



# Newsletter

## IFLA

No. 77

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## IFLA's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

In the foreword to *IFLA – Past, Present, Future* published in 2000, IFLA President at the time, Arno Sighart Schmid, gave an insight into the roots and purpose of our organisation, writing:

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The International Federation of Landscape Architects – IFLA – was founded in 1948. Shortly after the terrible World War II, a vision for a better future emerged and a new and better world order seemed possible. In 1945, the United Nations had been formed, UNESCO had come into being in 1946, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948.

Today, on the threshold of a new Millennium, humankind stands at a decisive point on its way into the future, with grave challenges and risks relating to our natural environment and its carrying capacity. Our profession of landscape architecture is called upon to contribute towards safeguarding the viability of the natural environment and towards developing and maintaining a humane built environment in cities, towns and villages. IFLA, the reunified international representation of our profession, stands ready to strive towards a positive future!

In 2008, in the year of IFLA's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we continue to be challenged by these sentiments. In this issue of *IFLA News*, we remember especially some of the people who have helped to shape the profession of landscape architecture, and some of their initiatives and organisations that continue to endure and evolve.

We also look to the future with a foretaste of the excitement of the recently held European Landscape Architecture Students Association (ELASA) minimeeting, as well as catching up with other current news from around the world – landscape architecture never rests! Ed.

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## IFLA President honoured

**Renee Davies**

**President, NZILA**

The New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects (NZILA) would like to provide this information to our fellow IFLA members as we are very proud of what Diane Menzies has achieved.

We are pleased to announce that the current IFLA President, Dr Diane Helen Menzies, has been named an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for services to the environment. The New Zealand Order of Merit was instituted by Royal Warrant in 1996 (updated in 2000). It is awarded to those "who, in any field of endeavour, have rendered meritorious service to the Crown and nation or who have become distinguished by their eminence, talents, contributions or other merits".

Dr Diane Menzies has over 30 years experience with local and national government in landscape planning, design, environmental policy analysis, and resource management. She was appointed to the Environment Court of New Zealand as a Commissioner in 2001. In addition, Diane Menzies was elected to Life Member status of the NZILA in 2005 and, as you are all aware, was elected President of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) in 2006.

The recognition of the dedication and leadership that Diane has shown for the environment highlights the opportunity our profession has to expand further our efforts as ambassadors for those issues. "Diane has lead the way in that regard and reflects a level of commitment that we can all aspire to. On behalf of all the NZILA we offer our sincere congratulations and thanks for all the tireless work and great leadership Diane has shown for both the environment and the profession".

Diane Menzies notes that The Queen of England and British Commonwealth confers honours on the occasion of her official birthday, and at New Year. There are different levels of honour. In New Zealand, the top honour is the Order of New Zealand, then the New Zealand Order of Merit. The honours are generally given to those who have performed to a high level, such as outstanding sports people, or who have offered special service to the community, an area of learning, or a profession. Dr Diane Menzies was awarded the honour of Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM) for services to the environment on 2 June 2008.

## The IFLA Newsletter

The IFLA Newsletter, now known as *IFLA News*, is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

The compilers and editors of *IFLA – Past, Present, Future* (George Anagnostopoulos, Hans Dorn, Heiner Rodel, and Michael F. Downing) give the following account of the development of the IFLA Newsletter:

[The IFLA] Grand Council of 1977 in Copenhagen, Denmark, had discussed the need for direct contact from the centre with individual members, to strengthen the bonds of the Federation and keep the membership aware of IFLA's achievements and activities. A decision was taken to publish a Newsletter and the first edition of *IFLA News* was published in January 1978, consisting of four sides of A4 sheets, two columns to a page.

Regular publication appears to have been chancy but by early 2000, Issue Number 44 appeared. This suggests an average of two issues a year, though there has been some confusion over numbering. The present format [in 2000], as its readers will know, is eight sides, three columns to a page.

The first two issues were edited by the then President Floris G. Breman in Portugal. The editor of the subsequent five issues was identified only as the IFLA Secretariat, Hildesheim. In Nos. 8-26, anonymity was dropped and the name of Dr. Hans Friedrich Werkmeister appears. In 1990 he passed the position to "someone younger", and two numbers were produced in the United States in 1991. No more were published until December 1992, when Diana Farr Louis with George Anagnostopoulos in Greece rushed out issue number 29, and eight more issues followed under the same team. Since July 1997 the Newsletter has been edited by Annemarie Lund in Denmark.

More recently, *IFLA News* has been produced by former IFLA President Martha Fajardo, and for the last two years by Dr John Clemens in New Zealand.



## Early steps in the cause of international understanding



**Klaus-Jürgen Evert**

This year the IFLA Committee for the Translation of Technical Terms is celebrating its 30<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The idea of the dictionary was born as long ago as 1973 during IFLA's International Congress on Landscape Planning in Pretoria and Johannesburg, South Africa. For professional interpreters the simultaneous translation of technical terms in the fields of landscape planning, landscape architecture, and landscape ecology had always been extremely difficult and a shortcoming at such congresses. When it came to the translation of technical terms, as was often the case, a kind of language barrier occurred, making communication and understanding difficult between the delegates from all over the world. In addition, there were simply no suitable dictionaries available.

In 1978, IFLA, the driving force behind the dictionary, asked Klaus-Jürgen Evert to take the chair of the Committee for the Translation of Technical Terms. Its European working group was composed of the people of four different nationalities, whose native languages were chosen for the dictionary and who all happened to live in Germany. ASLA was instrumental in bringing together the U.S. working group. Over the next 23 years the German Chairman thus met continually with a group of trained professionals, who shared his idealism for the compilation of a multilingual dictionary working voluntarily for the good of their profession.

Eventually the dictionary was published in 2001. As far as we know, this is the only publication in the world dealing with its subject in such depth and in so many languages. We also believe it to be an important contribution to international understanding, because it addresses such global topics as environmental protection.

