19 December 2012

Dr. John P. Hassett, COC Chair
ESF Committee on Curriculum
SUNY-ESF
1 Faculty Drive
Syracuse, NY 13210

RE: Revised BLA Computing Course Sequence – LSA 300 and LSA301

Dear Dr. Hassett,

I am pleased to submit documents in support of the proposed changes to the BLA computing course sequence to the ESF Committee on Curriculum for review. Dayton Reuter has sent you the course proposals (LSA 300 (dated 12/01/12) and LSA 301(dated 12/19/12)). The proposed course revisions include the renaming, timing within the BLA curriculum and reorganization of the content and requirements of the existing BLA computing course sequence.

- The existing LSA 200 (Basic Computing, 1 cr. hr.), LSA 301 (Digital Graphics and Documents, 2 cr. hr.) and LSA 302 (3D Modeling, 1 cr. hr.) will be eliminated from the BLA curriculum. The content of the existing LSA 200, LSA 301 and LSA 302 will be consolidated into the proposed LSA 300 (Digital Methods and Graphics I, 3 cr. hr.).

- The existing LSA 303 (AutoCAD, 2 cr. hr.) and LSA 304 (Integrated Digital Graphic Methods, 1 cr. hr.) will be eliminated from the BLA curriculum. The content of the existing LSA 303 and LSA 304 will be consolidated into the proposed LSA 301 (Digital Methods and Graphics II, 3 cr. hr.).

- The BLA Program description in the ESF catalog and/or on the ESF BLA web page will need to be revised to indicate, “Proficiency with computers and associated design software is essential to the success of students in the landscape architecture curriculum. Students are required to purchase a laptop computer with appropriate software by the beginning of the fall semester of the sophomore year and are expected to carry them to studio. Equipment guidelines are available from the Department of Landscape Architecture. Anticipated costs for computing equipment (hardware and software) maybe between $2,000 and $3,000 over the course of the student’s tenure at ESF.”

The intent of the revisions is to provide students with knowledge of and skills in contemporary computing applications used in the professional practice of landscape architecture. The revised content and timing of the computing courses will provide BLA students increased opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills in studio and course work and prepare them for internship positions.

All of these proposed course and curriculum changes were approved by the Department of Landscape Architecture faculty on September 26, 2012. I would appreciate your advancing this suite of proposed revisions through the Committee on Curriculum review and approval process.

Please direct any questions or comments to me.

Sincerely,

Robin E. Hoffman
Associate Professor and Undergraduate Curriculum Director
Department of Landscape Architecture

Attached: BLA CURRICULUM SHEET_2012 Comp Seq.docx
BLA_CurriculumProposal_12 19 12.docx

Cc: C. Bailey
    S. Vandeburg