

# Global *insights*, Local **impacts**

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STANDARDS

## CLARB Annual Meeting 2025

Join us in Lexington, Kentucky as we examine how national and international trends influence local regulation and provide strategies for navigating the evolving regulatory environment.

### Wednesday, September 17

ARRIVALS & REGISTRATION

#### Registration

1:00-7:30 P.M.

#### MBE Exchange: Maximizing Board Effectiveness

3:00-5:30 P.M.

A dedicated session for member board executives (MBEs) featuring interactive discussions on AI applications for regulatory boards, tutorials on CLARB's new website and database, and practical learning sessions to enhance board operations.

#### Welcome Reception

6:00-7:30 P.M.

Join us for a warm welcome to the CLARB Annual Meeting 2025. Hear remarks from CLARB President Joel Kurokawa and representatives from the Kentucky Board of Landscape Architects. Enjoy an evening of networking, light refreshments and engaging conversation as we set the stage for a dynamic and insightful conference.

*This tentative agenda is subject to change.  
Last updated August 19, 2025.*

**CLARB**

COUNCIL OF  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL  
REGISTRATION BOARDS

### Registration & Coffee

8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

### Opening Session: Setting the Stage

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Join CLARB President Joel Kurokawa and CEO Matt Miller as we officially kick off the Annual Meeting, highlighting key themes, objectives and expectations for the discussions ahead. Learn how this year's focus on global insights will shape the future of landscape architecture regulation.

### Keynote Address: Driving Policy Change and Global Recognition in Landscape Architecture

9:30-10:30 A.M.

Indra Purs will share the inspiring story of Latvia's journey to achieve legal recognition and regulation of landscape architecture. This landmark achievement not only elevated the profession nationally but also set a precedent for other countries seeking similar recognition. Explore how coordinated policy action, strategic regulatory advocacy, and cross-border collaboration can strengthen professional standards, enhance practitioner mobility, and safeguard communities and the environment worldwide.

### Networking Break

10:30-11:00 A.M.

### The Changing Face of Landscape Architecture: Demographic Insights

11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

Explore the latest data on landscape architecture, from shifts in education and professional practice to demographic trends affecting the workforce. Gain insights into how these changes impact the future of licensure and regulation.

### Lunch

12:00-1:00 P.M.

## Beyond the Traditional Route:

1:00-2:30 P.M.

### Multiple Paths to Practice

This session examines alternative pathways to achieving CLARB Certification, including non-traditional backgrounds and new experience evaluation guidelines designed to promote consistent assessment of applicants across jurisdictions.

## Networking Break

2:30-3:00 P.M.

## Crossing Borders:

3:00-4:00 P.M.

### Advancing International Mobility in Professional Licensure

As the demand for cross-border practice grows, the ability to navigate international mobility is becoming increasingly important for licensed professionals. This panel will bring together leaders from other regulated professions who have implemented strategies to facilitate global mobility, along with international partners in landscape architecture who will share real-world needs and challenges faced by professionals seeking recognition across jurisdictions. Join this dynamic conversation to explore the opportunities, obstacles and frameworks shaping the future of licensure — and why advancing mobility in landscape architecture is essential for protecting people and the environment.

## Recognition of Landscape Architecture Globally

4:00-5:00 P.M.

How is landscape architecture recognized in different countries around the world? This session examines the international landscape of licensure, mobility and regulatory alignment, shedding light on efforts to create a more unified global standard.

## Walking Tour of Gatton Park on the Town Branch

5:30-7:00 P.M.

Discover how a surface parking lot behind Rupp Arena was transformed into Gatton Park on the Town Branch, Lexington's newest public space and urban "living room." This guided walking tour will highlight the park's innovative approach to climate resilience, hydrology and inclusive community design. Learn how landscape architects integrated regional geology, daylighted the historic Town Branch Creek and designed flexible spaces that connect over 22 miles of urban and rural trails. Participants will explore how public-private partnerships and ecological planning shaped this landmark project and brought new life to the city's core. *The tour departs from the hotel lobby promptly at 5:30 p.m. 1.5 PDH, LA CES/HSW pending.*

### Registration & Coffee

8:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M.

### Business Session

9:00-9:30 A.M.

Join us as we announce the results of the 2025 elections and introduce our new volunteers who will help guide CLARB into the future.

### Supporting Licensure Defensibility:

9:30-10:30 A.M.

#### ARPL Research and Findings

Defending professional licensure is more important than ever. This session presents the latest research from the Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL), showcasing data-driven insights on the impact and necessity of responsible professional licensure standards.

### Networking Break

10:30-11:00 A.M.

### Navigating Licensing Reform:

11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

#### Trends, Threats and Best Practices to Defend Your Board

As regulatory boards face growing scrutiny and evolving political landscapes, it's essential to stay ahead of the curve. This session explores key challenges facing licensing boards and effective strategies to demonstrate your board's value. Whether it's proposed consolidation, transitioning to an agency model, or responding to a sunset review, learn best practices and the resources ready to help you navigate these issues to defend your board.

### Lunch

12:00-1:00 P.M.

