

Students win U.S. Green Building Award

In August, a team of four juniors from the ALA program in the Department of Landscape Architecture submitted a design proposal for a competition held by the U.S. Green Building Council. Zach Small, Jake Weivel, Stefan Golos, and Parker Jones submitted their design under the team name 'H.S. Well Design Group.'

On September 18, the team attended a conference in Minnesota where they were awarded the first place prize. They competed against six other teams comprised of architecture students and interior design students. The other two winning designs came from architecture students at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities,

and recent graduates of Clemson University (who were representing Cunningham Group, an architecture firm).

The judges acknowledged the close nature of their decisions. In the end, they felt the submission by the Landscape Architecture students from UW-Madison was a more conceptually complete and thorough response to the projects' design needs, and to the site itself.

For more information about their project, and to view their winning entry, visit our departmental website at <http://www.la.wisc.edu> and click on "News."

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Team members (left to right): Jake Weivel, Parker Jones, Stefan Golos, Zach Small

ASLA

Conference in Phoenix, AZ

This year's ASLA Conference was held in Phoenix, Arizona from September 27 through October 1. Sam Dennis, Shawn Kelly and John Harrington attended, along with about 12 students.

A number of alumni attended the alumni roundtable gatherings at the conference, along with some of our current students. Everyone enjoyed wonderful conversation, sipping wine, and eating southwest concoctions such as banana, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, and empanadas.

Some UW alumni we ran into include: Matt Baumgarten (BS 2006), Jonathan Bronk (BS 2005), Gary Brown (BS 1984), Kerri da Silva (née Mueller) (BS 2008), Pam Linn (BS 1994), Tom Ryan (BS 1975), Jake Salzman (BS 2011), Lisa Pearson

(BS 1986), Rick Spalenka (BS 1997), Rosheen Styczinski (BS 1981), Kerry White (née Woodell) (BS 2008), Steve Zielger (BS 1983), Roland Beinert (BS 2005), Danielle Bilot (BS 2011), Jay Gehler (BS 1980), Jeff Lindstrom (BS 2011). There were a number of other alumni at the event, and we apologize for not noting them here, but were very happy to see everyone!

The conference offered a number of presentations about topics such as green roof and bioretention design, phytotechnologies and soil, public health, bio diversity, sustainable design, reimagining water use, therapeutic gardens, writing on design, public art, and much more.

Next year's ASLA Conference will be held in Boston, November 15-18, 2013. We hope to see you there!



Catching up with Evelyn Howell

Since completing her second stint as Department Chair (this one for eight years!) in the summer of 2011, Evelyn has happily settled back into the university job she loves the best—being a professor. Her regular teaching load includes four courses in Landscape Architecture: Restoration Ecology (LA 666), Landscape Inventory and Evaluation Methods (LA 262, co-taught with Doug Hadley), the online discussion sections of Survey of Landscape Architecture Design (LA 250) and Theories of Landscape Change (LA 710, co-taught with David Bart), as well as Evolution, Ecology, and Genetics (the ecology unit of Biocore 301), and the Bradley Learning Community seminar for first year students (ILS 157). Evelyn loves this variety, which enables her to work with students of all levels from freshmen to Master's and Doctoral students in the sciences and humanities.

Evelyn continues to be an active member

of the Natural Areas Preservation Council, which advises the Natural Areas Program in the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource, and the Habitat Stewardship Subcommittee of the City of Madison Parks Commission. She is also hoping to start a new series of restoration projects/experiments, once she catches up with the literature she has neglected while serving as chair.

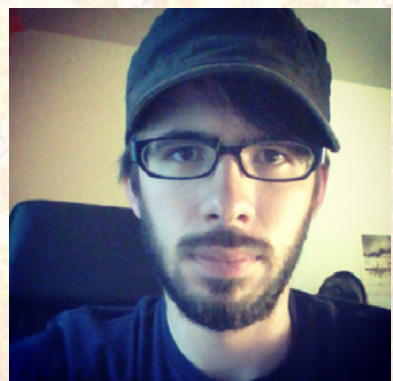
One of Evelyn's first tasks in Fall 2011 was to complete the Instructors Manual for the restoration ecology textbook she co-authored with John Harrington and Steve Glass. This task turned out to be challenging and immensely rewarding, as it gave her the opportunity to explore a wide variety of teaching and learning philosophies, techniques and technologies. As a result, she is making plans to make her courses even more interactive than they already are. In addition, Evelyn is developing two new

five-week modular courses that will be offered for the first time this spring. Aimed at students from all campus majors as well as those majoring in landscape architecture, they include a course to introduce the emerging field of restoration ecology, and one focusing on natural landscape design, a topic for which the Department has long been well-known.

