



Herrick H. Smith, FASLA

Nomination for Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal

Five feet tall (more or less), towering among giants of the small order of mid-to late-twentieth century landscape architects, **Herrick Hayner Smith, FASLA** stands out as one of the few worthy of selection for the **Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal**. Professor Smith, like his peer, Professor Carpenter, is described by former students and colleagues as an honorable, committed, and energetic educator; one who shaped landscape architecture education and landscape architects. During forty years of teaching and leading, generations of students, graduates, and young faculty were taught, mentored, and affected by this remarkable teacher. Since 1958, they have continued to change the world, save the planet, and make this place, wherever that may be, better. Looking forward, each generation of landscape architects in Florida and beyond will be part of Herrick Smith's gigantic legacy.

In 1956, after a distinguished career in the United States Air Force, Herrick Smith returned to Cornell University to complete the final two years of his undergraduate study. During the first year after graduation, in pursuit of a master's degree, Herrick's uncommon talents were first recognized. He was selected from a distinguished list of classmates to be a graduate teaching assistant. **Quickly, younger students responded to Herrick's generous, caring, and thoughtful nature, his mastery of technical subjects, and his skillful pedagogy.** Encouraged by his professors and wife Mary, Herrick discovered *his* calling to academia. Desiring to advance development of his technical and teaching abilities, Herrick spent the two following years at University of Georgia growing as a teaching assistant while earning his Master of Landscape Architecture. Confident and mature, Herrick moved west gaining five years of teaching experience as assistant professor at Oklahoma State University and then Kansas State University. **There, in 1961, Herrick became an associate member of ASLA; or as he claims on his resume, a "permanent" member.**

Arriving in Gainesville in time for the 1966 fall semester, Herrick was among the ranks of the first Florida Registered Landscape Architects. Learning what landscape architecture registration meant to Herrick, others, *especially faculty*, followed Herrick's early lead, and immediately began pursuit of professional registration. Forty-five years later, Herrick's example still shines, guiding hundreds of University of Florida faculty, students, and graduates towards registration and *pro-active* membership and leadership in ASLA. In 1982, in Honolulu, **ASLA awarded special recognition to Herrick for helping to establish six landscape architecture programs: Auburn University, University of Arkansas, Mississippi State University, Oklahoma State University, University of Toronto, and North Carolina A&T University.**

In 1987, Herrick joined a small team of U.S. landscape architects that included Ted Osmundson and Darwina Neal, past presidents of ASLA, for a landscape architecture tour of the Soviet Union, and a **"coming together" of Soviet and U.S. landscape architects.** To this day, it is an unprecedented event in the history of landscape architecture. Three years later, shortly after the death of his friend John Ormsbee Simonds, **Herrick was able to preserve the "Simonds Papers"** in the University of Florida's Special Collections Library. On display, a Simonds exhibit teaches the entire University community about the man and the profession.

Notable and memorable for many students is their first meeting with Herrick Smith. Mid-semester freshman and sophomores were led to Herrick's side chair by wise academic advisors in all colleges, departments, and programs. With his *Yoda-like* manner, **Herrick introduced recruits to the values of landscape architecture, to stewardship of the land, environmental ethics, beauty, design, and the wide range of professional opportunities enjoyed by graduates.** Arriving misplaced and unaware in search of a major, a new generation of landscape architects discovered *their* calling.

Fifteen years after retirement, Herrick still has a strong presence within the profession and in ASLA. In testament to his lasting legacy, he received a standing ovation from hundreds of former students and colleagues when he spoke during the Florida Chapter's 50 Years of ASLA celebration in 2010. **Today, Herrick Smith remains the State of Florida's singularly most respected professor of landscape architecture.**

Herrick Smith's students, faculty and colleagues share the following recollections of his remarkable teaching career:

Oliver R. Windham, RLA, University of Florida class of 1971 recalls his initial introduction to Herrick, "...not sure of my calling, I dropped by to observe a jury and was very impressed with Mr. Smith's compassion and insight. He seemed genuinely interested in the practice of landscape architecture but more important, he showed true interest in the students. I switched to landscape architecture the following semester and began to feel a true calling. Since that time, I have patterned my professional and academic pursuits on the principles garnered during my studies with Mr. Smith. His concern for the environment and respect for the people he works with has been a satisfying model throughout my forty plus years of practice. A worthy candidate indeed; I can identify only a few that measure up to the standards set by the medal requirements. Mr. Smith is one of a select few that, I can say, deserves this award."



