



2024

OCT. 1, 2023 - SEPT. 30, 2024

# Annual Report

**CLARB**

COUNCIL OF  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL  
REGISTRATION BOARDS



ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS  
IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) is a 501(c)(6) non-profit organization that has worked to protect the world’s people, places and environment through licensure of landscape architecture for over 50 years. CLARB designs, promotes and defends landscape architectural standards with its 56 member licensure boards across Canada, the United States, Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands. CLARB also works to strengthen the future of the landscape architecture profession worldwide through international partnerships, collaboration, advocacy and research that protect the health, safety and welfare of the global community.

Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards

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## Our mission

To design and promote landscape architectural standards.

## Our vision

The world's people, places and environment are protected by landscape architecture.

## Our preferred future

Agile standards with flexible education, experience and examination that enables borderless and diverse landscape architecture practice and is focused on the protection of health, safety and well-being (HSW), and considers emerging design, technical and societal trends.

## Our values

### LEAD WITH VISION

Planning for the future with creativity, wisdom and foresight.

### ACT WITH INTEGRITY

Operating with transparency and in alignment with our values and principles.

### DEMONSTRATE THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

Building trust and influence within our community.

### ASPIRE TO EXCELLENCE

Striving for continuous improvement through learning, growth and development.

### FOSTER INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Cultivating meaningful connections among our stakeholders.

### ENGAGE AS STEWARDS

Managing the organization's resources and mission with care and respect.

### DESIGN COLLABORATIVELY

Engaging stakeholders and partners to develop and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.

# Welcome



MATT MILLER  
CEO

## Dear CLARB Community,

As I reflect on my fifth year as CEO of the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards, I'm filled with pride and optimism about our organization's progress and the bright future ahead.

Fiscal year 2024 was a busy year for CLARB, guided by our CLARB 2.0 strategic framework adopted in 2022. This year's plan has sharpened our focus and driven significant achievements, none of which would have been possible without the dedication of our incredible group of volunteers.

Over the past year, I've witnessed firsthand our commitment to maintaining rigorous licensing standards while simultaneously creating more accessible pathways for candidates. This delicate balance is crucial

as we adapt to the evolving needs of our profession and the communities we serve.

This report is a glimpse into the many ways CLARB works to protect the public's health, safety and welfare by establishing and promoting professional licensure standards. As you browse through the pages, I challenge you to consider your role in promoting and defending professional licensure. Our collective voice is powerful, and your advocacy is essential to ensuring the continued recognition and respect the profession deserves across our 56 member jurisdictions and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Miller', written in a cursive style.

# Engaging our stakeholders

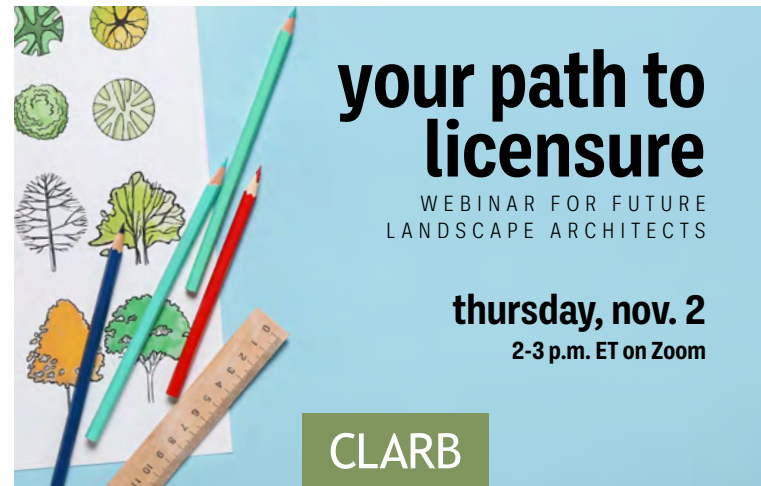
We are committed to providing value to both the regulatory and practitioner communities in landscape architecture by actively engaging with our diverse stakeholder groups: Members, Council Record Holders and aspiring landscape architects. The wide range of events, programs and initiatives we offered throughout the last year support our efforts to foster inclusivity in landscape architecture regulation and strengthen the profession as a whole.

## Education outreach

As part of our commitment to protecting public health, safety and welfare by promoting professional licensure standards, we work to provide a comprehensive understanding of landscape architecture licensure to the next generation of professionals.



*To request a presentation to your class or student group, please contact Alyssa Torrance.*



## Your Path to Licensure

We offered free, public webinars called “Your Path to Licensure” designed for students, educators and emerging professionals. Over 500 individuals registered to learn more about essential topics such as the definition of licensure, its importance in protecting the public and how to begin the process. We also provided several virtual presentations on the same topic to professional practice classes at universities across the U.S. and Canada.



## ASLA events

To further engage with and demonstrate our support for future practitioners, CLARB sponsored, exhibited and presented at LABash 2024, the landscape architecture student conference. We also participated in ASLA’s annual LARE Prep Week, offering presentations about the licensure process and the L.A.R.E.



# 2024 Annual Meeting

September 19 – 21, 2024

Buffalo, New York

The 2024 CLARB Annual Meeting brought together over 100 attendees representing more than 30 jurisdictions, focusing on the theme “Opportunity into Action” for landscape architecture regulation. The agenda covered topics such as the impacts of Artificial Intelligence on practice and regulation, the future of landscape architecture education and the opportunities that STEM designation for the profession is creating.

Attendees had the opportunity to provide input on high-impact projects, including



David Yunger from Vaital shared inspirational insight on the Impacts of Artificial Intelligence on Practice and Regulation.

the ICOR Practice Overlap initiative and the CLARB Bylaws review. These interactive sessions aimed to shape guidance for regulatory boards and improve CLARB’s governance structure for future effectiveness.

The meeting featured informative plenary sessions, networking breaks and working lunches, fostering engagement and knowledge sharing among regulators from across North America and beyond.

The final day of the meeting included role-specific breakout sessions. Member Board Executives engaged in peer-to-peer discussions on regulatory trends and jurisdictional differences, while Member Board Members explored best practices for educating local governments on the regulated scope of landscape architecture practice.

Overall, the 2024 CLARB Annual Meeting successfully turned “Opportunity into Action,” providing valuable insights, connections and actionable strategies for attendees to address the evolving landscape of professional regulation in landscape architecture.



*Member Board Executives and Staff exchanged ideas during Navigating the Public Sector: Insight for Licensure Board Staff.*



*Attendees explored Canalside and learned more about the city's historic and modern landscape architecture highlights on a walking tour of Buffalo guided by Mark Wendel of the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation.*



**SAVE THE DATE**

**2025 CLARB Annual Meeting  
September 18-20, 2025  
Lexington, Kentucky**



# Leadership development

This year we launched a new series designed to engage our Council Record Holders and Members by offering professional development through free monthly webinars. The sessions were developed to help participants strengthen skills that would be valuable for volunteer service at CLARB and beyond. More than 650 CLARB community members participated throughout the year.



## LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

OCTOBER	Being a Good Ambassador
NOVEMBER	Using Your Strengths
DECEMBER	Thinking and Acting Beyond Orthodoxy
JANUARY	Leadership Insights from CLARB’s DEI Journey
FEBRUARY	Leading with Foresight
MARCH	Public Speaking Tips and Tricks
APRIL	Strategic Planning 101
MAY	Attracting & Retaining the Next Greatest Generation
JUNE	Non-profit Finance 101
JULY	Living Our Values: CLARB’s Core Competencies in Action
AUGUST	The Leadership Benefits of Emotional Fluency and Vulnerability
SEPTEMBER	Cultivate Connections by Mastering Listening Intelligence



JOIN US

*Leadership Development Program webinars are free and open to the public. View the full calendar and register to join us.*

# Adding value through strategic partnerships



There are many ways to support CLARB. Visit our website for details.

## Multiview

CLARB launched the monthly Council Record Connection eNewsletter in March 2023 as an exclusive benefit for Council Record Holders. To add value to the eNewsletter and position CLARB as a thought leader in landscape architecture regulation, CLARB partnered with Multiview in late 2023 to include aggregated news content and increase the frequency of the eNewsletter. Now Multiview sends biweekly eNewsletters to Council Record Holders that feature relevant news snippets and links alongside CLARB updates. The valuable addition of curated, timely news from across the world is made possible through the support of advertisers that Multiview secures on behalf of CLARB.



## Annual Meeting sponsorship

New sponsorship opportunities at the CLARB Annual Meeting helped make this event more affordable and accessible to our membership. Support helped us bring together 100+ professionals from state/provincial regulatory agencies and practicing landscape architects to exchange the knowledge and connections that are key to our Members' regulatory work.

*Special thanks to our first Annual Meeting sponsors, the American Society of Landscape Architects and Pland Collaborative.*



American Society of Landscape Architects







*Rio Rancho Campus Park, Rio Rancho, NM. Photo by Marble Street Studio / Pland Collaborative.*



*Los Altos Park, Albuquerque, NM. Photo by Mattphoto Architectural Photography / Pland Collaborative.*

ADDING VALUE THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS



## Supporting Partners

Our new Supporting Partners program offers Members and Council Record Holders access to valuable resources and insights, enhancing your professional development and practice. With more opportunities to engage with industry-leading organizations, learn about valuable products and services, and stay informed about the latest trends shaping landscape architecture, backing from Supporting Partners empowers CLARB to support your career growth and help you better serve your clients and communities.

***Special thanks to our first Supporting Partners, Pland Collaborative.***





# Transforming to serve you better

We're planning big improvements over the next year to support our mission and the way we do business with you, our stakeholders.



2012



2015



2024

## Database

The cornerstone of our transformational effort is the implementation of a new database, set to launch in mid-2025. This new system will offer more efficient, automated and user-focused processes, including self-service capabilities and individualized guidance throughout the licensure process.

## Email

Communication enhancements are also underway, based on feedback from a recent survey. We are changing our email platform to provide more tailored messaging and give users greater control over the types of communications they receive from CLARB. These changes will be implemented by the end of 2024.

## Website

Additionally, we're planning a complete website overhaul, focusing on improving navigation and content organization to better serve our various audience groups. The new website will launch alongside the new database in 2025, incorporating extensive user testing and stakeholder input to ensure an improved user experience.

## Brand

Lastly, CLARB is developing a new brand identity to reflect our professionalism and forward-thinking approach. The transformation will be gradual, and the most significant changes will coincide with the new website launch in 2025.



### SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS

*Your input is invaluable as we roll out these exciting changes. We're committed to continuous improvement, and your feedback challenges us to excel. Please feel free to share your thoughts and experiences with us throughout this transformation.*



# Core programs

**Our core programs form the foundation of CLARB's mission to protect the public and advance the landscape architecture profession. These programs work in concert to uphold standards, streamline processes and support landscape architects throughout their careers.**



## Landscape Architect Registration Examination

CLARB prepares, administers and scores the L.A.R.E., which assesses the ability of prospective licensees to protect the public's health, safety and welfare. This four-part fully computerized examination is designed to determine whether applicants for landscape architectural licensure possess sufficient knowledge, skills and abilities to provide services without endangering the public.



# Improving the candidate experience

We recognize the many unique perspectives and experiences of our stakeholders, and as part of our commitment to listening and responding, we constantly look for ways to improve the candidate experience. This year we offered many new ways to help candidates succeed.

## New practice exams

We launched a new affordable tool for candidates to assess their readiness. CLARB's \$25 practice exams allow candidates to gain familiarity with the exam format and preview the types of questions found on the L.A.R.E. They include 50 questions, offer instant results and rationale, and permit multiple attempts.

## New ESL accommodation

Effective with the August 2024 examination administration period, candidates can request an accommodation to use a word-to-word (bilingual) language dictionary during testing at a PSI test center. As part of our commitment to honoring the experience of our diverse candidate population, CLARB also accepts requests for accommodations for candidates with disabilities, temporary medical conditions or lactation.

## Updated policy on whiteboards, calculators

To better support candidates and their testing preferences while maintaining the defensibility and security of the exam, we updated our policy on whiteboards and calculators. All candidates now have access to a digital calculator and whiteboard in the exam software during the exam. Candidates who test in person at a PSI test center may request a handheld calculator and/or use of a whiteboard.

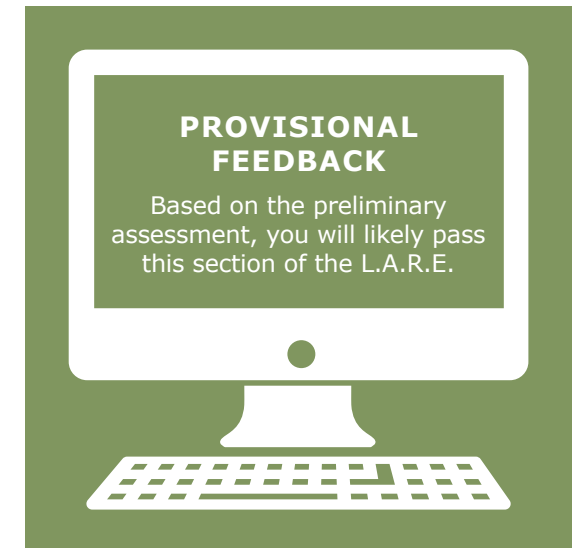
## Determinants of Success

Periodically CLARB conducts “Determinants of Success” research to measure the factors that impact success on the L.A.R.E. Through online surveys we ask exam candidates to share details about their study methods, work experience, education and skills. This input helps CLARB and subsequently, future exam candidates, understand what matters the most when preparing to take the exam. We began conducting this research during the August 2024 administration period and will continue through the December 2024, April 2024 and August 2025 administration periods. We expect to publish findings in late 2025.

## Provisional feedback

The August 2024 exam administration period marked the launch of a multi-phase project to offer provisional feedback to candidates. At the end of the exam, candidates can view their provisional feedback on the screen and by email. This accurate predictor of whether or not a candidate passed the exam section is not an official score and is based on unvalidated exam results. All candidate exam results must still be analyzed by CLARB using data forensics before score reports can be released. Official scores are made available 4-6 weeks following the last day of the administration period.

Provisional feedback helps candidates decide which section(s) to attempt during the next exam administration period, empowering them with additional time to plan and study.





# Exam blueprint transition

AUGUST	OCTOBER	DECEMBER
Last opportunity to test using previous blueprint	Special administration period offered for Section 4 only	First opportunity to test under new blueprint

We periodically conduct studies known as a Job/Task Analysis to ensure the exam reflects the evolution of the profession. After completing one such report in 2022, we began the transition to a new L.A.R.E. blueprint in 2023.

The blueprint took effect with the December 2023 exam administration period and will remain in place until the completion of the next Job/Task Analysis.



## WE'RE HERE TO HELP

*Our support team offers personalized guidance for your unique licensure journey. We're available to answer your questions at 571-432-0332 or [info@clarb.org](mailto:info@clarb.org).*

**559** candidates completed all four sections and are now ready to get licensed

**2,164**  
candidates took  
a total of  
**3,985**  
sections

**388**  
candidates  
were able to  
view provisional  
feedback

**5,273** practice exams  
completed

**15**  
candidates were  
authorized to use  
a word-to-word  
translation dictionary  
during testing

**73%**  
tested in-person  
**27%**  
tested online



## By the numbers

October 1, 2023 – September 30, 2024



## CLARB Council Record

Landscape architects document and verify their education, experience, examination and licensure history through our professional information system, the CLARB Council Record.

### Benefits

- Valuable tool used throughout a landscape architect's career – from exam candidate to established professional – to streamline the licensure process.
- Includes access to CLARB webinars, professional development, research and advocacy resources.
- Faster and more efficient overall for Record Holders and CLARB Member jurisdictions.
- Provides convenient, secure access to detailed records and lightens the administrative load.
- Helps reduce barriers to mobility by streamlining the initial and reciprocal licensure processes.
- Empowers candidates to be evaluated for CLARB Certification.





## CLARB Certification

CLARB Certification is a formal recognition that an individual's education, experience and examination meet or exceed the high standards approved by CLARB's Board of Directors. These standards are aligned with the CLARB Uniform Licensure Standard and are recommended internationally as the standard for licensure.

# CLARB Certification

## Benefits

- Serves as the profession's indication that a candidate meets the professional standards set by CLARB.
- Unlocks the fast track by demonstrating adherence to recognized professional standards and accelerating the reciprocal licensure process.
- Gives a competitive edge to practitioners who use the title of "CLARB Certified Landscape Architect" and proudly display the logo on their website, social media platforms and marketing materials.
- Expands potential reach by empowering landscape architects to more easily pursue business opportunities and respond to requests across different jurisdictions.
- Recommends to the governing jurisdiction that the individual be granted licensure or registration without further review.



*“You will never know when an opportunity will present itself in a different jurisdiction. Being able to quickly apply for a reciprocal license may help you land a new project.”*

---

**BRANDON DOSS, PLA**

*CLARB Certified since 2019*

**Design Studio Director**

Blair Parker Design

# New pathways to certification

To streamline and standardize how experience for licensure is evaluated across jurisdictions, our volunteer work group reviewed various experience aspects and developed recommendations for evaluating experience around direct supervision, international experience, self-verified experience, practicing as a principal and other areas. The work group will submit final guidance recommendations for Board of Directors consideration and approval in late 2024.

Additionally, new pathways to CLARB Certification have been created for

educators, recognizing teaching in the regulated domains of practice for gaining experience necessary to qualify for certification. This new pathway provides opportunities for educators to qualify for licensure in some jurisdictions. CLARB believes it is important for educators to be licensed to reinforce the value to students and to strengthen the case for licensure of the profession.

