

## BOARD MEMBERS

**Robert L. Edwards**  
Public Member

**Ronald J. Nichols**  
Public Member, Treasurer

**David P. Olsen**  
LA, Vice Chair

**John P. Pellitier**  
LA

**Mel Stout**  
LA

**Tim Van Wormer**  
LA, Chair

**Susan W. Wright**  
Public Member

## BOARD STAFF

Susanna Knight  
**Administrator**

Marilou Arrobang  
**Licensing Specialist**

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# OSLAB Review

## Oregon State Landscape Architect Board

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### BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

The Governor's office has announced appointments to the Oregon State Landscape Architect Board (OSLAB), the regulatory Board for the practice of Landscape Architecture. Ronald J. Nichols, Keizer has been reappointed to a four year term effective 7/1/2009 and through 6/30/2013. David P. Olsen, Bend has also been reappointed to a four-year term effective 7/1/2009 through 6/30/2013. Both Nichols and Olsen served partial terms prior to this appointment.

Nichols serves as one of three Public Members of the Board. Since his initial appointment, he retired from over 20 years of service to Willamette University, Salem. Nichols has three grown children and three grandchildren and resides in Keizer, Oregon. Nichols serves as the Treasurer of the Board and Chair the Administrative Rules Committee.

Olsen is a Registered Landscape Architect and works for the Bend office of Harper Houf Peterson Righellis Inc. He resides in Bend with his wife and three daughters. Olsen was recently elected as Vice-Chair of the Board. He also serves as the liaison to the Architect Examiners Board and a member of the Continuing Education Committee.

Board Members are appointed by the Governor to serve a four-year term. A Board Member is eligible to be reappointed to one additional term.

### OSLAB LEARNS ABOUT DIGITAL SIGNATURES

The Rules Advisory Committee Chair Ron Nichols asked that Ron Singh, PLS, Chief of Surveys for ODOT, be invited to present information about identity and security issues in this electronic era. This was follow-up to the discussion during the May Board meeting surrounding the draft Administrative Rule on "signatures". The Board recognized a need to enhance its base of understanding about electronic and digital signatures and heard the presentation at the August Work Session.

Singh identified digital signatures as a critical piece of the future of engineering automation. He stated that a "wet signature" does not prove identity but rather shows deliberation, agreement and consent. To prove identity, one must go to a Notary. The digital signature and the electronic signature are *not the same* and they mean different things. Electronic signatures are scanned images or typed notations. Digital signatures allow proof of the person and provide security, authentication and encryption. Singh's publication "Digital Signatures for Engineering Documents" outlines the reasons why digital signatures are so vital and explains the basics of use. This publication can be located

at <http://egov.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/GEOMETRONICS/documents.shtml>

Singh explained that the use of "wet" signatures hinders the ability to progress into a completely digital work environment. As ODOT's first effort in the use of digital signatures in its engineering workflow, ODOT is interested in developing digital contract plans that are signed by engineers utilizing digital signatures.

A digital signature can not only verify who signed the document, but can also verify that the contents of the document have not changed since that digital signature was affixed. Singh pointed out that there is a difference between "electronic" signatures and "digital" signatures where "digital" signatures provide signer authentication, document authentication, and document encryption if necessary.

Singh stated that under the current stamping/signing procedure, there is only one original. In the electronic version, all "copies" are original as long as the digital signature is present! He strongly recommended requiring "digital" rather than "electronic" signatures when digitally stamping and signing Landscape Architect work products.

## LA CES: NEWEST RESOURCE FOR PDH OPPORTUNITIES

The Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LA CES) is a collaboration of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA), Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) and Landscape Architecture Foundation (LAF). The mission of the LA CES program is to assure Landscape Architects and regulatory Boards that oversee practitioners that courses provided by LA CES-approved providers are of sufficient quality.

LA CES establishes, maintains, and enforces standards for evaluating professional development and continuing education programs for Landscape Architects. Only providers that have met LA CES requirements may register courses with LA CES. Registered courses cover a broad range of subject matter and providers are required to identify those courses that meet the LA CES standard of health, safety, and welfare subject matter.

If you have eligible courses to offer through LA CES, check out the website to determine eligibility. As an approved provider of LA continuing education, Oregon will accept continuing education from LA CES-approved providers. Doing so represents a time and cost savings for both registrants and the Board's Continuing Education Committee. It is also an indication of quality PDH.

Visit the LA CES website: <http://laces.asla.org> for more information.



## BOARD APPROVES ADMINISTRATIVE RULE



After months of development and with follow up review from the Rules Advisory Committee (RAC), the Oregon State Landscape Architect Board (OSLAB) approved revisions to three Oregon Administrative Rules

(OAR): OAR 804-0020-01003, Applications; OAR 804-022-0025, Inactive Emeritus Status; and OAR 804-030-0000, Seal of the Landscape Architect. The revised language approved by OSLAB can be viewed on the home page of the Board's web page.

OAR 804-020-0003, Applications, deals with the section of the Rules covering examination application procedures. The LARE (Landscape Architect Registration Examination) has two components: three multiple choice tests and two graphic tests. The multiple choice exams are administered on line by CLARB (Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards). To prevent access to the multiple choice exam by unqualified candidates, the Oregon Board took the initiative and has been requiring that multiple choice examination applicants apply with the Oregon Board before gaining access to the examination. Although this requirement has been in place since the Spring of 2008, enforcement is now occurring due to the implementation at CLARB of a new data management system. An applicant will be halted in applying if the

applicant does not have prior approval. The application process will now be outlined in Administrative Rules. It requires that a letter and an official transcript be presented to the Board office before successful entry to the online exam.

