Thank you to our 2009 Sponsors!

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San Diego Chapter
P.O. Box 33510
San Diego, CA 92163-3510

**ASLA**

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Vision**
A world where the built and natural environments coexist in harmony and sustainable balance; where all peoples can express their diverse heritage and their individual desires to grow and thrive; and where we, as a profession, can substantially contribute to the process of achieving these ends.

**Mission**
To lead, to educate and to participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and natural environments.

**NOTE:** Events, dates and times are subject to change! Please check with the ASLA office at (619) 225-8155 for the latest events or visit www.asla-sandiego.com/content/events.

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**Membership Welcome**

**Darren Solano, ASLA - VP of Membership**
Welcome to our returning and new members!
Laura Harvey, Affiliate ASLA
Jun Hashimoto, ASLA
Kristen Heggem, ASLA
Monica Mroz, ASLA
Jennifer Potter, ASLA
Jill Van Sickle, Associate ASLA

NOTE: Events, dates and times are subject to change! Please check with the ASLA office at (619) 225-8155 for the latest events or visit www.asla-sandiego.com/content/events.

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**Land8Lounge - Log on and Tune in – New for 2009!**

New for 2009! We have created an online hub – Land8Lounge for SDASLA members to discuss regional issues and socially connect. Arrange group hikes, comment on past and future events, and discuss hot topics such as water conservation, sustainability – you name it.

1) Log on: www.land8lounge.com
2) Create a username and password
3) Go to the Groups page and join the ASLA San Diego group
4) Start a new discussion or add to an existing discussion
Log on and join the discussion today!

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**2008 Annual Meeting and Gala**

By Tracy Morgan Hollingworth – Association Manager
A festive crowd was on hand at Hawthorn’s Restaurant to give a big thanks to the 2008 ASLA Executive Committee for their work in leading the Chapter this year. Incoming Board members, Marian Marum (Howard Associates), Brooke Patz (RTU+A), David Reed (David Reed Landscape Architects) and Henry Luc (Spurlock Poirier) will manage the Chapter programs and events with other Chapter Board members.

2009 President David McCullough and President Elect Jim Taylor thanked the 2008 Chapter Annual Sponsors for their generous support. Please do business with Chapter sponsors who are at the Sponsor link at www.asla-sandiego.org.

Annual Meeting/ Gala chair and Past President, Chris Gustard, thanked the dinner wine sponsor Pardee Tree Nursery, raffle planter sponsor Quick Crete and Altman Plants who filled the planters with exotic succulents which were raffled to excited attendees.

2008 President, Jon Wreschinsky thanked the Board for their service and 2009 President, David McCullough challenged the incoming Board members to leave a legacy through the various programs, events and initiatives the Chapter is planning for 2009.

What is the legacy you want to leave for your community and the world? Plug into your Chapter and see what a difference you can make with our energetic Board by completing and returning the enclosed volunteer form today and get involved in 2009!

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**2009 SDASLA President David McCullough (right) thanks Frank Klemasz, TB Penick, for their 2008 Four Seasons sponsorship**

**ASLA Board Members Preciado, Wreschinsky, Marum, McCullough and spouses**

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**2009 President, Jon Wreschinsky thanked the Board for their service and 2009 President, David McCullough challenged the incoming Board members to leave a legacy through the various programs, events and initiatives the Chapter is planning for 2009.**

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**ASLA Board Members Preciado, Wreschinsky, Marum, McCullough and spouses**

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**Vicki Estrada EASLA, Deborah Sharp ASLA, and guests**

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**Printed on recycled paper**

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**PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID San Diego, CA Permit #2223**
As we slide into 2009, I am personally very pleased to address the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (SDASLA) with a perfect recap of the past few years as well as some exciting news of what we have to look forward to in the near future.

