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inSites

magazine of the department of landscape architecture and environmental planning

summer, 2014



anniversary celebration

usulaep



anniversary

celebration

toward a century of excellence

AUGUST 28 - AUGUST 30 2014



The 75th Anniversary Celebration is not only a time to reminisce about your college experience and give thanks to the faculty and classmates who have shaped your life, but it is also a time for the LAEP Department to celebrate who you have become. You are the legacy of LAEP who have transformed the world in which we live. Because of you there are more sustainable developments, scenic highways, and environmentally-conscious designs in the world. We are so proud of the careers our alumni have had and the projects they have produced. Now is the time to come back to campus and remember the wonderful experiences you had and how it has impacted your life for good. It is also a time to reflect on the future of this great department and propel it forward “toward a century of excellence.”

Thursday, Aug 28

Opening Reception at Swaner EcoCenter

Friday, Aug 29

Canoeing with Craig Johnson

Golf Tournament

Tour de LAEP

Welcome and lunch on the Quad

Education Series

Class Reunions and dinner on the Quad

Saturday, Aug 30

Faculty-made Breakfast

Alumni Exhibition in the Tippetts Gallery

Oral Histories and Cracker Barrel

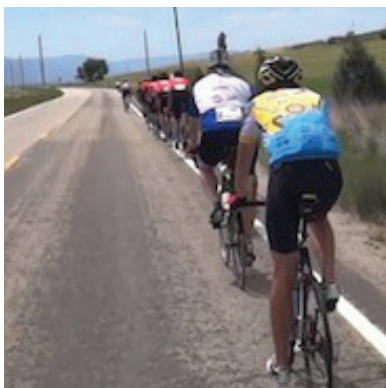
Spiral Jetty Trip

75th Anniversary Gala Banquet

**EARLY BIRD
REGISTRATION ENDS
AUGUST 8**

For registration,
information about events,
and how to submit your
career page to the Alumni
Exhibition go to:

<http://laep75.usu.edu>



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inSites is a publication of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at Utah State University. 4005 Old Main, Logan UT 84322 (435) 797-0500

Alumni - please help us by providing your most up to date contact information. Email changes to pamela.george@usu.edu or go to the Contact Us page at laep.usu.edu.

Graphic design and layout - Kathy Allen



greetings from the department head

Growth and transformations in LAEP have been everywhere evident in 2014. It would take several pages to describe them all, but I'd like to share a few of the changes that have been particularly relevant as we draw to a close the Department's first three-quarters of a century. Collectively, they paint a picture of the trajectory we are on.

- Prof. Michael Timmons retires after 38 years; the 2nd longest standing professor in LAEP history.
- Carson Lindley won the design competition for the Fine Arts Courtyard; his plans are in construction as I type this.
- The Ogden Valley Charrette spurred a \$100,000 investment by Weber County for land planning.
- Dr. Barty Warren-Kretzschmar took the helm of the Bioregional Planning Program on the heels of Prof. Dick Toth's retirement.
- 3 new student scholarships were

established.

- Phase 1 of the student-built LAEP House landscape was completed; Phase 2 is now under design review and will begin this Fall.
- Todd Johnson, FASLA, served as Practitioner-in-Residence during the Spring term.
- The first Minor in Landscape Architecture was approved.
- Dr. Keith Christensen was awarded tenure (the first faculty to do so since 2001).
- LAEP 1200, "Basic Graphics", was made available as our latest online course (the 4th).
- Guest lecturers routinely spoke 'virtually' to students in our "LARE Prep" course via the new video conferencing system in the Alumni Jury Room.

This Labor Day we gather to celebrate LAEP's first 75 years, marking it with the Anniversary and starting another era all at once. As the 13th oldest program in America, we begin the journey toward our 100th Anniversary (in 2039) this year. By then the population of Cache Valley will have doubled (pop. 225,000). Demands on ecosystems here and everywhere will grow more severe. Terms we use today to envision that future—sea level rise, climate change, water scarcity, sustainable solutions—will have been a reality for the coming generation of graduates. The dilemmas they face will be the dilemmas that all of society will be grappling with—and that civilization will be relying upon our discipline to solve.

To prepare tomorrow's graduates for these emerging challenges we need your help. Higher education today is a world in which taxpayers provide increasingly less support per student due to legislative priorities. Despite steepening educational costs, departmental budgets remain static, as if chiseled in stone (e.g., our Operating Budget has only increased \$1500 in a decade). Ironically, based upon ASLA's retirement projections for practitioners, the assurance of a future stream of

graduates is, today, a nationwide concern amongst academic leaders.

Our commitment to offset these troubling trends is simple: produce graduates who are competitive at the highest levels nationally, while keeping Utah State one of the most economical degrees available. Those seemingly disparate goals are only possible through the support of alumni, practitioners, and industry leaders. USU remains the 3rd least expensive accredited program in the U.S. Thus every contribution to the program can yield significant benefits. For instance, due to Logan's rural location, the time invested by practitioners to guest lecture or serve as studio critics yields very real returns.

How can you help? Time. Talent. Resources.

Some alumni will give of their time (e.g., they volunteer to be an ASLA Student Mentor). Others share their talents (e.g., providing guest lectures or partnering with LAEP to create an online continuing education course for LA/CES). Still others leverage their resources (e.g., they create internships/jobs, set up a monthly payroll deduction, or pledge a gift in their estate).

Laying the foundation for the next generation of designers and planners is only possible through partnerships. Our students need your support to help them compete in today's demanding marketplace. Why not ask yourself how you can become a partner with us?

GO AGGIES!



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



charrette - 2014

solutions for **Ogden Valley**

The 2014 LAEP Charrette was held in Ogden Valley. Once again, Professor **David Bell** divided up all current students into 15 teams who spread out through the valley in early February, devising solutions or plans for the communities' future. Later the senior class and several graduate students worked with Practitioner-in-Residence **Todd Johnson** (BLA, '76) to take the Charrette ideas to another level. The senior capstone studio presented their findings to Ogden Valley representatives on April 30, 2014.

The project initially began with information gathering in the fall, followed by the Charrette at the beginning of the year and preparation of analysis findings on topics ranging from water quality and agriculture to the ski industry. The spring semester began with the analysis of Ogden Valley, a vestigial harbor of Lake Bonneville and home to Snow Basin and Wolf Mountain ski resorts, Huntsville historic town, a Trappist Monastery and Pineview Reservoir.

The second half of the semester followed the student trip to San Francisco. From continuous touring of offices

in the Bay Area, they returned energized and wondering what pain would be inflicted on them in their remaining weeks here. Seven candidate projects in the Ogden Valley emerged from the previous semester's analysis. Insistence on an open studio culture, hanging work in-progress, and exchanging ideas brought them close together for this, their final studio experience.

Segregated from the maw of Salt Lake Valley metro development, this former harbor of Lake Bonneville could be a stunning compliment to Wasatch Front development. The students claimed that if consciousness is raised about high quality sustainable development, if the watershed is protected, if agricultural sustains its presence and, if skiing promotes itself appropriately, this could be an amazing asset, even a model for the State.

At the April 30th presentations, led by a team that looked into Wayfinding and Branding the Valley, the progression of projects and presentations included:

- Constructed Wetlands
- Mixed-Use Development in Eden

- Mixed-Use and Public Space Issues in Huntsville
- Expansion of Wolf Mountain/Nordic Valley
- Mixed-Use Development at the Pineview Reservoir Marina
- Agriculture and Hospitality at the Trappist Monastery

Presenting this work to a jury that included Dean of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences Ken White and Sean Wilkinsen, Director of Planning for Weber County, the students recognized the power of personal communication and the need to create and render their ideas accordingly.

“The studios are alive at Utah State, come see them and participate.” –*Todd Johnson*–



Top - Snowy conditions marked the Ogden Valley on the Charrette visit.

Middle (left) - Students discuss plans after the kickoff meeting.

Middle (right) - Working hard. Afternoon classes are canceled and teams are required to work during the Charrette week in various locations around the building.

Bottom - A team on the site visit. Seniors, juniors, grad students and sophomores all working together.



Carson Lindley, winning design - \$1,750 prize.
 Carson was chosen for an internship with EDSA in Florida this summer with LAEP Distinguished Alumnus J. Robert Behling BLA, '73



The finalists - left to right - **Carson Lindley, Devon Gibby, Seth King**,

The Fine Arts Courtyard

Re-imagining a campus icon

Carson Lindley - BLA '75

Site Plan

Section-Elevation

Project Narrative

The Fine Arts Courtyard is a central green space on the campus. It is a place where students, faculty, and staff can gather, relax, and enjoy the outdoors. The courtyard is a place where students can study, work, and socialize. It is a place where students can enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of the campus. The courtyard is a place where students can enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of the campus. The courtyard is a place where students can enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of the campus.

Literary Promenade and Greenwall

Cafe Dining and Plaza

Fine Arts Complex courtyard design competition

In the spring of 2014, the LAEP Department coordinated a design competition for the redesign of the Fine Arts Courtyard, which has long served as the 'front door' to the LAEP Department and the Caine College of the Arts. LAEP Distinguished Alumnus, Garr Campbell (BLA, '67), prepared the original courtyard design, which served the Fine Arts and LAEP community for more than 30 years.

The design competition was open to all USU students. Dean Craig



Stephen Peaden, Abram Sorensen

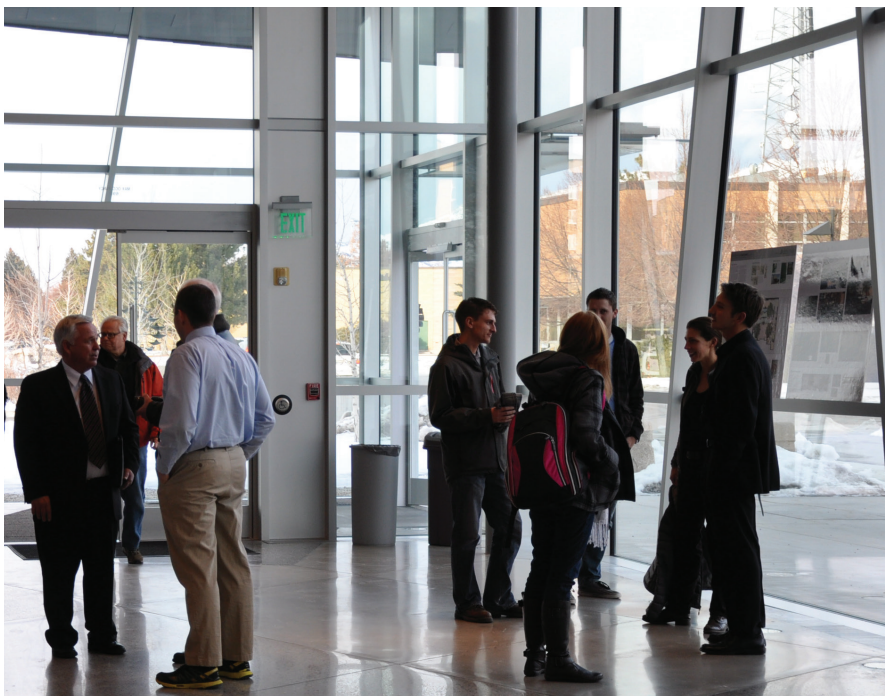
Jessop of the Caine College of the Arts and Dean Ken White of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, contributed a total of \$3500 for cash awards for the top four competitors. A jury comprised of LAEP faculty members, Art & Design faculty members, campus Facilities personnel, the landscape architect of record for the courtyard, and the design architect for the Kent Concert Hall addition, served through two rounds of design reviews. A total of 34 competition entries were submitted for the first round and 6 finalists were short-listed for a presentation to the jury, deans and USU community. Following the presentations, the jury met to determine the winners. Carson Lindley, an LAEP junior, won the competition, and is working with the landscape architect of record, **Kris Kvarfordt** (MLA, '10), an LAEP adjunct faculty member, on the preparation of the Design Development and CD packages. Abram Sorensen, an LAEP junior, was runner-up. The team of Seth King, an LAEP junior, and Devon Gibby, an LAEP

senior, finished third and Stephen Peaden, an LAEP second-year graduate student, finished fourth. Chris Binder, a second-year LAEP graduate student, and Nick Decker, an LAEP junior, received honorable mention.

