THESE EXQUISITE PLANT SALE POSTERS ARE STILL AVAILABLE TO ORDER, BUT ONLY LIMITED EDITION. $10.00 small 22” length; $20.00 large 44” length
IF INTERESTED REPLY TO KARY ARIMOTO-MERCER AT
karyam@mac.com
This month read about:
1. Deadlines for Summer Session
2. Conferences/Meetings/Events
3. Work-Study/Internship Opportunities
4. Chatham College Student Chapter ASLA
5. Design Awards/Competitions
6. Education/Volunteer Opportunity
7. Scholarship/Internship Opportunities
8. Design Work Opportunities
9. Job Opportunities
10. Research Papers Wanted
11. News of Interest
12. News from Sustainable Pittsburgh

Deadlines for summer sessions
Following are the remaining deadlines for summer sessions 2006:

Seven-week session (May 22 – July 11):
Request for withdrawal   Friday, June 23
Request for incomplete  Tuesday, July 11

Twelve-week session (May 22 – August 15):
Request for withdrawal   Wednesday, July 12
Request for incomplete  Tuesday, August 15

Eight-week session (June 20 – August 15:
Add/drop   Tuesday, June 27
Request for withdrawal  Monday, July 24
Request for incomplete  Tuesday, August 15

Unless the instructor stipulates a shorter time period for completion of the work, deadline for resolution of summer 2006 incompletes for undergraduate students is within 6 weeks of the end of the term/session in which it was received; for graduate students, the deadline is no later than the end of the fall 2006 term.

Conferences/Meetings/Events

Please show your support for the Community Design Center of Pittsburgh (CDCP) by shopping at Whole Foods Market on Wednesday, June 21. On that day, Whole Foods will donate 5% of their sales to the CDCP. Whole Foods Market is located at 5880 Centre Avenue in East Liberty and store hours are from 8:00am to 10:00pm.
The Community Design Center of Pittsburgh is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life in the Pittsburgh region by encouraging good design of the built environment. We do this by investing in strategic projects, providing access to architectural and planning resources and educating the public about the importance of good design. For more information visit www.cdcp.org.

Thanks in advance for your support!

Jennifer Fox
Events & Communications Coordinator, Community Design Center of Pittsburgh
What's happening at Schenley Plaza this weekend?

The Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy presents free entertainment all weekend. Looking for something to do on Father’s Day? Bring Dad to Schenley Plaza on Sunday and enjoy family entertainment, free rides on the carousel, and free parking in Oakland!

Zany Umbrella Circus
The Zany Umbrella Circus, sponsored by The Heinz Endowments Small Arts Initiative, will be performing on the Emerald Lawn in Schenley Plaza throughout the weekend. Be sure to catch their next performance! Showtimes are as follows:
- June 16 - 12:00, 7:00
- June 17 - 11:00, 3:00, 7:00
- June 18 - 11:00, 3:00

Live Music
Jazz, rock, reggae and more on the Plaza Oval
- June - October
  - Mondays - Fridays 11:45 - 1:15 PM
  - Saturdays 12:30-3:30 PM

For Kids of All Ages
Kids fun includes storytelling, balloons, and puppet shows. Meet up at the PNC Carousel!
- Sunday, June 18 - 11:00 - 3:00

History Walks in Schenley Plaza and Park
Docent-led walks beginning at the Schenley Plaza Oval
- Every Sunday June 11 - October 29
  - Leaving from the Plaza Oval at 1:00 PM

www.schenleyplaza.org
AIA Pittsburgh and the Office of Public Art present AIA Pittsburgh’s June Membership Meeting at the SPACE Gallery, 812 Liberty Avenue, on **Thursday, June 29th from 5 – 7 pm.** Join us for a short panel discussion with artists and architects involved with the Strawberry Way public art projects, and the opportunity to pick up and try out the new Pittsburgh Art In Public Places: Downtown Walking Tour booklets. This event is free to all, but as space is limited, registration is required! To register, contact AIA Pittsburgh at 412-471-9548, info@aiapgh.org or register online.

**June 29, 2006**  
**2006 PA SAFETY DAYS**  
*Bringing the Industry to You*  
Pennsylvania One Call Plans  
FREE Outdoor Safety Day in Schnecksville & Cranberry

PA One Call will hold one of its annual events on the grounds of the Schnecksville Fire Company on Old Packhouse Rd., six miles north of Allentown. This free event will offer opportunities for education and fun in areas of underground safety and damage prevention.

There will be a LIVE Trench Rescue drill by Dauphin County Special Operations, backhoe, skid-steer and excavator rodeo’s, drill contest, and much more. Demonstrations will move you through an actual notification—from marking in white paint to exposing the underground line to vacuum excavating. Educational breakout sessions include OSHA, US Dept of Transportation, Office of Pipeline Safety, DEP, Confined Space Entry, PA One Call and Labor & Industry, Bureau of Pennsafe. Plenty of freebies—lunch, door prizes, and a free excavation safety guide. Bring your whole staff for a day of education.

If you can’t make the Schnecksville event, join us at the Cranberry Township Public Works facility off of Rt. 19, twenty miles north of Pittsburgh on September 14th.

Read more about the Safety Days and register on-line at [www.paonecall.org](http://www.paonecall.org) or call 1-800-248-1786 ext. 7136.

