

# Advocating, advancing, and evaluating quality education in Landscape Architecture

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CLARB Representative Tom Sherry, ASLA Ann Komara, ASLA Program Chair Landscape Architecture Program 1250 14<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 300 University of Colorado Denver Denver, Colorado

#### Dear Professor Komara:

The Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) at its February 5-6, 2016 meeting granted accreditation for a period of six (6) years to the course of study leading to the first professional MLA degree at University of Colorado Denver. This status is 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 December 31, 2021. Accordingly, the MLA program is next scheduled for a review during the fall of 2021.

In making its decision, 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 list of recommendations affecting accreditation (to be responded to in annual reports) and considerations 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,

Gary Kesler, FASLA LAAB Chair

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Enclosure

cc: Dorothy Horrell, Chancellor of University of Colorado Denver

## University of Colorado Denver MLA Program LAAB Meeting February 5-6, 2016

#### SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

#### **Recommendations Affecting Accreditation**

- 1. The program should undertake a thoughtful strategic planning process to build on their recent successful articulation of the department's mission and areas of programmatic emphasis. The plan should include strategies for sustainable enrollment growth, consideration of faculty advancement and administrative succession, and identify and pursue opportunities for synergistic collaboration, both within the college (such as through the Master of Urban Design program, which it currently oversees), and outside the college (such as with the public health program at UC-D Anschutz) (Standard 1).
- 2. The department should work with the college and university to seek ways of overcoming institutional barriers to effective interdisciplinary teaching and learning (Standard 3).
- 3. The university needs to improve the access to high speed computer network infrastructure in the department's home building on 14th street, either through greater wired (Ethernet) access, or wireless (Wi-Fi) access, particularly in the design studios (Standard 7).

### **Considerations for Improvements**

1. The Program/College should provide increased hours of access to plotting equipment to the students and faculty (Standard 7).