The competition was the first of its kind in the 75-year history of the department and energized the entire LAEP community. Dean Jessop and Dean White were both enthusiastic about the process and the quality of the work that resulted. With the support of the deans, we hope to emulate the competition for other important projects on campus.

“Every single plan was a great contribution to the process of transforming the courtyard. Even the ones that aren’t selected are still informing the process to some point.”

—Kris Kvarfordt—



Above - Professor Michael Timmons, Kris Kvarfordt, Dean White (College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences) and Dean Jessop (Caine College of the Arts), congratulate Seth King and Devon Gibby at the announcement of finalists.

Below - Chris Binder (right) discusses his final entry with students. Dean Jessop talks with Kris Kvarfordt prior to the finalist presentations.

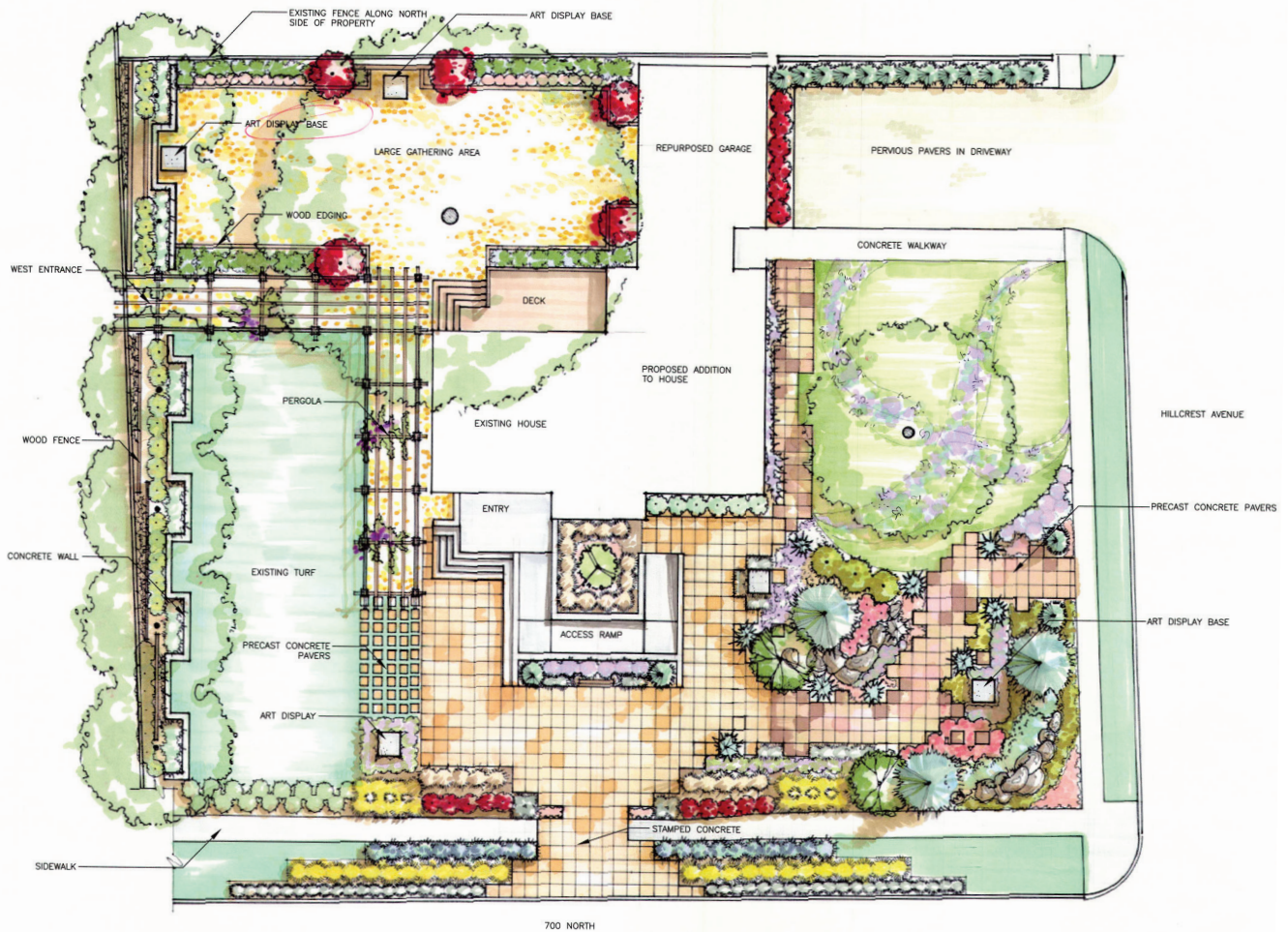
In the fall of 2013, Professor Phil Waite taught the first offering of a new course, LAEP 4150 – Field Studio Experience. The new course is the third course in LAEP’s construction sequence.

The goal of LAEP 4150 is to make explicit the connections between design and construction. Though ultimately it will be taught at the proposed LAEP Field Studio, last fall 4150 focused on the construction of the first phase of the LAEP House landscape. The design (see at right) was created in the fall of 2012 in Professor Waite’s planting design studio (LAEP 3500). The construction documents for the first phase were created in LAEP 3610 in the spring of 2013. The same students who created the design in the fall of 2012 and the construction documents in spring of 2013 were also responsible to implement the actual construction of the design in the fall of 2013.

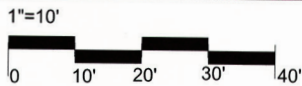
Construction commenced with site layout and staking in October, and construction efforts continued on a weekly basis (including some weekends!) through early December. Students removed existing plant materials, stripped sod, dug footings, poured concrete, and erected the start of a new pergola and fence until cold weather closed the construction season. Students and Faculty worked through spring and early summer to wrap up this phase.

new construction course





PLAN VIEW



field studio - **LAEP house**

The “Mitchell House”, built in 1952, was donated to the university. It had been used as office space for the Western Rural Development Center until the new College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences building was finished in 2012. It is located on 700 North past the Aggie Ice Cream parking lot. If you would like to help with transforming the house and landscape, please see the Giving page at laep.usu.edu





a desert garden - promontory school of expeditionary learning

- Perry, Utah

In the spring of 2013, a **LAEP Community Design Team** prepared a master plan for the educational gardens at the Promontory School of Expeditionary Learning (PSEL; see the Spring 2013 InSite story for more). Following the spring 2013 adoption of the PSEL Master Plan, **Professor Phil Waite's LAEP 3500 Planting Design** studio tackled the first round of implementation plans for the PSEL Master Plan in the fall of 2013. The school's faculty and students chose the Desert Garden as the first master plan element to be implemented.

USU students in LAEP 3500 met with the middle school students multiple times to discuss the desert garden's desired features and design. Because of the particular "expeditionary" learning methodology employed by the PSEL, LAEP





students worked closely with the 7th and 8th grade classes to teach them about the design process and especially the knowledge and process used in plant selection. The old adage that the best way to learn something is to teach it to someone else proved true in this case. The LAEP students had to take something they have learned- the design process and specifically knowledge about Utah's native plants- and break it down in a way that made for effective learning for the PSEL students.

The students, faculty, and parents association of the PSEL will take the LAEP students plans and work on implementation of the design over the course of the year.

Opposite top - Nate Jaramillo describes plant growth to middle school students, bottom- Grad student Chris Binder helps students identify native plants with Nike Cleverly looking on. Above - Sarah Gunnell and Hailey Wall describe native plants. Below - the Desert Garden design

Site Plan

Design Intent & Precedence

The goal of our design for the Promontory School of Expeditionary Learning is to provide a wide variety of educational, recreational, and aesthetic spaces inspired by the native Utah and Rocky Mountain landscape.

Our exploration paths feature natives plants in aesthetic patterns with paths winding between irregular planters. This provides an exciting and beautiful experience that also allows easy access to native plants for educational purposes. (image top left)

There are several Native American tribes who made their homes in the Intermountain West, and they had several different types of dwelling. We chose to design our Native American village after an adobe brick dwelling typical to the Ute tribe. (image bottom right)

The design includes a large active play area in addition to the aesthetic and educational spaces. This large space is divided into two main spaces separated by concrete culverts acting as tunnels, creating a feeling of exploration. These areas represent features of desert environments.

One of the spaces allows students to interact with and play in sand, and on other features representing sand. (example below). Features included are a shallow sand pit with excavatable dinosaur bones, large lizards to interact with, and faux sand dunes for additional creative play.

The other space features kinetic sculptures and a world map with the major deserts represented. This area symbolizes air and is intended to represent the affect of wind and global air currents on desert ecosystems.

Crevice Garden

The outdoor classroom (shown above in section and left in perspective) is separated from the running path by a crevice garden. This type of garden is directly inspired by the Rocky Mountain landscape. The design features layers of rock with plants interspersed between them. This technique creates an image similar to the natural form of mountains.

1051 West 2750 South Perry, UT 84302

SCHEMATIC PLAN

Sheet # 11

Last Updated: 11/12/2013

Utah State University
Department of Landscape Architecture
and Environmental Planning

Team Members: Nicholas Decker, Carson LeBlay, Abram Sommers, Sam Taylor

PROMONTORY
school of expeditionary learning

The Community Design Teams were created to service some of the many requests the department receives every year from the public and communities for design help. Professor David Evans and the student ASLA officers review the requests and determine if they can complete the project and how much the team will charge the client. All proceeds are deposited into the student ASLA account to be used for student activities.

During the past academic year, LAEP students worked on several projects important to USU and the Cache Valley Community. On USU's campus the students completed two concepts master plans for the heart of the Student Living Center at 12th East and 10th North. These concepts envisioned a new public plaza, aesthetic resolution of a new fire lane access route, the development of intimate and small group use areas, improved bicycle parking and enhanced landscape character. Our client, USU Housing, was so pleased with the student's work, they asked to build an on-going collaborative relationship with the department. Another exciting CDT project is the design of a forty-acre park for the City of North Logan. The site sits at the mouth of Green Canyon and will serve as a critical storm water retention area, a point of connection for the North Logan trail system that converges at the mouth of Green Canyon, and as a site for a diverse collection of active and passive recreational uses. A new project currently underway is the design of an historic memorial, passive park and parking lot in the heart of downtown Smithfield. This is one of the most important locations in Smithfield, adjacent to the Carnegie Library,

DESIGN INTENT
Throughout the design process, the central focus was to create a space that would satisfy the needs of the student community in the surrounding residence halls. While not intended to be a central gathering place, it has been designed to facilitate efficient pedestrian circulation, fire lane accessibility, and areas suitable for passive recreation. In essence, it is intended to be a place for all to enjoy.

