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Important Chatham University News

Classes are over…why not enjoy yourself at…

The Landscape Programs Holiday Party
Friday December 14, 2007  8p.m. - ???
At ADC On The Bridge

Chatham University Design Competition for Landscape Students
Deadline: January 7, 2008

Design a Memorial Labyrinth
(for the site in front of Berry Hall)
If your design is chosen…win $500!
For details see November newsletter
Or contact
Lisa Kunst Vavro: lvavro@chatham.edu; 412-365-1882
Chatham University Landscape Architecture/Studies Newsletter
December 2007

Jennie King Mellon Library – Holiday Schedule
Saturday, December 22 – Tuesday, December 25
Closed for Christmas Holiday

Wednesday, December 26 – Friday, December 28
Library open from 7:45 am – 5 pm

Saturday, December 29 – Tuesday, January 1
Closed for New Year’s Holiday

Wednesday, January 2 – Friday January 4
Library open from 7:45 am – 5 pm

The 24-7 Room will remain open during the hours the library is closed.

Graduate Student Weekend Ski Trip to Seven Springs
January 11-13, 2008

The Chatham University Graduate Student Council is hosting a ski weekend at the cost of $189 which includes lodging at the White Spruce Chalet, transportation to and from Seven Springs, food and drink, and lift tickets. (does not include ski rentals; lift ticket can be traded in for Tubu Luba) Only 48 spots are available. Open to graduate students, friends and family.

Full payment is due ($189 total) by December 20th with cash or checks, made payable to Chatham University (memo: Graduate Student Ski Trip).

Reserve your spot at the front desk of the AFC, or contact Doug Dmitrzak, President of Graduate Student Council, at dougpgh@netscape.com

For more information about Seven Springs go to: http://www.7springs.com/.

Chatham student Melanie Tuck's green roof proposal reaps Energy Harvest Grant by Cathy Hickling

A Chatham environmental studies student’s research reaped a healthy state grant last month. Melanie Tuck’s proposal to build a 1700-sq-ft green roof for Conservation Consultants, Inc. (CCI) on Pittsburgh’s South Side was awarded a $54,128 state Energy Harvest Grant Governor Ed Rendell announced November 13.

Melanie’s experience in green roof technology goes way back -- one year to fall semester, 2006. Melanie Tuck’s proposal to build a 1700-sq-ft green roof for Conservation Consultants, Inc. (CCI) on Pittsburgh’s South Side was awarded a $54,128 state Energy Harvest Grant Governor Ed Rendell announced November 13.

"I began researching green roofs and discovered a passion for the technology and intense curiosity about the numerous benefits they offer,” she said.

The 34-year-old mother of a five-year-old daughter, a Chatham Gateway student, said she knew she’d found the focus she’d sought for her environmental studies and science classes. She decided to immerse herself in the study of green roof technology and use her research as part of her senior tutorial.

This research took her outside the classroom to Pittsburgh area roofers, contractors, landscape architects, the Pittsburgh Green Building Alliance, and green roofing consultants as well as to experts at Carnegie Mellon and Pitt. She met with men and women working in the field for
companies that have installed green roofs, such as American Hydrotech, Greengrid, and Roofmeadows.

But Melanie also credits her Chatham studies and particularly her instructors with helping her bring clarity and purpose to the information she was gathering.

“Professors Dr. Nancy Gift, Mary Whitney, and Dr. Mary Kostalos have been integral to my research endeavors,” she said.

After receiving the Theo Colborn Rachel Carson Experiential Learning Award for which she proposed a modest green roof project, Melanie searched for a facility where her plan could be implemented. Her quest led to CCI’s South Side headquarters. A pioneer facility in energy saving technology, the organization shared a goal close to Melanie’s heart.

“In early June, 2007, I learned of their interest to install a green roof,” Melanie said. “I shared my passion and study of green roofs and offered my assistance and participation; two days later, they called me to schedule a meeting to talk about the grant proposal.”

Melanie met with Ann Gerace, CCI’s executive director, along with Indigo Raffel, education coordinator. She was given the opportunity to put together a grant proposal for the Energy Harvest Fund offered through Pennsylvania’s Department of Environmental Protection, and possibly serve as an independent green roof consultant, pending a success in receiving the grant. She accepted the offer and one week later submitted the grant proposal.

Governor Edward G. Rendell announced the award November 13. The funds will be used for energy production tracking software that will monitor output, function, and benefit of CCI’s roof system. Additionally, the green roof is expected to reduce the cooling requirements of the facility by 10 percent and retain 60 percent of all stormwater runoff for irrigation use.

CCI’s green roof will be completed over a two-year period, Melanie said, during which time she’ll submit quarterly updates on the project, maintain a journal of progress, and develop educational material about the benefits of green roofs. She’s also scheduled to graduate from Chatham with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies in December, 2008 and hopes her green roof consulting will lead to “an environmental remediation and restoration business”, Melanie says she’s also considering pursuing a Masters in Landscape Architecture.

CCI is a non-profit organization dedicated to a mission of “responsible energy use in homes and other buildings, specializing in "energy audits" of residential homes. Last year CCI reported their energy audits for Duquesne Light Company’s LIURP Program saved around 3 million kilowatt hours of electricity.

Other Allegheny County Energy Harvest recipients include:

Penn State University - $29,000 for a micro combined heat and power unit at Allegheny East Hydroponic Greenhouse in Elizabeth Borough.

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens - $250,000 for an integrated water management system that biologically treats and reuses all wastewater on site.

Wesley African Methodist Episcopal Charities - $80,891 for a geothermal heating and cooling system using existing mine water.

Sources include: www.depweb.state.pa.us and www.ccicenter.org/
Conferences/Meetings/Events

Carnegie Museum of Art

Associated Artists of Pittsburgh Annuals, 1910–2006

Through January 21

Carnegie Museum of Art and the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh (AAP) is presenting the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh 97th Annual and Popular Salon of the People: Associated Artists of Pittsburgh Annuals, 1910–2006. The two interrelated exhibitions feature a retrospective of AAP, the influential group of Pittsburgh area artists founded in 1910, alongside the 97th installation of the association’s annual juried exhibition. Presented jointly under the umbrella title AAP: Then and Now, the pairing of exhibitions will be on view in Carnegie Museum of Art’s Heinz Galleries through January 21, 2008.

The exhibitions will feature the works of influential AAP artists of the last century, including some who have been members of the organization for decades and continue to create work, as well as contemporary artists who have been selected for this year’s Annual.

This historic overview will present the work of more than 75 notable Pittsburgh artists who have participated in the Associated Artists of Pittsburgh Annuals from 1910 to the present. The exhibition is meant to reveal the importance of the exhibition to artists’ careers and to showcase the work of some of the most influential artists who have lived and worked in Pittsburgh, including John Kane, Malcolm Parcell, Aaron Gorson, Samuel Rosenberg, Raymond Simboli, Marie Kelly, Andy Warhol, Philip Pearlstein, and Jonathan Borofsky. Vicky A. Clark has organized the show, which is accompanied by a catalogue.

Work in a variety of media by 76 artists from Pittsburgh and the surrounding region was selected for the 97th Annual Associated Artists of Pittsburgh exhibition by juror Polly Apfelbaum, a highly regarded artist living and working in New York City. The exhibition includes 124 pieces. Work by Robert Bowden, Aaronel deRoy Gruber, Adrienne Heinrich, Karen Kaighen, and Richard Stoner crosses over the historic and contemporary shows.