For those of you that have been paying attention, you know that the San Diego Chapter is respected around the country by other ASLA Chapters for staying in the black, activating membership and taking on proactive local issues. What you may not be aware of is that, in the past two years, the San Diego Chapter has hosted the creation of the nation’s first two-year college Student ASLA Affiliate Chapter at Cuyamaca College, under the leadership of Jon Wreschinsky, Chris Gustard, and Student Affiliate Chapter President, John Herr. Jon Wreschinsky authored a Chapter Strategic Plan, making SDASLA one of the first Chapters in the country to have an approved Strategic Plan. Chris Gustard has helped the chapter engineer a new and improved (and long overdue) website. Our Chapter was also recognized in 2007 by national ASLA as a leader at promoting Landscape Architecture Month (in the month of April). These are just a few of the great achievements that have happened recently. But, what I believe is equally exciting is what is yet to come.

With all this in mind I have a few ideas for a plan, if you will:

1. Most people have no idea what a landscape architect does (including a few landscape architects). We (including me) are not good at explaining this to others. I think it is time to get people involved to focus on getting the word out. Yes, perhaps a publicist. We need people (me) are not good at explaining this to others. I think it is time to get people involved to focus on getting the word out.

2. Turn proactive in our approach. Too often we tend to jump on board with the issues too late. Marian Marum, our VP Public Affairs and Stewardship Committee chair has seen this coming for a long time and has polled some of the well-respected landscape architects in our community to ensure that we lead the call to become “stewards of the land”. Glen Schmidt, Chapter Trustee, and Water Conservation Committee chair has also assembled industry leaders to create chapter position papers that policy makers and the region will look to for guidance. Furthermore, ASLA National has taken on the grand undertaking (and frankly, long overdue) of a Sustainable Sites Initiative (for more info visit www.sustainablesites.org). If you personally have a cause you feel strongly about, please feel free to contact us to discuss it in detail. We are open to what all our members are interested in.

So with all this in mind I have a few ideas for a plan, if you will:

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Sustainable Urban Landscape Conference

Jon Wreschinsky, ASLA – Cuyamaca Student Chapter Liaison

The San Diego Chapter is seeking members interested in assisting the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticultural Department and the Cuyamaca College ASLA Student Affiliate Chapter with the First Annual Sustainable Urban Landscape Conference to be held March 12-13, 2009 at Cuyamaca College.

Lecture Series 2009

Brooke Pietz, ASLA – VP Programs and Education

After several successful years of participating in Interrobang with other design organizations, ASLA is excited to return to the ASLA Lecture Series format for 2009. The ASLA lectures provide an incredible social and educational opportunity and are a source of inspiration. 2009’s lectures will focus on sustainability and feature fellow designers who have incorporated environmental ethics into their projects and design processes.

The lecture series is supported by ASLA members. We are looking for new sponsors for the 2009 season and encourage past sponsors to return in 2009. Sponsorship is integral to the continuation and success of the lecture series.

As always, ideas for potential speakers, sponsorship for the lectures, and volunteers for the committee are welcome. Please contact our Chapter VP of Programs and Education, Brooke Pietz, at brooke@mta.com with any speaker or venue suggestions, to volunteer or if you have questions.

President’s Message - Continued from page 2

port on how these issues may affect our profession, we will take them on proactively, take positions and create a mandate that these positions be implemented by our elected officials.

3. Boost membership. The San Diego Chapter is what National considers a medium-sized chapter. One-third of licensed landscape architects in San Diego are members. This does not include all the non-licensed practitioners. The Alaska chapter boasts that 100% of the licensed landscape architects in mid County area for a tour to be held as part of the conference. Sustainable projects can be residential, commercial or institutional in nature. Please contact Don Schultz at 619-460-4261 or Donald.schultz@gcccd.edu if you would like to be a presenter, know of a project or need more information.

their state are members (all six of them) but nonetheless! Remember what JFK said about our duty as Americans, “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country”. This is not about us as individuals, this is about the profession that PAYS OUR BILLS. Yes, we all may compete against each other, but if we don’t all join together we will simply lose out to all the other professional opportunities out there (you know which ones I am referring to). It is time to round up all the practitioners in the region and inspire each to activation.

So... let’s get active and let the world know where to come when they need real answers about stewardship! Please get involved. It will be the best contribution you can make to your profession. Contact us if you have a passion you would like to participate in or if you would simply like to discuss your thoughts.

CC/ASLA State Report - Continued from page 3

rently gearing up for the new year, and with new members in the State Assembly and Senate, we look forward to another active year of monitoring upcoming proposed legislation, spreading the word, and taking action as necessary.