Previously, the site did not have a functional configuration paths and routes, primarily due to the central lake area and planter beds. The proposed configuration of dispersed bicycle parking around a central plaza will provide efficient movement for pedestrians, fire trucks, and other service vehicles. The intent of the new fire lane is to widen the existing condition without hardening the entire site. The central plaza is proposed to be constructed of permeable pavers to allow infiltration of stormwater and to differentiate from concrete. The need for passive recreation was met by creating respite areas within and without the main plaza by use of raised planter beds and tree buffers. Additional shade trees were added for cooling the hardscape, special consideration being given to not create conflict with fire access.

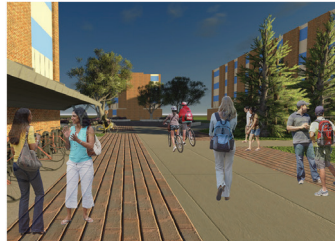
OVERHEAD VIEW OF THE COURTYARD



WALKING THROUGH THE COURTYARD



APPROACH TO THE COURTYARD



Create areas of respite for study and reflection



Central area for group gathering, yet still accessible to emergency vehicles



Create visual interest and enclosure by varying the vertical element of the site

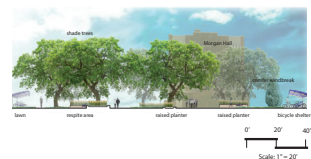


Conifers block wind and provide enclosure

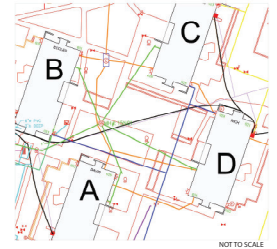
ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN



SECTION A



UTILITY MAP



NOT TO SCALE

- Raised planters** around the edges of the central plaza create secluded **respite areas** where benches may be placed.
- Shade trees** provide an overhead canopy to cool the plaza. **Shrubs and ground covers** within the planters to match planting palette surrounding the courtyard.
- Main plaza** to be constructed of **permeable pavers** to provide visual aesthetic and for **stormwater management**. **Sewer access** is still available for utility trucks. The plaza is large enough for a single residence hall to use for **program activities**.
- Furniture** within the courtyard to match tables and benches like those surrounding the project site. (Powder-coated Aggie Blue)
- Bicycle shelters** constructed adjacent attached to wall jutting out from each building. Each shelter is estimated to accommodate 25 bicycles, for a total courtyard capacity of **100 bicycles**. New matching **benches** will be provided at each building entrance.
- Fire lane** is proposed to be constructed with colored concrete edges, similar to the fire lane on the west side of the Distance Education building. **Removable bollards** to be installed on 1000 North to prevent through traffic.
- Southeast corner** of the courtyard is proposed to be planted with a row of **evergreen trees** to serve as a **windbreak** for the site. This will be especially useful during the winter season.
- The **planting area** around the windbreak can serve as an additional **respite area**. It may also serve as an optional **snow storage area**.



Student Living Center Courtyard

Team Captain: Sam Taylor
Team Members: Nicholas Decker, Kendall Hancey, Brandon Swanson, Sam England

Illustrative Plan,
Section, Perspectives
Sheet: L-1

community design teams

the old tabernacle, and Summit Creek, which is the historic source for the settlement of Smithfield.

In fall of 2014, the students will begin a master plan for the USU Center for Civic Engagement and Service Learning. The one-acre site, located in the island area of Logan, is envisioned as a fully sustainable and accessible landscape that will be built by AmeriCorp students assigned to the Center. Also next fall, the students will design a master plan for the Cache Valley Transit District for a new bus driver training facility in North Logan. The master plan will consider the placement of a new office and training building, parking, access and enhancement to an adjacent drainage area and the design of the bus driver-training course. This is a unique opportunity for the students to expand their skill sets through the application of research.

craig johnson fund for excellence

Jon Rodiek, FASLA



Jon Rodiek from Texas A&M University spoke during LAEP Week as the 2nd Annual Craig Johnson Fund for Excellence speaker. Dr. Rodiek, a professor at TAMU and the MLA graduate coordinator, has received numerous Excellence in Graduate Teaching awards. He is holder of the Harold I. Adams Endowed Interdisciplinary Professorship in Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning. Dr. Rodiek received a BS in Science from Rutgers University, a BLA from the University of Massachusetts, an MLA and MS in Forestry from UMASS and a PhD in Natural Resource Planning, also from UMASS.

Dr. Rodiek's areas of interest are in wildlife and wetland habitat planning. He is the author of many articles and books such as *Wildlife Habitats in Managed Landscapes* with Eric Bolden. He is also editor of *Landscape and Urban Planning Journal*.

The Craig Johnson Fund for Excellence was created with



donations from alumni upon the retirement of Craig Johnson. The Fund is used to bring in speakers on wildlife planning for the benefit of LAEP students.

Top left - MLA students Grant Hardy (front right), Chris Binder (front left), Keni Althouse (back) and visiting scholars in discussion during the Rodiek visit

Photo right -- Richard Toth and Barty Warren-Kretzschmar with bio-regional planning students Carly Klein and Stephanie Tompkin discuss their work with Rodiek



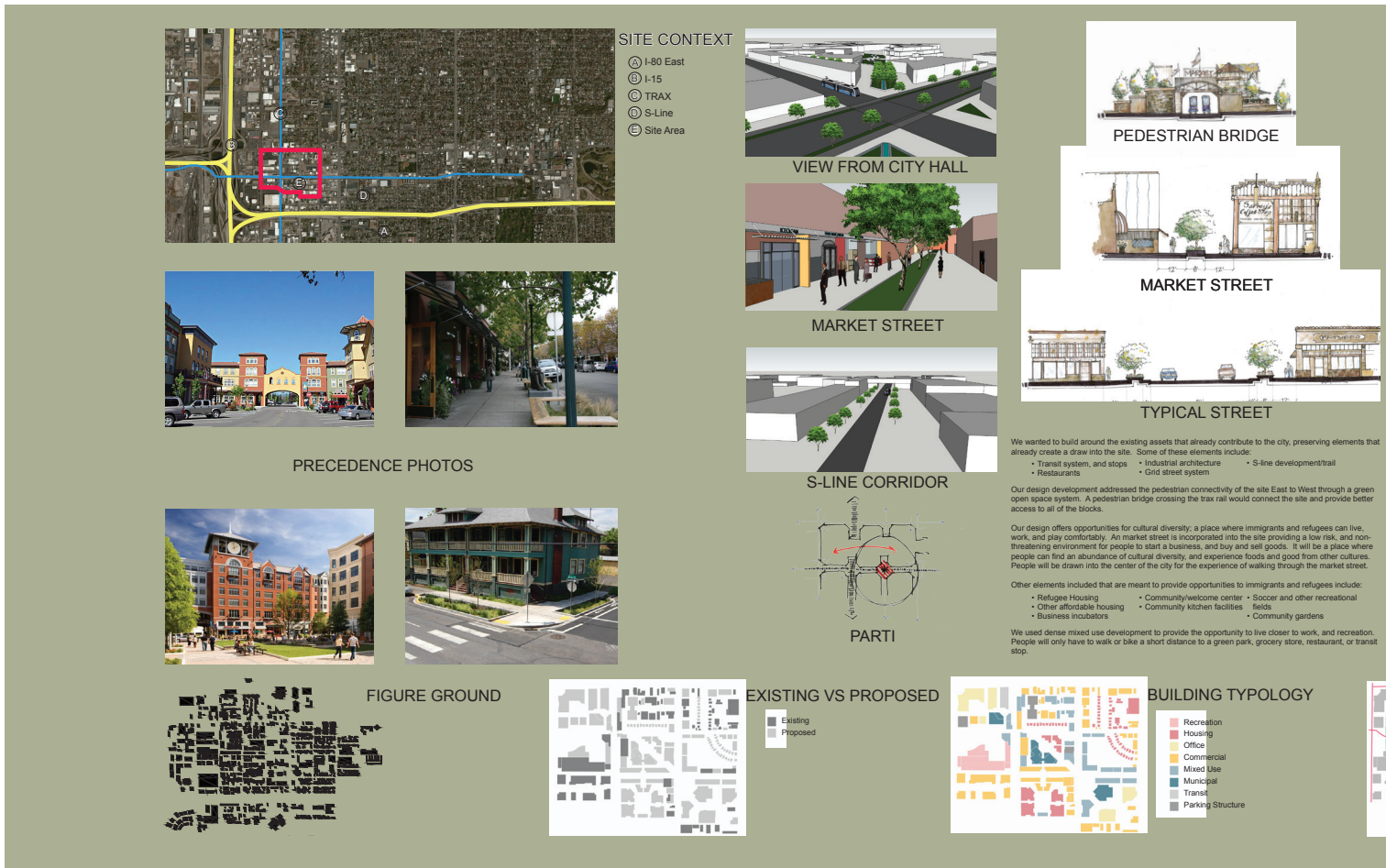
In Fall 2013, graduate students worked in the 6100 Regional Landscape Analysis and Planning studio with **Professor Carlos Licon** to illustrate sustainable scenarios for the southwest region of Utah. The area covers most of San Juan County, following the Monticello-Blanding-Bluff corridor along US-191. A series of proposals were produced from information gathered through research, analysis, interviews, surveys and workshops in the studio, and through a week-long visit to southeastern Utah. This studio is concerned with understanding a region and developing alternative futures sensitive to the issues and needs of the land and communities. This year's project had two main goals: to develop a long-term vision of sustainability helpful for framing future development decisions and actions for the region with considerations to impacts for the people and the larger environment; and to offer LAEP graduate students with challenges and opportunities to apply their knowledge and skills to address current issues in sustainable planning and landscape architecture in Utah.

The trip and the project provided our students with an intense exposure to the issues and concerns of the residents in this part of the state. At the same time the guided site visit offered a unique window to this beautiful, sensitive, and powerful landscape. We met great people who helped us understand their deep-rooted cultures, their love of the land, and their interest in making their heritage a legacy for the future generations.



inside the studio and out

Regional Landscape Analysis and Planning



building a core and connecting communities in South Salt Lake City: an international neighborhood

During Fall 2013, two departments at Utah State University joined forces to develop the project for an “international neighborhood” in the City of South Salt Lake. The goal was to integrate a community center for the local and refugee population with a new City Hall, as a way to provide development anchors for the neighborhood.

South Salt Lake offers some great opportunities to establish a vibrant core area and more community initiatives and designs that would target its local population. This collaboration between the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning (**Professor Caroline**

Lavoie) and the Department of Interior Design (**Professors Steven Mansfield** and **Susie Tibbits**) took the form of a common studio time to allow for discussion between departments and their different scales of work. Sharen Hauri (MLA, '00) and Frank Lilly from City of South Salt Lake were our connections to

City of South Salt Lake and they provided very valuable inputs and critiques during the semester.

The class produced an oversize model which was displayed in the City offices of South Salt Lake after the presentation.

inside the studio and out



- 1 City Hall
- 2 Community center
- 3 Refugee Housing
- 4 Market Street
- 5 Park
- 6 Affordable Housing
- 7 Single Family Res.
- 8 Rec. Center
- 9 Pedestrian Bridge
- 10 S-Line
- 11 Trax
- 12 Proposed S-Line Stop
- 13 Master Plan as proposed by IBI Group

SOUTH SALT LAKE

THE CITY CORE

LAEP 4100 URBAN DESIGN WITH PROFESSOR CAROLINE LAVOIE



PEDESTRIAN & OPEN SPACE

- Pedestrian circulation
- Public Open Space
- Semi-Public Open Space



BICYCLE

- Bicycle Circulation
- Buildings



VEHICULAR & TRAX/S-LINE

- Vehicular Circulation
- Trax/S-Line
- Buildings
- Parking Lots

Bo Pang
Scott Arbon,
Scott Allred
Michael Knight



(above) LAEP seniors Scott Allred, Jared Lundquist and Jennifer Maughan fitting the model pieces together.

(below) Sharen Hauri, Urban Design Director, City of South Salt Lake with seniors Scott Allred, Jessica Christensen, Michael Knight, Jennifer Maughan, Joanalise Christensen, Jared Lundquist, (front) Whitney May, Professor Caroline Lavoie and Luigi Dragonetti.





Sophomores during a briefing with Pen Hollist of Ogden Valley.

inside the studio and out

Site Analysis

In November, 35 sophomore LAEP students in **Professor Keith Christensen's** 2700 Site Analysis course traveled by Aggie Shuttle to Ogden Valley to prepare for the upcoming LAEP Department Charrette. Working in teams, the students met with stakeholders in the communities to identify their strengths and needs, and assembled the necessary inventory data to the goals of Ogden Valley's citizens to (1) protect the natural beauty

and natural resources of the Valley and (2) maintain the Valley's rural atmosphere and rural lifestyle. The student teams presented their analysis in a final jury presentation to LAEP faculty and students. Having sophomore students work on the

upcoming charrette site prepares them to contribute to the week-long process in late January. This enriches the charrette experience for the students who might not otherwise have the skill level to contribute to the charrette proposals.

Charrettes are scheduled in late January and early February to avoid conflict with other spring activities later in the semester. The timing does cause some challenges for the faculty organizing the site visits, because every location requires going over a mountain pass. Even if the roads are clear the students still have to trudge through snow to do the site analysis.



Providence Charrette - 2011



Minnetonka Cave - Bear Lake Charrette - 2012

inside the studio and out

Landscape Planning for Wildlife

Spring 2014, Professor Shujuan Li's LAEP 6110 Landscape Planning for Wildlife graduate-level studio focused on the South Fork watershed in Summit County, Utah. This watershed is rich in natural resources and wildlife species, as well as ecological and social challenges common to many rural western watersheds. Students identified, analyzed, and recorded the ecological, social, and economic resources related to important wildlife species and habitats in the area. Students conducted site visits, met with the local landowners, and invited different stakeholders, wildlife experts and agency representatives to attend and assist in the class. The class project provided a great opportunity for students to participate in an ongoing planning process; to explore wildlife resource management issues and to gain a better understanding of landowners' values and concerns for the area. The students' studies of habitat and the subsequent wildlife models and recommendations these studies generated for each key wildlife species



indicated that the habitat needs were highly related to the values of the land and aligned closely with local landowners' concerns. Wildlife planning and natural resource management typically go beyond a single landowner in both scale and complexity. This class project provided critical analysis and planning recommendations for the Coordinated Resource Management planning (CRMP) effort currently underway in the study area. This CRMP effort is a locally led, grassroots approach, focused on planning at a scale that addresses multiple natural resource issues across fence boundaries. The students' work was favorably received by the local landowners in



Top - Grad students Aaron Smith, Michael Pace with Jake Powell (center) Kim Cloward-Drown and ENVS student Enjie Li.

Bottom: Jake Powell with Kim Cloward-Drown and Aaron Smith.

the final project presentation and provided stakeholders a powerful educational opportunity as well as an engaging forum to discuss relevant concerns and issues. We are very thankful to Jake Powell (BLA, '07), the Upper Weber Watershed

Coordinator, for his gracious support to the class and the financial support from the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food's 2013 Coordinated Resource Management Planning Grant for the South Fork of Chalk Creek watershed.

inside the studio and out

Recreation and Open Space



In addition, schematic details were developed for some of the activity nodes, and studies were undertaken of some of the program elements under consideration by the BSA. Studies involved camp “branding”, issues involved with the creation of an artificial lake, potential for regional trail connections, campsite “hardening” to mitigate impacts of soil compaction and erosion, lodge and pavilion prototypes, and the opportunity for a zip line and ropes course.

Students in the 2nd year graduate and junior Recreation and Open Space Planning and Design studio with **Professor Michael Timmons** were asked by the Boy Scouts of America to provide assistance in the master planning of a 1,500-acre Scout camp near Brian Head, Utah. The site, located at an elevation of 10,000 feet, is situated in a stunning location adjacent to Brian Head Ski Resort, and near several national parks.

Although threatened by a heavy early snowfall, the weather gods prevailed and melted the newly fallen powder just as the fleet of Aggie minivans headed south for the several day site visit and field trip. In addition to visiting the project site, students were led on a tour of US Forest Service recreational facilities in Pine Valley by USFS landscape architect and former LAEP student **Rick Dustin**. Students also visited Cedar Breaks National Monument for spectacular views of the surrounding landscape of Southern Utah.

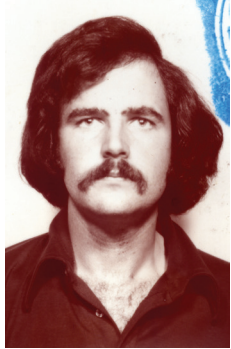
The recreation studio worked in conjunction with **Professor Shujuan Li’s** GIS course to produce suitability models and mapping, which were ground-truthed as part of the site visit, to identify optimal areas for location of roads, campsites, and various activities. Several environmentally responsive master plan alternatives were generated for various future build-out scenarios.





Michael Timmons retirement 2014

It was 1977...



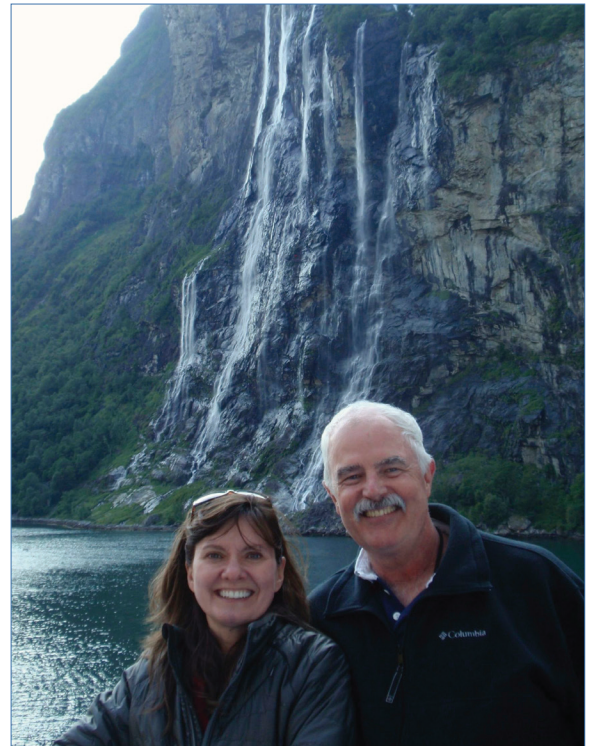
Jimmy Carter had just been sworn in as President of the United States replacing Gerald Ford, Star Wars opened in movie theaters, Elvis performed his final concert, Apple Computer was incorporated, the world's first all-in-one personal computer was demonstrated at an electronics show in Chicago, the Oldsmobile Cutlass was the top selling car in America ... and **Michael Timmons** joined the LAEP faculty in Logan. Having enjoyed a nomadic lifestyle of relocation to various parts of the country and the world (Michigan, Massachusetts, England and Iran) for professional employment over the previous seven years, he envisioned Logan as yet another one or two year stand before the next experience. Much to his astonishment, 37 years later, Michael is finally setting sail on his next adventure ... retirement!

Over this time period, Prof. Timmons has taught many different courses in the curriculum, and over 1,000 students have graduated from LAEP. His favorite courses, and those into which he settled over the past 3 decades, were clearly History of Landscape Architecture, Site Planning and Design (remember

Friendly Fred's/Modular Metric and Block 10?), and Recreation and Open Space Planning and Design. The recreation studio in particular afforded numerous opportunities for student engagement in real-world projects throughout the state, while providing planning and design guidance otherwise unavailable to numerous public entities. (See the the Thunder Ridge BSA Camp elsewhere in this InSites).

Michael has always enjoyed working with and advising students. He has served as Undergraduate Program Director for a number of years, during a large portion of which he was the advisor for all BLA students, and in 2002, he was recognized as the College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Advisor of the Year. He has advised numerous departmental honors students over the years, serving as LAEP Honors Coordinator from 1991-2007, and was named University Honors Faculty in 1993. An interdisciplinary arts course developed and co-taught by Prof. Timmons for the University Honors Program entitled the Arts in Interesting Times eventually served as the model and pilot for the USU General Education required breadth course in the creative arts.

Travel has always been (and will continue to be) an obsession for Prof. Timmons. Hundreds of students have shared his enthusiasm for visiting project sites and professional offices on various class trips. Further afield, he has led numerous extended travel study trips to destinations along the West Coast, as well as several European tours. Some of you will even recall an entire 10-week Term Abroad, based primarily in England but with a two-week continental whirlwind tacked-on at the end.



*Top - Geirangerfjord, Norway (2013) with wife Moragh
Bottom - Counting rings on tree Capability planted at Highclere Manor (Downton Abbey)*

Over the past decade, Michael has been involved with numerous projects with the National Park Service, including parks and monuments in Utah, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, and Alaska. Most of these have involved



Sailing into the future

cultural and historic landscapes, and have provided funding for graduate students in the program.

While teaching and student service have always been Michael's passion, he has also held numerous appointments on various university, college, and departmental committees. He served several terms on the USU Faculty Senate, and also served as Interim Department Head of LAEP in 2007-2008. He was recognized as the Distinguished Professor of the Year by the College of Agriculture in 2011.

So what does the future hold? On the short-term horizon is the 75th Anniversary of LAEP. Michael will be busy in the coming months with MLA student Aaron Smith

completing an updated history of the department. In addition, he is rummaging the closets, dusty files, and hidden corners of the building gleaning gems from the past to display during the August festivities. *And he is also trying to figure out the best way to capture audio and visual images and recollections from all of you in attendance for department archives, so don't let him down and make sure to show up in force!!!!*

Beyond that, it is time to re-discover the myriad of loves and interests that have been on hold for too many years ... sketching ... hiking ... painting ... gardening ... designing ... fishing ... family history ... camping ... and need I say ... TRAVEL!!!

Thank you all for the wonderful memories.

Michael was honored at the LAEP Banquet in April with the showing of a video produced by graduate student Aaron Smith, and was given a garden gnome customized by students holding a set of tiny plans and a plaque which reads "May it be 'gnome' throughout the landscape, Michael L. Timmons will always be remembered as a noble professor and inspiring scholar." The students also made a clock from wood salvaged from the Laval Morris Garden cleanup day.

The Department presented him with two of Caroline Lavoie's framed sketches that she had created when they jointly led students on a travel experience to Italy in May 2011.



China 2013

"a drizzling day...
transferring back to
history and grasping
the sentiments when
the garden owner
stood in front of the
fish pond watching
the falling leaves and
listening to the music
that is played by the
rain and the banner
tree."

—Bo Yang—



In May 2013, a group of 31 LAEP students and two professors (**Shujuan Li and Bo Yang**) visited China, making it the first trip of this kind in Asia. The two-week journey was full of excitement, inspiration, and learning. We visited five cities, including the ancient royal capital Beijing, modern metropolis Shanghai, beautiful/heaven cities Suzhou and Hangzhou, and the Asian Venice Zhouzhuang. We witnessed China's dynamic changes in urbanization and visited projects that featured sustainable landscape planning and design practices.

We orchestrated the itinerary to present a rich portfolio of projects and sites that are lush in history, diversity, and focus. For example, students experienced the stunning imperial palace Forbidden City and the Summer Palace, gaining a deeper understanding of the theories of Chinese/Asian landscape design. The man-nature harmonious relationship is greatly appreciated in these ancient

masterpieces. Modern masterpieces were also a focus, and they were experienced in different, informative ways. In the 2008 Beijing Olympic Forest Park, for example, we managed to invite chief designer, Professor Jie Hu, for a lecture on his design. Immediately following that, the design teams gave us a 6-hour tour throughout the 1,680-acre park. They pointed to the built



Visit to a tea plantation

conditions and referred back to the design concepts just covered in the lecture. This was indeed an invaluable learning experience for everyone.

In the southern part of China, scholar gardens in Suzhou and Hangzhou were the focus, with many of these being World Cultural Heritage sites. The Yin & Yang relationship and the various famous garden design techniques (e.g., Borrowed View, Depth and Sequence) were reviewed on site. It was a drizzling day when we visited the Lingering Garden. It worked to our benefit as there were very few visitors. This was the moment that we contemplated ancient design theories, traveling back in time and grasping the sentiments when the garden owner once stood in front of the fish pond watching the falling leaves and listening to the music that is played by the rain and the banner tree.

We also enjoyed modern landscape projects, with several renowned urban renovation cases and ASLA award-winning examples (e.g., Xintiandi, Tianzifang Art District, and Houtan Park). The Shanghai Chenshan Botanic Garden, another more recent ASLA award-

winning project, was accommodated into our original agenda. The 72 m (236 ft) waterfall, the archeological features, and various exquisite design details cannot be appreciated enough. In addition, we visited a number of top-notch design firms and landscape architecture programs where LAEP students interacted with designers, faculty, and other Chinese students.

At Beijing's Tsinghua Tongheng Urban Planning & Design Institute, the SWA Group, and HMD Design, we had the opportunity to request portfolio interviews with firm principals. The students were told before the trip about these remarkable opportunities, and a number of them showed their work to receive one-on-one feedback from several leaders. The global practice of landscape architecture transcends the boundary of nationality in China. There are designers from the U.S., Europe, and other Asian countries in these firms that we visited, which provided a rare opportunity to interact with these designers and to envision their own career paths.

Certainly we did not miss the Great Wall, one of the 7 Wonders of the World. There is a Chinese



saying, “He who does not reach the Great Wall is not a true man.” Well, one of the team members almost marked a new time record with respect to climbing up to the top. The panoramic views at the top are astonishing. As instructors we allowed a flexible amount of time where the students could indulge in hand sketching or explore the unique landscapes further. This was the first international trip for many of the attendees, and so English narratives for the sites were also made available in advance to break the language barrier (<https://sites.google.com/site/laepshujuan/>).

During the trip we also enjoyed Karaoke and birthday parties. Four LAEP students’ birthdays were just days apart in the month of May. Many students expressed the feeling of difficulty to pick a favorite

day, as every day they experienced something inspiring and exciting. For the instructors this was also a great learning experience. The trip was accomplished for a very attractive

price. We look forward to preparing another trip, and we welcome alumni. But, only if you know how to Karaoke!



new faculty

returning to USU – never say never

When I joined the LAEP Department for the first time in August of 1981, the Department had just moved into the new building, the courtyard had just been built and its locust trees were small and hopeful. Memorable were the Tupperware enthusiasts who chanted outside my window as I unpacked. Last August I joined the LAEP faculty for the second time. The building was as I remembered it, but the courtyard had become enclosed by the museum and the trees towered over the space. There are no more Tupperware conventions in the summer, and the long view of the valley from the windows at the top of the ramp had been blocked by new building on campus. How ironic that upon my return the courtyard was slated for a redesign and a heartfelt debate about saving the trees ensued.

Interestingly the longevity of the building environment has surpassed that of the trees in the courtyard. Many of my friendships with the faculty have bridged the decades and the distance to my home in Hannover, Germany. In the 80's Michael Timmons visited Hannover on a European tour with students from USU. John Nicholson and I team taught at the University of Hannover in the 80's and later at Anhalt Universty in Bernburg, Germany in 2010. Even some of the LAEP graduates found their way to my door: Larry Harmsen, Jerry Sempek and Julie Johnson among others. In the early 90's I led a field trip of German landscape architecture students down the east coast from Boston to Washington, DC and finished with a memorable week of hiking in Escalante, which



Barty Warren-Kretzschmar

Michael Timmons and John Nicholson helped to organize. I was fascinated how the western landscape affected the Germans. The somewhat stressed and argumentative students were transformed into relaxed and communicative individuals. If I had ever doubted the effect of the environment on people, the proof was definitive.

My teaching assignment in the 80's encompassed Introduction to Landscape Architecture, design studios and Design Theory, the last of which I team taught with the department head at that time, Dick Toth. Now years later after focusing my work and research in Germany on landscape level planning, I have spent the last year once again team teaching with Dick, this time in the Bioregional Planning program. If anyone had ever told me that I would return to USU, I would have laughed. But one should never say 'never'. I look forward to teaching and promoting the Bioregional Planning program as Dick phases into retirement.



Barty with Michael Timmons – Tour of Southern Utah –1990s



inside **the studio and out**

BioRegional Planning

Bioregional Planning students explore the San Rafael watershed

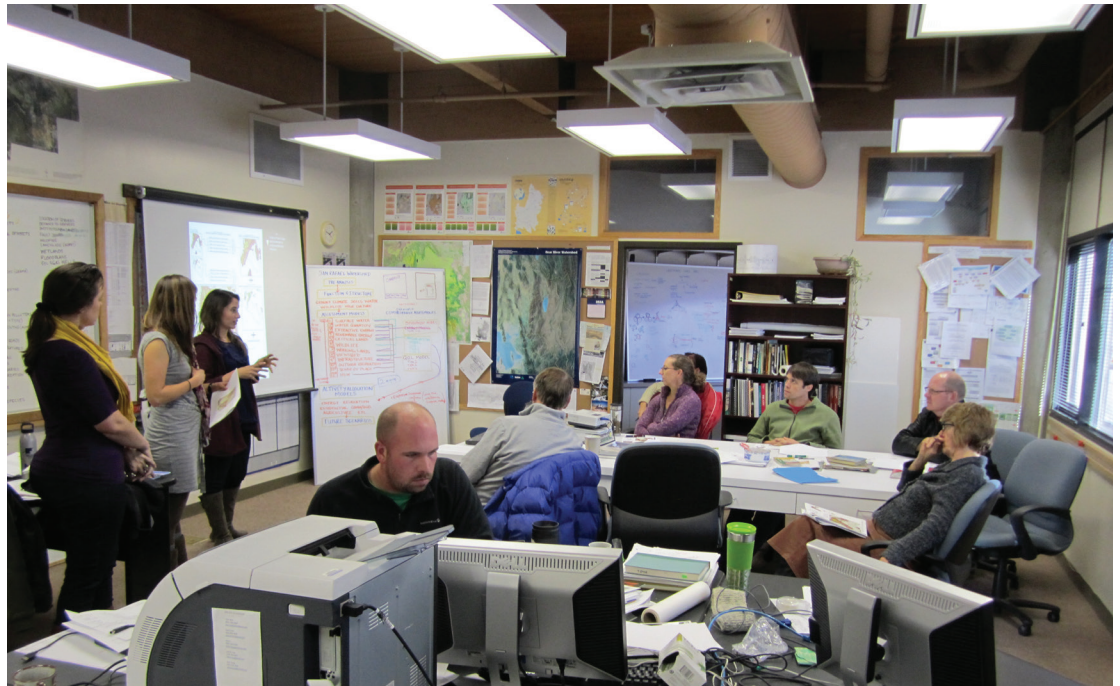
The San Rafael River flows from the highlands of the Wasatch Plateau through the canyons and high desert of the San Rafael Swell and empties into the Green River.

The San Rafael Swell in Emory County is one of the best kept secrets of southern Utah. In the Bioregional Planning studio, graduate students Stephanie Tomlin and Carly Klein explored the exquisite landscape and developed alternative futures for the San Rafael River watershed during the Fall and Spring semesters of 2013–2014. The San Rafael River flows from the highlands of the Wasatch Plateau through the canyons and high desert of the San Rafael Swell and empties into the Green River. Both

the high country of the Wasatch and the unique landscape of the San Rafael Swell offer recreational opportunities, but also reflect the debate between recreation and conservation. While wilderness study areas ring the Swell and many petroglyphs can be found in the canyons, the Swell is also a beloved destination for campers and hiker as well as for motorized recreation. The traditionally agricultural communities of Castle Dale, Huntington and Ferron at the foot of the Wasatch face many challenges

that are typical of western rural communities, such as changing demographics caused by the emigration of young people and the decline of small farms. Furthermore, coal excavation from the Wasatch Plateau and several coal generated power plants are the mainstay of the local economy. However, much of the produced electricity is exported to California which is shifting toward cleaner energy. The loss of population, the potential decline in coal power, and the increased pressure of recreation on the San Rafael Swell have motivated the local government to consider alternative futures for the region.

The graduate students were introduced to the issues facing the region in meetings with stakeholders in Castle Dale. They explored the San Rafael Swell together with the County Commissioner JR Nelson, where they saw herds of wild horses and petroglyphs. Finally, they took a breath taking flight over the study area that revealed the contrast in the flow and morphology of the San Rafael River from the mountains to the desert. Based on this information and further research, the students identified social and cultural issues pertinent to the region, analyzed the biophysical landscape of the watershed and developed four alternative futures for the San Rafael Watershed. The alternative futures considered different scenarios for development of the region over the next twenty years and included: Business as usual, development of heritage communities that reflect local traditions and values, a diversified energy economy, and the region as a



recreational hub.

Carly and Stephanie presented their results not only to the stakeholders in Castle Dale, but also at the annual Spring Runoff Conference held at USU in April 2014 and the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management in Hannover, Germany in May.

Top – a session in the Bioregional studio. Bottom – graduate students Karen Shakelford, Stephanie Tomlin and Carly Klein discuss with faculty prior to their presentation to stakeholders in Castle Dale. (Front) Dual masters degree student (MLA and MS BioRegional) Matt Coombs works on a computer. Carly Klein is also a dual master degree student.

The Dual Master program is offered jointly by the LAEP and Environment and Society Departments. The program requires two theses.

practitioner in residence - **Todd Johnson**



Todd Johnson, FASLA (BLA, '76) arrived in Spring, 2014 as a Practitioner-in-Residence to co-teach the Senior Capstone course and, if a professor asked, to provide lectures or critiques in any other course. And they all asked. He was subsequently very busy in Site Planning, Residential Design and Theory of Design, plus the graduate courses which provided the opportunity to interact with all current students at every level. His 35 years of experience from the professional world and teaching in various other programs across the nation gave LAEP students feedback from one of the top designers and intellectuals in the nation. Todd has recently been named an Associate Professor/Practitioner-in-Residence for the 2014-15 school year. [photo - Wyatt Traugher]

visiting scholars



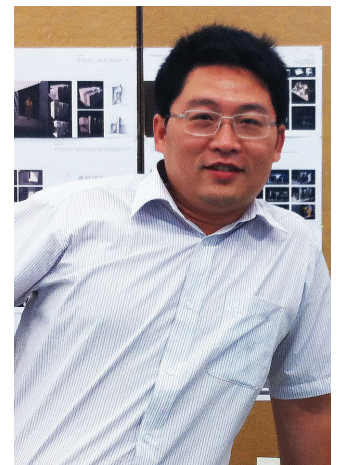
Xiaoguang "Lux" Lui

Lux is visiting LAEP this current year and working on research with Bo Yang and Sean Michael. He is a PhD candidate at Nanjing Forestry University in China.

