their specific topics, developed base maps, and created resource packets. Up-front work by the seniors also included a meeting with public officials and department heads at the Brigham City offices, followed by a stakeholders meeting at Box Elder High School.

Charrette teams were created using a vertical studio model, with each senior captain coordinating the efforts of 6 to 8 person teams, comprised of freshmen, sophomores, juniors and graduate students. Informal evaluations indicated general enthusiasm for the opportunity to work outside the usually defined class barriers. Each team worked with guidance of a faculty advisor, and drop-in visits by area practitioners helped with the "grounding" of design ideas.

Following the week-long burst of creative energy, senior captains moved forward to edit, re-work, and reformat charrette products into over sixty 24" x 36" posters, a bound report document, and a powerpoint presentation given to the Brigham City Council and interested citizens. The Charrette process and product will be presented at the 2013 Utah APA Spring Conference, as an example of the conference theme "Bridging the Gap", organized by LAEP alumni Dan Roberts, (BLA,'88), Brian Carver, (BLA,'01), and Zac Covington, (BLA,'06).





# Slovenian Exchange



## Gordo Wood - BLA '13

I participated in the University of Ljubljana exchange February to June 2012. This was hands down the best trip of my life! Living and learning in this country was invaluable, and so much fun.

Slovenia is a small country, about the size of New Hampshire and has a population of 2 million people, so I almost met everyone in the country. (Not really)

Slovenia is the gem of Eastern Europe. Even though you could drive across the country in less time than from Logan to Provo, it is packed with amazing landscapes, cultural highlights, different biospheres, mountains, coastline, and vineyards, etc. Every town is different and a new place to explore. The Slovenian people were very generous and willing to share their country with me.

The country is between Austria to the north, Italy to the west, Croatia to the south and Hungary to the east. This gave me the opportunity to easily travel to nearby places for short day trips or weeklong excursions.

Ljubljana (pronounced Lube-lee-ahnah) is so cool! There were events every week in downtown plazas, a castle that overlooks a pedestrian only downtown, a 2000-year-old Roman forum to rock climb on, and the best

ice cream in the world. The city has a great bike and pedestrian network, and I was able to ride my bike all over the city without any problems.

The landscape architecture program of the University of Ljubljana is great. The students are all very skilled and produce amazing projects. It was an amazing experience to work with them and learn different ways of thinking and problem solving while studying there.

Living and learning in Slovenia for a whole semester has definitely helped me approach problems in a different way and has been invaluable. This experience has also given me greater insight into the principles and theories taught at USU. Special thanks to the John K. Nicholson Memorial Scholarship for support on this trip.



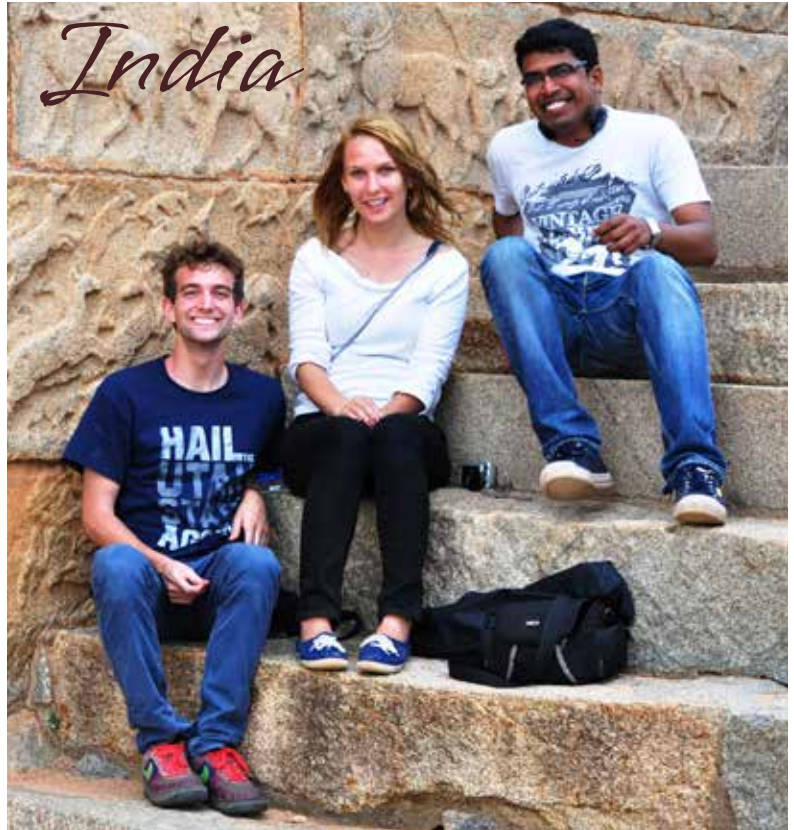


# Laval Morris Travel Award

This summer I was awarded the Laval Morris Travel Scholarship for the study of landscape architecture in India. In addition to traveling in India, I also had the opportunity to work for ten weeks with USU LAEP graduate Prashanta Bhat (BLA, '92) at his landscape architecture firm, The Landscape Company (TLC) in Bangalore.

Working with Prashanta was such a rewarding experience. I was able to work on several diverse projects ranging from high-end apartment complexes to corporate campuses. Right from my first day in the office, Prashanta was a great mentor to me. He helped me understand the process of taking a project from the bidding phase to design development and then on to its final conclusion. One of the projects that I saw evolve during the course of my internship was a new center for Xchanging, a British IT outsourcing company. It was fascinating to go on site visits and see construction progressing on site over the course of several site visits.

In addition to the work experience, I was also able to explore some of India's famous architecture. India is the cross roads and birthplace of many of the world's great religions. This religious diversity and long history has provided India with a lifetime's worth of spectacular architecture. My travels took me from crowded historic Old Delhi, to the Himalayan Valley of Flowers national park. I was able to visit the Golden Temple and Taj Majal two of India's greatest spiritual monuments. I saw the Islamic charbagh gardens that I learned about in Professor Timmons class and felt the immense



**Corey Harlos**, (BLA '12) bottom step, with two other Landscape Company interns at the Landscape Company.



energy of India's crowded streets and alleys. My journey through the busy streets and holy sites of India was made possible by the Laval Morris Travel Scholarship. I am grateful for the opportunity I had to learn and grow on my journey. My view of landscape architecture and design will never be quite the same.

Corey has recently switched gears and is now an intern for Leonard M. Blackham, Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and Food during the upcoming Utah legislative session. He will take minutes, lobby for agriculture and observe the process of legislation and research within the state.



# Inside the Classroom and Out

The semester highlight in *Fall 2012, Recreation and Open Space* with Michael Timmons was a several day trip to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. On our way through Jackson, Wyoming, we were hosted by Marissa Santacruz, MLA, '01, for a tour of Verdone Landscape Architects, and a demonstration of Marissa's impressive graphic techniques. After checking into our spectacular lodging at the historic AMK Ranch on the east shore of Jackson Lake, students prepared dinners and enjoyed a beautiful sunset of the silhouetted Teton Range across the lake.



**Left:** Marissa Santacruz, MLA, '01 demonstrates graphic techniques at the office of Verdone Landscape Architects, Jackson, WY.

**Left Bottom:** meetings with NPS landscape architects at Moose Visitor Center and Old Faithful Basin.

The next day was spent in Grand Teton National Park. The layout and design of campgrounds was discussed through comparisons of the Gros Ventre Campground, currently undergoing re-design to accommodate larger RVs, and the historic tent-only facility at Jenny Lake. We were met by National Park Service landscape architects at the recently completed Moose Visitor Center, for a discussion that included the native planting plan for that project, the on-going park transportation plan, the issues of planning for concentrated use around the Jenny Lake area, and other current landscape architectural issues the park is dealing with. During a lunch break at the nearby Murie Center, Prof. Timmons discussed the Cultural Landscape Inventory he had recently completed for that historic compound, once the home of famed conservationists Olaus, Mardie, and Adolf Murie. Arriving back at the AMK in the mid-afternoon, students enjoyed several hours of sketching, hiking, or swimming in the brisk waters of Jackson Lake.

The following day, after checking out of the AMK, we began our drive home by heading north into Yellowstone National







**Top:** Grad students reclining after a big day.  
**Bottom:** Chow Time!

**Top:** Aggie Faithful  
**Below:** “field work” at String Lake.

Park. We were met at the Old Faithful Geyser Basin by several NPS landscape architects, who presented the long-range master plan for that very popular and congested area. The presentation was punctuated by a properly timed eruption for all to enjoy! Driving northward, we followed the recently re-aligned roadway along the Gibbon River, and stopped to examine the landscape restoration of the former roadbed and the newly designed visitor pull-offs and overlooks along the road. At the Norris Geyser Basin, we discussed the historic WPA era visitor center, one of the great examples of rustic “parkitecture” of that period, and spent a few hours sketching and exploring the boardwalks through the geysers and hot springs, prior to the long drive.





# Inside the Classroom and Out



## Designing for Tarantula Migrations! (?)

In the fall of 2012, **Professor Phil Waite's Planting Design** class (LAEP 3500) had the opportunity to re-design a landscape for the Anna E. Smith Elementary School in Wendover, Utah. The school contacted Professor Waite with a request for help in redesigning their landscape. The school was built 14 years ago, but with budget cuts and reductions in their water budget, portions of the landscape were in need of rehabilitation. A team of students and Professor Waite visited the school, met with the principal, students, and faculty to explore their programmatic needs and then returned to Logan to work on the project.

The programmatic needs were focused on developing low-water use landscapes for the challenging Wendover environment that receives only



In the Fall 2012, the graduate level **Regional Planning** studio with **Professor Carlos Licon** focused in the Escalante Region in Southern Utah. The students visited the Region, met with different stakeholders and interviewed researchers and land managers in the area. This project explored the potential connectivity, economic, environmental and social synergies, and opportunities to build

liveable communities in this place with strong cultural identity and a deep awareness of the local landscape.

The students produced a series of strategies to incorporate projects at the local, the corridor, and the regional scales. In a place with such an intense and powerful landscapes, students encountered a variety of committed residents and stakeholders in the region with clear visions and perceptions of how the future of the region should occur. The students got into the task of integrating, in a holistic and creative way, the values and resources of Escalante and the surrounding region. Being in this unique environment, our grad students did not miss the opportunity to explore, hike, walk, photograph, sketch and simply let themselves be caught by the magic of this beautiful place.

five inches of rain a year and suffers from high winds, blistering heat in the summer, and freezing winter temperatures. Other site constraints included designing for pronghorn antelope and bighorn sheep that come down out of the hills behind the school. Additional challenges were designing landscapes and plantings that wouldn't attract rattlesnakes and designs that would accommodate the annual spring tarantula migrations across school grounds!

After 5 weeks they returned with four sets of plans to present to the faculty and students. All told it was a successful project, and bringing the 4th grade class a cooler of Aggie Blue Mint Ice Cream helped positive reviews!



# Community Design Teams

The Community Design Team (CDT) program spearheaded by **Professor Phil Waite** is the major fund raising venue for the USU Student Chapter of the ASLA. A CDT is composed of a group of 3 to 8 students and a faculty advisor that will, for a donation to the USU Student Chapter of the ASLA, tackle the client's design need. The spring 2013 CDT is a landscape master plan for the Promontory Expeditionary School in Perry Utah. The client is a public charter school serving grades K-8 in and around Box Elder County and Northern Utah.

One of the things that made this CDT so different was the level of engagement and participation of the users in the process. LAEP students and faculty advisor Phil Waite met with the client and user group multiple times and their efforts and meetings were part of the "expeditionary curriculum" for the charter school students.

