Summer 2003 Volume 4, Issue 2

LATC

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee

ASLA Celebrates National Landscape Architecture Week

Provided by the American Society of Landscape Architects

National Landscape Architecture Week (NLAW) is an exciting annual event celebrated each April to raise public awareness of and appreciation for the profession of landscape architecture and acknowledge the role of landscape architects in creating the special places in which we live, work, and play.

NLAW is always scheduled for the week surrounding the April 26 birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted. This year's NLAW was April 19-27, 2003. Olmstead is widely hailed as the founder of the profession of landscape architecture in North America. He designed such landmarks as Central Park in New York City (with Calvert Vaux), the U.S. Capitol Grounds, the campus of Stanford University in California, the pioneer planned community of Riverside, Illinois, and Mount Royal Park in Montreal.

During the week–long observance, the American Society of Landscape Architect's (ASLA) over 13,500 members, 48 chapters, and partner organizations coordinate efforts to create events that are both educational and enjoyable – including community–based projects, student design competitions, tours of local landscape architecture sites, and community improvement projects. This year, a tree planting on the U.S. Capitol grounds in honor of prominent Landscape Architect Ian McHarg, FASLA took place on Earth Day, April 22, 2003. During the evening of April 23, 2003, Frederick R. Steiner, ASLA, lectured on McHarg's extraordinary life and significant contributions to the profession.

ASLA chapters in California celebrated NLAW in a variety of ways, ranging from the Northern California Chapter holding their annual meeting and design awards program at San Francisco's Maritime Museum in honor of the special week to the Sierra Chapter's "Art Dialogues with the Landscape" program held in Sacramento. ❖

Resolution

Landscape Architecture Week

Senate Resolution In Honor of Landscape Architecture Week Authored by Senator Deborah Ortiz (D-Sacramento)

For the Second Year in a Row, Governor Davis Proclaims April 19-27, 2003 as "Landscape Architecture Week" in the State of California

P R O C L A M A T I O N

by the

Governor of the State of California

WHEREAS, there are more than 3,000 landscape architects in the State of California who serve as technical experts, designers and environmental stewards to create and manage outdoor spaces and environments for all citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS, with their education, professional training and successful completion of the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination, landscape architects are uniquely qualified enhance California's parks, open space, recreational and commercial facilities, parkways, roadways, and trails; and

WHEREAS, landscape architects are also committed to addressing our concerns for environmental protection; and

WHEREAS, Landscape Architecture Week offers an opportunity to celebrate the valuable role of landscape architects in shaping California's landscapes for human enjoyment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GRAY DAVIS, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim April 19-27, 2003 as "Landscape Architecture Week."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this the fourteenth day of March 2003.

/s/ Gray Davis

Governor of California

Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards 2003 Spring Meeting Update - February 28-29, 2003, Austin, Texas

By Linda Gates, LATC Chair

The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards' (CLARB) 2003 Spring Meeting was held February 28-29, 2003 in Austin, Texas. The two-day meeting included both the general sessions and regional meetings. Due to budget constraints, I was the only representative from California at this year's meeting. Other states are also feeling a budget crunch as this year's meeting had fewer participants than in years past. As always, this served as an opportunity for representatives of member jurisdictions and administrative staff to meet and discuss changes and challenges of licensure in their respective states.

General Sessions

CLARB finances continued to be an area of discussion during the general session. Currently, the majority of funding for CLARB is derived through member board dues and examination fees charged to candidates. Other revenue sources include publication sales and council record services. CLARB has been seeking to expand its revenue base by offering continuing education courses through its C^2ED program. In an effort to increase this potential market, CLARB has courses available which target a range of design professionals, not solely landscape architects. "Design for Homeland Security" is an example of a broad-based continuing education course under development.

CLARB is researching the feasibility of conducting the multiple-choice sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) via computers. Travel distances and administrative costs in less populous states are issues that may be dealt with by using established computer centers. CLARB is conducting a beta examination in August 2003 and will report the results of this exam at its annual meeting in September 2003. In California, there are a number of legislative, administrative and security issues that must be addressed before this approach could be considered.

While California is experiencing a significant level of demand to take the LARE, nationally, there is a one-percent decrease in the number of exam candidates. Convenience and cost of the exam may be factors in this trend. There was a discussion regarding the possible closure of the Landscape Architectural Program at the University of Arizona and how this may impact candidates.

