



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

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Accreditation and Education
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Chris Ellis, PhD, PLA, ASLA
Associate Professor, Director, and MLA Program Chair
Landscape Architecture Program
Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture
University of Maryland
College Park, Maryland

Dear Dr. Ellis:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its February 16-17, 2018 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at University of Maryland. This status is subject to review of annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends December 31, 2023. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2023.

In making its decision, LAAB considered the program's self-evaluation report, the visiting team report, the institution's response to the team report, and discussions with team members and program faculty.

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in annual reports). 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenneth R. Brooks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kenneth Brooks, FASLA, FCELA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Wallace D. Loh, President

**University of Maryland
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
February 16-17, 2018**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

1. The program should create a more succinct mission statement aligned with the mission statements of the department, college and university in expressing aspirations for research and scholarship (Standard 1).
2. The program should revisit the educational goals and objectives for the MLA program in order to make the goals more tangible and the objectives more substantive (Standard 1).