

Mission Statement:

Our landscape architecture department is an innovative team committed to collaborative learning and discovery. We prepare the next generation of designers and scholars, working through the medium of landscape, to reinvent relationships among people, land and technology. We are rooted in the American heartland and we embrace (and incorporate) diverse ideas, cultures and landscapes.

Vision

To create a rich, dynamic intellectual environment that fosters the highest quality teaching and learning, research and creative activity, and engaged advocacy within the college and university.

To cultivate a culture that embraces diversity, encourages multicultural experiences and nurtures different perspectives valued within landscape architecture and other disciplines.

To position the department's faculty, staff and students as leaders in landscape architecture within regional, national and global contexts.

Values

We collectively believe in and value: innovation and creativity; disciplinary mastery and transdisciplinary engagement; individual and collaboration achievement; open inquiry and critical dialogue. We value diversity and change while respecting tradition. We believe in the advancement of technology to support the role of design in an interconnected world of unprecedented complexity.

We also believe in landscape architecture's intrinsic merit in society. Landscape architecture offers timely answers to big questions, helping us understand what it means to be human in the world. Rooted in ways of knowing that connect people, land, water and place, landscape architecture connects cultural and natural system, and shapes new experiences. It fosters imagination and innovation, forming a critical foundation for artistic, scientific and social progress.

2019-2024 Aspirational Goals

Make Landscape Architecture Central to Iowa State University

Guided by our values, the department's goal for 2024 is to ensure that landscape architecture is recognized as a discipline with an authentic identity that is integral to the mission of both the College of Design and Iowa State University. In achieving this larger goal, the department shall also seek to:

Goal 1: ADVANCE DESIGN, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Goal 2: PROVIDE CONTEXTUALIZED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Goal 3: CULTIVATE A MORE DIVERSE, AND INCLUSIVE CULTURE

Goal 4: PROMOTE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ENGAGEMENT AND LEAD THE DISCIPLINE IN THE MIDWEST

Goal 5: CULTIVATE RELATIONSHIPS AND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

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LA DEPARTMENTAL STRATEGIC PLAN: Priorities for 2019-2024

Goal 1: ADVANCE DESIGN, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

This is how we think—DISCIPLINE AND DESIGN EXPERTISE

- a. Increase digital literacy
- b. Become the collegiate leaders in the Green and the Blue
- c. Strengthen interdisciplinary activities
- d. something about critical thinking, critical practice, design thinking

Goal 2: PROVIDE CONTEXTUALIZED LEARNING EXPERIENCES

HOW WE TEACH--anything with curriculum should go here

- a. Engage real, place-based issues
 - a.1. Savanna 2.0
 - a.2. Fabrication/Design/Build studio with faculty member (new hire)
 - a.3. Satellite semester in Des Moines (15 students)
- b. Increase student driven learning, research and engagement
 - b.1. Increase the number of students that research with faculty
 - b.2. Vertically integrate projects where students lead the process
- c. Expand global content and opportunities

Goal 3: CULTIVATE A MORE DIVERSE, AND INCLUSIVE CULTURE

what culture do we want to create—DEVELOPING OUR DEPARTMENTAL CULTURE/ENVIRONMENT

- a. Decolonize the curriculum
- b. Increase cultural competency and sensitivity to diversity
- c. Strengthen resources to support well-being and success
- d. Increase international and multi-cultural students, faculty and staff

Goal 4: PROMOTE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ENGAGEMENT AND LEAD THE DISCIPLINE IN THE MIDWEST

HOW WE ENGAGE AND OUR CONNECTION WITH PRACTICE

- a. Increase reciprocal connections between the academy, practice, and society
- b. Increase the impacts and visibility of landscape architecture
 - State wide/Regional outreach and communication
- c. Advocate for the Midwest landscape and underserved rural populations

Goal 5: CULTIVATE RELATIONSHIPS AND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

HOW WE PRODUCE KNOWLEDGE--Scholarship

- a. Increase support for faculty development, promotion, and advancement
- b. Enhance a culture of research communication and collaboration between faculty
- c. Increase faculty time and administrative support for scholarship
- d. Create a department culture of recognition and provide support to do it