

Chatham College

Landscape Architecture
Landscape Studies
Division of Art and Design
Newsletter Update



September 2006 ADDENDUM

Additional Information to read about:

1. Important Chatham College News
2. Call for Artists and Landscape Designers-Design Competition
3. Conferences/ Meetings/Events
4. Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects
5. Interested in Urban Farming???
6. Design Work Opportunities

Important Chatham College News

Beginning September 19, 2006 the HUB will close for renovations. In addition we will also be transitioning to a new Student Services Center to better serve your needs. Please see the informational flyer below regarding guidelines for contacting the Financial Aid, Registrar, and Student Accounts Offices during the renovation process.

ATTENTION CHATHAM COMMUNITY

While the “HUB Area” is under construction...to become the Student Services Center...please use the following guidelines:

**You may still telephone—412-365-1777 and/or
[e-mail—hub@chatham.edu](mailto:hub@chatham.edu)**

Walk-in Registration Related Questions...
(transcripts, enrollment verifications, add/drop/withdraw, etc.)
Please see the Registrar’s Office— Braun 102, 103 and/or 104

Walk-in Student Account and Financial Aid Related Questions...
(tuition payments, payment plans, student loan processing,
refunds, financial aid, student id’s, etc.)
Please see the Student Account and Financial Aid Offices—Braun Hall (opposite
side of the Braun Lobby—across from the HUB)

A Message from Chatham's IT Department

Helpdesk has been getting calls about computers in the labs & classrooms being turned off at night. **PLEASE DO NOT TURN OFF ANY COMPUTERS in the labs or classrooms only LOG OFF.** If the computers are powered off, updates will not be received during the nightly scheduled update process but will be pushed to the computer upon boot up the next morning. This not only causes a lengthy delay but will force the computer to continually reboot until the update process is complete which could take up to 30 minutes, prohibiting the use of the PC for that next morning's class. This procedure applies to your office computers as well as they should also not be powered off at night.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter

Christopher L. Grove
Helpdesk Supervisor
Chatham College
Woodland Road
Pittsburgh, PA. 15232
(412) 365.1112

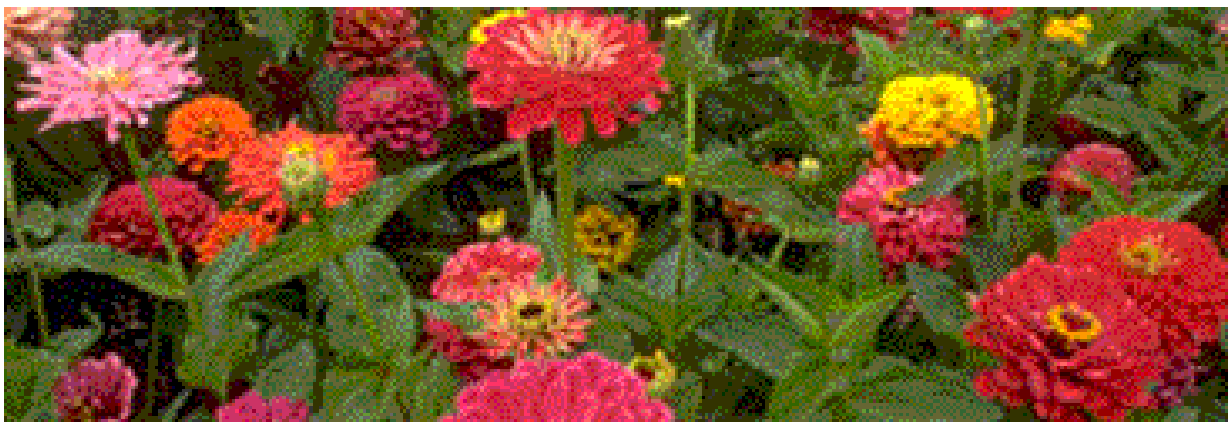
Have time for an interesting course?

Additional Landscape Course Offering - LNS 521: Plants and Design I will be offered during the second 7 week session of the fall term on Saturday mornings from 8:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. starting on October 21, 2006 – December 9, 2006. Landscape Architect Nicole Oeler will be teaching this course which is a required course for the Master of Arts in Landscape Studies and the Certificate in Landscape Studies as well as, a recommended elective for the Master of Landscape Architecture.

You can still register for a last seven week course up until October 29th.

