

Teaching in Landscape

Cruz Calleja-Perucho^{1*}, Ana Pou-Merina¹, María Ángeles Ruíz-Sánchez², Ignacio Cañas-Guerrero¹

¹*ETSIA Polytechnic University of Madrid, Avd. Complutense s/n 28040 Madrid*

²*Rey Juan Carlos University, Address, City, Postcode and Country (Single space)*

Research Group: "Patrimonio, Paisaje, Documentación Gráfica y Construcción Agroforestal" of Polytechnic University of Madrid.

**Corresponding author. E-mail: cruzcallejaperucho@gmail.com*

Abstract

"We, the landscape architects, concerned with the future development of our landscapes in a fast changing world, believe that everything, influencing the way in which the outdoor environment is created, used, and maintained is fundamental to sustainable development and human well-being. We, being responsible for the improvement of the education of future landscape architects to enable them to work for a sustainable environment within the context of our natural and cultural heritage". (IFLA/UNESCO 2005) CHARTER FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION)

Nowadays, respect and appreciation of the landscape sustainably grow. Landscape Architecture professionals are makers encourage and guide this growth. However, there is still no legal recognition of the landscape profession in Spain. For this reason we present this paper that shows the current framework in which appear a professional educated with masters and specialized courses, but it lacks a defined work area and unique in its business learned.

We present the demands of both IFLA and the EFLA and teaching lines proposed by these organizations at European level are distinguished. Furthermore, we analyze the national scene and major training centres are distinguished.

Key words: Landscape, landscape architects, education, teaching, federation of landscape architects.

1. Introduction

Definition of landscape. Global scene. Professional recognition

The landscape architects plan and design urban and rural landscapes in the time and in the space based on natural features and historical and cultural values of the place. For this purpose, the professional uses appropriate techniques in order to guide of aesthetic, functional, scientific and planning principles. (EFLA).

Nowadays there are three levels of regulation, an association of landscape in each country (specially in Spain is AEP). All of them are grouped into a federation at European level (EFLA) which is recognized into a worldwide federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA). It aims to advance the practice of landscape architecture.

IFLA has developed a document that sets out the requirements for schools providing the landscape architects degrees to have a formal and regulate qualifications. Landscape Architects conduct research and advice on planning, design and stewardship of the outdoor environment and spaces, both within and beyond the built environment, and its conservation and sustainability of development. For the profession of landscape architect, a degree in landscape architecture is required. Tasks included (IFLA 2003):

1. developing new or improved theories, policy and methods for landscape planning, design and management at local, regional, national and multinational levels;
2. developing policy, plans, and implementing and monitoring proposals as well as developing new or improved theories and methods for national parks and other conservation and recreation areas;
3. developing new or improved theories and methods to promote environmental awareness, and undertaking planning, design, restoration, management and maintenance of cultural and/or historic landscapes, parks, sites and gardens;
4. planning, design, management, maintenance and monitoring functional and aesthetic layouts of built environment in urban, suburban, and rural areas including private and public open spaces, parks, gardens, streetscapes, plazas, housing developments, burial grounds, memorials; tourist, commercial, industrial and educational complexes; sports grounds, zoos, botanic gardens, recreation areas and farms;
5. contributing to the planning, aesthetic and functional design, location, management and maintenance of infrastructure such as roads, dams, energy and major development projects;
6. undertaking landscape assessments including environmental and visual impact assessments with view to developing policy or undertaking projects;
7. inspecting sites, analysing factors such as climate, soil, flora, fauna, surface and subsurface water and drainage; and consulting with clients and making recommendations regarding methods of work and sequences of operations for projects related to the landscape and built environment;
8. identifying and developing appropriate solutions regarding the quality and use of the built environment in urban, suburban and rural areas and making designs, plans and working drawings, specifications of work, cost estimates and time schedules;
9. monitoring the realisation and supervising the construction of proposals to ensure compliance with plans, specifications of work, cost estimates and time schedules;
10. conducting research, preparing scientific papers and technical reports, developing policy, teaching, and advising on aspects regarding landscape architecture such as the application of geographic information systems, remote sensing, law, landscape communication, interpretation and landscape ecology;
11. managing landscape planning and design projects;
12. performing related tasks;
13. supervising other workers

2. PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

The fact that landscape architects sometimes face unexpected difficulties when working in EU countries is a matter of common knowledge. We as landscape architects also suffer from there still being different professional statuses. In some countries the profession and the title landscape architect are protected, in others they are unregulated and in one country (France) the title landscape architect may not even be used. These are some of the reasons why EFLA is supporting the efforts of the Federal Chamber of German Architects (Bundesarchitektenkammer), which also represents landscape architects, interior architects and urban planners, in their aim to improve the situation. What brought it about was the evaluation and revision of the EU Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive from 2005. In Germany landscape architects at the Federal Chamber of German Architects joined up with interior architects and urban planners in 2010 to form a working group which was to look into the opportunities and potentials of sustainable improvement of the EU-wide recognition of professional qualifications. It soon became clear that change can only be accomplished in cooperation with the European professional associations.

