

Utah State University

DigitalCommons@USU

inSites

Landscape Architecture and Environmental
Planning

Spring 1988

InSites, Spring 1988

Utah State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/insites>



Part of the [Environmental Design Commons](#), and the [Landscape Architecture Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Utah State University, "InSites, Spring 1988" (1988). *inSites*. 25.
<https://digitalcommons.usu.edu/insites/25>

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning at DigitalCommons@USU. It has been accepted for inclusion in inSites by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@USU. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usu.edu.

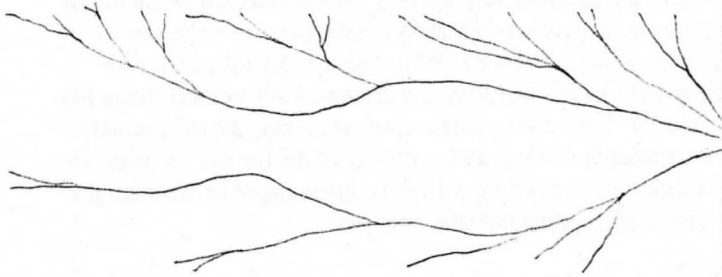


IN-SITES

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE UTAH STATE
UNIVERSITY STUDENT CHAPTER OF ASLA

DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING,
UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY, LOGAN, UTAH, 84322-4000

VOL. III
SPRING 88



DIRECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Due to its location in the Intermountain Region of the Western United States, the Department of Landscape Architecture at Utah State University will continue to focus its attention, in studio courses, on those landscape issues relevant to the region. For example, in conjunction with the conventional issues of residential recreation and community planning, the faculty will continue to develop both intercurriculum and environmental field service activities that emphasize land reclamation, revegetation of disturbed areas, visual assessment, visual simulation techniques for landscape management and the role of riparian systems in planning and design of natural and built environments. The Department will continue to work with other departments on campus like The College of Natural Resource, The Department of Sociology, and The Computer Science Department to strengthen classroom offerings and research activities in these areas.

The faculty are currently planning a major combined studio for the junior year in order to account for these areas of concentration. These studio revisions would have two or three faculty members working together on a common landscape issue. This studio arrangement would intensify the students' learning experience by allowing students the opportunity to work with faculty, who through their research activities, are at the forefront of their area of specialization. It is exciting for faculty members to plan and design these changes.

Richard E. Toth

COBWEBS. . .

I sat down at the keyboard to type in a listing but decided instead to toss out a few thoughts. Here they are; a few non-penciled ideas that lie tangled about my interior.

Five years. Five years of school at Utah State. I don't know for certain how it has been or will be for you, but when I started this thing we call higher education I didn't feel so very high at all. I didn't even know, if you can imagine, where I was going. At times I wonder if I know now.

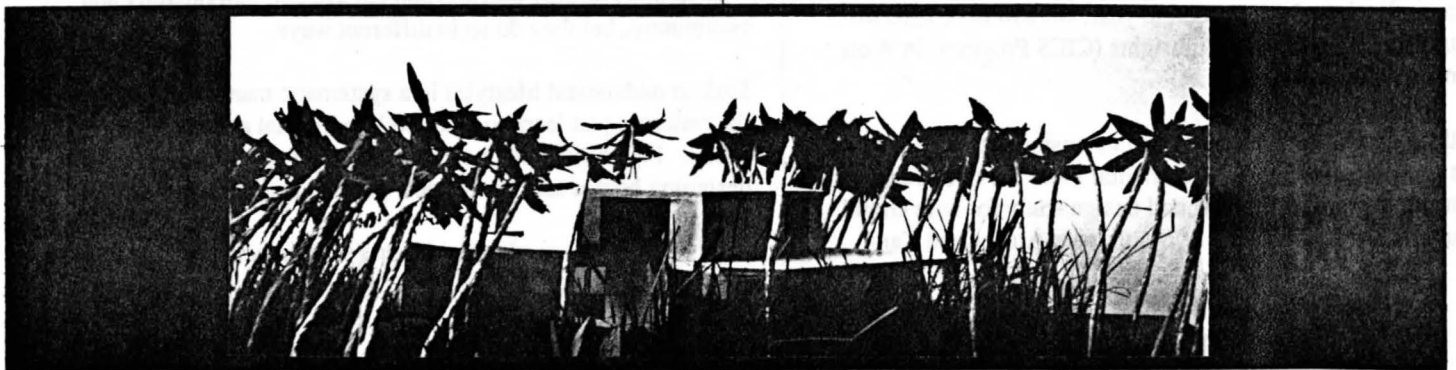
A friend told me that such bewilderment is positive if we allow these mists of "ok, where now?" help us to reassess our focus and redirect our walk. Doubts are good if we search, listen, hear, feel, see; hope. As we do, our muddiness becomes less murky and we begin to see through the dark or at least through what at present seems to be dark.