The project involved a five acre site that included outdoor learning environments, physical education/play areas, various ecological learning habitats, and a permaculture garden area (including chickens) that produces food for the school's lunch program. Design features included a ropes course, the permaculture garden, and a stormwater harvesting system that captured runoff from the school roof and directs it to a storage area so that captured stormwater can be reused as irrigation for the gardens.

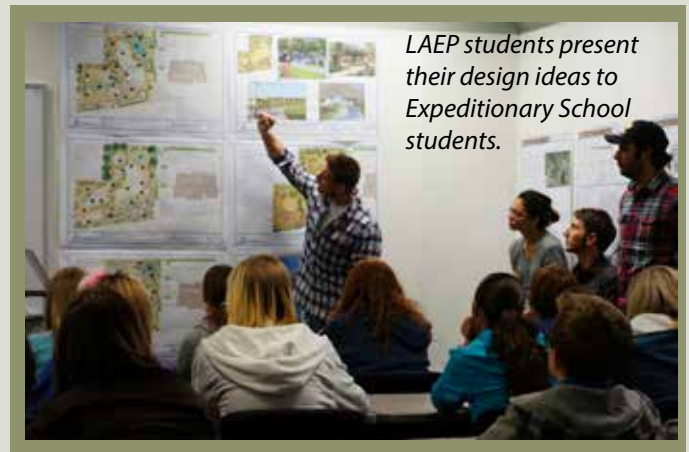
Completing the design were **Chris Binder, Kim Cloward-Drown**, (LAEP grad students), **Keni Stuart** (horticulture student, but accepted to the MLA for 2013), **Abram Sorensen**, (LAEP sophomore), **Scott Harris, Bret Nielsen, Tim Bowler, Luigi Dragonetti, Joanie Christiansen and Sam England** (LAEP juniors.) They are proposing



*The school in Perry, Utah.*

learning gardens which incorporate different types of spaces that grades K-6th can interact with and gain a valuable hands on learning experience. Project elements found in the design in addition to those listed previously include an outdoor classroom, running track, orchard, natural playground, ecosystem biomes, sundial & a playing field.

The team has been working together weekly designing this project in addition to their regular coursework.



*LAEP students present their design ideas to Expeditionary School students.*



*The completed design.*



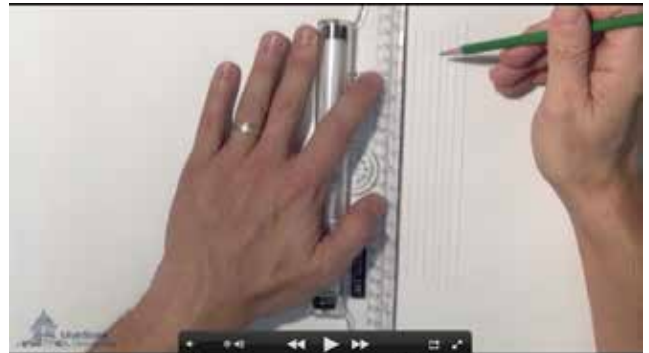
# LAEP Curriculum Changes

In 2012, key curriculum changes have been adopted in several program areas. Through recommendations by 2011 LAAB accreditation teams, the Advancement Board's Curriculum + Careers Committee, and examination of national trends, both the BLA and MLA received key course changes.

◆ **MLA** - Graduate students have gained an expanded set of elective opportunities, along with a new Research Methods course, and will conduct a public display of thesis topics through posters and defenses.

◆ **BLA** - Students in the bachelors degree will now benefit from a GIS course, along with a fully revamped Senior Capstone studio, which offers them multiple problem tracks based upon varying scales. This expanded course derives its problem from the annual Charrette, and encompasses the range of skills the degree covers.

◆ **Online courses** have, in recent years, been a growing option within LAEP's offerings. Students anywhere can now enroll in USU's Introduction to Landscape Architecture, History of Landscape Architecture, and Woody Plants Identification. Kris Kvarfordt and Ben George, adjunct faculty members, are actively developing an online version of Basic Graphics in Landscape Architecture. We are also exploring additional courses for the near future as we seek to reach geographically distant learners. As an institution, Utah State is a leader in the investment it has made in online/distance education. The roots of LAEP's involvement in this realm go back to Prof. John Ellsworth's early explorations in the topic. Ironically, John and Sean had teamed up on this subject years before the latter joined the Department.



*Kris Kvarfordt demonstrates drawing technique for a new Basic Graphics online course.*

◆ **A Sustainable Systems Minor** started with the foundations course LAEP 2039. The course covered a variety of topics to help students build a solid framework of concepts for the rest of the minor. This course is the first one in the eighteen-credit minor available to all USU students. The course includes from guiding concepts to evaluation and examples of applied sustainable development efforts. This semester the course included students from Natural Resources, Engineering, Agriculture, and of course Landscape Architecture.

◆ **New print room** - students now have the ability to plot large documents on 3 different machines in two locations, and scanning large projects became so much easier. The original print room holds one Canon plotter which as been in service since 2006, and an HP Photoquality plotter in service since 2011. In the second, new print room, is an HP plotter/scanner installed Fall 2012 and for smaller prints, (8 1/2 x 11 and 11 x 17), a full-size Sharp copier has been leased. The new room dramatically increases the printing options for students with less breakdowns. All machines are purchased or leased with student course fees.



# Advancement Board Success

A remodel of the LAEP Jury Room is complete with new tables and chairs added in late January. Six sectional tables have electric access for students to plug in laptops. This is especially important for Professor Shujuan Li's Advanced Computer Applications course. Students work in GIS and other programs throughout the course with individual laptops.

Student-requested rolling chairs will allow them to move about the room for each presentation in a jury without having to pick up the chair.

The room also includes a Smart Board, a full size projector and screen, which can be lowered from

the ceiling via a switch.

The Jury Room remodel was an initiative of Sean Michael when he started as Department Head four years ago. He proposed a plan to change the cramped, window-less space with a low ceiling, to a centerpiece for the department. He envisioned a glass entry and tearing out the 70's ceiling tiles to open up the room.

The remodel was not without considerable cost, however, as heating and ventilation for the entire building had to be connected through the room, along with the glass entry, carpet and fixtures. The Department secured classroom improvement

funds to hire Design West Architects to develop the initial architectural estimate. Sean Michael presented the plans to the LAEP Advancement Board at the fall 2010 board meeting. At the meeting, the Board voted to complete the project through member donations.

Sean Michael said, "The department is very lucky to have such dedicated alumni serving on our Advancement Board. The people on the board are some of the most successful in the field of landscape architecture, yet they take the time to give back to USU. We are very grateful for their time and donations to remodel this space."

## Alumni Jury Room

Department of Landscape Architecture and  
Environmental Planning

*Glass doors at the front open up the space.*



A panoramic view of the room can be found at [laep.usu.edu-alumni/giving-advancement board](http://laep.usu.edu-alumni/giving-advancement-board)

[http://www.gardentaining.com/virtual\\_tours/jury\\_room\\_2-8/jury\\_html5.html](http://www.gardentaining.com/virtual_tours/jury_room_2-8/jury_html5.html)



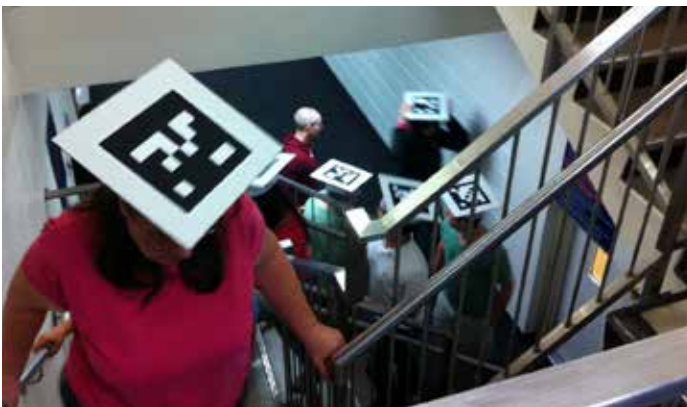
# Faculty Research

In November, approximately two hundred people participated in a series of pedestrian experiments conducted by **Keith Christensen** to measure the behaviors of individuals with mobility-related disabilities. Those who participated in the experiments walked along corridors, through doorways, up and down stairs, and to collect that data, the research team developed an automated video tracking system which recorded the location of every individual within a half an inch, 50 times a second, by tracking a graduation cap on which was a unique QR code worn by each participant. One innovative feature of the video tracking system is its ability to track individuals as they move from one camera to another, which allowed the research team to track a larger area.

The experiments produced over 27 terabytes of video data resulting in roughly 10 million data points. The study represents the largest and most accurate analysis of pedestrian movement, and one of only a few to have included individuals with disabilities. The data will be used for the continued development of an individual-based simulation model that will reflect the behaviors of diverse populations for use in performance-based design approaches. In addition, the research team is continuing to develop the video tracking system to support markerless pedestrian tracking for anonymous behavior measurement in public environments. A full description of the video tracking system and methods will be published under *Utilizing Augmented Reality Technology for Crowd Pedestrian Analysis Involving Individuals with Disabilities* in the proceedings of the 2013 International Design Engineering Technical Conference.



**Top:** the constructed walkway.  
**Middle :** Keith laughs with the QR coded students  
**Bottom:** Walking the experiment



## Look Who Presented

The LAEP Speaker Series began in 2007 by Lindsay Ex, a 2010 MLA graduate and has continued to grow stronger each year as new graduate students with the support of a faculty member have taken charge. The Speakers Series is a time for professionals and experts related to the landscape architecture field to come and present award winning or noteworthy projects to the students. The speaker series occurs every other Wednesday at 11:30pm in the Fine Arts-Visual building room 150.

The Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning Department would like to extend a thank you to all of our guest speakers that have participated so far and encourage other professionals to continue to participate. If you are interested in becoming one of our guest speakers, please contact Dr. Shujuan Li at shujuan.li@usu.edu or graduate student Kimberly Cloward Drown at kcloward@gmail.com.

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### Fall 2012

**Joe Porter** - Founding Principal of Design Workshop

**Blake Wright** - President of Architectural Design West in Logan, Utah

**John Suarez** - Principal of SBD Studio in Scottsdale, Arizona

**Dr. John Shivik** - Research biologist with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

**Laura Bandara** - an award winning landscape designer who is currently working as an LAEP adjunct faculty member and independent consultant. Who previously worked for AECOM Design + Planning.

### Spring 2013

**Dr. Michael Glauser** - Director of Entrepreneurial Programs at Utah State University

**Christopher Sands** - Principal, Planning and Landscape Architect at BioWest in Logan, Utah

**Brandon Reed** - Principle and Owner at Landform Design Group in Salt Lake City Utah

**Bradley Cantrell** - Director and Associate Professor at the School of Landscape Architecture in Louisiana State University

**Richard Shaw** - Principal and Partner at Design Workshop in Aspen, Colorado

**Mark Vlasic** - Principal and President at Landmark Design in Salt Lake City, Utah

**Dr. Ryan Perkl** - Assistant Professor at the School of Landscape Architecture at the University of Arizona



John Suarez



Richard Shaw



Chris Sands



# Distinguished

## Alumni - 2012

### Larry Harmsen - BLA '83



Larry is seen center with his award after his presentation to LAEP students in the new Alumni Jury Room.

Chief Operating Officer of ProLogis the Americas, the world's largest owner, manager and developer of distribution facilities.

Larry Harmsen has overall responsibility for all aspects of business performance for ProLogis' operations in North and South America. He has been responsible for capital deployment in North America since July 2005.

