ACCREDITED
LEARNING
ENVIRONMENTS
PLANNER

The Commission

- The Association for Learning Environments has designated the establishment of an independent commission to create, set policy for and govern the ALEP program.

- The ALEP designation is a professional accreditation program that is bestowed upon a person who has demonstrated the knowledge essential to the practice and art of educational facility planning.

- The ALEP Commission consists of a representative of each geographical region of The Association for Learning Environments and up to three subject matter experts that are designated by the Commission to serve.

  - **Robert Hendriks, Chair (Northeast)**
  - **Vincent Bok, Australasia**
  - **Greg Monberg, MWGL**
  - **Brian Carter, PNW**
  - **Len Wright, Southeast**
  - **Mark French, Southern**
  - **Julia Hawkinson, Southwest**

What We Do

- Uphold the standards of the ALEP

- Maintain Relevance of the ALEP

- Standardize the Path To ALEP

- Assess the Candidates

- Increase the Value of the ALEP

Commission Beliefs

ALEP

- Accreditation Should Be Valued & Desired, But **Not Exclusive**

- We Should Protect Its Real & Perceived Value, While Encouraging Greater Participation in the Program

Goals for ALEP Designation

- Creating An Inclusive Process, While Maintaining Highest of Standard

- Promote & Protect **Intrinsic** & **Perceived** Value

- Increase ALEP Membership Substantially
  - Only 196 Current ALEPs – 8 Testing This Week
  - Less than 5% of A4LE membership

- **Goal:** 10-20% of A4LE Membership

How Do You Become An ALEP?

1. Advanced Academy of Learning Spaces

   • 10-Month Program – 6 Courses

   • Must Achieve 80+ On All Courses

2. 200 Question Multiple Choice/True-False Test

   (Long History of Dissatisfaction With Test)

How Do You Become An ALEP?

- The Commission Realized that Any Discussion About How To Become An ALEP Had To Begin with This question:

WHAT CORE COMPETENCIES SHOULD ALL ALEPs POSSESS?

How Do You Become An ALEP?

The Organization & Commission needed a

TOUCHSTONE

To guide all future decisions related to ALEP:

1) The Process

2) The Preparation

3) The Maintenance

How Do You Become An ALEP?

The Essential Question:

What **Core Competencies** are required to be considered a qualified Learning Environment Planner?

The Core Competencies

1. Educational Visioning

2. Community Engagement

3. Pre-Design Planning

4. Design of Learning Environments

5. Assessment of Learning Environments

6. Professionalism/Ethics of the ALEP

Educational Visioning

- Exhibits an understanding of best and next practices related to educational leadership, programming, teaching, learning, planning and facility design.

- Establishes credibility with educators, community members and design professionals while conceiving and leading a community-based visioning process.

- Demonstrates the ability to articulate the impact of learning environments on teaching and learning and uses that ability to facilitate a dialogue that uncovers the unique needs and long-range goals of an educational institution and its stakeholders – translating that into an actionable written/graphic program of requirements for the design practitioner.

Community Engagement

- Leads the internal and external communities through a discovery process that articulates and communicates a community-based foundational vision, forming the basis of a plan for the design of the learning environment.

- The vision is achieved through a combination of rigorous research, group facilitation, strategic conversations, qualitative and quantitative surveys and workshops. Demonstrates the skill to resolve stakeholder issues while embedding a community's unique vision into the vision for its schools.

Pre-Design Planning

- Manages a planning process that utilizes educational planning, facilities assessment and utilization, demographic research, capital planning and educational specifications with a community-based vision to deliver a master plan for learning environments.

- Demonstrates the ability to translate existing or aspirational instructional models to specific programming and spatial relationships are paramount in this process.

Design of Learning Environments

Acts as a resource to the design team in providing ongoing guidance and support to ensure the emerging and ultimate design aligns with the established community vision, education goals, and future changes in programming.

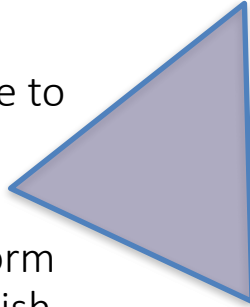## Assessment of the Learning Environment

- The ability to objectively evaluate learning environments post-occupancy and utilize that data to enhance existing and improve future projects.

- Implements a plan for educational commissioning that provides guidance on how to maximize the use of the learning environment to meet the foundational vision established in the planning phase.

Ethics/Professionalism

- Provides leadership and stewardship for the responsible investment of public and private funding into educational facilities – while being known as an advocate for the importance of the learning environment on a child's future.

- Leads and has a record of leading transparent processes that help communities find common ground in developing solutions to complex and sensitive issues.

- Advocates for long-term solutions that address the needs of all children and stakeholders, including underserved groups.

Purpose

- Develop, Administer & Shepherd A New Application Process
- Study A Possible Alternative to the higher ed requirement
- Development of New Advanced Courses and Inform Current Programs to Establish Greater Alignment
- Development of Content for LearningScapes to Establish Greater Alignment
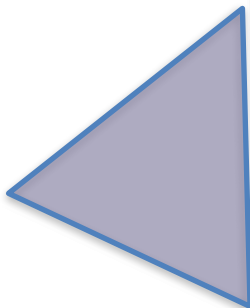
The Core Competencies

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How to Become an ALEP

The Application Process

- **Registration**
  - **Fee**
  - **Attest to Statement of Ethics**
  - **Higher Education Degree OR Advanced Academy Completion**
- **Professional Portfolio**
  - **Projects from the past 5 years**
  - **Description of candidates key roles and responsibility in project**
- **100-hours of Professional Development**
  - **Transcript/Listing of workshops, seminars, conferences, webinars, etc.**
  - **20 hours must be from A4LE sponsored events.**
- **3-Professional Letters of Recommendation**
  - **Letters from professional contacts who can attest to the candidate's ability to meet and/or exceed at least 2 of the core competencies.**
  - **Letter from an ALEP who knows the candidate and can attest to the candidate's ability to meet and/or exceed at least 2 of the core competencies.**
- **Interview**
  - **An interview will be conducted by 3-5 ALEP's who serve on the Commission.**

The New Process

- **Meet Minimum Qualifications**

- **Submit Application & Portfolio**

- **Meet With An Interview Panel At Regional Meeting Or International Association**

  - **The Rubric – The Core Competencies**

The Core Competencies

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