

Having completed six years of service as an Officer in the United States Marine Corps, I decided to pursue other interests and applied to the Landscape concentration of the Career Discovery Program in 2001. I thoroughly enjoyed my six week "insider's look" into the life of a design student and the design professions at large. As one might expect from an institution like Harvard University, the program organized an impressive array of captivating lectures, signature guest speakers and enthralling field trips to support the core exploration of our studio projects. However, I found the most inspiring and rewarding aspect of the program to be the leadership and dedication exhibited by the program instructors.

My primary instructor, Naomi Cottrell, took a personal interest in developing not only her student's design abilities but also in fostering a true understanding of the challenges and opportunities inherent in pursuing a career in Landscape Architecture. Naomi's tireless energy and enthusiasm coupled with her extensive knowledge and experience made my experience during Career Discovery one of exciting and creative self-discovery. My decision to pursue a new career in Landscape Architecture was a direct result of Naomi's leadership and commitment to being more than just an instructor but rather a teacher in the fullest sense of the word.

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