**Schnecksville 'At a Glance' Schedule – see web site for more details**

- 07:00 a.m. – 02:00 p.m.  
  Registration
- 07:30 a.m.  
  Welcome
- 08:00 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.  
  Auditorium – Sessions
- 09:00 a.m. – 02:30 p.m.  
  Exhibitor Area
- 09:00 a.m. – 02:30 p.m.  
  Demonstrations
- 11:30 a.m. – 01:30 p.m.  
  Lunch
- 03:00 p.m.  
  Door Prizes

**June 30, 2006**  
grab your friends and join Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation for **An Evening On Grandview**... A great, big block party & house tour where everyone’s invited!

**Once in a lifetime opportunity to participate in Michael Dirr's Summer Short Courses at Phipps Botany Hall:**  
**Wednesday, July 12th evening lecture on Hydrangeas for American Gardens from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**  
**An all day program on New Woodies for the Landscape, Thursday, July 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Space is now limited to less than 25 seats. Time is of the essence…call Phipps Garden Center at 412-441-4442 extension 3201 or contact Mike Masiuk at mcm2@psu.edu
July 19, 2006 - Alliance Building Breakfast: Green Building Products: Positioning Southwestern Pennsylvania as the U.S. Manufacturing Center

Recently, GBA released a report entitled “Green Building Products: Positioning Southwestern Pennsylvania as the U.S. Manufacturing Center,” which documents the rapidly expanding market for green building products and the region's unique opportunity to realize economic growth from this market shift. Join us on July 19th to hear more about this exciting report.

Chautauqua Institution’s summer lecture series will feature in their fourth week, the week of July 17, 2006, the theme of: Landscape Architecture and Community Design. Dennis Carmichael, ASLA, Principal of EDAW; along with James van Sweden, FASLA, founding partner of Oehme, van Sweden & Associates; Charles Birnbaum, FASLA, landscape architect preservationist; and L. Azeo Torre, AIA, president of Torre/Design Consortium in New Orleans are all speaking among others. See schedule below.

There are hotel rates through ASLA or Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation. Alumni Affairs is thinking of organizing a happy hour gathering Wednesday July 19th, if anyone is interested? Other ideas are welcome.

Week Four: Landscape Architecture and Community Design
2006 > Chautauqua Institution

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Friday, July 21, 2006  Chatham at Chautauqua  4:00-6:30 P.M.
An informal gathering of Chatham College Alumnae and friends at
the 11th Annual Chatham at Chautauqua Event.

This year's event will be hosted by Sigo Falk, Chatham College Trustee, and Jean Falk at
12 McClintock Street on the Institution grounds at the corner of Andrews Street.
RSVP to the Office of Alumnae Affairs
412-365-1517 or alumnae@chatham.edu by July 14, 2006

July 26, 2006 - GBA Presents: Commissioning LEED-NC Projects
Gain knowledge of the building commissioning process as required by LEED; the benefits, costs
and resources available to projects through LEED; and the commissioning agent's role as it
applies to a project's design strategies and LEED certification documentation. The
Commissioning LEED for New Construction (LEED-NC) Projects Module presented by the U.S.
Green Building Council will increase your understanding in each of these areas.

Graduate Commencement Ceremony:  Saturday, August 19, 2006
Hope to have several landscape students in participating!

August 22, 2006  Chatham College
Graduate Landscape Architecture & Interior Architecture
Orientation and Beginning of the Year Reception  6:30 p.m.
Art and Design Center

For future consideration:

Register by August 28, 2006 and SAVE $100
Subject: 2006 ACSA Central Regional Conference October 20-22, 2006

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, will be hosting the fall regional conference and the theme is "Reconciliation | Remediation: Post-Industrial Transformation". The theme of this conference is very relevant to the discipline of Landscape Architecture. Request for scholarly papers from Landscape Architects. The date of the conference is October 20-22, 2006.

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National Preservation Conference: Pittsburgh 2006

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, with the Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation and Pittsburgh and Pennsylvania partners, will plan and carry out the National Preservation Conference in Pittsburgh, October 31 – November 5, 2006

General Information

The National Preservation Conference is the premier educational event for historic preservation in the United States. Each year it is the principal educational mechanism for community preservationists across the United States. It enables 2,000 participants to:

- learn from leading experts and practitioners from across the U. S.,
- share tactics and achievements with each other,
learn from on-site exploration of the host city/region, and

return to their own communities with new knowledge and inspiration.

Pittsburgh successfully competed to host the 2006 Conference because of its wealth of historic places, livability of the city, and surrounding countryside. The Pittsburgh History & Landmarks Foundation is a principal partner of the National Trust in planning and carrying out the conference.

The conference is unique in that it uses the Host City and region as a laboratory to explore current issues and strategies in community preservation and revitalization. More than 30 field sessions will take place throughout the city and region. These will include neighborhood revitalization, affordable housing, downtown revitalization, brownfields, countryside protection, transportation strategies, and heritage tourism. These field sessions are supplemented by 50 educational sessions, presenting the best case studies and approaches from across the country.

The theme for the 2006 National Preservation Conference in Pittsburgh is “Making Preservation Work!” Distinguished author and historian David McCullough, a Pittsburgh native, has accepted National Trust President Richard Moe’s invitation to present the keynote address. Esther Bush, David Barenfeld, and Phil Hallen, all trustees of Landmarks, are leading the 2006 conference planning committee.

Preparations are in full swing for the 2006 National Preservation Conference to be held in Pittsburgh, PA on October 31 – November 5.

Some important forms that are already posted on the conference website:
The Affinity Application Form,
The Exhibit Hall Application and the Volunteer Application Form.

