Spring is just around the corner…

February-March 2007

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Important Chatham College News
A Message from President Barazzone (February 23, 2007)

“I would like to update the campus community on the status of the two major institutional reviews going on at Chatham College this winter.

Application for University Status

As you will recall, a team from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) visited campus in the middle of January to evaluate Chatham College’s application to become a university. Following its visit, the team drafted a report of its findings which the PDE adopted as its own. Chatham received the report late last week and we sent our response to the PDE today. Copies of the PDE report and Chatham’s response can be found on the campus intranet under Documents/President’s Office: PA Department of Education Report; Response to PA Department of Education; University Structure; and University Chart.

The PDE report is extremely positive. One thing that is abundantly clear from reading it is that the Chatham community certainly made a favorable impression on the site visit team. The entire campus community – administrators, faculty, staff and students – deserves thanks and a big round of applause! Word has come back to us that the team felt very welcomed on campus and was impressed by how smoothly the visit went.

The Report was very positive overall, but the evaluation team did identify one area that it asked the College to address. Specifically, the team asked us to provide detailed position descriptions for each of the Deans of the three Colleges. We attached the requested position descriptions and an organizational chart to our response. During the past week Dr. Laura Armesto and I met with faculty leaders – Division Chairs, Graduate Program Directors, and the Executive Committee -- to discuss the organizational structure of Chatham University. Their input and suggestions were incorporated into the final organizational structure documents (Exhibits A and B) that were attached to the College’s response to the PDE report.

What are the next steps? First, it will take a week or two for the PDE to prepare the Report for publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin. Then the Report will be published for one month to allow public comment. Sometime after the end of the publication period, hopefully, the Secretary of Education will approve our application to become a university. We remain optimistic that we will receive approval by the end of April.

Middle States Accreditation

The second institutional evaluation that is underway is the College’s decadal accreditation review by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. A team from Middle States will visit our campus from March 11-14 to conduct the College’s accreditation review. Because many of you were not at the College when the last accreditation review was conducted in 1997, I would like to take some time to explain how the accreditation process works.

What is accreditation?
Accreditation is a process of external quality review used by the higher education community to scrutinize colleges and universities for quality assurance and quality improvement.

Why is accreditation important?

As the Council for Higher Education Accreditation notes, accreditation is important for:

- **Students** who want federal (and sometimes state) grants and loans needed to attend a college, university or a program that is accredited.
- **Employers** who want to know if a college, university or program is accredited before deciding to provide tuition assistance to current employees, evaluating the credentials of new employees, or making a charitable contribution.
- The **federal government**, which requires that a college, university or program be accredited in order to be eligible for federal grants and loans or other federal funds.
- **State governments**, which require that a college, university or program be accredited when they make state funds available to students or institutions and when they allow students to sit for state licensure examinations in some professional fields.

Who conducts accreditation?

In the U.S., colleges and universities are accredited by one of 19 recognized institutional accrediting organizations. These are private, nongovernmental organizations that have been created for the specific purpose of reviewing higher education institutions for quality.

What is the Middle States Commission on Higher Education?

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education ("Middle States") is the accrediting organization for Chatham College. It was created in 1919, when institutions of higher education within the region joined together to form the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, a professional association devoted to educational improvement through accreditation. That organization was the precursor of today’s Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

How does the accreditation process work?

The five features of accreditation are:

- **Self study:** Institutions prepare a written summary of performance based on the accrediting organization’s standards.
- **Peer Review:** Accreditation review is conducted primarily by faculty, administrators, and members of the public.
- **Site Visit:** The accrediting organization sends a visiting team to review the institution. Team members are volunteers.
• Action (judgment) of accrediting organization: The accrediting organization has a commission that makes decisions about the accredited status of the institution.
• Monitoring and oversight: Institutions are reviewed over time in cycles from every few years to ten years. Normally, these reviews include a site visit.

Where does Chatham stand in the accreditation process?

Chatham College’s last accreditation site visit was in 1997. A periodic review (no site visit) was conducted in 2002. Nearly a year ago Chatham College began the process of conducting a self-study in preparation for the College’s decadal accreditation review. A Steering Committee and five subcommittees were charged with preparing a self-study report. There were 48 members of the campus community (faculty, students and administrators) on the Steering Committee and subcommittees. You can read the Self-Study Report on the campus intranet under Documents/Academic Affairs/Middle States Self Study 2007.

The next step, a site visit, will occur from March 11-14. The team that will visit campus to conduct the review is chaired by Pat McGuire, President of Trinity University in Washington, D.C., and includes six other faculty or administrators from institutions within the Middle States region.

The site visit will run basically along the lines of the university site visit, with team members meeting over the course of several days with administrators and staff members within the team members’ areas of expertise. The team will also meet with other members of the campus community such as Board members, faculty and students.

We will hold a public meeting to discuss the Middle States accreditation process and site visit, and answer any questions you might have about it. The meeting will be held on Thursday, March 1 at 4 PM in the Welker Room. I will also discuss this with faculty in the regularly scheduled faculty meeting on Tuesday, February 27, at 4 PM. I look forward to seeing you then.

Esther B.

News on the Landscape Architecture Accreditation:

Chatham College’s Self-evaluation Report (SER) was submitted on February 19, 2007. A copy of the SER can be reviewed by students or faculty in Lisa Kunst Vavro’s office. The next step will be our accreditation team visit April 1-4, 2007. Our accreditation team consists of:

- Elizabeth Brabec, ASLA, Department Head
  Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning

- Dr. Dana Dunn, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
  The University of Texas at Arlington

- James R. Wike, ASLA
  Kersey/Wike Associates, Inc.
ATTENTION LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS:

ALL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN INTERNSHIP SUMMER OR FALL 2007

MEETING MONDAY, February 26, 2007 AT 5:00 P.M.
ADC SEMINAR ROOM.

Chatham Bookstore News Hurry in! We're returning books!
Hello everyone! We will start to return books from January classes this week, so if you need a book, please hurry in to pick it up.
Don't hesitate to let us know if you need anything!
(412) 365-1661
Thank you!
The Bookstore

GRADUATE STUDENTS:
You're invited to attend First Thursdays: Graduate Socials
The First Thursday of Every Month

Thursday, March 1st
4:00 p.m. Graduate Council Meeting
All graduate students are welcome to attend
4:45 p.m. Graduate Student Social Food and spirits will be served free of charge
All graduate students, faculty and staff welcome!
Location: Chatham College Gatehouse

Conferences/Meetings/Events
CARNEGIE MUSEUM OF ART LOOKS AT NEW EVOLUTIONS IN AN OLD CITY
GRITTY BRITS: NEW LONDON ARCHITECTURE

An exploration of emerging architectural thinking and practice in London will be on view at the Heinz Architectural Center of Carnegie Museum of Art from January 20 through June 3, 2007. Gritty Brits: New London Architecture examines the works of six young, London-based architectural firms: Adjaye/Associates, Caruso St John Architects, FAT (Fashion Architecture Taste), Niall McLaughlin Architects, muf, and Sergison Bates architects. These practices operate in and about the city’s post-industrial East End and their work responds to the vibrant diversity of contemporary culture and urban life.

Approximately 150 objects, including 18 models, six of which have been commissioned for the exhibition, will be on view. Also included will be photographs, film, working drawings, and material samples. Visitors to the exhibition will get their first glimpse of London in a room-size panorama of images that presents the everyday urban environment in which these architects build.
“In the work of each architectural practice, the attitude to site is informed by contemporary urban reality-by London’s grittiness, yet also by a potential for joy, says Raymund Ryan, Carnegie Museum of Art curator of architecture and organizer of the exhibition.

Their new London architecture manifests itself in areas that were previously neglected by developers and planners. Clients range from the well-to-do to the less privileged. Some projects are homes for celebrities and art collectors; others provide housing for low-income residents and recent immigrants.