Associated Artists of Pittsburgh is an independent professional arts organization founded in 1910. For more information go to: www.aapgh.org.

Through January 27

On A Grand Scale: The Hall of Architecture at 100 Carnegie Museum of Art

In celebration of the 100th anniversary of Carnegie Museum of Art’s Hall of Architecture, an exhibition surveying its installation of nearly 150 plaster architectural casts will be on view. While most of the large cast collections assembled by museums in the late 19th and early 20th centuries have been sold or dispersed, the Hall of Architecture has remained intact throughout its 100-year history and continues to impress visitors and inspire artists of all ages. The exhibition will feature architectural drawings, period photographs, and ephemera chronicling the history of Andrew Carnegie’s creation of the third largest cast collection in the world, as well as address the production of casts in the 19th century and how the Carnegie’s casts came to Pittsburgh. General support for the exhibition program at Carnegie Museum of Art is provided by grants from the Heinz Endowments and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

For details go to www.cmoa.org or call 412.622.3131.

Monday, December 3

Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarships Information Session – Study Abroad Opportunity; McConomy Auditorium, Carnegie Mellon University, 4:30 pm

Carnegie Mellon University is hosting this information session and has extended an invitation to Chatham Faculty and Students. This event is open to all colleges and universities in the Pittsburgh area. The guest speakers will provide information and share their experiences with the Rotary scholarship programs. Light refreshments will be served.
Local Rotary Scholarship Committee Chair Richard Beck will describe the awards available, the application process, how to construct a competitive application, and answer questions. Two Rotary scholars will also be present to share their experiences and answer questions.

For undergraduate and graduate students (must have completed at least two years of university coursework or equivalent professional experience prior to beginning scholarship studies), 3-month, 6-month, 1-year, & 2-year scholarships for study abroad to promote international understanding.

RSVP: To Julie Brown at jhbrown@andrew.cmu.edu by Wednesday, November 28; or visit http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/EducationalPrograms/ridefault.aspx.

Monday-Wednesday, December 3-5,
Fourth Annual Reinvention Symposium
Charleston, South Carolina
Attend the 4th annual Reinvention Symposium to examine ways you can learn from the past while still advancing the profession and the art of residential design. Join fellow architects in a discussion on the merits of both modern and traditional house designs and what they mean today. Take part in this no-holds-barred conversation about architectural invention and the rich language architects draw from in the past, present and future.

A bonus program includes a housing tour of Charleston’s finest at 9 am Monday, December 3. The Congress of Residential Architecture (CORA), convenes immediately after closing remarks (1:30 pm Wednesday, Dec 5). Earn 15.25 continuing education credits (10 HSW). Hanley Wood is an AIA CES registered provider.

Keynote Speaker is Peter Q. Bohlin, FAIA, of Bohlin, Cywinski, Jackson, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Sessions include: Unfettered Inspiration; From Bauhaus Modern to Our House Modern; Considering Context: The New House; Considering Context: The Altered House; Refreshing the Familiar; Sustainable Design Summit.

Registration is $375.

For more information email Reinvention@hanleywood.com

Tuesday, December 4
AIA Pittsburgh Holiday Party
Penn Brewery, 6 pm
All are welcome to celebrate the holidays and indulge in some authentic German beer & cuisine at Penn Brewery – 800 Vinial Street - on Tuesday, December 4th. Cost is $25/person and includes tasty food and drinks.

Please RSVP by Dec. 3: 412.471.9548 or www.aiapgh.org.

Wednesday, December 5
Alliance Building Breakfast: Havard Yale Princeton Club;
619 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh
In the final Alliance Building Breakfast of 2007, join staff, board, committee and members of the Green Building Alliance and US Green Building Council for the annual membership update. This breakfast meeting will share new developments and initiatives happening nationally with the USGBC and locally in Western Pennsylvania by the Green Building Alliance. Guests are welcome to attend the live event in Pittsburgh, or participate via videoconference downlink at Laurel Highlands or the Northwestern PA locations.
Cost: $30 GBA Members; $40 for nonmembers

Full details at: www.gbaphg.org/events.asp
Thursday, December 6
The Practice of Sustainability: Translating Vision into Action
Phipps Conservatory;
8:30 am – 2 pm
The Practice of Sustainability: Translating Vision into Action is the first in a series of “how to” networking opportunities presented by Champions for Sustainability (C4S) – a network for sustainable business and community solutions in Southwestern Pennsylvania. C4S’s focus is on making sustainable business practices operational by connecting, aligning, and convening Southwestern PA’s extensive knowledge base relating to sustainability for its companies and communities. C4S also engages in direct assistance by providing expertise in cases where businesses and communities request such support.

To register, call 412-258-6642 or go to: www.sustainablepittsburgh.org/.

Thursday, December 6
Intensive Landscape Tree Risk Assessment Workshop Asbury Woods Nature Center,
4105 Asbury Road, Erie, PA 9 am – 4:30 pm
Penn State Cooperative Extension and Asbury Woods will offer this one day seminar showing how to inspect landscape trees for service life and likelihood of breaking. Jerry Bond with Davey Tree Institute, and Stephen Miller with Bartlett Tree Experts will demonstrate methods ranging from simple observance to the latest of comparative analysis and recording. Check-in begins at 8:30 am; costs to attend is $50 with pre-registration required by December 1.

For more information and to pre-register, call Penn State Cooperative Extension in Crawford County at 814-333-7460, or email Scott Sjolander at sas305@psu.edu.

Monday, December 10
Our Region’s Plan Open House
Regional Enterprise Tower, 425 Sixth Avenue, Downtown, 12:30 pm - 7:00 pm
The Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) invites you to celebrate the release of the Region’s Plan. Join SPC for an open house to learn more about how they are taking the Region’s Plan from Vision to Action. Stop by for coffee and refreshments, and share how everyone can continue working together to make Southwestern Pennsylvania one of the best places to live, work, play, and invest.

For more information: 412-391-5590 or www.projectregion.org

Monday, December 10
Youth Main Street Advisors Project
Melwood Screening Room, 477 Melwood Ave, Oakland, 6 - 8 pm
Please join the Young Preservationists Association of Pittsburgh (YPA) for a special presentation of the Youth Main Street Advisors Project. The evening will include video presentations created by high school students which document their vision for revitalizing older communities in southwestern PA. The Youth Main Street Advisors Project is a project of YPA and supported by a grant from The Heinz Endowments. Special guest speakers include filmmaker Tony Buba and Bill Fontana, executive director of the Pennsylvania Downtown Center. Free to attend; refreshments will be provided.

RSVP to Dan Holland at 412-363-5964 or email holland6@aol.com.
Friday, December 14
Local Foods Happy Hour
WYEP Community Broadcast Center
67 Bedford Square, Pittsburgh 15203 (South Side) 5:30 - 7:30 pm
The Allegheny Front, environmental radio for Western Pennsylvania, celebrates the holiday season with its 2nd Annual Local Foods Happy Hour. Enjoy live music while sampling local produce, cheeses and meats, vegetarian soups, locally brewed beers, regional wines and non-alcoholic drinks. During the event, the Allegheny Front will be taping elements to air in a special broadcast. Be a part of radio in the making at WYEP's Community Broadcast Center, on Pittsburgh's Southside. A $5 donation will be requested at the door. Space is limited.

The Allegheny Front features environmental news, interviews and stories about Western Pennsylvania. It airs on WYEP 91.3-FM in Pittsburgh on Wednesday at 7:00 pm and Saturday at 6:30 am.