### Method of working

This unique multilingual dictionary covers a total of approximately 7,000 technical terms plus 3,000 synonyms concerned with the planning, design, and protection of the environment. The dictionary contains the most used languages of the western world, such as German, British and American English, French, and Spanish, together with many Latin-American equivalents. German has been chosen as the lead language for the dictionary, but with comprehensive indices at the end of the book, it is very easy to find a word in any of the four languages. The terms have not simply been translated. As often as possible various interpretations at the planning, legal or technical level were also included in the definitions, with cross-references to generic and specific terms, which add to the precise meaning and allow clarification of the scope of each term.

It was not intended originally to define every term. During the work, however, it became obvious how important short explanations or definitions are, if one is to head in the right direction when searching for the most precise translation or, if this was not possible, at least for the nearest correlation between the term and its concept. With the often very different standards in technology, planning procedures, legislation and environmental consciousness in the various countries in which the languages are spoken, this sometimes seemed to be an impossible task. Seemingly endless, bilateral discussions within the Committee about the exact content of most lemmas (term, concept or entry) had therefore to take place.

### The future

Plans are already being made for an up-date with additional terms and, due to the great interest being shown, a version with English as the lead language will be published in the beginning of 2009.





# René Pechère (1908-2002)

René Pechère was one of a small group of landscape architects who helped found IFLA at a meeting held at Jesus College, Cambridge, UK, on 14 August 1948.



René Pechère was born one hundred years ago on the 12 February 1908 in Ixelles (Brussels). "Gardener of the heart", "architect of the living", "garden musician" - these are the terms the Belgian press used to regale René Pechère on his death in May 2002.

Apt thought these phrases are, words alone cannot portray the creativeness of that character who contributed so much and at so many levels to the Art of Gardens. René Pechère was actually much more than a "simple" garden and green spaces designer, whether of the botanic gardens, those of the Mont des Arts, or of the Expo'58 World Fair. Teacher, historian, and booklover, René Pechère was also, profoundly, a man of culture and communication.

## **The René Pechère Library**

Books always inspired René Pechère and nourished the creation of his gardens. All through his career, he developed his library with old and contemporary books on a variety of subjects, such as the garden cities, town planning, and historical gardens.

Mindful of transmitting this exceptional legacy, he entrusted the management of the collection to the Brussels Capital Region from 1988 to establish a public library. With the creation of this specialized collection, René Pechère wished to help researchers and garden amateurs, to offer them a documentary resource as well as a working tool. The Brussels's Regional Centre of Documentation on Town Planning and Landscape Architecture (CRBDUAP Association) was created to manage the René Pechère Library, and endeavours today to meet these objectives with the support of the Brussels Capital Region and the Walloon Region.

Over the last 20 years, the library has consolidated the initial wish of its founder by becoming an established reference point in its field. Its catalogue currently includes 300 old or precious works edited between the 16<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries, together with a big number of international books and periodicals. On the Library's shelves, the most recent references on gardens and landscape architecture coexist with the great classics, such as Dezallier d'Argenville, de Ganay or Le Rouge.

The Library's international renown earns it today the trust of private landscape architects and prestigious associations, including IFLA and the IFLA-ICOMOS Committee, which have entrusted the conservation of their archives.

However, the library is not inward looking on its treasures. It has opened its doors to the public and has taken up new technologies equipping itself with an exhaustive website, giving access to the entire catalogue. The visitor can, as he or she pleases, explore the contents of all the printed material, look for authors or subjects, and find thousands of bibliographical references from a distance.

Finally, the René Pechère Library has a living link with its readers through exhibitions and conferences designed for both a wide audience and landscape architecture students. It benefits in this respect from the privileged environment of the International Centre for Urbanism, Architecture and Landscape (CIVA), where it also has a very beautiful reading room as well as splendid exhibition spaces.

Born out of a lifetime passion, The René Pechère Library is, next to his parks and gardens, a most precious and living inheritance left to us by the great "gardener".



## Expo'58 World Fair gardens celebrated

The Universal and International Fair was inaugurated on 17 April 1958, at the Heysel Plateau in Brussels. In the shadow of the Atomium, the Congolese Garden, the Four Seasons Garden, the Belvedere Gardens and other gardens of the World Fair site materialized from René Pechère's pencil and have remained in the collective memory ever since. Fifty years later, a series of events will take place in Belgium to celebrate the jubilee of Expo'58, including a completely original exhibition recalling this symbolic page of our history. The exhibition will be mounted from 25 April to 19 September at CIVA using the archives of the René Pechère Library and Jacques Boulanger-Français. It will allow those who have lived the event to remember the magic of that time, and younger visitors to plunge into the post-war bubbling modernity. This event marks the opening to the public of the Year Pechère.

### The Pechère Prize

René Pechère was a book lover and a prolific man of letters who had his heart set on sharing his teaching and his creative experience with the wider public. To honour this aspect of his work as well as his personality, the Pechère Prize will be launched in 2008 by the Companions of the René Pechère Library on the occasion of the Year Pechère. The Pechère Prize aims to reward the author or authors of a French-speaking book who have achieved the intelligent popularization of the Art of Gardens. In so doing, the Companions intend to shed light on the Art of Gardens and contribute to the quality of the literary production dedicated to the subject every year in French-speaking countries throughout the world. The prize will be presented in November 2008.

The René Pechère Library is located at the International Centre for Urbanism, Architecture and Landscape (CIVA):

website: [www.bvrp.net](http://www.bvrp.net) email: [bvrp@glo.be](mailto:bvrp@glo.be)



*This article is an edited extract of a dossier on the life of René Pechère, supplied by the René Pechère Library, and translated by Christine Bavassa at the IFLA/EFLA secretariat in Brussels.*

## A Portuguese giant of landscape architecture

**Teresa Andresen**

This year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Cabral, who will be celebrated in Portugal in October to coincide with his birth date.



Francisco Caldeira Cabral (1908-1992) is the founder of Portuguese landscape architecture. Cabral became Vice-President of IFLA in 1960 and stood as President between 1962 and 1966. In 1965, the IFLA Grand Council met in Portugal and Cabral was able to attract the interest of the Gulbenkian Foundation that supported the IFLA headquarters in Lisbon from then till the late 1970s.

After graduating in agronomy in Lisbon, Cabral departed for Berlin in 1936 to study landscape architecture. He finished his studies in 1939 and then returned to Lisbon to initiate an academic career in landscape architecture at the High Institute of Agronomy in Lisbon that lasted until 1975. However, while still in Berlin he started his landscape architecture practice together with the architect Konrad Wiesner as he had received a commission to work on the project of the National Stadium of Lisbon. This project launched both his career and the beginning of landscape architecture practice in Portugal. He was professionally active almost till the end of his life.



At the High Institute of Agronomy, Cabral prepared a whole new generation of Portuguese landscape architects that from 1950 onwards developed a remarkable amount of work as they occupied various posts in the different ministries and Lisbon municipality. This new generation together with Cabral initiated a new attitude towards urban public spaces, landscape planning, landscape restoration and protection. In 1953, Cabral initiated research in landscape architecture at the same Institute.

Over a period of seventeen years, Cabral received an education in landscape architecture and initiated an enduring profession in Portugal. He founded a school, prepared the first active generation of landscape architects in Portugal, launched landscape research and integrated Portuguese landscape architects into the international arena! Education, professional practice, landscape research and international involvement were the instruments of his vision. In Portugal, we see him as a pioneer and an innovator, inspirer of many generations of landscape architects and those in related professions. He certainly is one of the giants of our profession in the 20<sup>th</sup> century!

#### Bibliography

AA. VV. (2003). From the National Stadium to the Gulbenkian Garden. Francisco Caldeira Cabral and the first generation of Portuguese landscape architects (1940-1970). *Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian. Lisboa. Pp. 320.*

Andresen, T. (2001). Francisco Caldeira Cabral, *Landscape Design Trust Monograph Series. Surrey, U.K. Pp. 214.*

## A new association is founded in Paraguay

On 20 June this year a new landscape architecture association will have been established. The Paraguayan Society of Landscape Architects (SPAP) will be the newest association in South America. The president of their establishment commission, Gladys Ferreira, has advised IFLA that they wish to apply for IFLA membership. With a view to that application, a subcommittee of the Americas Region has provided advice on the new group's statutes.

We congratulate landscape architects in Paraguay on their new association and look forward to an even bigger family of IFLA members in the future.

## Urban Design and Ecology: International Perspectives

### St. Petersburg, Russia

**Glenn Stewart**  
NZRCUE

**Maria Ignatieva**  
Lincoln University

The conference *Urban Design and Ecology: International Perspectives* conference was held in St. Petersburg during 2-4 June 2008. The conference was an initiative supported by the St. Petersburg City Administration, IFLA, Lincoln University, the New Zealand Research Centre for Urban Ecology (NZRCUE), and the St. Petersburg State Forest Technical Academy. The conference was the realisation of an aspiration to make a tangible contribution to the emerging landscape architecture profession in Russia, and arose from the immense success of the first international conference held in Russia in 2007 – *Globalisation and Landscape Architecture (GaLA): Issues for Education and Practice*. The 2008 conference addressed different international aspects of urban design and ecology and was dedicated to the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Russian landscape architecture programme, which was introduced at the St. Petersburg Forest Technical Academy in 1933.

Pre-conference tours included a day trip to the Gulf of Finland to view construction of the multi-million dollar dam for floodwater control of the Neva River, and to visit the old city of Kronschtadt; and a day trip to the City and gardens of Peter the Great at Peterhof. Conference delegates were also treated to an adventure in European and Russian history and culture with visits to the Hermitage and to the Russian Museum. Social events held during the conference were enjoyed by all, particularly the conference dinner complete with authentic Russian cuisine and live gypsy music and dancing.

The conference was structured around two complementary threads which formed the focus for the sessions: Urban Design and Urban Ecology. Keynote addresses were presented by the Chief Landscape Architect of the City of St. Petersburg,



Larissa Kanunnikova, the Head of the Design School at Harvard University, Professor Niall Kirkwood, IFLA President, Dr Diane Menzies, and Professor Dmitry Kavtaradze from the School of Public Administration, Moscow State University. Over 50 presentations followed and a number of overarching themes percolated through all of the conference presentations. The conference ended with a lively discussion chaired by the Director of NZRCUE, Dr Glenn Stewart on future directions for urban ecology and design. The conference was supported by participants from Russia, New Zealand, Canada, USA, Spain, Brazil, Germany, The Netherlands, Estonia, Greece, The United Kingdom, Austria, Ukraine, and Serbia.

The volume of the conference proceedings reflects a rigorous process of academic peer review, following the conventions of double-blind refereeing. The final papers which met the review standards are published in the conference proceedings, along with the selected abstracts: *Urban Design and Ecology: International Perspectives* (Eds: Stewart, G. and Ignatieva, M.) St. Petersburg State Polytechnic University, Polytechnic University Publishing House, St. Petersburg, 2008, 237p.

## Celebration of 75 years of a landscape architecture programme

### Diane Menzies

When the St Petersburg Forest Technical Academy celebrates an achievement, they do so in style. On June 4 they celebrated 75 years of their landscape architecture programme. This is based in an institution with a much greater history of pedagogy in St Petersburg. To mark the occasion they invited the university rector and faculty dean, the chief landscape architect and administrators of the City of St Petersburg, the head of the Landscape Architecture Department at their sister department from the Moscow University of Forestry, IFLA's President, and past staff of the department to formally greet those who had been invited. Awards of recognition were also presented, among them from ALACIS, IFLA's Russian member association.