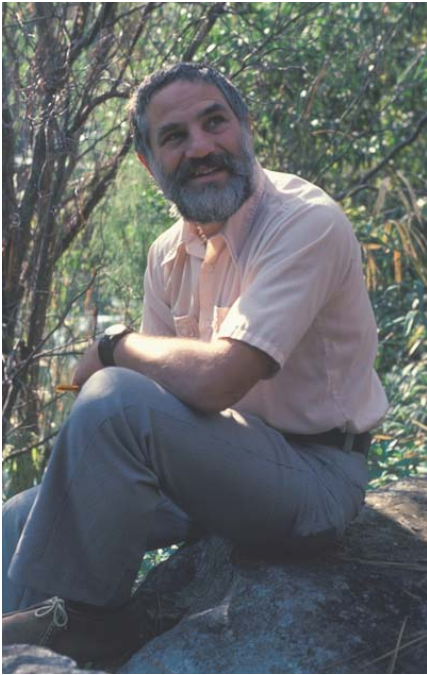
Hilton Meadows, RLA, known for his service to the profession and profound understanding of the history of landscape architecture in Florida, has known Herrick personally and professionally since the mid 1960's. "Herrick was a true academician who was devoted to teaching excellence and scholarly learning. He was a student's Professor in every sense of the word."

Michael Sobczak, ASLA, University of Florida class of 1982 and assistant professor 1996-2002, remembers being in Professor Smith's 7:30 am sophomore-level History of Landscape Architecture class. "He brought the world of landscape architecture to life for me and I know for many others with his caring, infectious interest in design, nature and how people have shaped our world and how the world shapes us. As an educator, Herrick has an approachable gravitas that to this day is my measure of professionalism in academic and office practice. ... he would probably rank among the shortest persons in stature in any given college classroom or corporate boardroom today. But as soon as Herrick starts talking he immediately becomes the tallest person in the room, bar none. Herrick captivates students and everyone around him with his kind, contagious excitement for the intellectual life and what great things are possible in the world around us. Herrick conveyed to his students and anyone with a genuine interest in other people and the world around us, how ultimately our actions can and WILL make the world a better place. It is a clear, concise lesson that can last a lifetime, and to me the essence of a great educator."

William Baker, RLA, FASLA, a popular mentor of many Florida landscape architects says, "Herrick has been supremely diligent in advancing the opportunities available for students of Landscape Architecture, and for practitioners of the Art. Since my education was prior to his presence at UF (with Professor Howard Sebold), my personal interaction with Herrick has been as a private practitioner, and as an ASLA officer/member. Herrick has always been there for all of us, putting on whatever 'hat' needed to be worn to support efforts needed at the time. NO ONE could be more deserving of this recognition than Herrick Smith!"

Richard Conant, RLA, FASLA, a 38-year veteran of Florida landscape architecture, "... owes his success and love of Landscape Architecture to Herrick Smith. On a campus visit, the Dean of Architecture suggested I visit with the Dean of the Landscape Architecture. I, like hundreds of other students, had my first encounter with Herrick Smith. I had never met a more dynamic, educated, and passionate teacher who loved his field of Landscape Architecture. Herrick had a contagious personality and was able to verbalize that Landscape Architecture was an art, science, and stewardship with history and a great future. Herrick taught us not only the skills, but the appreciation and responsibility for the profession serving as both teacher and mentor to all his students. His leadership went beyond education. Herrick served ASLA and the profession throughout the years to help strengthen our licensure laws and other key issues affecting the practice. His ability to articulate our profession to the public was always compelling. Herrick exemplifies what a Landscape Architect should be. Through his model and personal relationships with students and professionals he has deepened and broadened our practice and the future of Landscape Architecture."