A draft of the Strategic Plan, which has been developed over the past year, was presented. The Plan will guide the future direction of CLARB. A number of key strategic issues identified in the Plan are:

- Education
- Competency and mobility
- Specialty certification
- Promoting licensure
- Licensing exam
- Governance of the organization

Through (collaborative) discussion of these topics, CLARB continues to provide valuable resources to member boards. CLARB will conduct a task analysis in 2004, to identify the knowledge, skills and abilities (KSAs) required to become licensed as a landscape architect for the purpose of updating the national examination.

Regional Meeting

California is part of Region V, which includes Alaska, Arizona, British Columbia, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Northern Mariana Islands, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. Issues discussed during the regional meeting included:

- The escalating cost of the licensing examination and member organization dues. Region V members recommended that CLARB reduce programs and costs as a method to balance the budget until such a time as the C^2ED program can provide additional revenue consistently.
- Reciprocity between states. Although there is consistency with the nationwide examination, many states have a supplemental exam and/or mandatory continuing education requirement. There is also some discrepancy from state to state in the amount of education and supervised work experience required to qualify for the examination. Region V members are striving to reduce these discrepancies to facilitate reciprocity.
- Mandatory continuing education. There was much discussion regarding mandatory continuing education as a number of states are "jumping on the bandwagon" to require this as a condition of license renewal. I shared the extensive study undertaken by the California Architects Board on the topic of continuing education. This study, the *California Architect Proficiency Survey*, concluded that though there were some areas of weakness, these areas could be addressed by other means than implementing mandatory requirements for continuing education for architects. The LATC endorses the concept of ensuring post-licensure competency but with respect to regulatory issues concerning the public health, safety, and welfare, the LATC does not believe there is adequate evidence to require mandatory continuing education as the methodology for ensuring post-licensure competency. Many times, a demonstrated need may be reflected in the number and types of complaints and/or reports received by a regulatory agency's enforcement program. In addition, agencies have argued that continuing education programs can be ineffective or difficult to administer, as individual needs or weaknesses of licensees must be assessed on a regular basis. The LATC discusses this issue frequently and thus far, it is our opinion that in a competitive business environment, licensed professionals are required to be current with new technological developments and theories of practice in order to maintain their marketability.
- Use of interim titles. A number of states are allowing interim titles such as "landscape architect intern" for individuals who have completed their education and experience requirements and are in the examination process for licensure. Current California law would prohibit use of title for a non-licensed individual.

Finally, nominations for CLARB's officers were made and Sandra Gonzalez, past member and chair of the LATC and current Second Vice-President of CLARB's Board of Directors, was nominated by the electives counted, for First Vice-President of CLARB's Board of Directors. Her nomination was endorsed at the Regional Meeting. The elections will take place at the annual meeting in September 2003. Congratulations Sandra! ❖

From left to right: Stephanie Landregan, Linda Gates, & Sandra Gonzalez

LATC Says Thank You to Long-time Member Sandra Gonzalez

The LATC would like to thank **Sandra Gonzalez** for her years of service to the consumers and licensees of California. Gonzalez' grace period for her position on the LATC expired on June 1, 2003. Gonzalez served as a member of the former Board of Landscape Architects from 1993 to 1996 and was then appointed to the newly formed Landscape Architects Technical Committee in 1997. She has served as Chair and Vice Chair in her tenure on the LATC and has played an integral role in the development of the LATC and its partnership with the Board over the past several years. Although she will not be serving in her familiar capacity on the LATC, Gonzalez will continue to be involved in shaping the future of the practice of landscape architecture as member of the Board of Directors for the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB). She was elected as Second Vice President at the 2002 CLARB National Meeting in New Orleans.

Gonzalez is currently a Project Management Officer for the City of Long Beach's Administration & Planning Bureau. She has also served as Vice President for EDSA Landscape Architects and Planners in Santa Monica, California and as the head of the Project Management Division for the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation. Gonzalez is a 1984 graduate of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. In addition to her position with the City of Long Beach, Gonzalez is an instructor at the UCLA Extension Certificate Program in landscape architecture. ❖

2003 Strategic Plan Update

The LATC conducts an annual strategic planning session to maintain efficiency and effectiveness within the organization. Each year, the LATC reviews its mission and vision statements, its goals and objectives, and develops an action plan to realize them. The LATC met on February 7, 2003 to update its Strategic Plan for 2003. During the planning session, the LATC reviewed the progress and accomplishments of the 2002 Strategic Plan, reviewed and updated the environmental scan and the action plan and added a values statement to its Strategic Plan. The following is a brief summary of the 2003 Strategic Plan.