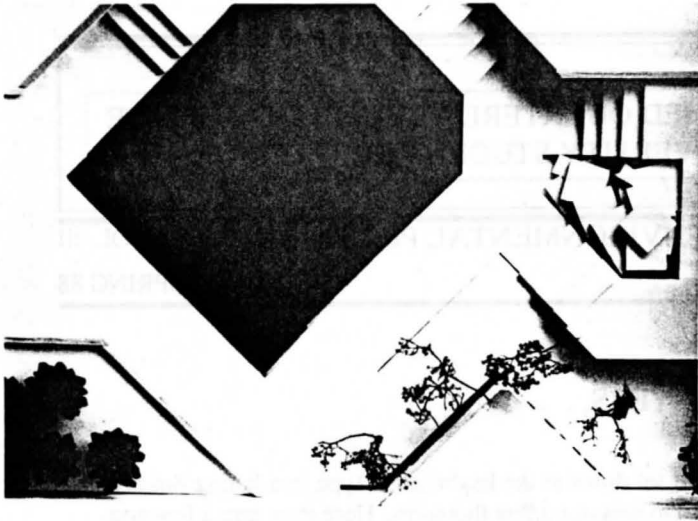
A lot of what is to be learned out there is subtle: A word or phrase from a professor, the way in which a fellow student listens and then responds to a question that we or our work asks of them. I have been fortunate to receive a bundle of such helps. I hear a voice say: "If only I had the capacity to communicate as has been done for me." It is said that true communication, and criticism, requires us to be totally honest and totally kind simultaneously. To me, this is the beginning of learning and growing; of understanding.

And now I leave this place for another. We all leave this place sooner or later, in some way or another. What will we take? What will we leave behind?

Perhaps if we take our doubts, and in patient striving, let them work into hopes and strengths, we are on our way towards understanding. Perhaps if we leave some word of encouragement, some from-the-whole-of-us-advice, some of that which we've been given, then we will truly have given something that someone else can use, when their "where am I going?" threads seem so tangled up inside. . .

Lee R. Skabelund





Todd Hess - Freshman Design

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

(an excerpt of a letter from Dick Toth to the Acting Dean of the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences)

In the area of instruction, I am pleased to report that on July 21, the Department was notified by the Board of Landscape Architectural Accreditation of The American Society of Landscape Architects that our Graduate Program had received full accreditation. This notice now makes our Department one of only a handful of schools west of the Mississippi that have both the undergraduate and graduate programs accredited by a national accrediting body. With respect to the quality of the product we are producing in the Department, I think it is significant to note that 6 out of 22 graduating seniors (nearly 30 percent of the class) will be attending a number of nationally ranked graduate programs: the University of Michigan, the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, Cornell University, North Carolina State University, and Cal Poly-Pomona. Needless to say, the faculty are pleased with the ability of our students to compete successfully for openings at these institutions.

In the area of research and scholarly activities, I think it is important to note that out of a staff of seven full-time faculty members, four on those individuals had abstracts and consequently, presented papers at national meetings throughout the country. Three members from that group will have their papers published in national and international referred journals this year.

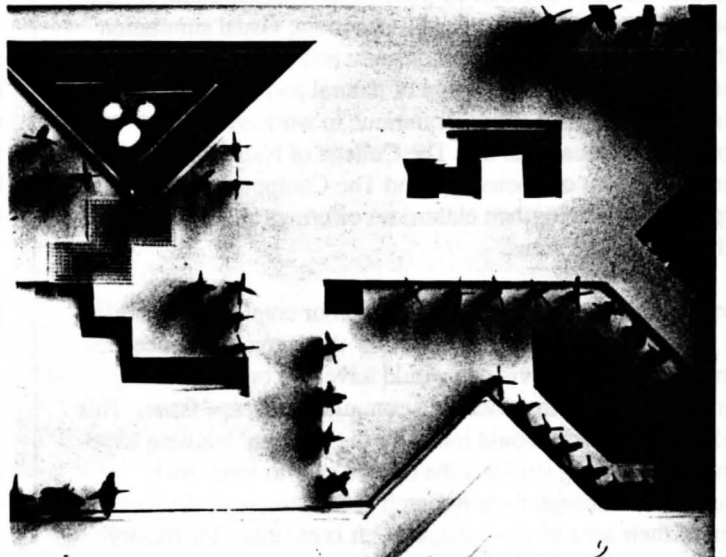
Prior to the end of this academic year, we will have had two faculty members serving Fulbrights (CIES Program) in West Germany and Yugoslavia.

With respect to public service and extension activities, I would like to report that our Environmental Field Service Program completed a major planning and design study for both Grand County, Utah, and the city of Moab, near Arches and Can-

yonlands National Parks. This was a year long effort involving seven graduate students, two senior students, and three faculty members. The Department also completed a major study in conjunction with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and the City of Murray, Utah for a major river park and wildlife interpretive center along the Jordan River. Finally, this past Fall the Department completed a major planning and design study for the U. S. Forest Service along the Provo River and Provo Canyon, about 150 miles south of Logan.

With respect to our plans for next year, members of the faculty are currently involved in preparing for the reaccreditation of our undergraduate program which is to take place in February 1989. We are confident that we will be able to meet the criteria for reaccreditation set out by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board. It would be presumptuous on my part to speculate on the research and scholarly activity of the faculty for next year, but I assure you that they will all be encouraged to maintain performance levels demonstrated this year.

In the area of public service, we are currently contemplating a continuation of the Environmental Field Service activities for the City of Moab, Utah, in conjunction with a number of agencies and the Department of Architecture at the University of Utah. We are presently participating in meetings in Salt Lake in order to initiate such a joint venture. We are also tentatively examining the possibility of involving our graduate students in a major landscape planning studio for the City of Draper, Utah, and to assist the U. S. Forest Service for a major recreation plan on the Pallasides Reservoir near Alpine, Wyoming.



Paul Willardson - Freshman Design

"All cultures display openness and closedness; individuality and community, but they do so in different ways.

Seek to understand lifestyles in a systematic manner and apply the concepts you learn to meet both individual and societal needs. Flexibility and choice are crucial, for... you are not just designing homes and landscapes; you are designing cultures."

Irwin Altman (environmental psychologist)

MASTERS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AT UTAH STATE

Craig W. Johnson, Graduate Program Coordinator for the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, offered Insites the following synopsis of the Masters of Landscape Architecture-First Professional Degree Program at Utah State University.

Question: What is the direction of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning's Master of Landscape Architecture-First Professional Degree Program at Utah State University?

Answer: The Master of Landscape Architecture-First Professional Degree Program has been designed to instill in the student the significance of the landscape architect's role in providing a holistic approach to environmental planning and design. We believe that in order for landscape architects to contribute effectively to an interdisciplinary effort, they must be competent in the fundamentals of the discipline. Further, the landscape architect must have an understanding of the substance and view of other allied disciplines and must master the communication skills necessary to achieve meaningful collaboration.

In addition to provide competency in the fundamentals of the discipline, the Department seeks to encourage the exploration and development in an area of concentration that is possible within the public lands and recreation work, water resources planning, small community rehabilitation, visual resources planning, and socio-economic policy related to land use management.

The Department seeks to draw upon regional, national, and international associations at Utah State in order to maintain and forward a program of academic and professional excellence which will allow students to achieve eminence and leadership in practice, research, and education.

Question: What are the strengths of the Masters of Landscape Architecture program at Utah State?

