

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE + ENVIRONMENTAL and URBAN DESIGN MLA PROGRAM EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PROGRAM DETAILS:

- *Degrees offered:* Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
- *Students:* Over 60 students are enrolled in our program and are preparing for a first professional MLA degree.
- *Curriculum:* FIU LA offers Track 1, 2 & 3 MLAs (1, 2 and 3 year MLAs) depending on the educational background of each student (1-year MLA: typically have an architectural Masters degree from an accredited institution, 2-year MLA: typically have a Bachelors degree in Architecture from an accredited institution, 3-year have a Bachelors from any number of disciplines.)
- *Faculty:* we have 4 full time faculty, which includes the program chair; we also have 3 to 4 adjuncts annually, on average.
- *College of Architecture + the Arts (CARTA):* Established in 2006; Architecture, Interior Architecture, and Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design, that together form the School of Architecture, plus the School of Music, the Department of Art and Art History, the Department of Theater, and the Department of Communication Arts, together comprise CARTA's seven academic units

WHAT WE DO

We study the meaningful and sustainable transformation of our built and natural environments. Our program focuses on design and draws from art, science and technology via a rich design studio sequence. Students explore environmental, ecological and urban issues, and propose innovative solutions in the design of public spaces, infrastructure, urban planning, industrial reclamation, ecotourism, environmental mitigation, and many other areas at the center of the relationship between human beings and their surroundings. Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design is the only landscape architecture program in the country that focuses on the design, planning, and management of tropical and subtropical regions, where over 3 billion people currently live and where double as many are expected to live by 2100.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Two time winner of the most prestigious national and international student awards program sponsored by the *American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)*: the ASLA Design Award of Excellence and the Design Honor Award, the top awards in landscape architecture education nationally and internationally; Multiple wins at the *Florida ASLA* student awards; 1 of "20 Best Design Works" at the *International Federation of Landscape Architects* Student Competition in Zurich, Switzerland.
- Selected to exhibit at the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th *European Landscape Architecture Biennial* in Barcelona, Spain.
- National *American Society of Landscape Architects Student Representative* for all US universities offering degrees in Landscape Architecture.
- Prestigious partner institutions across South Florida, including Biscayne National Park, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Pinecrest Gardens, Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department, the City of Miami Planning Department, the Community Foundation of Broward, FIU's "The Education Effect", and Vizcaya.

A program video featuring accomplished students, alumni and employers is available from <http://bit.ly/FIULAEUDvideo>

VISION, MISSION & VALUES

VISION

Our program will be a leader in landscape architecture education that emphasizes the preservation and transformation of the natural and cultural environment through local, regional, and global engagement.

MISSION

Our mission is to facilitate instruction, research, and creative work in landscape architecture through academic, and professional excellence in the education of our students for the betterment of the local, regional, and global community.

VALUES

We uphold truth, freedom, respect, responsibility, and excellence in the academic and professional practice of landscape architecture.

KEY DATES / MLA PROGRAM HISTORY:

- 1986 Master of Landscape Architecture is established
- 1993 MLA is accredited
- 2001 MLA program re- accreditation
- 2006 MLA re-accredited
- 2008 A new 5-year accelerated MLA track is proposed and approved
- 2010 All FIU design programs–Architecture, Landscape & Interiors–phase out their bachelor's program in favor of the Accelerated Masters, to capitalize on national trends and opportunities and ensure fiscal security
- 2012 MLA re-accredited

RECENT STUDENT AWARDS / RECOGNITION from prestigious institutions at the local, state, national, and international levels:

- 2014 Florida ASLA Honor Awards (2) and Merit Awards (2)
- 2014 Superstudio Architecture and Design schools exhibit by AIA Miami at Miami Center for Architecture and Design
- 2014 FIU *WorldsAhead* Student Award recipient: approx. 30 graduates selected from a graduating class of over 9,000 students
- 2013 FIU *WorldsAhead* Student Award recipient: approx. 30 graduates selected from a graduating class of over 9,000 students
- 2013 Florida ASLA Merit Award
- 2012: National ASLA General Design Award of Excellence: 2 out of 400 nationally
- 2014, 2012, 2010 & 2008 Invitations to the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th European Landscape Biennial Landscape Architecture Schools Exhibition: 1 of 7 US universities invited to exhibit in 2012, 1 of 8 in 2010, 1 of 6 in 2008
- 2012 Van Alen Institute-National Parks Competition Finalists: 1 out of 8 finalists nationally; Interdisciplinary team led by FIU LAEUD
- 2012 Florida ASLA Merit Awards: 4 awards
- 2012 FIU *WorldsAhead* Student Award recipient: approx. 30 graduates selected from a graduating class of over 9,000 students
- 2012 FIU University Graduate School Scholarly Forum first place
- 2012 ASLA National Student Representative: FIU Landscape student selected to represent ASLA students nationally
- 2012 Book publication: Representing Landscapes (Taylor and Francis/Routledge) features nine FIU Landscape student projects
- 2011 Florida ASLA Honor Award: out of 68 submissions (all 3 student winners were from FIU Landscape Architecture)
- 2011 Florida ASLA Merit Award: out of 68 submissions (all 3 student winners were from FIU Landscape Architecture)
- 2011 International Federation of Landscape Architects, Zurich, Switzerland, "20 Best Design Works" Student Competition
- 2011 AIA-Miami, Award of Honor
- 2011 AIA Florida, Committee on the Environment Award Mention
- 2010 National ASLA Student Award: One of seven selected from 638 entries worldwide
- 2010 Landscape Architecture Foundation ASLA Council of Fellows Scholarship: 1 of 2 awarded nationally
- 2009 Florida ASLA Annual Design Honor Award: One of two selected from 70 submissions in the state of Florida
- 2008 Miami + Beach Biennial Honorable Mention

FACULTY AWARDS AND RECOGNITION for Teaching, Professional Work and Scholarship at the Local, State and National Levels

- 2014 Wynwood Gateway Park Competition Finalist (11 out of 238 international submissions)
- 2014 Our Miami Open Space Challenge Finalist (2 out of 45 finalists, out of 410 submissions)
- 2014 Journal of Landscape Architecture Cover, Essay, and three double-page spreads
- 2014 National Landscape Architecture Foundation Case Studies Investigation (CSI) program: 1 of 7 nationally
- 2012 Merit Award from the American Society of Landscape Architects Vermont Chapter
- 2011 Regional Urban Design Honor Award from the American Institute of Architects: 1 of 27 from 700 international entries
- 2011 Council for Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) National Excellence in Design Studio Teaching Award: 1 of 2 national awards
- 2011 FIU Faculty Excellence in Teaching: 1 of 3 FIU faculty recognized
- 2010 Residential Architect Design Award: 1 of 26 selected from 978 entries
- 2009 Chicago Athenaeum American Architecture Award, conferred in conjunction with the European Centre for Architecture, Art, Design, and Urban Studies
- 2009 ASLA National Awards Finalist in Analysis + Planning: selected out of 600 entries worldwide
- 2009 FIU Top Scholar Award: 1 of 24 faculty recognized from over 1,200 faculty at FIU
- 2008 Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, National Design Awards Nomination
- 2007 Landscape Architect of the Year Award from AIA-Miami: 1 award given annually
- 2007 Miami + Beach Biennial Silver Medal in Landscape Architecture
- 2006 Landscape Architecture Educator of the Year Award from AIA-Miami: 1 award given annually
- 2006 Kauffman Professor's Prize: 1 of 4 FIU faculty recognized
- International Competition Wins: 6 wins in the last 10 years in national and international competitions
- National and International Presentations at the International Federation of Landscape Architects, CELA, ACSA, and others
- American Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Collaborative Practice Award: 1 award given nationally each year

GRANTS:

- "University City Prosperity Project" | Infrastructural technology, streetscape and transit improvements to connect the town of Sweetwater with Florida International University (FIU) | Institutional Lead: Ken Jessell | PI: Naphtali Rishe \ Lead Facilitator: Tom Gustafson | FIU School of Architecture Co-PI's: A. Drisin, E. Newman, R. Rovira | \$11.4M
- District 11 Strategic Development Plan Grant for Miami-Dade County Commissioner District 11 | The plan will include economic analysis and development recommendations, general assessment of physical conditions, and development guidelines. | PI: Elysse Newman, Co-PI: Roberto Rovira, Ed Murray, Jason Chandler, Xia Jin | 2013-
- National Landscape Architecture Foundation Grant | 2014 Case Studies Investigation (CSI) (7 out of 27 submissions were selected) | PI: Ebru Ozer | APR2014 | \$6,000
- "Own the Overpath" Art of Community Grant from the Community Foundation of Broward in partnership with the City of Lauderhill and Broward YMCA (ongoing) | Roberto Rovira & Jacek Kolasinski, Co-PI's | DEC2012-14 | \$95,000