Mission

The mission of the LATC is to regulate the practice of landscape architecture in a manner which safeguards the well-being of the public and the environment by:

- Protecting consumers and users of landscape architectural services
- Empowering consumers by providing information and educational materials to help them make informed decisions
- Informing the public and other entities about the profession and standards of practice
- Ensuring that those entering the practice meet standards of competency by way of education, experience, and examination
- Establishing and enforcing the laws, regulations, codes and standards governing the practice of landscape architecture
- Requiring that any person practicing or offering landscape architectural services be licensed

Vision

As a model organization for consumer protection, the LATC safeguards the public, protects and enhances the environment, and ensures quality landscape architectural services.

Values

The LATC will strive for the highest possible quality throughout all of its programs, making it an effective and efficient landscape architectural regulatory organization.
To that end, the LATC will:

- Be **participatory**, through continuing involvement with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) and other organizations
- Be **professional**, by treating all persons who interact with the LATC as valued customers
- Be **proactive**, by providing information and education to consumers, candidates, clients, licensees, and others
- Be **progressive**, utilizing the most advanced means for providing services

The LATC has established five goals as a framework for organizing the Strategic Plan. Those goals are:

Regulation and Enforcement

Protect consumers through regulation and enforcement of laws, codes and standards affecting the practice of landscape architecture.

Professional Qualifications

Ensure that landscape architects are qualified to practice by setting and maintaining equitable requirements for education, experience and examinations.

Public and Professional Awareness

Improve professional and public awareness and understanding of the profession, and provide opportunities for constituency and professional input to LATC's mission, activities and services.

Organizational Relationship

Strengthen the effectiveness of relationships with related organizations in order to further the LATC's mission and goals.

Organizational Effectiveness

Provide accessible and responsive quality service to consumers and licensees.

The LATC 2003 Strategic Plan is available on the Web site at *www.latc.ca.gov* or you may request a printed copy by contacting the LATC staff at (916) 445-4954. ❖

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

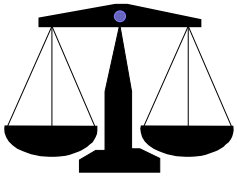
The California Architects Board (Board) is responsible for investigating complaints against licensees and those engaged in unlicensed activity. The LATC assists the Board in this endeavor. The Board also retains the authority to make final decisions on all enforcement actions taken against its licensees.

Listed below is a brief description of a recent enforcement action taken against an individual who was found to be in violation of the Landscape Architects Practice Act.

Every effort is made to ensure that this information is correct. Before making any decision based upon this information, you should contact the LATC. Further information on specific violations may also be obtained by contacting the LATC at (916) 445-4954 or latc@dca.ca.gov.

Citations

The Board issued an administrative citation that included a $1,000 civil penalty to Steven Logoluso, landscape architect license number LA 3925 for a violation of Business and Professions Code section 5671 (Negligence, Willful Misconduct in Practice). This action was taken based on evidence that Logoluso abandoned the project through his failure to: 1) follow up with the clients with preliminary working drawings; 2) provide the bids to clients until after receipt of their demand letter on July 18, 2002; 3) maintain contact with clients; and 4) return clients' telephone calls and/or respond to their written correspondence. Additionally, the Master Plan was incomplete and essentially a conceptual drawing that lacked details and specifications; and without the subsequent working drawings the clients would not be able to proceed with the construction of their landscape project. On February 19, 2003, an informal conference was held and an informal conference decision affirming the citation was issued on February 24, 2003. The citation became effective March 24, 2003. Logoluso paid the civil penalty satisfying the citation.❖



Avoiding Legal Conflicts – Irrigation Related Issues

By Niles Nordquist, Forensic Landscape Architect, LA 1893

Most large claim cases involving construction defects have something to do with water. This is water alleged to be coming through roofs, windows, slabs, and walls. The consequences of water in unintended places can include mold, mildew, staining, and material deterioration among others.

While landscape architects are generally not involved in architectural design, the source of water can be attributed to irrigation and/or drainage for many of the architectural elements with the exception of the roofs. In a design environment where we specify irrigation systems that provide for three to five times as much precipitation as naturally occurs in rainfall, the dominant source of water is evident: landscape irrigation.

Because landscape architects design the systems that deliver irrigation water, we are one of the components of the potential legal problem. The major question regarding landscape irrigation relates to the efficiency and effectiveness of the systems. Is the system good enough to minimize excessive run-times that result in excess moisture? Excessive irrigation can result in ponding, soil saturation at lower soil levels, slope destabilization and potential lateral movement of water away from planted areas. Site grading and drainage become critical factors for both irrigation excess and storm water. This site water can be identified as a potential source for site and structural problems.

