

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## University of Guelph's Master Plan and Implementation (1965) to Receive the CSLA Legacy Project Award

Ottawa – Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - Today, the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) announced that the University of Guelph's Master Plan and Implementation (1965) has won the CSLA Legacy Project Award (2017). The CSLA Legacy Project Award is intended to recognize distinguished landscape architecture projects which were forward-thinking for their time, contribute significantly to their communities, showed leadership and innovation, and are still relevant examples of excellence in the profession of landscape architecture. The Legacy Project Award honours projects which have left and continue to leave a lasting impact on Canada's landscape.

*"This is a gratifying award and wonderful recognition for the University of Guelph," said Kevin Golding, chair of the University's Board of Governors and chair of the Master Plan Steering Committee. "We take great pride in our University's heritage, beauty and environment, especially our public open spaces and natural gardens. In updating our Master Plan, we worked hard to preserve the character of our campus while also meeting current and future needs of students, faculty and staff."*

The University of Guelph's Master Plan and Implementation emphasized context, history, the natural environment, pedestrianization and creation of social spaces, construction innovation, sustainability and reinforced the University as an important place in the City of Guelph. Of the eight new universities started in the mid 1960s in Ontario, the University of Guelph remains singularly unique and significant. The fundamental reason for this is the core principle the designers gave to pedestrian primacy and the notion that a university should be an urban complex with streets, open spaces and buildings intertwined into a unified conception. The 1965 campus plan is now 51 years old and remains a vital document that will guide the university for many years to come.

The CSLA congratulates the Project Planning Associates Limited, the firm responsible for this project's development and execution, on receiving the Legacy Project Award for the University of Guelph's Master Plan and Implementation.



Demonstration gardens at the Bovey Building, 2000  
(photo by Rod MacDonald)

According to the jury:

*The concept of a pedestrian oriented environment is paramount in the success of the plan. A public plaza defined by interactive building edges created a social heart for the campus. The recognition of the initial campus plan as an arboretum where significant trees have been retained served as a catalyst in creating the campus as an urban arboretum.*

*Large trees define the walks and streets, construction and sustainability innovations were introduced from the beginning and the location of the steam heating system located beneath walkways and the detailing of the brick surfacing over asphalt addressed the Ontario winter conditions and the longevity of the brick surface. To this end, the campus has proven to be a living laboratory for students of the School of Landscape Architecture.*

Learn more about the University of Guelph's Campus Master Plan and Implementation at <http://www.csla-aapc.ca/awards/guelph>

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The Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) is a professional organization with over 1,900 landscape architects as members represented by provincial and territorial associations. In addition, the CSLA accredits several academic landscape architecture programs across the nation.

Landscape architects today are engaged in the design, planning and management of urban, rural and natural environments in all Canadian provinces and territories and in many countries worldwide. Canadian landscape architects are well-regarded for their vision, creativity, sensitivity and practicality in all aspects of professional practice, creating unique functional outdoor spaces for our citizens, as well as protecting and enhancing the environment. The CSLA is the organization which gives landscape architects a national voice.

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