The event was provided with simultaneous translation. The translator apologized that he could not do justice to the traditional and evocative Russian oratory, which contained phrases such as: "this precious gift (of learning) cannot be crossed out or taken away. You have taught everyone to love arts, instilled good taste, and developed the most wonderful feelings... We won't disappoint. We'll live on."

The celebration concluded with a conference dinner for staff, students, alumni and visitors accompanied by gypsy dancing and singing.

# Two anniversaries in The Netherlands

## Charlotte Buys

In this special year we celebrate that the Union for Dutch Garden and Landscape Architects (BNT) was founded 85 years ago, and that the Dutch Association of Garden and Landscape Architecture (NVTL) came into being 25 years ago by the joining together of the BNT and the Society for Garden and Landscape Architecture.

The BNT was originally called the "Vereeniging voor Tuin- en Landschapskunst, Bond van Nederlandsche Tuinarchitecten". The board was formed by Leonard Springer, D.F. Tersteeg, Hugo Poortman, ir. G.A. Overdijkink, and dr. ir. J.T.P. Bijhouwer, comprising both old and the new generations. The first three laid the foundations of the profession with their designs for gardens, parks, and countryside estates. Poortman was the Dutch pioneer of the care of the landscape, and Bijhouwer a professor at the University of Wageningen.

The profession expanded and developed into a community of professionals with national and international status and relevance. The BNT played a big part in ensuring the quality of professional practice. The letters "BNT" associated with your name constituted a guarantee of quality and knowledge. Later, the Law on the Title of Architect together with the NVTL's Rules of Conduct replaced this.

NVTL currently has more than 850 members, of whom 200 are student members. The profession is the centre of attention for private garden owners, property developers, and public authorities. Often landscape architects lead urban planning processes. The landscape architect Dirk Sijmons has been Governmental Advisor on Landscape and member of the board of the Chief Government Architects (Atelier Rijksbouwmeester) for four years.

2008 is also a special year because of the first *Triënnale Apeldoorn* where many wonderful garden and landscape events will take place. One of these is the IFLA World Congress, *Transforming with Water*, from 30 June to 2 July. We at the board of the NVTL wish our society a long life, like a landscape: always developing and transforming.

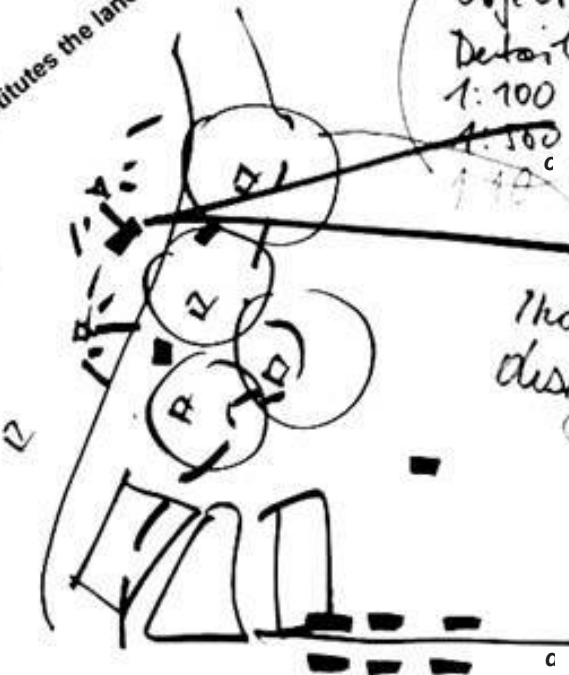




This year's European Landscape Architecture Students Association (ELASA) minimeeting was concerned with the topic of borders, boundaries and limits. As we located the minimeeting in Kleinwalsertal, which was for decades politically Austrian but economically German, we literally found ourselves "at.de border". After organising, sewing the conference booklets, and silk screen printing promo materials ourselves, we were glad to welcome 42 participants from 19 countries. This variety of backgrounds rendered the minimeeting a truly multicultural event in the setting of a small, private hut in the mountains.

Background: mind-map of the spatial planning group during the world café.

What constitutes the landscape of Kleinwalsertal?



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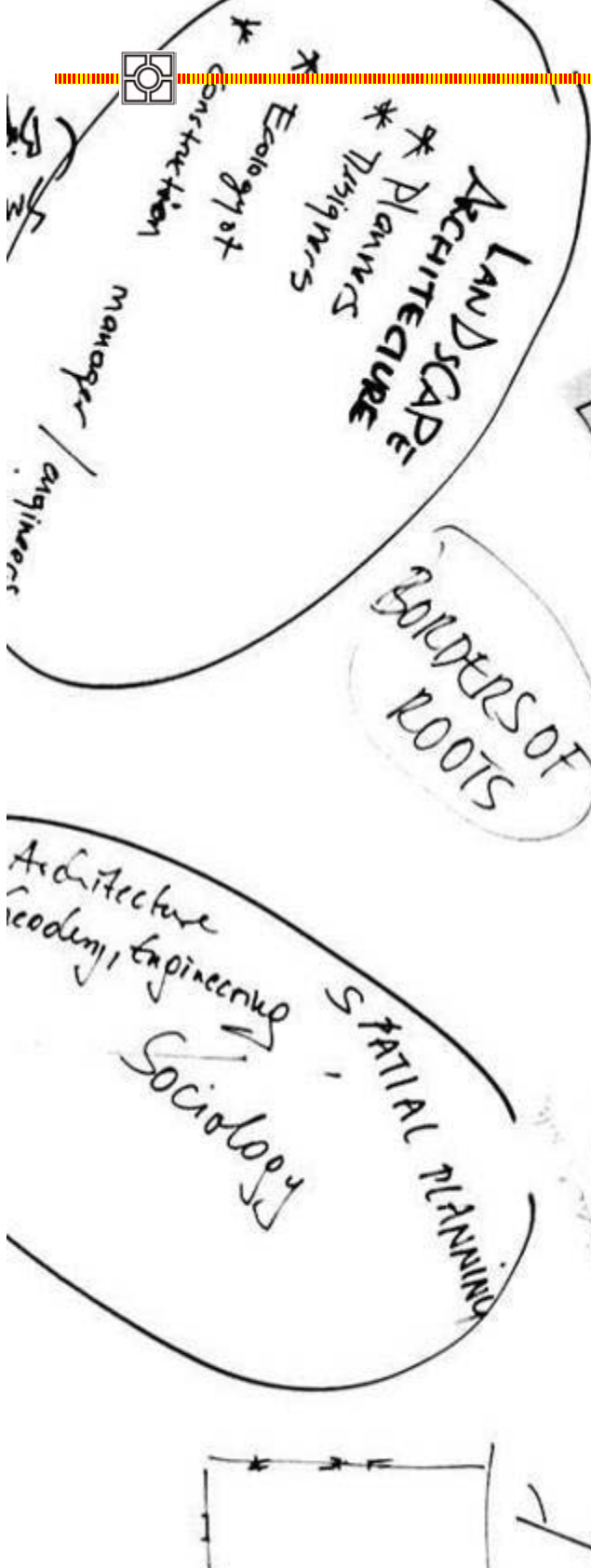
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The programme consisted of keynote lectures, workshops, discussions, and excursions, focussing on personal, social, spatial and disciplinary border situations. This gaze across one's borders should provoke participants, guests, and ourselves, to find new approaches on landscape, in order to diversify practice with previously unknown facets. This is what we see as an important aspect for a sustainable landscape practice, to be able to think about the unexpected.