- “Coral Gables Virtual History: Geospatially Enabled Learning and Discovery” (ongoing) | Grant from the City of Coral Gables | Roberto Rovira, Co-PI, Jennifer Fu, PI | 01NOV11-30OCT14 | Awarded | \$154,000
- National Science Foundation Urban Long Term Research Area Exploratory ULTRA-Ex] grant titled Double Exposures: Socio-Ecological Vulnerabilities in the Miami-Dade Urban Region. | PI: Dr. Gail Hollander, Geographer, FIU Department of Global and Socio-cultural Studies | Nepomechie + Canaves, Senior Personnel

RECENT LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, ART AND DESIGN EVENTS:

Conference Papers, Posters, Exhibits, and Presentations:

- Miami 2100: Envisioning A Resilient Second Century | NOV2013-MAR2014
- Stadtluft Macht Frei / Urban Air Will Set You Free Exhibit | Frost Museum | Miami, FL | SEP-OCT2014
- Miami Beach Urban Studios (MBUS) Exhibit | Havana and Its Landscapes | Miami Beach, FL | FEB2014
- Coral Gables Museum Exhibit | The EcoAtlas Project | Coral Gables, FL | 04-27JAN13
- ASLA National Conference participation | Boston, MA | 2013
- Landscapes of Information: Mapping the Invisibles workshop with University of Toronto | Miami & Miami Beach, FL | 16-18OCT12
- Univision’s national education initiative “Es El Momento” featured FIULA students and faculty | 10OCT12
- Exhibition at Barcelona’s 8th European Landscape Biennial | 25-27SEP14 | Barcelona, Spain | 4th invitation for FIU LA (2008/10/12)
- ASLA National Conference participation | Phoenix, AZ | 2012
- World in Denmark: City PLANTastic Conference | Copenhagen, Denmark | 27-29JUN12
- LABash 2012 host | Miami, FL | 2012
- Arte Américas Exhibit | Miami, FL | 2012
- American Collegiate Schools of Architecture Conferences | Barcelona, Spain, New Orleans, LA, Houston, TX | 2012, 2011, 2010, 2008
- Kaohsiung International Container Arts Festival Exhibit | Taiwan | 2011
- Art Miami Exhibit | Miami, FL | 2011
- d3 Post Fact: Visualizing Information Exhibit | Monterrey, Mexico | 2011
- Council for Educators in Landscape Architecture Conferences | Los Angeles, CA, Maastricht, Netherlands, Tucson, AZ | 2011, 2010, 2009
- International Federation of Landscape Architects Conferences | Zurich, Switzerland, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil | 2011, 2009
- American Institute of Architects Conferences | Washington, D.C., New Orleans, LA, Athens, Greece, Miami, FL, and Tallahassee, FL | 2011, 2010, 2009, 2008
- Boston Society of Architects Exhibit | Boston, MA | 2010
- Chicago Athenaeum New American Architecture Exhibit | Chicago, IL | 2010, 2009
- LABash 2010 | Las Vegas, NV | 2010
- International Symposium on Sustainable Development | Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina | 2009
- Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona and Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya | Barcelona, Spain | 2009
- Build Boston | Boston, MA | 2008
- Making Cities Livable | Santa Fe, NM | 2008
- San Francisco Center for the Book | San Francisco, CA | 2008
- New York Public Library | New York, NY | 2008
- Miami + Beach Biennial | Miami, FL | 2007, 2009

Other Event Participation:

- National Organization of Minority Architects 40th National Convention | 18-20OCT12 | Detroit, MI
- National Academic Advising Association Conference | 11-13MAR12 | Miami, FL
- Arte Américas | 02-05MAR12 | Miami, FL
- Art-Wynwood International Contemporary Art Fair | 16-20FEB12 | Miami, FL
- Frost Art Museum Target Wednesdays | Arts and Environment Event | 25JAN12 | Miami, FL
- Wynwood Art Fair | 21-23OCT11 | Miami, FL
- Green Fair | 10NOV11 | Miami-Dade College | Miami, FL
- Frost Museum CARTA Arts Preview | 13SEP11 | Miami, FL

SOLAR DECATHLON HOUSE

FIU was selected as one of 20 universities to participate in the 2010 Department of Energy’s Solar Decathlon. This was a collaborative effort among the Departments of Architecture, and the Departments of Landscape Architecture, Interior Architecture, the College of Engineering and Computing, and the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

FULL TIME FACULTY

Roberto Rovira, ASLA, RLA (CA Lic #4629) is Chair of the Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design (LA+EUD) Department at Florida International University (FIU) and principal of the interdisciplinary Studio Roberto Rovira, recognized for its creative approach in the fields of landscape architecture, public art, and design. He completed a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from Cornell University in 1990, and a Masters in Landscape Architecture at the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) in 1998, where he was Dean's Scholar, recipient of the Award of Merit from the ASLA, and founder of the installation group Guerrilla Gardens. Roberto has lived in Latin America, Europe, and Japan and is a former U. S. Naval Officer, having served primarily in Asia and the Persian Gulf from 1990 to 1994.