Answer: Strengths of the Department include a faculty that is well diversified with respect to areas of interest and areas of specialty, and a bright, highly-motivated, and diverse group of students. Faculty members are able to teach of various core curriculum courses, thus enabling other faculty to entertain sabbatical leaves without jeopardizing the quality of teaching in core courses. Members of the faculty have been and are active at several levels in both national and regional activities of the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture.

Over the years, the Department has earned a strong regional and national reputation based upon the quality of performance of its graduates in education and public/private practice. This is no small measure due to the modest size program that guarantees students a close relationship with faculty.

The MLA program's emphasis on western landscape issues is a

strength that is reinforced by complimentary extension and research centers on campus. These include the Ecology Center, the Utah Center for Water Resources Research, Utah Water Research Laboratory, the Institute for the Study of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism, the Institute for Social Science Research on Utah State University's Office of Extension Services. The active association of these groups and their staff add a richness to the program.

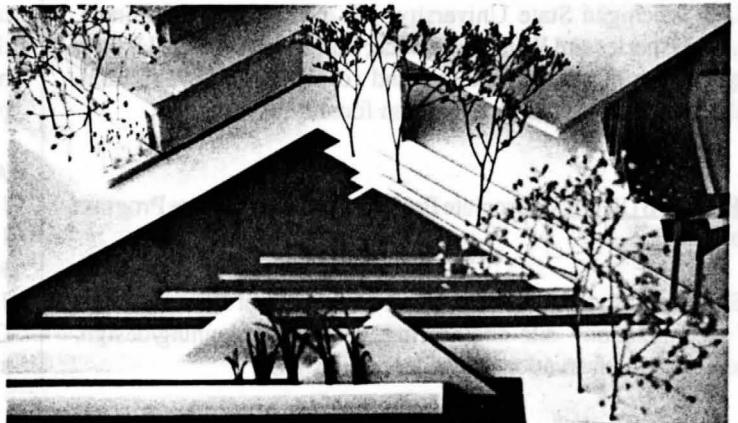
Question: What weaknesses do you perceive in the Masters of Landscape Architecture program at Utah State?

Answer: At the present time we perceive the reduced level of funding for the Department as the most serious problem confronting the graduate program. The 1986-87 budget was reduced by three percent; the 1987-88 budget for the University has zero increase. Budget reductions have had adverse effects on general operating funds, graduate assistantships, equipment purchases, library acquisition, and faculty salaries.

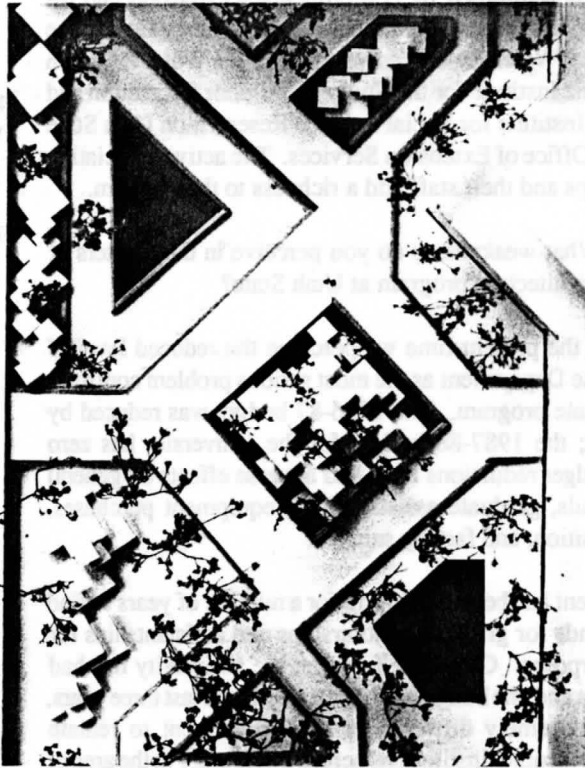
The Department has been struggling for a number of years to find additional funds for graduate scholarships and assistantships for recruiting purposes. Given the fact that the University has had budget freezes and one budget reduction within the last three years, it has been extremely difficult for the Department to remain competitive with other institutions across the country in the area of financial aid. Without high quality graduate student in the program, the most well-designed curriculum and motivated faculty may well be for naught.

The Department is also concerned that sufficient time is available to graduate students to concentrate on their chosen area of focus and on discipline fundamentals. The typical program of study allows only 13 credits of elective coursework, some of which is utilized by students to take additional classes in landscape architecture. This seems to be a basic dilemma faced by all MLA first professional degree programs charged with providing both basic education in the discipline as well as expanding horizons, all within a realistic and competitive time frame. We have recently completed a revision of the graduate curriculum to liberalize departmental course requirements. Revising the curriculum is not perceived as a program weakness but until the process is completed it is a bit disquieting for students and faculty.

We believe the long term prospects for the graduate program are excellent. Our recent accreditation was a major objective achieved. We are continuing our effort to improve the quality of the graduate program in landscape architecture at Utah State.



Joan Helten - Design (1st yr. masters)



Michael Bothe - Design (Soph.)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FACULTY UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

RICHARD E. TOTH - Professor, Department Head

BSLA Michigan State University, MLA Harvard University. Areas of specialization: analysis of process and form in the landscape, design theory, and water resources planning.

JERRY W. FUHRIMAN - Professor

BSLA Utah State University, MLA University of Illinois. Areas of specialization: graphics, wildlife refuge planning, and community planning/design.

CRAIG W. JOHNSON - Professor, Graduate Program Coordinator

BSLA Michigan State University, MLA University of Illinois. M.S. - Fisheries and Wildlife Science, South Dakota State University. Areas of specialization: land rehabilitation/revegetation, wildlife habitat planning, and urban forestry.

VERN J. BUDGE - Associate Professor, Undergraduate Program Coordinator

BSLA Utah State University, MLA University of Illinois. Areas of specialization: site engineering, recreation planning/design, and energy conservation in residential design.

JOHN NICHOLSON - Associate Professor

BA in Economics, Kansas University, MUP Kansas University. Areas of specialization: physical and economic analysis of small towns, computer applications in landscape analysis, and agriculture land preservation.

MICHAEL L. TIMMONS - Associate Professor

BLA Michigan State University, MLA Harvard University. Areas of specialization: landscape architectural history, residential planning/design, and public lands/recreation.

JOHN C. ELLSWORTH - Assistant Professor

BA in Natural Science, University of Arkansas; MLA Utah State University. Areas of specialization: visual resource management, disturbed land rehabilitation, and site engineering.

LAURA SUE SANBORN - Assistant Professor

BLA Michigan State University; MS - Environmental Earth Science, Western Michigan University. Areas of specialization: plants and plant use, historic preservation, and downtown revitalization.

PAUL LAWRENCE WEGKAMP - Adjunct Associate Professor & USU Extension, Community Development

BA in Mathematics, Westminster College; MLA University of Massachusetts (Extension Landscape Architect). Areas of specialization: computer aided techniques in land use planning, public participation in the planning process, energy conservation guidelines in community planning, master plans for public spaces and facilities, and improvement in community forestry.

Affiliated Faculty

The following individuals are from other Colleges and Departments on campus. They have, over the past several years, maintained an active association with students in our department through studio presentations, guest lectures, seminars, and as members of thesis committees, and Environmental Field Service projects.

Associate Professor George E. Hart, Forest Resources; Professor John A. Kadlec, Fisheries and Wildlife; Associate Professor James J. Kennedy, Forest Resources; Associate Professor Richard S. Krannich, Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology; Professor James A. MacMahon, Biology; Assistant Professor James McCalpin, Geology; Professor Richard M. Schreyer, Forest Resources.

GRADUATE STUDENT SURVEY -- 1987-88

Graduate Students of Utah State University believe that this institution can be proud of its Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning (LAEP). The reputation of the program and faculty were cited as important factors in drawing graduate students to the department. Grads learned about the department from ex-faculty and former graduates of Utah State, from their experience as undergraduate students here in other fields, and from the College Program Guide. One student heard about USU's LAEP program while interviewing with engineering firms in the southwest.