### The Critical Role of Licensure Enforcement in Professional Regulation

1:00-2:00 P.M.

Enforcement is a key pillar of professional regulation. This session explores the importance of enforcement in maintaining public trust, ensuring ethical practice and addressing disciplinary cases within landscape architecture.

## ICOR Practice Overlap Guidance & Resources

2:00-3:00 P.M.

The Interdisciplinary Council on Regulatory Oversight (ICOR) is working to clarify acceptable overlap and practice boundaries between the design professions. This session reviews the latest guidance and resources available to help navigate regulatory challenges.

## Networking Break

3:00-3:30 P.M.

## Expanding the CLARB Community:

3:30-5:00 P.M.

### Exploring Opportunities for Increased Connection and Engagement

As professional regulation continues to evolve, CLARB is exploring new ways to broaden its reach and enhance its impact. This session will examine emerging opportunities to expand the CLARB community in support of deeper collaboration and sustained engagement, all while maintaining a strong regulatory foundation. Participants will explore the long-term benefits, potential challenges and strategic implications of reimagining how CLARB connects with current and future stakeholders.

## Volunteer Recognition Reception

6:00-8:00 P.M.

Join us in celebrating the dedicated volunteers whose leadership and expertise have shaped CLARB's success. The evening will also feature the presentation of the prestigious President's Award, honoring outstanding contributions to the organization.

# Saturday, September 20

SHAPING THE FUTURE

## Registration & Coffee

8:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

## Keynote: AI, Practice and Licensure:

9:00-10:30 A.M.

### Futures Thinking for Landscape Architects

As artificial intelligence rapidly advances, landscape architecture stands at a pivotal crossroads. In this forward-looking keynote, Phil Fernberg will demystify the technologies reshaping design and planning, including generative AI, machine learning and computer vision, and share real-world examples of how these tools are being applied across the profession. Attendees will examine both the opportunities and risks AI presents, including its potential to alter creative processes, redefine professional roles, and influence the future of licensure and regulation. Through interactive dialogue and future-focused scenarios, this session will equip participants to lead amid accelerating technological change.

**CLARB**

## Networking Break

10:30-11:00 A.M.

## Path to CLARB Volunteer Leadership

11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.

CLARB offers a variety of volunteer opportunities for individuals who are passionate about advancing landscape architecture regulation. These roles provide opportunities to influence the organization's direction, develop leadership experience, and engage with peers across the profession. This session will provide an overview of these opportunities, outline the nominations and elections process, highlight impacts of the bylaws changes, and share how you can get involved in shaping CLARB's future.

## Lunch

12:00-1:00 P.M.

## L.A.R.E. Development, Performance and Future Enhancements

1:00-2:30 P.M.

Stay informed on the latest developments in the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.). Delve into the comprehensive process behind developing exam items and hear firsthand from exam committee members on the lifecycle of an exam item. Other topics include the latest data on candidate performance, provisional exam feedback, and new initiatives aimed at increasing exam accessibility.

## Networking Break

2:30-3:00 P.M.

### CE Trio

3:00-6:00 P.M.

Engage in in-depth discussions on critical topics and emerging issues impacting landscape architecture practice. These 50-minute sessions, with breaks in between, provide valuable CE opportunities for landscape architect members of the CLARB community. *Additional registration required.*

#### **Bourbon Distillation:**

##### **Protecting the Environment through Responsible Site Design**

Kentucky's iconic bourbon industry is deeply rooted in place, but its growth brings complex environmental and design challenges. In this session, John Carman of CARMAN will explore the environmental and regulatory considerations behind the site planning and design of bourbon distilleries across Kentucky. Attendees will gain insight into the unique topography, water systems and land use policies that shape these facilities, while learning how landscape architects and engineers collaborate to support both visitor experience and operational efficiency. Through real-world project



examples, participants will examine the intersection of cultural identity, environmental responsibility and regulatory compliance in one of the state's most dynamic industries. *1 PDH, LA CES/HSW pending.*

**Designing for Impact:  
Climate Change Mitigation in Landscape Architecture**

*Sponsored by KI Concepts*

Join Pamela Conrad of Climate Positive Design for a powerful session on how landscape architects can lead in mitigating climate change. This session will explore the profession's role in carbon emissions and outline actionable strategies to reduce embodied and operational emissions while maximizing carbon sequestration. Attendees will gain insights into available tools for measurement and accountability and learn from real-world project examples that demonstrate climate-positive practices in action. *1 PDH, LA CES/HSW pending.*

**Water Features for the Future:  
Technology, Sustainability & HSW Best Practices**

*Sponsored by Crystal Fountains*

Justin Hauad and Darcy L'Heureux of Crystal Fountains will examine the modern approach to water feature design. They'll cover how new design technology facilitates predictive modeling to ensure performance and reduce waste, while new product technologies are evolving to meet new design expectations. The course emphasizes how these advancements support sustainable design goals and concludes with a review of key HSW best practices to guarantee the safety and longevity of your water feature projects. *1 PDH, LA CES/HSW pending.*