All are available at https://www.nthpconference.org/

**Work-Study/Internship Opportunities**

**Apply for Tuition waiver-work study in Chatham’s Arboretum for FALL term 2 positions available – See below and contact Lisa Kunst Vavro for details**

In the summer 2004, for the first time, the landscape program was able to offer two (2) students a work-study opportunity for a partial tuition waiver. The work consisted of assisting the head Groundskeeper, Daniel Kisiel, on the Chatham College grounds and Arboretum. We now offer this opportunity again each semester. This is not just work, it is a learning experience!

It has been approved that each work study in the Chatham College Arboretum will be valued at a three (3) credit tuition waiver. The work will consist of 18 hours per 11 weeks. For the spring term, the work will be condensed after winter, but consist of the same amount of hours.

Chatham College administration is offering two (2) work study opportunities each spring and fall semesters with four (4) available in the summer.

Kary Arimoto-Mercer and Carol Weston were the first to take this opportunity the summer of 2004. If you have any questions about the work, please ask them. Anyone interested in this work-study opportunity, please contact Director Lisa Kunst Vavro at 412-365-1882 or lvavro@chatham.edu
A CONTINUOUS REMINDER:

PA/DE Chapter ASLA Western Section Student Extracurricular Grant

Look at the seminar and conference opportunities listed above. Think about how you could use this grant money and apply!
The PA/DE ASLA Chapter has established a Chatham College Student Extracurricular Grant of $1,000.00/year for landscape students. These grant monies are open for application to all Chatham College students in the landscape programs. Individual applications will now be awarded for a maximum of $200.00 each toward an event, conference or field trip the student would like to attend but may not have the necessary funding to do so.

To apply, a student must write at least one paragraph to one page explaining how the grant would be used, as well as, explaining what the applicant's needs are. These applications should be submitted in a sealed envelope to Director Lisa Kunst Vavro, which in turn will be submitted to PA/DE ASLA Chapter’s Western Section Chair, Rachelle Wolf, for review and determination.

These new grant monies are available for application NOW and should be available until the end of academic year 2006-7, if not claimed.

Think about how you could use these funds and apply… FIRST COME FIRST SERVE…

ALL-AMERICA ROSE SELECTIONS KICKS OFF ITS FIRST “DESIGNING WITH ROSES” COMPETITION
FOR PROFESSIONAL AND STUDENT LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND DESIGNERS

Innovative, rose-centric entries to receive national recognition

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 20, 2006 – All-America Rose Selections™ (AARS™) has opened its Designing with Roses Competition to recognize and honor excellence in landscape architecture and garden design by both professionals and students. The AARS is currently accepting entries for 2006 through July 7.

AARS will judge entries on design excellence, execution and creativity in the fields of landscape architecture and garden design. The call for entries extends to a broad scope of landscapes, from commercial properties including hospitals, corporate complexes, and university grounds, to private estates and homes. To honor the AARS’ mission of introducing and promoting exceptional roses, all submissions must incorporate U.S. roses as a primary design element.

Winning entries will be selected by a jury of experts including members of the AARS,
members from the American Society of Landscape Architects and garden writers from trade and consumer gardening publications. Selected winners will be announced and honored in August 2006 at the 58th annual Garden Writers Association symposium in Valley Forge, Penn.

First place for professional design includes a trip for two to the 2007 Pasadena Tournament of Roses parade in January 2007; students' designs will be honored with cash prizes totaling more $1,750. Second and third place professional selections will also be awarded and all finalists will be publicized in a variety of industry publications including the AARS newsletter and web site, ASLA related newsletters, as well as other landscape trade and general interest garden publications.

"Landscaping professionals dedicate their lives to the creation of beautiful spaces," says AARS president Steve Hutton. "We're very excited about this competition because it enables us to recognize two of our organization's passions: supporting the amazing work of these talented individuals, and showing that roses, now easier to grow than ever, can be at the forefront of design."

For more information, official rules and to enter the competition, visit the AARS website at www.rose.org

About All-America Rose Selections (www.rose.org)
All-America Rose Selections is a nonprofit association dedicated to the introduction and promotion of exceptional roses. Since 1938, the AARS trial program has encouraged the rose industry to improve the vitality, disease resistance and beauty of roses for American home gardens. Today, the AARS program is one of the most successful and highly regarded of its kind, having brought to the forefront such roses as Peace, Mister Lincoln, Knock Out and Bonica.

Scholarship / Internship Opportunities

Subject: World Bank 2006 International Symposium

ATHGO International
13636 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 222
Los Angeles, California 91423, USA
818.345.6734 Telephone: 818.345.0955 Facsimile

Janet Ingram of Chatham's Continuing Education Department received this e-mail:

The purpose of this email is to offer discounted registration to three (3) students from Chatham College to attend an International Symposium at the World Bank Headquarters in Washington D.C. titled Architects of the Future: Making Tomorrow Better Today, July 5-7, 2006. This event, which is organized by ATHGO International, is cosponsored by the World Bank’s External Affairs division.