The bulk of graduate students in LAEP come from disciplines other than landscape architecture and from a host of schools. Their degrees range from Architecture at the Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil to Fisheries and Wildlife at Utah State; from Botany at the University of Rhode Island to Crop Science at Brigham Young University. One student holds a previous Master of Arts degree in Anthropology from the University of California-Davis. The diversity of experience among our graduate students reflects the interdisciplinary focus of the profession and the opportunity for development and exploration in a multitude of directions within the field.

This diversity is reflected by the variety of thesis subjects chosen by graduates. Each graduate student within the department is required to complete a thesis which focuses on a particular area of interest. Proposed theses include a variety of concerns involving use of plants in interior environments, video imaging to project changes in wildlife habitat structure and populations, geographic information systems in land re-

source management, design and construction implications in urban environments, interpretive centers with multi-use emphasis and so on. The choice of thesis subjects is limited only by the student's imagination.

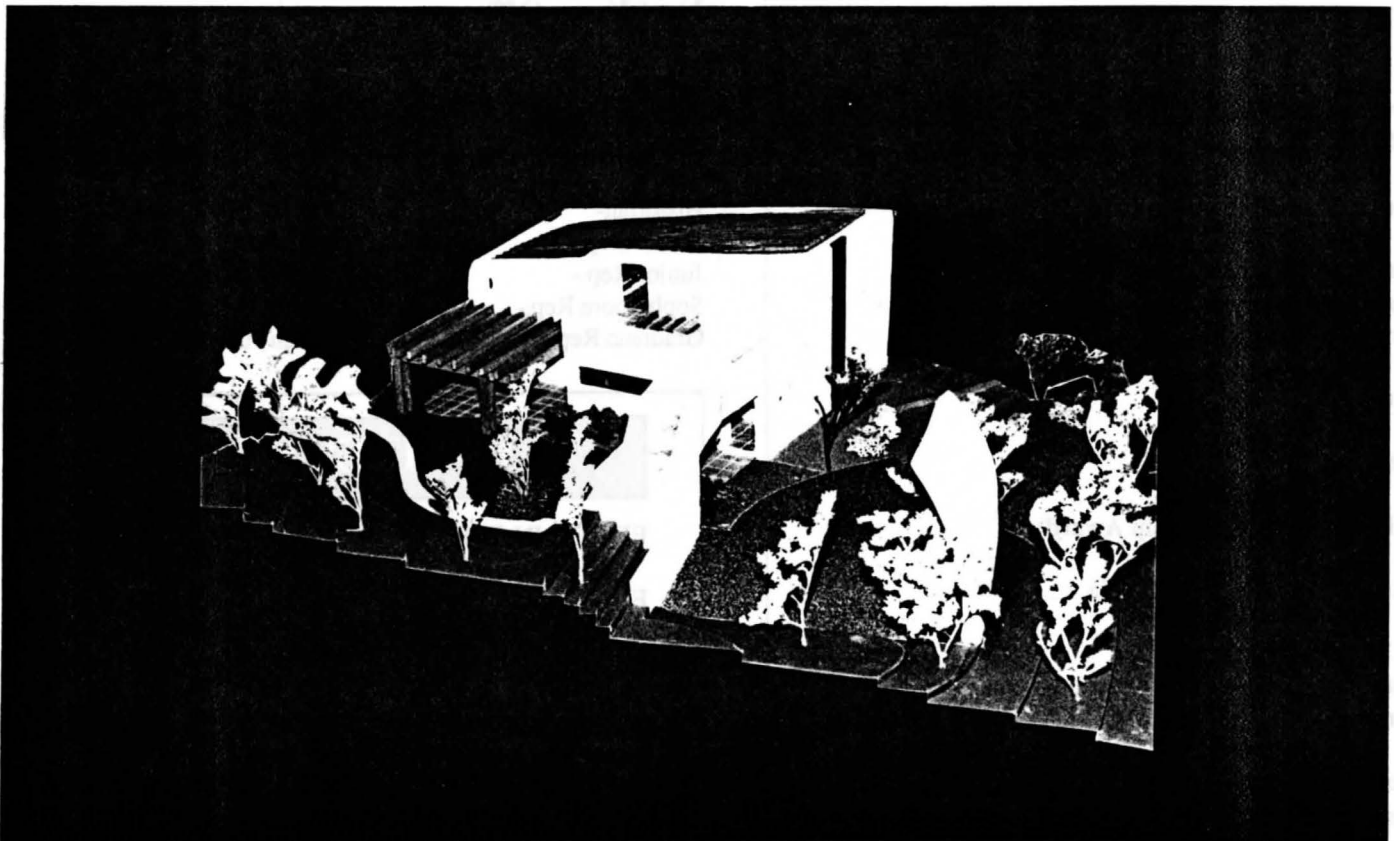
Graduate students feel that the faculty, department reputation, cost of living, and location of the campus are a few of strengths which helped them choose USU over other schools. They also list the balance in emphasis between design and construction, the rigorous course work, and accreditation of the program as definite advantages.