The collective result of the architects’ creations is that as new social groups and situations emerge, new juxtapositions and cultural layers manifest themselves within the city, says Ryan. “These new architects allow the city and its architecture to inform one another, and their projects analyze and reinforce the urban experience through use of color, light, texture, and ornament.”

The awnings of market stalls inspired the vivid colors and striations of Adjaye/Associates’ Idea Store Whitechapel, where patrons from many racial and economic backgrounds participate in library activities and classes, use the Internet, and the upper-level cafe. The library is among those projects depicted in films made by Stephanie Hardt and T. Perrin Sledge.

Rethinking our concept of landscape, FAT proposes Custom Car Rococo, a contemporary park-and-ride in Regent’s Park, a vast urban park first constructed in 1810. Alongside some architecturally undistinguished high-rise towers in Tilbury, the architectural firm muf collaborated with teenage girls to organize a barren site near public housing for horseback riding and other community activities. Elsewhere FAT’s Sitooterie and muf’s design for Barking Town Square reinterpret the English folly tradition.

London’s canals now host a growing number of floating homes. Níall McLaughlin’s Houseboat uses environmental technologies for warmth and cooling and, unlike a traditional barge, is made of glass and reveals the lives of its inhabitants. The iridescent and striped facades of McLaughlin’s housing at Silvertown reinterpret aspects of that postindustrial terrain.

Many of the projects in the exhibition are found in Bethnal Green and Hoxton Square, neighborhoods closely associated with the Young British Artists (YBAs). Architect David Adjaye has collaborated frequently with artist Chris Ofili on such works as The Upper Room (acquired by the Tate Museum), the British Pavilion at the 2003 Venice Biennale, and the Stephen Lawrence Centre, under construction in Deptford, south London.

Caruso St John Architects worked with the artist Thomas Demand and are now preparing designs with Damien Hirst for a private museum in Lambeth. The firm recently completed Brick House, a residence designed for a complex site in Bayswater, and remodeled the Museum of Childhood in Bethnal Green, adding an entrance porch inlaid with multicolored stones.

Sergison Bates architects are developing strategies for housing, ranging from small scale, individual units to large scale, apartment complexes across London. In Bethnal Green, Studio House is located next to the factory that houses the practice of Caruso St John Architects. Flanking a yard stocked with car tires, the narrow, three-story house is folded into its surroundings and, like many projects included in Gritty Brits, may not immediately be noticed by passers-by.

Catalogue
A 120-page catalogue with essays by Raymund Ryan, curator of architecture and organizer of Gritty Brits: New London Architecture, and noted essayist Iain Sinclair (who has focused on London’s East End as a central theme for his work) accompanies the exhibition. Designed by London-based Graphic Thought Facility, the book features 30 projects in or near London selected from the six architectural practices represented in the exhibition.
February 17-April 15, 2007
Dr. Barazzone is among the collectors featured in the Japanese print exhibition at Carnegie Museum.

Sunday, February 25, 2007    2:00 p.m.
Phipps Garden Center

A Composer in the Garden with Lynn Purse

Call Phipps Garden Center for reservations 412-441-4442.

Wednesday, February 28, 2007
Community Forum on School Board Leadership
5:30-8:30 PM, Northside Urban Pathways Charter School, 914 Penn Avenue, Downtown.

County Chief Executive Dan Onorato will be our guest and will give opening remarks about the importance of Pittsburgh School Board races to the future of the region.

After Chief Executive Onorato’s remarks, Gregg Behr, Executive Director of the Grable Foundation, will speak on the role of leaders in shaping excellent organizations. Mr. Behr’s remarks will be followed by facilitated, small group discussions about community expectations of school board leadership. Participants will consider the role of School Board members as community leaders and as policy makers.

- A light dinner will be served at 5:30 PM
- NSUP Charter School’s Sounds of Steel Band will perform
- Childcare will be provided onsite
- Complimentary Parking to be provided by A + Schools at the Ninth & Penn Garage operated by the Pittsburgh Parking Authority. Tickets must be validated at the meeting and presented to garage cashier prior to exit

### Green Development Tour:
Maya Design & REI LEED CI Award Ceremony
Thursday, March 1st
3:30 PM-5:00 PM

The SouthSide Works development on Pittsburgh’s historic South Side is a first class example of urban, master-planned, multi-use space on a brownfield site.

Join us as we explore two green interior projects within SSW - the high-tech Maya Design offices and the REI retail store. At 4:30 pm, REI will be awarded their LEED-CI Certification! Refreshments provided.

Cost: $15 for GBA members; $20 for nonmembers

Thursday, March 1, 2007
First Thursdays: Graduate Socials
The First Thursday of Every Month at the Gate House starting at 4:45 p.m.
Sunday – Sunday March 4-11, 2007  2007 Philadelphia Flower Show
Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia

Legends of Ireland

Spring Break– Monday-Friday, March 5-9, 2007

Philadelphia University will host three Horticultural Therapy Seminars this spring. The Departments of Landscape Architecture and Occupational Therapy will present “Healing Horticulture” (8:30am – 11:00 am) on campus at the Kanbar Campus Center -

March 8, 2007 Horticultural Therapy in an Adult Rehabilitation Setting
April 12, 2007 Horticultural Therapy for Special Populations
May 17, 2007 Horticultural Therapy and Sustainable Garden Design

Won’t you participate in this inaugural therapy outreach as a donor?

What. Each inter-active session includes: registration/refreshments, multi-media presentation, lecture, Q&A and a take-away kit of activities based on the content presented. Participants will return to their facilities and patients with new ideas, hands-on projects, materials and train-the-trainer guides for on-site workshop delivery.

Who. Assisted living facilities’ activities directors, regional occupational therapy practitioners, landscape designers and the greater Philadelphia medical community will be invited.

Cost Series of three/$75.00 (per person) or $30.00/single session (per person). CEU’s will be available. Space is limited to 150 participants who have the potential to impact more than 1,500 patients.

Support.

Partner – in-kind donations (e.g. refreshments, plant material…)
Friend* – support of $30-$499
Founder* - donations of $500 and above.

*Checks payable to Philadelphia University (memo line: Horticulture Therapy)
For each $30, a donor can send a participant to a session; $75, to the series, etc

Friday, March 9, 2007
The Longwood Graduate Program is delighted to present its annual Symposium, “Technology’s Influence on the Interpretive Experience”. Ballroom at Longwood Gardens.

Speakers include:

- Jim Ockluly, Director of Interactive Media at the Minneapolis Institute of the Arts
- Chad Wollerton, Monticello Webmaster
- Brad Johnson, Co-founder of Second Story, a Web site development company that helped create Monticello’s Explorer Program Web site
- David Asheim, Founder of Guide by Cell, Inc.
- Craig Bettles, Futurist and Researcher for the Institute for Alternative Futures

We will be posting more information closer to the event date on our website, www.udel.edu/longwoodgrad, so please check it for updated registration information and schedule details as they are posted.

If you have any questions, please contact Sonya Comstock, Longwood Graduate Program Secretary, via e-mail, comstock@udel.edu, or telephone, 302-831-2715.
Saturday, March 10, 2007        Western PA Gardening and Landscaping Symposium
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.        At Chatham College

Chatham students can attend free but must RSVP by Friday, March 2, 2007. Please see Lisa Kunst Vavro for further details.