231  
individuals were  
CLARB Certified  
last year



*“CLARB Certification expedites my licensure process and pushes me to get licensed in other jurisdictions because the process is less stressful. I love the reminders regarding expiration dates which help me stay on top of my license.”*

**DIANE JONES ALLEN, PLA,  
FASLA, FCELA**  
*CLARB Certified since 1998*

**Director and Professor of Landscape  
Architecture**  
University of Texas at Arlington

**Principal Landscape Architect**  
DesignJones LLC



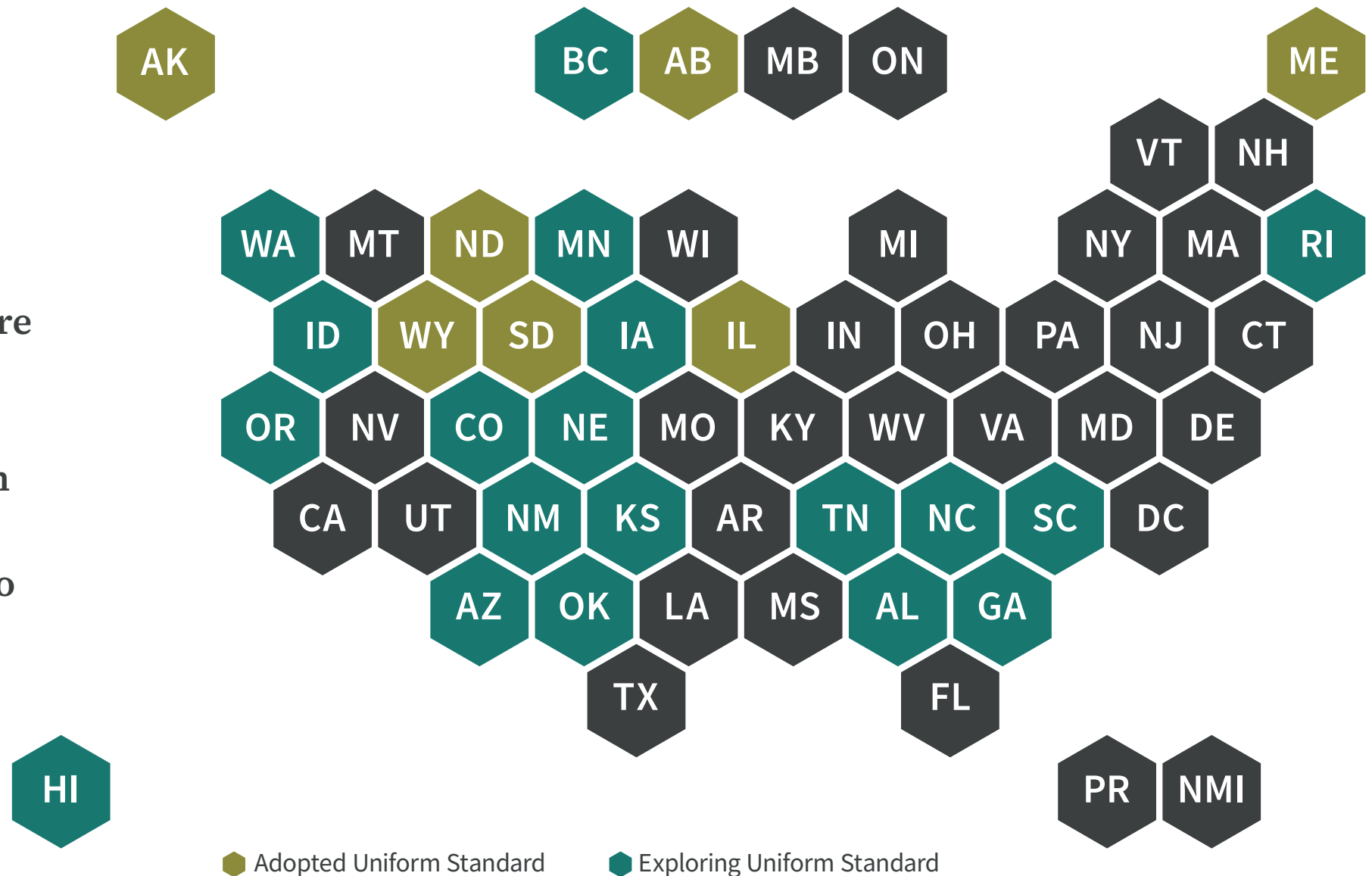
# Key initiatives

In addition to offering the licensure exam, managing professional records and defending licensure for the health, safety and welfare of the public, CLARB engaged in several strategic projects that support our mission to design and promote landscape architectural standards.

## CLARB UNIFORM STANDARD

### Rethinking Regulation

We continuously explore and research the forces shaping landscape architecture licensure so that we can proactively address licensure reform, identify and reduce key friction points in the licensure process, and increase equitable access to licensure for all.



# Uniform Standard

The CLARB Uniform Licensure Standard for Landscape Architecture 2022 is a policy guidance document established and adopted by the CLARB membership to outline detailed model requirements for education, experience and examination to be eligible for licensure as a landscape architect. Alaska and Wyoming adopted the Uniform Standard this year, and seven jurisdictions have implemented to date.

## Adoption to date

2022		2023		2024
MAY	SEPTEMBER	JANUARY	SEPTEMBER	APRIL
Alberta	Illinois	North Dakota South Dakota	Maine	Alaska Wyoming

## Looking ahead

We are working with several other jurisdictions to explore adoption.

- In **Alabama, Georgia** and **Hawaii**, CLARB and ASLA are preparing for legislation to adopt the Uniform Standard.
- **Nebraska** has drafted language to adopt the Uniform Standard.
- **Oklahoma** is working on regulatory language to adopt the Uniform Standard.
- **North Carolina** has completed the work of their Uniform Standard Advisory

Committee, and the Board is developing an implementation plan in coordination with the NCASLA chapter.

- In **Washington**, CLARB and ASLA suggested adopting the Uniform Standard as part of their sunset review process. The Department of Licensing signaled support for adopting the Uniform Standard in their sunset review report.



# Proactively addressing licensure reform

We are committed to defending landscape architectural licensure in the public's interest, and we employ a range of strategies and partnerships to ensure that the practice of landscape architecture remains a licensed profession across the United States and Canada. Our goal is to safeguard public safety and well-being by maintaining rigorous professional standards, which helps ensure that only qualified professionals design outdoor spaces that protect people, communities and the environment.

## 2024 Legislative Trends

### Reciprocal licensing

In 2024, many states considered Universal Licensing bills, which aim to make it easier for professionals licensed in one state to work in another. These bills generally require licensing boards to grant a license to someone who has been in good standing for at least one year in another jurisdiction.

CLARB's Uniform Standard can help address these bills by creating a consistent set of requirements across states and provinces, simplifying the process for professionals to get licensed no matter where they practice. However, Universal Licensing bills can sometimes create challenges, especially if they result in differences between how in-state and out-of-state applicants are treated. Our work helps minimize these differences, ensuring fair and equitable treatment for all applicants.

### Board consolidations

We continue to monitor legislative efforts to consolidate landscape architecture boards with other professions. For example, **Utah** recently merged its landscape architect board with the architect board, and similar proposals were introduced but not passed in **Iowa** and **New Hampshire**.

CLARB recognizes that there are benefits to both autonomous and combined boards, depending on the specific needs and contexts of each jurisdiction. We support our Member Boards by providing resources and insights to navigate these changes effectively.



*To learn more advocacy for licensure in your jurisdiction, please contact Zach Druga.*

## Executive orders and sunset reviews

Several state governors issued Executive Orders that reviewed licensing across various professions. CLARB partnered with our allies to help Member Boards respond to these reviews, ensuring that the needs of landscape architects were considered. During sunset reviews—regular evaluations to decide if a board should continue operating—in states like **Arizona, California** and **Washington**, CLARB worked alongside the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and other partners to secure continuations for landscape architecture licensure.

## Other trends

- Moving boards under a central licensing agency
- Shifting authority from boards to licensing agencies
- Reviewing and adjusting licensing requirements
- Monitoring proposed regulations affecting licensure

## Success stories

### LOUISIANA HB 959

This bill, as originally proposed, would have deregulated several professions, including landscape architecture. Thanks to a collaborative effort between CLARB, ASLA, and the Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL), significant changes were made to the bill, and all deregulatory provisions were removed. This was a critical win for landscape architecture in **Louisiana**, ensuring that the profession remains regulated. Continued regulation is vital because it upholds professional standards that protect public health, safety, and well-being (HSW), ensuring that outdoor spaces are safe, functional, and environmentally sustainable.

### ALABAMA SB 224

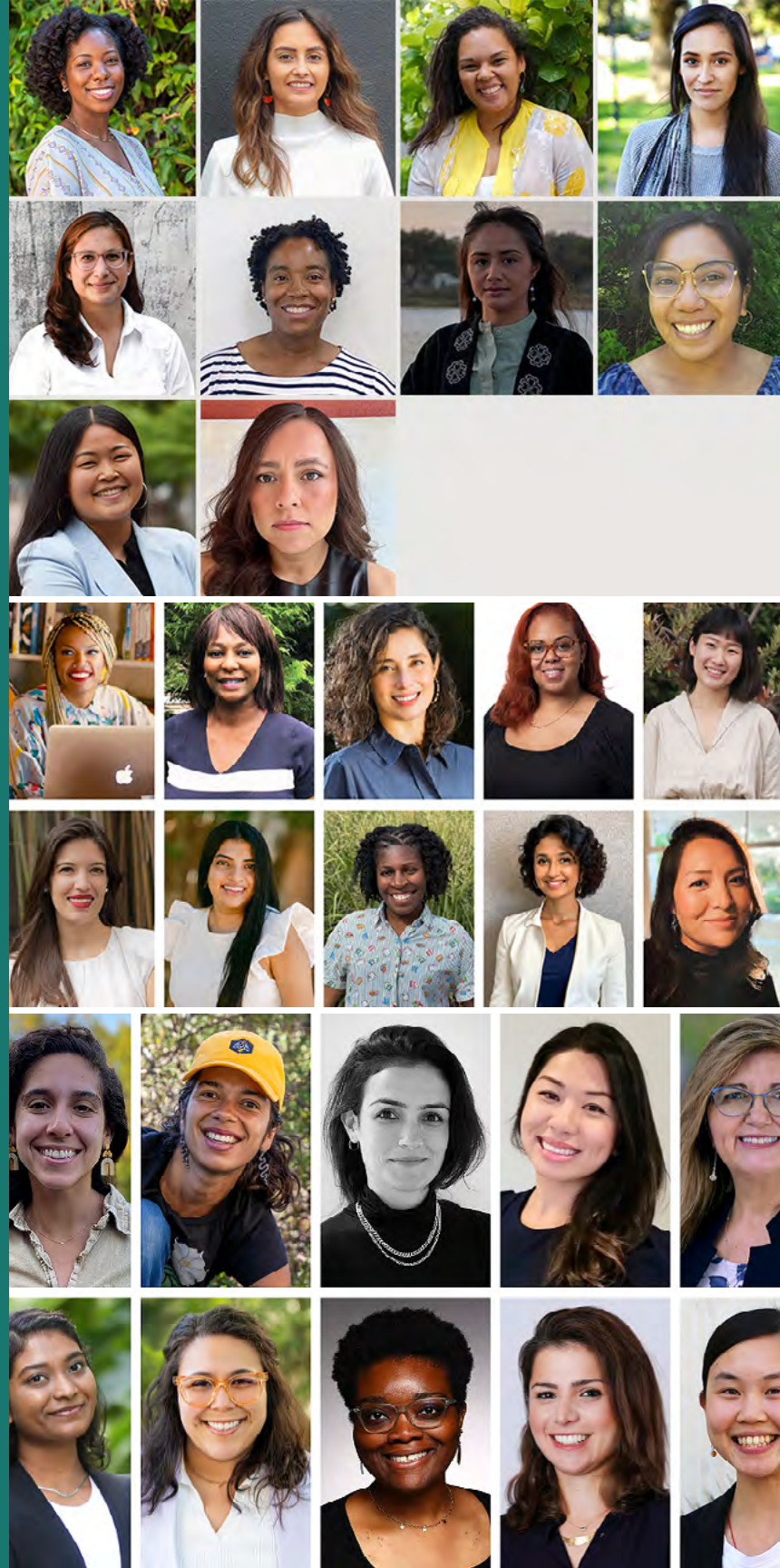
This bill sought to consolidate independent licensing boards, including the landscape architecture board, under a central state licensing agency in **Alabama**. CLARB and ASLA partnered to provide input on this proposal, focusing on how the shift could impact licensing processes and customer service.

CLARB recognizes the benefits of both autonomous and centralized models, and we remain committed to supporting our Member Boards in adapting to legislative changes while maintaining high standards for licensure of the profession.



# Balancing accessibility and rigor in licensing

Since 2014, CLARB has been on a deliberate journey to foster accessibility and inclusivity in landscape architecture regulation. We believe in maintaining rigorous licensing standards while creating more accessible ways for candidates to meet those standards.



## Licensure Advancement Program

We are proud to serve as a founding, lead sponsor of ASLA's Women of Color Licensure Advancement Program, which supports women of color in their pursuit of landscape architecture licensure and increases racial and gender diversity within the profession.

Participants receive a two-year, personalized experience that includes up to \$3,500 toward the cost of taking the L.A.R.E., along with exam preparation courses, resources and mentorship from a licensed landscape architect. We renewed our commitment to the program by sponsoring the 2024-2026 cohort.





NAMLA and CLARB  
representatives at LABash 2024  
hosted by UC Davis.

## National Association of Minority Landscape Architects

CLARB supports NAMLA's efforts to increase minority representation at all levels of landscape architecture practice and academia. CLARB sponsored NAMLA's exhibit booth at LABash 2024, the conference for landscape architecture students. This support empowered the organization to connect with hundreds of landscape architecture students and recent graduates in person at the **University of California, Davis** March 28-31, 2024.

## Experience Evaluation work group

We explored how experience is gained and evaluated under the Uniform Standard with a goal of providing consistent guidance for our Member Boards, applicants and verifiers. The work group reviewed various experience aspects and developed evaluation recommendations around direct supervision, international experience, self-verified experience and other areas for consideration. The group is developing guidance to streamline and standardize experience evaluation across licensure boards.

## Black Landscape Architects Network

CLARB included BlackLAN in the development of the Exam Determinants of Success Study and has committed to expanding its support of BlackLAN's efforts to increase the visibility, support the interests and foster the impact of Black practitioners in Landscape Architecture.



## Todd Reade Canadian LARE Support Program

Named in memory of Todd Reade who passed away in 2022, CLARB provided matching support to the Alberta Association of Landscape Architects, BC Society of Landscape Architects, Manitoba Association of Landscape Architects and the Ontario Association of Landscape Architects to establish the Todd Reade Canadian LARE Support Program. The program provides financial relief to Canadian candidates who are preparing for or actively taking the L.A.R.E. Reade served as the Alberta Association of Landscape Architects Executive Director and as a CLARB volunteer.

# Uniting chapters and licensure boards

Throughout the year, ASLA + CLARB Licensure Summits bring together ASLA chapter leaders and landscape architectural licensure boards from across the United States and Canada to shape the future of landscape architecture licensure. Last year included three virtual summits and the first in-person summit to take place in several years.



## Fall Licensure Summit

November 15, 2023  
Zoom

- Overview of 2023 legislative trends
- Current licensing reform efforts
- Uniform standard progress report

## Spring Licensure Summit

March 13, 2024  
Zoom

- Legislative sessions and licensing reform efforts
- 2024 ARPL activities
- Uniform standard implementation

## Summer Licensure Summit

June 5, 2024  
Zoom

- Legislative activity updates
- Emerging trends
- ASLA + CLARB organizational responses and activities



*Special thanks to our friends at ASLA for their partnership and collaboration on these joint efforts: Elizabeth Hebron, Daniel Martin and Bradley Rawls.*





**Empowering  
Opportunity**



## ASLA + CLARB Licensure Summit

**September 16-18, 2024**

**Multi-day event in Buffalo, New York**

The theme of the summit was Empowering Opportunity, and the programming focused on enhancing standards, empowering stakeholders and educating others in order to shape the future of landscape architecture licensure.

**UNITING CHAPTERS AND LICENSING BOARDS**

### **Session topics included:**

- Defending Licensure in a Deregulation Era
- Enlisting Champions: Strategic Volunteer Recruitment
- Understanding the Uniform Standard and Messaging Workshop
- Multiple Routes, One Destination
- Navigating Legal Landscapes: Best Practices for Statutory and Regulatory Changes



# Reframing landscape architecture



## Design Meets Dialogue

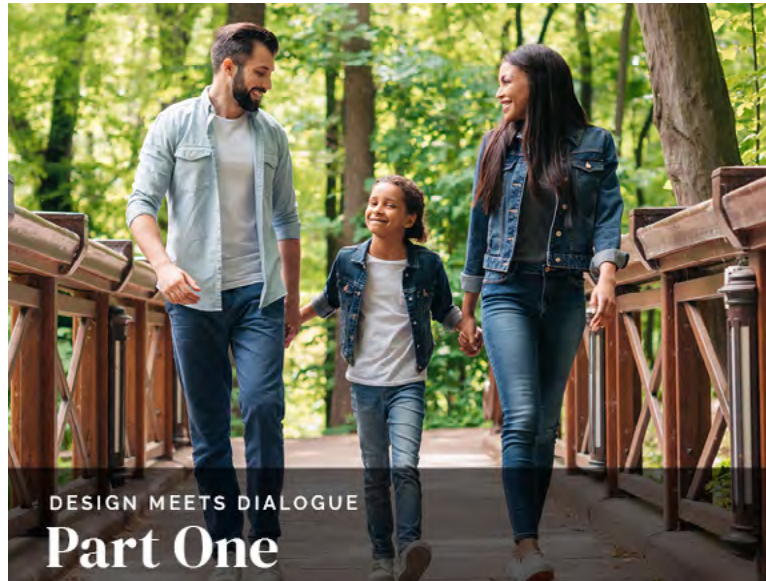
Along with our key partners in landscape architecture, CLARB and the Frameworks Institute worked to reframe landscape architecture's narrative and improve public understanding. We aimed to highlight practitioners' work, its methods and societal impact. By emphasizing that "landscape architecture engages and benefits people," we continue our work to dispel misconceptions, clarify the profession's scope and demonstrate its crucial role in outdoor spaces. CLARB hosted a three-part webinar series that explored the recommended strategies and shared helpful tools.



## Key framing strategies

- Lead with how landscape architecture benefits people.
- Appeal to the value of community cohesion to reinforce the value of the field for people and communities.
- Leverage what people know about building architecture to build a better understanding of what landscape architecture entails.
- Weave different examples and images into every communication to get the public to better understand that landscape architects connect people to their surroundings.





## Demonstrating Value for People and Community

*Monday, January 22*

**Moira O'Neil**, senior vice president of research interpretation at the FrameWorks Institute, presented the first two of the four recommendations to identify effective strategies for communicating the scope and value of landscape architecture to the public.



## Building from Familiar Examples and Imagery

*Monday, February 5*

Moira O'Neil presented the last two of the four recommendations to identify effective strategies for communicating the scope and value of landscape architecture to the public.

