

## LATC Meeting Handout – May 25, 2021

### Agenda Item D

#### Committee Member Pamela Brief's Recommended Comments for LAAB

##### 1. Comments for Core Values:

- Environmental Health, Sustainability, Resilience and Stewardship  
This aligns with the Mission of LATC and their focus on health, safety and welfare of the consumer.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion  
This aligns with the LATC Mission.  
Perhaps under-represented populations could be expanded upon by listing those specific groups. Because landscape architecture is tied to the land, I would want to be sure we are including indigenous people.
- Human and Community Health  
This aligns with the LATC Mission.
- Professional Ethics and Responsibility  
This aligns with the LATC Mission as it relates to health.
- Leadership and Innovation  
Does the sentence below address the continuing education discussion LATC had during its April 29, 2021 meeting? Does the current DEI considerations of LAAB direct LATC to consider how we ensure the current licensees address issues that ASLA and LAAB are embracing? The question being, does this have a direct impact on health, safety, and welfare of communities in the State of California?  
“Landscape Architects seek continuous advancement of their own and discipline’s values, knowledge and skills to practice.....”

##### 2. Comments for Standard 1: Program Mission and Goals

- A: I do not see anything that should be an issue for LATC here. The program will of course need to follow the overarching Mission of the Institution it is associated with. In the state of California, I do not see this as an issue or a conflict of any sort.

- B: By asking for achievable goals and effective benchmarks and procedures for measuring goals, LAAB is enabling and ensuring professional programs achieve the Core Values set forth.
- C: A commitment to DEI is necessary. However, I am not exactly clear how LAAB will evaluate the success. For example: some programs could have more resources available for scholarships. Will that be a potential issue under the new Core Values? If so, this could reward programs with more financial resources the accreditation they seek and leave behind programs with less funding.
- E(c): Similar comment as above. Not all programs have assistantship and scholarship opportunities or financial support options.
- E(g) and (h): Address equity in a very necessary way.

### **3. Comments for Standard 2: Program Autonomy, Governance, and Administration**

- Once again, the financial support may not always be there for some institutions that wish to have a landscape architectural program. I would hate to see a program lose accreditation because of this issue.
- Ensuring programs are not greater than 15:1 may not be possible if they are underfunded.

### **4. Comments for Standard 3: Professional Curriculum**

- B.1 - Knowledge
  - Add regenerative practices under c. Resilience.
  - Add wording about TEK (Traditional Ecological Knowledge).
- B.2 - Skills and Competencies
  - f. Numeracy/Quantification – could use more description as to what this includes.
  - g. Landscape Performance – especially important as it has a direct impact on communities and our natural resources.

- C - General Studies

It seems far reaching for LAAB to require a MLA degree student to require humanities, arts, technologies, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences if they do not hold an undergraduate degree.

- D.3 - Delivery of and Augmentation to Curricular Experience

If this is requiring all students to participate in service learning, perhaps some consideration should be given to how much service learning is required. Some students who work might not have much free time. Something to consider.

**5. Comments for Standard 4: Student Outcomes and Experiences**

Suggestions are thoughtful and enhance the student experience and opportunities.

**6. Comments for Standard 5: Faculty**

Agree with this addition. It is important the DEI success in each program.

**7. Comments for Standards 6: Outreach to the Institution, Communities, Alumni, and Practitioners**

Agree with this addition.

**8. Comments for Standards 7: Facilities, Equipment, and Technology**

Agree with this addition.

**Consolidation of comments:**

I would suggest LATC approve the LAAB draft with the following considerations.

- Be more specific about who is being referenced when saying under-represented. BIPOC, women, LGBTQ, low income.....
- Take into consideration that some programs have more money than others. Some programs may not be able to provide scholarships or funds for their students in need. Do not turn accreditation into an elite program only achievable goal.
- Requiring students to participate in service learning may not be realistic for students that have to work in order to afford school.
- It seems far reaching for LAAB to require a MLA degree student to require humanities, arts, technologies, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences if they do not hold an undergraduate degree.
- Numeracy/Quantification – could use more description as to what this includes, so schools are aware of the expectations.