Email RSVPs to info@alleghenyfront.org or go to www.alleghenyfront.org

December 18
Cultural Landscape Foundation/ Boston ASLA Launch Party
The Cultural Landscape Foundation in conjunction with the Boston Chapter of the ASLA and Carol Johnson & Associates cordially invite you to the launch party for the inaugural module of TCLF’s on-line Landscape Legends Oral History Project which features Carol Johnson.

The Landscape Legends Oral History Initiative is a partnership between The Cultural Landscape Foundation (TCLF) and the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). The goal of Landscape Legends is to document, collect, and preserve first-hand information from pioneering landscape architects/educators and to make these stories available to future generations.

The event takes place in the offices of Carol R. Johnson & Associates . 115 Broad Street, Boston, MA 5 - 8 pm.

Space is limited. RSVP to Mary Alice van Sickle at mvansickle@crja.com by December 14.

Wednesday, January 9
Urban Landscapes – Opportunities for Ecological Restoration Conference
Kanbar Campus Center, Philadelphia University, Philadelphia, PA, 8 am – 6 pm
This year's conference explores the particular challenges and opportunities that urbanized landscapes present for ecological restoration – whether of forests, streams, or shorelines, or of whole complexes of human-dominated ecosystems. Some sessions will present technical aspects of recreating habitat, restoring ecological health, and maintaining wildlife in urban areas. Others will address the uniquely urban issues of stormwater management in densely populated areas. Time for networking has been increased from previous years. CEUs available.

For additional information contact the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration International, Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education at 215-482-7300 Ext. 110 or visit http://www.ser.org/events.asp?EventID=186.

Friday, January 11
Western Section PA/DE ASLA
Post Holiday Party
6:30 – 9:30 pm
Save the date!
Wednesday - Friday, January 23 - 25
Grants 101: Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; 8 am – 5 pm
The Grant Institute’s Grants 101 course is an intensive and detailed introduction to the process, structure, and skill of professional proposal writing. This course is characterized by its ability to act as a thorough overview, introduction, and refresher at the same time.

Participants will become competent program planning and proposal writing professionals after successful completion of the Grants 101 course. In three active and informative days, students will be exposed to the art of successful grant writing practices, and led on a journey that ends with a masterful grant proposal.

For more details, go to: Educational Opportunities section of this newsletter.

For future consideration…
Saturday February 9 - Tuesday February 12
US Composting Council's Annual Conference and Exhibition, Oakland, California
BPI Sponsors USCC "Zero Waste" Awards Luncheon
The Biodegradable Product's Institute (BPI) is pleased to be the sponsor of the Awards Luncheon at the US Composting Council's (USCC) Annual Conference and Exhibition, February 9-12 in Oakland, California. The Awards Luncheon will be a "zero waste", compostable event which will reinforce the viability of the "compostable's" industry in the food service arena.

For more information on the USCC Annual Conference and Exhibition, visit www.compostingcouncil.org

Thursday, February 21
Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve’s Eighth Annual Land Ethics Symposium:
Creative Approaches to Ecological Landscaping;
Sheraton Bucks County Hotel, Langhorne, PA  8 a.m. – 4:45 p.m.
This Symposium for professionals will focus on ways to create low-maintenance, economical and ecologically balanced landscapes using native plants and restoration techniques. Participants will have opportunities to develop contacts and partnerships and to share resources, with the goal of promoting ongoing stewardship of regional native plant resources. A selection of topical books from the Bowman’s Hill Wildflower Preserve Twinleaf Shop will be available for purchase.

Who should attend: Landscape architects, landscape designers, contractors and other members of the landscape, nursery and horticultural industry, environmental consultants, land planners, managers and developers, state/municipal officials and students.
Continuing Education Credits: 5 CEU's approved for ASLA PA/DE members

For more information: Hildy Ellis (215) 862-2924, ellis@bhwp.org. Pre-registration required. The brochure will be posted in mid-December on the Preserve’s website, www.bhwp.org, and mailed in early January.

Tuesday, February 26
Western Section
PA/DE ASLA Meeting
The next meeting will be held at Civil Environmental Consultants (CEC), 333 Baldwin Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Friday, March 7
Longwood Graduate Program Annual Symposium
“Powerful exhibitions for Every Institution”; Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA
Registration opens Tuesday, January 1. Last year sold out!
www.udel.edu/longwoodgrad
April, 2008
Rachel Carson Spirit & Nature Conference Rescheduled
The Rachel Carson Spirit & Nature conference scheduled for November has been postponed until early April – the new date will be announced soon. This decision was based on a low registration for a conference that we believe provides an important opportunity to expand in the Pittsburgh area the national and international dialogue among world religions on earth stewardship, global warming and sustainable living.
For more information please contact Fiona Fisher, Director of Communications, Rachel Carson Homestead Association, 613 Marion Avenue, Box 46, Springdale, PA 15144, (724) 274-5459, or go to: www.rachelcarsonhomestead.org.

April 31 - May 2, 2008
Sixth Annual Greening Rooftops for Sustainable Communities Conference
Baltimore Sheraton Inner Harbor Hotel and Baltimore Convention Center
See www.greenroofs.org/baltimore for details.

News from ASLA

Demand For Landscape Architecture Services Remains Strong
Many Firms Seeking Additional Staff
Washington, DC, November 19, 2007— Despite a housing slowdown, the vast majority of landscape architecture firms report they are just as or even more busy than before, according to a third quarter survey by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). More than three out of four firms reported steady or increased billable hours compared to the previous quarter, and four in ten firms were planning to hire additional staff.

“The demand for landscape architecture services remains strong in the traditional markets, while it continues to grow in emerging areas, particularly for sustainable design services,” said Nancy C. Somerville, executive vice president and CEO of ASLA. “With only 30,000 landscape architects in the U.S. and the projected growth in demand for landscape architecture services, there are significant opportunities for young people considering entering the profession.” ASLA is working with the ACE Mentor program and other organizations to introduce the profession to prospective students, and will celebrate National Landscape Architecture Month in April 2008 around the theme “Discover Careers in Landscape Architecture.”

Nearly 44 percent of respondents described their billable hours as either “well above” or “slightly above” average. Thirty-three percent said that billable hours were “average,” while 24 percent said hours were either “slightly below” (20 percent) or “well below” average (4 percent). Inquiries were more evenly distributed: six percent reported well above average inquiries, 30 percent reported slightly above, 30 percent reported average, and 35 percent reported their inquiries were down this quarter.

Forty-one percent of firms surveyed also said they are hiring new employees in the fourth quarter. ASLA emailed a brief questionnaire to the key firm contacts across the country, and received responses from 251 independent landscape architecture firms. The survey will be repeated in mid-January, 2008, and the results will be reported in early February.

Landscape Architects Announce 2008 Awards Call for Entries
The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) November 27 released its call for entries for the 2008 professional and student awards program. The award honor the best in landscape architecture from around the globe, and will be presented at the ASLA annual meeting and expo in Philadelphia October 3-7, 2008.
The professional awards entry deadline is February 1, 2008, and submissions must be received by February 15. Student entry forms are due May 9, 2008 and submissions must be received by May 23.

