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Contact: Jeff Mills, Executive Director
Connecticut Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects
Phone: (860) 454-8922
Fax: (801) 996-5525
executivedirector@ctasla.org



Old Lyme Resident Elected to Profession's Prestigious Council

Whitney Talcott of Old Lyme named a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects

Two Connecticut landscape architects have been named to the Council of Fellows of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), one of the highest honors the society confers on a member.

Whitney A. Talcott, ASLA, has unselfishly served the profession of landscape architecture for over 20 years through advancement of educational programs, activism on sustainable "green" building and professional practice. His vision and contributions during his tenure as CTASLA President and Trustee and on the Connecticut ASLA executive committee have been instrumental in advancing the profession of landscape architecture at both local and national levels.

Realizing the importance of education in the advancement of the profession, Mr. Talcott has served on many national Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) review teams in order to improve and strengthen landscape architecture education at the university level. His efforts in leading the Connecticut chapter's Accreditation Task Force were vital in attaining accreditation for the University of Connecticut landscape architecture program. His service on the national LAAB board has recently resulted in a revised, updated system of evaluating and measuring the performance of university programs in landscape architecture.

Mr. Talcott has also been an integral player in the recent Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LACES), a national program to standardize guidelines and provide monitoring of continuing education required by many states to maintain professional licensure. While president of the Connecticut Chapter of ASLA, his efforts to improve Connecticut's landscape architect licensure law resulted in a new practice bill, which included continuing education requirements, being signed into law.

Mr. Talcott also serves on the Connecticut Green Building Council Board (CTGBC) and recently authored and led the efforts to identify, create and assign Connecticut-specific regional credits for LEED programs.

CTASLA President Jane Didona says, “Whitney has made significant and sustained contributions to the profession of landscape architecture, the Connecticut Chapter and the community over the last 20 years as is evident in his record of accomplishments.”

Riverside, CT resident **Susan Cohen, ASLA**, a Connecticut landscape architect known for her award-winning residential designs, was also named Fellow.

Cohen and Talcott were two of 41 landscape architects elected to the ASLA Council of Fellows this year. Profiles of this year’s ASLA Fellows class are located at <http://asla.org/ContentDetail.aspx?id=28110>. The new Fellows will be formally inducted during ASLA’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C. on September 10-13.

Founded in 1899, ASLA is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 17,000 members in 48 professional chapters and 68 student chapters. Landscape architecture is a comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation and rehabilitation.

Echoing the mission of the national organization, the Connecticut Chapter — with nearly 275 members across the state — aims to lead, educate and participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning and artful design of our cultural and natural environments. CTASLA strives to advance the profession of landscape architecture in Connecticut by providing educational programs, publications, information and resources to members and to those seeking to benefit from landscape architectural services.

Learn more about landscape architecture online at www.asla.org. For more information on activities of the Connecticut Chapter, please see our website at www.ctasla.org.

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[Photo: Whitney A. Talcott, ASLA]