Previous to this and since 2003, Mr. Harmsen had been responsible for capital deployment in North America's Pacific Region. Prior to this and since 1995, Mr. Harmsen oversaw ProLogis' Southern

California market. Mr. Harmsen was a vice president and general partner of Lincoln Property Company for 10 years. Mr. Harmsen received his MBA from the University of Illinois, and both his BLA and BS in Business from Utah State University, where Larry is a long-standing member of the LAEP Advisory Board. In 2004, Mr. Harmsen was president of the Southern California chapter of the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP). He served as a director of the chapter from 2001 through 2004.

# Distinguished

## Alumni - 2012

### Fauzi Abu Bakar – BLA '87

Fauzi enrolled in LAEP at Utah State University, in 1983 after graduating from Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (UPM) with Diploma in Agriculture. He was sponsored by the Malaysian Government to study at USU.

Fauzi graduated with a BLA in 1987 and worked in Salt Lake City for six months before returning to Malaysia. On his return to Kuala Lumpur in 1988, Fauzi has worked for an Architecture and Planning firm, Messrs Akitek Jururancang (M) Sdn Bhd as a Landscape Architect, participated in preparation of Development Masterplan of New Townships, Shopping and Commercial Complexes, Low and Medium Cost Housings, Leisure and Recreational Parks. In 1989 he was posted in Vietnam to oversee the design and planning for redevelopment projects in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi.

In 1992, Arkilandskap Sdn Bhd a landscape architecture consultancy firm was incorporated with Fauzi as Managing Director. Major projects undertaken were Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA), Langkawi International Airport, Sultan Ismail Petra Airport; Landscape Masterplan for PUTRAJAYA –A New Administrative Center; Landscape Masterplan for New Townships of PROTON CITY in Behrang, NUSAJAYA in Johor, SUNWAY housing and resort, shopping complexes such as Mid-Valley City (MegaMall), Kompleks Kota Raya in Johor. Then, in 1994, In-Site Design was incorporated for consultancy services in Landscape Architecture, Urban Design and Environmental planning. Fauzi was involved in Landscape Masterplanning and designing of New Townships of Tajurah, in Tripoli, Libya; New Township of Parand and Hashgerd in Iran and New Township in Ulaan Batur, Mongolia.

In-Site Design has been involved extensively in planning, designing of Public Parks and Recreational Projects in Malaysia.

Since 1988, Fauzi was actively involved in establishing the Landscape Architecture profession as a new



*Fauzi receives his award with Michael Timmons at the annual LAEP award banquet in April, 2012.*

specialized field in the development and construction industry of Malaysia. He was a past president of the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) 1992-1996; Fellow Member of ILAM, Board Member of Discipline ILAM; Member, Board of Studies of MLA Programme for International Islamic University of Malaysia; Member, Board of Studies of PhD in Landscape Architecture Programme for University of Technology Malaysia; Member of National Accreditation Board in Landscape Architecture of ILAM and External Examiners to IIUM and UPM.



# 75th anniversary celebration toward a century of excellence

Toward a Century of Excellence, is the theme of the Landscape Architecture & Environmental Planning Department's 75th Anniversary, which is quickly approaching in 2014. This theme reflects the great legacy this department has had and will continue to have in the future. A quote by John Ruskin, exemplifies the department's position, "Our duty is to preserve what the past has had to say for itself, and to say for ourselves what shall be true for the future."

As we approach this momentous event we have selected Labor Day Weekend, August 28-September 1 in 2014, to celebrate all of the department's great achievements. By attending, alumni will be able to connect with fellow classmates and other alumni and also rub shoulders with the energy of our current students, who are excited to begin their careers in landscape architecture.

**The 75th Anniversary Celebration events may include:**

- Opening Social at the Swaner Nature Preserve*
- Class reunions and dinner on the quad*
- BBQ in Logan Canyon*
- Golf tournament*
- Tours of the Department*
- Educational sessions for Continuing Education Credit (CEU's)*
- Dinner on the Quad*
- Cracker Barrel (Oral histories with Michael Timmons)*
- Gala at the Riverwoods with entertainment from a jazz ensemble*







**August 28 - September 1 • 2014**

[www.laep75.usu.edu](http://www.laep75.usu.edu)

The 75th Anniversary Committee was formed two years ago to organize this grand celebration. Along with coordinating events, they have also begun contacting class leaders for each of our department's 75 years. These class leaders will soon be contacting each of their classmates to help publicize the Celebration and help with specific class reunion events.

To receive the most up to date information about the Celebration, please connect with us by joining the department's Facebook and/or LinkedIn page and bookmarking the 75th Anniversary website ([laep75.usu.edu](http://laep75.usu.edu)) which will fully launch on September 1st 2013.

**"Time does not change us. It just unfolds us."**  
*Max Frisch*

## **75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*Co-chairs:*

Jan Striefel (MLA, '78)

Nancy Monteith (MLA, '02)

Jay Nielson (BLA, '72)

Marcus Pulsipher (BLA, '07)

Chris Sands (MLA, '94)

David Anderson (MLA, '94/  
Faculty)

David Bell (BLA, '70/Faculty)

Vern Budge (BLA, '65/Faculty)

Craig Johnson (Faculty)

Michael Timmons (Faculty)

*Members:*

Ken Brooks (MLA, '77)

Geoff Ellis (MLA, '96)

Jamie Maslyn-Larson (MLA,  
'97)

Kathy Allen (Dept Rep)

Pamela George (BLA, '09/  
Dept Rep)



# Alumni Highlights



## Yue Zhang

MLA - '12

Second Professional Degree

She evaluated four high-profile streetscape projects, monetized multiple landscape performance benefits, and produced four peer-reviewed case studies for the LAF.

Yue also presented the study findings to all the staff members at Design Workshop (firm partner of the CSI program). Furthermore, Yue co-authored with Pamela Blackmore and Bo on a peer-reviewed publication based on the LAF study. Yue is currently an Assistant Designer at The Planning Center | DC&E in Santa Ana, CA.

**M**s. Yue Zhang received her MLA degree in 2012. Her thesis study presents a cost-effective method for Mount Pleasant, Utah to reclaim its wastewater through a constructed wetland system. The system is expected to meet the increasing demand on wastewater treatment because of population growth and to substantially reduce the City's culinary water use for irrigation.

In summer 2012, Yue worked as Dr. Bo Yang's research assistant for the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF)'s Case Study Investigation program.

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## Recent Graduates

Where are they now...

### BLA Graduates

**Glenden Bytheway** ('12) - Quality Engineer Associate at Paragon Medical, Logan, UT

**Devin Christensen** ('11) - Project Manager Great Western Park and Playground, Wellsville, UT

**Kaleb Evans** ('12) - PMG Environmental in Richmond, UT

**David Harrison** ('12) - The Portico Group in Seattle, WA

**Dustin Hislop** ('11) - Landscape Designer/Environmental Planner Logan Simpson Design - Phoenix area

**Nathan Kilchrist** (12) - Owner of Urban Wilderness in Logan, UT

**Rachel Lingard** ('11) - IO Design Collaborative in Ogden, UT

**Abel Lish** ('11) - Project Estimator, Great Western Landscape, Orem, UT

**Taylor McNamee** ('12) - McGowen Russell Group in Winnipeg Manitoba, Canada

**J.D. McWhinnie** (12) - J. Galle Landscapes: Artistry & Design in New York

**Allen Perry** (12) - Transcon Environmental in San Francisco, CA

**Ben Swaner** ('11) - Landscape Architect, US Army Corp of Engineers, Walla Walla, WA

**Travis Tanner** ('12) - Stetan Construction in Salt Lake City, UT

**Rob Waner** ('12) - Valley Crest in Las Vegas, NV

**Natalie Watkins** ('12) - Caldwell Richards Sorensen & Cache County in Logan, UT

## LAEP Grad Branches Out

**A**manda Goodwin (MLA '11) coordinates surface management for gathering operations (pipelines and facilities) including stormwater and reclamation practices for Encana Oil and Gas in Colorado. She develops and reports compliance plans and systems for sediment, erosion and restoration related issues, including soils, stormwater BMPs, wildlife, wetlands, federal and private lands, and other programs. Amanda works equally in the field, office and region to manage environmental issues. She acts as liaison between contractors, clients, land owners and the general public.

While a graduate student in LAEP, Amanda worked with Professor **Bo Yang** on his research of stormwater BMPs. Amanda's thesis was an evaluation of three types of BMP design and their performance and efficiency. She conducted field surveys of twelve BMP sites across the country and presented her work at academic conferences. and collaborated with Kris Kvarfordt and Bo Yang on a full day workshop of Low-Impact Development and Green Infrastructure design. She and Bo also worked on a Landscape Architecture Foundation's research project that evaluates the performance benefits of landscape design in master-planned communities.



Revegetation Project

## Amanda Goodwin

MLA - '11

- **Pros:** hands-on field, policy and design experience, fast paced independent work environment, creative solutions.
- **Cons:** broad dynamic scope, mountain lions.
- **Skills Utilized:** project management, surveying, grading design, soil chemistry, plant ecology, restoration ecology, water, wetland and wildlife policy, research technique, GIS, Autocad, Excel.



**Contract Environmental Field Coordinator  
Encana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc.**



Applying Hydromulch



# Alumni Highlights

## Cameron Bodine

BLA - '11

It's hard to believe that only two short years ago I was sitting in the senior studio in Logan, finishing up final projects, volunteering with the National Park Service, and hoping that some sort of job would work out once I graduated. Luckily, I was brought on temporarily with the National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) as a Landscape Architect Intern. This internship allowed me to collaborate on a wide range of projects including a trails and open space plan for Tremonton, UT, a sign plan for a multiple use trailhead near Big Rock Candy Mountain, and a trail map of the Jordan River Parkway Trail.

After a year and a half with RTCA, I worked for a summer with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) as a Recreation Intern in Visual Resource Management. Besides traveling through the most beautiful areas of Utah assessing scenic quality, I was in the state

*Cam Bodine (in the hat) with former LAEP faculty member Peter Kumble and other American students at Czech University of Life Sciences.*



office ensuring the data collected conformed with the BLM GIS geodatabase standards. Less than a year ago, I learned of the opportunity to earn a graduate degree in Land and Water Management from the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague. My fiancé and I sold what we could of our prized possessions, moved the rest to my parent's basement, packed a couple bags, and jumped across the pond. The program is providing me a great technical skill set that compliments my BLA from USU quite nicely.

When you live abroad, your eyes get opened to not only a new culture

and way of thinking, but you become more in tune to what you value and the way you want to live your life. I will be here for another year or so, then after that, who knows. I couldn't have guessed that I would be where I am now when I was a student at USU, but I know that the hard work I put in then has had a tremendous impact on what I have been able to achieve and experience. I am grateful for the opportunities I have had and the people that I have met along the way. I look forward to the next adventure!

## Recent Graduates

Where are they now...

### MLA Graduates

**Brock Anderson** ('11) - Design West Architects in Logan, UT

**Neal Barth** ('12) - Business Development & Operations , Renewable Energy and Marketing - YVirtual

**Tom Cluff** ('12) - Planning & Building Administration at Fremont County in Idaho

**Jeff Dzikowski** ('12) - Design Workshop in Salt Lake City, UT

**Kate Spears** ('12)- Denton House Design Studio in Salt Lake City, UT

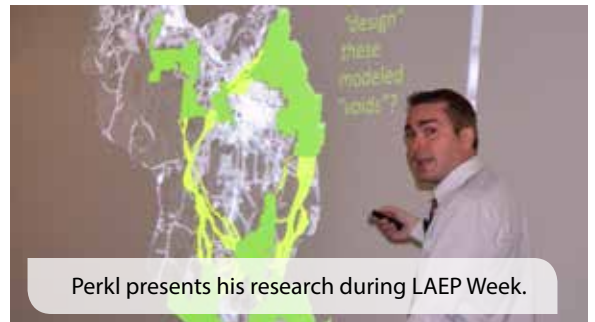
# Craig Johnson Fund for Excellence



Kim Harris (center) with mentor Professor Shujuan Li during USU Research Week. Kim was part of the undergraduate research forum. Ryan Perkl discusses her findings with LAEP student Michael Knight listening in.



