2 July 2020

Dear Incoming Master of Landscape Architecture Student:

We are delighted to welcome you to the Department of Landscape Architecture.

We are currently making arrangements for the new academic year and ask you to note that all Masters Students are required to register on-line. Access for registration in the Faculty of Graduate Studies will begin on mid July 2020.

Responding to the Covid-19 pandemic, the University of Manitoba had decided that, with very few exceptions, courses will be offered remotely in the Fall of 2020 (for more information and updates I encourage you to check the University's Coronavirus website). During the registration period detailed information will appear on the syllabus section of the class schedule and provide you with the course essentials, technological requirements as well as expectations and needs in regards to format of each course you are registering for. As of today, we are allowed, in principle, to plan and timetable studio courses and some of our classes to be held in person or with face-to-face components. All conditions with respect to safety protocols and prevention measures have to be met. Occupancy levels of studio and other spaces will be restricted as specified by UM standards which currently are set by requirements to maintain a physical distance between individuals of not less than 2 meters and limit occupancy to a maximum of 50 percent of normal capacity. It must be understood that these conditions may be subject to modification as UM standards are adjusted through the course of the pandemic situation.

Registration will be confirmed through your Aurora Account. Please note, however, that all Master of Landscape Architecture students must contact the Graduate Student Adviser, Yvonne Halden, (after July Tobi Hawkins) before registering.

You should register prior to September 2020 for your fees to be set. The registration revision period finishes on September 23, and the deadline for paying fees is October 2, 2020 (TBA) in order to avoid late fees. Information on how to register on-line through the University's Aurora system together with course listings for the program can be found on the department website: Registration information (will be updated in July). Fee information can be found on-line at umanitoba.ca/student/records/fees/index or you can contact the Registrar's Office direct on 204 474 9420 or Toll Free on 1 877 474 9420 or by Fax on 204 269 1065. Graduate students pay a set program tuition fee but all students pay some additional fees as shown in the Graduate Studies Fees link above.

If you would like information on housing and accommodation, please go to http://umanitoba.ca/student/housing/.
The Landscape Architecture Student Manual for 2020-2021 will be available on the department website in July and should be read by all incoming students. The Graduate Calendar is available at crscalpro1.cc.umanitoba.ca/Catalog/ViewCatalog. The Faculty of Architecture is hosting an Orientation and Welcome Reception for all incoming Graduate Students on September 8, 2020 and further information on this will be sent out in due course. Access to the workshop, Fablab, and CADLAb as well as an obligatory workshop orientation session for incoming MLA students is currently under review. Please note that the Drawing Workshop as part of LARC 7110 LA Studio 1 as well as LARC 7310 LD Seminar 1 (Plants) are scheduled to start on September 1, 2020. All other classes resume on September 9, 2020.

Covid-19 related travel restrictions especially pose difficulties to incoming international students, and the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) has been working to provide as much information to help you make decisions about how you proceed. National or international decisions may still adversely affect your ability to travel to Winnipeg. The Department of Landscape Architecture will support decisions to defer your admission on a case-by-case basis if you choose this option. However, the sequence of courses makes a deferral of only one term impossible. Any deferral would have to be to start the program in the Fall 2021 term and needs to be requested in a formal email to the Department Head.

The Landscape Architecture Students Association (LASA) recognizes that as you begin the Master of Landscape Architecture program, you will likely have a lot of questions throughout your first year. As a result, LASA has launched a Buddy Program. Starting this fall, you will be partnered with a MLA student from the later years of the program. Your buddy will make themselves available to you for any questions, tips and advice whenever you should need.

If you have any questions or wish to contact Yvonne Halden, the Graduate Student Adviser, please email her at yvonne.halden@umanitoba.ca. After July 2020 Tobi Hawkins will help with registration and can be contacted at tobi.hawkins@umanitoba.ca. I will be away from my desk most of July and look forward to meeting you at the beginning of the fall term.

Yours sincerely,

Anna Thurmayr
Associate Professor
Head of the Department of Landscape Architecture