While the program's strengths are lauded, students felt that there are also weaknesses in the program. Among these, the lack of a definite schedule due to restructuring of the requirements for the MLA and the lack of computer facilities and instruction, were most disturbing. Hopefully, the new department guidelines for the MLA will soon be out and the university will heed recent proposals presented to improve the computer situation.

Another problem is in the lack of finances and funding for thesis work. Students should come expecting that money will not be pouring in from all sides, but rather prepare themselves and be willing to look for funding wherever they can find it.

The Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning has much to offer to the student who comes prepared to contribute his or her time and effort to the study of the discipline. It is a contribution the department's graduate students feel has been worth making.

Paul Larsen



Dave Hatch, Don Sargent, Rod Stangor

-Residential Design (Jr.)

AWARDS -- YEAR 1987-88

Faculty Medal:

Lee R. Skabelund

Outstanding Graduate Students:

Gary R. Weiner, First Year
Kathlyn Collins, Second Year
Monica Del Carmen Mariaca-Pando, Second Year

Outstanding Junior Students:

Gregory P. Shymanski
Kurt W. Nielsen

Outstanding Sophomore Students:

Lecinda Pierce
Christopher Ingalls

American Society of Landscape Architects Certificate of Honor:

Undergraduate Students:

John Daniel Roberts
Deborah Gorman
Lee R. Skabelund

Graduate Student:

Monica Del Carmen Mariaca-Pando

American Society of Landscape Architects Certificate of Merit:

Undergraduate Students:

Sandra M. Davenport
Nurulhuda Hayati Ibrahim
Kevin Scott Johnson

Graduate Student:

Madeline R. Masurski

Morris Traveling Fellowship Award:

Lionel Vaughn Furness -- India

National Honorary—Sigma Lambda Alpha: (new members)

Kathlyn Collins
David S. Hatch

Ronald A. Heiden
Kurt W. Nielsen
Susan K. Nordstrom
Gregory P. Shymanski
Edward E. Thurston

President's Fellowship:

Gary R. Weiner

Research Vice President's Fellowship:

Susan K. Nordstrom

Presidential Goodbye

I want to thank you all for the opportunity I have had to serve you this year as President of the Student Chapter. I appreciate your support, help and willingness to pitch in and do your part to make this year successful. I know I probably still don't know all of you by name but I still try to acknowledge you. I have learned and grown very much and hope to be able to put these principles to good use in the cruel working world. I thank you for your smiles, your acknowledgements and support. Please don't forget me; I will still be around a little bit next year finishing up my Interior Design Major. Thank you again for the priviledge of serving as your President. Have a great summer and see you next year.

Malin Francis

Next Years Officers

President-	Terrall Budge
Vice President-	Dave Hatch
Secretary-	Lecinda Pierce
Treasurer-	Mike Bassett
Historian-	Bill Jackson
Senior Rep.-	Scott Davies
Junior Rep.-	We-shall-See
Sophomore Rep.-	Earle Ball
Graduate Rep.-	Joan Hellen

IN-SITES STAFF

EDITOR IN CHIEF:	Lee R. Skabelund
EDITORS:	Paul Larsen Joan Hellen Paul Willardson
TYPESETTING:	L. Vaughn Furness
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER:	Julie Wood

* the report from Europe is in the ocean, or the mail...
one of the two ...