

*"I am sure that God keeps no one waiting unless he sees that it is good for him to wait."
- C.S. Lewis*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Andrew Ristvey Guest Lecture
Industrial Hemp: Potential
Profits and Pitfalls
March 12th - 6:00pm
Jull Hall, Room 1123

AIA Baltimore's Health and
Wellness 4th Annual Showcase
March 12th - 6pm-8pm
MOI Inc
More Info [Here](#)

LABash 2019
April 4th - April 6th
University of Georgia

MDASLA Awards Gala
April 26th | 6:30pm
Vollmer Center
Get Tickets [Here](#)



Professor Nola's design studio one year after working on their living wall designs.

COMING TO FRUITION

The Stamp Student Union's newest installation is digging its roots into student life. A living wall, also known as a vertical garden, was installed last month and is sprouting lots of excitement. A once plain and barren hallway is now bright and vibrant with luscious plantings and even some edible ones! The initiative was led by the UMD Facilities Management, Professor Dennis Nola's Fall 2017 LARC340 studio (pictured above), and Furbish, a company that specializes in developing green walls and green roofs. For the students, this project was no ordinary design concept. The students knew this project would be built, and that provided them an extra push to work their hardest. Raena Nola said that she found herself thinking and designing more practically because of it. During the design process, students presented design concepts to Stamp Student Union faculty and heard from living wall experts from Furbish. The design concepts of the students were then taken into consideration for the final installment. In addition to the studio class's contribution, four students came together as "Team TerpVert" to produce a grant proposal for the UMD Sustainability Fund.



Seniors Sean and Michael observe the wall.

Team TerpVert was successful in being granted the fund, which advanced the installation process of the living wall. After many months of hard work and coordination, the students, faculty, and others who were involved with the project got to see the wonderful fruits of their labor. Dan Wray, the Assistant Director of Facilities for the university, worked closely with Team TerpVert and the LARC340 studio class to make this project happen. Here are his thoughts on the project:

Q: What are you most proud of regarding what's been done?

"I was incredibly impressed with the student project concepts and think the final design of the wall reflects several inspirations from the students in the Fall 2017 LARC 340 course. Stamp maintenance staff ran all of the plumbing and electrical components to make ready for the irrigation, controls and lighting system. Bravo to our talented students and capable staff!"

Q: Now that the living wall is constructed, what's next?

"Now that the installation is complete, we will work to "tell our story" and promote the benefits of the Vertical Garden. Stamp Marketing is developing a promotional video that will be displayed in the hallway as well as informative signage that will adorn the wall space on both sides of the wall. The video will include a time-lapse of the growth of the plants and installation. The signage will promote the benefits of the Vertical Garden and include the student designs from the fall LARC340 class. We are planning to have all of this in place for an official ribbon cutting on Maryland Day 2019!"

WELCOME ROBERTO ROVIRA!

On February 13th, the Landscape Architecture program welcomed Roberto Rovira, principal at Studio Roberto Rivera, for a full day of learning. Students had the opportunity to chat with Roberto over lunch and hear his journey about how he got to where he is today. After lunch, Roberto visited the BLA and MLA studios to be briefed on the projects being worked on and to provide feedback to the students. Roberto shared lots of insightful design practices and boosted the students' morale. Following the studio visits, everyone convened in the lecture hall to hear Roberto deliver his



Early construction phase of the living wall.



Furbish hard at work installing the plants.



Roberto Rovira listening to questions from the audience after giving his presentation.

presentation, “Land / Art / Tech: Finding Intersections Through Critical Practice.” Some major themes in his lecture and in his work are time and documentation as central facets of practice. Roberto further explained this through displaying different ways he has used time and documentation to portray an idea, a landscape, or a phenomenon. As designers, we can establish time as a major factor in our work through observing the many details in nature that identify different patterns in ecology, such as the growth of a tree or the migrant patterns of birds. Roberto’s design for the Gondwana Circle art installation at the San Francisco Botanical Garden captures this concept beautifully. You can learn more about this project by going to [Roberto Rovira’s website](#).

Later in his lecture, Roberto displayed some of the intensive work he has put into the Ecological Atlas. The Ecological Atlas is an innovative tool that organizes various data to help produce better design decisions. This data includes blooming times of hundreds of plant species, migration patterns of birds and butterflies, and so much more. Through the Ecological Atlas, designers can quickly find information organized clearly and aesthetically that would otherwise require an extensive search. After Roberto’s informative lecture, a reception put the cherry on top of a full day.

ASK THE ALUMNI

Blair Danies

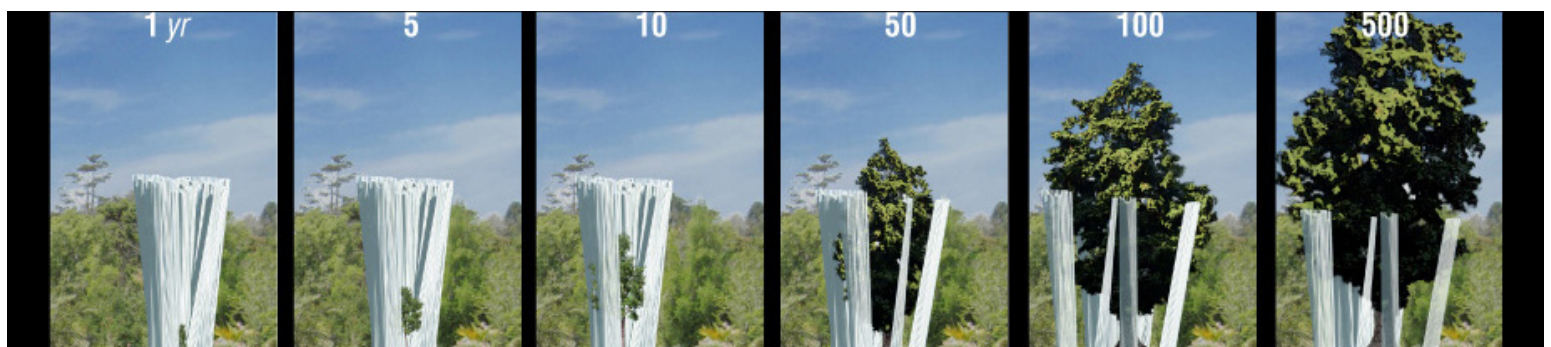
Class of 2018

Environmental Planner
Low Impact Development Center
Former Student ASLA President

Q: Now that you have some post-graduate experience, what is an important thing you have learned and that undergraduates can look forward to about a professional environment?

“I’ve learned so much about this field and myself in general. I think one of the most important things I’ve learned is how rewarding being open to new opportunities and embracing the challenge of new territory can be. Seeing yourself adapt to what you perceived as the unknown is extremely rewarding.

Undergrads can look forward to getting into the professional world and realizing that it’s okay to take the opportunity that’s different than what they were initially expecting.”



Roberto Rovira’s concept for the Gondwana Circle art installation, which would gradually shift as a tree grows in the center.

Contact Us

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Opportunities

Job: Landscape Designer - Mahan Rykiel;

Contact: jlcastillo@mahanrykiel.com |

Landscape Designer - McHale Landscape Design

Internship: SWA/Balsley Spring 2019 | Stantec

Scholarships: LAF Olmsted Scholars Program |

MAEF Scholarship | ASLA Council of Fellows

Scholarship | Potomac ASLA Ballard Scholarship