Don't forget...

Smoothie Bar – Please note that the Smoothie Bar in the AFC will reopen this fall, Monday through Friday from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. However, if this facility is not frequented by those of us in the Art and Design Center, among others, it will be closed come spring 2007 and only open for business during athletic events. It is a great asset before class or during breaks...please let us not lose it!



CALL FOR ARTISTS
CALL FOR LANDSCAPE DESIGNERS
CHATHAM COLLEGE
CLASS OF 1971
DESIGN COMPETITION
RACHEL CARSON GARDEN

As part of the celebration of the Class of 1971's 35th Reunion in October 2006, the class will sponsor a competition for undergraduate students and recent alumnae from the Visual Arts Program and current graduate students in Landscape Architecture. Specifically, students are asked to submit proposals for the redesigning of the Rachel Carson Garden and for the creation of a work of sculpture that will be integrated within the design of the garden. This competition honors Chatham's legacy as a thriving liberal arts college, creates the potential for a lasting tribute to the Class of 1971 on campus and provides a professional working experience for students on the cusp of their careers.

The competition is intended for current Landscape and Visual Arts undergraduate students/recent alumnae. Three finalists from each area will be selected. From that point, competition winners (both landscape and visual art students) will work in teams to come up with cohesive solutions for the space at hand, combining garden designs with a work of public sculpture. A second competition will be held to choose the winning team proposals. More information will follow about the second phase of the competition. The Rachel Carson Garden is located between the Kresge Atrium in the science complex and Laughlin Music Center. The space bridges the arts and the sciences and can be seen with relation to the Tiffany window in the Kresge Atrium.

The competition process begins immediately. **Schematics (for landscape designers) or preparatory drawings (for artists) are due on Monday, October 9th, 2006 in the Arts & Design Center, room 103.** Final designs are not required during this phase of the competition. If you have question about the competition, please contact Anna Doering, Vice President of Development, Alumni Affairs, at 412-365-2733.

All participants must submit completed professional schematics/preparatory drawings mounted on rigid 18"x24" board on or before the date stated above. A separate Statement of Intent must be mounted on rigid 11"x17" board and submitted with the design. Both the design and the statement must have the participant's name, address, and phone number legibly and professionally written on them.

Once the design are submitted, members of the Class of 1971 and Chatham College Arts and Design Division faculty will review the submissions over Reunion weekend (Oct. 13-14), and choose three artists and three landscape designers as finalists. All six competition winners will receive a monetary award, and a landscape designer and an artist will be paired to work together as a team to design a shared vision.

The teams will perform their own site analysis and submit their final design during the first week of February, 2007, for approval to Chatham College, the Class 1971 and the Board of Trustees, keeping in mind that revisions to all or part of the final design may be necessary to satisfy the requirements and intention of all parties involved and that there is no guarantee that the designs will be fully realized all or in part.

Conferences/Meetings/Events

Friday, Sept. 15-Saturday, Oct. 21, 2006 From 5:30 to 8 p.m. Sept. 15, the University of Pittsburgh's University Art Gallery opens the exhibit **"From Pavement to Paradise: The Urban Evolution of Schenley Plaza,"** presenting the environmental and design history of the site over the past century.

Friday, Sept. 22-Dec. 10, 2006 **"Connections: The West End Pedestrian Bridge Competition"** opens at Carnegie Museum of Art's Heinz Architectural Center, presenting the winning proposal by the Berkeley, Calif., architecture and engineering firm Endres Ware, with landscape architects Olin Partnership of Philadelphia. Also on view will be the five other final-stage proposals and five projects commended in the competition's first stage.

Wednesday, September 20, 2006 11:00 am – 2:00 pm in Anderson Dining Hall.
Make Your Mark: Volunteer and Community Awareness Fair Representatives from many organizations in the area will be on campus recruiting volunteers and interns.

Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006 5 pm – 7p.m.
September AIA Annual Membership Meeting at Chatham College Art and Design Center.
Tour of award-winning Art and Design Center and meeting with election of new board members followed by hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.
Free to AIA members, \$5 for nonmembers.
This event is open to landscape and interior students and adjunct faculty, please reply by September 15th if you plan on attending.
Due to this event evening classes will be delayed until 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2006 At 1:30 p.m., Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation historical collections director Al Tannler will present an illustrated lecture, **"Architectural Glass in Pittsburgh,"** at the Frick Art & Historical Center, examining some of the city's most important windows, the artists who created them and the buildings that house them. Fee: \$10, or \$8 for Landmarks and Frick members. Registration is recommended; call 412-371-0600.