Carlos Licon and Ryan in a discussion with faculty.



Perkl presents his research during LAEP Week.

## Ryan Perkl, PhD

Assistant Professor, University of Arizona,  
School of Architecture and Planning

Dr. Ryan Perkl visited USU April 10, 2013 for LAEP Week as the *Craig Johnson Fund for Excellence* Speaker.

Perkl, is an Assistant Professor in the School of Landscape Architecture and Planning and an affiliated member of faculty for both the Arid Lands Resource Sciences Interdisciplinary Doctoral Program and the Institute of the Environment at the University of Arizona. He holds degrees from Clemson University in both Environmental Design and Planning (Ph.D) and City and Regional Planning (MS) as well as a BS in Environmental Science and Land Use Planning from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

With a primary focus in geospatial components of environmental and conservation planning, his past research has involved the development and evaluation of spatial habitat patch models, development of trans-boundary and ecoregion-scale connectivity models and conservation plans, assessing the use of human footprint datasets in corridor modeling, investigating the environmental and social impacts of conservation easements, and the implementation of projection-based modeling in infrastructure planning.

Dr. Perkl's lecture included his current research focus

on wildlife connectivity modeling and corridor design. He was acknowledged as one of two "Best Lightning Talks" during the 2012 GeoDesign Summit for his work entitled "GeoDesigning Landscape Linkages: Coupling GIS and Corridor Design in Conservation Planning". In addition to being featured in the 2012 Summer Edition of ArcNews, he has also recently published co-authored work in a book entitled "Landscape-scale Conservation Planning" with an additional manuscript in-press for the journal "Issues in Ecology". Dr. Perkl is also a research PI currently under contract with the Arizona Department of Game and Fish where he is leading a team involved in modeling landscape integrity and connectivity for the State of Arizona. Perkl shared Game and Fish work with LAEP students and faculty and worked with students in **Shujuan Li's** graduate-level Planning for Wildlife class.

*The Craig Johnson Fund for Excellence* was created with donations from the Johnson family and alumni of LAEP upon the retirement of Craig Johnson after 41 years of teaching in the department. Craig wished the funds be used to bring speakers to Logan who were doing cutting-edge research in wildlife planning.



# Awards and Scholarships 2013

# LAEP Awards Ceremony April 12, 2013



Senior **Pamela Blackmore** was recognized by the faculty with the Senior Faculty Medal for her outstanding work, but she was also recognized within the university and nationally. Pam was chosen as a one of the Landscape Architecture Foundation's Undergraduate Olmsted Scholar Finalists and received the Utah State University Honors Thesis Award .

**Pamela Blackmore**  
Senior Faculty Medal, LAF Olmsted Finalist, USU Honors Thesis Award with Sean Michael

**Betsy Byrne** received an **Outstanding 3rd Year Graduate** award and the **Graduate Leadership Award** as the “go-to” person in the graduate studio, and for planning and arranging speakers for the LAEP Speaker Series.

This year the faculty chose two outstanding 3rd year grads. **Dayton Crites** was also selected, but could not attend the banquet. Dayton was the **Utah State University Graduate Olmsted Scholar** of the year.




**Betsy Byrne**  
Outstanding 3rd Year Graduate Student and Graduate Leadership Award.



**Chris Binder**  
Outstanding 1st Year Graduate Student  
Dave Anderson presenting the award



**Jennifer Maughn**  
Outstanding Junior  
Phil Waite presenting the award.



**Nicholas Decker**  
Outstanding Sophomore  
Dave Evans presenting the award.



**Scott Krumm**  
Senior Leadership Award

Not Pictured:  
**Matthew Coombs - Outstanding Second Year Graduate Student**



**Michael Gottfredson**  
Laval Morris Travel  
with **Michael Timmons**



**Whitney May**  
Kenji Shiozawa Scholarship



**Kim Cloward-Drown**  
Utah ASLA Scholarship  
with **Geoff Ellis (Utah-ASLA)**



**Carly Klein**  
GAIA Travel Scholarship

### **Laval Morris Travel Award**

**Michael Gottfredson** plans to travel to England in the summer of 2013. The Laval Morris Award was created by the family of Laval Morris, founder of the LAEP program, who believed in the enrichment of international travel for students. The award provides \$1,000 for the trip.

### **Kenji Shiozawa Scholarship**

**Whitney May** will be given \$1,000 to assist in completing her senior year in 2013-14. The Shiozawa Scholarship was created by the family of Kenji Shiozawa, the first graduate student of the department. Upon graduating with his MS in Landscape Architecture Shiozawa was made an instructor. Laval Morris and Kenji Shiozawa taught all classes from 1949-1957.

### **Utah ASLA Memorial Fund**

**Kim Cloward-Drown** was chosen as the first recipient of the Utah Chapter of the American Association of Landscape Architects Scholarship. She will receive \$1,000. Students must be ASLA national and student chapter members and are chosen for their outstanding work and participation in all the program has to offer. Kim took over organizing the Speaker Series her first year in LAEP.

### **GAIA Travel Scholarship**

created by **Alyssia Angus** (MLA, '99) and **Sharen Hauri** (MLA, '00) to provide travel assistance to a female graduate student because the two believe international travel to be one of the most important experiences during their time at USU.

The award of \$500 was given to **Carly Klein**, 1st year graduate student. Carly will travel to China in May, '13.

### **John K. Nicholson Memorial Scholarship**

awarded \$500 to **Gordo Wood** to assist with costs of the Slovenian Exchange program. Gordo attended

classes at the University in Ljubljana spring 2012.

The scholarship was created as a memorial to former faculty member John Nicholson who was instrumental in establishing the exchange program in Slovenia.

### **David Jensen Scholarship**

The David Jensen Scholarship was started by David Jensen (BFA, '65) and his wife to provide one graduate student per year \$5,300 in tuition reimbursement to a student the faculty feels would best continue the type of work David Jensen and Associates produce in Denver, Colorado.

The award was given to 1st year graduate student **Nicholas Tanner** for the 2013-14 school year. Nick could not be at the award banquet.

### **Kenneth G. Volkman Memorial Scholarship**

The award was given to **Luigi Dragonetti** for the 2013-14 school year. The Volkman Scholarship was created by friends and family of Kenneth Volkman to honor a man who was a benevolent community member and landscape designer who would help anyone in need.

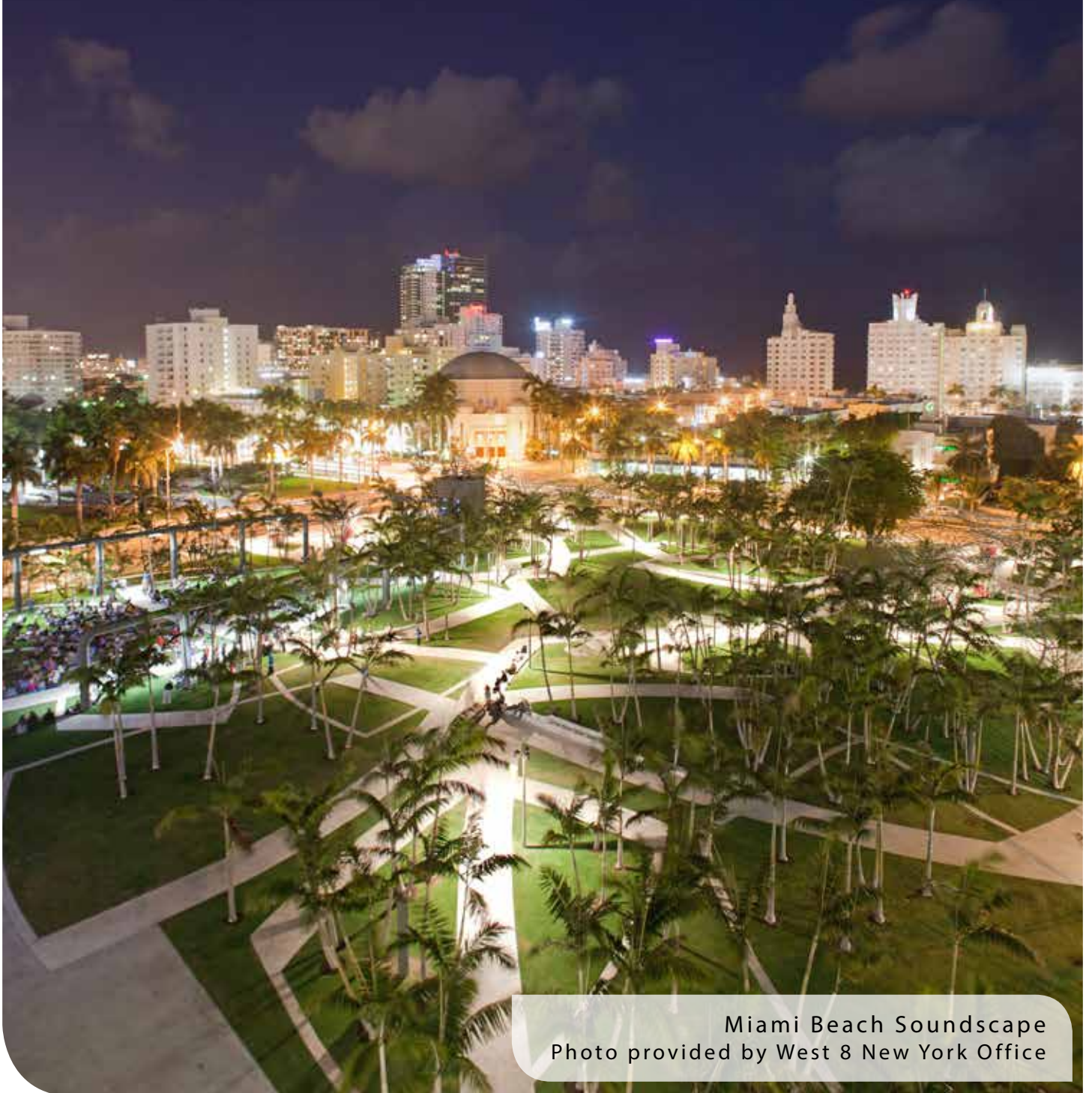
Luigi is from the Dominican Republic and is a junior in the program. He is involved in all student activities in LAEP and with international students. He has a big smile and can bridge the gap between students in the various classes. He frequently assists international students with registration and other issues.

If you would like to donate to the department, create a new scholarship or add to one of the existing scholarships, please call 435 797-0500 or go to our website <http://laep.usu.edu/html/scholarships>



# Jamie Maslyn Larson

## West 8 New York Office



Miami Beach Soundscape  
Photo provided by West 8 New York Office

## LONGWOOD GARDENS PHYSICAL MASTER PLAN

# Alumni News

Longwood Gardens Master Plan  
Photo provided by West 8 New York Office

Jamie Maslyn Larson (MLA '97) is a Principal and Partner at West 8's New York office. She is the Principal-in-Charge of West 8's US projects, including Governors Island Park and Public Space Project, Miami Beach Soundscape, and the Master Plan for Longwood Gardens in Pennsylvania. Ms. Larson also recently won a competition for the Fort Mason Center in San Francisco.