The professional awards jury convening in March 2008 will include:

- Warren T. Byrd, FASLA, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, Charlottesville, VA, Jury Chair;
- Mary Ellen Cowan, ASLA, MESA, Dallas, TX;
- Robert A. Ivy, FAIA, editor-in-chief, Architectural Record, New York, NY;
- Niall Kirkwood, ASLA, Harvard Graduate School of Design, Cambridge, MA;
- Steve Martino, FASLA, Steve Martino/Cactus City Design, Phoenix, AZ;
- Dennis Pieprz, Affiliate ASLA, Sasaki Associates, Watertown, MA;
- W. Gary Smith, ASLA, W. Gary Smith Design, Austin, TX, and Toronto, CN; and
- Kongjian Yu, International ASLA, Peking University Graduate School of Landscape Architecture, Turenscape, Beijing, China.

Bill Marken, Hon. ASLA editor emeritus of Garden Design magazine, will join the jury for the Residential Design category and William H. Tishler, FASLA, representing the National Trust for Historic Preservation, will join the jury for the selection of the Landmark Award.

The student awards jury convening in June 2008 will include:

- F. Christopher Dimond, FASLA Kansas City, MO, Jury Chair;
- Cheryl Barton, FASLA, Office of Cheryl Barton, San Francisco, CA;
- Abhijeet Chavan, ASLA, co-founder and co-editor-in-chief, Planetizen, Los Angeles, CA;
- Barbara Faga, FASLA, EDAW, Atlanta, GA;
- Walter Hood, ASLA, Hood Design: University of California Berkeley, Oakland, CA;
- Jane Kolleeny, senior editor, Architectural Record; managing editor, GreenSource, New York, NY;
- Kevin Rober Perry, ASLA, Nevue Ngan Associates, Portland, OR;
- Kristen Richards, editor, ArchNewsNow, New York, NY;
- Kevin M. Shanley, FASLA, SWA Group, Houston, TX.

The ASLA awards program features six categories: General Design; Residential Design, co-sponsored by Garden Design magazine; Analysis & Planning; Research, co-sponsored by the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture and Landscape Journal; Communications; and The Landmark Award, co-sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. The student awards program also features a Student Collaboration category and the Student Community Service Awards. Student award recipients will receive a complimentary full registration to the 2008 Annual Meeting.

Professional Award recipients receive featured coverage in Landscape Architecture magazine and in many other design, construction industry and general-interest media. Residential category professional award recipients will also be featured in Garden Design magazine. Award recipients, their clients, and advisors will be honored at an awards presentation ceremony and champagne reception during the annual meeting. The award winning projects will be featured in a video presentation to premier at the ceremony.

The 2008 call for entries is available online at www.asla.org/awards/2008/rules_entries/.

About ASLA
Founded in 1899, ASLA is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 18,200 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.
National Park Service seeks comments on National Historic Preservation Act

From: Roxanne Blackwell, Federal Government Affairs Manager
American Society of Landscape Architects

Dear ASLA Member:

Knowing of your interest and expertise in historic and cultural landscapes, I would like to bring to your attention the request for comments from the National Park Service (NPS) regarding a new Nationwide Programmatic Agreement.

The National Park Service has begun the process of developing a new Nationwide Programmatic Agreement (PA) to address compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and implementing regulations (36 CFR 800). The PA addresses activities within the national parks that may affect properties of historic or cultural significance.

Pursuant to the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) regulations (36 CFR 800), the principal signatories on this nationwide PA are the ACHP, the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO), and the NPS. In accordance with the ACHP regulations, NPS is also initiating consultation with a wide variety of other interested parties as this new PA is developed. Among those interested parties are all Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, Native Hawaiians and other Native professional interest groups.

The National Park Service has prepared a First Draft PA, which seeks to continue provisions and practices in the NPS PA (1995) that the NPS believes are effective, while charting a new course for the future management of cultural resources in the parks. Comments on this draft may be provided until December 14, 2007.

To view the First Draft PA and comment, please visit http://parkplanning.nps.gov. Select "Programmatic Agreement Task Force" as the park name and select "Open for Public Comment" to enter comments.

ASLA encourages you to comment on this important program, as the National Park Service looks forward to the valuable remarks of landscape architects in this process. If you have any questions or comments regarding this process, please do not hesitate to contact me at rblackwell@asla.org or 202-216-2334.

ASLA 2008 call for entries

ASLA has released its 2008 awards call for entries. The eligibility and entry process has changed for 2008, so please pay careful attention to the guidelines. The professional awards entry deadline is February 1, 2008, and submissions must be received by February 15. Student entry forms are due May 9, 2008 and submissions must be received by May 23.

Award recipients, their clients, and advisors will be honored at an awards presentation ceremony and champagne reception during the annual meeting. The award winning projects will be featured in a video presentation to premier at the ceremony. Professional Award recipients receive
featured coverage in *Landscape Architecture* magazine and in many other design, construction industry and general-interest media. Residential category professional award recipients will also be featured in *Garden Design* magazine.

**Student award recipients will receive a complimentary full registration to the 2008 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia October 3-7, 2008.**


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**Books, portfolio for sale**
From: Susan Parker

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Retail Price</th>
<th>Selling for</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Land Mosaics</em> by Richard T.T. Forman 2005 Printing</td>
<td>Never Used--Excellent</td>
<td>$70.00</td>
<td>$43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Shaping Space</em> by P. Zelanshi &amp; M.P. Fisher, 2nd ed, 1995</td>
<td>Used – Cover worn</td>
<td>88.95</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>GIS for Landscape Architects</em> by Karen C. Hanna 1999</td>
<td>Never Used - Excellent</td>
<td>19.95</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>GIS Tutorial</em> by W.L. Gore &amp; Kristen S. Kurland</td>
<td>Used 1 semester – some highlighting</td>
<td>69.95</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Sustainable Landscape Construction</em> by J. Wm Thompson &amp; Kim Sorvig</td>
<td>Never Used--Excellent some highlighting</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Landscape Ecology in Theory &amp; Practice</em> by M.G. Turner, R.H. Gardener, R.V. O’Neill with unused CD--2001</td>
<td>Never Used—Excellent, with unopened CD</td>
<td>61.95</td>
<td>45</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Ecological Design</em> by Sim Van der Ryn &amp; Stuart Cowan--1996</td>
<td>Never Used--Excellent</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Planting Green Roofs &amp; Living Walls</em> by Nigel Dunnett &amp; Noël Kingsbury 2004</td>
<td>Never Used--Excellent</td>
<td>34.95</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td><em>Learning Landscape Ecology – A Practical Guide to Concepts &amp; Techniques</em> by S.E. Gergel &amp; M.G. Turner (unused CD) 2002</td>
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<td><strong>Portfolio</strong></td>
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<td>Portfolio—24”x36”x4” Heavy-Duty Nylon Art Portfolio with Pockets</td>
<td>Used half of one semester</td>
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Interested? Please contact:

_Susan Parker_
_SHP Solutions, LLC_
_118 Rosewood Drive_
_Glenshaw, PA 15116-2612_
_(412) 492-7021 (Phone & Fax) shpsolutions@verizon.net_
Call for Entries

ASLA 2008 call for entries
ASLA has released its 2008 awards call for entries. See details in stories above or go to: The 2008 call for entries is available on line at www.asla.org/awards/2008/rules_entries/.