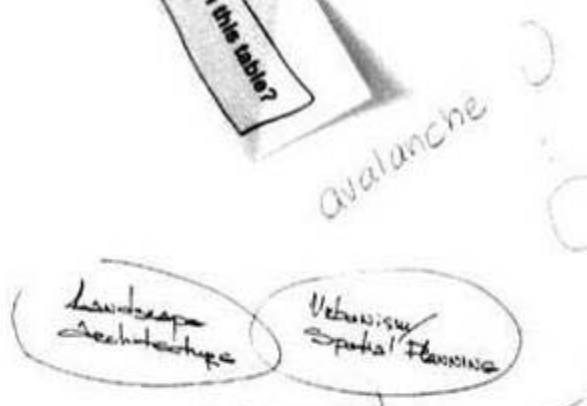
• Where are disciplinary borders located on the table?  
 • Where do our disciplines meet?

Currently we are doing a documentary about the event and will present an elaborate reflection on the ELASA minimeeting 2008 in the next issue of *IFLA News*. At this point we want to greet all participants, our guests, and especially the cooks (kiss them!), thanking them for their wonderful motivation!"

More details and contacts: [www.elasa2008.de](http://www.elasa2008.de)

**The organisation team:**

Michael Franke, Florian Lorenz, Teresa Kessler, Helena Mally, Sarah Neidhart, Martina Sattler, Heiko Ruddigkeit.



- a Framing landscape at the Bodensee  
Photographer: Lukasz Frackowiak
- b Installation "visible/invisible borders in public space", Bregenz  
Photographer: Sarah Neidhart
- c Urban experiment "moving border" in Bregenz  
Photographer: Moritz Bellers
- d Workshop "exploration"  
Photographer: Florian Lorenz
- e World café "borders of sustainable creation"  
Photographer: Teresa Kessler
- f Participants and guests from 20 countries  
Photographer: Lukasz Frackowiak





# Icelandic Association of Landscape Architects (FILA) celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**Hlín Sverrisdóttir**

**President FILA**

About fifty years ago the first Icelandic landscape architect, started working as such in Iceland. Since then, landscape architecture has developed into a thriving, licensed profession in the country. Currently there are over 60 registered members in FILA, which was formed in 1978, and we are therefore celebrating our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

Most landscape architects work in the private sector, but in recent years the number working in the public sector has increased. Until now, there has not been an educational institution in Iceland with landscape architecture at the postgraduate level. Most Icelandic landscape architects have received their education in other Nordic countries, but there are some who have degrees from American, Canadian, British, or German institutions. A few years ago a new department of environmental design was formed at the Icelandic University of Agriculture that offers students the opportunity to receive an undergraduate degree and continue their studies abroad for two more years to become registered landscape architects.

FILA is an active organization despite its limited size. It does not have paid staff, but many of its members are very involved and undertake various tasks for the organization. The monthly meetings, which often involve a guest speaker, are usually well attended and give members an opportunity to discuss and debate various issues. Some years ago FILA established a homepage on the internet [[www.fila.is](http://www.fila.is)], and it publishes a monthly newsletter in collaboration with the Icelandic Association of Architects. In 2005 FILA became a member of the European Foundation for Landscape Architecture (EFLA).

## The anniversary year

The Association is celebrating its anniversary in various ways. Small seminars have been held involving guest speakers from abroad. In September, the Association is hosting a Nordic seminar where the focus is going to be “The rural landscapes and the European Landscape Charter (ELC)”, although Iceland has not yet joined the ELC. After the seminar the Nordic Associations of landscape architects will be holding their annual meeting where various issues will be discussed involving landscape architecture in the Nordic countries.

The highlight of the anniversary year has been the visit of the world renowned landscape architect Martha Schwartz who made an installation in Reykjavik. It was commissioned in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Icelandic Association of Landscape Architects. The installation, which Martha called “I hate nature”/*Aluminati*, is a huge black box in the courtyard of the national gallery, Kjarvalsstaðir. Inside the box, a “nature” is made of aluminum. This installation, which will be open until 20 July, alludes both to the artist’s experience of nature as explored in the exhibition *Dreams of the Sublime and Nowhere [in Contemporary Icelandic Art]*, and to the debate over environmental protection versus exploitation.





