

# Landscape Architecture—Back in Business

By William Havens

Program Leader, Landscape Architecture

The College of Agriculture has included a landscape architecture program since the late 1960s. Unfortunately, in July 1990, the undergraduate curriculum lost accreditation from the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board. That action was reversed in July 1991 when the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture curriculum again received initial accreditation for a three-year period, retroactively covering last year's graduates.

The exciting reversal came about because students, parents, alumni and practitioners actively worked to support landscape architecture. Dean Eugene Sander and Provost Jack Cole, following an intensive university review, decided to strengthen the program. They directed substantial funds to employ new faculty and graduate assistants and to improve equipment and facilities. These additions have given us new life.

Faculty and administrators decided to redirect the emphasis toward the professional Bachelor of Landscape Architecture curriculum. The present four-year curriculum will be strengthened by adding a fifth year. Also, the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) degree will change from a first professional degree curriculum to an advanced, second professional degree. Further, the present enrollment of 36 graduate students will be reduced to approximately ten during the next three years.

Signs of the high quality of our landscape architecture program are emerging. Senior student Susan Buchroeder has earned the national undergraduate scholarship for 1991-1992 from Sigma Lambda Alpha, the honor society of landscape architecture. Two years ago, MLA student Janet Galante received the national graduate scholarship from the honor society. Also, the current program leader, Professor William H. Havens, has been elected a Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects and the national Trustee for the Arizona Chapter of ASLA.

In July 1991, Lauri MacMillan Johnson was employed as a new associate professor with tenure in landscape architecture. She brings exceptional strengths in design education, graphics and community development. A nationwide search is underway for three faculty. One position is in

design/graphics/CAD (Computer Assisted Design) to be filled January 1, 1992. The second opening is in design/design implementation/CAD to be filled by July 1, 1992, as is the third position for a person with landscape planning/CAD/GIS (Geographic Information Systems) capabilities. A fourth position in design/plant materials/planting may be available in July 1993. These new faculty will join the existing five faculty members in the landscape architecture program to provide depth and "cutting-edge" technology to the professional program.

Clearly the move toward quality is well underway. Landscape Architecture at the University of Arizona is committed to becoming one of the leading programs in the United States, and the world. Continued improvement in quality by students, faculty and the college and university administration will result in our achieving this goal of excellence. A wonderful spirit is evident as we begin this academic year.



Susan Buchroeder