The endeavour to improve recognition and consequently access to other markets is embedded in the EU Commission's present considerations regarding the revision of Directive 2005/36/EC Recognition of Professional Qualifications, which are fundamental to this matter.

The decisive meeting with the EU Commission is imminent. The Commission has already announced that a first draft of the amended Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive will be presented by 2012 and the entire revision procedure for the directive finalised by 2014. The discussions are vitally important to landscape architects and we will provide updates on the discussions as well as on the work's progress. (Jobi & Auweck, 2011).

TABLE 1: PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS DATABASE (EFLA)

COUNTRY	EFLA	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE		EDUCATION				
		ACCRONYM	MEMBERS 2010	BACHELOR COURSES		MASTER COURSES		CONTENTS
				N.	YEARS	N	YEARS	
AUSTRIA	.	ÖGLA	116	1	5(3)	1	2	EFLA requirements
BELGIUM	.	BVTL ABAJP	128	5	3	1	2	EFLA requirements
CROATIA	.	OALA HDKA	2	1	3	1	2	EFLA requirements
CZECH REPUBLIC	.	CZLA SZKT	38	1	3	1	3	EFLA requirements
DENMARK	.	DL	480	1	3	2	2	EFLA requirements
FINLAND	.	MARK	142	1	3	1	2	EFLA requirements
FRANCE	.	FFP	350	1	4	6	5	EFLA requirements
GERMANY	.	BDLA	794	16	6-8	1	4 sem	EFLA requirements
GREECE	.	PHALA	52			1	2	EFLA requirements
ICELAND	.	FILA	61	1	3			EFLA requirements
IRELAND	.	ILI	126	1	3	1	2	EFLA requirements
ITALY	.	AIAPP	520	2	3	1	2	EFLA requirements
LUXEMBOURG	.	ALAP	10			1		EFLA requirements
NETHERLANDS	.	NVTL	441	2	4	2	2	EFLA requirements
NORWAY	.	NLA	610	2	5	2	6 meses	EFLA requirements
POLAND	.	SAK	74	3	5	5	2	EFLA requirements
PORTUGAL	.	APAP	280	5	3	5	2	EFLA requirements
ROMANIA	.	AsoP	26	2	4	2		EFLA requirements
RUSSIA	.	ALAROS	51	5	5	2	2	EFLA requirements
SERBIA	.	UPAS	85	2	4	2	1	EFLA requirements
SPAIN	.	AEP	284	1	3	3	2	EFLA requirements
SWEDEN	.	LAR	980	2	3	2	2	EFLA requirements
SWITZERLAND	.	BSLA	356	2	3	2	3	EFLA requirements
TURKEY	.	CLA CTLA	75	6	4	2	2	EFLA requirements
UKRAINE	.	GLAU	58	3	4	2	1,5	EFLA requirements
UNITED KINGDOM	.	LI	3014	16	3+1	1	2	EFLA requirements
						2		

The Spanish Landscape Association (AEP) represents Spain at the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA) and the European Foundation for Landscape Architecture (EFLA), which brings together national associations of the EU member countries and, where the committee is part of teaching and professional practice. Its objectives include the legal recognition of the Landscape profession in Spain and the formation of collective bodies for the defence of its powers. Moreover, promotes the teaching of Landscape Architecture and Landscaping professional practice.

3. Education

So far, the Masters and courses that teach this discipline cannot offer official degrees due to the absence of legal recognition of the profession of landscape in our country. However, the EFLA recognizes the 284 professional landscape architects registered in the Spanish Association of Landscape (AEP). EFLA recognizes their technical training but not their competences.

In Spain, there is only one school in compliance with current regulations regarding degrees and covering the current profile in terms of materials and content required by the IFLA (International Federation of Landscape Architects) in order to offer professional training as a Landscape profession to their students. This is the Batres Gardening and Landscaping School, which owns to Camilo José Cela University and has the only existing degree. It is recognized in the Book of Schools and Centre that provide the education of landscape architecture worldwide. Although it is a private certification, these studies have a total duration of four years. And the only school recognized by EFLA is the Polytechnic University of Catalonia.

The list below is the top Masters and specialized courses in Spain.