As a professionally Registered Landscape Architect, he combines his knowledge from landscape architecture, engineering, technology, and fine art, to work at various scales and collaborate with interdisciplinary practitioners, community, city, state, and government organizations. His teaching, research and creative work often test the concepts of time and transformation, and the potential of landscape architecture to play a pivotal role in envisioning and shaping public space. Roberto has been lead designer in national and international projects in the U. S., Latin America, and the Middle East, and his work ranges from installations to urban projects.

The student work produced under Roberto Rovira's direction has received prestigious national and international recognition in venues such as the ASLA's General Design Honor Awards, the Van Alen Institute's Parks for the People Competition, the U. S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon, the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture Excellence in Design Studio Teaching Awards, and the International Federation of Landscape Architects. He has been an invited lecturer to more than 15 universities in the United States, Europe and Canada, and has presented his research, creative, and professional work internationally in over 20 cities including New York, London, Barcelona, Paris, Taiwan, Bogotá, Monterrey, Montevideo, Zurich, Dubai, and Rio de Janeiro.

Roberto has been guest critic at Harvard, UC Berkeley, RISD, California College of the Arts, and the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya among others, and his research and creative work have been supported by grants from the Van Alen Institute, the US Department of Transportation, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, and the Community Foundation of Broward, among others.

Roberto Rovira's work has been published by Princeton Architectural Press, Routledge/Taylor-Francis, HarperCollins, Landscape Architecture Magazine, the Journal of Landscape Architecture, ACSA, CELA, Univision, the Miami Herald, Fairchild Tropical & Botanical Garden Magazine, Design Book Magazine, Curbed, Miami Today, South Florida Business Journal, Trama, El Nuevo Herald, and others. He was recognized by the American Institute of Architects as Landscape Architect of the Year in 2007, as one of FIU's Top Scholars in 2009, and in over 10 open and public international competitions including First Place in the Miami Monument Competition in 2005 and an Award of Distinction at the San Francisco Botanical Garden Circle competition in 2009.

Marta Canavés ASLA, IIDA is an interdisciplinary graduate faculty, past Director and Chair of the Landscape Architecture Department at the FIU College of Architecture + The Arts, and interim Director of Interior Design at the FIU School of Design. Her degrees include a Bachelor of Design and a Master in Landscape Architecture. Her academic experience spans 30 years. She is the recipient of an Operational Excellence Award from CARTA, a Faculty Senate Excellence in Teaching Award, a Teaching Incentive Award for academic excellence and an Educator of the Year award from the AIA Miami. She has also provided curriculum consultancy to the Dade County Public Schools Board where she developed curriculum and program guidelines for the interdisciplinary tracks at the Design & Architecture Magnet High School (DASH).

Her recent collaborative efforts with architect Marilys R. Nepomechie include low-cost rural housing in eastern Kentucky, urban infill and infrastructure for Smoketown / Shelby Park, Kentucky, infill housing for Little Haiti, Miami, Florida and invitation to exhibit and present at the International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam. Their design, teaching and research awards include: A 2013 CINTAS Fellowship in Architecture, an AIA National Institute Honor Award in Regional and Urban Design-the highest distinction bestowed by the national chapter of the American Institute of Architects, a Residential Architect Design Awards for their project, Community | City: Between Building and Landscape, a grant from the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Faculty Design / Research and Collaborative Practice Awards from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture; The NCARB Prize / Award: The Comprehensive Studio w / UK, National Council for Architecture Registration Boards, and The NCARB Prize / Hon. Mention: Breaking Ground, w / UK, National Council for Architecture Registration Boards, twice earned the American Architecture Award from the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design; multiple design awards from the Boston Society of Architects, AIA Florida/Caribbean, AIA Miami, Silver Medal, Landscape Architecture / Public Projects from the International Biental Miami + Beach, and National Commendation in Communication from the American Society of Landscape Architects.

With a multi-disciplinary faculty team, Nepomechie and Canavés are collaborators on Double Exposures, a National Science Foundation ULTRA-Ex grant envisioning the effects of sea level rise, globalization, immigration and growth on the Miami-Dade urban region (Dr. Gail Hollander, PI).