Michael Pape, RLA, ASLA, savors the “privilege of being at UF for 4 years during Herrick’s tenure. In those days, the faculty included only Herrick and three other professors, which resulted in him being very involved in teaching, in addition to chairing the department. It’s easy for those of us who went through the program in those years to feel that we had a unique educational advantage, for Herrick was truly a maestro in the classical sense. While many educators simply provide information, and some challenge students to reason, Herrick had the rare quality of inspiring students to think. It was from him that I learned the elusively simple precept-- shared many times since, when I’ve had the occasional opportunity to teach-- that one must first understand the question before attempting the answer. Herrick subliminally inspired us to embrace the meaning of the questions. During a crit, he might have asked, cryptically, “what do you think someone using this site would do if...,” causing you to spend the next three days thinking about that question, what Herrick really meant by it, and the answer he expected from you. Invariably, at the next crit, the issue on which you spent so much time desperately focused didn’t even come up... you didn’t know if you nailed it, or Herrick just let it go because it really wasn’t that important! If you were one of the more sentient landscape architects-to-be, you begin to grasp that Herrick’s intent really was not that you found a certain answer, but that you simply learned to discern what the questions were, and considered them thoroughly on your way to an answer. How fortunate are those of us who benefitted from Herrick’s masterful approach to teaching us how to find the “essence” of our remarkable discipline!

Another unforgettable lesson we learned from Herrick came once during an informal class discussion, when one of the more pragmatic students asked Herrick what it “really took to succeed” in the business world of landscape architecture... we understood that what our classmate really wanted to know was how to make the most money. Herrick answered without even a moment’s pause: “Just do good work!”

Herrick is a great landscape architect, a phenomenal man, and a uniquely remarkable educator... no one could deserve this honor any more than he does!”

Raymond Jungles, RLA, FASLA, remembers Herrick as “one of life’s greatest influencers. With a profound twinkle in the eye, he gave me a thorough introduction to the ‘calling’ of landscape architecture. Although sometimes purposefully vague, his lessons opened the mind, and were always well learned. As a young man, he had faith in me and allowed me to transfer into the program with a less than stellar academic record. I often think of him and hope I have used the tools he helped me develop to advance “the calling.””

C. Michael Oliver, RLA, FASLA, University of Florida class of 1970, was among Herrick’s first students at UF.

“He was a tough but insightful professional and teacher. He brought to the program a needed professional approach. Over the years, he instilled in his students (we will always be his students), the skills and abilities and the passion for Landscape Architecture that are the testimony of so many Landscape Architects of today. Herrick represents the true and pure “educator” for our profession. At last year’s 50th anniversary of the Florida Chapter’s ASLA Annual Conference, Herrick was honored as one of the keynote speakers. At the end of his speech, he received a standing ovation from well over 100 professional Landscape Architects, most of whom were his former students and he was pressed at the end for close to a hour of those of us who wanted to shake his hand and thank him. Herrick is a legend in the Florida Chapter and he leaves an outstanding legacy that permeates the inter fiber of the profession in Florida and the United States.”

Jack Sanderson, RLA, ASLA Emeritus, worked closely beside Herrick at University of Florida. “Herrick Smith understood the standards for program excellence and worked diligently over the years with his students, faculty, and professionals around the state and nation to build a successful and lasting program at the University of Florida. All this is evidenced by the number of UF graduates who have gone on to establish their own private practices, are holding prominent positions in public agencies, and have made major contributions to the field of landscape architecture.”