West 8 is an award-winning international office for urban design and landscape architecture, founded in 1987 by Adriaan Geuze. Over the last 25 years, West 8 has established itself as a leading practice, with an international team of 70 architects, urban designers, landscape architects and industrial engineers. West 8's main office is based at the port of Rotterdam, and has two branch offices in Belgium and New York. West 8's New York office was established after winning an international design competition for the design of Governors Island Park - a 172-acre island in the New York Harbor.

Larson graduated with a Masters of Landscape Architecture from USU's Department of Landscape Architecture in 1997. Jamie worked for Civitas, Inc. in Denver for seven years and Hargreaves Associates in New York for almost 4 years, before joining West 8 in 2008. Throughout







Fort Mason Center in San Francisco  
Photo provided by West 8 New York Office

her career, Jamie has committed herself to the implementation of complex public space projects by working on all facets of the process: design, public outreach, permitting, and construction administration. She approaches her work with a passion for design, and has the tenacity required to lead complicated projects with multiple jurisdictions into reality. Her work has varied in scale from small urban plazas to 1000-acre public gardens.



Jamie is currently teaching a studio class at Rutgers University's Department of Landscape Architecture, and has presented at conferences and universities across the country. Jamie has also served on the Board of Directors for local chapters of the American Society of Landscape Architects, and has also been published in Landscape Journal.

Governor Island Park  
Photos provided by West 8 New York Office







## Mark van der Zalm van der Zalm Associates



Since graduating from USU with his MLA in 1997, Mark van der Zalm moved back to Vancouver, British Columbia and immediately started his internship and work experience with DMG Landscape Architects. The firm has a long history in public and private practice, and with over 20 staff at the time, it was considered one of the largest landscape architecture practices in the city.

After gaining some experience in a fast-paced, professional organization, Mark took a position as the capital works design lead for the Township of Langley, British Columbia. Mark wanted to work in public service for a period of time, and felt the experience was valuable to understanding the complete process of project conception, evaluation, development, and construction.

During this time, Mark worked under the guidance of Landscape Architect Al Neufeld, and the day-to-day tutelage of David Cocking – parks designer. This experience instilled a great love for public parks and the public process that is necessary to develop public spaces. Two years after taking the position – Mark resigned. It had always been a personal goal to establish his own practice and utilize the invaluable lessons learned in the LAEP program, private practice, and public service. van der Zalm + associates, Inc. was established in 2000 and continues to grow in both staff and portfolio, with an expansive list of projects completed throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.



van der Zalm + associates, Inc. is a full service landscape architecture practice that provides design, construction management, arboricultural services, civil engineering, and environmental planning. The mixture of complimentary land-based services has made van der Zalm + associates (VDZ+A) a small, but comprehensive firm, that is frequently involved in projects from the very early genesis of ideas to the full implementation and construction of projects. VDZ+A employs 13 staff in greater Vancouver, with additional support staff in a small satellite office in Minneapolis. In addition, VDZ International formed a small design office in Beijing, China in 2007 that provide architecture, as well as landscape architectural services to government, and semi-private development throughout China.

VDZ+ A has been fortunate to be involved in many large scale public park projects that have made a positive impact for people and the environment. Some representative projects include the Plaza at the Forks, Winnipeg (featured in LA Magazine, winter 2010). The Plaza at the Forks is Canada's largest youth-focussed plaza, supporting BMX, skateboarding, in-line skating, music events, and general social activities. The Plaza also functions as an outdoor art gallery with display kiosks for youth-oriented art that is programmed by a local gallery. The project won a CSLA National Honor Award in 2007.

VDZ won a 'double gold' National Design Award for a master plan of the city of Yinkou waterfront resort in north eastern China. This project was constructed in 2010, providing preservation of valuable shoreline habitat within an exclusive golf resort and 5-star and hot spring complex. VDZ has recently been honored with a Scandinavian design award for a public plaza development in northern Sweden that focuses on intergenerational play and socialization. The City of Hudiksvall Youth Plaza provides complimentary recreational activities for seniors, and young people and develops social spaces for each to interact, recreate, and play together.

Other important projects over the past 5 years include: Holland Park, Surrey BC, Grandview Park, Vancouver BC, Seattle Centre Skate Plaza, Seattle, Chuck Bailey Olympic centre, Surrey, BC, City of Austin music-city skate plaza, Texas, Gardens of Gethsemane Cemetery Master plan and Environmental remediation plan, and the city of Dalian waterfront promenade and port expansion, Dalian, China.



Chuck Bailey Youth Park, Surrey, British Columbia,  
(also pictured above)  
Photos provided by VDZ+A

VDZ+A consults on a range of public and private development projects, primarily in western Canada, but throughout the USA, and abroad – when the appropriate opportunity presents itself. As a graduate of the LAEP program, Mark credits the dedicated faculty, supportive student environment, and general focus on personal development and growth for his success.

“ When you’re completing the program you’re focused on daily deliverables, assignments, deadlines, and reading, not to mention the odd football and basketball game! I’ve often found myself looking back fondly on my experience at USU. Many of the connections and friends made during those challenging/fun years are still a big part of my life today.”

Mark van der Zalm is a member of the LAEP Advancement Board, past President of the British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects, and current Director of the Pacific Parkland foundation in Vancouver.

[www.vdz.ca](http://www.vdz.ca)  
[mark@vdz.ca](mailto:mark@vdz.ca)



Macklin Park, Coquitlam, British Columbia, Completed 2013  
Photos provided by VDZ+A





The Great Park  
Photo provided by Corbett Belcher

## Corbett Belcher Mia Lehrer



After graduating with a BLA in 2001 from USU's Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, Corbett began practicing in Southern California. He was interested in developing experience in the reclamation of urban infill and the reuse and restoration of public spaces. His work, ranging from regional and community parks to urban redevelopment and corporate headquarters, provided him with invaluable experience on demanding projects.

After working for several years, Corbin was presented with the opportunity to participate on a project which envisions the repurposing of the El Toro Marine Base in Orange County as The Great Park. After joining Ken Smith's team (who had conceptualized the project), Corbett began working on the Master Plan effort. He was instrumental in developing the Preservation Program,





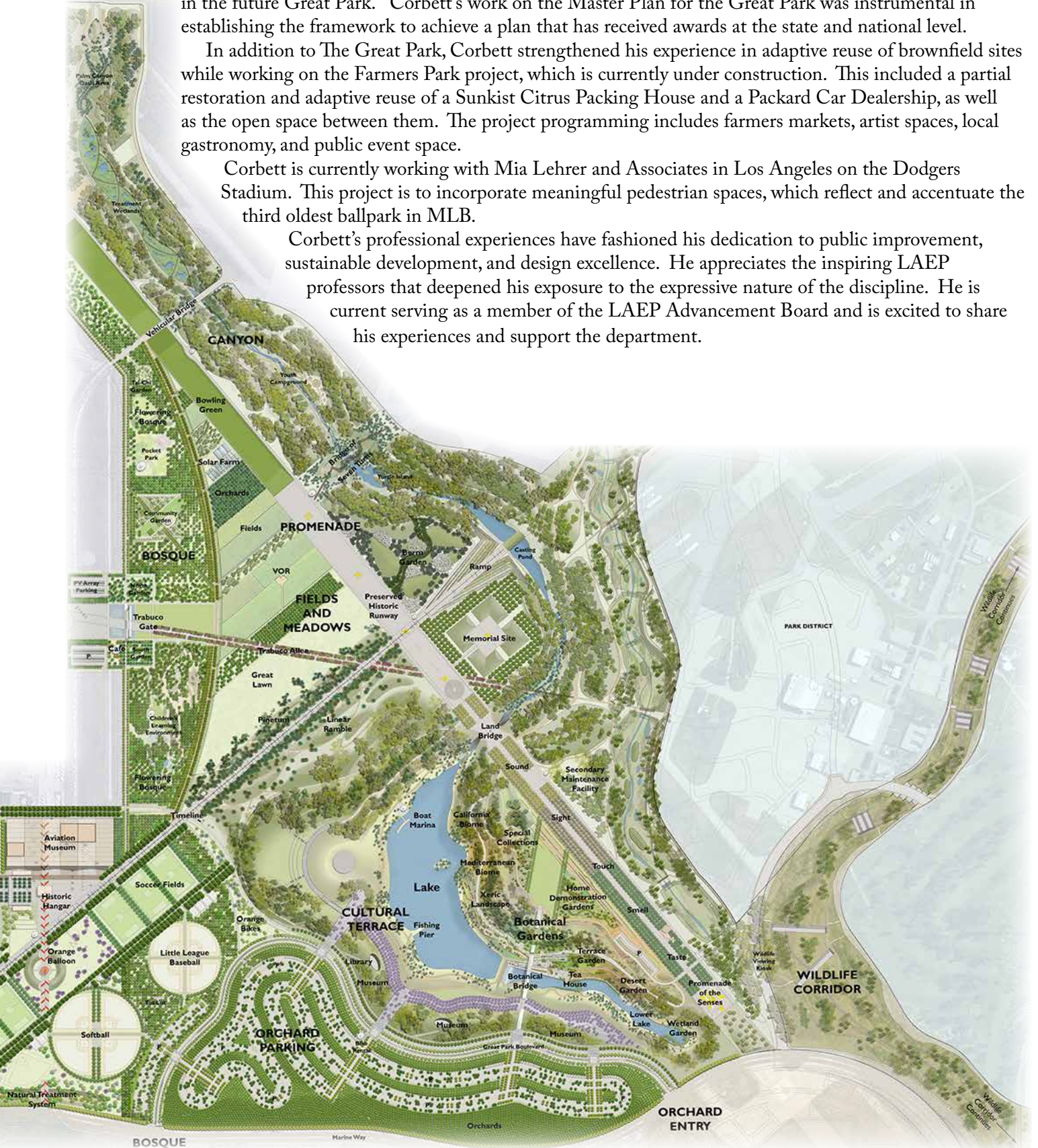
EL TORO CANYON ENTRY

which identified existing resources, artifacts, and uniquely El Toro elements to be preserved and reused in the future Great Park. Corbett's work on the Master Plan for the Great Park was instrumental in establishing the framework to achieve a plan that has received awards at the state and national level.

In addition to The Great Park, Corbett strengthened his experience in adaptive reuse of brownfield sites while working on the Farmers Park project, which is currently under construction. This included a partial restoration and adaptive reuse of a Sunkist Citrus Packing House and a Packard Car Dealership, as well as the open space between them. The project programming includes farmers markets, artist spaces, local gastronomy, and public event space.

Corbett is currently working with Mia Lehrer and Associates in Los Angeles on the Dodgers Stadium. This project is to incorporate meaningful pedestrian spaces, which reflect and accentuate the third oldest ballpark in MLB.

Corbett's professional experiences have fashioned his dedication to public improvement, sustainable development, and design excellence. He appreciates the inspiring LAEP professors that deepened his exposure to the expressive nature of the discipline. He is currently serving as a member of the LAEP Advancement Board and is excited to share his experiences and support the department.





# Faculty

Fresh off of sabbatical, Michael plunged eagerly back into his teaching domains of landscape history, and recreation and open space planning and design. Dealing with real world projects has always been the staple in the recreation studio, and this year proved no different. Working with LAEP colleague and Director of the USU Botanical Center, Dave Anderson, Prof. Timmons' class developed 31 alternative plans for a new performance amphitheater tucked into a hillside overlooking the gardens and a panoramic view of the Great Salt Lake. The design solutions produced will be used by the USUBC to generate interest and funding for the future development of the project. Another project, done in conjunction with the University of Utah Department of Architecture, looked at the development of concept plans for a small ski resort in Cache Valley. A third project examined bicycle trails in Logan, and the final project, a city park master plan for the City of Logan, explored programmatic alternatives as diverse as an active recreation venue, an arts and cultural park, and a nature center. (See student Zach Scott's work below.) The semester highlight was a several day trip to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks.

