“We must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education. The complete education gives one not only power of concentration, but worthy objectives upon which to concentrate.” – Martin Luther King Jr.

THANKS

Thank you to everyone who donated to our LaunchUMD page for LaBash2018! Find your names on our @UmdSASLA Facebook page as well!


As promised, those who made donations of $100 and up with receive our SASLA “Thank You” video, and $250 and up will receive a “Personalized Thank You” video! We would like to show you what LABash is all about by giving you a true sense of our experiences there! LABash2018 takes place April 5-7 so be expecting an email with your videos around that time!

KIWI ADVENTURES IN NEW ZEALAND

Kia Ora!
Three experts. Seventeen students. One adventure.

Over winter term Professor Dennis Nola, joined by Dr. Lawrence Mallory and Jennifer Saunier from Mahan Rykiel, led a study abroad course in New Zealand where students studied environmental and cultural transformation. Four of our landscape architecture students fearlessly emerged from the dark studios to take on a new journey. Here’s what 2nd Year MLA, Sebastian Velez-Lopez has to say about his experience.

Sebastian’s love for travel, hikes, and Lord of the Rings sparked the urge to study abroad in New Zealand. So, when the team landed, they first explored Queenstown. Sebastian says that this was one of his favorite places because the pedestrian friendly streets catered to his love to explore. On the subject of streets— and of course, design, Sebastian’s eyes were constantly fixated on all the unique building facades in cities like Auckland. “They seem to pay more attention to their built environments...using many interesting materials that would be attractive to people of all ages.” One building’s façade looked like a human face, but he didn’t notice it completely until he had taken a picture of...
it! He speculates that perhaps clients are more adventurous, willing to make their building a landmark to add interest to the cityscape.

Students traversed unique landforms on Tongariro Alpine Crossing. “Tongariro was very special. We started in tussock grasses and then started seeing volcanic rocks. After hiking around Mt Ngauruhoe, we come across this barren, almost moon-like landscape. Then after we hike out of that, bang! You see the emerald lakes!” Nine hours and nineteen kilometers later, the hike came to an end. Sebastian said that “Many of the students were freaking out days before the hike, but at the end everyone did it! I love seeing people get out of their comfort zone and accomplish something on their own.”

On the way back home, students discussed what they’ll take back from this trip, and one ultimate conclusion was that they didn’t want to be held back by their mind. So! If you have even the slightest urge to study abroad, check out the Study Abroad Fair! Thursday, February 8th from 3-6pm at the Grand Ballroom in Stamp.

POST GRAD LIFE

Now let’s see how one of our recent graduates is doing!

Ben Hartmann is working for Bowman Consulting, a civil engineering company in Chantilly, VA, serving as their newest landscape designer in their planning division. On his very first day he was introduced to a project for one of the Walter Reed buildings in D.C. and spent the day working on concept plans. Ben says that he didn’t use trace for these purposes, rather “most of our designs and layouts are dictated by the counties and state, so we tend to stick with AutoCAD for layouts.” He said that so far he has not been introduced to any new programs, but the office uses AutoCAD on an intense level. Show us some tricks sometime!

On post grad life, Ben says he loves being able to leave work at work and not have to take that stress home. Also, “paydays are nice too.” Everyone in his division serves as his mentor and has lots to teach him. Ben says that everyone understands that he will have many questions about work so asking questions is always welcomed. He’s very happy to have found a work environment that fits his personality and work habits.

Ben’s advice to landscape architecture students looking for jobs or internships is “to not stress out about not knowing everything or being afraid of asking questions. You aren’t going to graduate knowing everything you need to know for work, but you will be able to think logically and figure things out. Apply to as many job listings as possible and get as many interviews you can. The practice makes a big difference for when you finally get the interview you want, and it also doesn’t hurt to get your name out there.”