Margaret H. Carr, ASLA, Dean of the College of Design, Construction and Planning at the University of Florida, remembers Herrick with deep appreciation: *“Professor Smith served as an important mentor for me as a student and a faculty member. He was generous with his time, encouraging and wise. Of all his stellar qualities however, I believe the most significant is the ethical foundation that underpins his beliefs. He taught me about genius loci and the landscape architect's ethical obligation to respect it.”*

Bret Hammond, RLA, AIA, ASLA, University of Florida class of 1984 counts Herrick among his dearest friends. *“During my tenure, as an officer for the Florida Chapter of ASLA, in the early to late 90's I was in frequent contact with Herrick regarding landscape designers and professional deregulation, by the Florida Legislature. Herrick's knowledge of past events and histories of the landscape architectural profession in Florida were instrumental in my understanding and the Chapter's efforts to stave off the political attacks on the Profession.”*



Herrick has left a lasting impression both personally and professionally. His influence of environmental issues spans far further than even he or many know. His respect for the balance between humanity and the environment has been instilled in all of the many students passing through the Landscape Architecture Department. Today there are countless environmental projects both in and out of Florida that have been and are being influenced by Herrick's 'Quiet Passion' by the previous professionals and students he mentored or was involved with in some capacity.”

Chip Sullivan, landscape architect, University of Florida class of 1974 & 1977, enjoys his first memories of Herrick Smith, *“...hanging up an announcement for an exhibition of landscape paintings by his former student, Harry Stowers. I walked by and commented “that's not landscape architecture.” Herrick was quick to respond that I was wrong, that it was most definitely landscape architecture. Pondering Herrick's nugget of insight changed my life forever as I came to realize that I could practice landscape architecture as an art form. As a naïve sophomore in Herrick's landscape history course, I remember Herrick inviting us all over to his house for lunch in lieu of our final class. I don't know why this had such a profound effect on me, but to be invited to a professor's house was an experience that I never forgot. Now, as a teacher myself, I am always sure to invite students to my house for lunch every year.”*

During graduation, my mother and I were standing in line outside the auditorium. Herrick was shaking hands with his graduates and meeting their parents. He told my Mom, “They don't come along like Chip too often.” Although he probably meant that I was the weirdest student he had ever encountered, the tears welled up in her eyes and you could just see the pride emanating from her. Herrick's comment made her day and she retold that treasured story many, many times throughout her life. I have been fortunate to be able to pursue an artistically rich and fulfilling career as a landscape architect and educator thanks to the encouragement and inspiration of Herrick Smith.”

Timothy Green, RLA, ASLA, University of Florida Class of 1981 credits Herrick with *“inspiring many students of Landscape Architecture to become stewards of the profession. He brought out the best in the student as a future professional by encouraging life-long learning to gain greater understanding of the built environment and landscape at many scales. His challenged me to be my best, and his inspiration has allowed me to enjoy Landscape Architecture as a profession.”*



Robert Grist, RLA, FASLA, was Chair of the Landscape Architecture Department at the University of Florida for 7 years after Herrick's retirement. *“Working with and under Herrick Smith from 1983-1994, enabled me to gain a unique insight into the effect Herrick had on a large number of students, faculty and practicing members of the profession. These people bear witness through countless anecdotes of the influence Herrick has had on their lives. He was and is a role model with unsurpassed integrity and an incredible ability to communicate with people. His love of Florida and its environment command the highest level of respect from anyone who has come into contact with him.”*

Glenn Acomb, RLA, FASLA, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Florida, enthusiastically supports Herrick's nomination: *“More than anyone else I know, Herrick has profoundly influenced the profession of landscape architecture in Florida and beyond. For the 35 years that I have known him, practiced in the State, and (more recently)*



taught at the University of Florida, I am reminded of his profound impact both within and outside of the profession. He has touched so many through his wisdom in design, practice and environmental stewardship. To untold thousands in Florida, Herrick was mentor, friend, educator of many of the State's practitioners, and key ally in establishing licensure in the State. It is hard to think about landscape architecture in Florida without associating his name."

Jeff Caster, RLA, FASLA, never sat in a class with Herrick. *"When a former student of Herrick's taught me that landscape architects were stewards of the land, I wanted to become a landscape architect. Outside Florida, early in my studies to become a landscape architect, Herrick, hearing that I was far away feeling quite alone and disoriented, chose the right words, taught the right lesson to reassure and restore my confidence and commitment to becoming*

a landscape architect. Inside Florida, Herrick and many of his former students (they will always be his students) continue to teach, influence, shape many careers, including my own. We are all fortunate to be part of Herrick's lasting legacy."

