

OALA NEWS

Ontario Association of Landscape Architects

Monday, November 8, 2010



Ontario
Association of
Landscape
Architects

In this issue...

Member Survey Results.....	1
UofT Faculty Council position.....	1
Green Roof Seminar.....	2
Social Committee and Editorial Board Call for Volunteers	2
Member News	2
- John Szczepaniak	
- Wayne Nishihama	
Coming Events	
- Our Environmental Future.....	2
- Sustainable Suburbs Summit....	3
News from UofG	3
In other news...	
- Cornelia Hahn Oberlander.....	3

THE RESULTS ARE IN...

Last week, members were e-mailed a report on the results of our strategic planning member survey. We had a resounding 44% response rate to the on-line questionnaire and, combined with the information we received from members who participated in focus groups, OALA has a clear sense of priorities and key directions for the coming two to three years. Armed with all the raw data, OALA Council members participated in a planning workshop on October 18th and will be reviewing a draft strategic plan at the November 8th Council meeting. Further refinement will follow and all members will be kept abreast of developments as we proceed. To see the complete survey results, visit the OALA website, the homepage right-hand column, at www.oala.ca.

Right below the strategic planning member survey results, are the results from the AGM survey. Again, we had a high response rate, and based directly on the feedback received, this year's AGM will be a day-long event, held on a weekday in early March. **Save Friday, March 4th, 2011 in your calendars.** You told us that guest speakers and continuing education seminars are very important to you and an exciting program is being designed. We're also investigating the potential for web-conferencing to bring in members who can't attend in person. Stay tuned for more information as we approach year-end, and thank you to all who took the time to respond to both of these surveys. Your feedback is invaluable.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO FACULTY COUNCIL POSITION OPEN

OALA has two representatives on the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design Faculty Council. One of those members, Alex Topps, is retiring and a replacement needs to be found for him. Donna Hinde is the other Faculty Council member and she has agreed to serve another year as OALA representative.

OALA is putting out a call to members who are interested in serving on this U of T Faculty Council as a representative of our organization. The position is open to full members only. Please send a letter or e-mail, with your expression of interest, to OALA Administrator, Ronda Kellington (oalaadmin@oala.ca) by Friday, November 12th. OALA Council will be reviewing applications.



GREEN ROOFS

The OALA Green Roof Seminar on October 22nd was a great success, with 100 attendees. The Toronto Botanical Garden was a perfect setting and members were clear in their praise of the speakers. Members looking for more information on green roofs should look to Green Roofs for Healthy Cities, the industry organization which provides information and training sessions on green roof design. You can find them at: <http://www.greenroofs.org/index.php/eduprogram>

SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND EDITORIAL BOARD, CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The OALA Social Committee is looking for volunteers. The Committee's purpose is to plan more frequent and casual events as a way of increasing opportunities for social networking among OALA members, associates and students. Click here to view the full call for volunteers, posted on the OALA website.

The Editorial Board is also looking for volunteers. The Editorial Board plans the content and production of OALA's *Ground, Landscape Architect Quarterly*.

To become involved with either committee, please contact OALA Coordinator, Aina Budrevics (coordinator@oala.ca) for more information.



MEMBER NEWS

John K. Szczepaniak led an "Expert Seminar" at the recent Home & Design Show in Ottawa, which attracted 15,000+ homeowners. John's presentation, *Designing an Experience: The Fusion of Home and Garden*, shared valuable tips and tricks on landscape design, showed how to ensure a seamless integration of home and garden, and discussed new trends in residential landscape design. The presentation included a variety of inspiring slides on the before and after transformations of spaces John has worked on.

In late October, **Wayne Nishihama**, Manager of Urban Design in the Planning and Building Department, City of Mississauga, participated in an Ottawa conference on crime prevention through environmental design. Wayne's presentation, "Designing Safe Communities" illustrated that the principles of CPTED could be used as a valuable tool for the design professions. He quoted that "CPTED is basically good design." CPTED is a proactive crime fighting technique that believes proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in crime and fear of crime. Wayne received a Civilian Citation from the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board for his contribution in the development of CPTED in the Peel Region. In 2001, Wayne was awarded the OALA Public Practice Award.



COMING EVENTS

University of Guelph and The Council of Canadians are sponsoring the event *Our Environmental Future*, Wednesday, November 10th from 4:30-10:30 pm at the University. Click here to view the event poster online

COMING EVENTS continued...

Please click this link to view these events, and more!

On December 9th and 10th, The Strategy Institute will be hosting its 2nd Annual Retrofitting & Planning Sustainable Suburbs Summit in Toronto. Visit <http://www.sustainable-suburbs.ca> for registration information and for a detailed view of the agenda.

- This conference addresses pertinent questions about the tools required to ensure suburbs develop in a sustainable manner. The summit provides a platform for experts in fields ranging from planning and landscape architecture to public policy and real estate, to find practical solutions through integrating their diverse disciplines.

NEWS FROM UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

OALA President, Glenn O'Connor, recently visited classes at University of Guelph to introduce the organization to LA students and talk about the profession. Glenn was joined by Examining Board members Rich McAvan and Stephanie Snow who talked about the LARE process and OALA staffer Aina Budrevics who talked about membership and the PDP process. Students let us know the presentation was very useful and informative. The same OALA group met with University of Toronto students on November 4th.

Also from University of Guelph:

- Professor Sean Kelly (OALA Councillor) was the 2010 recipient of the U of G Faculty Association Distinguished Teaching Award (OAC). Congratulations Sean!
- Quebec-based LA Claude Cormier gave an engaging talk to a packed room on Friday, October 29th. His presentation, "Colour is not a decoration" explored his thoughts on design and reviewed his recent projects including HTO (working with Janet Rosenberg & Associates, Toronto) and Sugar Beach (in association with the Planning Partnership in Toronto).
- Cecelia Paine has been re-appointed as the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies for the University.
- Robert Brown's latest book, *Design with Microclimate: The Secret to Comfortable Outdoor Space*, is now in bookstores.
- Nadia Amoroso, this year's Visiting Scholar in Landscape Architecture, has just published her book, *The Exposed City: Mapping the Urban Invisibles*.
- Faculty member Lise Burcher has been re-elected as a Guelph City Councillor.

IN OTHER NEWS

"Landscape architect Cornelia Hahn Oberlander wasn't about to sit still when she caught wind of plans to trample her beloved National Gallery garden with a 10-storey sculpture, due to arrive next week. As Maria Cook discovered on a tour of the outspoken 86-year-old's landscapes, Oberlander isn't exactly bashful about her opinions."

Read the complete Ottawa Citizen article, by [clicking here](#).