The program consists of:
8 – 8:40 a.m. Registration; Continental Breakfast; Garden Market
At James Laughlin Music Hall
8:40 – 9 a.m. Welcome, Introductions
At Eddy Theater
9 – 10:15 a.m. Morning Keynote Address
The Welcoming Garden
Gordon Hayward
Gardeners across North America are rethinking the timeworn notion of foundation planting. Gordon Hayward shows how to develop a welcoming front garden. His premise is that everyone has a different level of comfort when it comes to separating house from sidewalk or street. He explores the full range of options, from leaving a great deal of lawn to leaving no lawn, from leaving a full view of the house from the street to completely concealing the house within a densely planted front garden. Somewhere in this lecture, participants will find the right balance for them between neighborliness and privacy.
Sponsored in part by: Eisler Nurseries and Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. Break

10:30 – 11:30 a.m. Morning Concurrent Sessions-Must select Session A or B
A. Coordinating Garden Color
Pamela Harper
Many keen gardeners have trudged round and round their gardens looking for a suitable spot for a newly acquired plant, or else they simply grabbed a pot and found a spot. Grouping plants into closely related color schemes makes it easier to place a plant where it will harmonize with its neighbors. Harper will share vignettes from her borders that demonstrate enchanting plant associations, color combinations and color echoes.

B. Shade Gardening
Judith and Dick Tyler
The quiet beauty of a shade garden is unsurpassed in providing solitude. Judith and Dick Tyler will share their years of experience and knowledge constructing and maintaining a garden in dry, eastern deciduous woodland. They will offer solutions and alternatives for typical problems and pests of the shade garden, along with plant selections that will offer a long season of interest.

11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Lunch and Garden Market Place

1 – 2 p.m. Afternoon Concurrent Sessions Must select Session C or D
C. Managing Landscape Insects and Mites with Alternate Strategies and Products
Dave Shetlar
We all have to share our landscapes with a menagerie of six- and eight-legged critters, some beneficial and some not so desirable. The “Bug Doc” will provide an informative and entertaining approach to keeping the pests under control without negatively impacting the environment.
This talk qualifies for 2 PA pesticide recertification credits in category 06–Ornamental and Shade Trees.

D. Small Structures, Small Gardens
Gordon Hayward
Fences and gates, gazebos and arbors, pergolas and trellises, in fact, any built structure help to develop a design for a new or existing garden. Structures establish destinations and bed edges, create privacy, anchor designs, and define paths. Hayward will explore the many roles that built structures play in developing an engaging, diverse garden.

2 – 2:15 p.m. Break

2:15 – 3:15 p.m. Afternoon Keynote Address
Twining It All Together: Growing and Designing with Clematis
Maurice Horn
Clematis is the first ladies of garden vines. Exquisite flowers in a myriad of sizes and shapes delight gardeners with their color, form, and profusion. Horn unlocks the secrets of proper cultivation and
management of these easy care plants, and illustrates ways to weave them into the garden’s fabric.

Sponsored in part by Reilly’s Summer Seat Farm & Hess’ Landscape Nursery

3:15 – 4:15 p.m. Afternoon Keynote Address

**Lessons Learned**

Pamela Harper

During the past five decades of hands-on gardening, Pamela Harper has learned many valuable lessons—often by first doing things incorrectly. A sampling of the subjects she will discuss include the need for paths, the value of features and focal points, selecting plants known to thrive in your area, native treasures and nuisances, the use of color, and the importance of foliage.

Sponsored in part by LMS Greenhouse & Nursery and Bartlett Tree Experts

Pamela Harper has been gardening since 1955 and is the author of several books including *Perennials, How to Select Grow & Enjoy*, now in its 17th printing, *Designing with Perennials, Color*

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**Corridors of Opportunity: Cultural District**

**Monday, March 12, 2007**

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Omni William Penn Hotel (Downtown Pittsburgh)

Cost: $50. NAIOP members and Pittsburgh Business Times Subscribers: $45

The event will focus on the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's upcoming $460 million project, bounded by Fort Duquesne Boulevard overlooking the Allegheny River, Penn Avenue, and Seventh and Ninth streets, which will be the country's first master-planned "green," mixed-use, arts/residential neighborhood, providing approximately 700 new residential units and 9,200 jobs for the region. Other panelists will include developers and others involved in the Cultural District's amazing transformation in the last two decades.

**Thursday, March 15, 2007**

**Greene’s 2007**

Are you looking for ways to differentiate your properties in the marketplace? Come hear keynoter Susan East ridge and other speakers at Greene’s 2007 as they reveal their proven strategies for gaining a competitive advantage by investing in high-performance green buildings. East Ridge, developer for the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's riverfront project, will describe how the biggest downtown housing initiative in city history and its commitment to green building is a smart way to build profits.

As chief executive officer and founder of Concord East Ridge, Inc., she is one of many nationally recognized experts from the green development field who will share their secrets to financial success through green building. Breakout sessions will be geared both to green building novices, as well as seasoned professionals. Afternoon tours of Pittsburgh-area green buildings will be offered and the conference will also include the third annual Shades of Green Leadership Awards luncheon. Nomination forms are available at [www.gbapgh.org](http://www.gbapgh.org). Deadline is February 5, 2007.
Governor's Outdoor Conference
March 18-20, 2007
$275
State College
http://www.connectoutdoors.state.pa.us/

Our future quality of life depends on our ability to understand, appreciate and enjoy Pennsylvania's natural bounties. We simply cannot afford to lose our connection with the outdoors a connection that is part of our rich tradition and provides the balance vital for a prosperous future. Disturbingly, trends indicate that the bond between the citizens of the Commonwealth and our precious natural resources is weakening.

It is up to key stakeholders like you who are most concerned about maintaining and strengthening Pennsylvanians’ connection with the outdoors to make sure that we work together to reverse these trends. During this first-of-its-kind conference, we anticipate a substantive and interactive dialogue that will encompass areas as diverse as public health, the economy, childhood and family development, and environmental conservation and stewardship.

Tuesday, March 20, 2007  6 p.m. at the Laughlin Music Center, Chatham College.

The final lecture of the series, "Sustainable Sites -- the Green Revolution," will feature landscape architect April Philips, of April Philips Design Works in Sausalito, Calif., discussing recent projects that are pushing the boundaries of sustainable landscapes. The program will be at 6 p.m. March 20, 2007 at the Laughlin Music Center.

The Sustainable Green series is co-sponsored by Chatham's Interior Architecture and Landscape Architecture programs and the University of Pittsburgh's Department of History of Art and Architecture.

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Technical Workshop:
LEED for New Construction & Major Renovations
Thursday, March 29th

This workshop created by the US Green Building Council is geared toward building owners, facility managers, design teams, and other building industry stakeholders interested in new construction and major renovation projects that feature high performance "green" techniques in an economical and environmentally sensitive package.

Instructors:

- Marcus Sheffer, 7group & Energy Opportunities, Inc.
- Marc Mondor, evolve Environment::Architecture

Cost: See USGBC Registration for Pricing

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Saturday, March 31, 2007 Global Warming 2007: It’s Time for Action
9:30 am - 2:30 pm
Mercy Hospital - Sister Ferdinand Clark Auditorium1400 Locust Street Pittsburgh (Oakland)
Registration free but required: 1-800-321-7775 or Click here to register
Learn the latest on federal and state legislation, policies, and global warming science. Discuss what Pennsylvania can (and is) doing to slow global warming. Network with citizens across the region and state taking action on global warming. Hear experts and policymakers, including: United States Senator Bob Casey, Jr.; Angela Anderson, Director, Clear the Air; Jeanne Dworetzky, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority; Dr. Brenda Ekwurzel, Climate Scientist, Union of Concerned Scientists; John Hanger, President and CEO of Citizens for Pennsylvania's Future; Sister M. Christopher Moore, Provincial Minister, Felician Sisters of Pennsylvania; State Representative Jake Wheatley, Jr. (District 19) and other experts in global warming and clean energy policy.