EJ Bolduc III, RLA, ASLA, was a child when his father introduced Herrick. *"It is hard to imagine anyone else who has had a more profound and lasting impression on the careers and lives of so many landscape architects. From the moment you meet him, it is easy to understand why this quiet, unassuming, fatherly professor has the unwavering love and respect of generation after generation of landscape architects. Admiration for Herrick Smith is universal whether or not you are fortunate enough to have studied under him. His contributions to the profession, to education and to ASLA are too numerous to list. His lessons were far reaching; he not only taught the nuts and bolts of landscape architecture, but interactions with Herrick often led to a better understanding of the ethical, moral, and social responsibilities that come with being a landscape architect. Although he formally retired from academia over 15 years ago, his lessons still resonate for those of us fortunate enough to call Herrick our professor, mentor, and friend. Professor Herrick Smith, FASLA, is truly worthy of the ASLA Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal. He is an inspiration for all of us to be true stewards of the land, the profession, and the world."*

As one of Herrick's students remarked above, "his leadership went beyond education." Another observed that "Herrick had the rare quality of inspiring students to think." A colleague noted that, "He was and is a role model with unsurpassed integrity and an incredible ability to communicate with people."

Learning what former students and colleagues remember is an illuminating approach for gauging the worthiness of nominees for the honor that bears Jot D. Carpenter's name. Professor Carpenter is remembered for his commitment and energy as an educator, and for leaving an indelible mark on landscape architecture education. In reflecting on his own career, Herrick Smith, FASLA, would likely never put himself in the same class with his late friend and colleague Jot Carpenter. However, like all of teachers bestowed with the Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal, Herrick Smith has passed the tests of time with flying colors, achieved the highest honors, and earned the lifelong respect and admiration of thousands of his former students and colleagues. It is no exaggeration to call Herrick Smith's influence on the State of Florida "a lasting legacy."

Members of the Florida Chapter ASLA celebrate the outstanding life and career of Jot D. Carpenter by nominating our state's most influential and loved teacher, Herrick Hayner Smith, FASLA, for the Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal.



Respectfully submitted,

The Florida Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects

Jury Members,

It is with great enthusiasm that I support Herrick Smith's nomination for the Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal. I speak for numerous alumni, colleagues, and citizens across the state of Florida in thanking him for his passion and his wisdom which he shared so graciously. He worked to nurture potentials students never dreamed they had, and he educated everyone who spent any time with him of the serious responsibilities, yet joyous rewards, of our relationships with our environment and each other.

As I was pondering graduate school eons ago, perhaps changing from landscape architecture to another discipline, my father decided to speak to Herrick about some specific issues. As my father explained his new opinions, I clearly understood that if Herrick Smith thinks X, it must be so. Naturally I had to ask who this Herrick guy was. Just one of the educators my father respected most. (My father, T. G. Williams, was active in CLARB, NCILA, and the Southeastern Chapter ASLA.) When I arrived to teach at the University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture years later, I found out why Herrick was so memorable amongst all the educators my father had known. And now, fifteen years after he retired, the first question most alumni ask me is still "how is Herrick?". His breadth of knowledge, gentle humor, love of this land, and strong ethical grounding made an immediate and lasting impact on us all.

Herrick was dedicated to the whole student. His door was always open, no matter what, and he greeted potential students with genuine interest in who they were and what landscape architecture could do for them. His humility and graciousness put them at ease immediately, but his keen intellect and amazing breadth of interests and knowledge soon had heads spinning with possibilities, and passions growing with a depth and competence the student never imagined in those first meetings or classes. As a teacher he leveraged the individual's strengths and interests to make that student not only venture out of his comfort zone, but to enthusiastically explore opportunities and ideas that may have seemed totally foreign at first. Herrick did indeed "teach", and he did an excellent job at it, but his ability as a catalyst, to open students to incredible growth and exploration, was what truly set him apart. And that was not achieved just in the classroom. Herrick genuinely cared for his students and made sure he knew each individual, often including family as well. He made sure the artists were challenged with science, the pragmatists were immersed in philosophy and theory, and everyone was encouraged to be well-rounded far beyond just academics.

