

August 24, 2010

Professor Mary Myers, Ph.D., ASLA, Chair
Department of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture
School of Environmental Design, College of Liberal Arts
Temple University
580 Meetinghouse Road
Ambler, PA 19002

Dear Professor Myers:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board at its August 6-7, 2010 meeting granted accreditation for a six (6) year period to the course of study leading to the first professional BLA degree at Temple University, 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 June 30, 2016. Accordingly, the BLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2016.

In making its decision, the 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 copy of the final visiting team report and a list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in annual reports) and suggestions for improvement. 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,

Richard Hawks, FASLA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Lisa Staiano-Coico, Provost

**Temple University
BLA Program
LAAB Meeting
August 6-7, 2010**

Summary of Recommendations and Suggestions

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

None

Suggestions for Improvements

1. Fill the Senior Associate Dean position in the School of Environmental Design (Standard 2).
2. Fill at least two vacant faculty lines with tenure earning or tenured faculty (Standard 2).
3. Hold school-wide faculty meetings at least once per semester (Standard 2).
4. Formalize tenure and promotion procedures in terms of committee structure for the new organizational structure (Standard 2).
5. Appoint a Landscape Architecture program representative to the faculty senate (Standard 2).
6. Explore means and ways of enhancing assessment of the whole curriculum such as a formal and regularly scheduled review of the course work that involve both the full-time and the part-time (adjunct) faculty at the end of each semester or academic year (Standard 3).
7. Build on the established momentum and track record of faculty research, scholarship and creative endeavors that demonstrate contributions to the discipline and enhance the visibility and recognition of the Department with the institution and the profession (Standard 4).
8. Develop a strategic plan to take advantage of the recently established graduate program for further development of faculty research, scholarship and creative endeavors (Standard 4).
9. Explore alternatives to mitigate ramifications of eliminating housing on the Ambler campus for future enrollment (Standard 5).
10. Explore alternatives to mitigate ramifications of moving freshmen and sophomore studios to the main campus (Standard 5).
11. Explore means and ways of increasing curricular and extra-curricular interaction, especially vertical interaction among different levels of classes (Standard 5).
12. Provide more structured mentoring and guidance for the Student Association to increase participation and support from the students, and to increase awareness of opportunities for support from the university and the profession at large (Standard 5).
13. Establish an advisory board utilizing alumni and other professionals for a formal program and curriculum review and feedback (Standard 6).
14. Exhibit the important community and university service projects on the main campus in order to enhance university-wide knowledge about the Landscape Architecture Program as an integral part of Temple University (Standard 8).
15. Immediately undertake both short and long-term space and facilities planning (Standard 9).
16. Eradicate vermin and insects from the Cottage Complex (Standard 9).