

Agenda

Assessing & Reassessing Ecological Design

Day 1, January 16, 2014

8 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

9 a.m. Welcome—*Larry Weaner, Principal, Larry Weaner Landscape Associates and Pauline Hurley-Kurtz, Associate Professor, Chair Landscape Architecture and Horticulture Department, Temple University*

9:15 a.m. THE SELF PREPETUATING GARDEN

Setting Processes in Motion: Assisted Plant Proliferation in the Designed Landscape--*Larry Weaner, Principal, Larry Weaner Landscape Associates*--We go to great effort and expense installing every plant in our landscapes, yet nature spent millennia perfecting plants' abilities to self-reproduce. How can we capitalize on this, and encourage planted, existing, and new species to colonize our landscapes? Learn about protocols for creating ecologically rich, dynamic landscapes where nature does much of the "planting."

10:15 a.m. Break

10:30 a.m. Enabling Native Wildflowers to Succeed...Ecologically Speaking--*Carol Gracie, Author and Photographer*--Encouraging a plant to proliferate in the garden means understanding that plant's reproductive strategies and the specific conditions it needs to reproduce in the wild. To illustrate these phenomena, naturalist, author, and photographer Carol Gracie will discuss in depth representative species from each major category of sexual and asexual reproduction.

11:30 a.m. Panel: Real World Applications--*Carol Gracie and Larry Weaner, Moderated by Jenna Webster*

12 noon—Lunch (12:45 p.m. Book signing at Registration Table with Carol Gracie)

1:15 p.m. OBSERVATIONS FROM THE FIELD

Boots on the Ground: Planting and Managing Indigenous Landscapes in the Real World--*James Grimes, President James C. Grimes Land Design*--When a landscape does not unfold as intended, the contractor who installed and maintains that landscape may understand best what went wrong and why, particularly if his or her experience with indigenous plantings is extensive. Our presenters have this experience in spades and will provide insight into the field ramifications of design decisions they have encountered.

2 p.m. Post-Sandy Lessons in Management & Vegetation Performance--*Rebecca McMackin, Director of Horticulture, Brooklyn Bridge Park*--Following Super Storm Sandy, a consortium of coastal parks began sharing information about the storm's effects on over 500 commonly specified plants and the management strategies developed in response. This presentation will examine preliminary results and offer important practical information on what can be done when planning for and responding to landscape disturbance.

2:45 p.m. Break

3 p.m. CLOSING SESSIONS

Sustainability in Full Measure: Toward Social Justice in Landscape Design--*Kurt Culbertson, FASLA, Chairman and CEO of Design Workshop*--Social reform is not new to the design profession and represents an opportunity for true innovation in the field. But to make real progress we must bring the same rigor and research to social issues that we are bringing to environmental concerns. Using two award-winning projects as case studies, Kurt Culbertson of Design Workshop will explore processes and outcomes that tackle contemporary problems of social justice.

4 p.m. Ecological Planting Design: Where have we come from? What have we achieved? What have we learned? *Carol Franklin, FASLA, RLA, Founding Principal, Andropogon Associates*

Ecological designers started in a horticultural wasteland (our presenter was hissed at her first ASLA conference presentation). Today's practitioners have grown increasingly sophisticated with their planting designs, incorporating diverse disciplines and expertise. Some have pioneered strong and compelling designs, others have begun with good intent but have created weed patches. How can we work with inevitable entropy and what have we learned from our many, many mistakes?

5 p.m. Adjourn for complimentary reception with music, beer, wine, and hors d'oeuvres
(Book signing with Carol Franklin at reception)

Day 2, January 17, 2014

8 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:45 a.m. MAKING MEADOWS: MULTIPLE APPROACHES

The Native Approach--*Marc Pastorek, owner, Meadowmakers*--Marc Pastorek has been creating meadows for 15 years, including helping to develop the innovative, restoration-based Crosby Arboretum in Picayune, Mississippi. He will share his practical techniques for establishing seeded meadows based on the plants, soils, and natural processes of his region and discuss his use of seed collected from local ecotypes.

9:45 a.m. Break

10 a.m. The Novel Ecosystem Approach

Nigel Dunnett, Ph.D., Professor of Planting Design and Vegetation Technology, University of Sheffield, (England)--When conditions no longer exist to support historic plant communities, some designers are turning to designed "novel ecosystems" featuring native and non-native species. Presenters from Britain's University of Sheffield will discuss how they are using this approach in urban and suburban settings to create ecologically informed, highly aesthetic meadows from seed, including at the recent London Olympics. Beyond use with meadows, this eco-horticultural direction has important implications for designers working within the urban and suburban milieu.

11 a.m. PLANT COMMUNITY-BASED LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Adapting the Science--*Travis Beck, Director of Horticulture, Mt. Cuba Center*

Native plant communities offer sensible models for designed plantings, as they suggest proven combinations and demonstrate ecological coherence. Travis Beck, author of the recent landmark *Principles of Ecological Landscape Design* (2013), will examine both classical and cutting edge science on plant communities and discuss how these perspectives can apply to designed and managed landscapes.

12 noon Lunch (12:45 p.m. Book signing at Reception Table with Travis Beck and Nigel Dunnett)

1:15 p.m. Past Conference Highlights

1:30 p.m. Artful Interpretations of Native Plant Communities--*Thomas Rainer, Registered Landscape*

Architect--Join landscape architect Thomas Rainer to learn how an understanding of naturally occurring plant communities can reshape traditional landscape design aesthetics and offer new ways of looking at the native versus exotic debate. Specific strategies for adapting wild plant communities to a variety of urban and suburban settings will be explained, demonstrating ways to achieve a new level of aesthetic richness and ecological functionality in our designed landscapes.

2:30 p.m. Break

2:45 p.m. CLOSING SESSION

Indigenous Design: Reflections by a Mentor and a Mentee--*Darrel Morrison, FASLA and Nancy Aten, Owner.*

Landscapes of Place--In this interactive presentation embodying the passing of knowledge and experience, Darrel Morrison, an icon of the native design movement, will partner with former student Nancy Aten, an accomplished landscape architect in her own right, to reflect on the art and science of indigenous landscape design. The presentation will include a unique improvisational component illustrating how awareness of the natural world can inform the design process.

4:45 p.m. Adjourn