

ASLA Colorado 2020-2021 Executive Board

Candidate Biographies

Note by virtue of their current positions David Sprunt will become President, and Jon Romero will become Past President.

Daniel Morgan for President-Elect

Daniel Morgan, ASLA, PLA, is a broad-minded and dedicated problem-solver. For the past 2 years he has served as ASLA Colorado Secretary, allowing him to gain a deeper understanding of the chapter's needs and direction for the future. Daniel's aim is to continue helping ASLA Colorado transition into a rapidly changing world that serves the members of the ASLA in new and relevant ways while advocating for the needs of the profession throughout the state of Colorado. As the leader of ASLA Colorado, Daniel is interested in garnering diverse opinions and support throughout the Landscape Architecture community. Together we will continue building our presence in Colorado, improving our communities by promoting the innovative work we are doing throughout the world.

Daniel is currently a Landscape Architect at Felsburg, Holt and Ullevig, working on transportation-based design projects including streetscapes, trail design, site planning and aesthetics. He earned an MLA from the University of Arizona, where he served as Student ASLA President from 2012-2013. Daniel also holds a BFA in Photography. Prior to this he worked as an Environmental Restoration Intern along the US-Mexico border for the BLM and Nature Conservancy.

Sara Bonacquist for Vice President of Programs (3rd Term)

Sara Bonacquist is a project manager at Design Workshop in Denver and has been VP of programs for ASLA CO for the past 2 years. She has also been on the communications committee, where she created new branding resources for the chapter to adapt to ASLA National guidelines, and helped to streamline the Chapter's graphic design, branding, and public communication. Sara has also organized many events for the chapter, including World Landscape Architecture Month events, PARKing Day, President's Dinners, sketch crawls, and the Piet Odoulf "Four Seasons" Movie Screening. She is hoping to build off this work to provide fun and quality programming for members that explores relevant topics and new educational opportunities.

Susan Suddjian for Vice President Government Affairs (2nd Term)

Susan Suddjian earned a BSLA from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA in 1992, was licensed in 2007 in California and Texas, and has served as a Landscape Architect with the State of Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) since 2017. She served her first term this year on the Colorado Chapter ALSA Board as VP of Government Affairs. In California, Susan worked 15 years as an environmental planning consultant, and a private practitioner for landscape and site design throughout Northern California. She earned a second degree in Horticulture in 2009 and served five years on the City of Capitola Architectural and Site Review Committee. Susan has enjoyed leading several community outreach programs including school and community garden projects, landscape design classes, grassland and riparian restoration volunteer projects, and has been active in parish leadership.

Carl Runge for Vice President of Public Relations (2nd Term)

A landscape designer and project manager with Norris Design, Carl graduated from the University of Georgia in 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture and a Minor in Horticulture. While in school he received numerous awards and scholarships, including the Honor Award presented by the ASLA Georgia Chapter. His studio-heavy undergraduate curriculum emphasized culturally and socioeconomically sensitive design, and he has a strong desire to employ these teachings in his professional practice. He is the co-chair for the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee for the ASLA Colorado Chapter, a committee that he helped to establish with the hope of promoting our profession through a variety of means including lasting engagement with youth, particularly those in underserved communities. Additionally, Carl is an advocate for environmentally sensitive and sustainable design. He has utilized his knowledge of native plants to design spaces that not only lend themselves to human use, but also promote pollinator habitat and support the native flora and fauna of Colorado. Having not discovered the profession of landscape architecture himself until the end of his first year in college, promoting our industry personally resonates with Carl as he recognizes the value and opportunity it not only brings to those directly involved but also to those we serve. Carl is completing his first term as VP of Public Relations in 2020.

Gretchen Wilson for Secretary

Gretchen Wilson, PLA, ASLA, LEED AP, is a founding principal of Dig Studio. Since graduating from Louisiana State University, she has collaborated with and led teams in designing public spaces at varying scales for 21 years. Her work is primarily focused on public projects in her hometown of Denver. Gretchen is interested in utilizing the power of public space to serve multiple functions: bring diverse communities together, improve their health and well-being, connect people to healthy foods, create healthy habitats, and improve the environment. She co-taught a third-year design studio at CU Denver, presented at the National ASLA Conference in 2019, and has hosted groups of students for tours of the Dig office and of our projects through the student chapter ASLA. She is involved with ULI Colorado and was a member of the Evergreen Technical Advisory Panel. She represents Dig Studio on the Downtown Denver Partnership's Mobility Council. She was a speaker at the Women in Design 8x8 event and is involved in the Colorado Association of Stormwater and Floodplain Managers. Gretchen has been active on pro bono efforts in her community over the years working with Denver Urban Gardens, Clayton Early Learning Center, and the GrowHaus on the design of their community gardens. Her leadership on the Heron Pond, Carpio-Sanguinette Master Plan for Denver Parks led to a ASLA Colorado President's Award of Excellence in 2018. Gretchen is eager to serve on the ASLA Colorado Board to help support and grow the profession for the next generation of Landscape Architects.