His almost encyclopedic breadth of knowledge was enhanced by his strong sense of ethics and responsibility. Students knew that "stewardship", "highest and best use", and "health, safety and welfare" really meant something and were immediately applicable to whatever they did—or didn't—do.

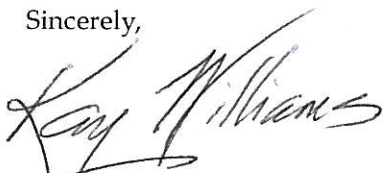
His omnivorous curiosity and ability to make insightful analysis and illuminating connections made for some fascinating critiques and juries. Many alumni still talk of being “Herricked”—having some insight indelibly seared into your memory by his eloquence and intellectual challenge. Sometimes the epiphany was immediately clear and inspirational; sometimes it took considerable exploration and reflection to eventually get your head around it. But it stayed with you, and often with other students in the jury. Herrick’s calm questions or statements generally led to some discovery of possibilities or connections never considered previously—maybe at first confusing but eventually so right and rich. As I said earlier, Herrick could teach very well, but it was Herrick as a catalyst that was so unique. With just a few words, he could turn your project—and your head—all around.

At the first few Florida Chapter ASLA meetings I attended, I found it most intriguing that Herrick—still alive and working—had annual scholarship monies dedicated in his honor. Isn’t that supposed to be after you retire? Alumni and industry affiliates had set this up to recognize his contributions to date. Evidently this man was a legend in his own time.

As a teaching assistant to Jot Carpenter at Ohio State University, I was well indoctrinated into passion, high standards, and the importance of landscape architecture as a force for changing the world for the better. Jot was ASLA president while I was there. Herrick ran for president in the mid ‘80’s after being Florida’s Trustee and serving on national committees. Both encouraged students to be active as students and in the future, and both encouraged through their words and actions in the classroom and in the larger realm. Herrick was a major force for licensure, as was Jot. Herrick served as treasurer, vice-president and president of CLARB in the early 1980’s.

Herrick was invaluable to this fledgling educator, tossing out challenges and gentle suggestions and support as merited. I went to Ohio State because of Jot, and I came to Florida because of Herrick. Both were more than just a professor or just a department chair.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sara Katherine Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "S" that loops around the first part of the name.

Sara Katherine Williams, FASLA

Associate Professor, Department of Landscape Architecture

Graduate Coordinator, College of Design, Construction and Planning Historic Preservation Programs



The President and Members of the Executive Committee
The American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Re: Nomination of Herrick H. Smith, FASLA for the Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Medal

Dear Colleagues:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter endorsing the nomination of Herrick H. Smith, FASLA, for The Jot D. Carpenter Teaching Award. As a 1973 graduate of the University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture, I firmly believe that no one has had a more profound effect on shaping my career and core professional values than Professor Smith, as we students used to call him.

This process began with his classes in the history landscape architecture and design during which he led us with passion and determination through the evolution of the art and architecture of our profession and the European ethic of stewardship versus the concept of land as an expendable commodity which is more pervasive in this country. While I had grown up with strong ties to nature, it was through his introduction of the concept of *genius loci* that my professional journey really began and it has remained focused on practice in the public realm and public policy.

From Herrick I learned that one of the most important professional skills for landscape architects was effective communication. This has enabled me as a public practitioner to facilitate the education of stakeholders so that they are able to participate more equitably and become vested in the successful outcome of decision-making. He also instilled in us the value of using the *Design Process* as a universal framework through which projects of all kinds could be successfully undertaken with participants ranging from community groups to multi-disciplinary design teams.

In addition to guiding us through the ethical, technical and professional aspects of the practice of landscape architecture, Herrick believed that professional registration was essential. So, since prior work experience was not yet required, he made sure that we completed our registration exam applications along with all the other end of year paper work.