Division of the State Architect – The Landscape Architect’s Stamp

Currently, landscape architects are not recognized as being able to stamp plans of their own work submitted for projects under the jurisdiction of the Division of the State Architect. The DSA currently requires a licensed architect or engineer to stamp landscape architects’ plans in order to be submitted, reviewed, and approved. This contradicts State law pertaining to the landscape architectural profession and applicability of the landscape architect’s stamp. While some footwork has been done to see how this might be corrected, CCASLA will be working proactively with the LATC this year to process what may be an administrative change to rectify this conflict.

Design Professional Lien Rights for Landscape Architects

State law does not recognize landscape architecture as a profession whose members can seek remedy under the current “Design Professional Lien” law, per Civil Code section 3081.1. CCASLA has received several inquiries regarding this issue, and understanding the heightened sensitivity of this issue in today’s economy, we will be working this year to see what avenues can be taken to resolve this issue in a timely manner.

For more information regarding CCASLA events, legislative issues, etc., please visit our state website at www.ccasla.org, (complete bill language can be seen at www.leginfo.ca.gov). Other information is also available at the LATC website (www.latc.dca.ca.gov).
Stewardship Committee

Marian Marum, ASLA - VP Public Affairs

The San Diego ASLA Stewardship Committee was officially launched in June, 2008. Chaired by Marian Marum, the committee is one of the first in the country.

With a passionate group of Committee Members, the first multi-disciplinary meeting occurred in October, with a presentation to a diverse group of design professionals, entitled ‘Green Operations’. The presentation, by Kathleen Garcia, FASLA was a great success. Kathy highlighted the extensive ‘green’ office procedures that have been implemented at her firm, Wallace Roberts Todd (WRT). With 7 offices across the US, these procedures have become vital to the WRT mission of ‘walking the talk’ when it comes to environmental stewardship. If your firm would like to ‘walk the talk’, a link to the WRT Green Operations Guide can be found on our website at www.asla-sandiego.org.

Committee activities include on-going participation in local, regional, and state-wide sustainability efforts; establishing liaisons with USGBC, AIA and other industry associations; promoting educational programs that focus on sustainability; and coordinating with ASLA’s Sustainable Sites Initiative (www.sustainablesites.org).

The San Diego Stewardship Committee just received word that a national ASLA Chapter Initiatives Grant was awarded to our Chapter for the creation of a Stewardship Committee Workbook to help other Chapters across the country start Stewardship Committees. With the approval of the grant, we invite members to plug into the efforts of tracking sustainability issues in the region through our new committee. Please contact me with your ideas and input at Marian@howardassoc.com.

Resumes on ASLA.org and ASLA-SanDiego.org

Darren Solano, ASLA - VP of Membership

ASLA National and our local Chapter encourage members seeking employment to forward your resumes to ASLA national (call 1-866-999-2752 for staff contact) and to ASLA San Diego at ASLASD@sbcglobal.net. Please consider joining and staying with us to keep our membership strong. If you have any questions or need more information regarding membership options, please contact National Membership Services (membership@asla.org) or me at dmsolanas@gmail.com.

For more information on ASLA/SD committees and events Contact us at (619) 225-8155 or Email ASLASD@sbcglobal.net

Easy Ways to Join and Stay with ASLA

Have you been thinking long and hard about joining or maintaining your membership with ASLA? Besides sending in a single payment upwards of $290, there are other options to consider. ASLA offers an automatic debit dues payment program through their Membership Services department. Rather than sending in that single payment, you may now choose to spread out your membership dues over an easy twelve payments. In light of recent industry slow down, do you know of any members that are now working less than full time or who have been laid off? If so, please tell them that they have the ability to request a waiver of annual dues in situations of limited employment or hardship. Waiver requests (sent via email or mail to ALSA/SDB@sbcglobal.net) are received by the local Chapter who review the waivers and request they be approved by ASLA national.

Take Advantage of ASLA Member Benefits

There are many reasons that landscape architecture professionals should join and stay with ASLA. With eight distinct member categories, one is perfect for you. ASLA offers a wide range of benefits with membership, all designed to give landscape architecture professionals extraordinary value while providing resources and tools to expand their businesses. Check out the Membership Benefits webpage today at www.asla.org, go to link at http://www.asla.org/MembershipBenefits.aspx?id=14282.