The good news is that most attorneys (and their expert witnesses) recognize that well designed and constructed irrigation systems can be mismanaged to create site and structural problems. The bad news is that some do not.

Mold and mildew lawsuits are common subjects in the press each day. If significant mold is found in buildings, it is a serious problem. Some of this mold is attributed to water moving from soil through concrete slabs or into sub-floor crawl spaces. There is great debate over the ability of properly constructed slabs to transmit this water into structures.

Other water has been alleged to come through or damage walls or windows washed with irrigation systems. This is a matter of irrigation heads being improperly directed at walls and windows and is usually a maintenance issue. The stucco screed clearance is important, especially when clear screed flow is blocked by soil or concrete. In protected locations this is not as important, but inadequate screed clearance is an issue addressed by the Uniform Building Code and is commonly included in construction defect cases. Again, this is often a soil maintenance issue, but some experts assume that the conditions they observe today are the original conditions.

It is interesting to note that there has been a dramatic increase in mold and mildew claims since the inception of energy efficient building standards that effectively seal buildings from outside air circulation. There are instances where no source of water can be found in a building within a humid coastal environment, but the closed nature of the structure allows the natural air moisture to develop mold and mildew.

Recognizing that no irrigation system or its management is 100% efficient or effective, there are several considerations a landscape architect can do to minimize future system problems:

1. Employ sound design standards and practices
   a. 100% coverage with minimal overspray
   b. Uniform precipitation rates
   c. Minimum pressure differential at heads
   d. Systems divided by water requirement – sun/shade, turf/groundcover, slope height and aspect, etc.
   e. Design system for minimum irrigation time window – consider occupant use, microclimate, etc.
   f. Allow for future pressure changes in the purveyor's system, if possible
   g. Look carefully at the architectural plans or the actual structures to avoid protrusions or other elements that would be impacted or interfere with irrigation patterns
   h. Design irrigation horizontally and vertically – allow for plant growth, future necessary modifications, obstacles to irrigation patterns
   i. Do not rely on change orders and addendums to solve all of your irrigation design and construction issues

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AB 325 Ten Years Later

Provided By Julie Saare-Edmonds, California Department of Water Resources, Office of Water Use Efficiency

In September 1990, Assembly Bill 325 was signed by Governor Wilson. This law enacted the Water Conservation in Landscaping Act (Govt. Code Section 65591 et seq.) which required the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to adopt a Model Local Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance. An advisory task force was then created consisting of staff, members from the League of California Cities, County Supervisors Association of California and the Green Industry Council of California. The Task Force also included members representing water agencies, commercial and residential builders, the nursery industry, nonprofit environmental protection organizations, turfgrass growers, landscape contractors, landscape architects, and manufacturers of irrigation equipment. By January 1993, local agencies were to either adopt a local water efficient landscape ordinance, adopt the state model water efficient landscape ordinance or make a statement that due to water availability and other factors an ordinance was not necessary.

The Act states that "landscapes are essential to the quality of life in California" and serve several purposes as well as recreation, and that "landscape design, installation and maintenance can and should be water efficient." Cities and counties are to enforce the ordinance as it applies to new and rehabilitated public and private landscapes that require a permit and on developer-installed residential landscapes. The ordinance does not apply to landscapes under 2,500 square feet, homeowner installed residential landscapes, cemeteries, registered historical sites and ecological restoration and mined reclamation areas without permanent irrigation systems. During the permit process for new construction, the local agency (a city or county planning agency) reviews the plans and checks the Landscape Documentation Package for compliance to the existing ordinance. Among the Documentation Package are a series of calculations stating the Maximum Applied Water Allowance, Estimated Applied Water Use and Estimated Total Water Use. Simplified, these values represent total water budget, the amount of water in the irrigation schedule, and the total amount of irrigation water plus any effective precipitation, respectively. The Documentation Package also includes various plans and schedules for different tasks. If the measures required by the ordinance were uniformly applied, most large landscaped sites would be water efficient. But, unfortunately, the model ordinance (or local versions) is not being implemented to its full potential. Water Conservation News provides information on water use efficiency developments. This free newsletter is published quarterly by the DWR, Office of Water Use Efficiency. It has been 10 years since the model ordinance went into effect and some of the results have been disappointing. According to a report published in March 2001 titled "Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance: A Statewide Review," the Act has not been as effective as hoped. This study, conducted by Dr. Anil Bamezai, Robert Perry and Carrie Pryor, surveyed 140 cities (2 cities did not respond) and 11 counties. The results of the survey indicated an inconsistency in standards, implementation and post-construction follow-up. The study team also conducted in depth personal interviews with stakeholders regarding their personal experiences and views into implementing the Act. Those interviewed felt that there were some positives to implementing the Act such as improved landscape designs using more drought tolerant plants, better quality and more efficient irrigation systems and the increased ease of water budgeting and irrigation design using computer software.