Herrick's commitment to getting us involved in ASLA began by supporting an active ASLA student chapter at U of F. Through sponsorships he made sure that we were able to participate in the Florida Chapter meetings and that the student chapter was represented on the Executive Committee. We also benefitted from visiting practitioners who participated in student projects, lectures and presented their projects to us.

My ongoing commitment to landscape architecture and ASLA began with Herrick Smith and while I have not had the opportunity to seek his advice and council for some time, his steadfast belief in stewardship and requisite the professional obligations continue to shape my life as a landscape architect.

Warmest Personal Regards,

Juanita Shearer-Swink

Juanita Shearer-Swink, FASLA
Project Manager, Architecture

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Jot D. Carpenter Medal Nominations
c/o Carolyn Mitchell
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Re: ASLA Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal Candidate – Mr. Herrick H. Smith

Dear Ms. Mitchell,

We are writing to you to on behalf of Mr. Herrick Smith's many friends here at EDSA to express our support for his candidacy for the ASLA Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal.

Like many landscape architecture firms around the country, Mr. Smith's contributions to the industry have had a great impact on our practice through his work at the University of Florida. Over the years we have had many of his former graduates join our firm and develop into leaders of our profession, based upon the foundation and education he provided at the University of Florida.

Through Mr. Smith's leadership, the University of Florida's landscape architecture program has grown to become one of the strongest programs in the country. During his tenure, Mr. Smith had the opportunity to mentor and guide countless young, aspiring professionals and faculty members by providing them with the guidance and support to become future leaders who will undoubtedly sustain our profession for many years to come.

As a leading educator for over thirty-five years, Mr. Smith has touched the lives of many students, faculty members, and friends. His philosophies and approach to landscape architecture taught to us that we are stewards of the land and that we can make a difference in our landscape.

It is a great honor for our team to have the opportunity to express our support and appreciation for Mr. Smith and all of his contributions to the education of landscape architecture.

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or we can provide any further input.

Sincerely,

B. Scott LaMont
Principal

David S. Armbruster
Principal

Jose A. Jaguan
Principal

cc: EDSA UF Graduates



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George G. Gentile, FASLA
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Re: Nomination for Jot Carpenter Award

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter as my heartfelt endorsement of Herrick Smith, FASLA for the Jot Carpenter Award for 2011. I know no other individual who has touched the lives of so many Landscape Architects and who to this day continues to mentor and teach all of us about the history of the profession and our future as sustainable designers and stewards of the land.

As one of the original ten members of the Florida Chapter, founded in 1959, Herrick focused his sights on education of its current and future members. Taking under his wings those who were interested in landscape architecture and looking for a career that would be rewarding as it is enjoyable. He not only mentored the seasoned members of the chapter, he directed his talents into establishing an education goal for the Chapter, the State of Florida and the County as the profession emerged into a new era of art, design and research.

In 1966 Herrick started his tenure as a professor of landscape architecture at the University of Florida. His long lasting involvement with the program lasted until he retired Professor Emeritus in 1995. He not only instructed new professionals through his career as a professor, he maneuvered the program from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Architecture and Planning, where it resides today. He also continued to take a lead role in registration and licensure of the profession of landscape architecture in the State of Florida.

As a graduate of the Department of Landscape Architecture headed by Herrick Smith, I will say that his instruction and leadership in my education in the profession was the background of my long successful career. In 1995 Herrick escorted me into my fellow status with the American Society of Landscape Architects, a day I will never forget and I am sure a day Herrick was reminded of his success as an educator of landscape architecture.

Sincerely,
Gentile Holloway & O'Mahoney
& Associates, Inc.