# A Uruguayan Philosopher's Garden

**Margarita Montañez<sup>1</sup>, architect**

An article prepared for *IFLA News* for the year of its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

The garden, like any cultural event, is identified with its creator, professional or owner. In this article, I present the garden of Carlos Vaz Ferreira, a Uruguayan philosopher of the beginning of the twentieth century, a paradigm of his ideas relating human beings with nature. It is located in a garden neighbourhood, enjoying heritage protection, where the urban landscape comprises individual dwellings and tree-lined streets, not very far from the centre of the City of Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay.

The National Heritage Commission, reporting to the Ministry of Culture, is paying homage to Carlos Vaz Ferreira in 2008, coinciding with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death. Activities were launched in the month of March with a concert in what used to be his private garden and today a National Historic Monument.



<sup>1</sup> President AUDADP (Uruguay); Voting Member ISC Cultural Landscapes Committee ICOMOS/IFLA, Coordinator for South America National Cultural Landscapes Committees IFLA-LAS AMERICAS

Carlos Vaz Ferreira (1872–1958) was a lawyer, writer, philosopher, teacher, and professor. He was also Rector of the University of the Republic and creator of the School of Humanities. Like so many other of his contemporary Uruguayan intellectuals he was a free thinker. He published a vast number of works that bring to us his progressive philosophical and pedagogical ideas, and in particular, his idea of relating human beings with nature. As a teacher, he promoted the idea of setting up schools as “school parks” where children would be in permanent contact with nature.

Hence, the importance of his garden, known as “La Quinta”, and managed by his descendants through a Foundation. The 4 ha garden that surrounds the dwelling is mainly comprised of various tree species, both medium-sized and large, both indigenous and introduced. The foliage of these trees, like a continuous canopy, defines the place as a shady spot, where the smaller species obviously adapt to the shady conditions. Various classes of climber freely cover the ground and climb up the tree trunks, looking for the sun in order to flower.

Winding paths, marked by the steps of the philosopher and his family, invite us to walk in the wilderness, where everything grows unrestrictedly. This is not the domain of the strongest: it is the place of pacific and harmonious co-habitation of human-kind with nature. It is also, following the philosopher's thoughts, a harmonious co-habitation of humans among themselves and the legitimization of individual rights.

For Carlos Vaz Ferreira, it was an act of aggression against nature to cut or pick flowers, leaves or branches. His family and visitors were well warned in this regard. For his wife, who loved putting flowers in the house, he bought a neighbouring piece of land for this purpose. When the house was built for his family, an old climber (*Wisteria sinensis*) was respected. When by ordinance of the municipal government a wall was built, it was interrupted to respect a handsome tree (*Grevillea robusta*), and when another tree fell down, its fallen trunk made this micro-space more singular. In this unique paradise, all animals were respected and loved, particularly the birds that here found an oasis of peace. It was an open-door garden, where the sounds of nature entered into a dialogue with the music coming out of the windows of the house.

Peace, love, tranquillity, this is what the garden transmits. This is what those who visit it feel; this is what the inheritors of the philosopher want to preserve for future generations. And it is this idea of garden-paradigm, the expression of the philosopher's ideas, that we want to transmit to our IFLA colleagues.



## Two landscape architects' 40 years in Colombia

**Michèle Cescas & Alfonso Leiva Galvis**

We thank Virginia Laboranti for telling us about this Anniversary Edition of *IFLA News*, which gives us the opportunity to join you with our own celebration of 40 years as landscape architects in Colombia: 1968–2008.

“How green Colombia is!” exclaimed an astronaut flying above the planet. This country is still green and has an extraordinary and varied topography. It is possible to travel from a torrid place in the lowlands to another high in the mountains where you can find perpetual snow. In your travels, you can go through all possible microclimates and through all kinds of beautiful landscapes. There the tropical biodiversity grows, and so too do all the people who live in Colombia. We decided to work in this Paradise. We prepared proposals for spaces to be used mainly by those who were far from wealthy, and to enhance the resources available of these communities who need so many public spaces. The other goals were to use the huge variety of the tropical flora, and to work with the new concepts in design that had been changing after the seventies.

Arriving in Colombia, we set up in Medellín, a beautiful city with hard working people who love plants and gardens. We began to talk about landscape. They listened to us carefully and with great generosity they gave us this advice: “you need to publish your work”. They also gave us many projects. So, we started to write articles for the newspapers, and published the first popular book on native trees of the Sabana de Bogotá from the point of view of their use in the landscape.

We also gave many lectures at faculties of architecture and garden clubs in many cities where with an unreserved passion we spoke about the success of the world's famous pioneers of landscape architecture.

As we had projects in various towns at the same time, we had to divide the work between us: Michèle running the office and Alfonso doing site visits everywhere to survey site works. We succeeded and had a lot of satisfaction, because we had a first class training: Michèle in Versailles, where she obtained the Landscape Architect Diploma as well as the Diplôme de Troisième Cycle du Gouvernement Français. Before this, she went to Berkeley while there she was called to work in the Office of Urban Development of the Parisian Region. Alfonso worked as an Instructor of the Architecture School at the University of Brasilia under the leadership of Architect Oscar Niemeyer. He obtained the Masters Degree in Architecture and City Planning. Later he worked a year in Rio de Janeiro with the renowned landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx.

Alfonso then won a technical scholarship of the French Government, being a Colombian living in Brazil. He travelled to Paris to work in the same office where Michèle was already working. They met and they both decided to go to Colombia to realize their projects. But not all was wonderful. We had difficulty growing the enterprise because we were not experienced managers. We think it is important to bring this to the attention of landscape architecture schools: to train students as excellent designers as well as managers for success.

Finally, we would like to say with humility that we have to thank those who supported us in so many different ways: the Government, business enterprises of well-known architects and engineers, contractors and gardeners who helped us to conclude our designs. We also thank the many people who gave us the opportunity to work from sea level to the high mountains of the beautiful Colombian geography.