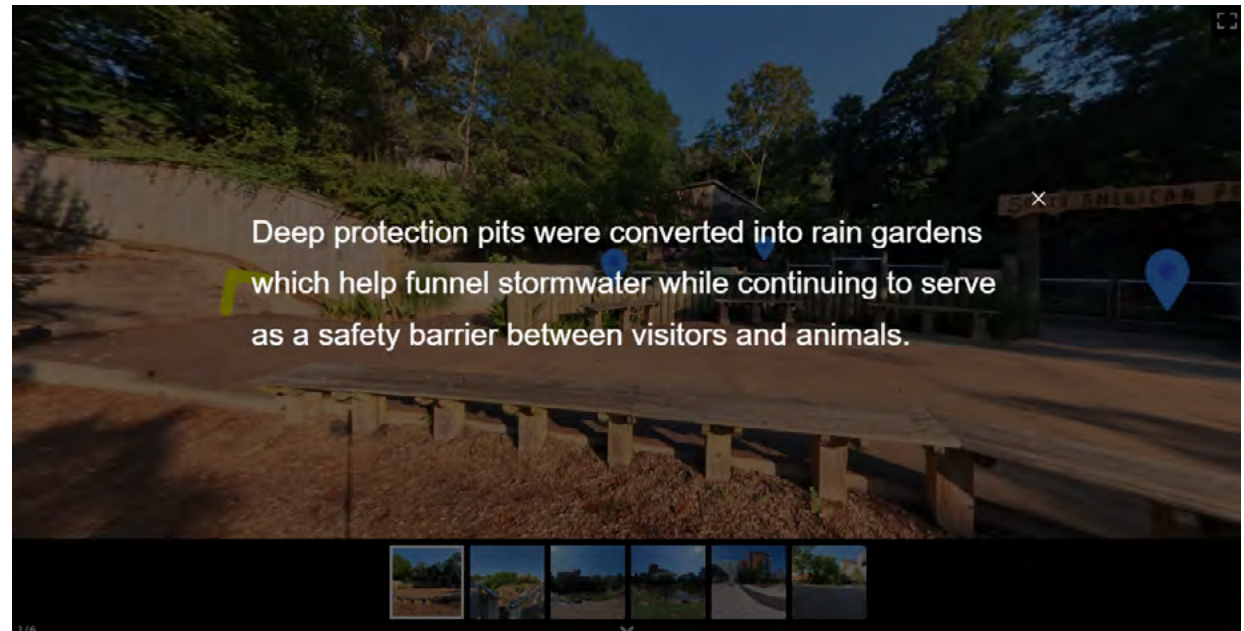


## Engaging your Audience Through a Virtual Tour

*Tuesday, February 20*

**Greenville, South Carolina's** principal landscape architect **Edward Kinney** and CLARB's government affairs and advocacy manager **Zach Druga** introduced a new resource for Council Record Holders — a virtual tour of downtown Greenville, South Carolina that practitioners can use to help communicate about landscape architecture.





The tour includes site plans, construction photos and detailed information about the work that landscape architects completed to transform the downtown area. With 360° views of the riverfront, park, zoo and downtown streetscapes, this virtual resource is a great way to help others gain an understanding of the profession and its real impact on a community.





# Elevating the profession around the world

Our vision for a unified, elevated profession includes intentional opportunities for international access, mobility and equity through the globalization of systems, processes and standards. Through partnership, research and collaboration, we continued to explore landscape architecture regulation around the world.



## EDUCATION

### LAAB / Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México Pilot

CLARB and LAAB explored ways to facilitate access to practice for internationally educated applicants. Together we launched a pilot program with the **Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México** (UNAM) for LAAB candidacy status. After years of rigorous preparations, the April 2024 candidacy visit to UNAM included interviews, campus tours and a presentation of initial findings — marking a significant milestone for UNAM and yielding valuable insights for LAAB and CLARB.

Pending the final report from LAAB, CLARB will consider recognizing the landscape architecture degree from UNAM as “equivalent” for meeting the requirements for CLARB Certification.

## EXPERIENCE

# Landscape Architecture Around the World: Results of the First Global Job Task Analysis

*December 12, 2023*

CLARB and IFLA conducted the first ever Global Job Task Analysis in 2022 to gain a better understanding of the profession across the globe. More than two thousand practitioners representing over one hundred countries and ten languages participated, informing a broader view of who is practicing landscape architecture and what the practice of landscape architecture entails.

In 2023 CLARB published the report and presented the findings at a December webinar. Presenters **Adrienne W. Cadle** of Professional Testing and CLARB's COO **Rebecca Moden** explored the similarities and differences in practice globally, regionally and nationally — as well as the potential impact to the future of the profession.





# Landscape Architecture Around the World: Results of the First Global Job Task Analysis

Figure 18: Projects performed as a landscape architect.

Which of these types of projects have you designed or participated in the design of? (Choose all that apply.)

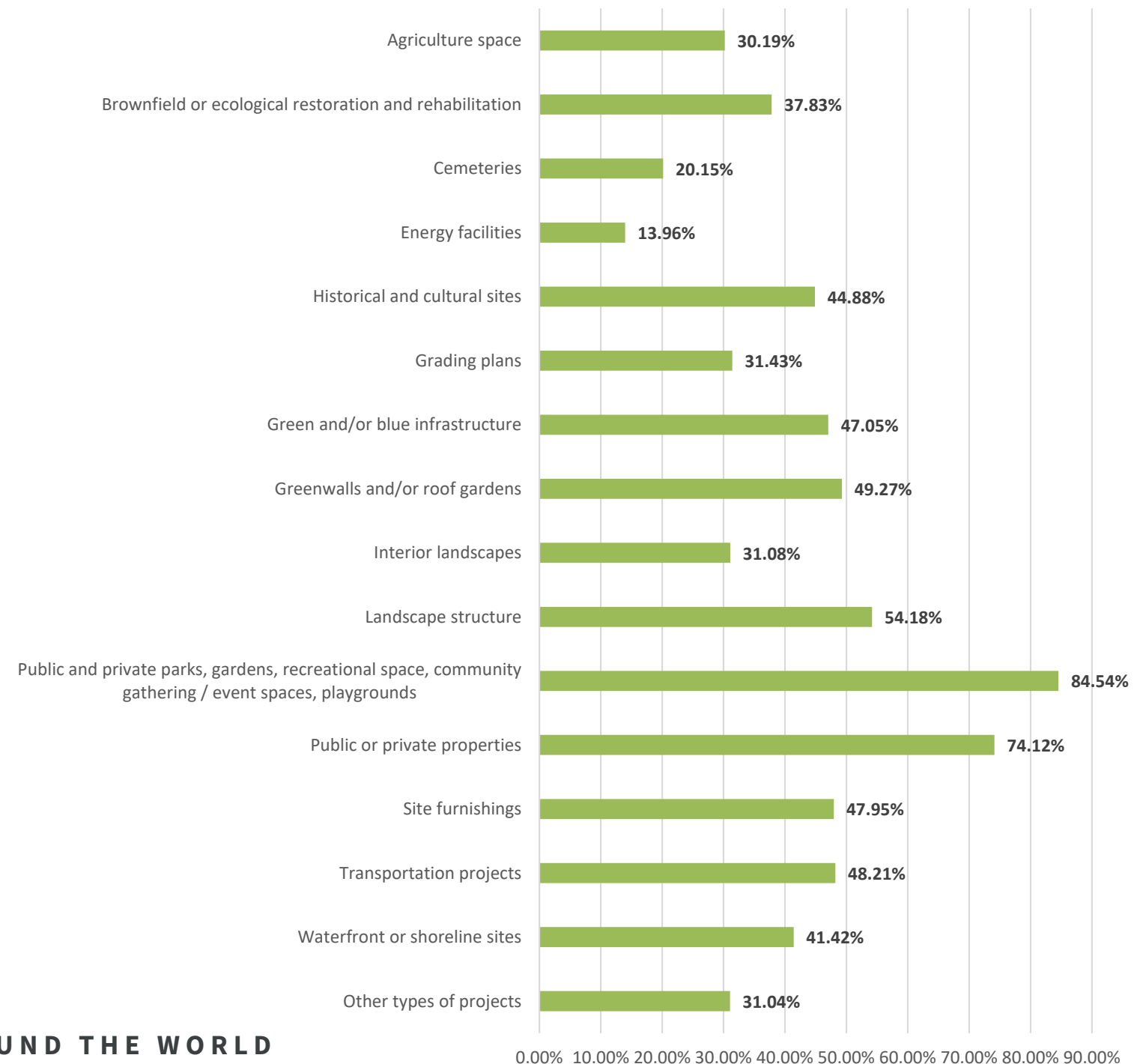


Figure 11: Sector respondents are employed.