George G. Gentile, FASLA
President

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**Subject: Nomination of Professor Herrick H. Smith, FASLA, for the
Jot D. Carpenter Medal**

Professor Smith came to the College of Architecture and Fine Arts at the University of Florida in 1965 to initiate a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture program. In 1970, at the ASLA National Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia, I met Professor Smith and interviewed for a faculty position with the program. He explained to me that he, as the Head of the program, and one other faculty member, Jack Sanderson, were presently the nucleus of the program. He had gotten approval to hire an additional faculty member to proceed in developing the program toward accreditation. He stated the urgency associated with developing a program with a strong environmental ethic. In the 60s developers were moving very quickly to take advantage of the population explosion that was taking place at a sacrifice to the natural environment. At this time, it was estimated that there were 800+ people coming to Florida each week to find housing and jobs. The influx of the population increase was degrading the visual and environmental qualities of the Florida landscape. He wanted the University's Landscape Architecture program to address these issues. I was very fortunate to be offered the position and spent the next twenty five years working with Professor Smith.

The program received accreditation at its initial review in 1972. The graduates of the program were very successful in meeting their licensing requirements and engaging in landscape architecture issues related to design and planning. The University of Florida is a Land Grant University, and the Landscape Architecture program was successful in building upon the institution's focus to provide a service to the citizens of the State. Students were able to work with communities, schools, environmental groups, and developers to demonstrate various alternatives for making decisions for the best planning and design practices for the health, safety and welfare of the public and to protect Florida's fragile environment. In accomplishing this effort, Professor Smith was an incredible leader building bridges with architects, planners, engineers, environmentalists, politicians and the general public as well as partnering with other University faculty for their professional expertise.

The Landscape Architecture program advanced to a Department under Professor Smith's guidance. He also provided the leadership for the development and successful accreditation of the department's MLA degree. This effort was to meet a demand by post-baccalaureate students to receive a landscape architecture degree, and to instigate a research agenda for the department.

Professor Smith maintained an open door policy during his tenure as department head. Faculty and students were always welcome to interrupt his schedule with their concerns. He presented a fatherly figure to the students and was a careful listener and a wise counselor. Students continued to seek his advice long after graduation. Under Professor Smith's example of professionalism, the Landscape Architecture program was closely associated with the Florida Chapter ASLA. Many of its graduates became leaders in both the Florida Chapter and National ASLA organization. He also encouraged the faculty to be involved with ASLA at both the Chapter and National levels by providing them with the resources and time for their involvement.

Professor Smith assisted the head of the developing landscape architecture program at Florida International University in Miami with the development of its Bachelors program in Landscape Architecture. He rigorously supported the development of the Landscape Architecture Practice Law and the continuation of licensure when its law was being reviewed for sun-setting.

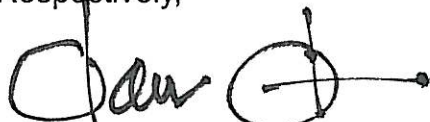
Professor Smith could and did teach at one time or another every course that the LA program offered. However, the one course the students most enjoyed was his History of Landscape Architecture course. As he also taught design, there wasn't a time that his students weren't asked about the historic precedent for their designs which related back to his history course.

Professor Smith retired from the University of Florida in 1995 after 30 years of teaching and leadership. Professor Smith was short in stature but was a giant to those of us who had the opportunity to work with him. His students had a great appreciation for his knowledge, his ability to communicate, his professional manner, his counseling, and his humor and friendliness.

Recently, at the 75th anniversary of Florida Chapter ASLA, held at the University of Florida, Professor Smith was asked to give a perspective of landscape architecture and its importance to society. What was incredibly heartening was the crowd of alumni and professionals that attended his short but meaningful presentation. After his presentation, what I thought was significant to recognizing what he has meant to the State of Florida, to the University of Florida, to ASLA, and to his alumni, students and faculty, was the outpouring of appreciation with everyone wanting to shake his hand and thank him for always being there for them.

I believe Professor Smith, FASLA, exemplifies the qualities exhibited by Professor Jot Carpenter that recognizes his commitment as a leader in landscape architecture education, that has made an exemplary contribution to landscape architecture education and is well qualified to be recognized with the Jot Carpenter Teaching medal.

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan W. Donelin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a stylized "W".

Dan W. Donelin, FASLA, FCELA
Professor/Department Head, Emeritus