Proposals needed for 2008 National Preservation Conference in Tulsa
The deadline for the Education Session and Poster Presentation proposals for this conference is Friday, January 11. We are particularly interested in proposals dealing with the following focus areas:

- Green Building. Existing buildings contain embodied energy and other environmental advantages that are important in sustainable communities. What are models for combining green building and preservation? What potential synergies and issues should be addressed? How can both USGBC’s LEED point system and preservation standards help realize these potentials?
- Recent Past and Modernism. Why are these resources important? What are the trends, challenges, and opportunities for attracting support for their preservation? What are successful community strategies and models to do this?
- Teardowns and McMansions in Older and Historic Neighborhoods. What are the pros and cons of teardowns? How does a neighborhood determine the vision for its future and craft and implement strategies to achieve that vision? What are the most effective models for neighborhood action when faced with teardowns?
- Urban Revitalization and Adaptive Use. What are the advantages and challenges of a preservation approach to urban revitalization? What strategies and models work best for mid-sized cities? For major urban areas?
- Rural Revitalization. How can preservation strategies gain broader support in rural economic development and farmland preservation programs? What innovative models involve using cultural heritage tourism to the economic benefit of rural areas?
- Historic House Museums. What current trends affect visitation at historic sites? What creative strategies can attract more visitors or identify alternative uses for historic sites?
- Historic Roads and Scenic Byways. What are we learning about ways to promote protection and continued use of historic roads like Route 66? What lessons can we learn from the growing support for scenic byways?

Instructions for submitting proposals can be found at: http://www.eshow2000.com/nthp/call_for_abstracts.cfm.

For additional questions, please contact Charlotte D. Bonini, PhD, Senior Education Planner, Center for Preservation Leadership, 202-588-6095, email: charlotte_bonini@nthp.org.

Awareness Week Poster Contest
The International Compost Awareness Week Committee of the US Composting Council is inviting participants for its first poster contest. Whether or not you have celebrated or been involved in ICAW in the past, we want you to participate this year and submit a poster. The Possibilities Are Endless....Compost!

The poster contest challenges everyone to express her or his belief in the composting industry and the benefits of using compost. The winning poster will be used to promote our 13th Annual International Compost Awareness Week, May 4-10, 2008.

Contest entries should include an official entry form and must be postmarked by December 14, 2007. Finalists will be announced and the final winner chosen during the 16th Annual USCC Conference and Trade Show to be held in Oakland, CA, February 9-12, 2008.

Complete contest rules and information are available at: http://compostingcouncil.org/section.cfm?id=60.

For information on the 2008 USCC Conference & Exhibition, go to www.compostingcouncil.org.
**Educational Opportunities**

**Grants 101: Professional Grant Proposal Writing Workshop**

January 23-25, 8 am – 5 pm, Pittsburgh, PA

The Grant Institute’s Grants 101 course is an intensive and detailed introduction to the process, structure, and skill of professional proposal writing. This course is characterized by its ability to act as a thorough overview, introduction, and refresher at the same time. In this course, participants will learn the entire proposal writing process and complete the course with a solid understanding of not only the ideal proposal structure, but a holistic understanding of the essential factors, which determine whether or not a program gets funded. Through the completion of interactive exercises and activities, participants will complement expert lectures by putting proven techniques into practice. This course is designed for both the beginner looking for a thorough introduction and the intermediate looking for a refresher course that will strengthen their grant acquisition skills. This class, simply put, is designed to get results by creating professional grant proposal writers.

Participants will become competent program planning and proposal writing professionals after successful completion of the Grants 101 course. In three active and informative days, students will be exposed to the art of successful grant writing practices, and led on a journey that ends with a masterful grant proposal.

Grants 101 consists of three (3) courses that will be completed during the three-day workshop: (1) Fundamentals of Program Planning; (2) Professional Grant Writing; (3) Grant Research. $597 tuition includes all materials and certificates.

Register online at [www.thegrantinstitute.com](http://www.thegrantinstitute.com) or (888) 824 – 4424.

**2008 Residency Season at the Artists’ Enclave at I-Park**

I-Park announces its eighth season hosting The Artists’ Enclave. Artists’ residencies, self-directed/project oriented, will be offered from May through November 2008. Most sessions are four weeks in duration. Residencies will be offered to visual (including digital) artists, music composers, environmental artists, landscape and garden designers, creative writers and architects. Work samples will be evaluated through a competitive, juried process.

There is a $20 fee and artists are responsible for their own transportation to and from the area. They also provide for their own food and work materials. The facility is otherwise offered at no cost to accepted artists.

I-Park is a 450-acre natural woodland retreat in rural East Haddam, Connecticut. Accommodations include comfortable private living quarters in an 1850’s farmhouse, shared bathroom facilities and a private studio on the grounds. An electric kiln, music equipment, wireless internet and library facilities are provided.

International applicants welcome. To defray the cost of travel, a $1,000 grant will be offered in 2008 to two international artists whose work is held in particularly high regard by the selection committee (details to follow).

For additional project information, go to our website: [www.i-park.org](http://www.i-park.org). Application Deadline: December 31, 2007. E-mail: ipark2002@ureach.com. Phone: 860-873-2468.
Grant Opportunities

American Association of University Women education grants
Deadline: Saturday, December 15, 2007

One of the world’s largest sources of funding exclusively for graduate women, the American Association of University Women Educational Foundation, supports aspiring scholars around the globe, teachers and activists in local communities, women at critical stages of their careers, and those pursuing professions where women are underrepresented. The foundation’s Career Development Grants support women who hold a bachelor’s degree and are preparing to advance their careers, change careers, or re-enter the work force. Special consideration is given to AAUW members, women of color, and women pursuing their first advanced degree or credentials in non-traditional fields.

Grants provide support for course work beyond a bachelor’s degree, including a master's degree, second bachelor's degree, or specialized training in technical or professional fields. Funds also are available for distance learning. Course work must be taken at an accredited two- or four-year college or university, or at a technical school that is fully licensed or accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Funds are not available for doctoral-level work.

For further information go to: http://fconline.foundationcenter.org/pnd/10009451/aauw

Pittsburgh Rotary has scholarships available for 2008

The Pittsburgh Rotary district in partnership with Rotary International is looking to fill five to six slots as part of the Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholarships program for 2008 and possibly 2009. The program is flexible and aimed specifically at non-Rotarians. Undergraduate and graduate students, as well as professionals seeking additional education should contact Richard Beck, (412) 343-9488 or Georgia Petropoulos, (412) 683-6243 ext. 18.

For further information go to www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho/index.html

Internship Opportunities

Rachel Carson Trail Conservancy

Todd Chambers, RLA, of the Rachel Carson Trail Conservancy (RCTC) is seeking landscape architecture students interested in internships that could deal with a broad array of research and hands-on experience. Projects could include:

- Mapping of trails.
- Researching broad property and ownership issues, public land/private land.
- Contextual understanding of the trail in regards to: environmental -vegetation, aspect, hydrology, etc.
- Social/cultural - zoning, population density, transportation, proximity/conflicts
- Political - Municipal, county, and state contacts; preparation of specific plans for each
- Municipality issues
- Opportunities and constraints analysis - tie in with broader open space planning and connector to existing parks, transportation alternatives, health care providers/ healthy living opportunities
- Specific detail design for trailheads, signage program
- Easement issues
- Construction techniques
- Sustainability issues

Interested students should contact Landscape Architecture Program Director Lisa Kunst Vavro, email lvavro@chatham.edu, 412-365-1882. For more information go to www.rachelcarsontrails.org.

Job Opportunities

Washington and Jefferson College

Adjunct position in Botany for Spring 2008

There is an opening for an adjunct faculty member to teach Botany (BIO 200) and the associated lab (BIO 200L) at Washington and Jefferson College for Spring, 2008. The course (both lecture and lab) will have up to 24 students, and is scheduled as: Lecture T, H 1-2:05; Lab H 2:30-5:30.
Students take both lecture and lab to fulfill the botany requirement for our General Biology Track. We are happy for an individual to use his/her own ideas in developing the course. The students will all have had a year of General Biology (BIO 101 and BIO 102 with labs), but they will not have covered much botany, so the instructor could feel free to develop things along his/her lines of expertise.

