

CCASLA 1Q Report

CCASLA and Chapter Leaders Raising Visibility of Our Profession

Richard Risner, ASLA, CA Council of ASLA State Director

Local activity. Recently ASLA San Diego and CCASLA Executive Director, Tracy Morgan Hollingworth, Chapter President Michael Brennan and President Elect Phil Armstrong joined California Council of ASLA (CCASLA) San Diego Directors Martin Schmidt and myself at a meeting with 78th Assembly District Assemblyman Todd Gloria. Discussion topics mainly focused on a couple specific policies that relate to landscape architects and our profession as a whole. One topic was explaining the intricacies of the State-mandated MWELO and MAWA irrigation water usage requirements and how it pertains to the professional work we provide. The other topic of discussion was loosely based on the importance of maintaining State licensure for the health safety and welfare of the general public. Both topics were well understood and Assemblymember Gloria left the meeting with greater knowledge for our profession and most importantly the knowledge that he can contact ASLA San Diego and our members as a professional resource if he should ever need our assistance on State legislative issues.

Our next meeting is scheduled with District 3 County Supervisor Kristin Gaspar to discuss these same topics as well as what our profession can, or is, doing on a local scale within different San Diego County Districts. If you would like to join us at future legislative meetings, please contact CCASLA at CCASLA@sbcglobal.net.

State activity. The California Architect's Board (CAB) passed a resolution created by LATC and supported by CCASLA unanimously at their December 7 state CAB meeting. This resolution will provide new changes to our Landscape Architecture licensure practice act. The changes mainly affect the accreditation and path to licensure regarding the specific education and professional work experience requirements. The newly adopted changes are listed below and will be drafted by the CAB to take effect some time in 2018.

- Clarifies that a four-year LAAB accredited degree in landscape architecture would receive four years of education credit and a four-year degree in landscape architecture from a non-LAAB accredited school would receive three years of education credit.
- Accredited four-year degrees in architecture or civil engineering would each receive two years of education credit.
- Any four-year bachelor's degree or a two-year degree in landscape architecture receives one year of education credit.
- Extension certificates in landscape architecture from a recognized Extension Certificate program receive two years of education credit.
- Extension certificates and a degree with a four-year curriculum receive four years of education credit.
- Extension certificates and a two-year degree in landscape architecture receive three years of education credit.
- Clarifies that partial completion will be granted if 80 percent of the units required for completion of four-year degrees or four-year certificate programs are completed.
- Experience pathway credit will be for up to six years of experience with at least one of those years being under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.
- Experience pathway credit of up to three years practicing as or under the direct supervision of an architect or civil engineer licensed in the US or a qualifying foreign country.
- Experience pathway credit of up to four years as a licensed landscape contractor and up to one year under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape contractor.
- Experience pathway credit of up to one year as an instructor in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect where the degree program consists of at least a two-year curriculum.
- Experience pathway credit may be earned for work experience as an intern for work under direct supervision of a licensed professional.

The Board voted to adopt these recommendations, which the CCASLA Board believes will greatly benefit LARE applicants who have earned degrees in additional fields of study and/or have measurable professional work experience. CCASLA also supports the Board's recommendation that LATC staff review their current process to measure experience credit so applicants will have measurable experience that will make them more successful when taking the Landscape Architecture Registration Exam.

Finally, CCASLA is tracking a variety of different bills for 2018 (approximately 20) with many of them directly pertaining to water conservation, storm water management and State water infrastructure. So, throughout this coming year we will keep you informed on bills and legislation that effect our profession.

Happy New Year!