



Dear Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects:

As your new Chair of the ASLA Council of Fellows, I am making a commitment to provide quarterly communications to all the members of the Council of Fellows (CoF) to keep you informed about the activities of the Council and on the progress of key initiatives. In this first of our quarterly e-mail updates you will find reports on the ASLA CoF Scholarship, the newly-established nominations Task Force, and the ACE Mentor Program. Please visit the ASLA web site and take note of the 2006 CoF Executive Committee members on the [CoF webpage](#). On our Fellows webpage you will also find a listing of the 2006 CoF jury members who will be meeting on March 24-25, 2006 to elect the 2006 Class of Fellows.

ASLA Council of Fellows Scholarship Fund: In October 2004, the CoF established the ASLA CoF Scholarship, and in less than two years, ASLA's Fellows have pledged in writing *more than \$98,000*, with installments payable by 2009. Approximately 25% of ASLA's Fellows have contributed so far, which is a phenomenal beginning to our important efforts. At the October 2005 Fellows Business Lunch, the CoF set a challenge level of \$1000 over a three year period, and a long-term goal of awarding four scholarships per year. This will require an endowment of \$200,000 to \$250,000, and we are well on our way with the pledges received to date. Many Fellows have generously made pledges at or above the challenge level -- their names can be found in the latest edition of [LAND Online](#). As the fundraising for the scholarship endowment continues, we hope to reach 100% participation from the ASLA Fellows, whether at the challenge level or another amount.

While pledges are being sought and pledge payments collected over the next few years to build the scholarship endowment, we have a mechanism for awarding scholarships immediately in order to make a positive impact for promising landscape architecture students who have a demonstrated financial need. In October 2005 the first \$4000 CoF scholarship was awarded, and in 2006 the CoF hopes to award two scholarships using proceeds from the \$10 Fellows dues assessment and the \$10 Fellows Investiture Dinner ticket surcharge. Details on the scholarship and the first recipient are also available in [LAND Online](#).

The scholarship is administered and managed by the Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF) in consultation with the CoF executive committee. LAF has generously waived all administration fees for the first three years of the program to assist in building the endowment. For full details on the ASLA Council of Fellows Scholarship, please go to the [LAF website](#). For information about how to make a pledge, please contact Ron Figura at rfigura@lafoundation.org.

On behalf of the Council of Fellows Executive Committee, I want to acknowledge all of the Fellows who have already made generous contributions to the scholarship endowment - contributions that will make a difference for future generations of landscape architecture students.

Review of Fellows Nomination Guidelines: The CoF Executive Committee met in Fort Lauderdale at the 2005 ASLA Annual Meeting and key on our agenda was addressing recently

expressed concerns on the nominating process, the guidelines, and efforts to provide constructive feedback to unsuccessful nominees. The CoF Executive Committee has formed a Task Force to explore these questions and concerns, and make recommendations for possible changes to the ASLA Council of Fellows Executive Committee in March 2006. The Task Force is comprised of two past jury members, Ted Baker, FASLA, chair of the Task Force, and Juanita Shearer-Swink, FASLA, immediate past jury chair; two ASLA Board members, Jim Donovan, FASLA, and Ron Taylor, ASLA, also liaison to the Constitution and Bylaws Committee; and one member of the Chapter Presidents Council, Valorie Hennigan, ASLA. Gloria Garcia, Director of Meetings and Special Programs, is the staff liaison to the Task Force.

ASLA participation in ACE Mentor Program: ASLA has just announced its partnership with and sponsorship of the [ACE Mentor Program](#). This [well-established mentor program](#) partners high school students who would not otherwise be aware of the design professions with mentors and projects that inspire the students to explore careers in the design fields. The pilot program is being launched this Spring with the ASLA Potomac Chapter. Some other chapters and firms may already working with the ACE Mentor program and I urge them to contact Gloria Garcia at ggarcia@asla.org so that landscape architecture efforts can be coordinated nationally. As a Fellows of the Society, we represent the passion and the highest accomplishments of the profession as a whole, and we therefore have a responsibility to share our knowledge of the importance of landscape architecture with young people of diverse backgrounds. We should commit to inspire the next generations as much as we are inspired daily.

Now and throughout the two years of my tenure as Chair of the ASLA Council of Fellows, I invite you to let me know directly how you would like to become more involved in the Council of Fellows, and any comments you have on our current initiatives or expanded communications efforts.

Sincerely,



Kathleen M. Fox, FASLA

Chair, Council of Fellows

e-mail: kfox@culture.ohio.gov

Fathleen M. Lopez