However, many also felt there were drawbacks to the Ordinance such as there rarely being any follow-up from local agencies after construction is completed. Some agencies do not perform any post inspections, others cite that irrigation schedules are ignored and that maintenance contractors over water regardless of the schedule or how efficient the design is. These facts are not surprising when considering that most maintenance and installation contractors interviewed were unaware of the ordinance and its requirements. Developers, as well as the general public, are also unaware of the Ordinance. Recommendations cited in the review included that planning agencies identify a position for follow-up inspections and audits. Other recommendations include improvement in the ordinances themselves in structure and coverage. Education of contractors, developers and water agency staff is critical for better implementation of the Act.

The Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance is available on the DWR Web site at: www.owue.water.ca.gov/docs/WaterOrdIndex.cfm. For more information, contact Julie Saare-Edmonds at (916) 651-9676 or email landscape@water.ca.gov. Also, you may visit the Web site for the Office of Water Use Efficiency at *www.owue.water.ca.gov*. ❖

Sacramento Sustainable Landscaping Seminar

By Ken Decio, California Integrated Waste Management Board

The Ecological Farming Association is collaborating with the Sacramento Sustainable Landscaping Working Group to produce the Sacramento Sustainable Landscaping Seminar on Saturday, January 10, 2004 at the Samuel Pannell Community Center in Sacramento.

This seminar will provide information on how to promote, design, install, and maintain landscaping in a way that minimizes environmental impacts. The many benefits of sustainable landscaping include water conservation, reduction of water runoff peaks, reduced pesticide exposure and discharge, soil conservation, lower energy consumption, resource conservation, use of recycled materials, and improved air quality.

The primary audience is landscape professionals, since they are on the front line of implementing sustainable landscaping principles and techniques. This audience includes designers, landscape architects, landscape construction contractors, landscape maintenance contractors, park managers, nurserymen and pest control professionals. Public agency staff whose responsibilities include new development planning, landscape maintenance, water conservation, pesticide control, air and water pollution, solid waste reduction, and energy conservation will also benefit from this seminar.

For more information, contact David Roberts at (916) 444-6458 or roblands@attbi.com. ❖

ASLA Licensure Updates

North Dakota becomes 47th State to License Landscape Architects

On April 9, 2003, North Dakota Governor John Hoeven signed House Bill (H.B.) 1204 establishing licensure for landscape architects in the state. Although the bill faced strong opposition from allied professionals, the legislature approved the bill by wide margins in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. The new law makes North Dakota the 47th state to license landscape architects, and the 38th state to regulate the practice of landscape architecture.

The law adds the responsibility of regulating landscape architecture to the duties of the state Board of Architecture. Provisions that prohibit the practice of landscape architecture by unlicensed individuals go into effect January 1, 2005. The law also bans the use of the title or designation "registered landscape architect," "licensed landscape architect," or variations thereof unless the individual is licensed. Last-minute amendments stripped the definition of landscape architecture from the bill, but the definition is expected to be worked out in the regulatory process. The board is empowered to adopt continuing education requirements for both architects and landscape architects. While basic parameters for eligibility are established in the law (e.g., age limit, moral character), the specific educational and experience requirements will be left to the board to develop through regulations.

Local advocates note that the work is not yet finished; the process of developing regulations is just beginning. The law directs the Board to appoint two committees--the landscape architect advisory committee and the architect advisory committee. The committees, consisting of three landscape architects and three architects, are charged with assisting in implementing and coordinating landscape architect regulation.

