

March 15, 2004

Jot Carpenter Medal Nominations
ASLA
636 Eye Street
Washington DC 20001-3736

REF: Professor Marvin I. Adleman, Nominee for the 2004 Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal

Dear Members of the Nominations Committee:

On the occasion of the 100th Anniversary of Landscape Architecture at Cornell University, we would like to honor Marvin I. Adleman by nominating him for the 2004 Jot Carpenter Teaching Medal. Professor Adleman established the undergraduate and graduate accredited programs of landscape architecture at Cornell as we know them today. His thirty-two year career here represents nearly a third of the department's history and the teaching of three-quarters of all alumni/ae since 1904. History aside, this quiet, but passionately involved teacher is one of the most influential educators-- and advocates for professional education in Landscape Architecture--today. He remains an active academician and long-standing practitioner whose career beyond the classroom has combined practice and academic theory, whether as designer of CLARB exams or of his many significant and award winning projects in the Finger Lakes Region of New York State.

Marvin Adleman came to Cornell in 1972 and taught with another new faculty member, Jot Carpenter, in the newly (and provisionally) re-accredited landscape architecture program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Although a department with a long and distinguished history, Landscape Architecture had suffered a decline in its faculty and course offerings by the 1960's. As Jot Carpenter left Cornell to begin his distinguished career of academic leadership at Ohio State, Marv went on to transform Cornell's program and his own career. He left behind his years of practice with Adleman, DuTot and Collins and, earlier, Hideo Sasaki to revitalize the historic program's strong professional design approach to the curriculum. As Program Coordinator from 1973 - 1985, he unified fragmented course offerings and hired a small but carefully selected group of assistant professors with strong professional design experience and extraordinary dedication to the mission of teaching. Within three years, the program had received full accreditation from the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB), and recognition as an internationally competitive degree program. He set a direction for the program that integrated theory with practice within the context of an Ivy League University, a direction that remains a hallmark of the program today.

Professor Adleman's career has been dedicated to teaching. After thirty two years, he continues to have one of the greatest full time equivalent (FTE) teaching loads in our department, as well as a substantial advising role. He would not have it any other way. He always has 12-15 undergraduate advisees and 6 or more graduate students each year. His