Michael was also in charge of the annual LAEP department-wide charrette this year, which focused on Brigham City (see separate entry). Being responsible for a day-long field to Brigham the day after a major Northern Utah snow storm, which involved transporting 110 students and 10 faculty in 14 Motor Pool vehicles to the site (with Sardine Canyon closed), accelerated the graying of the remaining few hairs of color on Timmons' head.

Michael's work with National Park Service cultural

## Michael Timmons

Associate Professor



Michael, discussing urban wildlife issues, during a site analysis visit to a proposed Logan city park.

landscapes continues. A Cultural Landscapes Inventory for Timpanogos Cave National Monument in American Fork Canyon has documented the unique human history of an underground landscape, in addition to assessing the above ground support infrastructure developed in the early 20th Century. The preparation of a Cultural Landscape Report for Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument in Crow Agency, Wyoming, was the focus of Prof. Timmons' sabbatical leave. The report is now in the final phase, which involves the development of landscape treatment recommendations for the historic battlefield of "Custer's Last Stand", as well as the adjacent national cemetery.

Zach Scott's  
(BLA '14) completed  
project for LAEP  
3100 Recreation and  
Open Space - City  
Park Master Plan for  
the City of Logan.



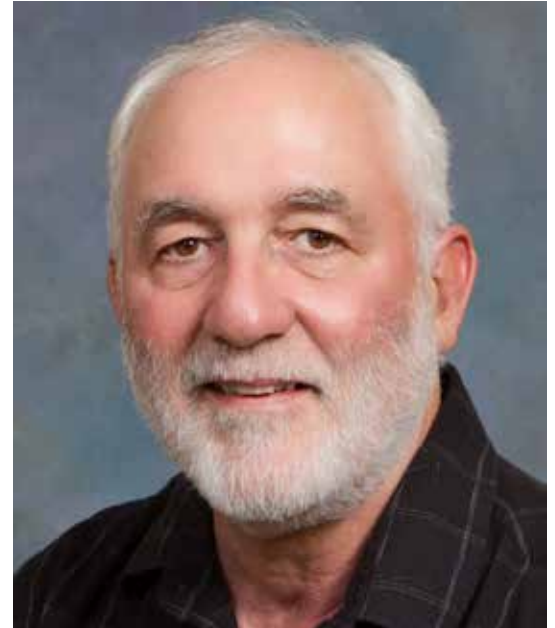
## David Evans

Assistant Professor

**D**avid Evans joined the LAEP faculty in 2012. He teaches Construction Document Preparation, Site Planning & Design, and Communication & Leadership in Professional Practice. For the past twenty-three years, David's practice was centered in California and includes award-winning public planning, design and construction projects. His professional history spans thirty-seven years, and covers a broad spectrum of work including design/build, park and recreation design, downtown and corridor revitalization, community facilitation and the construction of catalyst urban projects.

David's current research examines communication and leadership strategies drawn from a variety of disciplines germane to landscape architecture. Working in collaboration with Sean Michael, he is helping to reshape the LAEP approach to professional practice education.

David is excited to co-lead the spring 2014 travel program to his home base of San Francisco, California. With a rich landscape architectural tradition built around incredible natural beauty and the needs of an outdoor society, the greater Bay Area is a marvel of opportunity and learning for landscape architects. The San Francisco adventure will include visits to some of the most noteworthy landscapes and professional offices in the Bay Area with the added benefit of eating some of the best food in the world.



## Faculty

**L**ast year, enrollment in Shujuan's GIS class continued to grow. Many students submitted their final projects for competitions or conference presentations. Two students from that class are working closely with Shujuan right now. Kimberly Harris' project titled "New West" Development for Remote Western Towns: A Case Study of Utah's Scenic Byway 12 Corridor is funded by the USU Undergraduate Research and Creative Opportunities Grant. Zachary Scott is working on Population Growth and Land Use and Land Cover Change in the Wasatch Front Metropolitan Area. His project is supported by the iUTAH NSF EPSCoR. Also supported by EPSCoR, Enjie Li, a PhD student from the Department of Environment and Society (ENVS) is working with Shujuan



Shujuan in front of the "Bird's Nest" at Olympic Park in Beijing.

## Shujuan Li

Assistant Professor

and Dr. Joanna Endter-Wada (ENVS) on Modeling Residential Water Demands under Climate Change in a Transitional Urban System.

Shujuan's appreciation goes to our alumni and the department for the generosity and support. The brand

new/cozy furniture in the Jury room welcomes a new cohort to the GIS class next semester.

Last but not least, Shujuan will join Bo in leading a 31-student group to China for a two-week field trip this summer!



# Faculty Creative Works

Professor Caroline Lavoie had a wonderful experience this October in Ljubljana, Slovenia. Caroline held an exhibition of her drawings at the Chamber of Architecture and Spatial Planning in downtown Ljubljana. The exhibition, held from October 25 to November 15, 2012, was entitled "Drawn to the Middle Ground: Delineating Western Landscapes." The exhibit showcased Caroline's work with pen and ink printed on paper and large-scale canvas. While in Slovenia, she was invited to present a lecture to the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Ljubljana as part of their lecture series. The lecture was entitled "Vast to Close: Sketching to Comprehend Scale Change in the American West." The student exchange program between the LAEP Department and the University of Ljubljana has existed for 25 years and Caroline's trip helped to maintain and improve the successful connection and long-term relationship. During her visit, Caroline was able to again meet the Slovenian professors and students in the landscape architecture program. Two students from the LAEP Department will be taking classes at the University of Ljubljana next semester followed by two Slovenian students who will attend USU in the fall of 2013. While primarily a business trip, Caroline was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to take a daytrip to a small coastal town to continue her landscape sketching. Pictures of the opening night of the exhibition can be viewed here. [http://www.zaps.si/index.php?m\\_id=Foto%20Galerija](http://www.zaps.si/index.php?m_id=Foto%20Galerija)

In March 2012, Prof Lavoie was part of a group exhibition presented at the CELA 2012 last March at the Figure One Gallery in Champaign Illinois. The show, "Forgotten Frames", examined how slides and slide lectures have had a significant impact on landscape architectural design, history, and education. With their carefully selected slides or "projections," landscape architecture educators have cultivated the skills of critical looking and seeing. The five contributors to the exhibition "Forgotten Frames" offered up their personal slide collection as sites for rediscovering the changed role of slides in documenting, evaluating and conceiving landscapes. Lavoie's piece was entitled "Being Within the Frame" (see LAEP website for a video of the installation) where viewers were invited to move through various layers of slide projections on panels made of fabric of light translucent fabric. The installation simultaneously explored the relationship between the fluidity of movement of the human body and the mechanical movement of the carousel of slides. Landscape Architecture Magazine blog featured the exhibition last April 2012 ([http://](http://landscapearchitecturemagazine.org/2012/04/03/a-show-of-slides/)

## Caroline Lavoie

Associate Professor



Professors from Ljubljana (left to right) with Caroline in front of one of her drawings.



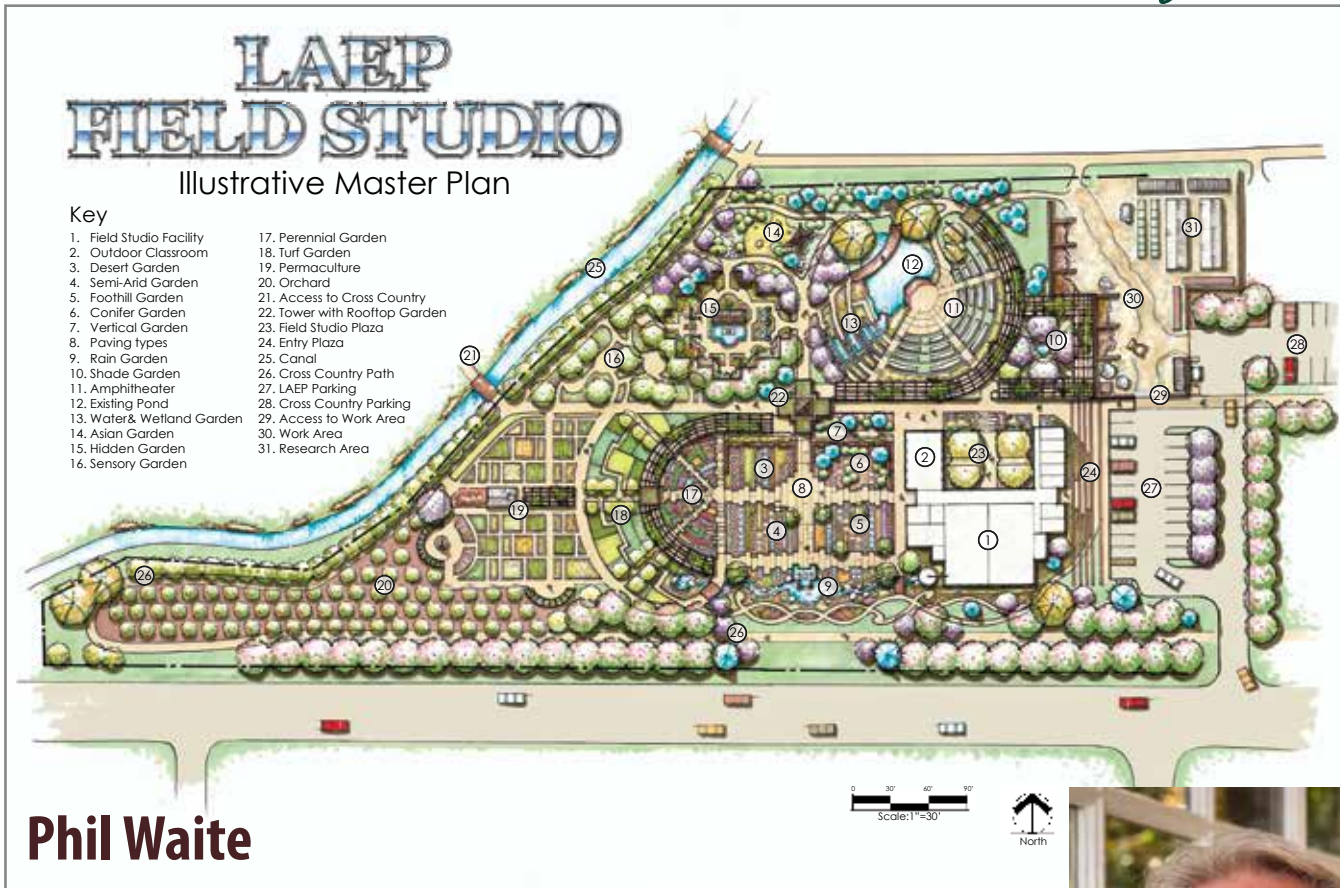
Ljubljana students discuss Caroline's work at the exhibition.



Caroline at "Forgotten Frames" - CELA 2012.

[landscapearchitecturemagazine.org/2012/04/03/a-show-of-slides/](http://landscapearchitecturemagazine.org/2012/04/03/a-show-of-slides/))

With the same group of people, Prof. Lavoie prepared a sketchcrawl for CELA 2013 (March) in Austin Texas along with a panel presentation on "Exploratory Physiocartographies of Place and Time."



