

FRI-B06 Preserving Diversity: The Politics and Processes of Immigration in Landscape Architecture

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

DESCRIPTION:

International landscape architects make up an important part of the candidate pool. This panel will outline the immigration processes that are necessary to hire from abroad from both the candidate's and employer's perspective, as well as review best legal practices that allow for successful use of the employment-based immigration program.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Understand the current immigration processes, best practices, and how they relate to landscape architects.
- Discover methods for international students to enter US design schools and remain in the United States after graduation.
- Learn strategies for design firms to hire and retain international students or landscape architects from abroad.
- Keep up with the current administration's immigration policies and understand how evolving policies can and do impact the profession.

OUTLINE:

INTRODUCTION

THE CURRENT STATE OF IMMIGRATION

- The latest on immigration policies
- Impacts to the landscape architecture community
- Looking forward: the future of the international community in landscape architecture
- The student perspective

THE PROCESS

- Introduction to Hiring Internationals
- Common temporary visas: CPT, OPT, H-1B
- Unusual temporary visas: O-1, H-3, J-1
- The "Green Card Process": Whether, When & How
- Policies and Best Practices

HIRING AND GETTING HIRED

- Personal perspective
- Firm perspective
- Student/applicant perspective

Q & A

SPEAKER BIOS



HANA ISHIKAWA, AIA

Managing Principal / site (site design group, Ltd.)

Hana Ishikawa is the Design Principal at *site*, often leading the design process with complex, yet thoughtful ideas. Constantly looking for visually enticing environments from the rigid structure of classical aesthetics to cutting-edge modern design, whether it is conceptual design or construction details, she enjoys merging innovation and logic into all aspects of design. Born into a family of designers in Tokyo, with her unique educational history and eclectic job history at many different types of firms, her experience is diverse. Hana was recently named Young Architect honorable mention from The Architect's Newspaper for the 2017 Best of Design Awards.



WILLIAM SULLIVAN, ASLA

Professor and Head of Landscape Architecture / University of Illinois

William Sullivan is Professor and Head of Landscape Architecture at the University of Illinois. He and his students examine the benefits to human health that come from having regular exposure to urban landscapes containing nature. Sullivan is a Senior Fellow at the National Council for Science and the Environment, Adjunct Professor at National Taiwan University, and is an active member of the University of Illinois' Education Justice Project. Sullivan holds a PhD from the University of Michigan with a concentration in Environment and Behavior.



WILLIAM A. STOCK

Partner / Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP

William A. Stock is a founding partner of Klasko Immigration Law Partners, LLP, where he leads the Employment-Based Immigration Team from the firm's Philadelphia headquarters. He handles all aspects of immigration law, including assisting companies and individuals in obtaining employment- and family-based visas; resolving citizenship issues and obtaining naturalization; and defending clients in DHS and Department of Labor enforcement proceedings. He is featured in The Best Lawyers in America, The Chambers Global Guide, Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, and Who's Who of Business Lawyers. He has received the highest ("AV") rating from the Martindale-Hubbe Peer Review system.

GLOSSARY

CPT

An abbreviation referring to “Curricular Practical Training”. Curricular practical training is employment required for completion of a student's degree program. It is authorized during the course of study for programs such as alternate work/study programs, internships, cooperative education program and practicum experiences that are required by a course of the student's degree program. For CPT, F-1 students receive authorization from the school, not from USCIS.

EAD

An abbreviation referring to “Employment Authorization Document”. A photo identification card issued as Form I-766, evidencing the bearer's authorization to be employed in the United States for a specific duration of time. It is granted based on the filing of USCIS Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization.

F-1

Nonimmigrant visa classification for foreign students, which includes CPT, OPT and STEM OPT work authorization.

H-1B

Nonimmigrant visa classification for temporary professional workers in a specialty occupation.

H-3

Nonimmigrant visa classification for trainees.

O-1

Nonimmigrant visa classification for individuals of extraordinary ability in sciences, arts, education, business or athletics, who have risen to the very top of their field of endeavor, or in the case of performing artists, have achieved "distinction."

OPT

An abbreviation referring to “Optional Practical Training”. Optional practical training is a block of 12 months of work authorization that a student may take during school breaks, while school is in session, after completion of all course requirements except a thesis or dissertation or after completion of studies. The employment may be full-time or part-time; it must be part-time if the student is still attending courses. The foreign student advisor recommends this form of practical training, but it must be approved by USCIS before the student can commence employment. Any student who works for one year or more in full-time curricular practical training is not eligible for optional practical training. A 17-month extension of OPT time is available to graduates of certain STEM programs, provided that they are to be employed by an entity enrolled in E-Verify.

PERMANENT RESIDENT

A foreign national who has been lawfully admitted to the United States and who has the authority to live and work in the United States on an indefinite basis; a "green card" holder.

STEM

An abbreviation referring to “Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math”. In the immigration law context, F-1 graduates of certain STEM programs are eligible for an extension of OPT time, provided that their prospective employer is enrolled in E-Verify

USCIS

An abbreviation for United States Citizenship and Immigration Services. The branch of the U.S. government responsible for processing applications for immigration benefits, such as permanent residence and naturalization, of foreign nationals. Formerly part of the INS (Immigration and Naturalization Service).