



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

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Accreditation and Education
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Kimberlee Douglas, MLA, PLA
Program Director
Philadelphia University
School of Architecture + the Built Environment
Department of Landscape Architecture
3460 School House Lane
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144

Dear Assistant Professor Douglas:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its January 23-24, 2015 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional BLA degree at Philadelphia University. 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, 2020. Accordingly, the BLA program is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2020.

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) and suggestions for improvement (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 black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Rolley', written in a cursive style.

Stephanie Rolley, FASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Randy Swearer, PhD, Provost

**Philadelphia University
BLA Program
LAAB Meeting
January 23-24, 2015**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

None

Suggestions for Improvements

1. Evaluate the mission statement in order to more precisely describe the program, perhaps highlighting the development of leadership skills through community engagement, the interaction with community through service-learning, and design excellence (Standard 1).
2. Explore updating program website to include a list of community partners and more information about the profession of landscape architecture (Standard 1).
3. Create additional time to afford the program director to do more student recruiting (Standard 2).
4. Encourage student involvement in professional organizations (Standard 4).
5. Increase the profile of the program through dissemination of community projects (Standard 5).
6. Establish a direct and defined avenue for alumni giving (Standard 6).