*Associate Professor*

Last year design work began on the LAEP Field Studio. What makes the Field Studio unique is that it will be entirely designed, implemented, and maintained by students in the LAEP program and its affiliated Plant, Soils, and Climate department. In the summer of 2012, three LAEP senior students – **Andrew Noorlander, Jessica Van Natter, and Dallin Slater**, along with professor Phillip Waite developed a master plan for the entire five-acre Field Studio site. Professor Waite and the student team visited public, private, and institutional gardens across central and northern Utah gathering inspiration and studying precedents. Additionally, they studied precedents from similar landscape architecture programs and botanical gardens at universities around the country. Their master planning process conducted over the course of the summer included programming, inventory, analysis, diagrammatic planning, and identified where all of the major components of the Field Studio should be located on site.

In September the completed master plan was presented to university and college administrators, and

stakeholders for review and input. Though very well-received and supported, some minor changes were recommended that will enhance the Field Studio's relationship to adjoining land uses. Over the course of the fall semester the master plan was revised while funding and naming opportunities were explored.

In the spring and summer of 2013 implementation planning and staging will move forward with first phases of implementation of the Field Studio planned for the summer and fall of 2014. A new course, LAEP 4150 - Field Studio Experience, will be taught for the first time in the fall of 2013. In this two-credit course, students will get to build the designs that were developed in previous courses. The first project for LAEP 4150 will likely be a portion of the landscape around the new LAEP House. In succeeding years, LAEP 4150 will be focused on phased implementation of designs in the Field Studio.







Keith needed to put his feet up for a bit at "the Bean" sculpture in Chicago.

*According to Wernher von Braun, "Research is what I'm doing when I don't know what I'm doing."*

## Keith Christensen

*Assistant Professor*

between disability advocates and community planning professionals.

In another study, Keith and **Sarawut Jansuwan**, a graduate student in transportation engineering, examined how individuals with disabilities' network of family and friends influenced their transportation access.

Keith also directs a 3-year research project to measure the pedestrian behaviors of individuals with mobility-related disabilities.

In addition to traveling to Chicago with the LAEP Field Trip, Keith made a number of trips to California to work with Royston, Hanamoto, Alley & Abey (RHAA) master planning The Magical Bridge Playground in Palo Alto, California. The playground is designed according to universal design principles for children of all abilities. You can learn more at [www.magicalbridge.org](http://www.magicalbridge.org).

During the summer, Keith fulfilled a long time desire to take a road trip across the U.S. One minivan, just over 2 weeks, and just under 5,000 miles later, mission accomplished! It was a nice break from sanity.

*Tree-hugger Keith with LAEP's "gumby tree" on Park(ing) Day - 2012.*



Keith has spent a lot of time doing research this past year. Working with LAEP graduate student **Kathryn Knight**, Keith completed a pilot study exploring the role the built environment plays in relation to the health behaviors of individuals with disabilities. This study, under review for publication, suggests that individuals with mobility disabilities are likely to participate in light recreation activities more often if they have opportunities to do so within a convenient pedestrian distance of their place of residence. Keith continues to examine this relationship, currently looking more closely at rural environments.

Working with LAEP graduate student **Betsy Byrne**, Keith reviewed state policies for the community inclusion of individuals with disabilities to learn the extent to which they recognized the importance of the built environment in supporting community participation. This soon to be published study, recommended much closer collaboration

This past November, Carlos presented at the Associated Colleges and Schools of Planning 2012 Conference 2012 on Sustainability Assessment of Utah. This project was funded by USU Agricultural Experiment Station and is currently in a second phase of funded support. The project applied a quantitative assessment model of sustainable development possibilities for the counties in Utah. Through an interactive template, a set of indicators of environmental, social and economic conditions of the counties was used to identify opportunities and challenges for sustainable development. This comparative performance evaluation is presented in a graphic mode.

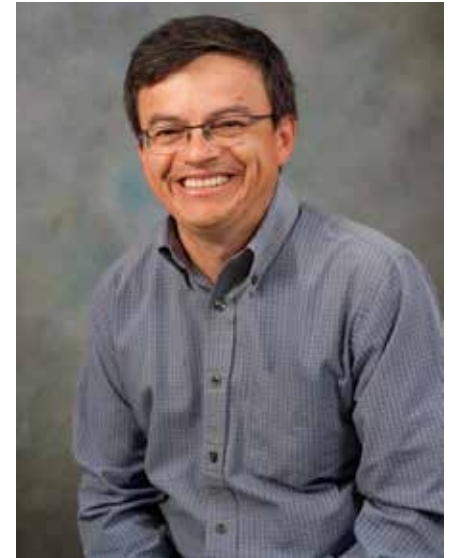
The assessment of sustainability combines the different performance indicators to begin understanding the interconnection that exists between the three main dimensions of sustainability. This effort creates a significant and original change in knowledge. Even though there are multiple applied assessments of sustainability in different areas, this exercise seeks to build an integrated understanding of the conditions supporting and preventing more sustainable actions to occur.

The results of this assessment create an initial benchmark to guide county planning efforts to sustainability, establish a hierarchy of issues to advance sustainability efforts. It also helps decision makers see the aggregated impact of their different assumptions of their development assumptions.

In December 2012, Carlos was invited to participate as a jury member in the final projects for MLA Students in Arizona State University. This was a good opportunity to promote collaborations and to understand how other

programs are focusing courses in landscape planning and design.

In the Regional Planning Master studio, MLA students presented their planning vision scenarios for southern Moab. This project looked into possible scenarios of growth in the area surrounding the future USU Campus in Moab. This project received a Merit Award from the Utah Chapter of the American Society of landscape Architects.



**Carlos Licon**  
Assistant Professor

Research efforts continue with the participation in the Research Team for iUTAH, innovative Urban Transitions and Aridregion Hydro-sustainability. This project includes a large group of faculty from different institutions in Utah. iUTAH is a statewide effort dedicated to maintaining and improving water sustainability in Utah. Funded by the National Science Foundation's EPSCoR program (Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research) this five-year, \$20 million competitive award will assist in building the human and research infrastructure needed to sustainably manage Utah's water resources. The project is in its early stages with teams forming establishing work plans being developed.

In last year's conference of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, Carlos made a presentation of the approach, findings and experiences of a metropolitan planning studio conducted with Professor Lavoie. The senior students in LAEP explored development possibilities for the Monterrey metropolitan area in Northern Mexico. This project required the student to conceptualize approaches through mapping and to identify and describe large critical systems relevant to their approach to action. Proposals developed by students offered interesting insights about how to build and represent knowledge, especially in a remote and relatively unfamiliar place.



Regional Planning Studio growth scenario surrounding the USU Moab campus.





In 2012, Dave Anderson became LAEP's first Professional Practice Associate Professor. He continues to teach our Introductory course, which offers a great overview of Landscape Architecture to 150 students in both Fall and Spring semesters. Thanks to amazing

technology, he also teaches that course via Interactive Video Conferencing to remote USU sites around the state.

During Fall Semester 2012, Dave also worked with **Kris Kvarfordt** in teaching our Introduction to Graphics studio course. He has also developed a new course to prepare students to take the Landscape Architecture licensing exam (LARE).

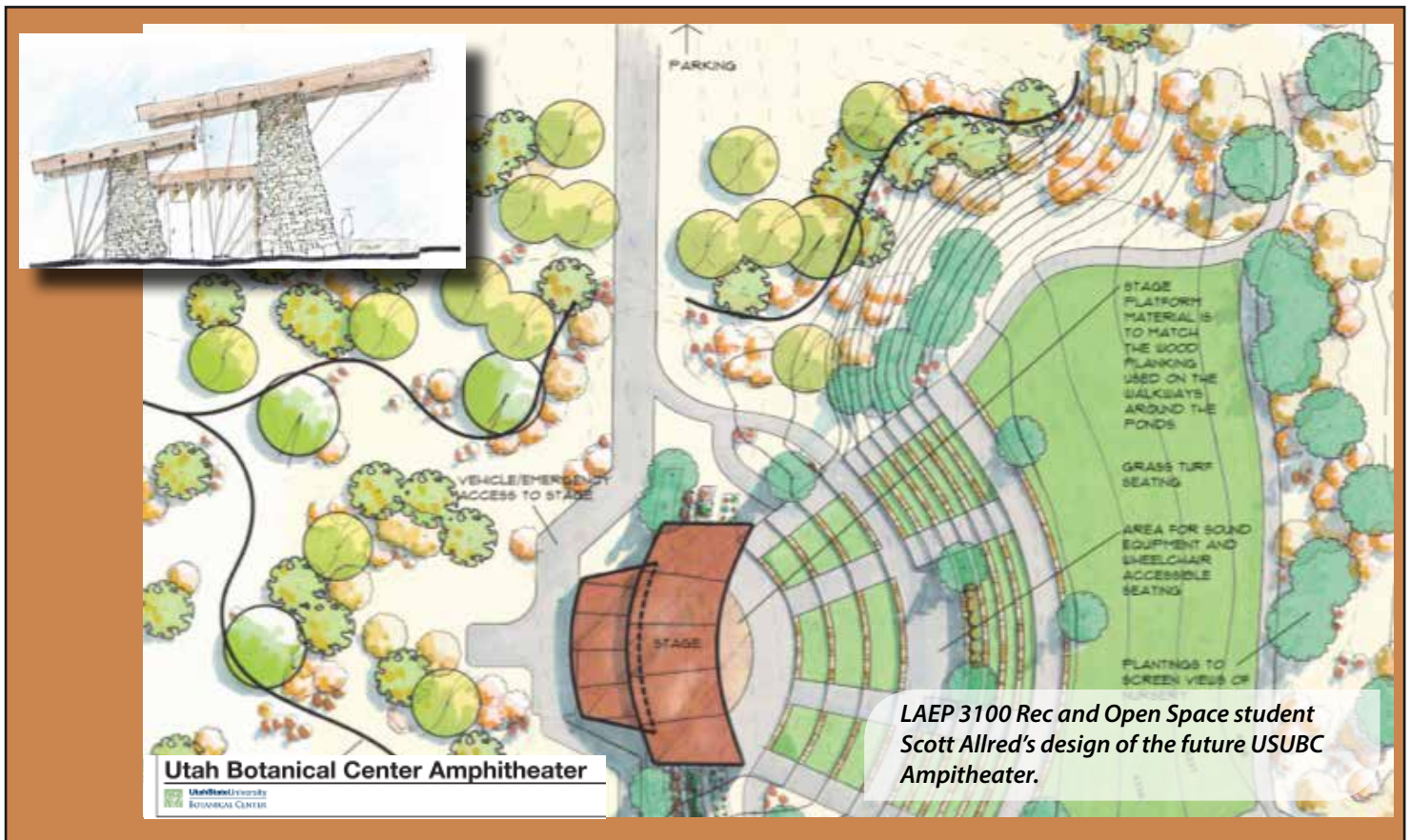
## Dave Anderson

*Professional Practice Associate Professor*

Dave continues to serve as the Director of the USU Botanical Center (USUBC). This year brought great progress to the USUBC with the completion of the Stokes Ornamental Grass and Iris Garden.

They have also started construction on a memorial for the victims of 9-11, a project funded by the Davis County Youth of Promise. In the Spring of 2012, the USUBC was the beneficiary of the Lifetime Company's corporate service day, where over 1,000 Lifetime employees contributed 4,000 hours to the USUBC cleaning debris, trimming, dredging, painting, and repairing to prepare the property for the Spring/Summer season.

A very exciting collaboration involved the USUBC and Michael Timmons' LAEP 3100 course (Recreation & Open Space Planning & Design). During Fall semester, Michael's class developed concepts for a future amphitheater on the USUBC property. Dave enjoyed the interaction with this class and was very pleased with the results of their efforts.