The World Bank 2006 International Symposium will invite 200 select students from Universities and Colleges worldwide, young corporate professionals, and young diplomats from the UN Permanent Missions. The three-day event will host a distinguished panel of speakers and discuss three of the United Nations’ Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the World
Bank’s role in their implementation. The symposium will focus on the MDG I (eradicating extreme poverty and hunger), II (achieving universal primary education), and VI (combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases). In addition to taking part in this intellectual discussion, the symposium participants will leave with several significant resources, such as:

- **Scholarships** – available for the top 10 participants, including 3 all expense paid trips to be part of a delegation at ATHGO International’s summit at UN’s European Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland (valued $10,000 US).
- Advanced negotiating skills
- Enhanced understanding about international diplomacy
- Improved leadership and teamwork skills
- Personal career advice from world diplomats
- A network of young professionals and Senior World Bank officials
- The motivation and inspiration required to succeed in today's ever-complex global environment

**The World Bank 2006 International Symposium** is organized by **ATHGO International**, a US based NGO whose mission is to train, motivate, and inspire the next generations of diplomats and international public policy professionals. Established in 1999, ATHGO has been awarded consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) for its role in reaching out to students worldwide and educating the young people about global human rights, democratic development, economic self-determination, security, and other issues of a global dimension.

**The World Bank 2006 International Symposium** is sponsored and supported by the World Bank’s External Affairs, the UN Permanent Missions, and **Academic Institutions**.*

*(For a list of schools that participated in our previous events, please visit our April UN New York symposium page at: [http://www.athgo.org/programs/events/2006/New%20York/events_ny06_academia1.asp](http://www.athgo.org/programs/events/2006/New%20York/events_ny06_academia1.asp))

**Speakers at our previous symposia have included:**

- **Armen Baiburtian**: Deputy Foreign Minister, the Republic of Armenia
- **Anwaul Kim Chowdhury**: Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
- **Amir Dossal**: Executive Director, United Nations Fund for International Partnerships
- **Michael S. Dukakis**: Former Governor of Massachusetts, Democratic Party nominee for the presidency of the United States in the 1988 elections, Distinguished Professor of political science at Northeastern University in Massachusetts
- **Leon Fuerth**: Former National Security Advisor to Vice-President Al Gore
- **Sarbuland Khan**: Director, Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination
- **Koby Koomson**: Ambassador to the United States from the Republic of Ghana
- **Francis Lorenzo**: Ambassador at the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the UN
- **Michael Mahdesian**: Former Deputy Assistant Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development, Bureau of Humanitarian Response
- **Hanifa Mezoui**: Chief, UN NGO Section, DESA
- **Shashi Tharoor**: Under-Secretary-General, UN Communications and Public Information
- **Antonio Villaraigosa**: Mayor, City of Los Angeles
- **Steve Westly**: Controller, State of California

**Fees:**

We are offering a discounted registration fee of $95.00 (US) for your students. The regular registration fee is $195 per student. Applications are available online at [www.athgo.org](http://www.athgo.org), and the registration deadline is **June 19, 2006**.
The **Renewable Natural Resource Foundation (RNRF)** has developed a new tool for students interested in a career in natural resources. This new resource includes:

- **Internship information** for students interested in natural resource internships in the federal government and at and through natural resource societies.

- Educational opportunities in the natural resource fields including over 1000 schools offering programs in natural resources along with some other helpful tools in choosing the appropriate source of higher education.

- Career tools will help students identify various natural resource fields and determine which fields interest them.

These new tools are easily accessed from RNRF's website ([http://www.rnrf.org](http://www.rnrf.org)) by selecting "Internships/Education" from the toolbar. RNRF's website also offers other information of interest to the natural resource community including upcoming meetings and workshops, international news, information about Renewable Resources Journal, and news from our member organizations.

**Design Work Opportunities**

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

1) To discourage Canadian geese from using these ponds during their migration,
2) There is a section with large flat boulders on the edge of the pond. At one time the area around the boulders was vegetated.
   However, between the geese, ducks and the local people that fish there, the vegetation has now become dirt.
3) The owners would like to keep the pondscape plantings as natural as possible with low maintenance.

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

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

*Is anyone interested in this design project?*

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

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

Is anyone interested in this design project?

Residential homeowner in Ben Avon Heights (North Hills) is interested in hiring a student for paid work throughout summer on expansive one-acre hillside garden. Due to renovations, creativity in re-shaping the gardens is needed - as well as pruning and other maintenance. Hours are negotiable, but assume 10-20 hours weekly. Interested?

Is anyone interested in this design project?

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

Is anyone interested in this design project?

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

Is anyone interested in this design project?

Upper St. Clair residential design of ½ acre property, challenging hillside site to include children’s play area, possible water feature and siting of a new two car garage.

Is anyone interested in this design project?

Job Opportunities

Chatham College Music and Arts Day Camp has a position available for a counselor who will work with campers in grades K - 3 this summer. This position starts on Monday, June 19 and continues weekdays through July 28, 8:45 am - 4:15 pm. We require an individual with a love of working with children, a passion for the arts and the dedication to make this summer a special experience for our campers. If you are interested in joining our team of musicians, artists, theater and dance instructors, writers, photographers and counselors as we celebrate 50 years of summer music and art at Chatham, please call 412-576-9149 or email us at daycamp@chatham.edu.

Robert T. Timmins, Director
Chatham College Music and Arts Day Camp
GRADUATE STAFF ASSISTANT Part-Time

Chatham College has a part-time administrative position in the Graduate Admissions office. The chosen applicant will assist the Director and other staff members; process credentials and applications; update and maintain files; help prepare for recruiting events. Requires 5+ years’ experience that includes administrative support and project management; MS-Word/Excel proficiency; superior organizational and communication skills. A professional demeanor is a must.

