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Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

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**An Electronic Newsletter by the Maryland State Boards of:
Architects, Certified Interior Designers, Examiners of Landscape Architects
Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors**

Commissioner's Message

Greg Safko

Commissioner, Occupational & Professional Licensing



With the close of the 2004 Session of the Maryland General Assembly our attention within the Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing turns from the legislative arena back to the licensing and regulatory responsibilities we provide for the citizens of the state. While the outcome of each legislative session certainly impacts business and the professional activities for the design boards, licensees and the markets in which business is conducted, its conclusion is generally recognized as the time to get back down to business. This also poses a good opportunity to reflect upon the state of the design professions and review related trends revealed through statistics compiled by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR).

Naturally, questions arise regarding the size of the professions and the related industries served. What are the growth trends in the design professions within Maryland? How big is the construction project pie? Are there any national employment or construction trends that pose relevance? These are interesting questions, but let's first address a couple of the more evident facts. In 2003, there were 23,260 licensees overseen by the five design boards. Compared to 1997, this reflects an 11.6 percent composite growth of licensees within these groups. Interestingly though, there has been a far greater growth of 30.1 percent of the total employment for the same period within the entire design service sector (see chart). This includes all employed individuals affiliated with each of these sectors as reported by the Labor Market Analysis Information Office within DLLR's Division of Workforce Development to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

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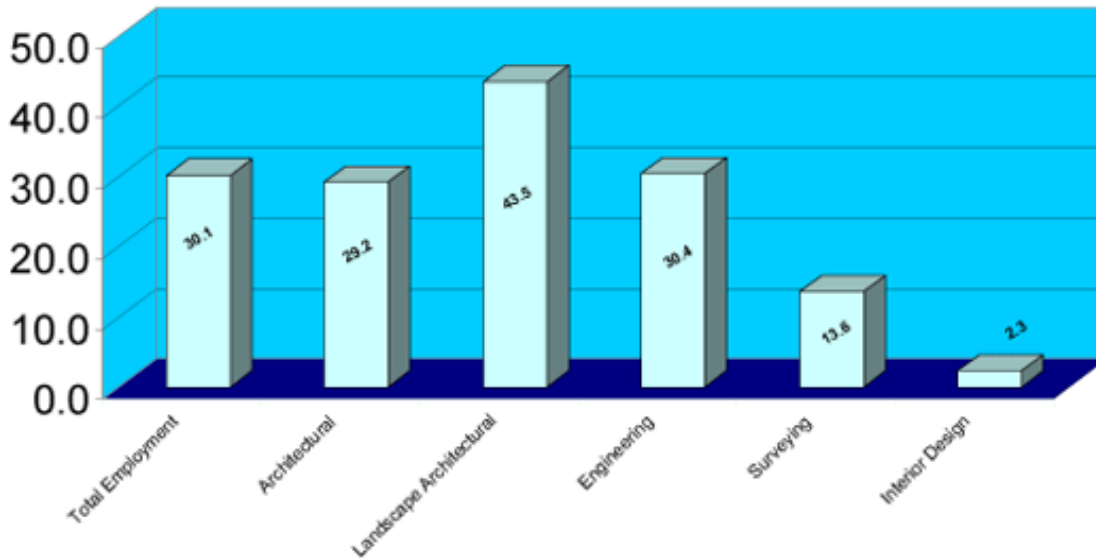
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Percentage Increase in Design Services Employment 1997-2003


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Growth is good, right? Well, only if there is a corresponding growth in construction to support the professional design activity. Looking at employment data for construction between 1997 and 2003 there has been a 39.5 percent increase. The construction industries include buildings (both residential and non-residential) and heavy and civil engineering construction. Likewise, both of these sectors rose moderately in 2003 over 2002, 1.5 percent and 3.1 percent respectively. Comparing the first quarter of 2004 to the same period in 2003 increases of 1.6 percent and 6.7 percent were posted.

Is there a trend that substantiates optimism that the pie is growing to accommodate the design profession employment base? That's tough to say - but looking lastly at broad unemployment figures for the state we see positive news in the March data. DLLR reports the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 4.0 percent in March is unchanged from February, and down from a rate of 4.7 percent one year ago. Maryland's unemployment rate for March remains well below the national unemployment rate of 5.7 percent, up slightly from 5.6 percent in February. Further, all Maryland counties posted a decline in unemployment in March, continuing the trend of the past year.