If you are trying to find Bo this semester, you may realize that he is oftentimes on the phone scheduling a field trip that he and Shujuan will be conducting this May in China. Bo, Shujuan and 31 LAEP students will see prominent landscape and urban design projects listed on the itinerary. This two-week trip will include five cities: Beijing, Shanghai, Suzhou, Hangzhou, and Zhouzhuang. A handful of alumni expressed an interest to go together next time (and maybe pay more as a donation to LAEP. Let's keep it a secret for now).

Bo is particularly proud of his students' achievements last year. Two of his MLA students are featured in the alumni section of this magazine. **Amanda Goodwin** (MLA '11) secured a Stormwater Inspector and Reclamation Consultant position at EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) Inc. and recently received a promotion.

**Yue Zhang's** (MLA '12) thesis project of constructed wetland made the City of Mount Pleasant seriously consider this wastewater treatment alternative and the associated environmental and economic benefits. Yue was immediately hired by The



*Bo assisting in the building of a rain garden during the 2012 NIFA-USDA conference in Portland, OR.*

## Bo Yang

*Assistant Professor*

Planning Center (California) after her graduation.

**Pamela Blackmore** (BLA '13) received full travel funding from the USU Honors Program to attend the national ASLA conference. Pam was also nominated as the USU

undergraduate Olmsted Scholar of 2013. Together, Amanda, Yue, Pam, and Bo produced seven peer-reviewed case studies of high-performing landscape projects for the Landscape Architecture Foundation. Further, Pam and Yue co-authored with Bo another publication to be appear in the 2013 CELA conference proceedings.

Bo continues his stormwater quality research in Daybreak community in South Jordan. Thanks to Design Workshop and **Terrall Budge** (BLA, 90) for this excellent green infrastructure design. Bo also collaborates extensively with colleagues from USU and the University of Utah on green infrastructure assessment and modeling, and recently an EPA grant proposal.

Bo is also working with researchers from the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department to help Logan City with its Low-Impact Development design and monitoring initiatives.



*Bo, Pamela Blackmore and Yue Zhang working in the LAEP graduate studio.*



## Kris Kvarfordt, PLA

Lecturer

Kris has been teaching in the LAEP Department as an adjunct instructor since 2003. This past year he had the opportunity to teach LAEP 1200, Basic Graphics. This entry level course establishes the foundational skills that each student will need to continue their coursework and to develop into budding professionals. The course covers many basic techniques necessary for producing graphic plans, sections, elevations and perspective drawings, but emphasizes a broader goal of teaching the students the importance of communication and how graphics can contribute to the development and communication of their ideas. Kris enjoys the time he spends on campus and is inspired by the talent and eagerness to learn displayed by many of the student in the LAEP department.

Kris has also been working closely with Ben George and Research Campus Distance Education staff to begin the design & development of an online section of LAEP 1200. The proposed class will consist of animation, presentation lecture material, video demonstration and other techniques to deliver the content of LAEP 1200 to a broader cross section of the student body, allowing them to review demonstration techniques repeatedly until they feel they have developed proficiency with the technique. The development of this course is an exciting opportunity for the USU student body, but will also allow for students to enroll through distance education around the state.

Kris is currently the Senior Landscape Architect at Cache Landmark in Logan. He works on a broad variety of projects, but especially enjoys traditional landscape architecture and storm water design at the site scale. To see some of the projects Kris has been involved with please visit: [www.cachelandmark.com](http://www.cachelandmark.com)



## Laura Bandara

Lecturer

and place-making as the living medium of social relationships and cultural expression. She has engaged in a wide range of design, planning, and cultural landscape work from the iconic, regional scale of the National Historic Trails to the intimate, subtle scale of a five-acre amphitheater carved from the North Carolina woodlands.

Ms. Bandara is currently co-teaching the senior capstone studio to graduating BLA students with Sean Michael, a re-worked studio course which allows students to engage multiple problems emerging from the January charette which range in scale from a city block up to bio-regional planning. The course challenges

students to demonstrate both the skills and leadership qualities which will help them succeed in the professional world.

In addition to teaching, Ms. Bandara is engaged in regional design and planning work with fellow faculty member Kris Kvarfordt at Cache Landmark. Prior to joining the USU LAEP Department, Ms. Bandara spent four years at AECOM Design + Planning (formerly EDAAW) in Virginia, and before that pursued design research in India and Sri Lanka. Her extensive work and study experience in Africa, Europe, and South Asia are reflected in her language skills; she speaks French, Sinhala, Swahili, and Wolof.

## Ben George

Lecturer

Ben George has been active in working on online course development and teaching over the last year, as well as relishing the opportunity to teach the in class section of History of Landscape Architecture while Professor Michael Timmons was on sabbatical. He was awarded the *2012 Graduate Teacher of the Year* award by the College of Agriculture at the annual college awards banquet last September. His selection for the award was due to his work in developing and teaching courses in both LAEP and the Plants, Soils & Climate department. In receiving the award, Ben was noted for his incorporation of technological tools into the classroom pedagogy and his responsiveness to the learning needs of the students.

He has created over 30 virtual tours of important landscapes in both Europe and North America to allow students in the landscape architecture history course to virtually visit the sites that they were learning about. These virtual tours are available for educators and the public to access at the Digital Library of Landscape Architecture History (DiLiLAH) website. DiLiLAH is an ongoing project and the number of virtual tours on the website will continue to expand, and Ben hopes to include additional resources in the near future.

In his courses, Ben is very excited about the capabilities technology provides to enable teachers to more easily cater course material to the learning needs of individual students. He has developed an adaptive course model where students are encouraged to focus their attention on aspects of the subject matter which are most valuable and interesting to them. While all students must master general course content, several student-choice assignments enable the students to focus more of their energies researching and learning deeper about particular subjects of their choosing.



### 2012 College of Agriculture Graduate Teacher of the Year Award

Most recently, Ben has begun incorporating social media platforms into his online courses to enable students to collaborate on projects and form more meaningful social relationships. This work is part of his doctoral work focussing on facilitating collaborative design work in an online environment.

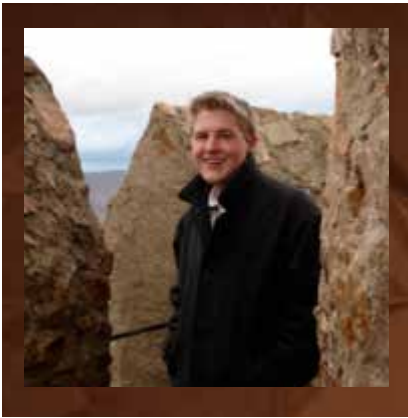
*Ben is shown with Dean Noelle Cockett at the College of Agriculture Award Banquet in fall 2012.*



## 1st Year Graduate Students

### Graydon Bascom

Graydon graduated from the University of Utah with a BS in Urban Planning in May of 2012. His original intention was to study architecture, but he missed the design elements in the planning field of study. He has enjoyed landscaping work throughout the years, and has a love for the outdoors. Throughout his studies, Graydon has had many great experiences, from design workshops, to a semester in Heidelberg Germany. He is excited to study in beautiful Cache Valley. He comes to Logan with his wife Katrina and their three sons.



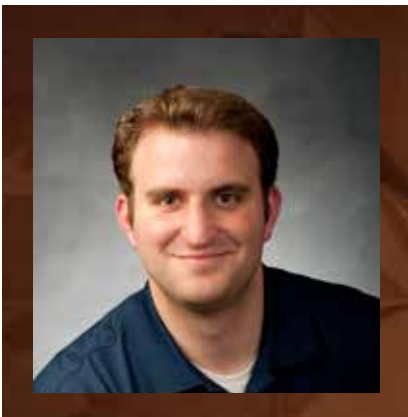
### Chris Binder

Chris Binder comes to USU with professional experience as an educator and as a construction crew leader designing and constructing recreational trails for several non-profit conservation organizations. As a student in the MLA program he hopes to explore creative and resilient solutions to issues related to water cycling, waste management, energy, and food production. His interests include long distance backpacking, bicycle touring, permaculture, nutrition, and organic agriculture. Chris believes that good design will play an essential role in shaping a more desirable future for our communities.



### Grant Hardy

Grant is a native of Seattle and studied Landscape Management and Business Management at BYU. Grant has done freelance landscape design, TA'd design courses, interned with the BYU Planning department, and worked as a landscape designer in Chicago. He enjoys researching water-wise plants, green rooftops, rain water harvesting, and gray water usage. He also enjoys reading, carving, and wants to learn how to paint with watercolor. Grant is looking forward to his years at USU to further hone his skills within design and horticulture.



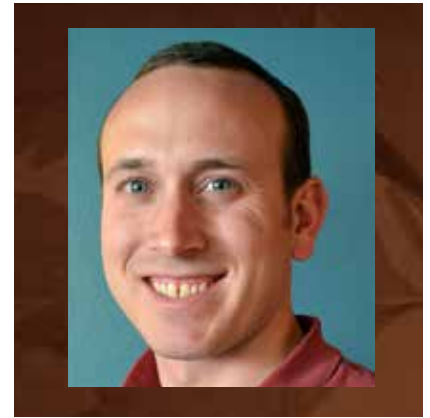
### Carly Klein

Carly grew up in Salt Lake City and graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in Urban Planning in 2010. In the summers while finishing her undergraduate degree, she worked for the Bureau of Land Management as a wildland firefighter. After graduating, she spent six months teaching English and traveling in the Chilean Patagonia. Her love of open spaces brought her back to school to study landscape architecture. Her experiences outside the classroom have helped focus her interests in natural resource management and open space design.



## Stephen Peaden

Stephen comes from Murray, Utah where he found a love for the outdoors from the many nearby mountains and parks, and enjoyed drawing. He graduated from BYU with a degree in Landscape Management, focusing on design, with minors in Business Management and Environmental Science. He has experience working in the green industry, and has worked for a Landscape Architecture firm. He also has experience in maintenance and installation for all types of landscapes from residential and commercial to city and sports turfs. Stephen believes that good planning holds the key to solving problems in the environment and community.



## Jennifer Wiseman

Jennifer has been involved with the green industry for the past nine years, working various positions from horticultural technician, to residential landscaping, to working as an assistant for both the Horticulture Director and the Curator at Red Butte Garden. She graduated from Utah State University with her Bachelors of Science in Ornamental Horticulture in 2009. She looks forward to utilizing her education and experience gained in this program to create sustainable urban designs along with open space planning and restoration.

## Nick Tanner

Nick recently graduated from BYU with a BS in landscape management. During his undergraduate education he focused his elective courses on design to satisfy his curiosity in landscape architecture. To further explore this interest he spent three months in Tonga on a mentored research project documenting the local function and design of residential landscapes. His current interests in landscape architecture are urban planning and development. Having lived in various parts of the world, Nick has a difficult time defining where he grew up. However, with the most consecutive time spent in Utah, this is where he calls home.



## *Second Year Graduate Student*



## Kim Cloward-Drown

Kim was born and raised in Honolulu, Hawaii where she grew up hiking in the Ko'olau mountains and playing in the ocean off the South Shore of O'ahu. In 2007, she graduated from Pitzer College in Claremont, California with a bachelor's degree in both Environmental Studies and Studio Art. Interested in combining both disciplines, she was attracted to landscape architecture when a landscape architect told her he was "making a living making art." Kim comes to Utah State from Cal Poly Pomona where she just finished the first year of the MLA program. Kim hopes to have a positive impact by creating distinct and transformative spaces that increase livability and work towards environmental, economic, and social sustainability.



# *InSites* 2013

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The Department of Landscape Architecture  
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