All interested candidates should send a cover letter with salary requirements, resume, and the names of 3 professional references to:

CHATHAM COLLEGE
Human Resources Dept.
Pos. #873
Woodland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
E-mail: chathr@chatham.edu
Visit: www.chatham.edu
Chatham College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer

Interested in gardening????

My husband and I are looking for landscape help during the spring/summer/fall months to help us maintain a quite expansive garden we inherited upon the purchase of our North Hills home. (pruning, re-planting, weeding, altering beds, etc)

The gardens include a pond, rare plantings, and an expansive variety of trees, shrubs and perennials. While we are learning about gardening, we could use the extra education and hard work involved in maintaining it. For any student seeking experience in this area, our gardens would provide plenty of hands-on education!

Does Chatham's Landscape Design program offer internships or other arrangements with private residences like ours?

If partnerships were not feasible, is there any way that we could advertise a paid opportunity through your newsletter or within your department? Could you suggest an alternative?

Any help you could offer would be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your time.

Research Papers Wanted

Call for Abstracts 2007 Active Living Research Conference

Active Living Research is pleased to announce the 4th Annual Conference scheduled on February 22-24, 2007, in Coronado, California. The theme of the 2007 Conference is “Active Living in Diverse and Disadvantaged Communities”. Please check our website periodically for the most up-to-date information about the conference.

Active Living Research (ALR) invites abstracts to be considered for presentation at the 2007 Annual Conference. Abstracts are welcome on all topics related to active living policies and environments and abstracts related to the conference theme are particularly encouraged. The theme can be viewed from many perspectives related to economics, crime, culture, etc. Abstracts are also particularly encouraged with a focus on preventing obesity in communities, neighborhoods, children and families.
Abstracts are invited for both posters and oral presentations. All abstracts should describe research that is related to policy and environmental aspects of active living. Methodological, correlational, intervention, economic and policy studies are encouraged. Abstracts presenting innovative conceptual papers and reviews will also be considered, including those with a focus on translating research into practice and policy to promote active living. Preference will be given to abstracts that report complete results.

The American Journal of Preventive Medicine (AJPM) has agreed to produce a special issue devoted to research on active living presented at the ALR conference. Approximately twelve (12) of the abstracts selected for presentation at the conference will also be invited to submit papers for consideration of inclusion in the special issue. Both theme and non-theme abstracts are eligible for consideration for the AJPM special issue.

The Call for Abstracts is NOW OPEN online: http://www.activelivingresearch.org/index.php/Call_for_Abstracts_2007/389. (If the link does not work, please copy and paste the link into your Web browser.)

The abstract submission deadline is Thursday, July 20th, 1:00 p.m. PDT.

If you have any questions about the abstract submission process, please contact Amanda Wilson, Research Coordinator, at awilson@projects.sdsu.edu or 619-260-5538.

Interdisciplinary Design and Research e-Publication (IDRP).

Please see: http://www.idrp.wsu.edu/

Theme for first issue: DESIGN and HEALTH

Call for Papers and Projects

How can quality design impact quality health? This question headlines our Call for Papers and Projects for the inaugural issue of the Interdisciplinary Design and Research e-Publication (IDRP).

Our question is purposefully broad, because our aim is for the audience from which we invite contributions to also be broad. We value perspectives from the fields of medicine, the social sciences, law, education, public service, the arts and, of course, the design disciplines.

By design we mean design of all sorts and all scales, from signage to skyscrapers, from sidewalks to cities, from backyards to formal gardens.

By health we mean quality of life, from birthing through aging, in all contexts, from rural living to urban living to global communities, and for the whole person, from physical wellness to psychological well being.

The guiding criterion is that each submission demonstrates clearly the benefits of being interdisciplinary; indeed, interdisciplinary must in some way be part of the logic of the submission. This requirement can be met by cross-disciplinary studies, collaborative or participatory projects, cross-cultural or inter-cultural ventures, in short, any effort that transcends the boundaries of conventional disciplines to achieve positive results in connecting design to health and quality of life.

Articles should not exceed 4,000 words and may be submitted in Word or PDF formats.

Projects should be submitted in low resolution JPEG images (6 maximum), along with a written description of the project and its interdisciplinary benefits (not to exceed 1,000 words).

Deadline for submissions: July 1, 2006 For more information, contact: David Wang, davewang@wsu.edu
News of Interest

We have 4 baby ducks in the Mellon Pond!
Stop by and take a look.

Marsha Melzer
Human Resources

Additions to Chatham’s Library”
The following titles requested are now available on the new books shelf:

Corner, James., ed. Recovering Landscape. 712/R326C

Helming, Katharina and Hubert Wiggering, eds. Sustainable Development of Multifunctional Landscapes. 33.76/Su782h

OAKLAND FARMERS MARKET RETURNS FRIDAY JUNE 30

The Oakland Business Improvement District announces the return of the successful Oakland Farmers Market event in the heart of Oakland’s business district. Beginning Friday, June 30 and continuing every Friday through November 17, the Oakland Farmers Market will be open from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Sennott Street, between Meyran Avenue and Atwood Street. Free parking available in the adjacent parking lot.

Due to the overwhelming demand from last year, this year’s Oakland Farmers Market will feature ten vendors to include three new vendors. A range of products will be made available produced locally in Western Pennsylvania: from fresh produce such as tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, squash, berries, to beautiful cut flowers, baked goods, fresh salsa, hummus and more! Organic produce and organic meats will be made available as well.

The Oakland Business Improvement District, the economic development agency representing the Central Oakland business community, joined with several partners and sponsors to make this event possible: Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture, National City, Oakland Community Council, Oakland Planning and Development Corporation, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, University of Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh Staff Association Council, and Carlow University.