*A park in the heart of the city of Armenia*



# News from Malaysia

**Prof. Dr. Mustafa Kamal, AILAM**



## Malaysian Landscape Advisory Panel

Landscape in Malaysia received another boost with the formation of the Malaysian Landscape Advisory Panel by the Malaysian Government headed by the First Lady of Malaysia, Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah, in November 2007. The Advisory Panel consists of 11 prominent members of the public and industry, as well as experienced professionals and academics "with a passion" for the Malaysian landscape. The scope of work and responsibilities of the Panel include advising the Government and various agencies on landscape issues, such as the planning, implementation, and management of landscape related activities. In addition, the Panel provides a forum for the sharing of ideas on matters related to landscape development and the industry, promotes higher education, skills development, and professionalism in Landscape Architecture and related fields, and advises on the preservation and conservation of the natural landscape.

The Advisory Panel meets regularly to discuss various issues relating to the Malaysian landscape and the landscape industry. With the formation of the Panel, Malaysia is a step further towards achieving its aspiration of becoming the most beautiful garden nation by 2020.

## World Landscape Architecture Month 2008 Malaysia

This year's World Landscape Architecture Month was celebrated in a modest but meaningful way by landscape architects in Malaysia. The first event was the tree planting ceremony by Malaysia's First Lady, Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah, in the grounds of the Faculty of Design and Architecture, Universiti Putra Malaysia. Jeanne planted a keledang tree (*Artocarpus lancifolius*), an indigenous tree species from which the Keledang Mountain in Malaysia's Main Range takes its name.

In another event in April, the Institute of Landscape Architects, Malaysia (ILAM) conducted a short course on landscape architects' professional practice to prepare more than 50 graduate members for their professional examinations to be taken later this year. Course participants, members of ILAM, and others from the landscape industry witnessed a tree planting ceremony by Dato' Ismail Ngah, current President of ILAM, to mark World Landscape Architecture Month 2008.



*Malaysia's First Lady, Datin Seri Jeanne Abdullah, planting a keledang tree to mark World Landscape Architecture Month.*

ILAM also organized a one-day strategic planning workshop on the draft Landscape Architects Act. With these events, Malaysian landscape architects joined their other colleagues around the world in celebrating the World Landscape Architecture Month 2008. We look forward to join all of you again in this celebration next April.



# IFLA supports SAPEMA in Bolivia

**Jorge Amonzabel**

**SAPEMA IFLA Delegate**

## **Floods in the City of Trinidad, Department of Beni, Bolivia**

In the city of The Holy Trinity, the capital of the Department of Beni, Bolivia, the phenomenon of "the Girl" originated a natural disaster. It caused torrential and continual rains that increased the flow of the rivers. This caused floods in more than four municipalities and in Trinidad City, affecting more than 43000 families. The marginal quarters have been flooded for four months, forcing the evacuation of more than six hundred families and putting more than five thousand in a serious situation. In the rural area, the affected people have been the peasants and their animals, which were isolated by the overflowing of the rivers.

IFLA President, Diane Menzies, answered the request made by the Bolivian Society of Landscape Architecture, Ecology and Environment (SAPEMA), sending an IFLA Executive Committee member to give institutional support and technical assistance to help evaluate potential solutions to the desperate situation of the region. Both, Arch. Virginia Laboranti, General Secretary of IFLA, and Dr Jorge Amonzabel visited the affected areas.

Architects Rosario Toledo, Beni College of Architects (CADBENI) President, Jorge Ferrufino and Carlos Terán of the Society of Urban Studies and Historic Heritage (SEURP), associated to the Architect College of Beni, accompanied Virginia Laboranti and Jorge Amonzabel. They visited the flooded neighbourhoods, evaluating the damage and the effects on infrastructure. Some of the issues considered as of high importance included the building of new houses on the high land, and the provision of basic supplies. Likewise, we considered the necessity of planning a new settlement for the building areas, the implementation of natural protection, and the search for new economic activities to encourage the population to accept the eviction of their neighbourhoods. The panorama shows the vulnerability in the city and rural settlements that need a meticulous study of land use planning.



*A small part of the recent floods in the Department of Beni*

The Declaration of Trinidad, agreed between the CADBENI, SAPEMA, and IFLA was made known to the authorities of the Department of Beni and, through the journalists, published by the newspapers throughout the country. Its main points include:

1. To pay urgent attention to the natural areas of the zones affected by flooding, the defence of the landscape, and the sustainability of the environment.
2. To give support and technical help to public and private institutions in the reconstruction of the infrastructure, reformulation of the affected human settlements, and actions that may prevent future floods to help preserve the natural and cultural landscape.
3. To request municipal and departmental authorities the urgent development of a Territorial Ordering Plan and its implementation, including planning to preserve natural landscape and to respect the local culture.
4. To request to the development of an Economic Promotion Plan for the Municipality of Trinidad, taking into account its tourist, productive and social potentials, preserving the landscape and the cultural historic heritage.
5. To perform the necessary procedures to present the natural and cultural heritage of the City of Trinidad to UNESCO and to other international organizations, especially, to those dealing with the use and management of wetlands and the natural and cultural hydrologic system.
6. To sign specific framework agreements to consolidate the Declaration of Trinidad.



As a corollary from Trinidad, Arch. Jorge Ferrufino from the SEURP and the Major Officer from Trinidad Municipality, Arch. María Eugenia Hurtado, will travel to Europe to participate of the AEP Congress on *Landscape, Water and Sustainability*, in Zaragoza, Spain, which will take place in June. They will then attend the 45<sup>th</sup> IFLA World Congress in Apeldoorn, the Netherlands, which, as we know, will also focus on water.

During her visit to the city of Santa Cruz, Arch. Virginia Laboranti, attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Environment Seminar *SENAM 2008 -Technologies for a Sustainable Artificially Natural Architecture*. This was organized by the College of Architects of Santa Cruz, and the Architect Society of Environmental Studies (SAEA).