If anyone at Chatham knows of a graduate student who would be interested in the position, please have them contact me. I will ultimately need their CV and some references to contact, and then would schedule an informal meeting.

Alice G. Lee, Ph.D., Professor of Biology, Washington and Jefferson College
60 S. Lincoln Street, Washington, PA 15301
aglee@washjeff.edu; 724.223.5283.

Gardener’s Eye seeks Design Assistant

**Work Status:** Full Time
**Reports to:** President
**FLSA Status:** Non-Exempt (hourly)
**Job Summary:** This position will assist with the creation and presentation of accurate, detailed, knowledgeable and unique garden designs for Gardener’s Eye clients.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**
- Assist designer with preparing and implementing garden designs. This includes setting up and participating in client consultations, assisting with bid estimates, completing site visits and analysis, preparing proposals that address client requests, ordering materials and coordinating installations.
- Accurately measure locations for new and enhanced garden designs. This includes consideration for existing and planned land areas, planting beds, hardscaping, and all other landscaping and structures that might affect the designs.
- Create drawn-to-scale hand-rendered site plans for garden designs that clearly, accurately and comprehensively depict the proposed design.
- Research, analyze, select materials, provide options and make design and garden recommendations based on clients needs.
- Create, construct and assemble pictures and information sheets of plants and other materials for design portfolios.
- Prepare presentation portfolios for clients that include detailed pictures and information about the proposed plans, plants and color schemes.
- With direction, apply knowledge of plants, landscaping and gardening to develop mini-designs for landscaping areas, such as small perennial beds, that address materials, products and color selection.
- Stage installations of planting areas based on client and company requirements.

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed above are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

**Supervisory Responsibility:** None required.
**Budget Accountability:** With direction, responsible for adhering to client and company budget requirements and bid proposals.
**Computer and Equipment Skills:** To perform this job successfully, an individual must be skilled in the use of Word, Excel and Outlook.
**Abilities:**
- Possess strong analytical and spatial skills to measure, organize and produce accurate, drawn-to-scale designs.
- Possess and demonstrate knowledge of plants and other garden-related materials.
- Demonstrate professional and courteous interpersonal skills when working with clients, customers, co-workers, vendors, suppliers and the public on behalf of Gardener’s Eye.
• Work both independently (under direction) and in teams and effectively manage interpersonal relationships and conflict.
• Possess and demonstrate strong written and verbal communication skills.
• Demonstrate ability to multitask, prioritize, work independently, meet deadlines and maintain attention to detail in communication, design, presentation and client service.
• Possess a strong work ethic, intuitive concern for the client, desire to enhance the reputation of Gardener's Eye and passion for gardening and fine landscapes.

Education/Experience:
• High school graduate or equivalent; undergraduate degree in gardening or landscaping related field preferred.
• Minimum three (3) years garden, landscape design, or related experience.

Physical Demands:
• The physical demands are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.
• While performing the duties of this job, the employee must be able to sit, walk, use hands; reach with hands and arms; bend, stoop, kneel and crouch.
• Must be able to work outdoors meeting clients, analyzing and measuring sites in all Pittsburgh area climates and temperatures throughout the year.
• Must be able to lift 30 pounds.
• Must be able to manipulate, carry and place plants and containers on properties.
• Must possess a valid PA driver’s license and/or have reliable transportation to client sites.

Gardener’s Eye
3392 Saxonburg Blvd
Glenshaw, Pa 15116
412.487.7802 phone
info@gardeners-eye.com

GreenbergFarrow seeking Architects and Landscape Architects
GreenbergFarrow, a 300-person national architectural, engineering, planning and development consulting firm is seeking Architects/ Landscape Architects at all levels. An award winning design firm, the firm has a diverse project portfolio with design services offered to the retail, commercial, multi-family residential, industrial, and hospitality industries. Minimum Requirements:
• Bachelor's degree in Architecture, or Landscape Architecture.
• Professional architecture/landscape architecture experience.
• Experience in retail, residential, mixed use, and urban design.
• Strong technical design and communication skills.
• Proficient in current version of AutoCAD.

For more information and detailed job descriptions please go to: www.greenbergfarrow.com

Volunteer Opportunities
Smart Growth Partnership of Westmoreland County needs volunteers for its US Route 30 Design Charrette
After Charrette: through January 29, 2008
• Professionals who can critique the preferred plan, LEED Building Design and LEED Neighborhood Design, traffic, street design, parking, lighting, transit, economics, storm water, urban design, noise impacts, housing, commercial retail, landscaping and utilities.
• Professionals or students who can render and sketch, plan views, building types and plans for the final document
• Land use development codes specialists to review necessary code language extracted from the prototype design
• A market study for the preferred plan
• Proof readers and editors for the final report
• Communication specialists to review layout of the final report
• Bloggers
News of Interest

At Phipps Conservatory, IKM architects faced sticky situation maintaining interior temperature.

By J. Patrick Rand
Photos: Matt Greenslade

Located in the heart of Pittsburgh, the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens has “the greenest garden in the world,” according to director Richard Piacentini. He could be describing the Phipps’ Thai-style forest filled with winding pathways and diverse vegetation that he created—or the new Tropical Forest Conservatory that encloses it. The 12,000-square-foot sustainable building, designed by IKM Architects, overcomes the problems the Phipps faced maintaining the interior temperature and humidity in its beautiful but inefficient Lord & Burnham conservatory built in 1893. The new design is engineered to get the most out of natural sunlight: On a glazed roof, light is often hard to control and gets reflected away in the winter, when it is needed most. The tall south wall (shown right) admits the most direct sunlight, allowing for better control and better penetration into the space. Roof glazing provides plants with much-needed sunlight on overcast days, but is angled down and away from the direct sun to avoid oversaturation.

IKM Architects carefully choreographed the visitor experience. You enter at a high point, where mountain rain forest plants are positioned, then descend along a winding path through lowland ecosystems. Comfort for people and plants was also a high priority. An array of localized controls create microclimates for particular families of plants without wasting energy.

Automated vents in the lower portions of the glazed wall open near the floor of the 60-foot-tall space to capture prevailing southerly breezes. The air then climbs as it warms and exits through roof vents. As breezes pass over the glazed roof vents, a Venturi effect is created: Wind speed accelerates and draws warm air out of the interior space. Building operators continue to tweak vent-opening configurations to optimize interior conditions.

HEATING AND COOLING: Outside air is pulled through six 24-inch-diameter concrete tubes that are 300 feet long and buried deep in the earth, where the temperature is 55 degrees Fahrenheit year round. In the winter, the tubes deliver air that is passively warmed along this path before entering the interior space. In summer, the same tubes direct passively cooled air to the spots where visitors are most likely to linger.

Studies of the interior air show how fresh and how warm the air is, as
well as, how quickly the air moves throughout the space. Passive solar design and natural convection are common strategies in most green buildings. To meet the specialized lighting and ventilation demands of the conservatory, state-of-the-art software and sensors analyze conditions inside and outside, automatically adjusting vents, shades, dampers, and valves to optimize conditions.

