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International Federation of Landscape Architects
Fédération Internationale des Architectes Paysagistes

IFLA

News Brief



Celebration in Rio : Green Infrastructure, High Performance Landscape

The IFLA 46th World Congress in Rio de Janeiro was a wonderful, wonderful event and we thank ABAP for their planning and dedication to make the Student Design competition, World Council meeting, and Congress so successful. At the closing ceremony we all joined in the happiness of Rosa Grena Kliass, IFLA delegate for 30 years and senior member of ABAP, as well as Fernando Chacel, esteemed member of ABAP, when they were honoured for their lifelong contribution to our profession. We also honoured our two past presidents at the Congress, Martha Cecilia Fajardo and Arno Schmid, and announced the winner of the Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe Award, Professor Bernard Lassus of France. We were spoiled for choice in papers and tours and as a reflection of the Congress' success; there were full rooms through the events even though the site visits were tempting competition outside in the sun. While the beach and Burle Marx projects beckoned from outside, participants were inside enjoying the wide range of presentations, the company and good food. But we were not inside all the time: the social events gave us a chance to see and enjoy Rio. The World Council meeting produced **resolutions** on: **education in Brazil; qualifications for educators, protection of Parque del Este in Caracas, Rights to Landscape, Global Landscape Convention** as well as a range of project reports and new ideas for progress for the next World Congress, only 6 months distant in Suzhou China. Some early statistics from the Congress were: 642 participants with 338 from Brazil, and of these 141 were students. 304 from the rest of the world comprising: China 42, Europe 52, America 189, Others 21. The top 5 associations participating were: Uruguay, China, Venezuela, Colombia, and Mexico.

Muito obrigada for giving us such a wonderful event ABAP!

A number of participants brought cameras. We welcome images to mount on our website but include this photo story below to give those who joined us a reminder, and those who were not, a taste of what you missed.

Diane Menzies, President



Photos courtesy by Ariya Aruninta

Building Montréal - UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design

The UNESCO Chair in Landscape and Environmental Design at the Université de Montréal (CUPEUM) and the City of Montréal's Design office are launching the English Web site of Building Montréal UNESCO City of design: <http://realisationsmontreal.com/en/>. The Web site's aims are to promote activities from the project Building Montréal UNESCO City of Design as well as design and architecture competitions, part of the implementation of urban projects in Montréal. This project is supported by four major financial partners: the Ville de Montréal, the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire, the Ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine (under the Agreement on the Cultural Development of Montréal) and the Conférence régionale des élus de Montréal. The Building Montréal UNESCO City of Design project aims, over the next three years, to stimulate opportunities for creation and highlight initiatives by the design industry that give vital and tangible expression to Montréal's status as a UNESCO City of Design. The \$1.2 million to be invested over three years will be used to finance the holding of design and architecture competitions and to promote Montréal's initiatives via the realisationsmontreal.com Web portal. A call for proposals aimed at identifying design and architecture competitions will be issued to public and parapublic institutions as well as non-profit organizations. A selection committee made up of independent experts will assess the relevance and feasibility of the competition proposals submitted. Terms and conditions as well as the selection criteria will be defined in the months to come. Building Montréal UNESCO City of Design aims to facilitate the holding of design and architecture competitions as part of the implementation of urban projects in Montréal between now and 2012. The objective is to implement, over a three-year horizon, public competitions leading to exemplary achievements on a variety of scales (e.g., buildings, parks and public spaces, street furniture) resulting from actions by practitioners of different design disciplines: architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, interior design, industrial design, graphic design and signage, and the like. And the implementation budget is confirmed.

First National Rating System for Sustainable Landscapes

The Sustainable Sites Initiative™ released the first voluntary, scientifically researched rating system and guidelines for design, construction, and maintenance of sustainable landscapes, with or without buildings. A partnership of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center and the U.S. Botanic Garden, the Initiative's rating system represents four years of work by dozens of the country's leading sustainability experts, scientists and design professionals, as well as public input from hundreds of individuals and dozens of organizations to create this essential missing link in green design. The rating system works on a 250-point scale, with levels of achievement for obtaining 40, 50, 60, or 80 percent of available points, recognized with one through four stars, respectively. If prerequisites are met, points are awarded through the 51 credits covering areas such as the use of greenfields, brownfields, or greyfields; materials; soils and vegetation; construction and maintenance. These credits can apply to projects ranging from corporate campuses, transportation corridors, public parks, and single-family residences. The rating system is part of two new reports issued from the Initiative, *The Case for Sustainable Landscapes and Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks 2009*, both available for download at www.sustainable-sites.org/report. To assess the rating system, the Sustainable Sites Initiative has opened **a call for pilot projects** in conjunction with the release of the rating system. Any type of designed landscape is eligible, so long as the project size is at least 2,000 square feet. The call will remain **open until February 15, 2010**, and the Initiative will oversee the projects during the two-year process. More information about the pilot projects is available at www.sustainable-sites.org/pilot.



Harmony and Prosperity Traditional Inheritance and Sustainable Development

The 47th IFLA World Congress
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