Idaho Governor Signs Stronger Licensure Bill

On April 4, 2003, Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne signed H.B. 331, upgrading and strengthening the existing licensure law for landscape architects. The law can currently be interpreted as a practice act, but many believed that there were areas that needed to more clearly establish the regulation of practice. The new law, which went into effect on July 1, 2003, varies from previous legislation in the following ways:

- Changes references to "certificate" or "registration" to "license."
- Adds a "landscape architect in training" category of licensed practitioners.
- Requires those who apply for the exam without graduation from an approved landscape architecture program to have at least 8 years of practical experience in landscape architecture, rather than the current 4-year requirement.
- Authorizes the board to establish continuing education requirements.
- Revises the renewal process to conform to a standard process, which requires that: (1) there is no longer a 30-day grace period following the July 1 due date before a delinquency fee will be applied and (2) after a license has been lapsed for 5 years (rather than one year), a new application and reexamination are necessary to reinstate a license.
- Allows applicants with a CLARB certificate to apply for reciprocity.
- Allows a landscape architect partnership to be held between licensed landscape architects, and/or those licensed in architecture, engineering, professional geology, or surveying if the partnership name includes the names of two or more landscape architects or one (or more) landscape architect and one (or more) architect or professional engineer (the bill eliminates planners as an option).
- Expands the details regarding how and when a seal must be used, including providing for an electronic seal.
- Amends the inter – professional practice provisions to specify that landscape architects are not permitted to practice as licensed architects, licensed professional engineer or licensed land surveyor. However, nothing in the law prevents a landscape architect from practicing landscape architecture.
- Adds land-use planners to professionals exempted from the licensure law.

For more information on licensure efforts, please contact Julia Lent at *jlent@asla.org* or 202-216-2330.

Julia M. Lent is the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) manager of state government affairs. ❖

Highlights of CC/ASLA's State Conference 'Honoring the Past and Creating the Future'

Provided by the American Society of Landscape Architects, California Council

On March 28 – 29, 2003, more than 250 landscape architects, students and vendors from all over the state gathered together to enjoy the historic landscape and classic architecture in Balboa Park, San Diego's most famous and historic park. The State Conference provided two days of educational sessions, engaging speakers and socializing. Jeff Craft, CC/ASLA President said, "It was such a pleasure to have such a diverse group of attendees, both public and private practitioners, some old guard members and lots of new blood. The setting was perfect and the sense of camaraderie among the attendees was very encouraging; the profession exhibited great strength over the two days. I was very proud to be a part of it."

Conference Speakers

Paul Morris, the National ASLA President, officially kicked off the State Conference at lunch with a stimulating presentation of ideas regarding, health, safety and the environment and how landscape architects are now being viewed as leading authorities in community design and environmental issues.

Opening speaker, Joel Kotkin's presentation on the *History of Cities* gave listeners a preview of his next book (title not available). Kotkin, a columnist for the New York Times and frequent contributor to national magazines and newspapers, is an internationally recognized authority on global, economic, political and social trends. His PowerPoint presentation offered a concise glimpse into future cities, using historical analyses of Greece and Rome, Census Bureau data and firsthand reporting. According to Kotkin "place matters more in a post-industrial society." Kotkin expounded further on issues that Paul Morris had touched on earlier regarding health, safety, the changing environment, and the role landscape architects play in the future planning of urban and rural communities.

Friday evening offered Jerry Hirshberg, a compelling speaker and foremost automotive and industrial designer. Hirschberg spoke at the national conference in San Jose and lectures throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. His highly acclaimed book, *The Creative Priority*, now in its third edition, contains insights about how to select and foster effective groups of creative people and reveals his twelve essential principles for cultivating creative employees.

Politics and the Future of the Profession

` Members also had the unique opportunity to meet with State Senator Liz Figueroa, Chair of the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee, who will be reviewing the status of the profession's licensure later this year. Figueroa gave advice on how to effectively lobby legislature and related regulatory agencies. The Senator is known for her flamboyant effectiveness, having delivered nine bills to the Governor's desk, all of which were signed into law. Doug McCauley, Executive Officer of the California Architects Board, and CC/ASLA Lobbyist Terri Thomas, joined with Figueroa in an informal yet informative meeting. ❖

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2. Educate and train all design staff to deal with these issues - Irrigation design is not a static endeavor. Continuing education courses offered by the Irrigation Association.

   Note: While many offices have specific staff that do irrigation design and others that do not, it is important that irrigation considerations be included in basic design decisions to avoid compromising the efficiency and effectiveness of the irrigation to satisfy easily modified planting areas.