"DLLR figures show Maryland's businesses added 25,800 jobs in March in addition to the 10,600 jobs added in February," says DLLR Secretary James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D. "This is good news for Maryland employers and job seekers, and a positive indicator of Maryland's economy."

Many businesses and industries contributed to Maryland's job growth with administrative support services, construction, and leisure and hospitality industries leading the way. So, while the climate for growth continues to be optimistic for the construction and building services areas, it remains to be seen how much this growth will continue to benefit all design process sectors.

The trends and statistics noted throughout this article positively reflect the environment in which we collectively find ourselves. One thing is certain - the design boards within DLLR, thanks to special funding, are in a better position to respond rapidly to increased demand. The framework of special funding, especially within today's "positive" business environment, has provided enhanced staffing, infrastructure and services which can facilitate the challenges demanded by an increase in need.

As in past columns, I strongly encourage your comments and recommendations concerning the design boards that help to serve the citizens of Maryland.

Architects - Update on CEU Requirements

A new law, effective October 1, 2003, requires all Maryland architects to fulfill continuing education requirements as a condition of license renewal or reinstatement. In order to give all licensees sufficient time to comply with these new requirements the Board, with the full support of the Maryland Society - AIA, the sponsor of the legislation, approved the following phase-in period:

1. All licensees whose licenses expire between October 1, 2004, and September 30, 2005, will have to complete 12 continuing education contact hours.
2. All licensees whose licenses expire after October 1, 2005, will have to complete all 24 continuing education contact hours.

Any course or activity approved or sponsored by AIA and NCARB is accepted by the Maryland Board. Other potential providers or licensees seeking to obtain approval for a course or activity should contact the board directly.

The Board of Architects has received a number of calls in recent months asking how CEU requirements are reported.

Whether renewal is on the Internet or on the paper form, licensees will list the number of continuing education hours earned but will not have to immediately submit documentation. The board will conduct random audits and, if selected, the licensee must furnish proof of the completion of the required courses. Documentation of all continuing education courses should be retained for at least four years.

In March, the board approved two courses for CEU credit submitted by individual providers. The newly approved courses are:

1. Roofing Design Conference sponsored by Carlisle Syntec, Inc., 6 CEUs.
2. Enhancing Design Quality with Concept Sketches, sponsored by Design Media Seminars, 8 CEUs.

For more details about continuing education requirements or submitting a course for approval, contact Terry White, 410-230-6261, or e-mail, architect@dllr.state.md.us.

Certificates Presented to New Professional Engineers

The Maryland Society of Professional Engineers held its 65th Annual Banquet on Friday, April 30, 2004, at the Miller Senate Office Building, Annapolis, Maryland. Newly licensed Professional Engineers were invited to attend the banquet and receive their board-issued wall certificate. Howard "Skip" Harclerode attended the banquet on behalf of the Maryland Board for Professional Engineers and presented the certificates. Those who attended and received their certificates were:

Dinesh Aggarwal

Timek Dah

William Fellows

David Harrell

Mohammad Hasan

John Keenan

Rebecca Lichtenstein

Sean MacCubbin

David Muffley

Kamran Nader

Kishia Powell

Gudxiu Qiao

Hanlon Quin

Stephen Schneider

Michael Soong



Susan Cherry, chief of litigation, Office of the Attorney General, Pam Edwards, acting director of DLLR Professional Licensing Boards and Eugene Harvey, vice chair, State Board for Professional Engineers, (l to r), meet to review complaints against licensees formally filed with the state board. A similar complaint review process is conducted by all of the design boards.

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Recent Meetings Attended by Board Members

Steve Parker, chairman of the Board of Architects, attended the NCARB Regional Meeting in New York City, April 1-3.

National Council of Examiners of Engineers and Land Surveyors

Northeast Zone Meeting

The Northeast Zone held its 2004 meeting April 22-23 in Portland. In attendance were 70 delegates with 16 of the 21 Northeast Zone boards represented. Attending from the Professional Engineers Board were Mel Hotz and Skip Harclerode. Tom Orisich from the Professional Land Surveyors Board was elected to the office of Northeast Zone Secretary/Treasurer.



"Skip" Harclerode, P.E. and Mel Hotz, P.E. (l to r), report their summary to the State Board for Professional Engineers on the proceedings of the recent meeting of the National Council of Examiners of Engineers and Land Surveyors, Northeast Zone, in Portland, Maine.