For more information contact the Oakland Business Improvement District at 412-683-6243 or visit the website www.onlyinoakland.org

Research & Editorial

Title: New Rules for Wetland Restoration
Issue: LOL - June 13, 2006
Author: Staff

To add a comment, correction or clarification, click here.

New Rules for Wetland Restoration
The Government Accountability Office, Congress’ investigative arm, found last year the Army Corps could not ensure that the 40,000 acres of wetlands restoration work required each year since 1983 is actually taking place.

The Bush administration is encouraging developers who destroy wetlands or streams and are required to replace them to pay other businesses to do the work. The Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency have issued proposed regulations that are intended to promote companies that specialize in creating swamps, marshes and streams. About 300 such businesses now exist.

Developers could buy credits from such companies to compensate for the bogs, swamps, marshes and other types of wetlands and streams they fill in. This is the first time the government has issued a rule spelling out what professional standards for wetlands compensation should be required under the Clean Water Act. George Dunlop, the Army’s deputy assistant secretary, said greater use of mitigation banking would make restoration work more predictable and consistent. With the proposed regulations, the government is turning to private businesses to improve compliance.

The lower 48 states in pre-colonial times had an estimated 220 million acres of wetlands and streams, but 115 million acres of them had been destroyed by 1997, according to government estimates. The administration now claims to have reversed the government’s estimated loss of 58,500 acres of wetlands annually. But the National Wildlife Federation says the nation is still losing 130,000 acres of wetlands a year. The group said the administration is including in its count of wetlands “open water systems” such as new lakes, reservoirs and golf and stormwater retention ponds.

*Source: Associated Press*
MONEY Magazine Lists Top 50 Jobs—LAs Rank 34th

How stressful is your job? Money Magazine rates the stress level of landscape architects at a B-; a B for difficulty, a B- for creativity, and a lowly C- for flexibility.

The magazine says the average pay for a LA is $50,383, with five percent of LAs make more than $95,134.

The top salaried job in the field is a Landscape Architect IV. Salary.com says the median expected salary for a typical Landscape Architect IV in the U.S. is $65,859, a number arrived at using their certified compensation professionals’ analysis of survey data from thousands of HR departments at employers of all sizes, industries and geographies.

Money says the 10-year job growth for landscape architects (2004-2014) is 19.43 percent.

Mulch Mounds Are Killing Trees

By Scott Aker
Special to The Washington Post
Thursday, June 8, 2006; Page H07

Q What are your views on mulching trees? In our subdivision, the landscaper hired by the homeowners association follows the common practice of dressing the base of the trees with a mound of shredded hardwood mulch. Besides looking absurd, this mulch cannot be healthy for the trees, I believe. I am tired of my dues paying to replace sick trees that have died or fallen over. I've tried contacting the authorities in charge, only to be told that I should write a letter explaining why it is bad for the trees when it "looks so nice," and they will "consider the matter." Am I right?

If I had the choice of eliminating one harmful gardening practice, it would be the mulch volcanoes that appear around trees. To some, it may look neat and tidy, but it ultimately results in tree decline and mortality. That "professionals" are doing it and giving it credence boggles the mind. The aim may be to preserve soil moisture in dry spells; the effect is exactly the opposite: No rain can penetrate a foot-thick layer of mulch, and because the mulch is sloped away from the tree, it runs off. Thick mulch also promotes the growth of mats of fungi that shed water. In effect, the mound functions as an umbrella over the root zone.

A trunk wound covered in mulch doesn't heal and becomes an entryway for pests and disease. Also, many trees actually send roots out into the mulch over time, in a desperate search for moisture. These often grow near the surface of the mulch and are subject to drought stress. A heavy layer of mulch may also harbor rodents that can injure the bark and major roots.

Often trees mulched in this way fail to develop a normal root flare, which works to buttress the trunk as the tree grows to maturity. Heavily mulched trees are more likely to be uprooted in a windstorm.

Mulch volcanoes are most injurious to young trees, and, unfortunately, that is where they are seen most often. If a newly planted tree is subjected to this treatment, the root ball may be completely shielded from any moisture, even if the area is irrigated heavily. Such trees may struggle to become established and often die within five years of planting.

The correct method is to form a circular ridge of soil at the edge of the root zone and then lightly mulch this saucer so that the soil and mulch together trap rainwater and feed it to the roots. Mulch should not touch the trunk.
Your association should consider the effect of mulch volcanoes not only on the trees, but also on its finances: All that mulch and the labor to apply it costs money, as do the replacement trees.

Cloonan, Patrick, “Mon/Fayette foes renew call to scrap project,”
The Daily News, May 26, 2006

Is it time to scrap the Mon/Fayette Expressway so scarce transportation dollars can go to other projects and needs in Southwestern Pennsylvania?

That’s a possible conclusion after the Urban Land Institute found the road, also known as Turnpike 43, will cost $1.4 billion more than expected and may be too expensive to complete with available funding.

“The report is very comprehensive and it basically puts to rest the question in a lot of people’s minds about how feasible it is to build this road,” Citizens for Pennsylvania’s Future outreach manager Heather Sage said Thursday. “The money isn’t there, hasn’t been there for years. I think it’s time for the elected officials and the turnpike commission who have been supporting this road for such a long time to be honest with the people of Southwestern Pennsylvania and the state that this has been a cruel hoax.”