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 2006 **"Water and the City: The Regent Square Gateway Project for Frick Park"** is the subject of a presentation by Michele Adams, principal engineer, Cahill Associates, and Marijke Hecht, executive director, Nine Mile Run Watershed Association. At 6 p.m. in the University Art Gallery of the University of Pittsburgh's Frick Fine Arts Building, they will discuss the design efforts under way to create a new gateway into Frick Park at Braddock Avenue, where the Nine Mile Run stream emerges from a sewer system into a restored stream bank. The free talk is co-sponsored by the Interior Architecture and Landscape Architecture programs at Chatham College and Pitt's Department of History of Art and Architecture.

Wednesday, Sept. 27: Sidney Pollack's feature-length documentary, **"Sketches of Frank Gehry,"** which played at the Squirrel Hill Theater this summer, airs at 9 p.m. on PBS.



This year's [ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO and 43rd IFLA World Congress](#) will have a global focus in general sessions, education programs, field sessions, and tours. In addition, you'll have an opportunity to learn about innovative products and services in the ASLA EXPO. Held October 6–10 in Minneapolis, this promises to be the largest event in the world for landscape architects.

[Learn more](#) in the current issue of *LAND Online* at www.asla.org

Tuesday, October 17, 2006 (*This is part of long weekend so no classes*)

W. PA Herb Society of America welcomes

HGTV's Rebecca Kolls, who is bringing "Rebecca's Garden" to Pittsburgh.

7 p.m. Lecture at Chatham College's Eddy Theater \$20 ticket \$10 student ticket

Hosted by Chatham College's Landscape Programs

IMBA Trail Building School For Land Managers and Field Staff

Thursday, October 19th, 2006, 8:30-2pm

The International Mountain Bicycling Association's Subaru/IMBA Trail Care Crew will be in Pittsburgh on October 19th, 2006, to teach sustainable trail building techniques. This is an excellent training opportunity for anyone involved in trail planning, design, maintenance, management, and recreation.

The Trail Building School features classroom and field instruction. It combines interactive learning, hands-on activities and topnotch instructors to develop skilled trail workers and crew leaders. Topics covered include designing sustainable trails for multiple uses, controlling water flow, building effective trail structures, and routine trail maintenance.

The trail building class is free and will focus on trail issues specific to parks, but please reserve a seat by contacting Karl Rosengarth of IMBA at karl@keystonetrails.org (if you don't have e-mail access, call Mary Beth Steisslinger of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy at 412-682-7275 x 218). Seating is limited.

Thursday 19th Oct: IMBA Trail Building School

Location: Center for Creative Play, 1400 S. Braddock Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218 (412-371-1668).

Classroom Session: 8:30a.m.-11:30 a.m., **Lunch:** 11:30-12:30 (CfCP has a cafeteria on-site and has promised attendees a discount).

Field Work in Frick Park (apply what you've learned in class): 12:30-2:00

Organized locally by Pittsburgh Trails Advocacy Group (PTAG) and presented in cooperation with Pittsburgh Department of Public Works Parks Division and the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy.



Upcoming student chapter officer elections in October...

nominate NOW by notifying Lisa McGoogan at lmcgoogan@chatham.edu

The Student Chapter of ASLA might be interested in helping with the Girl Scout Build a Dream project. It might be a good community service project for the organization. Basically, they have 10 architects design and 10 builders build playhouses which are on display at the 2007 Home

and Garden Show in March. These playhouses are auctioned off and the proceeds go to Girl Scouts – Trillium Council. The landscaping is the glue that holds the playhouses together visually during the Home and Garden Show.

The design can be elaborate or simple:

See September Newsletter for more information and give your opinions now about participating. Contact Annie Weidman at tweeper@msn.com

Interested in Urban Farming???

<danaeclark@walla.com>

Greening Projects in Braddock

Hi Lisa,

There are a couple of interesting greening opportunities in Braddock that you and/or students at Chatham might be interested in getting involved with. If you saw the cover story in *City Paper* last week then you know "Mayor John" is committed to greening his Borough and entertaining some innovative strategies.