Many subjects were discussed to prepare all Northeast Zone delegates for the NCEES Annual Meeting scheduled for August in Cleveland, Ohio. The topics included:

- Admissible calculators for the examinations. An updated list of acceptable calculators will be available for all boards every January.
- Assignments of delegates to NCEES committees. More committee slots would be available by limiting the committee assignments of emeritus members.
- The continuing subject of examination security. The Council can supply individual boards with tailored contracts to administer examinations and limit the board's exposure to liability in the event of an examination breach.
- The Licensure Qualification Oversight Group (LQOG) reported on the motions it plans to recommend to the annual meeting including: a new non-technical practice examination and permitting EAC/ABET applicants to take the Principles and Practices exam without waiting the four year period after the FE examination. Granting the license would still require four years of experience for these applicants.
- A recommendation that engineering baccalaureate credit hours be increased, reversing the current trend toward lower credit hours.

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Spring Engineering and Land Surveying Exams Held

In mid-April, approximately 700 candidates sat for the engineering and land surveying licensing examinations. The exams were administered at two locations in Maryland - Timonium Fairgrounds and the U.S. Naval Academy.

The state specific portions of the Land Surveying Exam - Maryland Law and Road Grade and Storm Drain Design - were administered April 15 in Timonium. Both the Principles and Practice of Land Surveying and the Fundamentals of Engineering and Fundamentals of Land Surveying exams were administered April 16-17, in Timonium.

In addition, the Fundamentals of Engineering exam was administered April 17 at the Naval Academy. Applicants within six months of completing a curriculum in engineering at a college or university can take the Fundamentals exam early. Approximately 200-250 students apply and qualify to take the exam every April at the Naval Academy.

Listed below are the numbers from the April 2004 exams:

NAME OF EXAM	# SCHEDULED	# SAT
Maryland Law and Ethical Issues	22	18
Maryland Road Grade and Storm Drain	18	14
Principles and Practice of Land Surveying	10	10
Fundamentals of Land Surveying	3	3
Principles and Practice of Engineering	232	206
Fundamentals of Engineering (Timonium)	273	234
Fundamentals of Engineering (U.S. Naval Academy)	243	205

A.R.E. Administrations – 1 st Quarter 2004						
Section	MARYLAND			NATIONAL		
	# cand	# pass	% pass	# cand	# pass	% pass
Building Technology	11	6	55	1006	633	63
Building Planning	10	8	80	978	637	65
Const. Doc. & Services	16	14	87	917	748	82
General Structures	14	10	71	885	661	75
Lateral Forces	10	10	100	720	597	83
Materials & Methods	12	11	92	927	739	80
Mech & Elec Systems	10	7	70	565	381	67
Pre-Design	20	15	75	972	738	76
Site Planning	16	11	69	976	702	72

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News From the Landscape Architects

Chairman Charles Bailey

Maryland Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects

Several issues, both old and new, were topics of discussion at recent board meetings.

Firm licensure was the hot topic and is being reviewed. Current law states a corporation

or partnership must hold a permit issued by the board before operating a business in which landscape architecture is practiced. Furthermore, to obtain a permit the entity must appoint at least one responsible member, defined as an officer of the corporation

or the partnership, who is a licensed landscape architect and shall be responsible for the landscape architecture practiced through the firm. The appropriateness of these requirements has been under debate. The alternatives discussed included:

The board is interested in your views and opinions on this issue. Please send your comments to my attention, Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects, 500 N. Calvert St., Room 308, Baltimore, Maryland 21202 or landscape@dllr.state.md.us.

CLARB is modifying the way the licensing exam (LARE) is administered. Beginning June 2004, Maryland will administer the graphic portions of the exam - Sections C and E. The remaining sections will be administered by CLARB using a computer-based test administration system. The exam will be administered at local testing centers.

The changes in Maryland resulted in the signing of a Letter of Understanding with CLARB to ensure, among other things, candidates who wish to obtain licensure in Maryland are first approved by the Maryland Board and meet state

1. Leave the current requirement as it stands;
2. Modify the current law to require corporations and partnership to appoint, through full-time employment, a licensed landscape architect to be in responsible charge of overseeing landscape architectural services provided by the entity; or,
3. Eliminate the requirement altogether.

requirements before applying with CLARB to take parts of the computerized exam. Maryland is one of only four states whose eligibility requirements are more stringent than CLARB's.