His PhD dissertation focuses on urban green space system planning and evaluation indicators.

Dr. Zhen Wang is from Huazhong University of Science and Technology in Wuhan, China. He is an Assistant Professor in the Architecture Department in the School of Architecture and Urban Planning.

His areas of expertise are urban microclimate and urban morphology, landscape design with microclimate, and double skin facade research.



Zhen Wang

retirement - Richard Toth

Art and design were always a part of Richard Toth's life. His father had gone to art school and there were always pen and ink drawings around the house. He had an interest in landscape architecture from working a summer for a landscape architect doing residential design, so while attending a small junior college in New Jersey he started investigating landscape architecture programs. This was at a time when there were only a few accredited programs in the country. After finishing his junior college degree in Natural Sciences he went to Michigan State University.

Two of the faculty at Michigan State were graduates of Harvard Graduate School of Design and encouraged him to apply for graduate school. He didn't have high hopes he would be accepted, but they said let us worry about that. "I applied and whatever happened, happened." Richard said. That fall he was at Cambridge with six others in the entering class.

It was at Harvard that Richard started to look at large-scale issues and worked on projects that would steer him toward a job in Canada after graduation. He worked on many projects while in the Toronto area including doing much of the conceptual work for Expo '67.

Richard's first academic appointment was in 1965 at the University of Pennsylvania. It was at the University of Pennsylvania that he met his most influential mentors and worked on one of the first large-scale watershed management studies for the Delaware River Basin. He spent summers traveling with his wife Diana to the western US which led to accepting a job to teach summer school at Utah State University in 1967. During that summer Richard

and Diana spent every weekend traveling to Yellowstone, Moab and exploring the great places surrounding Cache Valley. The experience convinced him and his wife their future was to take place somewhere in the Intermountain region.

In 1968, Professor Toth was invited to join the faculty at the Graduate School of Design at Harvard. In 1972, he accepted a faculty position at USU in LAEP and was named Department Head in 1974. He continued in that role for eight years working on the curriculum and was instrumental in getting the department into a new building where LAEP remains today. After 8 years he chose to go back to faculty to teach and do research. This lasted for five years and he was asked, once again, to be Department Head. He served as head for another nine years. In 2002, he moved to the College of Natural Resources in the Department of Environmental Studies and maintained the Master of Science in Bioregional Planning. The Bioregional MS offers an interdisciplinary curriculum centered around a year-long studio. The studio approach gives graduate students the opportunity to be involved in real-world issues which can make tangible contributions to landscape planning at both community and regional scales.

This past year Professor Toth has assisted Barty Warren-Kretschmar with the San-Rafael watershed project and continued to mentor students in the program, plus students pursuing the joint MLA/MS-Bioregional program through LAEP and ENVS. Prof. Toth's retirement began in July, and he will be recognized along with Prof. Michael T. Immons at the 75th Anniversary Celebration.



"We did a lot of good outreach work, which is part of what a good land grant school is all about. You are paying back the society that is also paying your salary, and helping them with their environmental planning and design problems."

—Richard Toth—

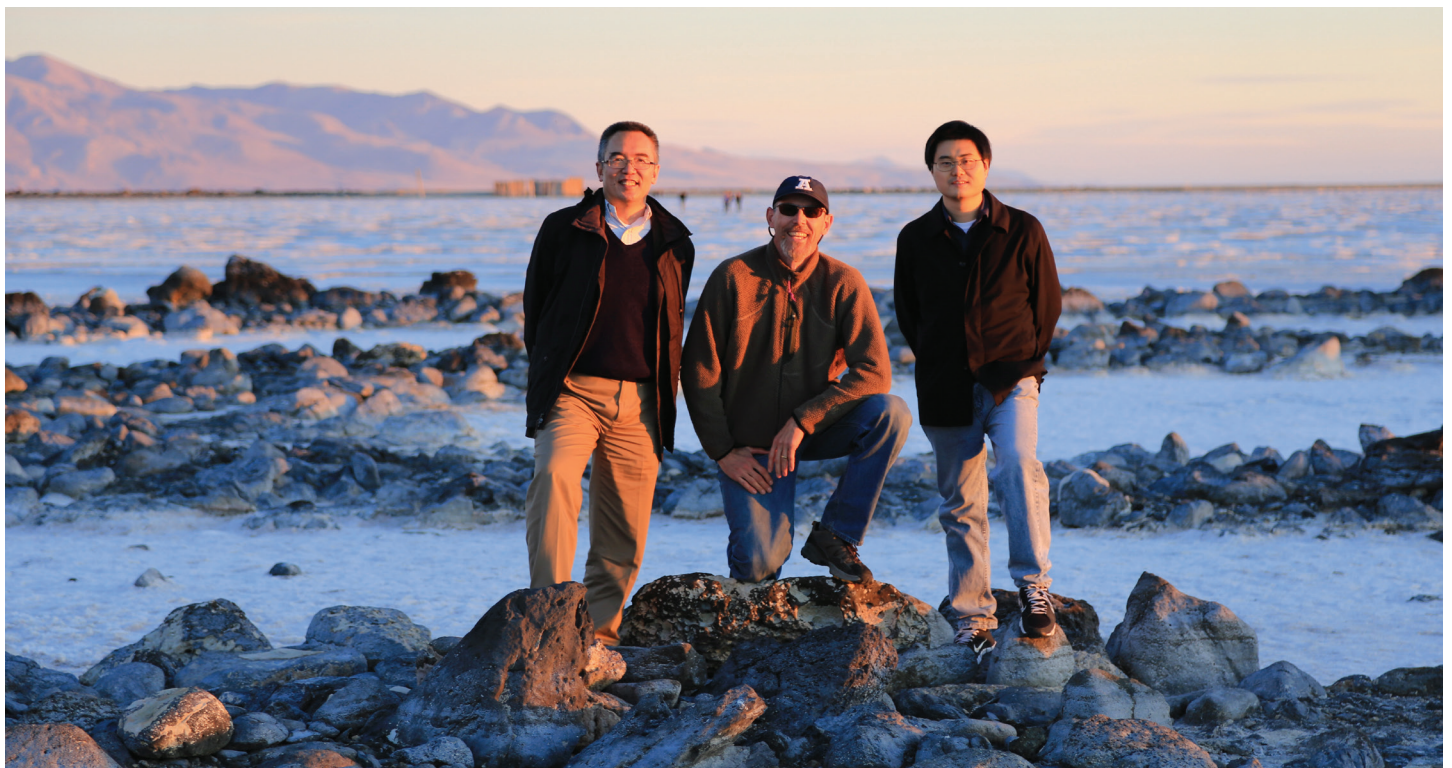
international collaboration

This past year **Bo Yang** has continued to expand his academic collaboration. This was greatly facilitated by the 2013 China trip that he conducted with **Shujuan Li**, as well as guiding **Sean Michael** to four prestigious Chinese universities. As a result of these visits, two scholars from China came to USU for one year beginning the fall semester. They have been enjoying various LAEP courses, extensive collaboration with LAEP faculty, and the beautiful Utah landscapes.

In addition, Bo facilitated the visit of another distinguished speaker—**Professor Jie Hu** of Tsinghua University, the current Vice-President of Beijing Tsinghua Tongheng Urban Planning & Design Institute. Professor Hu was chief designer of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Forest Park. His lecture, titled “Shanshui City: Exploring Sustainable Urban Development in China,” was well received by the USU community.

Bo is currently working with graduate assistant Chis Binder on a guidebook for landscape performance assessment. It is a grant project funded by the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF). USU emerged as the lead institution on this project following a national competition. The guidebook will be a one-stop shop for novice researchers who are trying to conduct similar studies as shown in LAF’s Landscape Performance Series. Bo recently published a journal article with his graduate student, Amanda Goodwin, on stormwater quality best management practices. Bo published two additional articles with his graduate students (Yue Zhang, Pamela Blackmore, and Jess Yan) in the innagural issue of Landscape Research Record (an official peer-reviewed publication of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture). Bo continues his water quality monitoring study at Daybreak community in South Jordan. He cannot say enough good words about his assistants Pam Blackmore, Luigi Dragonetti, Tim Bowler, and Sam England.

left to right, Professor Jie Hu, Sean Michael and Bo Yang at Utah’s famed Spiral Jetty.





Maja Majeric and Matevž Kopitar on a Recreation and Open Space field trip to Cedar Breaks.

Slovenian exchange

The Department has had many students participate in the Slovenian exchange over the years since **Professor John Nicholson** established the program. LAEP students travel to Ljubljana or Slovenian students attend classes at USU for a semester.

This past year two students from Slovenia came to Logan and participated in the Recreation and Open Space studio as well as the Urban Design studio and other courses. Taking those studio courses together is a very intense workload especially when there is so much to see on your first trip to America.

Matevž Kopitar wrote about his experience here at USU:

I will never forget my first experience on USU's campus. Just after I managed to throw my luggage on top of the bunk bed in my dorm room, my peer mentor and some other students took me to the student center building. It was my first day so I had no idea what to expect. The next thing I knew I was taking pictures with Big Blue, singing The Scotsman and stuffing my mouth full with delicious Aggie ice cream. I could get used to that, I thought. And I did!

Getting involved on campus was a piece of cake and I didn't even have to try. I have met a lot of people from all around the world and got to know their cultures, but most of all I got the opportunity to experience American culture

with a couple of really good American friends. Having a slice of pizza in the parking lot just before the game and smuggling a bottle of ice tea through the security into the stadium. Trying hard not seem like I am really paying more attention to the cheerleaders than the actual game, and making a good effort not to accidentally appear on kiss cam. Then taking a runaway to Salt Lake to have some more fun. I did some yodelling on top of Angels Landing in Zion National Park, stood no further than a few yards away from buffalo in Yellowstone and swam in a freezing cold lake with my Korean roommate in October.

I have also experienced the true American barbecue. Actually, quite a few of them to be honest. Not to mention the true Thanksgiving holiday at a professor's house and the homecoming parade. My jaw dropped each time a Ford Mustang or Harley Davidson passed by and I was surprised by the size of pretty much everything in America.

All those things and many more made me feel like I am living in an American movie. Although I missed my tiny country in Europe it was a much too short movie. But I already knew then it was one of those "to be continued" movies, so saying good-bye to my friends was much easier. I ended my visit in America the same way I started. Mouthful of Aggie ice cream, wearing blue Aggie T-shirt screaming "GO AGGIES!"

distinguished alumni - 2014

Randy Boudrero, ASLA, CLARB
BLA - '78

Randy received his degree in Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning from Utah State University in 1978. After graduation he began working with Environmental Associates, an architectural firm based out of Salt Lake City, and worked with them for several years before the firm evolved into Nelson Johnson and Partners. In 1993, Nelson Johnson and Partners merged with MHT Architects and the now familiar firm of MHTN Architects became one of the most prominent architectural firms in Utah, and began offering landscape architectural services.

After several successful years of exceptional landscape design, Randy was chosen to be the first landscape architect to become an Associate Principal in the history of MHTN Architects, and is currently directing the firm's landscape architectural practice.