The most immediate opportunity involves an urban farming project on vacant land owned by the county. I'm working with Mayor John and Grow Pittsburgh on pulling this project together, and it is complicated by the fact that he wants to include a basketball court for youth on adjacent land. We need to figure out the best way to accommodate both needs (in addition to some storage buildings and area for a farm stand) and produce a site drawing for the county before moving forward. We, of course, have no funding up front for this project. BUT, the county dept. of economic development has agreed to "talk turkey," and we could include landscape consulting fees into the proposal we submit.

A more long term project involves the development of Braddock into a "walkable community. There are many vacant lots along the business corridor that are semi-maintained; nearly all are grassed in and mowed, and some have trees, shrubs, and other attempts at beatification. But they are not used (no benches, no trails) and many of them are hampered by insurmountable walls/hills towards the back of them. There are ample opportunities for terraces, trails, etc. that would make the Braddock Ave corridor extremely interesting. Sound like a good class project?? Want to partner on a proposal?

Let me know what you think -- esp about the first opportunity.

Thanks,

Danae

GREENLOTS
412-244-3435

Design Work Opportunities-Still Exist

Is anyone interested in this design project?

A Chatham staff property owner would like some design ideas. She writes "I have a rather strange question for you. Our back yard consists of an upward sloping hillside and when we moved in it was covered with crown vetch. We have since been able to kill off most of that weed and have the hill covered with black plastic to keep it from re-growing. We have a french drain

that creates a river rock border between our back yard and the hill but want to do some planting on the hillside to make it look nicer. Now, for my question, I'm wondering if you have any students who would be interested in coming up with a plan for the hill? We plan to do all of the work ourselves but really aren't sure how to determine what would grow best and look nice. We've gone back and forth from planning to plant a ground cover over the entire hillside to using various grasses to planting flowers...but we don't know what would be best. We don't want to do it more than once -- it's a big hill and will be a lot of work and I'm sure whatever we choose is going to be pricey."

A friend of a Professor at The Art Institute of Pittsburgh was looking for some information on the possibility of having a landscape architecture student work on a small residential project.

Is anyone interested in this design project?

Looking for a distinguished student interested in doing some landscape design work for home development. The planned residential community site is located in Bridgeville and consists of two sizeable ponds, a stream, club house and pool area. Some issues that will need to be address are:

- 1) To discourage Canadian geese from using these ponds during their migration,
- 2) There is a section with large flat boulders on the edge of the pond. At one time the area around the boulders was vegetated.

However, between the geese, ducks and the local people that fish there, the vegetation has now become dirt.

- 3) The owners would like to keep the pond landscape plantings as natural as possible with low maintenance.

They are now only interested in designing around the upper pond. They want something aesthetically pleasing and low maintenance. Pond erosion does not need to be addressed as that will be dealt with later down the road when they dredge the pond.

Sue Byrne is the contact. Her e-mail at home is: byrne15017@comcast.net. At work it is: sbyrne@clayeng.net. Her home phone is: (412) 221-8703. At work, it is: (412) 288-0643.

Is anyone interested in this design project?

An opportunity for small-space landscaping: A homeowner in Port Vue (near McKeesport) recently removed a large blue spruce from her front yard, and is interested in hiring a student to design a new front yard appropriate for its size. The property is small – 13' x 12' – and fenced. Creativity within a tight budget is appreciated.

Is anyone interested in this design project?

A friend of Dr. Roxanne Fisher, Chatham Professor of Biology, who lives in Point Breeze and has redone her house to be handicap accessible. She's **interested in making her garden accessible** too. She has some type of joint disorder and can walk now, but she's' planning for the future when she may need to use a wheelchair.

Is anyone interested in this design project?

It's a simple project. This residential landscaping has been done piecemeal over the years. The property owner would like to formalize it to bring it up to par with the neighborhood. "Window dressing" in the front yard, and a design to give the backyard a more cozy feel is requested. A plan is desired to encompass the whole yard so that it looks coherent. Project area located in Lake Ridge Estates Murrysville, PA.

Is anyone interested in this design project?

A Murrysville homeowner is interested in both hardscape and softscape elements for her ½ acre property. Certain existing elements will stay. New ideas with the overall design phased to begin installation hopefully in the summer.

***Is anyone interested in this design project?
Please contact Lisa Kunst Vavro if you are interested in any of these design projects.***