All glazing is argon-filled insulated clear glass except above door height on the south wall, where uninsulated, single-pane glass permits the maximum amount of light to reach the light-hungry tropical plants. To minimize shadows, window mullions on sunny exposures have narrow profiles and are perpendicular to the curved wall. If sunlight overheats the interior, automated shades unroll below the roof to keep the heat near the envelope. The shades are Mylar coated on the upper surface to reflect radiant energy and have insulating fabric on the underside. The architects plan to add shades on the vertical south glass wall, because the conservatory gets a bit too warm on sunny winter days.

Pressure and velocity studies show how outside air hits the southern wall of the building, then loses speed and pressure as it flows over the aerodynamic form. This movement helps draw warm air out of vents on the roof, maintaining air flow and temperature inside.

Plant beds have root-zone heating, so the canopies of the plants can endure cooler temperatures without suffering. Misters deliver a fine spray of water to plant canopies as needed, and in summer ultrasonic foggers near the footpaths introduce evaporative cooling locally. Radiant heating in the footpaths provides supplementary heat when needed.

_J. Patrick Rand is a professor at the North Carolina State University School of Architecture._

_Source: ARCHITECT Magazine_  
http://www.architectmagazine.com/industry-news.asp?sectionID=1006&articleID=602882

**Glass Lofts project to begin construction**

Source: Community Design Center of Pittsburgh’s E-Newsletter: cdcp@cdcp.org The Glass Lofts project, which received a Design Fund grant in 2003, will soon be under construction. Developed by Friendship Development Associates, the mixed-use buildings are located in the Penn Avenue arts district. Arthur Lubetz Associates Architects designed the project, which in addition to 18 residential lofts contains an office space and space for restaurant. The Glass Lofts will be two green buildings connected by a footbridge and with a divided courtyard that will be shared between residents and restaurant patrons. The projected date for completion is September 2008.

Lofts range from 845 sq. ft. to 1,873 sq. ft. Many lofts are two stories. Price ranges from $180,000 to $330,000.

_For more information, please call Friendship Development Associates 412-441-6147 x 4 or x 5 or Becky@friendship-pgh.org._

**TerraPass newsletter launches green store**

Big news this week with the launch of our green store. It contains lots of great items and gifts to help you live a greener life. -- regular shipping can take a full week, so holiday celebrants may want to get their orders in soon.

_For more information go to: http://www.terrapass.com/green-store/_
PWP Wins National Landscape Design Award

The Landscape Design Award is given for exemplary urban planning or park and garden design. This rendering is the plaza design of the World Trade Center Site Memorial—"Reflecting Absence"—by Michael Arad and Peter Walker. Renderings by Squared Design Lab, courtesy of the LMDC.

At the National Design Awards at the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum in New York City (cooperhewitt.org/NDA) October 18, 2007, the Landscape Design award went to PWP Landscape Architecture, the firm that won the World Trade Center Memorial design competition with Michael Arad.

Awards were also presented for Lifetime Achievement; Design Patron; Design Mind; Corporate Achievement; Architecture Design; Communications Design; Fashion Design; Interior Design; Product Design; and Special Jury Commendation.

PWP Principal Peter Walker thanked Mayor Bloomberg and Governor Pataki and described the last four years as "difficult," apparently alluding to the number of redesigns and challenges with the World Trade Center Memorial design.

PWP is based in Berkeley, Calif. Mr. Walker has a half century of experience in the field of landscape architecture. His firm’s work ranges from urban design and planning for public parks and university campuses to corporate headquarters, museums, plazas and private gardens. His design are seen at Stanford University’s Center for Clinical Science Research; the Toyota Municipal Museum of Art in Japan; the Millennium Parklands in Sydney, Australia; and the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas.

Field Operations and Ken Smith Landscape Architecture were honored as finalists for the Landscape Design Award. James Corner founded Field Operations in 1998. He’s known for his design of NYC’s High Line. His offices are in New York and Philadelphia.

Ken Smith Landscape Architecture is based in New York. He is designing the Great Park in Orange County, Calif. His designs include MoMA’s fake garden, the PS-19 schoolyard and the East River Waterfront project. He also decorated the Cooper-Hewitt during last year’s National Design Triennial. http://www.landscapeonline.com/

Surge in Green Roof Research Helps Planet

Toronto, Canada – A record-breaking number of research papers were submitted for Green Roofs for Healthy Cities’ upcoming annual sustainable communities conference in Baltimore – and that’s excellent news for the planet.

“This year, we received more than 80 papers on green roof design, research and policy-making,” said Steven W. Peck, founder and president of Green Roofs for Healthy Cities, the not-for-profit association for the green roof industry in North America. “Green roofs are good for people, cities, animals and, ultimately, the future of our planet – so the more green roof and wall research conducted, the better.”

Architects, engineers, roofers, scientists and other professionals from around the world including Italy, Japan, China, United States and Canada submitted research papers on a wide variety of topics including best practices in storm-water management and real-life case studies demonstrating how green roofs mitigate the negative impacts of climate change.
“This surge in research continues to prove just how valuable green roofs, walls and other forms of living architecture are to promoting healthy cities and ecosystems,” said Peck. “When plants are integrated with buildings, everyone wins.” Mounting scientific research continues to demonstrate the many benefits of green roofs and walls including their capacity to cool buildings, increase energy efficiency, reduce noise pollution, improve air quality and promote biodiversity through creation and restoration of plant and animal habitats.

*Courtesy of Jordan Richie: Green Roofs for Healthy Cities*

**Over 20,000 industry leaders gather in Chicago for annual Greenbuild Conference**

More than 20,000 leaders in the green building movement met in Chicago November 7-9 for the U.S. Green Building Council’s annual Greenbuild conference. The conference was a vivid testament to the depth and diversity of the green building movement and its incredible momentum. Highlights included an opening keynote address by former President Clinton, an inspiring address from environmentalist and writer Paul Hawken and dozens of workshops and networking opportunities. Equity and affordability – green affordable homes and schools for everybody – were central themes throughout the meeting. USGBC President and CEO Rick Fedrizzi framed the issues in his powerful plenary comments:

“Green Collar jobs are the kinds of jobs that can bring prosperity to American communities that today are languishing because of flat wages, and economic stagnation. Think about disadvantaged youth, or returning servicemen and women, those whose outsourced manufacturing jobs left them economically stranded. With more than 100 million individuals employed in the building and construction industry today, just think about what we could accomplish…if we all embraced that vision.

Let’s also not forget that green affordable housing must be a part of this equation. Enterprise Community Partners is leading this effort, and we are proud to assist their efforts in every way possible. Our partnership with Enterprise has taught us how we can bring social equity into the environmental movement with a proactive agenda that’s often missing.

It’s a long-term, forward-looking approach that delivers what social activist Van Jones calls a different kind of “on ramp” to the green movement. So how can we make certain that green affordable housing is a part of our future? Einstein said, “Example is not the main thing in influencing others; it is the only thing.”


**LEED for Homes Launched**

USGBC officially announced the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Homes rating system at Greenbuild. Pending expected approval by the USGBC membership later this month, LEED for Homes will provide a national rating system for a broad range of housing types, including many kinds of affordable housing developments. Enterprise and USGBC have worked closely together to align the Green Communities and LEED for Homes criteria, and will partner to increase awareness and participation in these complementary programs for affordable housing developers throughout the country. USGBC also rolled out a new website on green homes.

Topoware inspired by heightened interest in geography
Topoware is a tableware collection that questions the landscape of dining. Taking inspiration from the recent popularity of geography as a media of communication (with Google maps) and more specifically with topographic maps, which define heights of a landscape two dimensionally, Topoware in turn, "outlines" the dining experience.

