



Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

Kristopher Pritchard
Accreditation and Education
Programs Manager

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Cathy Marshall, ASLA, CELA
Master of Landscape Architecture Program Coordinator
College of Architecture & Environmental Design
Kent State University
Kent, Ohio 44242

Dear Professor Marshall:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its July 13-14, 2018 meeting granted initial accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at Kent State University. This status is subject to review of a satisfactory progress report to be submitted by June 30, 2021 and annual reports and maintenance of good standing.

The satisfactory progress report should include verification that minimum requirements are met, a summary of the current status of all seven standards of accreditation, and a response to recommendations affecting accreditation and considerations for improvement enclosed.

Accreditation is awarded on a time-certain basis. The six-year period of accreditation ends June 30, 2024. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the spring of 2024.

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

Enclosed is a list of recommendations affecting accreditation and considerations for improvements. 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".

Kenneth Brooks, FASLA, FCELA
LAAB Chair

Enclosure

cc: Beverly Warren, Ed.D., Ph.D., President

**Kent State University
MLA Program
LAAB Meeting
July 13-14, 2018**

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations Affecting Accreditation

There were no recommendations affecting accreditation.

Considerations for Improvement

1. The program should consider further developing their mission, goals and objectives as the program develops to take greater advantage of the unique characteristics of the program and its setting (Standard 1).
2. An effort should be made to provide the program coordinator an appropriate level of access to funds that allow the coordinator to more quickly respond to some of the needs of the program (Standard 2).
3. Review the physical operations of the Cleveland Studios to clarify facility responsibilities and access related to space and physical resources (Standard 2).
4. Clarify the duties of the administrative staff at the Cleveland Studios related to providing services to both units (Standard 2).
5. Determine the extent to which there is a need to formalize faculty mentoring to ensure that all faculty are appropriately guided through the tenure and promotion process (Standard 2).
6. The program should consider continuing the formation of an advisory board (Standard 6).
7. Explore options to improve access to health care and exercise facilities or to provide students relief from on campus fees related to these services (Standard 7).