She is the designer of the exhibition catalogue Biental Miami + Beach 2001-2005: A Retrospective (Quito: Ediciones TRAMA, 2007) and the conceptual graphic designer for the book, The Miami Guide: Building Paradise, Marilys Nepomechie, editor, for the 2010 AIA Miami National

Convention. As an interior design professional she has received awards for design, graphic design and photography from AIA Miami, IDG, and the International Interior Design Association (IIDA). Her design work and awards have appeared in the Journal of Architectural Education (JAE), ACSA Journal and Proceedings, Architecture Magazine, Architecture Ireland, Journal of Canadian Architecture, publications of the International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam, Architecture Boston, Florida Architect, Landscape Architecture, i.d.e.a.s, Casa y Estilo Internacional, the IX Bienal Panamericana de Arquitectura de Quito and The Miami Herald.

Juan Antonio Bueno is Professor of Landscape Architecture at Florida International University, where he has also served as Founding Dean of the College of Architecture + The Arts, dean of the School of Architecture, director of the School of Design, and director of the Graduate Program in Landscape Architecture. He completed his graduate education in landscape architecture at the Graduate School of Design of Harvard University and his undergraduate education in engineering at the University of Miami. He is a registered landscape architect and professional engineer in Florida.

Academically, his research focuses on the South Florida landscapes, the Spanish patio and cloister, and the natural and cultural landscapes of Havana, including the research, planning and design project for the urban region of Havana and Its Landscapes. Professionally, his practice involves the planning and design of regions and communities, parks and greenways, as well as plazas, gardens, and patios. He is co-founder and partner of the landscape architecture and urbanism firm Falcón + Bueno in Coral Gables. He is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, and International Federation of Landscape Architects.

He is a Distinguished Alumnus of the Landscape Architecture Program at Harvard University. He has won national and international design competitions and has received numerous awards from the American Society of Landscape Architecture for design projects, visionary work, teaching and research, and service and communications. His work has been widely published in the academic and professional literature as well as exhibited in North America, South America, and Europe, including Landscape Journal, Landscape and Urban Planning Journal, Places, Land Forum, Landscape Architecture, Garden Design, Ville Giardini, Utblick Landskap, Landscape Architecture by Simonds, Drawing the Landscape by Sullivan, Transforming the American Garden by van Valkenburgh, and Places in Time by Álvarez and Ford.

Ebru Özer, ASLA, is an Assistant Professor of the Landscape Architecture program in the College of Architecture + The Arts at Florida International University (FIU). She joined FIU in 2007. She teaches undergraduate and graduate-level community and regional design studios, landscape technology and construction courses, and advanced digital representation courses. Her teaching efforts have been recognized through awards and honors including a series of American Society of Landscape Architecture Florida Chapter Design Awards given to her students in 2013, 2012, and 2011.

In addition to her teaching, she has developed a substantial portfolio of research concentrating on the social and environmental contexts of design. Her writings on sustainable landscape construction, sustainable infrastructure, and sustainability in park design have appeared in national and international journals and magazines including Urban Ecosystems and Landscape Architecture. She also recently co-authored a book, Best Practices in Sustainable Building Design (2012), in this topic area. Her research has been supported by grants from The United States Department of Education, Florida Department of Transportation, City of Sweetwater, The Metropolitan Center at FIU, the Cejas Family Foundation, and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation | The Wolfsonian-FIU.

Professor Özer holds a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from Louisiana State University (LSU), a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Dokuz Eylül University (Izmir, Turkey) and a Physics degree from Ege University (Izmir, Turkey). During her time at LSU, her abilities were recognized with scholarships, honors, and awards, including the 2007 Dean's Medal. Prior to academia, Professor Özer served as a practicing architect, from 2000 to 2004, in Istanbul. Her work was comprised of a variety of projects which included restaurants, resort hotels, and residential villas.

Professor Özer currently serves as an advisory member of the FIU Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Advisory Committee and is a member of the FIU President's University Sustainability Committee.

FIU CONTACT INFORMATION

WEB

carta.fiu.edu/landscape

ADMINISTRATION & STAFF

Roberto Rovira, RLA

Associate Professor and Chair

FIU Landscape Architecture, PCA 277A

11200 SW 8th St.

Miami, FL 33199

T 305.348.6026

F 305.348.2650

e: rovirar@fiu.edu

Adrian Molina

Recruitment and Admissions Advisor

FIU Landscape Architecture, PCA 274A

11200 SW 8th St.

Miami, FL 33199

T 305.348.4884

F 305.348.2650

e: amolina@fiu.edu

Zinaida Hirlemann

Office Manager

FIU Landscape Architecture, PCA277B

11200 SW 8th St.

Miami, FL 33199

T 305.348.1886

F 305.348.2650

e: zhirlema@fiu.edu