3. Anticipate who will maintain the system you design.
   a. What is their level of experience and sophistication?
   b. Can they really maintain that drip system?
   c. Provide an irrigation maintenance and management plan (for your own protection)

4. Plan check – sole practitioners can hire this work from others

5. Coordinate the plans with other architectural and engineering professionals – confirm the location of major elements to avoid compromising the system during installation

6. Verify the design during construction
   a. Do all of the necessary observations before planting begins
   b. Run the systems for longer times during observations to see indications of large precipitation variances – run simplified "catch-can" tests if necessary
   c. Make modification when needed – better now than after a lawsuit!
   d. Observe and approve the system complete and adjusted

If an irrigation designer is hired to do the irrigation design for a landscape architect, all the suggestions still apply. The landscape architect of record, is responsible for the complete integration and performance of the irrigation system. ❖

LATC Outreach Update
Public Agencies Survey and Outreach Efforts

In spring 2002, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) surveyed public agencies throughout the State of California. The survey was conducted so that the LATC might better understand the realm and trends of the practice of landscape architecture as it affects our stakeholders. The following is a brief synopsis of the participants and overall findings of the survey.

The survey was sent to over 1,800 public agency officials, including Parks and Recreation Directors, Planning Directors, Public Works Directors, and Building Officials. Out of the 1,800 officials surveyed, approximately 38% or 685 replied. The total responses received break down as follows: 107 Parks and Recreation Directors, 242 Planning Directors, 204 Public Works Directors and 132 Building Officials.

Of the total 685 responses, approximately 51% stated that they were aware of the LATC and the role it plays in the licensing and regulation of the practice of landscape architecture in the State of California. Approximately 12% of the respondents stated that landscape architects were employed on their staff. However, when looking further into the comments of those officials that responded, it becomes evident that they are not fully aware of the various sanctioned responsibilities of a landscape architect.

The results of the survey showed that most Parks and Recreation Departments and Public Works Departments do indeed require licensure (approximately 80% and 71% respectively). Additionally, 65% of the 132 responses from Building Officials said their department required a stamped landscape plan for public building projects and 61% required a stamped landscape plan for commercial projects.

Approximately 68% of Parks and Recreation Directors stated that if landscape architects were not licensed, it would negatively impact their ability to secure landscape architectural services. Approximately 41% of Public Works Directors agreed with the above statement.

Although most of the respondents (85%) agreed with the statements on the landscape architects scope of practice, the surveys underscore the need for outreach to public agencies for the purpose of strengthening collaboration with these agencies and increasing the public agencies' awareness of the LATC and the services it provides.

Together, the LATC and public agencies can work to achieve a better understanding of the practice of landscape architecture and landscape architects' role in the public sector. The LATC staff mailed an informational letter to public agencies, along with a chart that illustrates the role and responsibilities of landscape architects as stated in the Practice Act.

Additionally, in April 2003, the LATC sent letters to the Personnel Directors of California's cities to reinforce the regulation of the title and practice of landscape architects. The LATC educated the personnel directors as to what titles are appropriate for unlicensed individuals to use in the public sector. Additionally, the LATC enclosed a graphic display illustrating the design limitations of unlicensed individuals, landscape contractors and landscape architects. The LATC hopes to partner with the public agencies, municipalities and officials in working to achieve compliance with the statutes and regulations of the Landscape Architects Practice Act. ❖

Practice Act Reminders
Change of Address Requirements

The Landscape Architects Practice Act requires that you provide the LATC with a change of address within 30 days. Failure to provide updated information could not only slow down your renewal process but will also result in a delinquency fee of $450.00 if your renewal fee is received after the license expiration date. The following is the statute and regulation governing the filing of addresses:

5657. Business Address Change – Notice Requirement
Each license holder shall notify the executive officer of the board of any change of address of his or her place of business. A penalty as provided in this chapter shall be paid by a license holder who fails to notify the board within 30 days after a change of address

2604. Filing of Addresses.
Each person holding a license from the Board shall file his or her proper and current mailing address with the board at its office in Sacramento, California, and shall immediately notify the board of any and all changes of mailing address, giving both his or her old and new addresses.

You may file a change of address with the LATC via fax, e-mail, or regular mail. Please include your old and new addresses, license number, and a signature. If you have any questions regarding updating your address of record, please contact Patricia Fay, Licensing Coordinator at (916) 445-4954.

For the most up to date version of the Landscape Architects Practice Act, please visit the LATC's Web site at www.latc.ca.gov. ❖

LATC Program Update

By Mona Maggio, LATC Program Manager

The LATC Prepares for Sunset Review

Every four to six years, California law requires that certain state agencies, including professional regulatory boards, go through a process to determine if the governing laws and the state agency that enforces them are still useful and needed. This process is known as a "sunset review." This year the laws governing landscape architecture and the LATC are undergoing sunset review.

The Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC), chaired by Senator Liz Figueroa, is charged with conducting the evaluations of the state agencies. The last sunset review for the profession of landscape architecture was in 1996. The 1996 report contained many concerns with regard to the former Board of Landscape Architects (BLA) and recommended the BLA be sunsetted. The profession, seeking to preserve licensure and regulation in California, sought assistance with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). DCA began discussions with the California Architects Board (Board) and other interested parties on possible organizational structures for regulating the practice of landscape architecture in California. DCA recommended the Board as the appropriate oversight agency due to the similarities between the two professions and the Board's regulatory programs. The LATC was established on January 1, 1998, and became the licensing regulatory entity for the profession of landscape architecture in California.

Over the past year, the Sunset Review Task Force, chaired by Dennis Otsuji and LATC staff, have worked diligently on evaluating the laws that govern the profession of landscape architecture and the overall effectiveness in performing its mandate to protect the public health, safety and welfare.

To collect current data on the practice of landscape architecture in California, the LATC conducted surveys of stakeholders, including its licensees. In late April 2003, surveys were mailed to 3,010 licensees. We received a 45% response to the survey that will assist us in drafting the 2003 Sunset Review Report, outreach efforts, strategic planning and help to improve our newsletter. The Fall 2003 newsletter will provide a comprehensive article on the survey findings. (Thank you to all who responded!)

The 2003 report to the JLSRC includes the background and description of the profession and the LATC, LATC's mission, goals and objectives, budget and staff, licensure, outreach, complaint and enforcement data. Additionally, staff researched and answered 43 questions and findings from the 1996 report.

The 2003 Sunset Report will be submitted to the JLSRC on September 1, 2003 and hearings are scheduled on November 18-19, 2003. In addition to reviewing the LATC's report, the JLSRC will hear testimony from interested parties during the review process. Prior to the JLSRC hearings, DCA will conduct public hearings of the boards and bureaus that are scheduled for sunset review in 2003. The recommendations of the JLSRC will be released in March 2004.

The LATC remains confident in its role, the structure of the organization, the status of the profession, and its ability to respond to legislative requirements. Updates regarding the upcoming DCA and JLSRC public hearings will be posted on the LATC's Web site www.latc.ca.gov. ❖

Examination News

Seventy-nine candidates requested to review their failed graphic performance sections of the December 2002 Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE). Review sessions were held in May 2003 in southern California at the University of Los Angeles, Extension Certificate Program and in northern California at the Board's office in Sacramento.

The Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) sections A, B, C, D and E were administered to 352 candidates on June 9-11, 2003, at the Ontario Convention Center in Southern California and the Sacramento California Exposition and State Fair facilities in Northern California. Exam results will be available in mid-September. Review requests of failed graphic performance sections from the June 2003 LARE must be postmarked by October 3, 2003.

Applications are currently being accepted for sections C and E of the LARE for the December 8-9, 2003 administration. Applications must be postmarked by October 1, 2003. ❖

LATC Elects New Officers

At its July 17, 2003 meeting, the LATC elected officers for fiscal year 2003/04. Officers serve a one-year term. **Linda Gates** was re-elected Chair and **Stephanie Landregan** was elected Vice Chair.

Linda Gates is a principal with David Gates & Associates, a landscape architectural firm in Danville, California. Gates was reappointed to the LATC by the Senate Rules Committee in January 2003 and her term will expire on June 1, 2006.

Stephanie Landregan is Chief Landscape Architect for the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority where she works with the agency to design and provide public access to open space in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Landregan was appointed to the LATC by Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson in November 2002 and her term will expire on June 1, 2006. ❖

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

Committee Members

Linda Gates, Chair
Stephanie Landregan, Vice Chair

Staff

Mona Maggio
Program Manager
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Justin Sotelo
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You may also contact a staff member by calling (916) 445-4954 or faxing (916) 324-2333.

California Architects Board
Landscape Architects Technical Committee
400 R Street, Suite 4000
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Upcoming Events

September 11-14, 2003	CLARB Annual Meeting	Salt Lake City, UT
October 17, 2003	LATC Meeting	San Luis Obispo
October 30-November 3	ASLA Annual Meeting	New Orleans, LA
November 18-19,2003	Sunset Review Hearings	Sacramento
November 2003	LARE Review Sessions	Sacramento, Los Angeles
December 8-9, 2003	LARE	Sacramento, Southern California

Meeting dates are tentative and subject to change. Please verify the dates above with our office or on the web site

Coming Soon ❖ Fall 2003 Newsletter

- **Licensee Survey Summary and Results**
- **June Examination Results**
- **CLARB Annual Meeting**

50 YEARS CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS 1953–2003

What's Inside

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