



April 3, 2020

Distinguished Colleagues and Our Friends in Allied Organizations,

I am happy to be able to write this message in the comfort of my office in health. As the incoming President of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, it is unfortunate that my first message to you is in writing as opposed to in person during our annual meeting. I would like to acknowledge that, though it was difficult, it was a very wise decision to cancel our annual meeting based on the spread and threats of COVID-19 and bans and restrictions put in place by our institutions.

Today, my greatest honor is the trust and faith you bestowed in me as the incoming President of this organization. Thank you!

With all the opportunities and challenges coming in the days ahead, I believe that this journey will not be smooth if I walk it alone. During the past year as President-Elect, I observed incredible collaboration and cooperation among the leadership and membership, enabling CELA to achieve many advances in its vision, mission, structure, organization and services. Let me take this opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous and invaluable initiatives undertaken by previous leaders. Indeed, you are an inspiration, and you provided a challenge and an avenue for us to continue doing these great works. I am certain though, that with our team spirit, we shall continue to do much better because I have faith in this team and in this organization. I am confident that, with the spirit of collaboration and synergism observed, CELA will strive for our vision of a world shaped by landscape architects, and that we will continue with our mission to support educators to advance the profession.

To all of our members, we still want to say that leaders cannot make this journey alone. It is through your support, critiques and encouragements that we shall have something to do together because together we shall continue to make it.

I would like to acknowledge following leadership who have just completed their invaluable services:

Officers:

- President: Ashley Steffens
- Past President: Charlene LeBleu

- 2nd Vice President: Hala Nasar
- Vice President of Research and Creative Scholarship: Galen Newman

Regional Directors:

- Region 1: Jolie Kytes
- Region 3: Taner Özdil
- Region 4: Matthew Kirkwood
- Region 7: Elizabeth Brabeck

Student Director: Yiwei Huang

CELA Representatives on Allied Organizations:

LAAB: Kenneth Brooks

ASLA, Committee on Education: Charlene LeBleu

ASLA, Licensure and State Government Affairs: Cory Gallo

I would also like to acknowledge following incoming elected leadership and welcome their commitment for service to CELA:

Officers:

- President Elect: Galen Newman
- Past President: Ashley Steffens
- 2nd Vice President: Simon Bussiere
- Vice President for Research and Creative Scholarship: Taner Özdil

Regional Directors:

- Region 1: Katherine Kraszewska
- Region 4: Mark A. Hoistad
- Region 6: Jessica Fernandez
- Region 7: Scott Fulford
- Region 8: Ivan Valin

Student Director: Max Frank

- CELA Representatives on Allied Organizations:
- LAAB: Roxi Thoren
- ASLA Committee on Education: Jeff Hou
- ASLA Licensure and State Government Affairs: Mary Pat McGuire

IMI Association Executives Staff:

- Executive Director: Sarah Gillian director@thecela.org

We were unable to honor outstanding landscape architecture professionals during our annual conference this year. Though we recognized these individuals during the online meeting of the

Program Administrators and you should also have received a separate email communication on this, it is my privilege to share their names again:

Lifetime Achievement Award

- Clare Cooper Marcus

Academy of Fellows Inductees

- Charlene LeBleu
- Tim Keane
- Hala Nasar
- Richard Weller

Student Awards

- Research Scholarship: Pamela Blackmore
- Research Scholarship Honorable Mention: Laura Durgerian
- Creative Scholarship: Aaron Hernandez
- Creative Scholarship Honorable Mention: Sean Kois
- Creative Scholarship Honorable Mention: Silvia Viola

Faculty Awards

- Outstanding Administrator: Daniel Ortega
- Outstanding Communication: William Douglas
- Excellence in Studio Teaching, Junior: Fionn Byrne
- Excellence in Studio Teaching, Senior: Carl Smith
- Excellence in Teaching, Junior: Karen Lutsky
- Excellence in Teaching, Senior: Nathan Perkins
- Excellence in Research and/or Creative Works, Junior: Rob Holmes
- Excellence in Research and/or Creative Works, Junior: Yekang Ko
- Excellence in Research and/or Creative Works, Senior: Laurel McSherry
- Excellence in Research and/or Creative Works, Senior: Chanam Lee
- Excellence in Service Learning, Junior: Çelen Paşalar
- Excellence in Service Learning, Junior: David Las Pena
- Outstanding Educator: Thaisa Way
- Outstanding Paper: Hope Rising

By the time you read this message, you should have already learned refund alternatives for CELA 2020 Registration fees. CELA Executive Committee and the Board of Directors have given lots of thought and consideration to these alternatives. It is our hope that, together, we can move forward effectively.

In the coming days you will hear more about ongoing endeavors on new strategic plan, bylaws and revisions, improvements on communications, revisions on the Policies and Procedures

Manual, *Landscape Journal*, Research & Creative Scholarship, Frameworks Project, and plans for the 2021 Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico at Hyatt Regency Tamaya.

I am excited to acknowledge the tremendous work being done by an ad hoc committee on *Landscape Journal*. This committee has been working on various alternatives, cost and benefit implications, et. al. for delivering *Landscape Journal* online. It is important to note that the membership will be made aware of the recommendations of the committee. I would like to thank the members of this committee for their dedication and wisdom:

- Rob Cory (Chair)
- Robert Brown
- Vickie Chanse
- Chris Ellis
- Louise Mozingo
- Ming-Han Li

In closing I would like to share my goals during my service as your president;

Accountability CELA will be transparent and accountable in all of our endeavors, especially in a year during which we must recover from financial losses of the cancelled conference and resulting unexpected expenses.

Accessibility CELA Officers, Regional Directors and staff will be accessible to serve our membership.

Advancement CELA will advance and complete ongoing endeavors and will support our member to advance the education and the profession.

Please, do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions and or suggestions.

Best wishes to you all making your transition to online teaching. We all brag about being creative and this is the time to prove that we are indeed creative under most trying circumstances.

Meanwhile, stay healthy and stay happy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'John' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Sadık C. Artunç, FASLA
CELA President
And
Professor and Head
Department of Landscape Architecture
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