Go to www.clarb.org for additional information.

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Revolution - Transformation - Innovation

by Linda Sherman

The film, "The Next Industrial Revolution" played to standing room only crowds during Baltimore Green Week, not surprising for an environmental film. What was surprising was a week later the film was a sell-out for The League of Women Voters, as it has been for many groups not considered environmentally savvy. Why is this film so appealing to so many varied groups?

The film features architect William McDonough and his partner, chemist Michael Braungart, and the ideas grew out of their desire to see a more sustainable, renewable society. Hugely embraced by academia as well, a distinguished professor of architecture at Ball State University goes so far to say this film will affect how architecture is taught and practiced in the future, noting every design professional and student should see it.

Baltimore filmmaker Shelley Morhaim wanted to produce more than a review of environmental desolation and despair on the planet. She found little to celebrate until she ran across the name William McDonough, who some were calling a visionary and Time magazine called one of its "Heroes of the Planet." Morhaim spent the next year following Bill McDonough to see why he was causing such a stir. McDonough was doing what no one else had done, converting corporate America to his philosophy of creating designs and building materials that are both ecologically and economically sustainable and renewable.

The film chronicles McDonough as he builds a plant on the plains of the Midwest bringing natural light and sunshine into manufacturing areas;

recycling waste water and creating a "green corridor" filled with flourishing plant life within the building. What happened at the Herman Miller Furniture factory in Michigan surprised everyone except McDonough. Using nature as a template, McDonough created not only an eco-friendly complex, but one resulting in huge energy savings and a tripling of worker productivity.

Slowly, but surely, McDonough was convincing companies like Herman Miller, Ford and Nike they could be leaders in the birth of the sustainable economy, the front edge of the Next Industrial Revolution. It's all well and good to create bold, eco-friendly designs, but they rarely take flight if they're too expensive or impractical. McDonough was turning the tables by encouraging designers at health conscious Nike to remove carcinogens from its shoes while challenging them to rethink the process to produce a shoe that would nourish the earth without sacrificing profitability.

Shelley Morhaim believes seeing her film is just a first step for architects, designers, engineers and landscape architects, and hopes it leads to rethinking the entire design process. According to the filmmaker, Bill McDonough is doing what others are only thinking about doing and corporate giants like Ford, Nike and Herman Miller are working with him. Only history will prove whether Bill McDonough is the Father of the Next Industrial Revolution. See the film, you decide. For information on the film go to:

www.thenextindustrialrevolution.org or www.mcdonough.com.

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Land Surveyors Task Force

Last year, Dr. Charles Maloy, chairman of the Board for Professional Land Surveyors, appointed a committee and charged it with reviewing and recommending necessary changes to the Minimum Standards of Practice. Tom Orisich chaired the Standards Committee and was joined by board members Dick Witmer and Dan Lavelle. Three members of the Maryland Society of Surveyors played an integral role as well.

After more than a year of hard work, the committee presented recommendations at the May 5 board meeting. The board also explained the administrative process to take place after the board concludes its discussion of the suggested changes.

Once the board reviews and votes on all or some of the proposed modifications, the board will be ready to propose regulations reflecting such modifications. After the regulations are approved by DLLR's Secretary James D. Fielder, Jr., Ph.D., they will be sent to the Maryland Register in Annapolis for publication and reviewed by the Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive and Legislative Review, made up of members of the State Senate and House of Delegates. When that review is complete, the proposed regulations are forwarded to the Maryland Register for publication.

The law requires a minimum of thirty days for a comment period after the regulations are published. The comments can be made in writing, or the board may choose to hold one or more public hearings to receive comments on the regulations (some of the readers may remember that during the comment period related to the Continuing Professional Competency regulations, the board held four hearings in the different parts of the State in order to solicit comments from surveyors in various locations).

After receiving and considering the comments, the board may vote to approve them as final regulations no sooner than forty-five days after the initial publication. The notice of final approval must be published in the Maryland Register as well.

If the board decides to make substantive changes in the proposed regulations as a result of comments received, the regulations would have to be re-proposed and a new comment period would follow.