Made up of cups, plates, bowls, placemats and a tablecloth, the collection explores the visual and social landscape of dining by using outlines and descriptions to describe, question and push our eating experience, making it really feel like a journey. Topoware was presented at the London Design Festival 2007 in an exhibition curated by Designboom. An article on the design process behind Topoware was published by Ambidextrous magazine for their 7th edition about Food. Topoware is in the Winter edition of T magazine, in the New York Times on November 4th 2007.

For more information go to http://www.topoware.org/concept.html.

Full event details and registration information are available online at www.gbapgh.org/events.asp

News from Sustainable Pittsburgh:

3E Links
Economy, Environment, Equity
Sustainable Pittsburgh

Hot Metal Bridge Pedestrian Path Grand Opening
Mayor Luke Ravenstahl cut the ceremonial ribbon at noon on Wednesday, November 28 after participants walked and biked across the Hot Metal Bridge pedestrian path. Directly after the walk, those in attendance joined the Mayor and stakeholders in a recognition ceremony, complete with hot chocolate, coffee, and cookies in the lobby of REI.

The completion of the Hot Metal Bridge is a critical connection in the Great Allegheny Passage, a 150 mile biking and hiking trail that will eventually connect Pittsburgh to Cumberland, Maryland
and Washington D.C. The bridge also provides a key pedestrian and cycling connection between the URA's two brownfield developments, South Side Works and Pittsburgh Technology Center. The pedestrian bridge facilitates safe and sustainable routes to work, along with offering attractive site recreational amenities, critical to SSW tenants such as American Eagle Outfitters and REI. 4th Annual Regional

More information is available at info@sustainablepittsburgh.org or 412-258-6642.

Land Use the Sustainable Way
By: Jennifer McGuiggan

November 28, 2007
Like many people, Roy Kraynyk is upset about flooding in places like Millvale and the landslide in Kilbuck Township. As the executive director of Allegheny Land Trust (ALT), Kraynyk doesn't want to simply fix these issues. He wants to prevent such problems from ever happening. How? Kraynyk says we need to look to the trees.

Woodlands might not be the first thing you think of for flood prevention, but Kraynyk says they play an integral role in keeping rainwater from becoming floodwater. The Pittsburgh region is infamous for its hills and steep slopes. And anyone who gardens knows that much of the land in this part of the state is composed of hardpan, clayey soil. This combination means that rainwater needs a place to go before it reaches the streams. This is where trees come in.

Kraynyk explains that woodlands act like sponges for rainwater, keeping a significant amount of it from ever reaching streams. And that means less flooding. Studies show that a lone oak tree can keep up to 27% of rainfall from ever reaching the ground. And a whole forest can intercept up to 76% of total annual precipitation. ALT would like to see the conservation of strategic woodlands as the centerpiece of a multifaceted, inter-governmental, watershed-based flood prevention plan. "The bottom line," explains Kraynyk, "is that woodlands do more to prevent floods than floodplains do, because woodlands intercept rainfall before it reaches the streams."

Unfortunately, the same wooded areas that can help to prevent flooding in downstream communities are often prime targets for new real estate development in upstream communities. More development means more runoff. The difference in runoff between a woodland and a developed area is staggering: between six and 50 times as much.

Kraynyk is concerned with not just the safety of such developments, but also with the loss of scenic character that occurs when hillsides are laid bare. He'd like to see more sustainable development that also preserves our region's unique scenery. In some cases, he says, it's as simple as moving development sites back 50 feet from the ridge of slopes. "It's not one or the other," he says. "You can have both the condo and the vegetation."

An Ounce of Prevention The flooding of Girty's Run and Pine Creek in Millvale over the past several years are tragic examples of how upstream development can seriously impact downstream communities. Sadly, says Kraynyk, "There's no way they're going to prevent it from happening again. We're seeing similar events with much less rain." Still, he praises Shaler's plan to use federal funds to buy houses located in floodplains and suggests that now is the time to investigate other flood prevention opportunities. "There are lands upstream that are doing a great deal of rainwater interception. If we could protect them, we could keep that much water out of the streams and the floodplains. If we don't protect them, it's a lose-lose situation."

Another way to encourage more sustainable development is temporary land banking. Kraynyk explains that developable land in flood-prone areas could be "banked" until the infrastructure can be upgraded to accommodate the additional storm water and sanitary inputs that new development brings. "Permitting new development that pollutes our waterways with raw sewage is irresponsible
and negatively impacts public health and property values,” says Kraynyk. He suggests banking the land until the infrastructure is fixed, and then selling it at appreciated values to help offset the cost of the infrastructure improvements.

**GREENPRINT**
ALT was incorporated in 1993 with the goal of protecting land of natural value in and adjacent to Allegheny County. The non-profit protects natural lands by accepting donations of property and conservation easements, as well as purchasing lands of particular natural significance. According to ALT’s records, the organization has protected more than 1,300 acres in Allegheny and Washington Counties. But Kraynyk wonders if that’s enough. “Sometimes I think, ‘We protected 50 acres today, but so what? What is that really doing?’” he asks. “Sure, the people around that area have access to open space, and they don’t have to worry about development. But how can we position land conservation to have the greatest public benefit? Because that’s why we exist: we’re a non-profit here to provide public benefits.”

When ALT embarked on an intensive strategic planning process in January 2006, Kraynyk says they quickly realized that not all land is created equal. Buying one acre of land may achieve one of ALT’s three goals: preserving biodiversity, maintaining unique scenic character, or facilitating better water management. But was it possible to protect land that would result in all three of those benefits? ALT’s new plan to get the biggest bang for its land conservation buck does just that. It’s called GREENPRINT—A regional conservation agenda prioritizing land conservation for public good™.

GREENPRINT compiles data from 15 sources, collected over the past 20 years, to create a map that identifies pieces of land where these three key components overlap. “There’s limited time and resources to do what we need to do,” Kraynyk explains. GREENPRINT aims to identify the lands that are providing the greatest public benefit.

**Public Support Needed**
Kraynyk admits that it’s unrealistic to think that ALT and other land trusts in Southwestern Pennsylvania can save all of the land that needs to be protected or sustainably developed for the greater good. He says that municipalities need to be part of conservation efforts because they control land use and zoning. “They really hold the cards,” he says. Kraynyk is a realist when it comes to what motivates people. Money talks, even – or especially – in the realm of land conservation and zoning laws. That’s why Kraynyk hopes to see the development of economic metrics to support the science of GREENPRINT.

He says that ALT is currently looking for funding to support an economic impact study. While economic data for land conservation programs exists for other regions, it’s not the type of information that can be applied universally. Kraynyk says that we need regional data in order to make smart regional decisions.

Kraynyk is optimistic about the future. He says that ALT’s surveys show that the public has an increasing awareness of the value of conservation, public green space, and sustainable development. He hopes to raise awareness, and funds, to further GREENPRINT and ALT’s other projects so that citizens and their elected officials can be more proactive in protecting and preserving our natural resources.

*Jennifer McGuiggan, a freelance writer and editor, is owner of The Word Cellar. For photos by Brian Cohen and this entire article see Pop City, December 1, 2007 issue.*
As this year comes to an end, it is time to reflect and to toast all of you who made 2007 quite a year to remember…

The year we received initial accreditation!!!

Happy Holidays

Enjoy!

Classes resume and labyrinth design deadline
Monday, January 7, 2008!