Randy has had the privilege of working on many notable and award-winning projects, some of which include the Discover Corporate Campus, The University of Utah Ambulatory Care Center, Weber State University's Bell Tower Plaza, The Arling Center and Lodge of the Tamarack Resort, the Main Street Plaza in Salt Lake City, and the LDS Kiev Ukraine Temple. Randy and his design team have won several design awards including the prestigious ASLA Utah Chapter of Landscape Architects Honor and Merit Awards.

Through years of collaborating on multidisciplinary projects, Randy has developed strong project management skills, an acute eye for detail, commitment to quality, and an innovative approach in the creation of public spaces. These acquired skills have brought him respect among his peers in the profession.

As a licensed landscape architect, Randy served for a period of 16 years over several terms on the Utah State Landscape Architect Licensing Board. He has also had an opportunity to serve as a grader of the licensing exams for the national Council of Landscape Architecture



Licensing Board.

Two of his favorite projects were the Salt Lake City Main Street Plaza and the Weber State University Bell Tower Plaza. The Main Street Plaza is located in downtown Salt Lake City. The focus of the plaza is an elliptical reflecting pool that rests at the base of the campus' historic architectural centerpiece, and acts as the campus gathering area. The Weber State University Bell Tower Plaza is the heart of the campus and is the central gathering space for major campus activities. Cascading waterfall features provide a terminus to main campus corridors and enhance the pedestrian experience.

Randy's 30+ year career exemplifies the leadership and impact that practitioners can bring to their communities. LAEP is proud to recognize his career accomplishment by welcoming him as the 2014 Distinguished Alumnus.

LAEP alumni giving back

Professor David Evans collaborated with that several alumni who visited last year, each adding their own unique message to the classroom.

Alumni visits support collaborative learning, serve as an example of student potential, and bring a critical day-to-day practice experience to the classroom. These valuable contributions are greatly appreciated by the LAEP community.

In the fall Construction Document Preparation class, 4110, **Jay Bollwinkel**, Principal MGB+A presented MGB+A's website and some of their construction document sets. Jay offered a range of valuable lessons related to design, design development, construction documents and liability. **Kris Kvarfordt**, Senior Landscape Architect, Cache Landmark and LAEP graphics instructor, took the 4110 class on a tour of one his projects, a new ramp and stair system down the face of Old Main Hill. The site was under construction and the grading, formwork, rebar and sub-base, provided a valuable connection between the detail and construction. Two alumni from the firm of Design West, **Blake Wright**, CEO and **Kent Baker**, walked the students through a range of technical, financial, liability and day-to-day practice issues.

After visiting the department as an invited guest of our Speaker Series, **Jamie Maslyn Larson**, Principal of West 8 New York, spoke with the Spring Site Planning and Design class, 2720. Jamie reviewed her journey, her approach to design, teamwork, management, and practice, and some of the challenges of being a professional woman.

Dayton Crites, a 2013 MLA grad, 'skyped' into the Spring Communications and Leadership Class, 4910. He spoke about the lessons learned from his first year at the Design Workshop in their Austin office. Dayton shared a range of learnings related to teamwork, production, leadership, communication and life after school. **Mark van der Zalm**, van der Zalm & associates also connected to 4910 through our new IVC system in the Alumni Jury Room. He reviewed a number of student portfolios, cover letters and resumes sent in advance. Mark explained his approach to the review of qualifications materials, and gave a comprehensive page-by-page analysis of the students materials. It was an informative and good-natured conversation that gave the students an understanding of what a practitioner would expect.

Sharen Hauri, the Urban Design Director of South Salt Lake City, discussed some of her recent successes and the qualities and attitudes required for the realization of a vision. She brought a spirit of optimism, tenacity and collaboration to the classroom that had an energizing and encouraging impact. Sharen also worked with Urban Theory this year.



Left - Kris Kvarfordt (MLA, '10)
Mark van der Zalm (MLA, '98),
Sharen Hauri (MLA, '00)
top right - Jay Bollwinkel (BLA, '87)
Blake Wright (BLA, '86)
Jamie Maslyn Larson (MLA, '98)
Dayton Crites (MLA, '13)

Many alumni also assisted in LARE Prep this year. A list of names can be found on page 44.

alumni update

Dale Shafer - BLA, '87

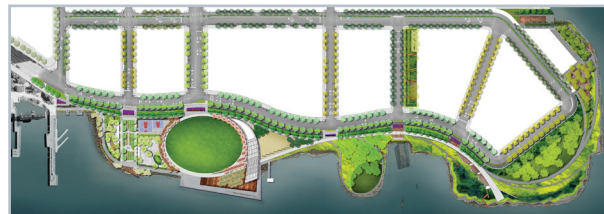
After receiving his BLA at USU in 1987 with three internships in San Diego at Spurlock-Poirier under his belt, Dale Schafer headed east to Boston to begin his career at Sasaki Associates. After two years working in the corporate realm, Dale decided to further explore design ideas by applying to various masters programs. Thinking he would ultimately settle in his homeland of California, Dale headed west to earn his MLA at UC Berkeley. While there, his focus was exploring how to merge environmental issues with contemporary design aesthetic. At that time the two were often at odds with each other. During his exit interview at Berkeley, his thesis mentors, Michael Laurie and Chip Sullivan, asked him the question, “Can landscape architects be artists, and can artists be landscape architects?” It was probably the most controversial and dynamic discussion he had while at Berkeley.

Upon receiving his MLA in 1991 in the midst of a recession, Dale accepted a position at HOK San Francisco, but soon jumped ship to accept an offer at Spurlock-Poirier again, a firm that proved to be instrumental in shaping his design and graphic approach. Over the next five years, Dale wandered up and down the California coast accepting design positions, first in San Francisco (at Patricia O'Brien Landscape Architecture, and teaching a design studio at UC Berkeley Extension), and then Los Angeles (with Mia Lehrer Associates, and then Meléndrez Design).

Dale's desire for exposure to various design talents seemed to be an instrument (if not an excuse) to move from place to place seeking new life and professional experiences. Ironically, Dale found himself in leaving Los Angeles and migrating to New York City in 1998. There he accepted a senior design position at Thomas Balsley Associates.



“I look fondly back on my experience at USU's LAEP department and to this day, it is one of the most rewarding and inspiring experiences of my diverse and nomadic career.”
–Dale Shafer–



*Hunter's Point
Waterfront Park
along New York
City's East River.*



Fascinated and intrigued by the firm's focus on public open space design (primarily urban), Dale's first projects there included a downtown park between a public library and commuter train station in New Rochelle, NY, and a public linear plaza in Battery Park City, NYC across the road from the World Trade Center. Both projects were educational in learning about urban open space as pedestrian corridors.

Once again, Dale's itch for new experience led him back to Boston to run a small branch office for the Burlington, VT-based firm, Wagner McCann Studio (now Wagner Hodgson). Project work there included campus work (Johns Hopkins University and Simmons College) and high-end residential work in New England. From here Dale moved to an old farmhouse in the New York's Hudson Valley to begin his own practice. While in the midst of learning the ropes of sole-proprietorship, he received a call from Tom Balsley asking him to return as the senior design associate for the firm. With the new century's advancements in technology, a deal was struck that allowed Dale to work part-time in NYC, and part-time from home in the country, while leading several domestic and international projects. There Dale has remained over the past eight years, wondering why the itch to move hasn't reared its head.

Projects during his second tenure at Thomas Balsley Associates have included a vast array of public and private work such as the St. Louis Arch Connector Study, Hunter's Point Shipyard/Candlestick Park Open Space Master Plan in San Francisco, Main Street Garden Park in Dallas, Sheikh Kalifa Medical City in Abu Dhabi, National Ecological Center in Korea, Bancomer Bank Data Center Campus in Mexico City, Park Row/Chatham Square in NYC, competitions and open space master plans in Eastern Europe, China, and Korea. Recently constructed public parks include Heritage Field (the park that replaced the recently demolished Yankee Stadium) and Hunter's Point Waterfront Park along NYC's East River. Dale's current role at Thomas Balsley Associates includes oversight of design and graphic quality, and working with Tom Balsley in advancing the design vision of the firm.

Since 2012, Dale has served as a member of the LAEP Advancement Board.

Heritage Field - replaced the recently demolished Yankee Stadium.



Jay Bollwinkel and Dale Shafer at Utah's Spiral Jetty.



awards- 2013-14

The 2013-14 awards and scholarships were handed out at the LAEP Annual Awards Banquet held at the Logan River Golf Course on April 11, 2014. The faculty selected award winners based on their hard work and their potential to be successful in the field of landscape architecture. One student or sometimes two are selected as the outstanding student in their class.



Top left - **Outstanding Junior** - Sam Taylor with Phil Waite.

Middle left - **Senior Faculty Medal** - Whitney May with Sean Michael.

Bottom left - **Undergraduate Leadership Award** - Sam England

Middle top - **Senior Faculty Medal** - Tim Bowler

Middle bottom- **Graduate Leadership Award** - Chris Binder

Not pictured - **Outstanding Sophomore Student** - Hailey Wall

Top - **Outstanding 1st Year Grad** - Tonya Rice with David Anderson.

Middle - **Outstanding 2nd Year Grad** - Carly Klein with Carlos Licon.

Bottom - **Outstanding 3rd Year Grad** - Kim Cloward Drown with Keith Christensen.

The Utah Chapter of ASLA holds an annual juried award process for 2 graduate students and 6 senior undergraduate students. Members of the chapter devote an evening to listening to students present their projects then choose the Merit and Honor award winners. This year the jurors were Josh Sundloff (BLA, '05), Don Leslie (BLA, '97) and Kris Kvarfordt (MLA, '10). The awards were presented by Geoff Ellis (MLA, '96), Oakcrest Design and Past President of Utah ASLA.



Top - Senior Honor Award - Scott Allred
Bottom - Senior Merit Award - Aubrey Christensen

Top - Senior Honor Award - Whitney May
Bottom - Senior Merit Award - Jennifer Maughan

Top - Graduate Honor Award - Aaron Smith
Bottom - Senior Merit Award - Jared Lundquist

Other awards:
Graduate Merit Award - Kim Cloward Drown (pictured opposite page and below)
Senior Merit Award - Bret Nielsen (not pictured)

Utah State University Olmsted Scholars



Each year one undergraduate student and one graduate student are selected by the faculty to be the Utah State University Olmsted Scholar and submits the names to be considered for the Landscape Architecture Foundation Olmsted Scholar prize.



LAF's Olmsted Scholars Program recognizes and supports students with exceptional leadership potential who are using ideas, influence, communication, service, and leadership to advance sustainable design and foster human and societal benefits. Named for Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of landscape architecture, the Olmsted Scholars Program with its \$25,000 graduate and \$15,000 undergraduate prize is the premier national award program for landscape architecture students. The LAEP Undergraduate Olmsted Scholar for 2014 is **Jennifer Maughan** and the Graduate Olmsted Scholar is **Kim Cloward Drown**.

scholarships - 2013-14

Numerous donors support scholarships for students in the Department and more are formed every year. However, the need is great for students struggling with rising tuition and fees. There are many ways to give back to the program and support the next generation of landscape architects. You can donate any amount to an existing scholarship, or create a new scholarship or endowment. You set the parameters of the scholarship and create the name. For more information and descriptions of each scholarship please go to our Scholarship page on the departmental webpage (<http://laep.usu.edu/htm/scholarships>).