For future consideration…

Save the Date! Great Outdoors Week 2007
Friday, May 18 - Sunday, May 27, 2007

Leading the region to healthy lifestyles and outdoor recreation one week at a time! The sixth annual Great Outdoors Week begins on Friday, May 18 thru Sunday, May 27, 2007! While Great Outdoors is a great communications campaign to highlight the amazing number of outdoor happenings scheduled throughout the week, it is also a great opportunity to sample many fun ways to start a healthier lifestyle! 2007 Great Outdoors Week partners include: Bike Pittsburgh, Community Design Center of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Rachael Carson Homestead, Rack 'n Roll, REI, Sustainable Pittsburgh, Three Rivers Rowing Association, and Venture Outdoors.

Everyone is invited to participate! To explore how to engage your constituents in taking part in Great Outdoors Week and reap year-long benefits, call (412) 258-6646 or kadams@sustainablepittsburgh.org.

Save the Date: Venture Outdoors Festival
Saturday, May 19, 2007
Pittsburgh's North Shore
http://www.ventureoutdoors.org/

The seventh annual Venture Outdoors Festival is scheduled for Saturday, May 19, 2007. The festival is an all day event and is being held on Pittsburgh's North Shore - right in front of Heinz Field. As always, the goal of Venture Outdoors is to introduce as many people as possible to the wide variety of outdoor recreational activities easily accessible right here in Western Pennsylvania. Together with the region's abundant environmental assets & the rivers, the mountains, and numerous bike and walking trails - these activities demonstrate the terrific quality of life available to residents and visitors. We invite you to be a part of the excitement so please save the date!

WPC Fort Pitt Tunnel Garden Planting
Anyone interested in helping to plant the gateway garden at the mouth of the Fort Pitt Tunnels this May? Western PA Conservancy doesn't have a set date yet, but if you are interested please let landscape architecture student, Trisha Crowe, know if a weekday or Saturday would be better
for you. It would be about a 5 hour commitment. And feel free to bring friends. Lots of friends. It is their biggest garden.

[link]

Summer Creativity Courses in Europe 2007 and Fall and Spring Classes in New York City. An inspiring way to learn and travel.

The Creativity Workshop: Writing, Drawing, Storytelling, and Memoir were founded in 1993 by Master teachers Shelley Berc and Alejandro Fogel. Berc and Fogel developed a series of exercises dedicated to helping individuals from all backgrounds and experiences explore the uniqueness of their creativity. We teach from the point of view that people are by nature creative and that creativity, like DNA, is unique in each individual. To access and develop creativity, participants do exercises in: sense perception, free form writing and drawing, associative thinking, map-making, constructive daydreaming, and sensitivity to our environment. We also work with learning to recognize and trust your imagination's instincts. Our exercises are broad paradigms that each participant can easily tailor to her/his own goals, whether it be a particular specialty or life in general. Most of all, like the imagination itself, the Creativity Workshop is fun.

We believe that creativity is best served in a playful, nurturing, and non-competitive environment where freedom and focus go hand in hand. We concentrate on creative process rather than product and on the idea of creativity as a way of viewing and appreciating life.

The Workshop is designed to help you: find new sources of inspiration, break through creative blocks, take pleasure in your imagination, discover images from your unconscious, give yourself the permission, time, and encouragement to do creative work, and develop a daily practice to accomplish these goals.

Participants are eligible to earn 3 grad or undergrad University credits for taking the Workshop. The only requirements for the Creativity Workshop are curiosity about the creative process and a sense of playfulness.

New York City workshops: $750, tuition only.
European workshops: start at $1,700 for tuition and 9-night Accommodations. Airfares are not included.

SPECIAL OFFER: Limited time only
$100 off Early Registration for Summer Workshops in Europe (offer good until 1/15/2007)
Also, more special offers at:
[link]

Calendar for the New York City workshops and the workshops in Europe:

**SPRING CALENDAR 2006-7**
New York April 13-16, May 18-21, 2007

**SUMMER CALENDAR 2007**
Crete June 17-26, 2007
Prague June 26-July 5, 2007
Bruges July 5-14, 2007
Florence July 13-22, 2007
Barcelona July 21-30, 2007
Dublin July 29-August 7, 2007
From $1,700 including tuition and 9-night accommodations.

You can read more about the workshop below or go directly to our extensive informational site:
[link]
Chatham College Landscape Architecture/Studies Newsletter
January 2007

**Coming in Fall 2008 At the Carnegie –**

**New Suburbanism: Rethinking the Middle Landscape**

**Tours – Study Abroad Opportunities**

**March 6-18, 2007**
**A Brazilian Odyssey: the Gardens and Landscapes of Roberto Burle Marx**

Early June, 2007  
The Legacy of Thomas D. Church: The Donnell Garden and Private Gardens in the San Francisco Bay Area  
Please e-mail me for details.

These unique tours, custom-designed for landscape architects, include visits to many private gardens rarely, if ever, open to the public. They thus represent a rare opportunity to see some of the most renowned and exciting work of two of the 20th century's major figures in landscape architecture. Both tours will be personally managed by me, with landscape architects Isabela Ono and Richard McPherson, specialists in Burle Marx and Church respectively, accompanying each group to many of the gardens.

To register your interest in either tour, or if you have any questions or would like to hear from someone who has been on one of our tours, please e-mail me as soon as possible. Numbers are limited to 16 participants for the Marx tour and 20 for the Church tour.

**May 24, 2007 – June 4, 2007**
**Stately Houses and Garden of England Tour**
**Cornwall, Dorset and London**

Featuring the world famous Eden Project and the Lost Gardens of Heligan plus many other gardens of special interest.
Tour cost $4369.00 per person (double occupancy)
Air from Pittsburgh
10 nights in 3 star and 4 star hotels
Daily breakfast, 1 lunch and 7 dinners
All admissions covered with special English guides

Contact ATLAS TRAVEL SERVICE, INC. Macy's downtown
412-261-0248 or Phyllis Katz at 412-421-1449

CHATHAM COLLEGE STUDENT CHAPTER ASLA CHARRETTE TO DESIGN THE REAR GARDEN OF THE MELLON ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING ON CHATHAM’S CAMPUS will occur over spring break in Studio 203. Contact Student Chapter President Annie Weidman for more details.

**Imperative 2010 Web Cast**, a Global Emergency Teach-in. was a web-cast live from New York on February 20, 2007 from noon to 3 p.m. EST. Hundreds of thousands of students, faculty,
deans and practicing professionals from around the world logged in to discover how they inadvertently fuel global warming through design, and what they can do to change this. The Teach-in focused on professionals and students in schools of architecture, planning, engineering, landscape architecture, interior design, industrial design and other design disciplines. Lisa Kunst Vavro with Annie Weidman and Lisa McGoogan joined several hundred at CMU for the event.

The First Annual, ASLA Chatham College Orchid Sale held February 12, 2007, at The Gate House on Fifth Avenue was a Hugh success. 
Kudos to the Chatham College Student Chapter ASLA and the Orchid Sale Chair Doug Dmitrzak!
Photo by Timothy Hull

**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

*About ASLA* Founded in 1899, ASLA is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 17,000 members in 48 professional chapters and 68 student chapters. Landscape architecture is a comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation, and rehabilitation. ASLA promotes the landscape architecture profession and advances the practice through advocacy, education, communication, and fellowship. Members of the Society use their “ASLA” suffix after their names to denote membership and their commitment to the highest ethical standards of the profession. Learn more about landscape architecture online at [www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org).
2007 PA/DE Chapter of ASLA Call for Awards The Pennsylvania Delaware Chapter of ASLA invites your participation in the 2007 Professional Awards Program. The program is open to all registered Landscape Architects, members of the Pennsylvania Delaware Chapter of ASLA, faculty members, and students currently teaching or enrolled in landscape architecture curriculum submitting work associated with their academic pursuits. The deadline for entry is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 5, 2007. Awards will be presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Lancaster, PA. For more information as well as the 2007 entry form, go to http://www.landscapearchitects.org/awards.html

ASLA’s Federal Public Policy Priorities for 2007-2008 Pursuing New Opportunities, Championing Long-Term Goals

Over the past six months, ASLA, through the active participation of the Board of Trustees and Government Affairs Advisory Committee, has developed a federal public policy agenda for the next two years. This agenda, approved by the Executive Committee in November, continues the Society’s commitment to achieving long-standing goals and seeks to capitalize on new opportunities in Congress and with key federal agencies. The following summarizes the key priorities that will guide ASLA’s federal advocacy and indicates how it is shifting focus in some areas in response to changing issue dynamics, member interest, and other factors.

Maintaining Focus on Long-Term Goals
over the next two years, ASLA will continue to build upon progress on issues that have long been a part of the ASLA agenda, even as some of the strategies and approaches will change to maximize its effectiveness. Priorities in this area include:

- **Funding the Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS)**—ASLA worked with the National Park Service to establish HALS in 2000 and has campaigned to fund it for several years. ASLA will continue this effort with the support of members of Congress, HALS liaisons, chapters, the Historic Preservation PPN, and members nationwide.

- **Advancing Effective Security Design**—Landscape architects are pioneering new approaches to security design that provide highly effective protection and are well integrated into the site and its surroundings. The strategic emphasis for this issue is shifting from pursuing legislation in Congress to focusing more on federal agencies and nongovernmental entities that are playing active roles in shaping policies, procedures, and practices affecting security design.

Capitalizing on New Opportunities
As ASLA looks to the future; two new types of opportunities have emerged. The first is opportunities to develop and pursue entirely new initiatives. The second represents new factors that could allow ASLA to take its work on long-standing priorities to another level.

- **Small Community Visioning Projects**—Landscape architects frequently help residents, community leaders, and others to articulate their visions for the future in words and pictures. In many cases, landscape architects are uniquely qualified to play this role. At the same time, many small communities rarely have the in-house staff or financial resources to hire professionals to help them and their residents tackle the economic, social, land use, and other challenges affecting their futures. With this in mind, ASLA has worked with private sector landscape architects and university-based programs with particular expertise in this field to develop a legislative proposal that would provide federal financial assistance to support community visioning efforts. The legislation requires partnerships between communities, private sector landscape architects, and university programs, emphasizes active and sustained public participation, and is community driven. One of the Society’s top priorities for the next year is to have one or more members of Congress introduce this legislation in the House and Senate.
• **Sustainability**—The profession of landscape architecture is synonymous with sustainability, and promoting sustainable development has been an ASLA priority for many years. However, advocacy in this area has been challenging in terms of translating this sweeping concept into specific policy proposals and tangible examples that members of Congress and others can readily understand. There are new factors that will help ASLA and its members meet this challenge in the future:

  o The ASLA green roof is a powerful education tool in terms of design as well as hard data documenting how this technology addresses crucial stormwater, air quality, and energy efficiency issues.

  o During debate on the 2007 Farm Bill, considerable attention will be focused on making agriculture more sustainable and shifting resources from supporting traditional commodity production to a wide array of conservation initiatives.

  o A year-long effort by the National Park Service to develop a long-term management plan for the National Mall in Washington, D.C.—which is the most visited National Park in the country—offers landscape architects a national stage on which to highlight how it can be managed and sustained for decades to come.

• **Active Living**—Supporting policies that encourage active living is a long-standing ASLA goal. Much of the emphasis flows from the fact that landscape architects make active living possible through their work in residential and commercial development, transportation, and parks and recreation, to name a few. Over the next two years, ASLA has a renewed opportunity for focused advocacy in this area, in part by partnering with the National Recreation and Park Association to champion its Call to Action Agenda for Urban Parks. The Call to Action includes a range of specific legislative and policy initiatives designed to reinvigorate and modernize support for our nation’s urban parks and recreation infrastructure. ASLA will also continue to support implementation of portions of SAFETEA-LU that are particularly important to active living, including Safe Routes to Schools.

ASLA’S federal government affairs staff is excited about the opportunities that lie ahead. With the active engagement of members, chapters, and leaders, ASLA can capitalize on them and ensure that landscape architects play a meaningful role in the national debate about these and other critical issues.

Scott Kovarovics is Manager of Federal Government Affairs for the American Society of Landscape Architects, skovarovics@asla.org. For more information about the 110th Congress, please read this issue’s lead article.

**APRIL 2007 IS NATIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE MONTH**

Theme to be “Discover Careers in Landscape Architecture”

WASHINGTON, January 23, 2007---The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) has proclaimed April 2007 as National Landscape Architecture Month. ASLA chapters across the country will celebrate with public outreach activities to help individuals “Discover Careers in Landscape Architecture,” the theme for this year. The month encompasses Earth Day on April 22 and the birthday of Frederick Law Olmsted on April 26, who founded the American landscape architecture profession.

“National Landscape Architecture Month provides a great opportunity for ASLA members to introduce landscape architecture to students in their communities,” said Pat Caughey, FASLA, ASLA President. “With sustained growth in demand projected for landscape architecture services,
there are major opportunities for young people considering entering the profession. It’s a very good time to be a landscape architect.”

According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, landscape architecture is the fastest growing of all the design professions. The latest ASLA National Salary and Business Indicator Surveys support that projection, showing the average base salary and bonuses for landscape architects at nearly $90,000—up 20 percent from 2004—and firm billings up by 10 percent over the previous survey. And, demand for landscape architecture services is projected to expand 18 to 26 percent by the year 2014. To meet this demand, the number of graduates in landscape architecture programs needs to grow by an average of six percent each year.

At the national level, ASLA is working with the ACE Mentor Program to reach high school students and with the Cultural Landscape Foundation to target middle school students through its Cultural Landscapes as Classrooms program. Throughout the month, ASLA chapter events will be held to reach out to students.

Again this year, ASLA is partnering with a number of national organizations to gain support for National Landscape Architecture Month, including the American Planning Association, the National Wildlife Federation and the Professional Landscape Network. ASLA will be reaching out to more organizations in the coming months for partnership opportunities.

ASLA chapter events will be held throughout the month of April. More information on National Landscape Architecture Month and on local events can be found at http://www.asla.org/lamonth/index.html.

Design Work Opportunities

Shadyside property owner looking for design ideas on residential site.

Is anyone interested in this design project?
Please contact Lisa Kunst Vavro if you are interested.

An adjunct professor in the MFA in Creative Writing program and his wife are considering redoing their little backyard in Friendship (maybe 40’ x 40”). Looking for a strong student to draw up some design possibilities…

Is anyone interested in this design project?
Please contact Lisa Kunst Vavro if you are interested.
A four year old non-profit life care facility in southern suburban Pittsburgh consisting of 19 acres would like to make their landscape more aesthetically pleasing “while using native plants to maintain a sustainable environment.”

Is anyone interested in this design project? 
Please contact Lisa Kunst Vavro if you are interested.

Volunteers Needed

Phipps Conservatory is in need of volunteers for:

Orchid Volunteers: Three regular volunteers are needed to assist in maintaining the existing collection in the orchid greenhouse.

Production Greenhouse: Several volunteers are needed Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Spring Flower Show requires a number of plants to be grown from seed and regularly potted up. Some greenhouse production or horticulture experience is beneficial, but not required.

The Urban League of Pittsburgh Charter School is in great need of volunteer tutors (undergrad & grad) for their elementary school students in grades 3, 4, and 5.

The Urban League of Pittsburgh Charter School is a Kindergarten through Fifth Grade school emphasizing math and science integrated with computer technology. The mission of the Urban League's Charter School is to provide superior education that will develop in their students' academic excellence, leadership skills, and high social values enabling them to become positive contributors to the community in which they live, and to society as a whole.

- Days, hours, and time commitments are completely flexible, tutors are needed Monday – Friday, 9:00am – 2:30pm.
- Volunteers will work with students in both classroom and one-on-one settings, helping with math and reading comprehension.
- Current Act 33/34 clearances or willingness to obtain them required.
- The Pittsburgh Urban League Charter School is located at 327 N. Negley Avenue, and is easily accessible by bus and car.

**Students with Federal Student Employment Awards can use part of their awards for this position, earning $8.00/hour**

For more information or to sign up, please contact:
Cynthia Weiman
Coordinator of Service-Learning
AmeriCorps*VISTA
(412) 365-1208
cweiman@chatham.edu

WPC Fort Pitt Tunnel Garden Planting

Anyone interested in helping to plant the gateway garden at the mouth of the Fort Pitt Tunnels this May? Western PA Conservancy doesn't have a set date yet, but if you are interested please let landscape architecture student, Trisha Crowe, know if a weekday or Saturday would be better for you. It would be about a 5 hour commitment.

And feel free to bring friends. Lots of friends. It is their biggest garden.

Call for Research Papers and Entries
Call for Proposals: Ephemeral Gardens
In preparation to celebrate and commemorate the 400 years of Québec City's existence in 2008, the Société du 400e has put a call out for proposals to create six contemporary ephemeral gardens. All information on this call for proposals [terms and conditions for participation] is available on the website of the Société du 400e de Québec: www.quebec400.qc.ca.

Call for Entries: Sustainability Issue

Category: Calls For Papers [View all]
Posted by: Drain Magazine
Deadline: 06/01/07

With the launch of his new film and book An Inconvenient Truth, the 45th Vice President of the United States, Al Gore has managed to push urgent issues surrounding the effects of global warming into the popular realm. If radical changes in the interaction between humans and the environment are not made, then the problems associated with over-population, aggressive agricultural practices, the proliferation of pollutants, ozone depleting gases, and the melting of ice caps will drastically affect our ability to reside on earth. This issue of Drain is interested in the role culture plays at this critical time. How can designers, artists and theorists make a positive contribution in redefining the way we relate to the earth? How might cultural practices participate in the social capital necessary in forging a new vision not just for human beings but life on the whole?

Abstracts due June 1, 2007
Completed papers due September 1, 2007
Contact: Adrian Parr adrian@drainmag.com
Posted on 10/09/06 Expires on 06/01/07 at midnight.

CAA is not responsible for the content of the listings. Inappropriate submissions will not be published. All listings are subject to review by CAA but will not be edited.

Each year, the ASLA Professional Awards honor the best in landscape architecture from around the globe, while the ASLA Student Awards program gives us a glimpse into the future of the profession.

Award recipients receive featured coverage in Landscape Architecture magazine and in many other design and construction industry and general interest media. Residential category professional award recipients will also be featured in Garden Design magazine. Award recipients, their clients, and professors will be honored at the Awards Presentation Ceremony followed by a special luncheon during the ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO in San Francisco, October 5-8, 2007.

Entry forms and payment must be received by: Friday, May 18, 2007, for Student Awards
Submission binders must be received by: Friday, June 1, 2007, for Student Awards

CATEGORIES INCLUDE:

General Design

Recognizes: site-specific works of landscape architecture or urban design. Professional entries in this category must be built; Student Awards entries are not required to be built.
**Typical entries include:** public, institutional, or private landscapes, of all kinds; historic preservation, reclamation, conservation, or sustainable design; design for transportation or infrastructure; landscape art or installation; interior landscape design; green roofs; and more.

**Criteria:** The jury will consider the quality of design and execution (for professionals); context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; and design value to the client and to other designers.

**Recognition:** The Professional Awards Jury and the Student Awards Jury may each select one Award of Excellence and any number of Honor Awards in this category.

**Residential Design**

In partnership with *Garden Design* magazine.

**Recognizes:** site-specific works of landscape architecture for residential use. Professional entries in this category must be built; Student Awards entries in this category are not required to be built.

**Typical entries include:** single or multi-family residential projects; activity areas for entertaining, recreation, relaxing; sustainable landscape applications; indigenous and native landscapes; new construction or renovation projects; historic preservation, rehabilitation, reconstruction, or restoration; affordable landscape concepts and innovations; small site development; private gardens; rooftop gardens; and more.

**Criteria:** The jury will consider the quality of design and execution (for professionals); context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; and design value to the client and to other designers.

**Recognition:** The Professional Awards Jury and the Student Awards Jury may each select one Award of Excellence and any number of Honor Awards in this category.

**Analysis and Planning**

**Recognizes:** the wide variety of professional activities that lead to, guide, and evaluate landscape architecture design. Professional and Student entries in this category are not required to be built or implemented.

**Typical entries include:** urban, suburban, rural, or regional planning efforts and/or development guidelines; transportation planning; campus planning; plans for recovery or reclamation of brownfield sites; environmental planning in relation to legislative or policy initiatives or regulatory controls; cultural resource reports; cultural and natural resources protection, conservation, or historic preservation planning; and more.

**Criteria:** The jury will consider the quality of the analysis and planning effort; context; environmental sensitivity and sustainability; likelihood of successful implementation; and value to the client and other designers.

**Recognition:** The Professional Awards Jury and The Student Awards Jury may each select one Award of Excellence and any number of Honor Awards in this category.

**Research**

In partnership with the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture and *Landscape Journal*.

**Recognizes:** research that identifies and investigates challenges posed in landscape architecture, providing results that advance the body of knowledge for the profession.

**Typical entries include:** investigations into methods, techniques, or materials related to landscape architecture practice or education; assessments of social, economic, or environmental
impacts of landscape architecture; study of relationships of landscape architecture to law, education, public health and safety, or public policy; and more.

Criteria: The jury will consider how the research is framed; the context and resources of the study; the methods of inquiry; the results of investigation; and the lesson value of the research conclusions to the field at large.

Recognition: The Professional Awards Jury and the Student Awards Jury may each select one Award of Excellence and any number of Honor Awards in this category.

Communications

Recognizes: achievements in communicating landscape architecture works, techniques, technologies, history, or theory, and the lesson value to an intended audience.

Typical entries include: print media, film, video, audio, CD, or DVD formats; online communications; interpretive design; exhibition design; and more. For students, project representations may also be entered in this category.

Criteria: The jury will consider the effectiveness of message presentation, innovation in approach or delivery, and value to the intended audience.

Recognition: The Professional Awards Jury and the Student Awards Jury may each select one Award of Excellence and any number of Honor Awards in this category.

Student Collaboration

Recognizes: collaborative work by landscape architecture students with students from allied and complementary disciplines, including those in other design fields, business, and the natural and social sciences. Student entries are not required to be built.

Typical entries include: landscape architecture projects that meet the criteria within the categories of General Design, Residential Design, Analysis & Planning, Research, and Communications, brought about through collaborative effort among students from landscape architecture programs and allied and complementary disciplines, including other design fields, business, and the natural and social sciences.

Criteria: Projects submitted in this category must be team projects and must have at least one landscape architecture student as part of the team.

Recognition: The Student Awards Jury may each select one Award of Excellence and any number of Honor Awards in this category.

The Student Community Service Award

Recognizes: pro bono community service by students demonstrating sound principles and values of landscape architecture.

Typical entries include: individual students or student organizations providing community-based advocacy or public service.

Criteria: The jury will consider the effectiveness related to the service and the demonstration value to other communities, students, and professionals.

Recognition: The Student Awards Jury may select one organization and one individual Community Service Award recipient.
News of Interest

From www.asla.org

Landscape Architects Identify Trends For 2007
Firepits and Outdoor Rooms Headline Residential; Sustainability is Top Request for Commercial Projects

Homeowners will be adding firepits and fireplaces for outdoor entertaining in 2007. And they, along with commercial building owners, will be paying a lot more attention to environmentally-friendly landscape options, such as adding native plants and managing stormwater more effectively, according to a new survey of ASLA award recipients from recent years.

