“The capacity to learn is a gift; the ability to learn is a skill; the willingness to learn is a choice.”
- Brian Herbert

THE NEW EXEC BOARD IS READY TO ROLL!

With the beginning of a new semester and an Executive Board ready to take on their new responsibilities, there is much to look forward to!

Q: What about this Fall 2018 semester are you especially excited for?

Olivia Dulley (Secretary): “I am super excited to help plan the LaBash trip.”

Q: What goals do you have for the UMD Student ASLA team this year?

Michael Pullano (President): “A few of my goals for Student ASLA this year include strengthening the sense of community among the landscape architecture department, encouraging students and providing them with tools to build confidence in their role in our profession, and growing our profession through more events both on and off campus, as well as giving back to the community.”

CAN YOU DIG IT?

The Urban Design Studio, taught by Professor Sullivan, broke ground outside of the Plant Science building on Wednesday, September 29th. The effort started in the Spring 2018 semester, where the same students, then in Prof. Sullivan’s Landscape Structures and Materials class, developed individual designs for a new tree pit/planting area for the plaza. Prof. Sullivan said this about the dig: “We are going to enlarge this planting area to get a better root space for the various plantings we’ll put in here- some trees, shrubs, maybe even some perennials.” The new planting area will provide a sustainable destination for water runoff from the surrounding plaza space. Currently, stormwater has drained across the sloped pavers towards a stormwater pipe. In addition to a stormwater management approach, the class hopes to provide seating options with the implementation of the planting area. Aside from having the chance to take part in the demolition, students are receiving educational value on the soil makeup of the site in particular. “We are what’s underneath the surface, finding out the forensics of the past tree that was
here. We want to discover what caused it to die,” explained Prof. Sullivan. From understanding the soil makeup, the class can work to avoid future problems and ensure a healthy soil medium for the new plants. The class has been and will continue to be in collaboration with UMD's Facilities Management Department to successfully bring about this new planter.

SUMMER IN COSTA RICA

This past summer, two students from our Senior studio traveled to Costa Rica in participation of a 10-week study abroad program. The program is a multidisciplinary study with a focus on sustainable development. Just one of the many things the group participated in was the design and construction of community projects in the Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve-a rapidly developing region in Costa Rica. Students from the Architecture program at the University of Buffalo also studied with our UMD students. Kamani Brown said this about her experience: “Studying abroad was on my bucket list for college, and through the Sustainable Futures program in Costa Rica, I was able to do just that. Traveling alone was nerve wracking at first but I returned home with an amazing experience, new connections from all over the world, and a new project for my portfolio that I got to see from conceptual stages into construction.” Kamani was tasked with working on a pedestrian overlook, which captures the incredible beauty of the area.