Utah ASLA Memorial Fund
Sam Taylor - \$1,000



Kenneth Volkman Memorial Scholarship
Graydon Bascom - \$1,000



Women in Landscape Architecture
Carly Klein - \$1,000



Undergraduate Shiozowa Scholarship
Jenna McRory - \$1,000



Craig Johnson Scholarship
Carson Lindley - \$6,000



David Jensen Scholarship
Chris Binder - \$5400



MLA Class of '81 Scholarship
Carly Klein - \$1,000



Laval Morris Travel Scholarship
Sam England - \$1,000 for travel

Other scholarships not pictured:

Kenji Shiozowa Scholarship - Stephen Peadar \$1,000

Josephine Beach Traveling Scholarship - Carly Klein and Stephanie Tomkins - \$500 each

GAIA Travel Grant - Carly Klein - \$500

John K. Nicholson Memorial Scholarship - Seth King - \$500

recruiting for the future

In the Fall, 2014 Faculty Retreat, the faculty discussed and voted on what issues, we as a department, think are most important and what we should focus on for improvement. One issue was recruitment of BLA and MLA students.

Most students come to the program having started their college education in another major and learning about landscape architecture while on campus. By the time they hear of the major they have accumulated numerous credits and invested thousands in tuition dollars. Some will change majors but many can't invest another three years of time and tuition to become a landscape architect.

This past year **Phil Waite**, **Pam George**, **Carlos Licon** and **Dave Anderson** visited high school and junior high career fairs to promote landscape architecture, LAEP and USU to potential college students hoping to reach them before they declare another degree in their freshman year.

Carlos Licon designed the banners used at the table during the fairs and a powerpoint slideshow to view. In order to create a hands-on activity at the LAEP table, Phil Waite utilized Legos so that fair-goers could create their own planting design.

To promote the major to school counselors, the Department developed an advertisement and placed it in the Utah School Counselor's magazine. Phil Waite presented to 300+ attendees at their annual conference, informing them about options for graduating students who may want to pursue a career in design.

Other recruitment efforts have included a dedicated mailing to potential MLA students who scored high on the GRE and expressed an interest in the field.



next level - connectivity



Graduate students interact with stakeholders on a project for Regional Analysis via the new IVC system in the Alumni Jury Room.

Dave Anderson coordinates the LARE Preparation course that is offered to Seniors and 3rd Year MLA candidates during Spring Semester. He taught the course in the newly outfitted Alumni Jury Room, which thanks to funding from the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, has interactive capability for teaching and meetings. This year Dave began acquiring video of the presentations in preparation for creating an on-line version of the course. **Ben George**, (MLA '09), is working on this project and was invaluable not only for his work with the on-line project, but also for his assistance in dealing with the equipment in the Jury Room. Dave used every piece, including an IVC (specially equipped rooms in most schools and classrooms in Utah and Idaho. The IVC system also interacts with government agencies) session on the last day of class with two presenters in Salt Lake.

Dave has developed this course in an effort to inform emerging

practitioners about licensure, including the purpose of, preparation for, and benefits from completing the LARE. As various aspects of the LARE are reviewed, Dave involves practicing landscape architects from Northern Utah in the course. This not only assists students in freshening their skills in preparation for taking the licensing exam, but also provides them great exposure to successful practitioners working in a range of scales and areas along the Wasatch Front.

Great support and a spirit of volunteerism are invaluable to this course. This year, the following practitioners participated in the LARE Prep course:

Introduction

- **Greg Jolley**, MLA, Kansas State University, Associate Professor, Department of Plant & Wildlife Sciences, BYU – Review of LARE, CLARB
- **Lars Anderson**, (MLA '97), Principal, Project Engineering Consultants (PEC) – Why

licensure?

- **Chris Binder**, USU Graduate Student – Overview of NEPA Certification course
- **David Evans**, LAEP Faculty– Value of licensure
- **Rachel Lingard**, (BLA '11), Associate, IO Landscape Architecture – Insights into the new exam, recently passed new digital LARE and obtained licensure

Section 1: Project & Construction Administration

- **Randy Boudrero**, (BLA '78), Landscape Studio Director, MHTN
- **Vince Olcott**, (BLA '98), Landscape Architect, MHTN

Section 2: Inventory & Analysis

- **Kelly Gillman**, (BLA '99), Senior Principal, CRSA

Section 3: Design

- **Robert Donigan**, (BLA '98), Landscape Architect, BlueLine Designs
- **Kris Kvarfordt**, (MLA '02), Planning Department Manager, Cache Landmark Engineering

Section 4: Grading and Drainage

- **Terry Johnson**, (BLA '85), Lead Landscape Architect, UDOT
- **Ryan Halverson**, (BLA '98), Landscape Architect, UDOT Region I

Section 5: Construction Documents/ Materials

- **Craig Widmier**, (BLA '92), VP/Chief Operations Officer, US Development

Dave is currently working with Ben George to identify a method to offer the LARE Prep course to a wide audience on-line.

Practitioners who assist with the course are able to count their instruction toward their CE requirement. The credits were authorized through Utah ASLA; however, LAEP is now an authorizer of credits for the 75th Anniversary going forward.

latest news

Promoting Landscape Architecture in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

At the right, Geoff Ellis, Utah ASLA President and David Anderson stand in front of the newest marquee located in the building of the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences.

LAEP remained in the Fine Arts Center when other CAAS departments moved to the new LEED-certified AgSci Building. Sean Michael proposed having a presence in the building with information about the department.

Dave Anderson commissioned the marquee using some of the building's remaining post consumer-based materials and the Utah Chapter of ASLA paid for the display.

Information about LAEP and the profession will be changed each semester. It is located under the clock near the building's cafe' on the ground floor.



Ole Sleipness



Ben George

LAEP Hires Two Tenure-Track Faculty in 2014-15

LAEP has hired two new tenure-track assistant professors making the coming year's faculty cohort the largest ever.

Ole Sleipness comes to us from Washington State University where he was a Clinical Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture in the School of Design + Construction since 2009. His teaching and scholarship have emphasized the branding of the built environment, rural development and conservation, the interface between public and private lands, and rural sustainability. Ole' will join us in August.

Education

- PhD, Environmental Design and Planning, Clemson University
- MCRP, City and Regional Planning, Clemson University
- BLA, Washington State University
- AA, Horticulture, Edmonds Community College

Benjamin George has contributed to LAEP as an Adjunct Instructor for several years, and is a rapidly emerging leader in distributed learning and technologies in landscape architectural education. His research in

distributed design pedagogy and course developments have made USU a leader in distance-delivered design courses. Benjamin will come aboard in January.

Education

- PhD [Fall 2014], Instructional Technology, Utah State University
- MLA, LAEP, Utah State University
- Postgraduate Diploma in Irish Studies, The Queen's University of Belfast
- BS, Political Science, Utah State University

Laval Morris travel experience

The Laval Morris Travel Scholarship was created by the department's founder, Professor Laval Morris, to promote travel for graduating students, primarily travel to Europe, as a grand adventure before settling into landscape architectural work.

In 2013, the faculty selected Pamela Blackmore (BLA, '13) to receive funds for the year to make it possible for her to travel to the national ASLA meeting in Boston. While not a trip across the ocean, Pam's travel was unanimously approved. Their decision was based on her exceptional performance while in the program. Her work with Bo Yang on a research project named her the top honor scholar of the year for Utah State University. Pam was also a Landscape Architecture Foundation Finalist for the Olmsted Scholarship and received numerous other awards from the department, including the LAEP Senior Faculty Medal. Pam wrote the following about her trip:

Though perhaps not a typical goal for a recent graduate embarking on a trip, the main objective of my travel to Boston was to network with landscape architects. What better place to do this than at the National ASLA Conference? With a one-week ticket to the bus and subway system and a little over five days, I attended many sessions in the conference, visited several Boston attractions, and met multiple prominent LA's.

The first event I attended was a luncheon for the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) Board of Directors and the Olmsted Scholars. The board all had a genuine interest in our values, aspirations, worries and dreams, and the energy in the room was contagious.

Another event I attended with the LAF was their Annual Benefit. This celebration of the LAF's achievements in the last year also recognized each of the Olmsted Scholars. A meaningful moment was when a member of the judging panel told me he enjoyed my essay immensely, that he fought for me to win, and that he was excited to see me receiving the award I deserved.

The rest of the conference proved to be a networker's paradise. One night, I attended a cocktail party on top of a skyscraper and connected with two female LA's from Oregon. The ultimate party, though, was with the Utah ASLA presidency that treated me to a fine seafood dinner followed by cannolis from a local bakery. I was the recipient of unbelievable generosity and am still amazed at the acquaintances I was able to initiate.

I had a personal tour of Sasaki with Mark Dawson (BLA, '88), a guided tour of the Harvard Graduate Studio



Sean Michael, Pam Blackmore and Bo Yang at ASLA in Boston.

"It was encouraging to see so many USU alumni making an impact in our profession." –Pam Blackmore–

of Design; and enjoyed a drink at Cheers with my sister. The most fascinating part for me, however, was the exposure to the density of housing in Boston. Walking the streets and riding the subway, I gained an appreciation for the foresight that Olmsted had in preserving greenspace in a world of impervious surfaces and shadows cast by vertical structures.

It was encouraging to see so many USU alumni making an impact in our profession. As a benefactor of the time and money that alumni are donating to the department through scholarships and the mentor program, I can honestly say your contributions are much appreciated. I would not have considered this trip without this funding. Thank you to all who are playing a role in improving the education of the next generation of LA's!

Pam is currently a rangeland management intern with the BLM in the St. George Field Office. Her time with the BLM has been centered on NEPA planning, vegetation monitoring, and invasive species management.

new faces in the Graduate Studio

Keni received her BS in Residential Landscape Design and Construction from Utah State University in 2013. During her undergraduate she had the opportunity to work for the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy Garden Park giving tours to visitors and teaching the community about principles of water-wise design and maintenance. Keni has worked for the GreenHouse Inc. in Logan, which gave her a great opportunity to design for customers and keep up on plant knowledge. She is very excited to be in the MLA program and apply her knowledge of residential design to the larger scale.



Keni Althouse



Lynda Draper

LLynda grew up in Minnesota, where she learned to love and have fun in the great outdoors. She received a BS in Recreation Management with a minor in Business Administration at BYU-Provo. After working in the recreation field for a few years - planning mud runs, organizing vendors for festivals, and helping run a water park - she realized the importance of the landscape to successful outdoor recreation. Lynda is looking forward to designing landscapes that better facilitate recreation activities.



Wayne Honaker

Wayne received a BS in Business Management from Brigham Young University - Idaho in 2010. While there, he discovered landscape architecture and took a variety of courses in landscape design/horticulture. Wayne spent several years working as a landscaping crewman and, more recently, as a crew foreman in Tallahassee, Florida. In this work, Wayne has greatly enjoyed the satisfaction of seeing a space transformed. He is excited to be "back in the West" at USU, to increase his knowledge and abilities in landscape architecture, and to further explore the many facets and intricacies of the profession.

Tanya has a BS from California State University, Long Beach in Health Science and secondary education. After college, she traveled around the world before settling down in her first career as an environmental consultant. Designing functional and aesthetically pleasing living spaces, and a love for travel and the outdoors, and appreciation for diversity of other cultures inspired her to pursue the MLA. Her current interests pertain to exploring healing gardens and outdoor work spaces, and to improve productivity and promote healing and overall wellness.



Tanya Rice

Prior to 2009, the Graduate Studio was a collection of mismatched cubicles and furniture brought in over the years by graduate students. Today each student has two drafting tables, comfortable chairs and a locking cabinet. There is space for communal work, and the front area has been remodeled with glass doors, sectioning it off for graduate seminars.



inSites - 2014

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