Evelyn will also be teaching a "Doctor Who" enrichment course for the Bradley Learning Community at the request of the students. Some alumni may remember that a number of us were interested in this television show back in the day. Who knew this would become a learning opportunity now?

Evelyn continues to enjoy her flock of rescued parrots, including three new arrivals: Linden, Lupine, and Carex. Guess who's a botanist!

New Berlin native Tristan Porto graduated from the department in 2008. He completed his senior capstone project after working with neighborhood groups and helping them with future developments in their area. After interacting with the



communities, he found that his time would be better spent designing a multimodal transportation center and suspension bridge park. Tristan said it was difficult to

tell the neighborhood groups that he could no longer help them, but found his final capstone to be extremely rewarding.

Today, Tristan lives in New York City as a project manager and designer in the NYC Parks capital projects division. His job includes every step, from funding and public integration to design to supervising construction.

Tristan designed the Lillian Wald Playground, which was built in 2011. He also designed playground 123 in Morningside Park, which is currently in construction, and is also designing the Asser Levy Place, which will allow the UN to expand their campus.



After graduating, Tristan searched for jobs in a large urban city, as he wanted to be involved with urban design, public parks and spaces, playgrounds and streetscapes.

After Superstorm Sandy hit the east coast, Tristan's office near LaGuardia Airport flooded. With almost three feet of water outside the building and one foot of water inside his office, Tristan's files were destroyed.

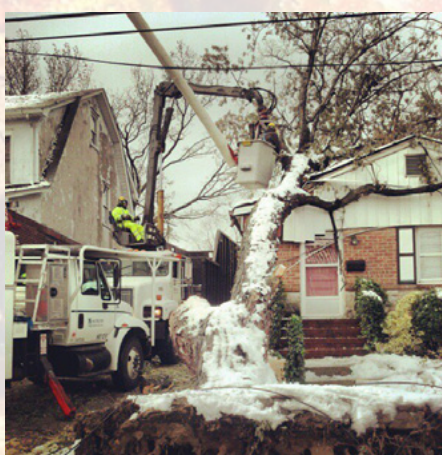
In response to the storm, Tristan has been working as an emergency response unit from his car. He has been supervising and coordinating FEMA-funded emergency tree removal crews since the storm began, and almost every day since from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. As an employee of the NYC Parks, any street trees are the Parks' responsibility and there is an enormous amount of damage. NYC Parks has received almost 20,000 service requests for removal of trees on houses, streets and cars.

"The hard work is worth it," said Tristan. "The experience my classmates and I had in the UW-LA program has prepared us as well and most often better than other programs."

In the wake of the long hours and intensive work after Superstorm Sandy hit, Tristan offers some advice for current LA students:

"Work together, be supportive, and push each other to be better."

Alumni Tristan Porto



Announcements

Please join us in Boston, Massachusetts for the 2013 ASLA national conference!

We are planning two alumni events. One will be the typical alumni hall event, where each school has its own table. There will be cash bar and great food. This will be announced on the ASLA conference program.

The second event is a private event that we are organizing with our New England area alumni. Stay tuned for details.

Contact Samuel Dennis, Jr. directly with questions or are in the area and want to be part of hosting/planning. He can be reached at sfdennisjr@wisc.edu.

It was great to see so many at our Phoenix event!

We're putting together an
Alumni Directory
and we'd love to hear from you!

Our new directory will be online for easy access and we would like to include updates on our alumni.

Please send us any information you would like in the directory, including what you are doing now, a picture, and/or your contact information to:

dagriffin@wisc.edu

Please note: we will not put any of your information into our directory without your consent.

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