Masters:

- Master's Degree in Gardening and Landscape (Polytechnic University of Valencia). It is semi attendance and is its eighth edition.
- Official Master in Landscape Architecture (School of Architecture of Barcelona (ETSAB) of the Autonomous University of Barcelona). It is taught in Castilian and Catalan. Nowadays is the only official master there. It comprises a total of 120 ECTS.
- Gardening and Landscaping Master (School of Agricultural Engineering and Architecture of the Polytechnic University of Madrid). It is its sixteenth edition. Until now it was a proper title of the University, from the next edition will be official, like the one in the school of architecture in Barcelona.
- Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture (San Pablo CEU University in Madrid). It is the most recent; in fact the first edition will be held this year. It consists of 60 ECTS and it is in the process of formalization.
- Master in Landscape, Gardening and Public Space (University of Granada), whose eighth edition started in October 2011.
- Master of Landscape Architecture (University of Santiago de Compostela, University of La Coruña, and Juana de Vega Foundation). It is structured in 60 ECTS and is distributed in an academic year. The next edition starts on September 12, 2011.
- MASTERS of Land and Landscape research (Miguel Hernández University). It is taught in Altea (Alicante). It is structured in 90 ECTS and is distributed in three semesters. Of these 60 credits are for the first two semesters devoted to studying and learning. The remaining 30 credits are for completion during the final semester of theoretical and practical research that will culminate with the completion of Master's Thesis.
- Master of Landscape Architecture (University of Las Palmas de Gran Canarias).
- Master of Landscape Protection, Management and Distribution (Centre Landscape and Planning Studies (CEPT) of the University of Seville).
- Master of Landscape Architecture (School of Architecture of Barcelona (ETSAB)). Post graduated.

In addition to these studies are the following specialized courses:

- Diploma Course in Gardening and Landscaping (University of Seville). It is comprised 30 ECTS.

- High Technician of Plastic Art and Design in Design and Elements of Garden (Centre Kunsthal of Plastic Art and Design in Irun).
- Expertise in Landscape and Environment (School of Architecture at the University of Navarra). Senior Technical Officer Qualification.
- Specialization Course on Rehabilitation of Historic Parks and Gardens (School of Architecture of Madrid). It has 9 ECTS.
- Postgraduate Course in Landscape Architecture (University of Las Palmas de Gran Canarias).

There is a recognized master at European level involving several schools,

There is a master which is recognized a European level involving several schools. The International Master Programmed in Landscape Architecture (known as the IMLA programmed for short) involves study at three higher education institutions: HSR Hochschule für Technik Rapperswil University of Applied Sciences St. Gallen, Switzerland; Nürtingen-Geislingen University Baden-Württemberg, Germany; Weihenstephan-Triesdorf University of Applied Sciences Bavaria, Germany

Moreover, there are several schools that provide formal education in European level. EFLA distinguishes the schools and courses fully recognized by the Federation from others schools and courses awaiting recognition by its label: the fully recognition by EFLA follows those of member associations.

- AUSTRIA: Universität für Bodenkultur Wien
- BELGIUM: Erasmus Hogeschool Brussel , ISla Huy-Gembloux.
- SWITZERLAND: Haute Ecole du Paysage, d'Ingénierie et d'Architecture de Genève; Hochschule für Technik HSR, Rapperswill
- GERMANY: Fachhochschule Wiesbaden – Landschaftsarchitektur; Fachhochschule Nürtingen, Geislingen; Fachhochschule Osnabrück; Hochschule Anhalt FH; Leibniz Universität Hannover; Technische Universität München; Universität Kassel.
- DENMARK: The Aarhus School of Architecture, University of Copenhagen.
- ESTONIA: Eesti Maaülikool
- SPAIN: Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya
- FINLAND: Helsinki University of Technology, Teknillinen korkeakoulu.
- FRANCE: Agrocampus Ovest'Angers, École Nationale Supérieure du Paysage, École nationale supérieure d'architecture et de paysage de Bordeaux; Ecole nationale supérieure d'architecture et de paysage de Lille; École Nationale Supérieure de la Nature et du Paysage; École Supérieure d'Architecture des Jardins et des Paysages.
- UNITED KINGDOM: Birmingham Institute of Art & Design, University of Sheffield, Leeds Metropolitan University, Manchester Metropolitan University, University of Gloucestershire.
- GREECE: The Aristotelean University of Thessaloniki
- IRELAND: University College Dublin
- ITALY: Università degli Studi di Firenze; Università degli Studi di Roma; Università di Genova.
- LATVIA: Latvia University of Agriculture.
- NETHERLANDS: University of Applied Science Van Hall Larenstein

- NORWAY: Norwegian University of Life Sciences; The Oslo School of Architecture and Design
- POLAND: Cracow University of Technology (CUT)
- PORTUGAL: Universidade de Évora, Universidade do Algarve, Universidade do Porto, Universidade Técnica de Lisboa; Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro;
- SWEDEN: Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences; Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences-Alnarp

4. Conclusion

The Charter for Landscape Architectural Education was created on the initiative of IFLA with the ability of being applied by any landscape architectural school on the international and national levels. It is their intent that this Charter will assist in the creation of a global network of landscape architectural education within which individual achievements can be shared by all.

This Charter, as a universal document, can help in the understanding that landscape architectural education constitutes both the socio-cultural, ecological and professional challenge of the contemporary world; and requires the guarantee of protection, development and urgent action.

The only master in Spain that has fulfilled the prerequisites for accreditation is the University of Barcelona.

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