The informal survey conducted in December, identified the most popular requests from homeowners and commercial clients for 2007. For homeowners, firepits and outdoor fireplaces top the list. Also popular are requests for sustainable solutions, such as using native plants that require less watering and maintenance.

Homeowners are requesting landscape architects design complete outdoor rooms, such as kitchens and bars, for entertaining. Water features such as koi ponds, pools, and fountains continue to be popular. Incorporating rain gardens and green roofs in home landscapes will add a different – and more sustainable - flavor to 2007 homes.

Steve Martino, FASLA, of Phoenix—recipient of both the ASLA Design Medal and the ASLA Residential Design Award of Excellence in 2006—cites private living spaces, outdoor rooms, and water features as top homeowner requests. He also says that clients are coming to him for “green solutions” for their homes.

Commercial clients are also concerned with “green solutions.” Members polled said they anticipate an increase in client requests for better stormwater management options, the use of recycled materials and energy-efficient lighting, green roofs, and native plantings.
Ann McGinnes, ASLA, of Garland, Texas, says that she expects to see more requests from commercial clients for “non-traditional” means of irrigating the landscape and a focus on better management of water resources. She also says green roofs are gaining in popularity for both their environmental qualities as well as their aesthetic appeal.

Other popular commercial client requests should include water features such as fountains and outdoor employee areas. Madeline Ann Sutter, ASLA, of Oriental, N.C., says that these employee areas will be designed for employee “connection with nature” - places where they can be outside easily for a respite from work.

Sustainable design is bigger than ever and homeowners and commercial building owners alike are looking to utilize outdoor spaces even more. The New Year will bring a number of exciting and creative design solutions from landscape architects.

Ashley Owens is Manager of Public Relations for ASLA, aowens@asla.org.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
The Cultural Landscape Foundation calls for Heroes of Horticulture Nominations

To honor and help preserve our nation's horticultural heritage, The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) and Garden Design magazine are seeking nominations for Heroes of Horticulture. Nominations can be for a significant tree, orchard, park planting or other horticultural feature that almost miraculously stands steadfast in the face of natural and cultural challenges. Applications, due by April 15, 2007, can be found on-line at www.tclf.org/landslide/2007.

Media Contact: Melanie Macchio
The Cultural Landscape Foundation
melanie@tclf.org
1909 Que Street NW, Second Floor
Washington, DC 20009 Tel 202.483.0553

Prestigious award may park in Mellon Square

An unassuming, peaceful piece of green in the heart of Downtown has support from a national historic landscape expert to be honored as a landmark, the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy has announced. Mellon Square -- a block of green dotted with fountains and sculptures near the Mellon Bank Building -- should be given National Historic Landmark status as the oldest-surviving park above a parking garage, said Charles Birnbaum, founder of the Cultural Landscape Foundation in Washington. "Think about the green roof movement in America. This came before that," Birnbaum said. "Think about the American fascination with the automobile in post-war America. This fed off that.

The emerald ash borer, a native insect to Asia has recently killed approximately 25 million ash trees in several states. The invasive beetle has recently been found in southern Prince George’s County, Md.

Agriculture officials in Maryland have started cutting down 25,000 ash trees in an 11,500-acre swath of forested and developed land in southern Prince George’s County in an attempt to eradicate the emerald ash borer. Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and now Maryland have taken steps to eradicate the bug. It is important to be rid of it by spring, when the insects, which are currently in larval form living in the bark of infested trees, will appear as adults.

The insect was found last summer and fall, close to the Clinton-Brandywine area. The cutting began there recently and will continue through the end of March. The plan is to remove all of the ash trees within a 1.5-mile zone around each infected tree. The state has also quarantined all ash wood and hardwood firewood from leaving Prince George’s. Ash trees are often popular for landscaping purposes; the removed trees will be chopped into one-inch chips at the price of
upwards of $4 million in federal funding according to a Maryland Department of Agriculture spokesperson.

Spreading the word regarding the pest should help officials rid the area of the beetles, if people are cooperative with the quarantine. If the beetle is not removed the economic impact on the state’s $1.4 billion agriculture industry could be considerable officials have said. Losses could reach $300 million in the Baltimore area alone.

Source: The Washington Post

Subject: New PF Podcast: Business of Sustainability

In this podcast, Sustainable Pittsburgh's executive director, Court Gould, gives a presentation entitled "Business of Sustainability," demonstrating that every environmental victory grows the economy. Gould details how sustainable business practices and corporate social responsibility are becoming the norm among leading U.S. and international corporations. "Doing well by doing right" is a credo that many businesses are adopting, especially in light of the impacts of global warming. Notable companies that are taking steps to cut their contributions to global warming, while increasing their efficiency and profitability at the same time include: Walmart and La-Z-Boy, both installing numerous solar energy projects at new stores; General Electric that unveiled its Ecomagination campaign in 2006 to cut greenhouse gas emissions; and John Deere that is now investing in wind energy development. PennFuture recognizes businesses, leaders, and organizations that recognize that clean, renewable energy is a critical piece of sustainable development each year at our Green Power Awards. To learn more about our Cool Pennsylvania Campaign to stop Pennsylvania's contributions to global warming, visit our campaign online. For more information or to get more involved, please e-mail us at podcast (at) pennfuture (dot) org.

2007 is quickly proving to be a busy year for the World Trade Center Memorial Foundation. Just last week, we surpassed the $250 million mark in our fundraising campaign and began to pour concrete for the foundations of the Memorial and Museum. Each of these achievements brings us one step closer to making this tribute a reality.

Another milestone is approaching, and we need your help to reach it. Our progress depends on the support of people like you and others from across the country and
around the world. We are only 300 donors away from reaching our goal of 30,000 donors by March. You can be a part of our nation’s history by helping to build a lasting memorial at the World Trade Center site. To join our effort and contribute, please visit:

http://www.buildthememorial.org/donate

Every contribution, small or large, makes a difference. For a $25 donation, you will become a Charter Member of the Memorial and receive a certificate acknowledging your contribution. You also have a special opportunity to show your support by donating $500 for a cobblestone which will line the Memorial Plaza. Each donor will be mailed a certificate with a number corresponding to a cobblestone and once the Memorial opens, you will be able to easily locate your cobblestone through an onsite virtual directory.

The events of September 11, 2001 affected people across New York City, the country, and the world and the Memorial and Museum will preserve this pivotal chapter of our history for future generations. Thank you for joining us in this important effort.

Joe Daniels
WTC Memorial Foundation
President & CEO

Car Sharing in Pittsburgh? How Progressive!

The Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership (PDP) is working with Flexcar to launch a car sharing program in Pittsburgh. The effort would utilize a network of vehicles placed throughout Downtown and Oakland that members can use for half an hour, an hour, a day, etc. Flexcar pays for gas, insurance, 24-hour assistance, 150 free miles per each trip, maintenance and reserved parking. AAA reports that owning a vehicle costs $8,000 per year; comparatively, the typical Flexcar annual cost is $520. In addition, studies show that one Flexcar vehicle takes 14 private vehicles off the road.

PDP is looking for Charter Members to pre-purchase 100 hours per month at a reduced rate of $8 per hour. A Charter Member is often a company that is looking for ways to show its corporate citizenship, support environmentally friendly practices, or one that has employees who commute via transit but sometimes need a car for a meeting outside downtown or to work late. In return, a Charter Member receives many benefits: all employees join for free and have access to over 30 vehicles in Downtown and Oakland. Contact Lucinda Beattie at the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership, (412) 566-4190, to receive more information today! (Individual members must wait until the spring to join Flexcar in Pittsburgh.) More information is available at www.Flexcar.com or www.carsharing.net.
Carnegie Mellon University Professor Appointed to World Council for Sustainable Development
Vivian Loftness, a professor in CMU's School of Architecture and Center for Building Performance & Diagnostics, has been appointed to the Assurance Group of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD). The Council is a coalition of 190 worldwide companies that share the impressive green goal of seeing the earth's buildings consume zero net energy. "It is certainly a real honor (to be appointed)," says Loftness, "because they've basically picked one individual from a number of nations . . . I'm hoping I can bring detail to the table and also recognize our region, while bringing the international wisdom, benchmarks and goals back. With Riverlife Task Force and Sustainable Pittsburgh and corporate leaders like PNC and the Heinz Foundation, Pittsburgh is impressive. It's great."

