

Board Members

Educators Weimin Li, Ph.D., ASLA LAAB Secretary California State Polytechnic University

Daniel H. Ortega, ASLA University of Nevada Las Vegas

Allan Shearer, Ph.D., FASLA University of Texas at Austin

<u>Practitioners</u> Mark Hough, FASLA Duke University

Dale Jaeger, FASLA, PLA LAAB Chair-Elect WLA Studio

Juanita Shearer-Swink, FASLA, PLA

Public Representatives Derrek Niec-Williams Howard University

Chelina Odbert, Hon. ASLA Kounkuey Design Initiative

David N. Yellen University of Miami School of Law

<u>ASLA Representative</u> William Estes, ASLA, PLA LEED AP MIG

<u>CELA Representative</u> Roxi Thoren, ASLA, FCELA LAAB Chair Pennsylvania State University

<u>CLARB Representative</u> Christine Anderson, ASLA, PLA Mark Thomas

<u>Director</u> Kristopher Pritchard, Hon. ASLA April 4, 2024

Leehu Loon, ASLA, PLA Chair and Professor Department of Landscape Architecture College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Texas Tech University Lubbock, TX 79409

Dear Professor Loon:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its February 22, 2024, meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the professional MLA degree at Texas Tech University. This status is subject to review of an interim report to be submitted by December 1, 2025, together with annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

The interim report should provide an update, with documentation demonstrating compliance, when necessary, on each Recommendation Affecting Accreditation (RAA) from this final action letter in order to demonstrate compliance, or steps towards compliance, with the respective standard. In accordance with LAAB policy, programs have up to two years to resolve their RAA(s). Upon receipt of the two-year Interim Report, the LAAB will accept that the RAA(s) have been addressed or, if not, the program will be given two more years to resolve the issues. A second Interim Report will be due to the LAAB on or before four years from the receipt of this Accreditation Letter. If the RAA(s) are not successfully resolved or, in the case of longer-term issues, substantial and verifiable progress has not been made at that time (after four years from this Accreditation Action Letter) then the program may be moved to provisional status, it may be suspended, or in some cases the program's accreditation may be revoked.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends December 31, 2029. Accordingly, the MLA program at Texas Tech University is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2029.

In making its decision, LAAB considered the program's self-evaluation report, the visiting team's report, and the program's response to the report. After review of all of this information, LAAB removed the Recommendation relative to Standard 3 and removed Considerations for Improvement relative to Standard 1, Standard 2(D)(2), Standard 6, and Standard 7 based on the program's response.

Texas Tech University MLA Accreditation Action Letter April 4, 2024 Page 2 of 2

Enclosed is a list of Recommendations Affecting Accreditation (to be responded to in the interim report via the process laid out above) and an Interim Report template. This list was developed by LAAB from the materials reviewed during the meeting.

On behalf of the visiting team, I would like to thank you for the hospitality extended to them by the faculty, staff, and students.

Sincerely,

Roch J. Thosen

Roxi Thoren, ASLA LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Lawrence Schovanec, President

Texas Tech University MLA Program LAAB Meeting February 22, 2024

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

- 1. Continue efforts to engage in a long-range planning process that results in a revised mission statement that leverages updated Davis College and institutional missions, identification of long-range needs, goals to address them, strategies to implement them, and assessment indicators to review and measure progress. (Standard 1).
- 2. Ensure regular delivery of core courses listed in the curriculum to meet student expectations of advancing through the program in a timely manner (Standard 4).

Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board

Interim Report

Submitted By:

Submission Date:

<u>Section 1.</u> Name of Institution: Name of Department: Name of Program: Date of Decision Letter:

Section 2.

Recommendation Affecting Accreditation: (Copy/paste verbatim the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation identified in the Decision Letter that is the subject of this Report and attach the Decision Letter. If Decision Letter identified more than one (1) Recommendation Affecting Accreditation, complete an Interim Report for each Recommendation.)

Section 3.

Action Taken by Program: (Describe the action taken by the Program to address the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation identified in Section 2 of this Report. Attach any appropriate documentation that supports the action taken by the Program)

Section 4.

Prior Action Taken by Program: (If applicable, attach any prior Interim Report related to the Recommendation Affecting Accreditation described in Section 2 of this Report)