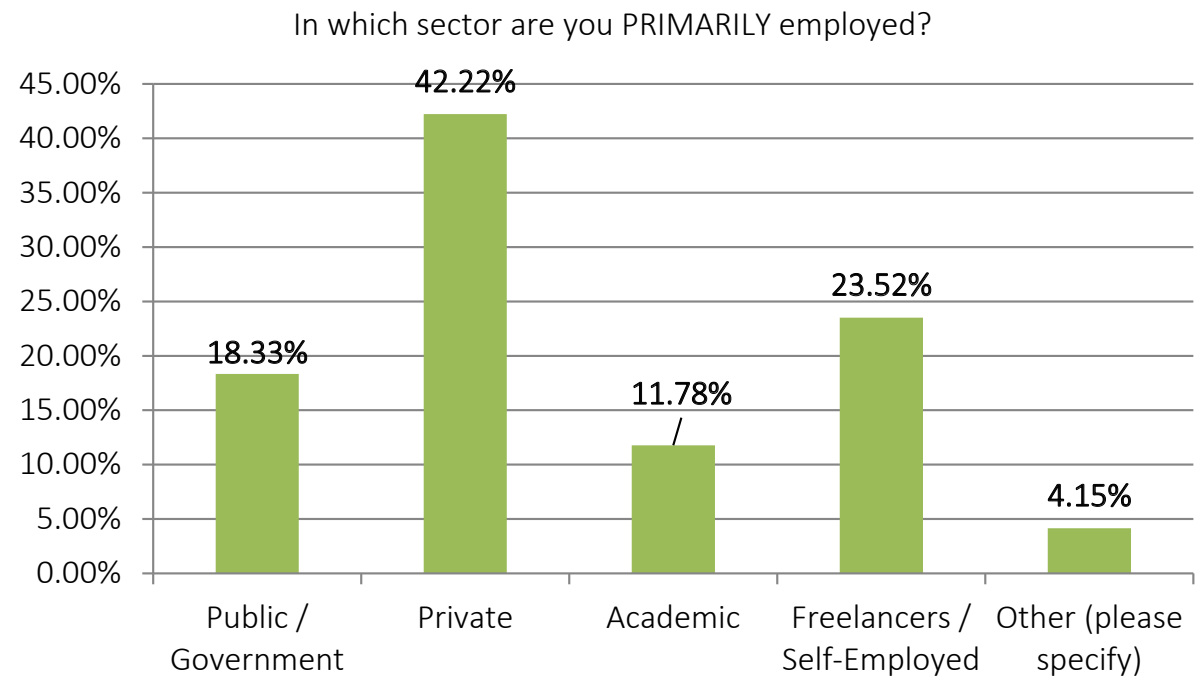
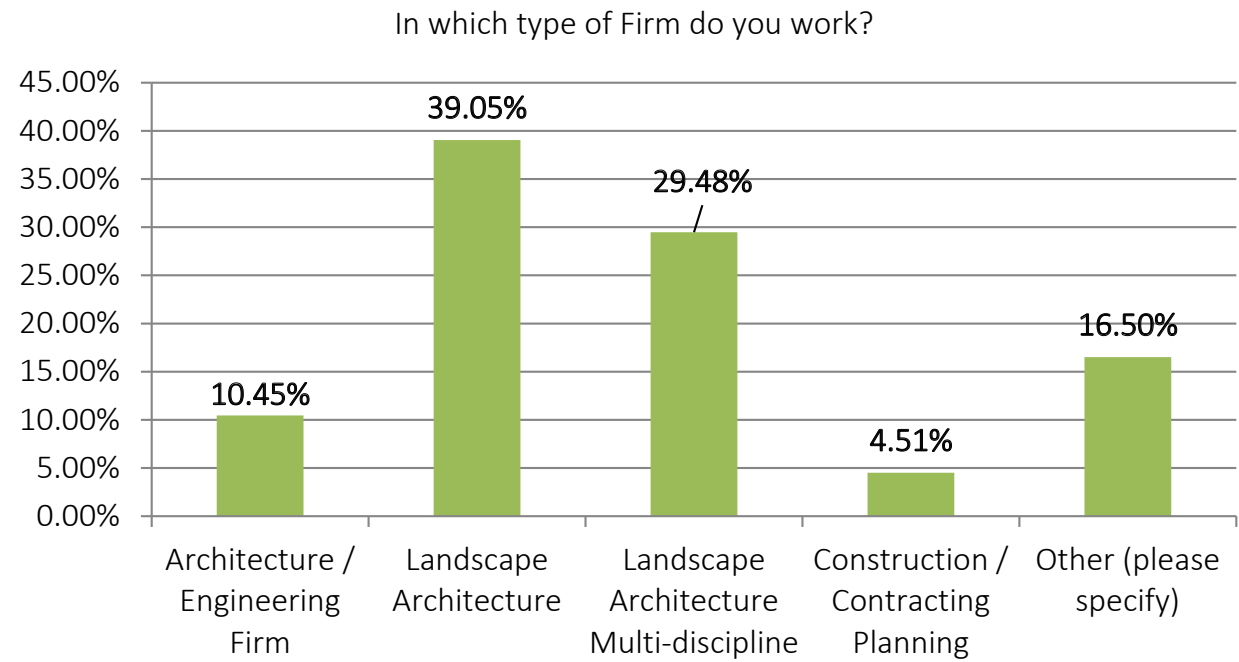


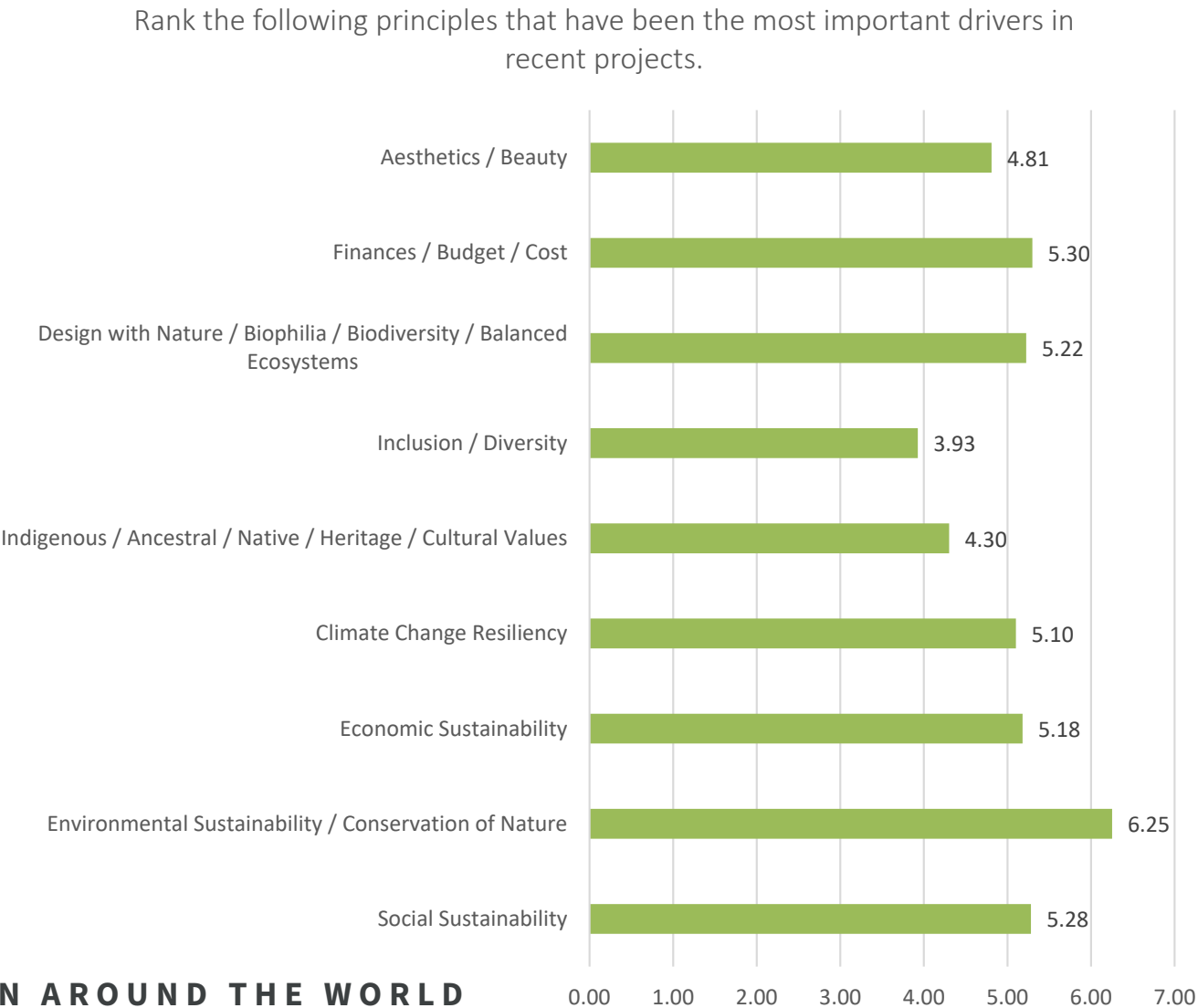
Figure 12: Type of architecture firm in which respondents reported working.



***Landscape Architecture Values***

Survey participants were asked to rank nine principles or values based on the importance of each value on recent projects from one to nine, with one being least important and nine being most important. Environmental Sustainability / Conservation of Nature ranked the highest of all values among survey participants with an overall ranking score of 6.25, as indicated in Figure 19.

*Figure 19: Recent projects ranked principles*





## REGULATION

### IFLA corporate membership

CLARB officially became the first corporate member of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) at the 2023 IFLA World Council in **Nairobi, Kenya**. Through membership in the only global body representing the landscape architecture profession, CLARB has opportunities to share and exchange ideas with colleagues throughout the five IFLA regions and contribute to IFLA's efforts to advance recognition of the profession around the world.

As the first corporate member, CLARB paves the way for other landscape architecture organizations, university programs and private practices to collaborate with IFLA's member associations through education, training, research and professional practice.



*CLARB past president Carisa McMullen, IFLA president Bruno Marques and CLARB CEO Matt Miller mark CLARB's corporate membership at the 2023 IFLA World Council in Nairobi, Kenya.*







## REGULATION

### Exploring emerging areas of practice

CLARB and its partner Professional Testing convened a group of subject matter experts and critical thinkers in the profession for a series of focus groups to identify gaps in content not currently addressed by CLARB or the industry overall. The work group developed a survey that would answer important questions about aspects of practice that, while crucial, are not yet prominent enough to be included in the L.A.R.E.

The results of the survey are being used to help focus CLARB's work and efforts in the future — including potential opportunities for developing educational opportunities to expand practitioners' knowledge in these growing areas of practice.

### Strengthening relationships, sharing knowledge at IFLA World

Representatives from CLARB, including President **Lea Ann Macknally** and President-Elect **Joel Kurokawa**, attended the IFLA World Council and World Congress, which was hosted by the UCTEA Chamber Landscape Architects in **Istanbul, Turkey** September 2-6, 2024.