In La Paz Virginia Laboranti again talked about IFLA activities and answered questions in a special SAPEMA meeting headed by its President Arch. René Morris, and was later received by the President Arch. Jaime Merida and Board Members of the College of Architects of La Paz. The assistants ratified and thanked the importance of IFLA support to SAPEMA. All those present then participated in the programme organized by SAPEMA to celebrate the World Landscape Architecture Month on *Climate Change and Hydric Crisis in La Paz*. Authorities of the Central Government of the Republic of Bolivia, of departmental and municipal governments, and NGOs concerned with ecology and environment were also present.

The future visit of the IFLA President, Diane Menzies, to the cities of Trinidad and La Paz at the end of October 2008, was also planned. The support of IFLA to SAPEMA, has fortified the service of the Federation and opened new horizons with the aid to the city of Trinidad, Beni.



In the Mayor's office

## LETTER

In response to a letter of support and sympathy sent by Martha Fajardo to CHSLA President Zhou Ganshi in the event of the disastrous earthquakes in Sichuan Province, China:

Dear Ms. Martha Fajardo,

In responding to your kind letter dated May 22, please allow me, on behalf of the Chinese Landscape Architecture professionals and my compatriots in the disaster areas, to express our gratitude for your concern, sympathy and support! The May 12 earthquake in Sichuan Province of China has brought serious damage and tremendous loss of life and property. Urban infrastructure, urban green space, scenic areas (national parks), natural and cultural heritages have also suffered to various degrees.

Immediately after the earthquake, Chinese people were organized quickly and conducted effective earthquake relief. Many governments of foreign countries and international enthusiastic people extended their hands to help us. So, we believe that, with great efforts made by all of the Chinese people and much concern and support from foreign warm-hearted friends, the people in the disaster areas will certainly be able to overcome difficulties and rebuild their homes.

During the past two weeks, the Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture (CHSLA) also expressed deep concern for the earthquake-hit area. On May 15, the CHSLA called for, among all members and people in the landscape architectural field, making survey on earthquake relief function of green land in the disaster areas and the damage of scenic areas (national parks), to input their professional knowledge and skills to support the disaster areas' reconstruction and protection, and restoration of the scenic areas (national parks).

At the same time, we hope that more foreign landscape architects, especially experts with expertise and experience in the post-disaster reconstruction field, may give their valuable suggestions to us. Finally, let me to express my sincere gratitude to you and Noboru once again!

Best wishes,

ZHOU Ganshi

President, Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture (CHSLA)

June 10, 2008



## In memory of Tom Papandrew



Thomas Paul Papandrew, FASLA, AIA, 65, born in Erie, Pennsylvania, passed away in Honolulu, Hawaii on May 16, 2008 after an 8-month battle with lung cancer. A Belt Collins president and chairman, he was active in both ASLA and IFLA.

Mr. Papandrew received a BArch, Architecture, from Arizona State University, did graduate work at Pacific Urban Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa, and became an instructor of urban planning at the University of Hawaii. He came to Oahu in 1968 and worked as an architect and landscape architect for the architectural firm of Vladimir Ossipoff.

In 1970, he moved to Belt Collins, where his career was broad in scope and long in hours, with lots of travel to exotic places. He was one of five partners who re-acquired Belt Collins' assets in 1981. From then on, he led the planning department until he was promoted to serve as the company's President and Chairman for the last 15 years of his 33 years of service at Belt Collins Hawaii. During his tenure, he worked in more than 20 countries as both a landscape architect and architect. After he retired in 2003, he went to work for the Catholic Church in Hawaii, and in July 2006, he was appointed planning director for the Catholic Diocese of Honolulu.

Tom served in many professional, civic, and religious organizations, rising to be national President of ASLA (1993-1994) and even being honored for his landscape work by then-First Lady Hillary Clinton. Previously, he was Trustee of the Hawaii ASLA Chapter (1978-1985); elected to the ASLA Council of Fellows in 1986; recipient of the

ASLA President's Medal in 1991; and ASLA Vice President (1990-1992).

As ASLA Delegate to IFLA (2003-2006), he attended a planning recovery summit six weeks after the devastating December 26, 2004 Sumatra earthquake and Indian Ocean tsunami. He also assisted in Louisiana and Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina and drafted a manual for ASLA on disaster response for landscape architects.

Tom is survived by his wife, Willa; son, David; daughter, Tara; two grandchildren; sisters, Patricia Yee and Constance Reale; and brother, David. Tom's death is a huge loss to all who knew him and enjoyed his sunny disposition, sense of humor, professionalism, and friendship - from his former partners, associates, colleagues, and friends, to his large extended family in Hawaii and on the mainland and in the countries in which he worked and traveled around the world.

IFLA's condolences go to his family. We will all miss Tom!!

Aloha...

In honor of Tom Papandrew, AIA, FASLA, the Hawaii Chapter ASLA is creating a "seed fund" to aid in the establishment of a Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Tom was involved in previous efforts to establish a degree program at the university, and he was also an instructor of Urban Planning. The Chapter would like to honor Tom by touching the lives of all of the future landscape architecture students at the University of Hawaii.

Gifts can be sent to:

Hawaii Chapter ASLA,  
c/o Belt Collins Hawaii,  
2153 N. King Street,  
#200 Honolulu, HI 96819, USA  
(Attention: Dawn Easterday, ASLA).

Please make checks payable to Hawaii Community Foundation.

Contributions may also be made through a Scholarship Fund in Tom's name at the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at Arizona State University. Make your check payable to Arizona State University, noting that it is for the Tom Papandrew Scholarship, and mail to:

Courtney Carroll,  
School of Architecture & Landscape Architecture,  
Arizona State University,  
PO Box 871605, Tempe, AZ 85287-1605, USA

This notice was prepared by Darwina Neal  
Vice-President Americas Region