Sage called for a halt to right-of-way purchases for the toll road between Route 51 in Jefferson Hills and Interstate 376.

“The turnpike has been spending a lot of time in the communities in the path of the road about acquiring properties,” Sage said. “There should be a moratorium on right of way acquisition because the money is not there to build this road.”

Mon Valley Progress Council executive director Joseph Kirk does not see the expressway as a hoax. He said turnpike commission CEO Joseph G. Brimmeier “conceded that those were appropriate numbers” in the ULI report.

“No one is questioning that the cost for constructing the expressway has increased,” Kirk said. “Costs have gone up 30 percent in the last two years.”

However, Kirk does question whether the political will exists to get needed funding, the way such will was used 15 years ago.

In 1991, Kirk said, “under the leadership of state Sen. J. Barry Stout (D-Somerset Twp.), the landmark legislation…permitted the use of state gasoline tax funds, in this case oil franchise fees, to support bonds for the construction of a toll road.”

Kirk believes more can be pulled out of federal coffers.

“The real issue is that we have to sit down with our U.S. congressional delegation,” he said., “This project now is 95 percent state-funded. Kirk would accept even a ration of “20 percent federal/80 state (funding) which is a reversal of the normal process.”

Private investor Macquarie Infrastructure Group of Australia may be involved. It reportedly offered $3 billion for the Turnpike 43 segment rolling through Dravosburg, Duquesne and North Versailles Twp. In return for a long-term lease of the toll road.

“this is an organization that has purchased toll roads and has developed them also,” Kirk said.

The ULI report, based on a Heinz Endowments-funded study conducted by East Liberty CONSAD Research Corp., is one more item among a cacophony of studies, reports and
statements about transportation in and around Pittsburgh.

PennFuture, in a January policy statement, endorsed “a solution that ensures stable, reliable funding for public transit and the adoption of a ‘fix-it-first’ policy to direct transportation funding to maintenance of existing roads and bridges rather than to new road building.”

Meanwhile, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission has released a comprehensive “regional strategic vision” for public transportation across 10 counties. Also, an Eastern Corridor Transit Study, dealing with needs in communities east of Pittsburgh, was aired at public briefings in McKeesport, East Pittsburgh, Greensburg and other locations.

In addition, a Transportation Funding and Reform Commission established under executive order by Gov./ Ed Rendell has until Nov. 15 to present a report that “shall, at a minimum, recommend specific funding sources and amounts for transit and for highways.”

For a printable copy of PennFuture Facts, please visit our website at www.pennfuture.org

Vol. 8, No. 11
May 31, 2006

IF WE HAD A DOLLAR...

If the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission (PTC) had a dollar for every promise it and proponents of the Mon-Fayette Toll Road have made over the years, it might have the billions needed to build the road. And if a plan had been implemented to repair and rebuild the existing roads and bridges in the Mon Valley instead of squandering millions just on the preliminary plans for the Toll Road, the Mon Valley would be a healthier and more prosperous place today.

A report commissioned by the Urban Land Institute (ULI) released on May 23 details the cold hard facts: the cold hard cash simply doesn't exist, and at this stage, no one has a clue where to get it. The study, done by CONSAD Research Corporation, concludes that state and federal funding sources are tapped out. And this isn't just a short-term shortfall; this is for the long haul.

We aren't talking chump change. The price tag for the Toll Road is skyrocketing, now at an estimated 5.4 billion dollars—a jump of 35 percent in only five years. The report details what we've known for a long time: there is a massive funding shortfall, now at 3.5 billion dollars, but growing everyday.

PTC Executive Director Joe Brimmeier admits that since the CONSAD folks interviewed PTC for the report earlier this year, the amount needed for the 24-mile Pittsburgh section of the Toll Road has jumped up an additional 300 million dollars in a matter of months. For perspective, Boston's infamous "Big Dig" project, the only road project bigger and more expensive than the Mon-Fayette, rose in cost from initial estimates of 2.5 billion dollars to a final outlay of 14.6 billion.

Proponents argue that you can't put a price on what the Toll Road will bring to the economically depressed Mon Valley region. There is certainly no question that communities lying within the planned route of the road are in dire straits, still suffering from the massive losses of industry and population throughout what once was the world's center for steel production. The uncompleted section of the Toll Road from PA Route 51 to I-376 (the "Pittsburgh section") would run through 11 communities in the Mon Valley and six neighborhoods of Pittsburgh. Seven of those communities have poverty rates in excess of 20 percent, with 41 percent of Rankin Borough's residents living below the poverty level. Even the City of Pittsburgh's poverty rate is at 21 percent. Five
communities, including Pittsburgh, are officially designated as economically distressed under the state's Act 47 ("Municipalities Financial Recovery Act") program, and are perilously close to bankruptcy.

But so far, all this section of the Toll Road has produced is more poverty, more abandoned and dilapidated property, more young people moving out and degraded local roads and bridges. It is a downward spiral that is very predictable - property owners stop upkeep since their homes and businesses are in the crosshairs of a highway and likely to be taken by the government; both those properties and others become valueless and selling to a private owner becomes nearly impossible; people leave the area as it continues to deteriorate; the tax base becomes nearly non-existent and the local community no longer can provide services.

Ironically, it was a resurgent boom in industry in the 1950s that spawned the notion of the Mon-Fayette Turnpike Extension in the first place. From the 1980s onward, however, the region's economic base has shifted to services, technology and medicine-endeavors that require very different transportation systems to operate efficiently and effectively.

