Alan R. Ahlstrom, RLA, CH, CIM
LARP Alumni 1993

Alan R. Ahlstrom has twenty years professional experience in Landscape Architecture and over 10 years in design and related construction fields, coordinating and working with clients, architects, engineers and various construction disciplines on numerous projects ranging in budgets from as small as few thousand to over 100 million both locally, nationally and internationally. Geographically, his work has taken him all over New England, south to Washington, D.C., west to North Dakota, and east to Europe - specifically Sweden and Spain.

Alan Ahlstrom started Havenwood LLC Landscape Architecture & Site Planning in 2003. He is a Registered Landscape Architect certified by the national Council of Landscape Architects Registration Board (CLARB) and holds both Title and Practice Licenses in Rhode Island.

Thursday, September 19, 2013
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Professor Piper Gaubatz, Geography Program Head, University of Massachusetts Amherst, is an urban geographer specializing in the study of urban change, development and planning in East Asia and the U.S. Trained as an urban morphologist, she is particularly interested in the processes which shape urban space, and especially in the historical and contemporary linkages between policy, practice and physical and social urban forms.

Her current research interests include an ongoing analysis of the diffusion of urban planning practices and ideologies from eastern China to western China, which places urban transformation within the contexts of regional inequality and environmental change, an analysis of the growing influence of environmental discourses on Chinese urban planning initiatives, and the evolving nature of public space in Chinese cities. In addition to articles and book chapters, she has authored two books on Chinese cities: *Beyond the Great Wall: Urban Form and Transformation on the Chinese Frontiers* (Stanford University Press, 1996) and *The Chinese City*, co-authored with Weiping Wu (Routledge, 2013).

**Thursday, September 26, 2013**

**4:00 pm**

**Procopio Room, Hills 105**
This talk explores opportunities and challenges presented in historic mill town morphologies for regeneration of economic and social capital. The discussion features a spatial analysis of Holyoke MA USA, and observations of other historic mill towns such as Lowell and Maynard MA. The basis of these analyses is the understanding that urban environments are shaped within the intrinsic and reciprocal relationship between human spatial behavior patterns and urban morphologies. Declined urban environments such as the case studies we discuss often present a conflict between the land use supported by the urban form and needed for economic redevelopment. The findings of the analyses and observations are discussed with respect to the resiliency strategies in planning and criticism to the concept of “finished design” in urbanism theories.
Jun Koo, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Public Administration and Policy
Korea University, Seoul

Jun Koo is an Associate Professor of Public Administration and Policy at Korea University. He is also the Director of the Center for Methodology and Data Analysis at the Institute of Government, Korea University. He received his Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to joining Korea University, he taught at the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. His main research interests include innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry clusters in the context of regional development. His work has appeared in a wide range of international journals in planning, regional science, business, and public administration.

His most recent work focuses on regional development and disparity from a happiness perspective. Contrary to existing economic approaches, he aims to develop a new approach based on measuring happiness and the quality of life in analyzing and evaluating regional development issues.

Thursday, October 10, 2013
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
The Roots of Redlining: Racial Legacies of Eugenic Housing in the United States

Laura Lovett
PhD, Associate Professor, Department of History, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Laura Lovett is an Associate Professor in the UMass History Department specializing in twentieth century U.S. history. Her current research includes projects on the history of transnational housing and population policies, as well as the history of efforts on behalf of homeless children in the United States. She is Co-editor of When We Were Free to Be: Looking Back at a Children’s Classic and the Difference it Made (2012). She is also the author of Conceiving the Future: Pronatalism, Reproduction and the Family in the United States, 1890-1930, published in the Gender and American Culture Series at the University of North Carolina Press (2007). She is a founding co-editor of the Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth.

Thursday, October 31, 2013
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Featuring a screening of Buffalo: *Best Planned City in the World*

Francis R. Kowsky
PhD, Art Historian, SUNY Distinguished Professor of Art History at Buffalo State College, Fellow of the Society of Architecture Historians

Francis R. Kowsky, Ph.D., is a notable art historian who is State University of New York (SUNY) Distinguished Professor and Fellow of the Society of Architectural Historians. He has published on nineteenth-century American architects and architecture including Frederick Withers, Calvert Vaux, and H. H. Richardson, as well as the architecture and landscape of Buffalo and New York State. He is also active in historic preservation and has served on the New York State Board for Historic Preservation and as a trustee of the National Association for Olmsted Parks. He is the author of the introduction to the LALH reprint edition of *The Art of Landscape Architecture* (1915) by Samuel Parsons Jr., *Country, Park, and City: The Architecture and Life of Calvert Vaux*, and his most recent book, *The Best Planned City in the World: Olmsted, Vaux, and the Buffalo Park System* (University of Massachusetts Press in association with LALH, 2013).

The Library of American Landscape History develops books, exhibitions, and online resources to foster understanding of the fine art of landscape architecture and appreciation of North America’s richly varied landscape heritage.

Thursday, November 7, 2013
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Christian Gabriel, RLA, ASLA, is the National Design Director for Landscape Architecture in the General Service Administration’s Office of Chief Architect in Washington, DC. At the GSA, he works to set design standards in the realm of public space, site security and sustainability. Additionally he reviews and approves design proposals, serves on consultant team selection panels, assists on special projects, and advocates for innovation. Prior to joining the GSA he practiced as a senior design associate in the offices of Thomas Balsley FASLA, and Ken Smith FASLA, focusing on project types with direct application to the issues, contexts, and clients associated with the GSA portfolio.

His work has been published widely and he has served as a design critic at Harvard University, Columbia University, Pratt Institute, and City College of New York.

Thursday, November 14, 2013
4:00 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105
Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning
Mark Focht holds a Bachelor of Science from Penn State and Masters degree in landscape architecture from the University of Massachusetts and is a PA licensed landscape architect. Mark is a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects and serves as the 2012-13 President-Elect of the American Society of Landscape Architects. When he comes to speak at UMass, it will be his first full day as the Society’s 69th President after his inauguration at the ASLA meeting in Boston.

Prior appointments include Executive Director of Philadelphia’s Fairmount Park System; Director of the park’s Environment, Stewardship & Education Division and Director of Capital Projects for the Center City District (Philadelphia, PA), a private sector business improvements district. Additionally, Mr. Focht has over ten years experience with two large multi-disciplinary design firms and was an adjunct professor in Temple University’s Department of Landscape Architecture (1989-2010).

Mr. Focht lectures extensively and serves on Boards of the Fairmount Park Conservancy, Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust, Please Touch Museum and the Philadelphia Sports Congress.

Tuesday, November 19, 2013
5:30 pm
Procopio Room, Hills 105

Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning