

1.30.23

SUPPORT FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 1465

Dear House Committee Members,

Good morning. This year, 2023, marks the 40th year of NDSU's Landscape Architecture program (although, to be fair, one of NDSU's first Professors, C.B. Waldron, gave seminars around the state of North Dakota on "how to make a landscape" in the 1890s). The NDSU program has graduated over 400 landscape architecture students who are now in practice and doing award-winning work around the world. I write in support of HB.1465 because it makes sense to have the State Board of Architecture and Landscape Architecture include representation from each of the professions it oversees.

Our program continues to support a growing profession with nearly 100% job placement for our graduates. In 2021 our alumni garnered multiple ASLA awards from Chapters across the country from Oregon, Minnesota, Chicago, Denver, and Baltimore, and including high honors for work at Morgan State, and an ASLA National Award for service.

2022 was also a record-setting year for NDSU Landscape Architecture alumni receiving National American Society of Landscape Architecture (ASLA) awards. Two alumni, Joan Floura '91 and Michael Stanley '02, were inducted as Fellows of ASLA. Fellowship is among the highest honors the ASLA bestows on members and recognizes the contributions of these individuals to their profession and society at large based on their works, leadership and management, knowledge, and service. In addition, Kene Okigbo '15, received the Emerging Professional Medal at the ASLA.

Salaries have increased 11% for landscape architects in the last 5 years. Projected job growth for landscape architects is 4% over the next 5 years. There are over 18,699 landscape architects currently employed in the United States. With 17-years of individuals, "registered as landscape architect under this chapter (43-03)" it is a good time to have qualified landscape architects on the State Board of Architecture and Landscape Architecture. This small update to Chapter 43-03 will be a show of support for our graduates and all practicing landscape architects in the state of North Dakota. In addition, we hope it encourages landscape architects to continue practicing and investing in the state.

Sincerely,



Dominic L. Fischer, Associate Professor | Chair | Dominic.fischer@ndsu.edu