

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Design

Landscape Architecture Accreditation Review

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June 3, 2015

Full Accreditation Granted

- Through Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB)
- BLA program accredited through 2020
- MLA program accredited through 2020 (with 2017 review)
- Both are maximum times



The Landscape Architecture Profession

Landscape architects lead stewardship, planning, and design of our built and natural environments.

- “Green since 1899”
- Focus on sustainability



Areas of Practice

- Institutional, corporate and commercial landscaping
- Gardens and arboreta
- Historic preservation and restoration
- Interior landscapes
- Land planning and conservation, including water
- Urban design and security design
- Transportation corridors, facilities
- Parks and recreation
- Streetscapes and public spaces
- Residential landscape design
- Art and earth sculpture, monuments

Professional Advocacy

- Evolution of practice
 - Health, safety, and welfare
 - Clarified definition of welfare
 - (Health, justice, et.al.)
- Areas of advocacy
 - Water and stormwater
 - Transportation planning and design
 - Community design and development



Landscape Architecture Programs

- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA)
 - 5-year professional degree
 - 160 students
- Masters of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
 - 3-year professional degree
 - 24 students
- 15 faculty FTEs
- BLA historically ranked in or near top 10
- Licensure process includes education, experience (internship), and examination

Student Profile

- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA)
 - 97% placement rate
 - \$52,000 base salary (years 0-4)
 - \$23,000 average student debt (compared to \$31,000 nationally)
- Masters of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
 - 100% placement

Students feel prepared: 100% rated their education as excellent (80%) or above average in Design Intelligence surveys.

BLA Accreditation Recommendations

- Simplify mission and objectives
 - *Completed or ongoing*
- Create means to assess outcomes
 - *Completed or ongoing*
- Program information within one click on website
 - *Completed*
- Budget control with department chair
 - *Completed*
- Administrative support to relieve burden on chair
 - *In progress*

MLA Accreditation Recommendations

- Develop MLA specific mission, purpose, outcomes
 - *In action*
- Develop long-range MLA program plan
 - *In action*
- Communicate program plan on website
 - *In progress*
- Provide transparency on budget
 - *Completed*
- Required LA courses should have their own syllabi
 - *In progress/ongoing*

Questions?