



CELA 2023 Annual Conference in San Antonio, Texas

Theme:

Align | Realign: Dialogues between Academic Pursuits and Professional Demand

Theme Description:

Landscape architecture, as an academic discipline and area of professional practice, has long been broadly defined as the integration of art and science. Both the profession of landscape architecture and its education have historically been dependent upon a constant dialogue between the arts and the sciences. Recently, the growing role of research within the practice of landscape architecture has created a shift in more scientific thinking to help reinforce evidence-based design decision making.

The degree to which scientific research is given emphasis in design and planning inevitably varies. This variance is generally dependent upon the values and findings within the given research and the specific goals and needs of a given project. Academics and professionals can also fluctuate in their locations along the art/science continuum, sometimes creating misalignments within what the landscape architecture profession demands and what is being researched or taught in landscape architecture education. Align | Realign, the theme of the 2023 Conference, therefore, explores these relationships, investigating the overlaps and misalignments between what is both taught and researched in academia compared to what is practiced professionally.