For more information on ASLA/SD committees and events Contact us at (619) 225-8155 or Email ASLASD@sbcglobal.net
January 16, 2009

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento CA 95814

SUBJECT: Governor’s Proposal to Eliminate the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (2009-10 Budget Proposal) – OPPOSE

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CC/ASLA) is opposed to the proposal in the Governor’s 2009-10 Budget to eliminate the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) and to transfer its licensure functions to the California Architects Board (CAB). CC/ASLA is the trade association representing licensed landscape architects in California who work in both public and private sector settings. We believe the proposal is unwise because it does not produce any General Fund Savings, is potentially harmful to consumers and does not meet your goals of increasing efficiency and eliminating duplication.

Proposal would not save California money. Your proposal to eliminate the LATC consisting of five members and transfer its role to the CAB does not accomplish the desired goal of producing General Fund Savings. The LATC is funded from fees collected from licensees. LATC has no General Fund expenditures and produces no State General Fund savings. Furthermore, LATC is currently under CAB per Section 5820 (b) – BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE (Division 3, Chapter 3.5).

Proposal is potentially harmful to consumers. The LATC under CAB has the sole purpose of overseeing the competency of landscape architects – the purpose being to protect consumers of their services from unscrupulous actors in this field. Landscape architects are highly trained professionals who often work in areas of great sensitivity. The profession is broad and diverse in scale and scope. It encompasses the analysis, planning, design, management, and stewardship of natural and built environments through science and design.

Landscape architects develop comprehensive designs for public and private sites of all scales. They develop grading, drainage and storm water plans that specify how soil on a site should be moved, the precise slopes necessary to provide for proper drainage, and the size of storm water systems needed to handle a specified amount of rainfall and runoff. They design commercial, residential, and public outdoor spaces. The consumers include not only the clients, but also the public at large – those who live, work, and play in these places. Landscape architecture and architecture are two distinct professions. It is critical that landscape architects are engaged in the regulatory process to ascertain competency and protect the health, safety, and welfare. The incidental overlap between landscape architecture and architecture is not enough to justify this proposal. To effectively regulate landscape architecture, the CAB would need to seek outside assistance. It already has an efficient system to do this: the LATC.

Further, if the CAB were to establish a new advisory panel, it would remove the transparency, openness and accessibility created by the appointment process. LATC members are currently appointed by you, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the Senate Committee on Rules. This creates public accountability from these appointed LATC and enhances protection of the public. An advisory panel or similar bureaucratic entity would lose this critical link to consumer protection.

Proposal would not improve efficiency. The LATC is, in fact, already consolidated under the CAB. Licensure fees go to support a minimal staff of 4.6, which conducts licensure exams, issues licenses, responds to consumer complaints and responds to requests of the Legislature. Landscape architects’ licensure fees also currently pay for a portion of the CAB operations. Unlike other boards that are not consolidated, the CAB would have to retain the same level of staffing or new functions as the LATC currently maintains.

The duties performed by the LATC are of an essential nature to ensure competency and to protect the public from acts by unlicensed landscape architects who have never demonstrated competency in the field. CAB would need to create a structure to guide it on landscape architects’ licensure and other issues in order to ensure their own competency in this area. It already has an efficient system to do this: the LATC.

The LATC as it currently operates within the CAB is already a model of efficiency. The current structure has been viewed as a model to be seriously considered for other professions if the Legislature determines to adopt fewer regulatory structures. As such, we strongly oppose the elimination of the LATC.

For questions or further information, please contact Terri Thomas, Thomas Advocacy, 916-325-1010.

Respectfully,

David Mitchell, President
California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CC/ASLA)

C:
Chris Kahn, Legislative Secretary to the Governor
Michael Prosio, Chief Deputy Legislative Secretary to the Governor
Paul Navarro, Deputy Legislative Secretary to the Governor
Rosario Marin, Secretary, State and Consumer Affairs Agency
Carrie Lopez, Director, Department of Consumer Affairs
Doug McCaulley, Executive Officer, California Architects Board
Mary Ann Aguayo, Program Manager, Landscape Architects Technical Committee