USGBC's Life Cycle Assessment Group Produces First Set of Recommendations
The U.S. Green Building Council's Life Cycle Assessment working group has developed initial recommendations for incorporating Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of building materials as part of the continuous improvement of the LEED building rating system. Recommendations include short- and long-term implementation strategies, as well as technical details regarding LCA methodology. LCA is a scientific practice that holistically evaluates the environmental impact of a product throughout its life cycle, from the extraction or harvesting of raw materials through to the processing, manufacture, installation, use, and ultimate disposal or recycling of them. In buildings, it can be used to compare the environmental benefits or detriments of options available to the design team.

LEED for Neighborhood Development (ND) Pilot Launches!
LEED-ND Pilot Rating System Available for Download: The Pilot Version of the LEED for Neighborhood Development rating system is now posted on the LEED-ND webpage: www.usgbc.org/leed/nd. Also available is a document summarizing the committee’s responses to the public comments on the preliminary draft rating system that were solicited in the fall of 2005.

News from Sustainable Pittsburgh:
Outdoor Awareness and Usage Survey
Sustainable Pittsburgh and its Outdoor Recreation Partners are working in collaboration with Campos Inc. to better understand the region’s awareness and usage of outdoor amenities and recreation opportunities. You can help by Joining the Campos Voice of the Region (VOR) panel to voice your opinion on outdoor awareness and usage. In doing so, you will enlighten outdoor recreation service providers and help sustainable Pittsburgh and Outdoor Recreation Partners to better understand how to serve you. This Voice of the Region survey, which will take approximately 10 minutes to complete, will help us better understand the Pittsburgh region’s attitudes about “enjoying outdoors” and participating in recreation activities.

We invite you to take part in this survey by becoming a member of the Campos Voice of the Region opinion panel. VOR panelists share their knowledge and opinions about regional issues, such as outdoor recreation, via online surveys and receive periodic updates on what other panelists are saying.

It's easy to join! Become a member by clicking on the link below or by calling the Voice of the Region hotline at (412) 471-8484 x409. Please feel free to invite your family, friends and colleagues to join the panel by forwarding them this email. http://www.campos.com/vorforms/vor_011.asp

After completing the VOR panel sign-up form, you will be automatically directed to the outdoor awareness and usage survey. Thank you for taking part in this important opportunity.
Investing in transit helps our region to compete

This Sustainable Pittsburgh letter to the editor appeared in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on Saturday, January 27. Recent articles add perspective to the Port Authority’s plight. Indeed, the fiscal straits have a long legacy. Optimism is to be found if we’re in step with much of the nation. Americans are saying yes to public transportation spending (in November voters in 13 states approved 21 of 30 transit-related ballot initiatives for about $40 billion, according to the American Public Transportation Association). In addition to focusing on "right-sizing" the Port Authority, it’s critical to call on the governor and Legislature to determine a growing source of reliable funding for public transportation. Right-sizing is also in order for the region as a whole toward providing incentives to entice commuters from their cars, to implement smart land use to curb lengthening commutes, pollution, congestion, sprawl and decline of older towns and cities, and to curtail global warming while preparing for the coming of "peak oil" and a carbon-constrained economy.

Opportunities to address these regional imperatives are at hand. Allegheny County is creating its first comprehensive land use plan (Allegheny Places), and the region is updating its long-range plan (Project Region); both provide opportunity to couple investments in transit with smart growth planning as an express economic strategy to lift the region.

Linking public transportation and development can steer growth to right-place investments. Through increasing transit ridership and at the polls, Americans signal that transit is an essential public good with handsome payoffs. By investing in transit we reap simultaneous economic, environmental and social benefits that define a region’s ability to compete globally.

Living On Earth Interviews with Al Gore, EO Wilson and more

Audio and text of Living On Earth interviews with Al Gore, EO Wilson: - Al Gore is looking to leverage the success of his film, “An Inconvenient Truth,” by cloning himself. Well, not really. He’s training more than a thousand people to give the slideshow presentation on global warming he gives in the movie. Living on Earth's Jeff Young sat down with Al Gore to ask him about his efforts to change the climate of public opinion. - The European Union is calling on member countries to cut their CO2 emissions 20 percent below 1990 levels, and boost renewable energy 20 percent by 2020. Host Bruce Gellerman turns to Mark Mardell, the BBC's Europe editor, to find out what this means for energy supply, security, and future EU action on climate change. - Harvard scientists and the 30 million strong National Association of Evangelicals have joined forces and have just released an "Urgent Call to Action" to President Bush and political leaders to address global warming. Living on Earth host Bruce Gellerman speaks with Harvard biologist E.O. Wilson and Reverend Joel Hunter from Northlands Church in Orlando, Florida about the new coalition.

US Climate Action Partnership

United States Climate Action Partnership (USCAP) is a group of businesses and leading environmental organizations that have come together to call on the federal government to quickly enact strong national legislation to require significant reductions of greenhouse gas emissions. USCAP has issued a landmark set of principles and recommendations to underscore the urgent need for a policy framework on climate change...A diverse group of U.S.-based businesses and leading environmental organizations today called on the federal government to quickly enact strong national legislation to achieve significant reductions of greenhouse gas emissions. The group said any delay in action to control emissions increases the risk of unavoidable consequences that could necessitate even steeper reductions in the future.
Pennsylvania Must Take Action on Global Warming

Pennsylvania alone contributes one percent of the pollution that causes global warming, more than 105 developing nations combined. We are also number three in the nation, behind only California and Texas, for production of greenhouse gases. Now is the time to act. Fortunately, bipartisan legislation is being introduced in both the Pennsylvania House and Senate to do just that. But these global warming bills need broad support from all corners of the state to turn the legislation into meaningful action.

Pittsburgh Climate Protection Initiative Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

Pittsburgh’s already a national leader in environmentally responsible practices has undertaken an initiative to join hundreds of cities around the world to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow the effects of global warming. The Pittsburgh Climate Protection Initiative presents the city with great opportunities for improving the global climate, the local environment, the local economy, and will enhance Pittsburgh’s reputation as an environmentally progressive city...The city of Pittsburgh generated more than 6.6 million tons of CO2 equivalent greenhouse gases in 2003. Of these emissions, four percent were directly attributable to municipal sources city government and public authorities while the remaining 96 percent were attributable to residential, commercial, and industrial sources, and transportation in the rest of the community.

Mayors unite on the ‘green’ front

Pittsburgh is one of dozens of cities joining the fight against global warming, taking actions designed not only to protect the environment but save money by boosting efficiency...Pittsburgh, home to major companies (PPG Industries) and universities (Carnegie Mellon), is one of several cities repositioning themselves as centers of "green" technology, tackling everything from research and development to manufacturing and marketing. "When I look at the green movement, I see a product, a market," Peduto says. "We have the opportunity because of our hillsides, our topography and manufacturing base to take it to the next level ... to produce the product." States and cities recognize that there’s money to be made in the green movement, and those still struggling to adjust to the downturn in manufacturing are joining the movement.

Alcoa Named One of the Most Sustainable Corporations in the World

The Global 100 was initiated in 2005 by Corporate Knights Inc. of Canada, which publishes the world’s only mainstream corporate responsibility magazine. Innovest Strategic Value Advisors Inc., an investment research and advisory firm, compiles and analyses the data of 1800 international companies to create the list.

Enjoy Spring Break...

Whatever you choose to do!!!