OAR 804-022-0025, Inactive Emeritus Status, outlines how Emeritus is applied. Because the Board does not currently have statutory authority for an Emeritus registration status, the Administrative Rules have defined Emeritus as a type of "inactive" registration. This places a limit on the length the registration status is effective but does allow the use of such a title. The Board must determine if it wishes to seek statutory authority for an Emeritus registration status.

OAR 804-030-0000, Seal of the Landscape Architect, discusses the "stamp" of the registrant. This rule came up for review due to the advent of electronic documents and the need for electronic stamps. In addition to a physical description of the seal of a Landscape Architect, the draft language also clarifies which documents must be stamped. Another addition to this rule is a requirement that the registrant's expiration date must be noted near the registrant's signature on the seal. But the seal discussion led to a discussion about the signature of the registrant and how it should be applied in this electronic era. [See related article on digital signatures.] A new rule about signatures was drafted and presented, but more work on that rule is needed before it will be ready for the RAC to again discuss.

## BOARD ENTERTAINS GUESTS AT AUGUST MEETING

ASLA Section Chairs joined the Board for lunch on August 14, 2009 for a question and answer session on the state of landscape architecture. The following ASLA representatives were present: Kaitlin Beatty, ASLA Mt. Hood Region; Matt Koehler, RLA, ASLA Willamette Valley Region; Chelsea Schneider, RLA, ASLA High Dessert Region; and Andrew Leisinger, RLA, ASLA Oregon liaison to OSLAB. Topics for discussion included ASLA membership criteria; ASLA Oregon; the Yellow Pages and compliance; and Continuing Education. Chair Van Wormer ended the discussion with an invitation to ASLA members to meet one time each year as an Outreach opportunity for the Board.

## EXAMINATION UPDATE

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO RECEIVED PASSING SCORES!

Section C & E of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) were administered in Salem, Oregon on June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Results of those exams were recently released by the Landscape Architect Board (OSLAB).

*Thirteen* candidates sat for Section C; *five* received passing scores for a 38% passing rate. *Eighteen* candidates sat for Section E; *eight* received passing scores for a 44% pass rate.

Section C and E of the LARE will again be administered in Salem, Oregon on December 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009. The application deadline for this administration has closed.

During the National Council of Landscape Architect Board (CLARB) meeting convened in Seattle, September 10-12, 2009, the group was informed that the national pass rate for C was 46% and the national pass rate for E was 48%. CLARB participants were also informed the Redline procedures are being changed to meet a survey of users requesting a faster turnaround. CLARB anticipates the cost will increase from \$120.00 to \$160.00. A Standard review will no longer be offered.

## PDH REQUIREMENTS FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEAR REGISTRANTS

During 2007, the Continuing Education Committee (CEC) began discussions about continuing education requirements for those registrants with over 25 years of consecutive registration. At that time, Oregon's implementation of continuing education requirements was evolving, as the requirement had been in place for a relatively short period of time. Discussions by the CEC led to an Administrative Rule review and revision which ultimately changed the requirement.

Since its implementation on February 4, 2008, four PDH hours annually became the requirement for registrants with 25 years of consecutive registration with the Board. All other registrants are required to attain 12 PDH per registration year.

The Board supported the recommendation for this change which was made by the Continuing Education Committee (CEC). The CEC noticed that a number of senior Registered Landscape Architects were opting not to renew due to the new requirements. The CEC was concerned about icons of the professional community not being registered and thereby not being available to mentor future Landscape Architects.

In recognition of the contribution to career long service in protecting public health, safety and welfare, the CEC recommended that the

Board consider a reduction in the required PDH to maintain an active registration. The Board also concurred in the rule change that personal study could be the vehicle for completion of 4 hours of PDH per year. PDH for registrants using this option must be HSW (health, safety, welfare) and must be appropriately validated for presentation should an audit occur.

OAR 804-025-0020(5) was added to the continuing education component to allow for this change. Registrants who opt for this PDH category are selected for auditing in the same manner as any other active registrant and must produce the necessary support documentation.

If you are interested in receiving Board notices, including meeting and Administrative Rule changes, please send your request to staff of the Board at [oslab.info@state.or.us](mailto:oslab.info@state.or.us) and include the email address for delivery.

## OSLAB Mission Statement

To regulate the practice of landscape architecture in Oregon.

Phone: 503-589-0093  
Fax: 503-485-2947  
E-mail: [oslab.info@state.or.us](mailto:oslab.info@state.or.us)

We're on the Web  
[www.oregon.gov/landarch](http://www.oregon.gov/landarch)

### Do You Want To Receive Meeting Notice and Agenda?

Board meeting notice and agenda are posted on the web page approximately 2 weeks prior to the meeting. Visit [www.oregon.gov/landarch](http://www.oregon.gov/landarch). Please contact Board staff at [oslab.info@state.or.us](mailto:oslab.info@state.or.us), if you would like electronic notification.

## Oregon State Landscape Architect Board

707 13th Street, Suite 261

Salem, Oregon 97301

*(New mailing address)*



## OSLAB Calendar Of Events

Nov. 13, 2009	OSLAB Quarterly Board Meeting, Salem, Oregon
Nov. 26, 2009	Thanksgiving (Office Closed)
Dec. 7 & 8, 2009	LARE Graphic Exam Administration, Salem, Oregon
Dec. 25, 2009	Christmas Day (Office Closed)

## REGISTRATION UPDATE

The Board welcomes the following new Landscape Architects and Landscape Architect Businesses as registrants of the Board since the last newsletter publication.

### Landscape Architect-In-Training

Graves, Arthur LAIT0027 07/13/2009

### New Landscape Architects by Reciprocity

Morris, Daniel L. LA688 03/20/2009

### New Business Registrants

Alpha Diversity L327 07/22/2009

LCA Design, LLC L328 07/22/2009

Merrill Morris L329 08/27/2009