



Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture  
"Growing in Excellence"

**Dr. William J. Kenworthy, Interim Chair, PSLA**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This is my favorite time of the year. The bright blue sky is the perfect backdrop to showcase the spectacular color change of the campus tree canopy. Although the days have remained warm, the humidity has decreased so we can enjoy our outdoor fall activities. For many of our faculty, these activities include harvesting of research plots across the state, or in some cases, planting research plots.

This is also the time of the year for some special departmental events. The Green Industry Career Fair, November 6<sup>th</sup>, will bring some of the leading Green Industry companies to campus to recruit our students for employment and intern opportunities. I greatly appreciate the efforts of Dr. Steve Cohan to coordinate the Fair, and the assistance of our PSLA faculty and staff in supporting the day's activities. I hope you take time to stop by the Grand Ballroom in the Stamp Student Union to greet the company representatives.

It was a pleasure to host visiting Landscape Architecture students from two universities in Taiwan during the recent PSLA "Green Dialogues Across Cultures" symposium. The symposium was organized by Dr. Shenglin Chang and Dr. Sonja Duempelmann. PSLA Landscape Architecture and Management faculty and student presentations shared discussions with our guests from Taiwan in a round table format. To complete the day's activities, everyone joined in the pumpkin decorating contest. The entire campus got to enjoy the winning pumpkin faces for a brief time as they were displayed in the Plant Sciences Building lobby.

I am pleased to recognize Dr. Steve Cohan on his selection as a Planet Trailblazer, and Doctoral candidate Patrick Forrestal's third place award for his poster presentation at the recent American Society of Agronomy meetings in Houston, TX. Congratulations for a job well done!

I hope you enjoy reading about our other PSLA activities and events, as well.

Regards, Bill Kenworthy



Students concentrate on pumpkin carving at the Pumpkin Party on October 29

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*Happy Thanksgiving from PSLA!*

**Newest News!..**

The 4th Annual **Green Industry Career Fair** will be held **Thursday, November 6, 2008** in the Grand Ballroom of the Stamp Student Union from 10:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m. Both regional and national companies and institutions that specialize in landscape construction, landscape management, tree care, environmental restoration, and plant propagation and production will be present. Students will have the opportunity to speak with CEOs and officials from the private and public sectors from groups such as the Smithsonian Horticultural Services, USDA, the MD Park and Planning Commission, nurseries, and design/build companies.

This is a great opportunity for students from all majors to explore possibilities for both internships and careers and to meet one-on-one with people who want to provide those opportunities.

The Fair's sole organizer is Dr. Steve Cohan. For more information, please contact Dr. Cohan at scohan@umd.edu.

**Green Dialogues PSLA LARC Hosts International Guests for Symposium**

"Green Dialogues Across Cultures", an international symposium was held on October 28, 2008. The symposium focused on the urgent issues related to sustainable landscape design, management and cross-cultural landscape education that promote green concepts and practices. Coordinated by **Dr. Shenglin Chang** and **Dr. Sonja Duempelmann**, the symposium was an international and interdisciplinary collaboration among PSLA's Landscape Architecture and Landscape Management Programs, and two university departments in Taiwan - the Department of Landscape Architecture at Chung Yuan Christian University and the Graduate Institute of Building and Planning at National Taiwan University. Visiting from Taiwan were Dr. Chao-Ching Yu, Chair of the Department of Landscape Architecture at Chung Yuan Christian University, and fourteen students. Both faculty and students from the participating institutions presented their expertise and experiences in a symposium and round table discussion format. Issues covered included landscape architecture and environmental planning in Asia, Europe, and the United States, as well as sustainable practices in our Chesapeake Bay region.



## More Newest News... **Pumpkin Party Fun!**



Approximately 60 people attended the annual pumpkin carving contest and event sponsored by the student chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects and PSLA LARC on October 29, 2008. The Pumpkin Party is a community-building event for students, friends and alumni of the LARC program.

In addition, this year LARC students hosted visiting students from Taiwan who had participated in the "Green Dialogues Across Cultures" symposium. Pumpkin carving was a new experience for the students from Taiwan and everyone seemed to enjoy the event!

Special thanks to the Wye Research and Education Center for supporting this event through their generous contribution of pumpkins.

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## Graduate Student Poster Contest Winner!

PSLA graduate student, Patrick Forrestal (Dr. Bob Kratochvil), was awarded third place for his poster that was entered into the Division C3 Graduate Student Poster Contest at the American Society of Agronomy meetings held in Houston, TX October 3-7. Congratulations, Patrick!

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## New Courses This Spring—Check Them Out!

**Green Roofs and Related Urban Sustainability Topics Seminar Series, PLSC 489V.** This course is open to all graduate and undergraduate students and will cover a range of topics from green roof design and infrastructure to sustainability policies. Additional topics will include photovoltaic power, harvesting water systems, and sustainability practices employed by the DuPont Corporation.

**Professional Development Leadership Skills, PLSC 489F.** Facilitated by a professional consultant, this course offers interactive learning exercises which involve role playing, brain storming, team building and process management to examine and improve leadership skills through communication, motivation, adjustment to change, personality analysis and goal setting.

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## Within The Ranks...

### Dr. Steve Cohan presented with Educational Trailblazer Award!



You should be familiar with **Dr. Steven Cohan** and some of his programs and student activities from reading our newsletter. Dr. Cohan has recently received a high honor by being nominated and approved as being a "PLANET Trailblazer". This is an elite group of dedicated professionals who were nominated by their peers for making significant and long-term contributions to the green industry in the areas of Design/Build/Installation, Interior Plantscaping, Landscape Management, and Lawn Care. The PLANET Trailblazers is a program of the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET), an international association serving lawn care professionals, landscape management contractors, design/build/installation professionals, and interior plantscapers

Within PLANET, the Trailblazer program was started with industry individuals who were successful in their respective businesses. Each Trailblazer sets aside a full day each year to provide on-site mentoring to another PLANET green industry service provider member. This in-depth, personalized networking and mentoring program is a unique way for emerging and established companies to gain insight and advice on developing and growing their businesses. The same concept has recently been established for educators. Educators who have developed successful programs are being asked to mentor new programs. Individuals from those programs will visit our respective campuses and learn about our curricula, industry support etc. Dr. Cohan has already met with one individual from a new program at West Virginia University who will probably be his first mentoree.

Dr. Cohan has been recognized in the October, 2008 issue of *PLANET News* and will be recognized in the 2009 Trailblazer brochure. Congratulations to Dr. Cohan on receiving this honor and being appointed to this elite group.

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## Looking Ahead...

**Wednesday, November 5 and Thursday, November 6**—Faculty Custom Regalia Sale, University Book Center

**Thursday, November 6**—Green Industry Career Fair, 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Grand Ballroom, Stamp Student Union

**Friday, November 14**—PSLA Faculty/Staff Meeting, 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m., PSB 2107/2109

**Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28**—Thanksgiving Holiday. Campus closed.

**Friday, December 12**—Last Class

**Monday through Saturday, December 15—December 20**, Final Exams

**Saturday, December 20**—Main Winter Commencement Ceremony, 7:00 p.m., Comcast Center

**Sunday, December 21**—AGNR Commencement Ceremony, 1:00 p.m., University Memorial Chapel