



## Fall 2016 Newsletter

### A Note from the Chair

Greetings to all! I have a few items to share with you about the Landscape Architecture + Environmental Design (LA+ED) Program. First, we are making excellent progress on transforming our courtyard in Hunt Hall into a GATEways Garden (GATEways stands for Gardens, Arts, and The Environment-- a major initiative at UC Davis). We have finalized our design for the courtyard and installed the first student plot in the interior area thanks to the LDA 160 Design-Build course led by lecturers Haven Kiers and Keith Wilson. Under their continued leadership, the students in LDA 160 this fall are busy constructing the second interior student plot that features permeable pavers and a cantilevered rain chain from a building downspout to feed our rain garden. This past summer the Grounds Division installed the irrigation system to service each student plot in the final design and this fall we signed a MOU with the Arboretum and Public Garden on a cooperative maintenance agreement that includes joint funding to hire a landscape architecture student to assist in the on-going upkeep of the courtyard. We also secured two storage closets in Hunt Hall near the junior studios to store our numerous construction tools and materials used by the LDA 160 course.

This year the LA+ED faculty have decided to implement a new model for the LDA 190 Proseminar lunch bag lecture series (in the past they offered on Fridays at noon-- since 1982!). We are now funneling greater faculty effort into a single offering in the spring quarter rather than each quarter. Three faculty will coordinate on a theme each spring and invite inspiring speakers in the field of environmental design to address our students, the campus, and the wider community. We hope to attract larger audiences with this new approach.

This past summer we completed a major renovation to our two sophomore studios to create more flexible classroom space to accommodate the growing demand for multiple functions including drawing, technical drafting, lecturing, presentation, and small group lab activities. This required that we dispense of

our drafting tables! Fear not, we kept the tops of the drafting tables to place on top of foldable tables that can be stored when not in use. We are excited about the new space and opportunities it will afford us in the future. The College of Agriculture and Environmental Science Dean's Office graciously provided matching funds for this project and we are very grateful

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Finally, this past spring we gained approval and successfully taught for the first time in over 10 years, LDA 10: Regional World Geography (formerly GEO 10). With the help of the Geography Graduate Group we are spearheading a movement to revive undergraduate education in geography. Let us hear from you! We are eager to hear news from students, alumni, and professionals.

Cheers,  
Steve Greco

## UC Davis & Imagining America



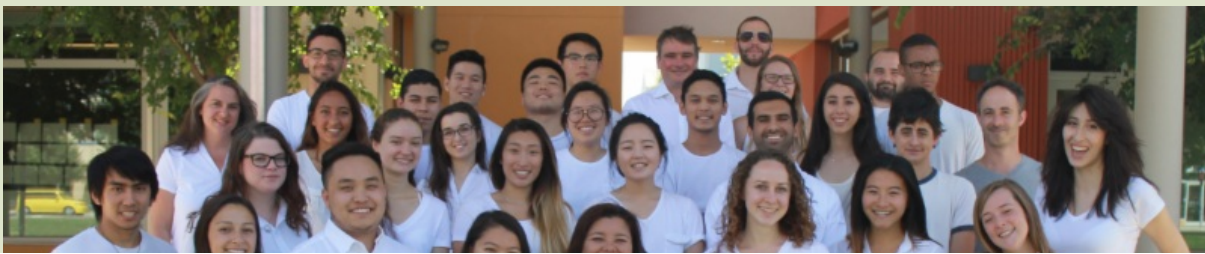
[Imagining America](#) has selected UC Davis as its next institutional partner! The faculty and students of LA+ED played an important role in the recruitment process and they will continue to play a role in the transitional process (David de la Peña, Patsy Owens, Claire Napawan, and Diego Verduzco have been apart of this process).

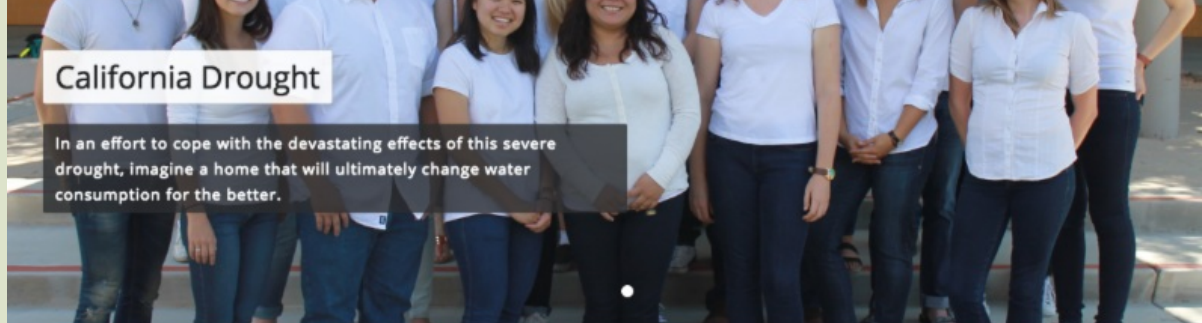
Claire Napawan, Sheryl-Ann Simpson, Diego Verduzco, Kristi Lin, and Warwin Davis were apart of this year's recent conference that was held in [Milwaukee](#). More details on the conference can be found on their webpage, <http://imaginingamerica.org/national-conference/>



*"The members of Imagining America advance a vision of the world in which publicly engaged artists, designers, scholars, students and culture workers play critical roles in enacting the promise and ideals of a democratic society. Together, we explore the power of shared identity - of understanding who we are and what we stand for, and therefore, what we are called to do."*

## Solar Decathlon: UC Davis Announces Design and Construction Date for National Competition





A handful of our LA+ED students are working on the 2016 Solar Decathlon here at UC Davis. Here is a summary of what they are and what they have been doing:

The U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon is an award-winning program that challenges collegiate teams to design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive. The winner of the competition is the team that best blends affordability, consumer appeal, and design excellence with optimal energy production and maximum efficiency.

In an effort to cope with the devastating effects of the severe drought California currently faces, we look to imagine a home that will ultimately change water consumption for the better. Through Our H2Ouse we can begin to address the issue of the California drought and achieve this aspiration.

Our H2Ouse (pronounced "our house") is an original design that addresses the severe drought in California. The design focuses on cutting the water use in atypical residence in half while maintaining the same level of comfort at an affordable price point. Our H2Ouse has a dual energy and water-use feedback system that provides users a private oasis where they are the authors of their own conservation experience. Taking a systems approach to this reduction is just the first step. True reduction lies in the hands of the people who live in the house and those in the surrounding community. Multiple elements in Our H2Ouse inform the occupants about usage and consequence while giving them a unique opportunity to allow an over-stressed environment to regenerate itself.

The UC Davis team is currently in the design phase for Our H2Ouse. We plan on finalizing all designs and detail by the end of December. Construction begins in January 2017. If you are interested in wanting to help build the house contact us on how to volunteer or provide mentorship.

<http://solardecathlon.ucdavis.edu/>

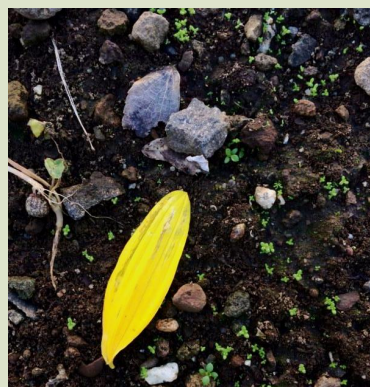
## Truscott Fund

Please join in supporting the Sustainable Design and Built Environmental Endowment. As many of you know, UCD alumnae Rachel Truscott and ASLA fellow, UCD lecturer, and husband Marq generously established an endowment at UC Davis to provide ongoing support for the design-build efforts of our students. A few years ago we changed the construction materials and detailing course that many of you fondly remember to a hands-on learning experience. Students now design, detail, and build small landscapes as part of the course. Many

local companies and product representatives donate materials for these projects, but these do not cover all the costs.

The *Sustainable Design and Built Environmental Endowment* was established to provide a permanent funding source for these "learn by doing" projects. Marq and Rachel would like to invite other alumni and practitioners to help grow the endowment so that the interest generated each year increases and fully supports these efforts. Please consider making a tax-deductible contribution; any amount is welcome.

Please make your check out to UC Davis Foundation (memo line - Sustainable



Design and Built Environmental Endowment) and mail to:

Pamela Pacelli, Director of Development  
UC Davis - College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences  
140 Environmental Horticulture  
One Shields Ave.  
Davis, CA 95616



## ASLA Northern California Chapter The ASLA-NCC 2016 Lecture Series

Claire Napawan and Heath Massey were recently speakers at the ASLA-NCC 2016 Lecture Series. Their bios / intros from the lecture series are listed below:

Claire Napawan is an Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture at UC Davis who has designed and studied urban environments throughout the world for over a decade. She believes urban resilience requires community participation, and draws on her background in architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design to explore new models of engagement.

Claire will present her work with

#OurChangingClimate, a digital humanities and environmental design project that encourages diverse communities to observe and critique their everyday environment through the lens of climate change, and to share those experiences through social media.

Landscape architect Heath Massey, along with Robin Cooper and Evan Kenward, represents the Citizens' Climate Lobby, a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change. Their mission builds upon shared values rather than partisan divides, and empowers citizens to work with their local communities toward the adoption of fair, effective, and sustainable climate change solutions. They will speak about CCL's Carbon Fee and Dividend proposal.

<http://www.asla-ncc.org/>

## Courtyard: LDA 160 A note from Keith Wilson

If you've been noticing a rowdy group of LDA students digging in the courtyard recently, it's just this year's LDA 160 class continuing to implement the Hunt Hall Courtyard Master Plan! This year's project includes an overhead runnel that will capture rainwater from the Parsons Seed Certification Center roof. Rainfall will be channeled through a series of gathering space elements and into the rain garden constructed last year. Work has also been underway by Facilities Management to install future irrigation system connections and a central decomposed granite path in the courtyard that will set the foundation for future LDA 160 construction projects.



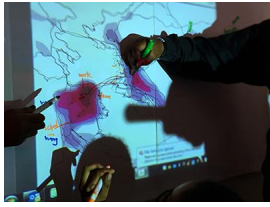


## 2016 ASLA Annual Meeting and Expo A note from Kate Nelson

This year thirteen students from the senior class traveled to New Orleans for the 2016 ASLA Annual Meeting and Expo. It was an incredibly educational and inspirational trip. Being able to attend this conference and hear from professionals from all over the country was an amazing experience. National interest topics were helpful to see the larger issues landscape architects must work with, while regional examples to the Gulf Coast and Louisiana were eye-opening as we learned of issues with dealing with excessive amounts of water, while in California we struggle with incredible drought conditions. The expo was just as amazing of an experience, getting to see the industry's newest technology and products, while communicating with professionals in landscape architecture and related fields. Even outside the conference, visiting the city of New Orleans was a remarkable experience. Overall it was one of the most memorable experiences we've had to date and we can't wait to attend next year's event in Los Angeles. We hope we'll get to see many of you there as well.



## Recent Awards



Claire Napawan was selected as a Climate Action Champion in 2015. She has a new [website](#) through the Office of the President highlighting the project #OurChangingClimate (co-PI Sheryl-Ann Simpson and Brett Snyder), as well as an updated project [website](#).



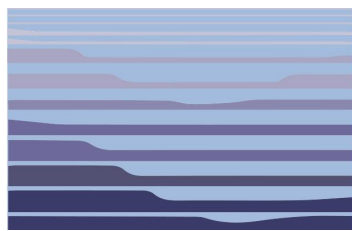
The DredgeFest event series (a project Brett Milligan works on) recently won a communication award from the American Society of Landscape Architects: [2016 ASLA Awards](#)



Bethany Celio (Sustainable Environmental Design) and Veronica Chan (Landscape Architecture) received the *2016 Outstanding Senior Awards* for their respective majors from acting Chancellor Ralph Hexter at a University ceremony on May 23. In the photo they are pictured with LA+ED professor Steve Wheeler.



Prof. Steve Wheeler received a *2016 Eco-Hero Award* from Cool Davis at a ceremony last spring at the Bicycle Hall of Fame. This was in response to his role working with other Davis citizens, staff, and council members to ensure that large new development projects in the city are highly sustainable. In the photo Mayor pro-tem Robb Davis is at the right and City Council member Lucas Frerichs is at the left.



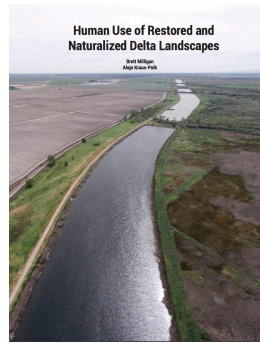
Elizabeth Boults was officially installed as President of the Northern California Chapter of the ASLA at the 2016 annual meeting in New Orleans.

## Papers & Publications



The DredgeFest Event Series (Brett Milligan) recently published a white paper summarizing the DredgeFest California Event:

[DredgeFest California Key Findings and Recommendations](#)



Brett Milligan recently published a planning report funded by the UC Center for Watershed Sciences examining how people use restored and naturalized landscapes in the California Delta today, and how they might in the future.

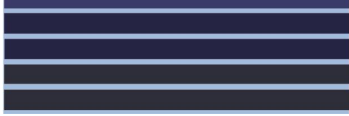
It is titled: [Human Use of Restored and Naturalized Delta Landscapes](#)

In November Prof. Steve Wheeler presented a paper entitled "Built Landscapes and Sustainability: Environmental Correlations" at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning conference in Portland, OR. This research examines correlations between different types of urban form and urban heat island effects, impervious surfaces, vegetation, and GHG emissions. He also served as discussant for two other panels at the conference and was able to visit with a couple of former students in the Portland area, one teaching at Portland State University and one working at the regional Metro Council.



Kristi Lin wrote an article published in the National Park Service's newsletter to the US Congress. The article, [Discovering Cultural](#)

meeting in New Orleans.



Landscape Preservation, is about using cultural landscape

preservation to promote social justice and how Kristi came to see that potential.

[Read the article here \(on pg. 7\)](#)

Drawing from Lawrence Halprin



Meg Lidd  
Program Representative  
101 Hunt Hall