Toll Road proponents have provided no evidence that the benefits will outweigh the gargantuan costs. For a region in such obvious need, it would be a waste of unfathomable proportions to invest billions in a road that would at best yield no meaningful net benefits, and at worst plunge it into a chasm of debt.

It is critical to note that none of the plans for the Mon-Fayette address the backlog of existing road or bridge maintenance and upgrade needs in the area.

A study, done by the planning firm Glatting, Jackson, Kercher, Anglin, Lopez, Rinehart, Inc. during the federally required Environmental Impact Statement process for the project compared the Toll Road's identified project needs with expected outcomes (based on extensive reviews of state and regional socioeconomic and transportation data).

The report, entitled "A Truly Dismal Use of Public Funds," concluded the Toll Road:

- will not attract industrial development, because industrial employment in the entire Pittsburgh region will continue to trend downward;
- will discourage the location of white collar and community-serving jobs in the region;
- will shift economic development from within Pittsburgh and the Mon Valley to other areas, rather than result in a net increase in economic development and
- will increase, not relieve, traffic congestion as the road encourages shifts in population to areas outside of Pittsburgh and the Mon Valley.

Community revitalization in the area is desperately needed, but it will not be achieved with the Toll Road. But this hasn't stopped plans for buying properties along the proposed path of the Toll Road. The PTC has for the past two years continued to finalize design plans for the Pittsburgh leg. According to current timelines, the PTC plans to begin buying up properties in the right-of-way as early as January 2007. All this despite the fact that it has no other money to spend on actually building the project.

Those acquisitions will remove thousands of businesses and homes from the tax rolls of the numerous economically distressed municipalities. And as Mayor John Fetterman of Braddock (the community that will be most heavily impacted by the Toll Road) points out in recent news accounts, the lingering specter of the road has "created a ribbon that's a dead zone through the middle of Braddock." For more than a decade, communities in the proposed path of the road have been stymied from making revitalization plans simply because of the uncertainties surrounding the Toll Road.
The Federal Highway Administration usually requires projects to have detailed financing plans. But the PTC's "unofficial" financing plan for the Mon-Fayette has relied on sources of funds like skimming off the top of federal transportation dollars or allotting 25 percent of a new gas tax to the project.

The ULI report's conclusions flash as bright as neon signs: those plans haven't worked, nor will they in the future. Brimmeier, who agrees with the report's finding, describes the PTC's role in the project as merely a "contractor," carrying out the will of the Pennsylvania Legislature.

But nothing in state law mandates the PTC to complete this project.

We all know what they say about a road that's paved with good intentions. The empty promises of prosperity and growth from the Toll Road need to come to a halt. The legislature and the PTC need instead to allow communities in Pittsburgh and the Mon Valley to focus efforts on determining their own future.

In the meantime, scarce transportation dollars must be invested in what is needed most: a sound, safe road and bridge infrastructure and stable funding for public transportation that are part of a real community revitalization plan.

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*Office 2003 Professional includes: Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, and Publisher.

**Office 2003 for Students & Teachers includes: Word, Excel, Powerpoint, and Outlook.

**AutoDesk Student/Faculty Ver**

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*Price for Students, Faculty, & Staff for personal use - pricing for schools for institutional use is different.

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Interesting publication!!!

Homeowners Guide to Stormwater Management Now Available

The Philadelphia Water Department Office of Watersheds has just published a "Homeowners Guide to Stormwater Management" as part of its "Clean Water-Green City" initiative. Homeowners can play an important role in keep streams clean by properly maintaining vehicles, building a rain garden or installing a rain barrel. This 32-page Guide has tips on environment friendly vehicle maintenance, lawn and garden care, pet waste, vehicle washing, tree planting, caring for backyard streams, winter de-icing, container gardens, rain barrels, rain gardens, creating a wildflower meadow, dry wells and infiltration testing. Download a copy of Homeowners Guide to Stormwater Management or visit the Watershed Information Center website maintained by the Philadelphia Water Department at http://www.greentreks.org/eacnetwork/pdf/PWDFinalHomeownerBMPManual11006.pdf

Visit the New USGBC Website

In addition to giving their website a new look, the U.S. Green Building Council has added features and made the pages easier to navigate. Visit www.usgbc.org to check it out!

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Anyone taking Plant Identification class this summer, may be interested in…

FOR SALE

The Manual of Woody Landscape Plants is for sale by Nick Muzekari for $50 brand new (he bought it for $61 and never opened it). Save $11 bucks on a new book? Contact Nick at nickmuzekari@msn.com

News from Sustainable Pittsburgh:

If done right, a city-county merger can bring great benefits to the entire region

Allegheny County is comprised of 130 separate municipalities (including the City of Pittsburgh), and this has created a bevy of governmental inefficiencies, redundancies and general lack of cohesion that threatens our competitiveness. To bring the county more in line with its competitors, a merger between the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County has been under exploration for the past couple of years. Such a merger would bring the city and county's duplicative services, such as public works, police protection, tax collection and other areas, under one regional government. In effect, all of Allegheny County would be considered the Pittsburgh metropolitan area, with the other municipalities retaining their political autonomy...I am optimistic that a merger has the potential to do great things for all of southwestern Pennsylvania. If done right, a merger could put Pittsburgh and the entire region in a new positive spotlight. However, such a plan is fraught with obstacles and challenges. Let's take a look at the opportunities and challenges a merger would bring to table.

http://news.pghtech.org/teq/teqstory.cfm?ID=1516