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Closing Session Update

The closing gavel fell midnight Monday, April 12, ending the 2004 Session of the Maryland General Assembly. No legislation passed affecting the licensing and regulation of design professionals pursuant to the individual licensing statutes governing architects, certified interior designers, landscape architects, professional engineers or professional land surveyors. Only one bill, SB56, directly affecting the design professions was enacted this year. This bill, sponsored by the State Department of Transportation, amended the state ethics law so that certain design related activities would no longer disqualify a person or a firm from participating in certain procurements under specified circumstances.

Several bills affecting design professionals were withdrawn, received unfavorable reports in their chamber of origin, or passed one chamber and received unfavorable reports in the other chamber. Among these were:

- HB 388 - Licensed Professional Engineers - Preparation of Construction Drawings Authority by Jurisdiction

- HB 406 - Western Maryland Code Counties - Licensed Professional Engineers
- HB 1324 - Real Property Residential Dwellings - Notice and Opportunity to Repair Construction Defects
- SB 176 - Occupational and Professional Licensing- Design Professions - Grounds for Disciplinary Actions
- SB 340 - Civil Actions - Claims Against Design Professionals
- SB 690 - Civil Actions - Limitation of Actions - Land Surveyors

Go to Maryland General Assembly's website www.mlis.state.md.us to access provisions of a bill, its legislative history, proposed amendments, votes taken and fiscal notes prepared by the staff.

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Books to Consider

According to Newsweek magazine, the must-have book for design professionals is the "Phaidon Atlas of Contemporary Architecture." Due in bookstores soon, it highlights 1,052 design projects built in the last five years, organized by geography.

Nominations for the unusual design projects were solicited around the world with the criteria being "buildings you'd go out of your way to visit." More than 4,000 possibilities poured in to the 150 experts elected to choose the best.

The projects chosen range from the Kuala Lumpur International Airport to a carpet-tiled outside of house in Alabama. The United States had the largest number of unusual design entries followed by Germany and Japan.

The book can't be considered "light" reading. According to Newsweek, it weighs a **hefty** 18 pounds with a **hefty** cost of \$160.00.

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Overlapping Practice Task Force



With representation from the five professions, the five regulatory boards, DLLR and local building officials, members of the Overlapping Practice Task Force, have been meeting on a regular basis since March.

The task force appointed by the five Design Board chairs has been charged with reviewing an array of cross-profession practice issues and development of a mechanism for future guidance when practice overlap issues arise. Tom Aylward, a licensed architect and member of the earlier architect-professional engineer overlap work group serves as the task force chair. Other members include:



Professional Land Surveyor Board member Dan Lavelle, (center) makes a point while Professional Engineers Board chair Mel Hotz and Certified Interior Designer Karen Zopf listen attentively.

Steve Parker - Architects Board

Carol Doering - Certified Interior Designers Board

Karen Zopf - Certified Interior Designer

Michael Fisher - Landscape Architects Board

Lydia Kimball - Licensed Landscape Architect

Eugene Harvey - Professional Engineers Board

Daniel Warner - Licensed Professional Engineer

Daniel Lavelle - Professional Land Surveyor Board

Vincent Burke - Professional Land Surveyor

Shariaar Amiri - Maryland Building Officials Association

Harry Loleas - DLLR-Occupational & Professional Licensing

The Task Force will report its recommendations to the Board Chairs in early summer.



(l to r) Professional Engineer Dan Werner; Architect task force chair Tom Aylward, Professional Land Surveyor Vince Burke and Architect Board chair Stephen Parker listen to the discussion at a recent task force meeting.

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Board Meetings and Exam Schedules

When The Boards Meet

Regular business meetings of the state design boards are scheduled at 500 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD. All meetings are open to the public. The Boards for Architects, Professional Engineers, and Professional Land Surveyors meet monthly. The Board for Certified Interior Designers meets every other month and the Board of Examiners of Landscape Architects meets quarterly.

The boards suggest that you check the DLLR [online calendar](#) or contact us at (410) 230-6322 to confirm date, location and time.

When To Sit For The Exams

As licensed professionals you likely work with, supervise and/or mentor young persons preparing to sit for examinations.

Once approved, Maryland candidates for the Architectural Registration Exam self-scheduled NCARB examinations at www.ncarb.org.

NCIDQ directly administers their Interior Design examination twice a year. Go to www.ncidq.org for more specific information. Once an interior designer has the education/experience required and passes the examination, they can apply for certification with the Maryland board.

DLLR administers the Professional Engineering, Professional Land Surveying and Landscape Architect exams twice a year. Go to <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/occprof/examsch.html#2004> for further information.

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