CLARB participated as observers during the IFLA World Council meeting and contributed to discussions on organizational governance and global professional recognition of landscape architects. Then during the IFLA World Congress, CLARB presented its work as part of the ICOR Overlap of Practice initiative. Macknally participated as a panelist in the Industry in Transition: Embracing Sustainability in Landscape Architecture session and moderated the Cultivating Resiliency: Sustainable & Resilient Communities session.



## REGULATION

### IFLA Americas partnership

We entered into a strategic partnership with the International Federation of Landscape Architects Americas Region aimed at elevating and uniting the landscape architecture profession across the Americas. Together we will work collaboratively on several common goals, including:

- Promote the development of landscape architecture standards for professional registration and education accreditation in Latin American countries.
- Conduct research on topics related to official recognition and regulation of landscape architects.
- Disseminate the findings of the IFLA-CLARB Global Survey of Practice to countries in the IFLA Americas region.
- Support the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México in a pilot candidacy for LAAB accreditation.



**IFLA AMERICAS**  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

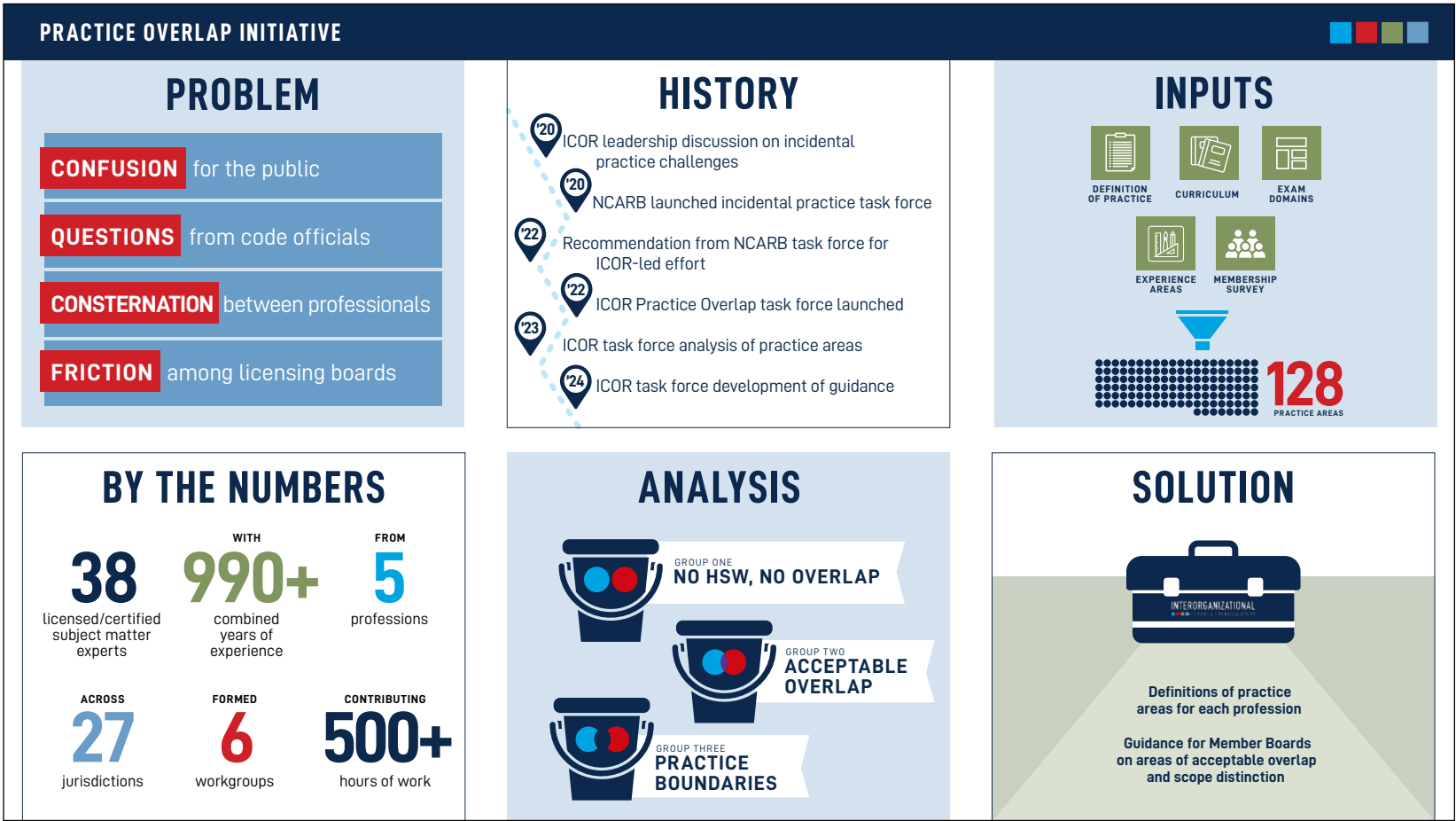


*Carisa McMullen, CLARB president, and Mónica Pallares, president IFLA Americas Region, sign a memorandum of understanding at the 2023 CLARB Annual Meeting in Henderson, Nevada formalizing the agreement between the two organizations.*



# Addressing Practice Overlap

CLARB is a member of the Interorganizational Council on Regulation (ICOR), which works to harmonize policies, processes and procedures among the design professions: architecture, engineering, interior design, landscape architecture and surveying.



## Practice Overlap Initiative

We are working with our ICOR Partners (NCARB, NCEES and CIDQ) to develop uniform guidelines and definitions for competent overlap of practice between the design disciplines that will result in clear and shared definitions, guidelines or best practices. Professional licensing authorities — such as CLARB’s member boards — can use these tools to better regulate practice overlap.

Throughout 2024, representatives from the professions of architecture, engineering, interior design, landscape architecture and surveying shared progress updates, demonstrated the rigor of the work being done and gathered member feedback about the resources being developed.

# Operations & governance

With dedication and collaboration at our core, our team of staff and volunteers continued to strengthen our organizational foundation throughout the year. The following section highlights the extraordinary contributions of our volunteer leaders, acknowledges our talented professional team and includes updates on policy that will guide our future work.





## People

At the heart of CLARB's work are the dedicated individuals who bring our mission to life. Our strength lies in the richness of thoughts, experiences and expertise that our volunteers and staff contribute.

We actively seek out a wide range of perspectives and career paths, believing that this variety of viewpoints enhances our decision-making and problem-solving. From seasoned professionals to emerging leaders, each member of our community plays a vital role in shaping our work.

***Thank you to our volunteers for generously sharing your time and talent with CLARB.***





NICOLE  
CRUTCHFIELD

## Presidential Award

During the volunteer recognition reception at the 2024 Annual Meeting, outgoing president **Lea Ann Macknally** presented the 2024 Presidential Recognition Award to **Nicole Crutchfield** for her outstanding long-time volunteer service to CLARB.

“Your passion, dedication and tireless service epitomize what it means to be a leader and a volunteer,” said Macknally. “It has been an honor to work alongside you, learn from you and witness your commitment to advancing CLARB’s mission and values. Thank you for all that you have done and continue to do for CLARB.”



## Board of Directors

Volunteer officers who help set the direction of the organization and impact the future of regulation.

- **President:** Lea Ann Macknally, Alabama
- **President-Elect:** Joel Kurokawa, Hawaii
- **Past President:** Carisa McMullen, Kansas
- **Treasurer:** Craig Coronato, Colorado
- **Emily Cronbaugh**, Wyoming
- **Nicole Crutchfield**, North Dakota
- **Allison Fleury**, Wyoming
- **Adriana Hernandez Aguirre**, Texas
- **Edward Kinney**, South Carolina
- **Ramon Murray**, Florida
- **Monica Pallares**, Mexico City, Mexico
- **Brian Verardo**, New Mexico





## Leadership Advisory Council

Volunteers who help ensure that CLARB has the most effective, qualified individuals to lead the organization toward its goals.

- **Chair: Carisa McMullen**, Kansas
- **Daniel Biggs**, New York
- **Ryan Collins**, Alabama
- **John Cothron**, Mississippi
- **Candace Dillingham**, Oklahoma
- **Julia Manley**, Washington
- **Mark Taylor**, Colorado

## MBE Committee

Volunteers who provide Member Board Executive (MBE) input to the organization's goals, strategy and work by reviewing and providing feedback on key projects.

- **Chair: Leslie Hanska**, Oklahoma
- **Board of Directors Liaison: Brian Verardo**, New Mexico
- **Emily Cronbaugh**, Wyoming
- **Amy Hall**, Indiana
- **Shannon Himes**, Ohio
- **Avis Pearson**, Washington, D.C.
- **Christine Valentine**, Oregon
- **Laura Zuniga**, California





# Exam Committee

CLARB’s Exam Committee is responsible for the continual development and maintenance of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.). This volunteer group of licensed landscape architects meets in person twice a year to create L.A.R.E. content, build defensible and fair exams, review statistical results and candidate feedback, and ensure that the broad practice of landscape architecture is assessed on the L.A.R.E. during each administration.

The diverse team represents a broad range of geographic locations, scopes of practice, years of experience and professional backgrounds designed to reflect CLARB’s candidate population. The committee’s work is led and facilitated by professional psychometricians trained and experienced in the development, administration and grading of high-stakes exams like the L.A.R.E.

In addition to their ongoing responsibilities, the exam committee developed and published a new list of recommended reading resources for candidates as part of the blueprint transition.

Though we wish we could recognize each individual for their service, committee members’ names have been abbreviated to preserve exam security and integrity.



## Recently completed terms

- **S.H.**, South Carolina
- **S.J.**, New York
- **B.K.**, Colorado
- **C.K.**, Georgia
- **C.K.**, South Dakota
- **T.K.**, Michigan
- **S.L.**, Ontario
- **S.M.**, Tennessee

## 2023-24 Exam Committee

### Planning and Design Subcommittee

- **Chair: V.T.**, British Columbia
- **K.H.**, Oregon
- **S.L.**, Nevada
- **E.P.**, Indiana
- **S.S.**, Connecticut
- **C.T.**, Nebraska
- **G.W.**, Wisconsin

### Inventory, Analysis and Project Management Subcommittee

- **Chair: S.L.**, Ontario
- **Z.C.**, Texas
- **D.D.**, Illinois
- **B.D.**, Tennessee
- **S.H.**, South Carolina
- **R.L.**, Arkansas
- **E.M.**, Virginia
- **F.P.**, California

### Construction Documentation and Administration Subcommittee

- **Chair: T.K.**, Michigan
- **T.B.**, Texas
- **M.F.**, Ontario
- **R.H.**, Maryland
- **B.K.**, Colorado
- **S.M.**, Tennessee
- **N.N.**, Wisconsin
- **R.S.**, Georgia

### Grading, Drainage and Stormwater Management Subcommittee

- **Chair: Z.B.**, Ontario
- **W.H.**, Florida
- **S.J.**, New York
- **D.J.**, Oklahoma
- **C.K.**, South Dakota
- **D.M.**, Massachusetts
- **W.W.**, Pennsylvania
- **E.W.**, Missouri



# Work groups

Volunteer expertise is essential to the success of CLARB projects throughout the year. We appreciate our work group members who contributed their time and talent.

## 2024 Cut Score Committee

As part of every blueprint transition, a Cut Score Committee meets in person over multiple days to analyze the difficulty of the test and set the number of questions needed to pass the exam.

- **C.A.**, California
- **S.B.**, North Carolina
- **C.B.**, Georgia
- **R.D.**, Colorado
- **B.D.**, Arkansas
- **L.D.**, South Carolina
- **R.E.**, Arkansas
- **A.H.**, New York
- **S.H.**, British Columbia
- **P.H.**, Illinois
- **A.M.**, Florida
- **T.M.**, Ontario
- **B.O.**, Idaho
- **L.S.**, Ontario
- **M.V.**, British Columbia
- **B.V.**, New Mexico

## Exam Determinants of Success

- **Patricia Algara**, California
- **Brandon Doss**, Tennessee
- **Ana Garcia**, Washington
- **Leehu Loon**, Texas
- **Nick Onody**, Ontario
- **Fei Peng**, California
- **Elizabeth Van Sickel**, Florida
- **Brian Verardo**, New Mexico
- **Hakeem Wilson**, Maryland

## Emerging Areas of Landscape Architecture Practice

- **Gloria Aponte**, Colombia
- **Jeremy Brown**, Colorado
- **Martin Bryant**, Australia
- **Pamela Conrad**, California
- **Tim McCormick**, Ontario
- **Erin Percevault**, Indiana
- **Gaylan Williams**, Wisconsin

## ICOR Practice Overlap

### Steering Committee

- **Julie Hildebrand**, Texas
- **Jerany Jackson**, Missouri
- **Phil Meyer**, Kansas
- **Judith Stapley**, Arizona

### Landscape Architecture Subcommittee

- **Chair: Phil Meyer**, Kansas
- **Chip Brown**, Georgia
- **Ryan Evitts**, Arkansas
- **See-Yin Lim**, Ontario
- **Leehu Loon**, Texas

## Bylaws Review

- **Chair: Nicole Crutchfield**, North Dakota
- **Cary Baird**, Nevada
- **Adriana Hernandez Aguirre**, Texas
- **Erin Jennings**, CIDQ President
- **Rob Lopez**, New York
- **Bryce Olberding**, Idaho
- **Blair Parker**, Tennessee
- **Carrie Rybczynski**, California
- **Mark Vaughn**, British Columbia

## Experience Evaluation

- **Mark Arigoni**, Connecticut Member Board Member
- **Emily Cronbaugh**, Wyoming Member Board Executive, CLARB Director-at-Large
- **Lynn Ewanow**, Past LAAB Board Member
- **Elizabeth Hebron**, ASLA Director State Government Affairs
- **David Myers**, Past CELA President
- **Galen Newman**, Past CELA President
- **Al Neufeld**, British Columbia Member Board Member
- **Madeline Steigerwald**, Landscape Architect/ASLA Prep Committee Member
- **Jon Wreschinsky**, California Member Board Member

## Sponsorship

When developing our sponsorship program, CLARB convened a focus group of industry representatives to provide insight and help shape our plans — ensuring our offerings would be valuable for prospective partners.

- **Erin Doherty**, Professional Testing
- **Will Fleagle**, System Automation
- **Charles Tremblay**, Notarius
- **Brian Verardo**, Pland Collaborative

## External committee involvement

We also rely on volunteers to represent CLARB on committees of allied organizations, including:

### American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

Volunteers help with advocacy efforts involving toolkit development, responses to licensure legislation and supporting chapters.

- Exam Prep Committee: **Dan Biggs**

### Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LA CES)

Volunteers help maintain standards for evaluating professional development and continuing education programs.

- Administrative Committee: **George “Rip” Weaver**, Alabama
- Application Review Committee: **Barbara Geiger**, North Carolina
- Monitoring Committee: **Shana Bryant**, Arkansas
- Monitoring Committee: **Avis Pearson**, Washington, D.C.

### Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB)

Volunteers develop and promulgate the accreditation standards, rules and procedures for conducting the accreditation process for eligible programs in the United States and its territories.

- Board of Directors: **Christine Anderson**, California



### GET INVOLVED

*CLARB relies on volunteers to advance our mission and strategic objectives. You can join our efforts to design and promote landscape architectural standards. Learn more about our variety of volunteer opportunities and get started today.*

# Professional staff

CLARB’s 14 employees who execute the annual scope of work as determined by the Board of Directors.





# Policy

## Model Continuing Education Standard

Since 2022 the Member Board Executives (MBE) Committee has been working to update CLARB's Model Continuing Education (CE) Standard to align with the requirements established in the CLARB Model Law and to add additional clarity and encourage uniformity across member jurisdictions. Consistency in our guidance documents and in continuing education requirements across member jurisdictions benefits licensees and member boards. When developing its recommendation, the work group collected input from a variety of sources, including:

- Current CE requirements across the membership and other related professions
- Discussions with CLARB Members at the 2022 and 2023 Annual Meetings and the April 2024 Membership Meeting
- Survey of licensed Council Record Holders on the efficacy of CE for maintaining competency

The revised Model CE Standard was approved by the CLARB Board in 2024 and is available to CLARB Members.

## Examining the Bylaws

Bylaws Work Group members developed and shared recommendations for refining CLARB's bylaws with the membership. Members had the opportunity to discuss and provide input during the August Membership Meeting, 2024 CLARB Annual Meeting and an additional webinar in October 2024. Based on the feedback received at these input sessions, the work group will submit final recommendations for the Board's consideration in December 2024.

# Parting thoughts



LEA ANN MACKNALLY  
PRESIDENT, MACKNALLY LAND DESIGN  
2024 CLARB PRESIDENT

## Dear CLARB Community,

The past year has been a whirlwind of activity, growth and meaningful progress for our organization. Serving as President of CLARB has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my professional life. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to support our vital mission: protecting the public's health, safety and welfare through the design and promotion of landscape architectural licensure standards.

One of the most enriching aspects of my volunteer service has been the chance to collaborate with landscape architects, regulators, allied professionals and partner groups across the United States, Canada, and around the world. These interactions have broadened my perspective and reinforced the global importance of our work.

Now I encourage you to fully engage with the wealth of resources CLARB offers.

Whether it's attending a L.A.R.E. webinar, participating in professional development training or stepping into a volunteer leadership role, your active involvement strengthens our collective mission.

As I prepare to transition to the role of Past President, I'm excited to continue supporting CLARB's mission and to pass the baton to our incoming President, Joel Kurokawa. I have full confidence that under Joel's leadership, CLARB will continue to thrive.

Together, we've accomplished so much, and I'm excited to see what the future holds for CLARB. Thank you for your trust, your hard work and your unwavering commitment to excellence in landscape architecture licensure.

With sincere appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lea A. Macknally". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

# Acronyms

<b>ASLA</b>	American Society of Landscape Architects
<b>CE</b>	Continuing Education
<b>CELA</b>	Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture
<b>CIDQ</b>	Council for Interior Design Qualification
<b>CLARB</b>	Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards
<b>CSLA</b>	Canadian Society of Landscape Architects
<b>FARB</b>	Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards
<b>ICOR</b>	Interorganizational Council on Regulation (CLARB + NCARB + NCEES + CIDQ)
<b>IFLA</b>	International Federation of Landscape Architects
<b>LAAB</b>	Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (U.S.)
<b>LAAC</b>	Landscape Architecture Accreditation Council (Canada)
<b>LA CES</b>	Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System
<b>LAF</b>	Landscape Architecture Foundation
<b>MBE</b>	Member Board Executive (an executive with a regulatory board/agency)
<b>NCARB</b>	National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
<b>NCEES</b>	National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying





# CLARB

ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS  
IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE