

MULTI-NATIONAL LICENSURE IN LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTURE: SEARCHING FOR  
ITS IMPACT ON THE  
PROFESSION

by

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ABSTRACT

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This thesis summarizes the knowledge base and understanding of key informants regarding multi-national licensure in landscape architecture, a topic made timely because of the increase in international practice by landscape architects, and differences in the profession's standards and regulations globally. It also examines the potential impacts of multi-national licensure on the profession.

To accomplish this, the thesis examines licensure practices in both landscape architecture and architecture (which is more familiar with issues of international practice,) and it focuses on implications of the issues on professional practice and academic practice in landscape architecture. This research is based on the hypothesis

that the standards and regulations needed to practice multi-national licensure in landscape architecture depend on common core competencies.

Including architects in this thesis exposes the research to issues related to international standards in architecture which have been well established by the International Union of Architects. Thus, architecture's experiences are seen as harbingers of what landscape architecture is likely to experience.

In this thesis, landscape architects and architects from selected countries, working in multi-national environments, are asked to share their perspectives on this topic. In addition, they are asked about the relevance of public health, safety and welfare as a basis for licensure in their own countries and abroad. In comparing data from the perspectives of key informants, aided with literature findings about various forms of licensing practices globally, summary impacts of multi-national licensure are extracted from key words and content analysis. Impacts on professional practice and academic practice are covered separately in the conclusion, elaborating the role of professional practice and academic practice in establishing multi-national licensure.

Three themes about key informants' reactions emerged from the analysis of interview data. In the first theme key informants reported that multi-national licensure was not needed; in the second theme key informants reported that multi-national licensure would be advantageous but impossible to establish; and in the third theme a majority of key informants reported that multi-national licensure would be advantageous and possible to establish. Respondents shared their concerns and issues in establishing multi-national licensure; their preferences for different models of

regulations in landscape architecture; and, relevance of health, safety and welfare of public in various parts of the world. Literature findings and interviews data confirmed that North America is most advanced in licensing the profession of landscape architecture.

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Introduction

The objective of this thesis is to examine the anticipated impact of multi-national licensure on landscape architecture and to describe possible forms of multi-national licensure. Since it is common for landscape architects to travel and work internationally, and since countries follow their own standards and regulations for the practice and education of landscape architecture, this thesis raises questions regarding international standards in both practice and higher education. This thesis also searches for the benefits derived from the “health, safety and welfare” aspects of practice (including academic practice), because landscape architecture has a significant impact on health, safety and welfare of the public (Schatz and Lafayette 2003, 6).

In this study, licensure practices in landscape architecture worldwide are examined from relevant literature because the profession is regulated in different ways, such as state licensure or licensure through membership in professional societies (Rogers 1996, 15). Qualitative in-depth interviewing, using open-ended questions, is used as the principle research method of this thesis, because qualitative techniques are effective in approaching the empirical world (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 7). Specifically, landscape architects and architects from selected countries are interviewed to determine their perspectives regarding multi-national licensure in landscape

architecture. In addition to landscape architects, architects are a part of this study because:

1. Landscape architects work with architects more than any other professional discipline (Rogers 1996, 160); hence architects are likely to have unique insights about this topic;
2. because the International Union of Architects has established international standards for the practice of architects, architecture's experience is seen as a forerunner of what landscape architecture is likely to experience; and because
3. landscape architecture regulations fall under the professional societies of architecture in some countries such as Thailand and Germany.

Landscape architecture is the primary profession dedicated to protecting and manipulating the natural environment with the health, safety and welfare of the public in mind. If landscape architecture is a valuable profession to the world, then the education, art and science behind it are critical. And, because landscape architecture deals with the art and science of the built environment in a way that no other profession does, it is important to examine the issue of international standards and multi-national licensure to better protect the environment and the public.

## 1.2 Research questions

The primary research questions that this thesis addresses are:

1. What are the potential impacts of multi-national licensure on landscape architecture?

2. What would be the preferred form of multi-national licensure in landscape architecture?
3. What are the perceived benefits of defining health, safety and welfare of the public as a legal under-pinning of multi-national licensure?

### 1.3 Overview of Study

As mentioned, the primary focus of this thesis is to determine the impact of multi-national licensure on landscape architecture. Chapter 2 reviews literature on the latest changes or attempts made towards forming international standards or licensure through professional organizations, and it looks into licensure practices globally involving landscape architecture and architecture. Research methods and research design are explained in Chapter 3 which includes brief introductions of the key informants who are architects and landscape architects from different parts of the world. Results from interviews and data analysis are contained in Chapter 4. Conclusions and directions for future research are explained in Chapter 5. Discussion of the impacts on academic practice and professional practice in landscape architecture is covered separately.

### 1.4 Definitions

**Accreditation:** Accreditation, in general, is a process of external quality review used to scrutinize colleges, universities and educational programs for quality assurance and quality improvement. In the United States, the Landscape Architectural

Accreditation Board (LAAB) evaluates each degree-granting program in landscape architecture on the basis of its stated objectives and its compliance to externally mandated minimum standards. Institutions and educational programs seek accredited status as a means of demonstrating their academic quality to students and the public (LAAB, NAAB, 2009). The Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) is a national advocate and institutional voice for self-regulation of academic quality through accreditation. It supervises accrediting bodies such as LAAB and NAAB.

Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA): AILA is the non-profit professional institute formed to serve the mutual interests of its members and the wider profession throughout Australia. It accredits landscape architecture programs and registers landscape architects in Australia (AILA, 2009).

American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA): ASLA is the national professional association representing landscape architects in the United States.

Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA): CELA is comprised of accredited and non-accredited educational programs in landscape architecture. Its membership is international with the heaviest concentration of members coming from North America. CELA advocates for landscape architecture programs, provides a forum for dialog about landscape architectural education, and fosters and disseminates landscape architectural scholarship (CELA, 2009).

Charity: A charity is a non-profit organization that operates for the public benefit independently of government or commercial interests.

Chartered: Chartered refers to a qualified and experienced professional in a particular field who resides or practices in a monarchy. It often refers to someone who is a member of a professional body or institution that has been granted a royal charter by the sovereign. A royal charter is a type of legal instrument granted by a sovereign to create institutions or other forms of incorporated bodies such as a city, company or university.

Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB): CLARB is a non-profit organization comprised of the licensure boards from the forty nine states in the United States, two Canadian provinces and the territory of Puerto Rico that regulate the profession of landscape architecture. CLARB supports licensure boards in protecting the health, safety and welfare of the public through the establishment of standards of competency and the preparation, administration and scoring of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.). Once a candidate is licensed, CLARB supports professional mobility by administering a service that records, independently verifies and evaluates, and transmits records of a licensed professional's education, experience, and examination results (CLARB, 2009).

Core Competency: Core competency is the fundamental knowledge, ability and expertise of a profession in a specific area. Core competencies for landscape architects are design, planning and management, values and ethics in practice, natural and cultural systems, site design and engineering, construction documentation, and administration and communication (Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge Study Report, 2004).



Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA): CSLA is the national professional association representing landscape architects in Canada. It is a unifying organization that develops and delivers relevant and high quality programs and services, while bringing together and representing at the national level, affiliate organizations, component associations, and professional schools across Canada.

Education Evaluation Services for Architects (EESA): EESA assists those individuals who wish to apply for NCARB certification or for registration by an NCARB member board and who do not have a professional degree in architecture from an NAAB-accredited program of study. EESA works with internationally educated applicants and with architects in NCARB's Broadly Experienced Architects (BEA) program. The BEA Program allows architects to demonstrate learning through experience as a registered architect to satisfy the education requirement defined by the NCARB Education Standard. The BEA Program is an alternative to completion of a professional architecture degree. NAAB administers the EESA process.

Globalization: Globalization is a process in which there is economical, social, educational, professional, cultural, and political collaboration, along with integration and interaction at international levels between people, companies and governments (Globalization 101, 2009).

International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA): IFLA represents the profession of landscape architecture globally, providing leadership and networks supporting the profession and its effective participation in the realization of attractive and sustainable environments (IFLA, 2009).

Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB): LAAB is a specialized accrediting agency that accredits educational programs leading to first professional degrees at the bachelor's or master's level (ASLA, 2009).

Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE): LARE tests applicants for the knowledge and skills required to practice those aspects of landscape architecture that impact the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Licensing: Licensing is a process by which a government agency grants permission to individuals to engage in a specified profession or occupation upon determining that the individual has attained the minimal degree of competency required to ensure that the public's health, safety and welfare will be reasonably well protected (CLARB, 2009).

Multi-national Licensure: Multi-national licensure is licensure relating to or involving more than two nations.

National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB): NAAB is the sole entity authorized to accredit professional degree programs in architecture in the United States.

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB): NCARB is the professional association of architectural registration boards from the various states in the United States. It is the counterpart in architecture to LAAB in landscape architecture.

Registration: Registration is a process by which a state or an association maintains a list of individuals who have informed the governing body that they perform professional services for the public in a particular field (Office of the Professions, New

York). The difference between licensure and registration is that upon satisfaction of the eligibility requirements, a "license" is awarded. Licensure is for life unless suspended, revoked or annulled for reasons of misconduct, whereas to practice the profession of landscape architecture, a licensee must be currently "registered" in or on the list of licensed practitioners. Registration is for a certain period of time, depending on the governing body (Office of the Professions, New York, 2009).

Substantial Equivalency: The term “substantial equivalency” identifies a program as comparable in educational outcomes in all significant aspects, and indicates that it provides an educational experience meeting acceptable standards, even though such program may differ in format or method of delivery (NAAB). For example, the educational requirement for registered landscape architects in Texas is completion of a professional degree from a landscape architectural education program accredited by the LAAB **or** from a landscape architectural education program outside the United States where an evaluation by LAAB or another organization acceptable to the Board has concluded that the program is substantially equivalent to a LAAB accredited professional program (Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, 2009).

### 1.5 Summary

The hypothesis that generated this research is that the standards and regulations needed to practice multi-national licensure depend on common core competencies. The impacts of multi-national licensure on landscape architecture are determined in this thesis. This thesis also describes possible forms of multi-national licensure in landscape

architecture, and it includes key definitions that help clarify the differences among terms used in the regulation of landscape architecture and architecture. Finally, the thesis searches for the relevance of public health, safety and welfare as a basis for licensure.

## CHAPTER 2

### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### 2.1 Introduction

The review of literature focuses on licensure in landscape architecture and architecture in different parts of the world. This focus includes international standards as well as registration. It covers a brief history of international practice and globalization in landscape architecture, including examples of international professional membership of landscape architects and architects. Issues in multi-national practice are also found in this chapter.

#### 2.2 Historical background

Travel and international work are historic components of design. In 1652 the Taj Mahal was built by the Persian architect, Ustad Isa; in 1665 Louis XIV invited Bernini to Paris to work on the Louvre; Le Corbusier designed structures in America, Europe and Asia; Louis Kahn's last buildings were in India and Bangladesh; and in the 1940s Walter Gropius, Marcel Breuer and Mies van der Rohe travelled to America where they helped redefine commercial architecture (McNeill, 2009, 1). With the new emerging economies, such travel has increased and professionals are more dependent on professional organizations around the world for solving issues of international practice, including licensure.

At the end of nineteenth century landscape architecture became recognized as a distinct profession when professional societies and accreditation programs were formed which developed academic and professional practice standards for landscape architecture in North America. Licensure practice has been most advanced and developed in North America as compared to the other parts of the world. In the United States, ASLA, LAAB, and CLARB came to define these standards. In Canada CSLA and the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Council defined Canadian standards. By the end of the twentieth century accreditation programs and professional societies also had been formed in most other industrial nations (Swaffield, 2002, 186).

### 2.3 Licensing in landscape architecture

The licensing of landscape architects helps protect the public health, safety and welfare of citizens who cannot reasonably be expected to know or recognize poor landscape architectural design work. Landscape architects are responsible for decisions that affect the conditions of vital infrastructure, rights-of-way and significant private and public site development (Schatz and Lafayette 2003, 6). If the work of landscape architects is improperly performed, there exists a threat of injury or death to users of the land, and grave economic damages to the landowners (CLARB, 2009).

CLARB describes how licensing the practice of landscape architecture helps to prevent risk to the public through design errors such as:

1. Inadequate design of roads, pedestrian walkways, and parking areas increasing the occurrence of accidents;

2. Specification of unsafe playground equipment or improper location of playground facilities resulting in injury;
3. Intersections and medians where plant or hard materials obscure visibility;
4. Improperly specified relationships between water supplies and water drainage facilities resulting in contamination of community water supply;
5. Inadequate calculation and provision for storm water drainage resulting in flooding and costly damage to buildings, and public facilities; and,
6. Improper manipulation of the land resulting in erosion and destruction of our natural resources (CLARB, 2009).

The licensure of landscape architects is necessary to put the profession on an equal footing with professionals already licensed to perform tasks traditionally performed by landscape architects (CLARB, 2009). However, licensing practice in landscape architecture varies globally and it could be categorized in two ways:

1. State licensure: Individuals wishing to practice landscape architecture must acquire a license to practice in each state or province in which they desire to practice (Rogers, 1996, 15).
2. Licensure or type of membership in the professional society: An individual is licensed and / or registered as a qualified professional to practice landscape architecture by a landscape architect professional society in the country where that individual resides.

### 2.3.1 Landscape architecture regulations in the Americas

In order to call oneself a landscape architect, and to practice landscape architecture, state licensure is required in the United States in all but one state and is required by two provinces in Canada. Licensing for landscape architects began in 1954 with passage of title laws in Louisiana and California. By 1961, five states had come to require landscape architecture licensing (Rogers, 1996, 15). Licensure is based on the successful completion of education, training, apprenticeship, and formal examination requirements. Thirty states require licensed landscape architects to complete continuing education in order to maintain a license (ASLA, 2009).

Licensed landscape architects are registered with CLARB, which is a non-profit, international association that includes the regulatory licensure boards of forty nine states in the United States, two Canadian provinces and the territory of Puerto Rico. CLARB and its members work to establish standards for education, experience and examination required for the professional licensure of landscape architecture (CLARB, 2009). According to ASLA approximately fifteen thousand landscape architects are licensed (ASLA, 2009).

There are two types of licensure laws in the United States:

1. Practice acts which require a license to practice landscape architecture; forty five states in the United States follow practice acts; and,
2. Title acts which allow anyone to practice landscape architecture, regardless of their qualifications, but which allow only those with a license to use the title “landscape



architect” or advertise for “landscape architectural” services; four states in the United States follow title acts (ASLA, 2009).

In Brazil, CONFEA/ CREA (the Regional Council of Engineering, Architecture and Agronomy) regulates the practice of landscape architecture, which is defined as part of the architect's role. In order to practice landscape architecture, architects, planners, engineers and agronomists have to be registered with the council. Landscape architecture is not a regulated profession in Brazil although the profession is becoming recognized which is a relatively new development (Eduardo, 2006).

### 2.3.2 Landscape architecture regulations in the Asia-Pacific region

In Australia, the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) is the peak professional body for landscape architects. AILA maintains the registration of landscape architects in Australia and that registration is recognized nationally throughout all Australian states and territories. To be registered, a member has to pass a two stage exam conducted by AILA. This exam may be taken after two years of professional practice and completion of a degree from an accredited academic program. At present no Australian state or local government (except South Australia) has in-place a legislated registration process for landscape architects. The AILA operates the self-regulatory national scheme for the registration of landscape architects (AILA, 2009).

In New Zealand, the New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects (NZILA) is the professional body of qualified landscape architecture practitioners. “A registered NZILA landscape architect is a fully professionally qualified member who has met the

Institute's annual requirements of a Continuing Professional Development program" (NZILA, 2009).

In India, the Indian Society of Landscape Architects (ISOLA) was established in May 2003 and since its founding ISOLA members have been trying to form regulations for landscape architecture (ISOLA). In May of 2009 the government of Sri Lanka decided to set up the Sri Lanka Institute of Landscape Architects to develop the profession in Sri Lanka to internationally accepted standards. The aim of the institute is also to promote, establish and maintain close relations with the profession worldwide, including the international exchange of knowledge, skills and experience in both educational and professional spheres (Land8 blog, 2009).

The Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects (HKILA) represents the profession of landscape architecture in Hong Kong. To be a registered landscape architect, a professional is required to be a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects. Professional members shall be landscape architects whose ability, attainments, aims and character are judged to be such as will promote the objects of the institute, and who have graduated from a landscape architectural curriculum approved by the registration committee and/or have obtained a similarly approved professional qualification. Professional members shall have the requisite years of post graduation experience as specified in the by-laws (HKILA). Landscape architects trained in Commonwealth countries qualify automatically for local license requirements while those who train elsewhere must undergo assessment by the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects (US Commercial Services, 2009).

In Indonesia landscape architecture does not have the status of a fully recognized profession or a fully approved industry. The Indonesian Society of Landscape Architects has persuaded the government to formulate, adopt, and implement a national landscape policy and a corresponding national landscape plan that will serve as the enduring basis for fostering the progressive growth and viability of the landscape industry (Amin, 2008).

In Thailand, the Council of Architects, a private organization, is responsible for the regulation and enforcement of four built environment related professions which includes architecture, interior architecture / decoration, urban design and landscape architecture. In a paper about landscape architecture practice and regulations in Thailand, Aruninta asked “Should we integrate landscape architecture is regulation body with architecture? Should we require licensure in order to practice or [...is there...] no need of regulation at this point?” (Aruninta, 2007).

In the Philippines to use the title “landscape architect” and to practice landscape architecture one must be licensed by the Professional Regulation Commission. The Board of Landscape Architecture conducts a thorough examination for licensure and also handles professional discipline procedures (Philippine Association of Landscape Architects).

### 2.3.3 Landscape architecture regulations in Europe

In the United Kingdom, the Landscape Institute is the organization that accredits the landscape architecture curriculum. It is an educational charity and a chartered body

responsible for protecting, conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment for the benefit of public. To qualify fully as a chartered landscape architect, one needs to hold a degree in landscape architecture and then continue learning while at work and be a member of the Landscape Institute (Landscape Institute).

Landscape architecture is a registered profession in nine of the forty seven member countries of the Council of Europe. Registrations are a part of architectural chambers or of the register of liberal professions. Following are the European countries and their registries for landscape architects:

Austria: Bundeskammer der Architekten und Ingenieurkonsulten (via regional chambers).

Czech Republic: Czech Chamber of Architects

Cyprus: The Scientific and Technical Chamber of Cyprus (ETEK)

Iceland: Ministries of Industry and Commerce.

Italy: Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti, e Conservatori

Germany: Bundesarchitektenkammer. State registration in Germany is by *Lander* (singular Land), which are the German federal states. Establishment of registers for landscape architects was initiated in Baden-Württemberg in December 1955.

Hungary: Magyar Építész Kamara

The Netherlands: Stichting Bureau Architekten

Slovakia: Slovenska Komora Architektov

Slovenia: Chamber of Architecture and Spatial Planning of Slovenia (ZAPS)

Turkey: *Peyzaj Mimarlari Odasi* (PMO) (Chamber of Landscape Architects) (Holden and Tricaud, 2008).

In France the title “landscape architect” is banned. Since the end of the 19th century landscape architects have operated under the title *architecte-paysagiste* (as in French speaking parts of Belgium, Switzerland and Canada) until the law of 1940 creating the “*Ordre des Architectes*” (Chamber of Architects) and the subsequent law of 1977 protecting the title of architect. Since then, landscape architects in France have had to use the title *paysagiste*, which means landscape. The Fédération Française du Paysage has fought against this and the President of European Foundation of Landscape Architect (EFLA), Fritz Auweck, wrote to President Sarkozy of France arguing that this restriction was counter to the European Union free market and indeed counter to the International Labour Office’s draft definition of landscape architect in its current revision of the Standard Classification of Occupations (2) and to IFLA’s agreement with the UIA of 2006. The EFLA President further said this was a matter which could be raised with the Court of Justice of the European Union (Holden and Tricaud, 2008).

In Spain, because of the traditionally influential roles of architects and engineers, landscape architecture has been more marginal. Architects and engineers are members of the *Colegio* which are professional chambers organized at regional and national levels and which have a very powerful role. As a consequence landscape architects may not operate under the title *arquitecto paisajista* (landscape architect), and so have to call themselves *paisajistas*, which means landscaper (Holden and Tricaud, 2008).

Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Spain, Switzerland and Serbia require full membership in the national landscape association in order to practice landscape architecture (EFLA, 2007). In Serbia some landscape architecture activities require a license. Landscape architects can acquire a license as an authorized spatial planner, authorized town planner for the direction of town plan formulation, authorized designer for green space management, and authorized contractor for management and landscaping of open and green spaces. Licensed members are referred to as “engineers of landscape architecture” and licenses are issued by the Engineers’ Chamber of Serbia and Montenegro (Serbian Association of Landscape Architects, 2009).

### 2.3.3 Landscape architecture regulations in Africa

In South Africa, professional registration with the South African Council for Landscape Architectural Professions (SACLAP, a statutory body), is mandatory. It involves passing the professional registration exam which tests core competencies after a two year post-graduate internship. The exam covers environmental legislation and contract law, as well as codes of conduct, ethical practice, and design. Depending on their eligibility, successful candidates are granted the right to the title Professional Landscape Architect (PrLArch) (Gibbs, 2008).

The Architectural Association of Kenya (AAK) is a building professional’s organization in Kenya. Membership is drawn from five major disciplines: architects; quantity surveyors; engineers; town planners; and landscape architects. Landscape architecture and its applications are relatively new concepts in Kenya. There is shortage

of landscape architects in Kenya and many projects that include professionally designed landscapes are limited to rich corporate and real estate development (Chege Eunice Nyawira, 2009).

Countries which have set-up national societies for the profession of landscape architecture were searched from the IFLA website, and information about regulations in landscape architecture in those countries was searched from their national societies. The number of countries found to have licensure, registration, chartership, and / or national societies, are as follows:

1. Two out of one hundred and ninety five countries have *licensure* in landscape architecture.
2. One out of one hundred and ninety five countries has *chartership* in landscape architecture.
3. Twenty seven out of one hundred and ninety five countries have *registration or regulations* or are in the process of forming regulations in landscape architecture.
4. Sixty eight out of one hundred and ninety five countries have *national societies* in landscape architecture.

**Table 2.1 Landscape architecture national societies and licensure**

Country	National Society	Registration body	State/ provincial licensure
The United States of America	ASLA, CELA	CLARB	Yes
Canada	CSLA	CLARB	Yes

**Table 2.2 Landscape architecture national societies and chartership**

Country	National Society	Chartered body	State/ registration
The United Kingdom	Landscape Institute	Landscape Institute	Yes

**Table 2.3 Landscape architecture national societies and registration bodies in the Americas**

Country	National Society	Registration body	State/ provincial registration
Argentina *	<i>Centro Argentino de Arquitectos Paisajistas</i> (Argentine Centre for Landscape Architects)	*	No
Bermuda	Bermuda Association of Landscape Architects	**	**
Plurinational State of Bolivia**	Sociedad de Arquitectos Paisajistas, Ecología y M	**	**
Brazil	Brazilian Association of Landscape architects	No registration	No
Chile	Instituto Chileno de Arquitectos del Paisaje	No registration	**
Columbia	Sociedad Colombiana de Arquitectos Paisajistas	No registration	**
Costa Rica *	Asociación Costarricense de Paisajismo	*	*
Mexico*	Sociedad de Arquitectos Paisajistas de México, A.C.	*	*
Peru**	Peruvian Association of Landscape Architects	**	**
Uruguay	Asociacion Uruguaya de Arquitectura de Paisaje	No registration	No
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	Sociedad Venezolana de Arquitectos Paisajistas	No registration	No

\* These countries did not provide information in English.

\*\* No information about regulations was found

# These country websites were not accessed due to concerns about transmitting viruses. (IFLA member associations, 2009).



**Table 2.4 Landscape architecture national societies and registration bodies in the Asia Pacific region**

Country	National Society	Registration body	State/ Provincial registration
Australia	AILA	AILA	No
China #	Chinese Society of Landscape Architecture	No registration	No
Hong Kong	HKILA	HKILA	No
Indonesia	Indonesia Society of Landscape Architects	No registration	No
India#	ISOLA	No registration	No
Iran #	Iranian Society of Landscape Professions	#	#
Israel*	Israeli Association of Landscape Architects	*	*
Japan *	Japanese Institute of Landscape Architects	No registration	*
Korea*	Korean Institute of Landscape Architecture	*	*
Malaysia *	Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia	*	*
New Zealand	NZILA	NZILA	No
Philippines	Philippines Association of Landscape Architects	Professional Regulation Commission	
Singapore	Singapore Institute of Landscape Architecture	No registration	No
Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Institute of Landscape architects	No registration	No
Taiwan Province of China *	Chinese Taiwan Landscape Architects Society	*	*
Thailand	Thai Association of Landscape Architects	Council of Architects	No

\* These countries did not provide information in English.

\*\* No information about regulations was found

# These country websites were not accessed due to concerns about transmitting viruses. (IFLA member associations, 2009).

**Table 2.5 Landscape architecture national societies and registration bodies in Europe**

Country	National Society	Registration body	State/ provincial registration
Austria	<i>Österreichische Gesellschaft für Landschafts-Architekten</i> (Austrian Society of Landscape Architects)	<i>Bundeskammer der Architekten und Ingenieurkonsulten</i> (Federal Chambers of Architects and Engineer consultants)	Yes
Belgium	<i>Association Belge des Architectes de Jardins et des Paysagistes. Belgische Vereniging van Tuin- en Landschapsarchitecten</i>	**	No
Bosnia and Herzegovina	UITH-Udruenje injinjera i tehniara horticulture	**	**
Croatia	Croatian Association of Landscape Architects HDKA	**	**
Cyprus		The Scientific and Technical Chamber of Cyprus (ETEK)	**
Czech Republic	Czech Landscape Architects at the Landscape and Garden Society CZLA	Czech Chamber of Architects	**
Denmark	<i>Danske Landskabsarkitekter DL</i> (Danish Association of Landscape Architects)		No
Estonia	Estonian Landscape Architects Union ELAU	**	**
Finland	Suomen maisema-arkkitehtiliitto - Finlands Landskapsarkitektförbundet r.y MARK		No
France	Fédération Française du Paysage FFP	No registration	No
Germany	<i>Bund Deutscher Landschafts-Architekten</i> (Federation of German Landscape Architects)	Bundesarchitektenkammer (Federal Chamber of Architects)	Yes

**Table 2.5- continued**

Greece	Panhellenic Association of Landscape Architects		No
Hungary	Hungarian Association of Landscape Architects HALA	Magyar Építész Kamara	**
Iceland	<i>Félag Islenskra Landslagsarkitekta</i> (Association of Icelandic Landscape Architects)	Ministries of Industry and Commerce	Yes
Ireland	The Irish Landscape Institute		No
Italy	Associazione Italiana di Architettura del Paesaggio	Consiglio Nazionale degli Architetti, Pianificatori, Paesaggisti, e Conservatori	Yes
Latvia*	<i>Latvijas Ainavu arhitektūras biedrība</i> (The Latvian Society of Landscape Architects LSLA)	*	*
Lithuania*	Lithuanian Association of Landscape Architects LALA	*	*
Luxembourg	Association <i>Luxembourgeoise des Architectes Paysagistes</i> ALAP	<i>Ministère des Classes Moyennes pour les professions libérales</i> (Ministry of Middle Classes for professionals)	Yes
The Netherlands	<i>Nederlandse Vereniging voor Tuin en Landschapsarchitectuur</i> (Netherlands Association for Landscape Architecture)	Stichting Bureau Architecten (Foundation Office Architects)	Yes
Norway	Norske Landskaparkitekters Forening NLF		No
Poland	Stowarzyszenie Architectów Polskich SARP	**	**
Portugal	Associação Portuguesa dos Arquitetos Paisagistas		No
Romania	Asociația Peisagistilor din România ASOP	**	**

**Table 2.5- continued**

Russian Federation	The Association of Landscape Architects of the Community of Independent States ALACIS	**	**
Serbia and Montenegro	Association of Landscape Architects Serbia and Montenegro ALA	Engineers' Chamber of Serbia and Montenegro	No
Slovakia	Slovak Association of Landscape Architects SAS	Slovenska Komora Architektov	No
Slovenia	Društvo krajinskih arhitektov Slovenija DKAS (Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects)	Chamber of Architecture and Spatial Planning of Slovenia (ZAPS)	No
Spain	<i>Asociación Española de Paisajistas AEP</i> (Spanish Association of Landscape Architects)	No registration	No
Sweden	<i>Sveriges Arkitekter (vi)</i> Swedish Association of Architects		No
Switzerland	Bund Schweizer Landschafts-Architekten		No
Turkey#	Chamber of Landscape Architects of the Turkish Chamber of Architects and Engineers TMMOB	<i>Peyzaj Mimarları Odası</i> (PMO) (Chamber of Landscape Architects)	#
Ukraine	ALACIS, National Ukrainian Guild of Landscape Architects	**	**

\* These countries did not provide information in English.

\*\* No information about regulations was found

# These country websites were not accessed due to concerns about transmitting viruses. (IFLA member associations, Holden and Tricaud, 2008).

**Table 2.6 Landscape architecture national societies and registration bodies in Africa**

Country	National Society	Registration body	State/ provincial registration
South Africa	Institute of Landscape Architects of South Africa	South African Council for Landscape Architectural Profession	No
Kenya	Landscape Architects Chapter Architectural Association	No registration	No
Malawi	Malawi Institute of Landscape Architecture	No registration	No
Nigeria	Nigeria Society of Landscape Architects	No registration	No

(IFLA member associations, 2009).

#### 2.4 Licensing in architecture

In 1897, Illinois became the first state to establish laws regulating the practice of architecture. Illinois was followed by California and New Jersey. During an AIA convention in May 1919, fifteen architects from thirteen states came together to form the National Council of Architectural Registration Board (NCARB). NCARB later created the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) and the exam has since been adopted for use by all fifty four US member boards, as well as the Canadian provincial architectural associations. It is the registration examination required of all candidates for architectural registration. The NCARB is committed to protecting the health, safety and welfare of public through effective regulation and by insisting on exemplary service (NCARB, 2009).

Licensing regulations for architecture differ internationally. A course paper from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University divided the practice of architecture in other nations into four major categories:

1. No registration: Some countries such as Sweden, Denmark and Norway have no registration requirements. Instead there may be building codes and incorporation laws and informal protectionism administered by the local architecture professional organizations.
2. Title act: In Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom only registrants can use the title “architect”.
3. Licensure for international practitioners: There are countries which issue licenses to qualified foreign architects for single isolated projects, such as Germany, France, India, Italy and Japan. But each of these countries imposes its own criteria for licensure. The foreign architect who can qualify may practice in these countries without residency, citizenship or establishment in that country.
4. Local partners: Countries like Austria, Bermuda, Brazil, China, Egypt, Israel and Saudi Arabia that permit architects to practice only if they are in joint venture with or in subcontract with a local architect or engineer (Wickersham, 2006).

### 2.5 Attempts made for international standardization

Architecture and landscape architecture professional organizations which have attempted to define issues in international practice and have found need to form international practice and educational standards were searched from relevant literature.

Following are architecture and landscape architecture professional organizations that have made an attempt to address issues in international practice of architecture and landscape architecture.

#### 2.5.1 International Union of Architects

The International Union of Architects represents the profession of architecture globally. The professional practice commission of the International Union of Architects has developed the “UIA Accord on Recommended International Standards of Professionalism in Architectural Practice” (UIA). Due to the increasing globalization in the profession of architecture, the UIA found it necessary to establish global standards in the profession.

The UIA accord recommends standards on:

1. Accreditation / validation / recognition
2. Practical experience / training / internship
3. Demonstration of professional knowledge and ability
4. Registration / licensing / certification of the practice of architecture
5. Procurement: qualification based selection
6. Ethics and conduct
7. Continuing professional development
8. Scope of practice
9. Form of practice
10. Practice in a host nation
11. Intellectual property and copyright

12. Role of professional bodies

13. Building project delivery systems

The accord and guidelines intend to provide practical guidance for governments, negotiating entities, or other entities entering mutual recognition negotiations on architectural services. UIA encourages bilateral and multilateral Mutual Recognition Agreements in order to facilitate architects to practice in jurisdictions different from the one in which they are originally registered, licensed or certified:

**“Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRA)** are bilateral or multilateral agreements between jurisdictions to establish mechanisms of equivalency that recognize architects from any of the jurisdictions involved as similar professionals to those in any of the other jurisdictions” (UIA Accord, 2009).

#### 2.5.2 International Federation of Landscape Architects

IFLA was founded in 1948. It represents the profession of landscape architecture globally, providing leadership and networks supporting the development of the profession and its effective participation in the realization of attractive and sustainable environments (IFLA). IFLA has published an international guidebook on education and internships. It lists programs along with its details from the countries that are part of the IFLA. It mentions the schools’ accreditation with CELA, ECLAS, and whether or not it is government or nationally sanctioned (IFLA Guide, 2004). In interviews and conferences there have been short discussions about setting-up international standards and licensure in landscape architecture (IFLA Newsletter, 2007). Martha Fajardo, past president of IFLA, has developed a Cartagena landscape charter in Columbia as a step towards a global landscape charter. “The global landscape charter is a set of landscape



principles and actions for [those] landscape architects that provide a framework for commitment to the landscape in any place through design, stewardship, leadership and collaboration” (Fajardo, 2008).

IFLA together with UNESCO formed a Charter for Landscape Architectural Education in 2005. The Charter supports the advancement of professional education worldwide. It sets out principles, objectives and criteria for professional educational programs in landscape architecture. And, IFLA has developed a Guidance Document for Recognition or Accreditation of certain professional educational programs in landscape architecture. IFLA has developed this guidance document to provide information and guidance for two broad purposes:

1. To provide guidance for countries and regions which are developing or already have formal systems for accreditation or recognition. These systems exist in North America, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, and many other parts of the world. It is desirable for regions or countries to have systems for professional program accreditation that are specific to the needs and educational approaches for that area, but with increasing international movement and global activity of the profession, it is also helpful if accreditation systems and the programs they recognize have some common features and comparable standards worldwide. This document provides guidance on the generic features regarded as important by IFLA; and
2. To provide a framework for countries and regions which do not have a system for accreditation or recognition. This situation may arise due to the historic lack of programs in landscape architecture, limited resources, or the lack of expertise to

establish a fully autonomous system. This guide is intended to provide a basis for the formulation of future systems.

### 2.5.3 Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture

CELA is composed of virtually all of the programs of landscape architecture in the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. There are also individual or organizational members of CELA from Belgium, Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR China, South Korea, Switzerland, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Faculty members from these institutions and countries are invited to participate in the Council. CELA and ECLAS (European Council of Landscape Architecture Schools) are major international landscape architecture education organizations. The first overseas CELA conference was held in 2004 at Lincoln University, Christchurch, New Zealand, although other conferences had been held in Canada. The conference theme was “Here and there? Interconnections between the global and the local”. It referred to a fundamental challenge in landscape architecture as to how theory, education and practice could respect and contribute to the identity and well-being of local communities, cultures and ecologies in face of a range of global influences such as economics, technological and biological (Lincoln University).

“Everyone knows that education is a critical part of the licensure process,  
but licensure is also a critical part of education”.  
Karen Hanna, CELA past president (ASLA, 2009).

### 2.5.6 The National Architectural Accreditation Board

Due to increasing globalization in architecture, architects practicing internationally and architectural professional organizations from other countries, seek

help and advice from NAAB to form educational standards for programs in their countries. NAAB offers the following services in addition to its core mission:

1. Architectural programs (outside the US and Canada) that can meet NAAB's conditions for accreditation are eligible for full accreditation;
2. Architectural programs (outside the US and Canada) who cannot meet the NAAB conditions (largely because they are not regionally accredited as required by condition eleven) are eligible to be evaluated for substantial equivalency. The NAAB occasionally evaluates programs outside the United States, ineligible for NAAB accreditation, to determine if they are "substantially equivalent" to NAAB-accredited programs;
3. The NAAB can provide advice and consultation to organizations in other countries which are developing accreditation standards and procedures;
4. EESA-NCARB provides assistance to individuals who do not have a professional degree in architecture from an NAAB-accredited school of architecture and who wish to either apply for NCARB certification or for registration by an NCARB member board. EESA-NCARB works both with internationally educated architects and applicants for the NCARB Broadly Experienced Architect process; and
5. The NAAB is one of the seven accreditation / validation agencies in architectural education that has signed the Canberra Accord; signing it is intended to facilitate the portability of educational credentials between the countries whose accreditation / validation agencies signed the Accord (NAAB, 2009).

#### 2.5.4 Ontario Association of Landscape Architects

The Ontario Association of Landscape Architects (OALA) is the self-regulating professional organization representing landscape architects in Ontario. The OALA is a component organization of the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects. The association administers The Ontario Association of Landscape Architects Act of 1984 which includes responsibility for regulating professional standards, accreditation for the profession, maintaining and improving the examining process, and approving educational and professional development standards.

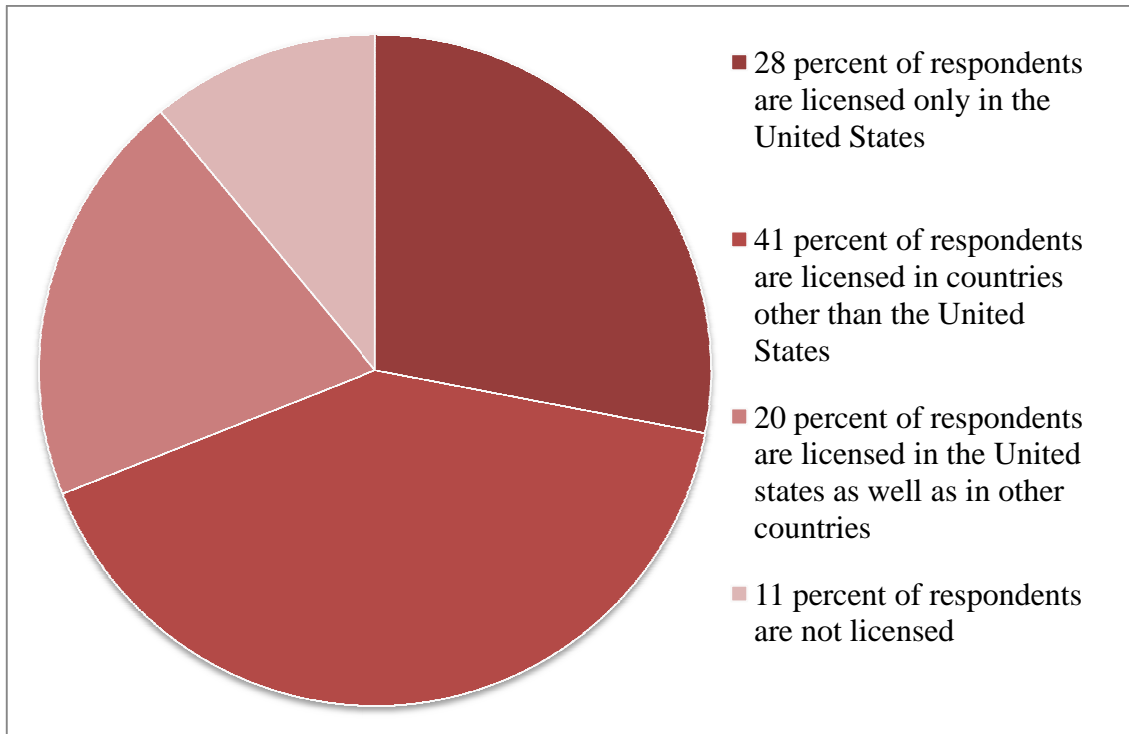
To explore some of the social, environmental and design issues that arise in the current surge of Canadian landscape architects working in countries other than Canada, a round table discussion was hosted by Ground magazine on March 26, 2008. A panel of experienced designers, theorists, planners, and educators who have worked internationally discussed on how landscape architecture is practiced by OALA members around the world (Stuart and Lee, 2006).

Issues that occurred in the discussion were sustainability, culture, environmental regulations, contracts and international education. Landscape architects use North American, European or world standards in countries where environmental regulations are still being developed. Universities in the United States and Canada have experienced increases in international enrollment and students appear to want to work internationally. Dr. Taylor, emeritus professor of landscape architecture at the University of Guelph, mentioned in this conference that his colleagues are working were international standards in education, predominantly directed towards developing

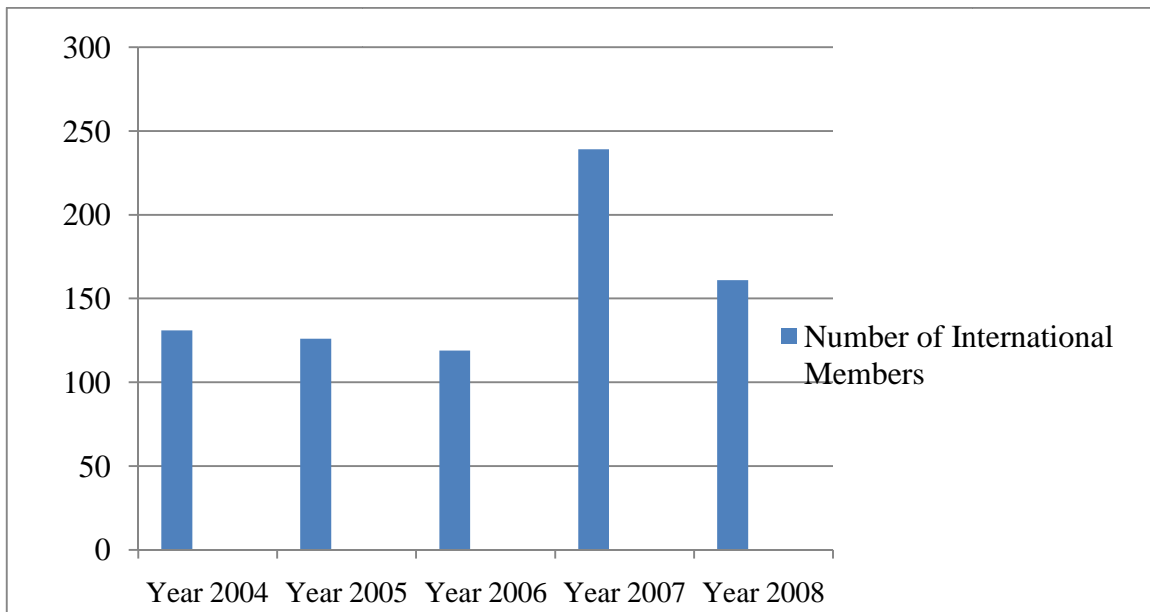
countries. It was also mentioned in the discussion at the conference that as a way to work in other countries landscape architects have tried working through local firms, and they find difficulty in it because design in foreign offices get changed at will. Establishing their own offices abroad has been one way to control design and coordination. By doing so, companies are also well received once clients see that they have started an international office (Stuart and Lee, 2006).

## 2.6 Membership in international organizations

Landscape architects and architects can maintain membership and / or licensure in professional organizations in countries other than their own. AIA's overseas member survey shows that eleven percent of the total respondents who live outside the United States say that they were maintaining their AIA membership because it facilitates the completion of requirements for continuing education imposed by the licensing board. Forty five percent of respondents who are part of that survey are regular AIA members and thirty three point three percent are international associate members. The survey also shows that sixty three percent of the total respondents are not citizens of the United States and eight percent hold dual citizenship with the United States. In the list of interviewees set-up for this research, twenty eight percent are licensed only in the United States. Forty one percent of respondents are licensed in countries outside the United States and twenty percent respondents are licensed in the United States as well as in other countries (AIA, 2009).



**Figure 2.1 AIA licensed membership**



**Figure 2.2 ASLA international membership**

International membership in ASLA has increased by 27.7% from 2005 to 2008. Beginning with eleven original members, ASLA has grown to approximately seventeen thousand members and forty eight chapters, representing all fifty states, US territories, and sixty eight countries around the world (ASLA, 2009).

## 2.7 Issues in multi-national practice

From the review of literature the following summary situations were found in the international practice of landscape architects and architects, and which could be considered in forming international standards and multi-national licensure in landscape architecture:

1. Approximately forty one percent of the world's countries use English as their official language while 59% of the world's countries use other languages. At times bilingual construction documents have to be prepared for locals to understand if the language traditions of that country do not contain English (Boswell, 2007). In such situations it would raise the importance of having a dominant professional language to expedite fluency in discussions and to have uniform access to information in the international practice and education of landscape architecture (Licka and Roehr, 2008, 320).
2. Water management is a global issue and waterfront areas should be preserved in a more sustainable form (Licka and Roehr, 2008, 320).

3. Ecology is an important component of landscape architecture and more research on sustainability, biodiversity, management, and maintenance is needed (Licka and Roehr, 2008, 320).
4. Every place has vernacular design history and local identity that should be retained in designs to maintain diversity and solutions that have been locally proven and successful over time (Licka and Roehr, 2008, 320).
5. In the round table discussion that was hosted by Ground magazine it was discussed that cultural differences between countries should be taken into consideration in making design decisions (Stuart and Lee, 2006).
6. There are issues of project contracts in different countries (Stuart and Lee, 2006).
7. Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, an architectural and engineering firm with extensive multi-national practice, found that in preparing construction documents the level of drawings and details differs in all the countries. Construction documents have to define materials and assemblies, and they have to define the installation methods that a local workforce can perform which at times has little or no formal training (Boswell, 2007).
8. Finding local materials, manufacturing capabilities and fabricators is challenging (Boswell, 2007).
9. Equivalencies of licensure and standards of education vary from country-to-country. Mutual Recognition Agreements have not been promoted by organizations because there have been difficulties in establishing equivalencies in licensure (Mitchell, 2008).



## 2.8 Summary

Regulating the profession of landscape architecture is important because the health, safety and welfare of the public are affected by the work of landscape architects (CLARB, 2009). Landscape architecture is a recognized and regulated profession in countries in America, Asia-pacific, Europe and Africa; yet countries in these regions follow different forms of licensure, registration and chartership.

There are issues and challenges in the international practice of architects and landscape architects and these professionals are dependent on professional organizations around the world for finding directions regarding licensing and legal issues. Issues in the multi-national practice of landscape architecture and architecture are addressed from relevant literature. National and international societies of landscape architecture and architecture that have either formed international standards or have discussed the need of forming international standards and licensure are reported-on in the review of literature.

## CHAPTER 3

### RESEARCH METHODS

#### 3.1 Introduction

In the search for the impact of multi-national licensure on landscape architecture, qualitative in-depth interviewing was used as the principle research method, because qualitative techniques were found to be effective in approaching the empirical world (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 7). This means that the results in this thesis were derived from the experiences of key informants who were landscape architects and architects from various countries. Key informants' perspectives about multi-national licensure in the practice of landscape architecture emerged from in-depth interviewing. Interview questions were open-ended with follow-up questions. A brief introduction to the key informants is included in this chapter.

#### 3.2 Research design

Qualitative, in-depth interviewing using open-ended questions is the approach of this research, because qualitative interviewing is flexible and dynamic and referred to as non-directive, unstructured, nonstandardized and open-ended interviewing (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 88). Through in-depth interviewing, a researcher can see things from the informant's point of view because in-depth interviewing is directed towards

understanding informants perspectives regarding their positions, experience or situations expressed in their own words (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 88).

All key informants were asked the same set of open-ended questions (see page 44). Open-ended questions have the virtue of allowing subjects to tell the interviewer what is relevant and what is important rather than being restricted by the researcher's preconceived notions about what is relevant or important (Berry, 2002). Questions were asked in the sequence they were written. Interviews with key informants were recorded with a digital voice recorder to capture more than what the researcher could rely-on from memory (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 112). Recordings were transcribed to form the raw data from which result ultimately emerged.

### 3.2.1 Key Informants

Key informants are individuals with first-hand knowledge of a topic, often acting as a researcher's primary source of information for a research topic (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 54). Key informants are sometimes referred to as 'elites'. They are considered to be well-informed, influential and prominent members of a community or organization, and they are chosen as data sources on the basis of their expertise in areas relevant to a particular topic (Marshall and Rossman, 2006, 105). Elites contribute insight and meaning to the interview process because they are intelligent and quick thinking people, at home in the realm of ideas, policies, and generalizations (Marshall and Rossman, 2006, 106). Elites respond well to inquiries about broad areas of content and to open-ended questions that allow them the freedom to use their knowledge and imagination (Marshall and Rossman, 2006, 106).

This research began with a general idea about the number of key informants that might be needed to address the topic (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 92). After completing interviews with several key informants, when a broad range of perspectives had been uncovered and the researcher had reached a point when interviews with additional people yielded no genuinely new insights, the decision was made to limit the interviews (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 93).

Key informants were contacted via electronic mailings which included an introduction to the thesis and a request to participate in the research. Interviews were conducted over the phone with key informants who were not from the Dallas / Fort Worth area; and face-to-face if they were from the Dallas / Fort Worth area. Key informants were guaranteed a choice of anonymity to participate in the interview process.

The purpose of the interviews was:

1. To determine the relevance of public health, safety and welfare in the countries where key informants reside and practice, and how they relate it with multi-national practice;
2. To determine whether respondents thought there was a need for multi-national licensure;
3. To determine key informants' perspectives regarding the potential impact of multi-national licensure on the professional and educational practice of landscape architecture; and

4. To understand the preferences which professionals want multi-national licensure to take and what part of the world they thought should lead in modeling multi-national licensure.

#### *3.2.1.1 Criteria for determining key informants*

Criteria for determining key informants included the following requirements:

1. Key informants had to have international experience in architecture and / or landscape architecture.
2. Key informants had to be architects and landscape architects. Other than landscape architects, only architects were to be interviewed because architects closely work typically with landscape architects (Rogers 1996, 160). Also since UIA had already formed international standards for international practice in architecture it was helpful to find issues related to it from the architects.
3. Key informants had to be registered and/ or non-registered landscape architects. Interviewing both would give different perspectives on the values and needs of multi-national licensure.
4. Key informants had to be either from the United States and / or international. Architects and landscape architects from the United States and from other countries would have differing views on who would lead the models of licensure and what form these models would take.

Key informants were selected from the following groups:

1. Members of the International Federation of Landscape Architects.

2. Members of the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture.
3. Architects and landscape architects who have been working in a multi-national. A preliminary study was conducted from company websites to determine how many international projects those architects and landscape architects had worked-on.

### 3.3 Brief background of key informants

1. Tary Arterburn is a founding principal of Mesa Design Group and has directed the firm for twenty five years. Mesa Design has projects in thirty five states in the United States and nine other countries. It has offices in Dallas, Madrid and Dubai.
2. John Mark Thompson is project manager at Talley Associates, Inc. a landscape architecture company in Dallas, Texas. He has been working on international projects for six years.
3. David Gibbs is President of the Institute of Landscape Architects of South Africa (ILASA) and a delegate of ILASA to IFLA. He also serves as a education portfolio chair of the South African Council for the Landscape Architectural Professional (SACLAP) and teaches in a part-time capacity at the University of Cape Town in the master of landscape architecture, master of city planning and urban design programs. He also has a landscape architecture practice in South Africa.
4. Diane Menzies from New Zealand is president of the International Federation of Landscape architects and has been a commissioner for the Environment Court of New Zealand for past last 7 years. She has worked in landscape design, planning and landscape management as well as law for 30 years.

5. Philip Neeley, ASLA, is a senior landscape architect in the Urban Design and Planning Group of JACOBS Consultancy in Dallas, Texas. He has twenty five years of experience in a wide range of park and recreational planning and design. Mr. Neeley began his career in 1983 after receiving his Bachelors of Science degree in Architecture and a Masters of Landscape Architecture degree in 1986 from The University of Texas at Arlington. He is active in numerous organizations including the American Society of Landscape Architects, the National Recreation and Park Association, and the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy.
6. Jeff Stouffer is vice president at HKS, Inc, Dallas, Texas. HKS has offices in the United States, the United Kingdom, Mexico and India.
7. James Taylor is Professor Emeritus of Landscape Architecture, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, at the University of Guelph. Prior to joining the University, Dr. Taylor was in private practice in western Canada for nearly twenty years. He has received a number of design and planning awards and he is a delegate to CSLA and to IFLA.
8. Dennis Law is professor and former dean of the College of Architecture, Planning and Design at Kansas State University. He has been an international speaker on global environment issues with more than seventy five papers presented. He is a partner in DLC, a landscape architecture firm in Manhattan, Kansas and Shanghai, China.
9. Respondent 9 has teaching experience in New Zealand and the United States.

10. Andreja Tutundzic is Vice President of Education of the European Foundation of Landscape Architecture. He teaches at the University of Belgrade in the department of landscape architecture and horticulture, Serbia.
11. Respondent 11 is a chartered landscape architect who owns a landscape consultancy in the United Kingdom. He is past president of the Landscape Institute.
12. Mark Fuller is past president of AILA. He is a registered landscape architect and qualified architect, and has extensive experience in Australia, the United Kingdom and Asia. He is a principal of design at AECOM in Brisbane, Australia, which provides services like architecture, building engineering and design plus planning.
13. Respondent 13 is an architect working with a multi-national firm in New York, New York.

### 3.4 Interview questions

Key informants were given a brief introduction to the topic at the beginning of each interview. (Refer to appendix B for interview script.) Following were the primary open-ended questions given to each key informant:

1. What would multi-national licensure “look” like?
2. What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on the education of landscape architects?
3. What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on the practice of landscape architecture?



4. Would multi-national licensure be dependent on the “health, safety and welfare” of the public as licensure is in the United States?

Requests to clarify these questions were expected. Therefore, these follow-up questions were asked to provide clarification and also to capture more data:

Follow-up questions for question number 1 were:

- 1a. Would multi-national licensure be similar to state licensure or licensure through membership in professional organization?
- 1b. What will be the process of forming multi-national licensure?

Follow-up question for question number 2 was:

- 2a. How will multi-national licensure affect the curriculum and the accreditation process of landscape architecture programs?

Follow-up question for question number 3 was:

- 3a. How do you handle legal issues in different countries?

Follow-up questions for question number 4 were:

- 4a. How is health, safety and welfare defined in other countries where you travel?
- 4b. What other factors could be included in multi-national licensure besides health, safety and welfare of public?

### 3.5 Summary

Qualitative in-depth interviewing using open-ended questions yields rich data which, for this study, provided firsthand knowledge of key informants’ experiences and perspectives about international practice and multi-national licensure in landscape

architecture. In total thirteen architects and landscape architects were interviewed with the same set of open-ended questions with follow-up questions added for detail and specific descriptions of respondents' experiences and perspectives (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 106).

## CHAPTER 4

### RESULTS FROM INTERVIEWS AND DATA ANALYSIS

#### 4.1 Introduction

Thirteen key informants from different countries were interviewed as part of the qualitative research methods used for this thesis. The primary goal of the interview was to capture the knowledge base and understanding of key informants regarding multi-national licensure and to examine their views on the impact of multi-national licensure on the academic practice and professional practice of landscape architecture. Interview questions were also aimed at understanding expert opinions regarding possible forms of multi-national licensure and the relevance of public health, safety and welfare as a legal under-pinning of multi-national licensure. The questions were open-ended and included follow-up questions to encourage key informants to provide detail and clarification (Taylor and Bogdan, 1998, 106).

Out of thirteen key informants, eleven landscape architects and two architects were interviewed comprising both practitioners and educators in the United States, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Serbia and Australia. Nine interviews with key informants who were located outside the Dallas / Fort Worth area were conducted over the phone and four interviews were conducted face-to-face. Out of thirteen key informants seven key informants were practicing architects and landscape

architects, four key informants were educators and two were both practitioners and educators (see table 4.1). Interviews were concluded after thirteen sessions because enough redundancy in data had been noted indicating little likelihood of new insights and perspectives. A choice of anonymity was given to key informants and the three respondents who chose to stay anonymous were referred as Respondent 9, Respondent 11 and Respondent 13, in the order they were interviewed.

**Table 4.1 Key informants**

<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>Practitioners</b>	<b>Educators</b>	<b>Practitioners and Educators</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
The United States	5	1		6
South Africa			1	1
Canada		1		1
New Zealand		1	1	2
Serbia		1		1
The United Kingdom	1			1
Australia	1			1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>13</b>

#### 4.2 Reactions about multi-national licensure

Key informants agreed that this research topic is new and uninvestigated, although their reactions about establishing multi-national licensure were contrasting. For example, Diane Menzies, president of IFLA, said “there is nothing developed with the International Federation of Landscape Architects [on this topic]”. However, key informants demonstrated that research could be done regarding whether and how

international standards and multi-national licensure could be established. Three major themes about respondents' reactions emerged from the analysis of data:

Theme 1. Multi-national licensure is not needed;

Theme 2. Multi-national licensure will be advantageous but impossible to establish; and

Theme 3. Multi-national licensure will be advantageous and possible to establish.

Following is data analysis bearing on these themes:

#### 4.3 Theme 1. Multi-national licensure is not needed

Three key informants believed that multi-national licensure was not needed. One interviewee, for example, noted that it is not necessary to have multi-national licensure because his firm had local partners in the countries where it works and those local partners handle the firm's legal issues. Mark Fuller, past president of AILA, added that multi-national licensing could increase the bureaucracy associated with international practice and that professionals would have to try to seek licensing "and they [would] never...get that approved by the government...which could be seen as more restrictive international practice."

Respondent 13, who chose anonymity, also added that the organizations that handle licensure "are notoriously slow and very difficult to deal with." These key informants are of the opinions that the process of licensure slows down projects due to the bureaucracy involved, and many argue that this could restraint international trade. Although they disagreed on the value of licensure, on trade, others believed that it was necessary to protect the health, safety and welfare of public despite the restraint on trade.

#### 4.4 Theme 2. Multi-national licensure will be advantageous but impossible to establish

Few key informants thought that multi-national licensure would be advantageous. They also stated that it would be impossible to implement a common licensure or registration system because of the diversity in the licensure or registration models of landscape architecture globally, as every nation has its own special needs, requirements, issues and barriers in the regulations. For instance, Menzies said “In Thailand, landscape architects don’t have the ability to sign documents because there are legal barriers from the architect’s institute there.” Menzies also mentioned, “In India the way to be a member of the ISOLA, the Indian Society of Landscape Architects, is that you first must be an architect and then qualify as landscape architect. That is the same in South America. In the United States licensure is at the state level rather than the regional level.” Also, James Taylor stated that, “The United States, for example, has health, safety and welfare, and other countries have other ideas for why professionals need to be licensed or educated”. Taylor and Menzies are confirming the hypothesis that the standards and regulations needed to practice multi-national licensure depend on common core competencies.

Meanwhile, Tary Arterburn, principal of Mesa Design group, said that forming multi-national licensure would be a good idea, but it would be impossible to establish due to the political situations in different countries. In some countries, architects prevent landscape architects from getting recognition because they think of themselves in competition with landscape architects, according to Arberburn. He also said that architects try to keep landscape architects from getting recognition because “they lose

territory.” He added that architects think that including the scope of landscape architects’ work into their scope of work will expand their business “which ends up being money, fees”. And money and finance lead or guide these political issues. Arterburn also believes that establishing multi-national licensure will be a political issue “because it would be a way for them to drive fees” as it needs government approval. An argument to this is that multi-national licensure will require international approval from political leaders who do not always agree to how best to meet the needs of people; therefore, in establishing multi-national licensure these different barriers and needs from different countries will have to be considered and solved.

#### 4.5 Theme 3. Multi-national licensure will be advantageous and possible to establish

A majority of key informants said that having multi-national licensure will be advantageous, because “it [would] give international recognition to the profession of landscape architecture”, and multi-national licensure in landscape architecture is an intriguing thought and brilliant idea because “the economy is very global and so is [the] work of architects and landscape architects, which is bringing the world closer.” Jeff Stouffer vice president of HKS Inc. argues that, “If we can get the International Building Codes then why can’t we get [an] international or multi-national licensing code?” He also stated that “[multi-national licensure] would probably take quite a few years to develop and I know the International Building Code did take quite a few years to develop.” As Stouffer suggested, the International Building Code has proved that it is possible to form international regulations and codes, even though there are issues and

difficulties in establishing those; similarly, it is possible to establish multi-national licensure though it has issues and, as was mentioned by few respondents, it would require significant amounts of time and input from experts in the field of landscape architecture.

Although key informants agreed upon the value of multi-national licensure, they shared issues that would have to be considered and resolved in establishing it. The following issues in establishing multi-national licensure were extracted from the keywords collected during the interviews:

1. A common key word that was noted in the interviews was “recognition” to the profession of landscape architecture. Tary Arterburn, for example, suggested that landscape architecture is not a recognized profession in most parts of the world and it needs to be recognized before advancing multi-national licensure. Respondent 11 said that throughout the professional career landscape architects are asked this reoccurring question: “Oh, I don’t understand who you are, where you are and what your profession does?” Interpretation of this reoccurring question is that there is little awareness of the scope of work conducted by landscape architects and defining the scope of work would be an important step in giving recognition to the profession and establishing multi-national licensure.
2. Tary Arberburn also mentioned that multi-national licensure will be impossible to establish because of the politics with architects. Other key informants also considered this to be an issue although they thought that multi-national licensure would be possible to establish. Andreja Tutundzic, president of education of the



European Foundation of Landscape Architects, said that in Serbia architects are trying to incorporate the scope of landscape architect's work into their licensure by calling it "the design of green space". Tutundzic mentioned that "...all the time [landscape architects] have to struggle to find a place". As mentioned by the key informants, one of the issues to be expected would be the interference by architects to prevent multi-national licensure in landscape architecture from coming into place.

3. Respondents articulated that the title for landscape architecture professionals varies in different countries. For instance, Tary Arterburn noted that in the United Arab Emirates the title "landscape engineering" stands for landscape architects. In Spain the title "architect" is protected, therefore landscape architects are not allowed to use it. Instead, they are referred to as "landscape". Furthermore, Respondent 11 noted that while landscape architecture is a profession in some countries such as Spain, Italy...and France. But in none of these countries can the term "landscape architect" be used, since the title of "architect" is protected and cannot be used "in any shape or form by those who practice landscape architecture." As mentioned by Respondent 11, it would be challenging to bring consistency to the titles used by practitioners, and to remove the restricted use of the title "architects" in some countries.
4. Respondents believed that economically more advanced countries have more developed regulations in landscape architecture, whereas second and third world countries have other major issues relating to the development of their economies, so to get licensure in landscape architecture would not be one of the highest priorities

in those nations. Tary Arterburn believes that “to establish licensing for landscape architecture in those countries is considered a high high luxury item.” He stated that in some of the developing nations, “it is like trying to sell icing to people who are starving.” When the economic conditions of those countries improve, they can easily participate in multi-national licensure. In the meantime countries with similar economic backgrounds can come together and build multi-national licensure.

5. Dennis Law stated that some of the professionals who are licensed and who have well established practices pull up the ladder of the licensing system. He believes that “...they don’t want the competition, so they make exams difficult for people right out of school”, to prevent aspiring practitioners from getting licenses. Law mentioned that, “In that case, there is room for corruption, and a licensure system will have to avoid that.” As he mentioned, a licensure system that is managed improperly could lead to corruption, and the process of multi-national licensure would have to be protected from corruption and from being misused for personal interests by the people managing it.

#### 4.5.1 What would multi-national licensure “look” like?

“What would multi-national licensure “look” like?” was the opening question of all interviews. Reactions of key informants to this question included “that is a good question”, to “that is a complex question”, to “that is an interesting one”.

These reactions confirm that key informants need more clarification about the topic, and that the topic is broad, and that respondents have not given much thought to it

until now. Key informants shared their preferences regarding the various models of multi-national licensure in landscape architecture. Models of multi-national licensure or registration in landscape architecture that came from the data of key informants' are divided into three categories;

1. Multi-national licensure
2. Registration of individuals
3. Reciprocity between nations

Following is a discussion of the data on these three models:

#### *4.5.1.1 Multi-national licensure (See figure. 4.1)*

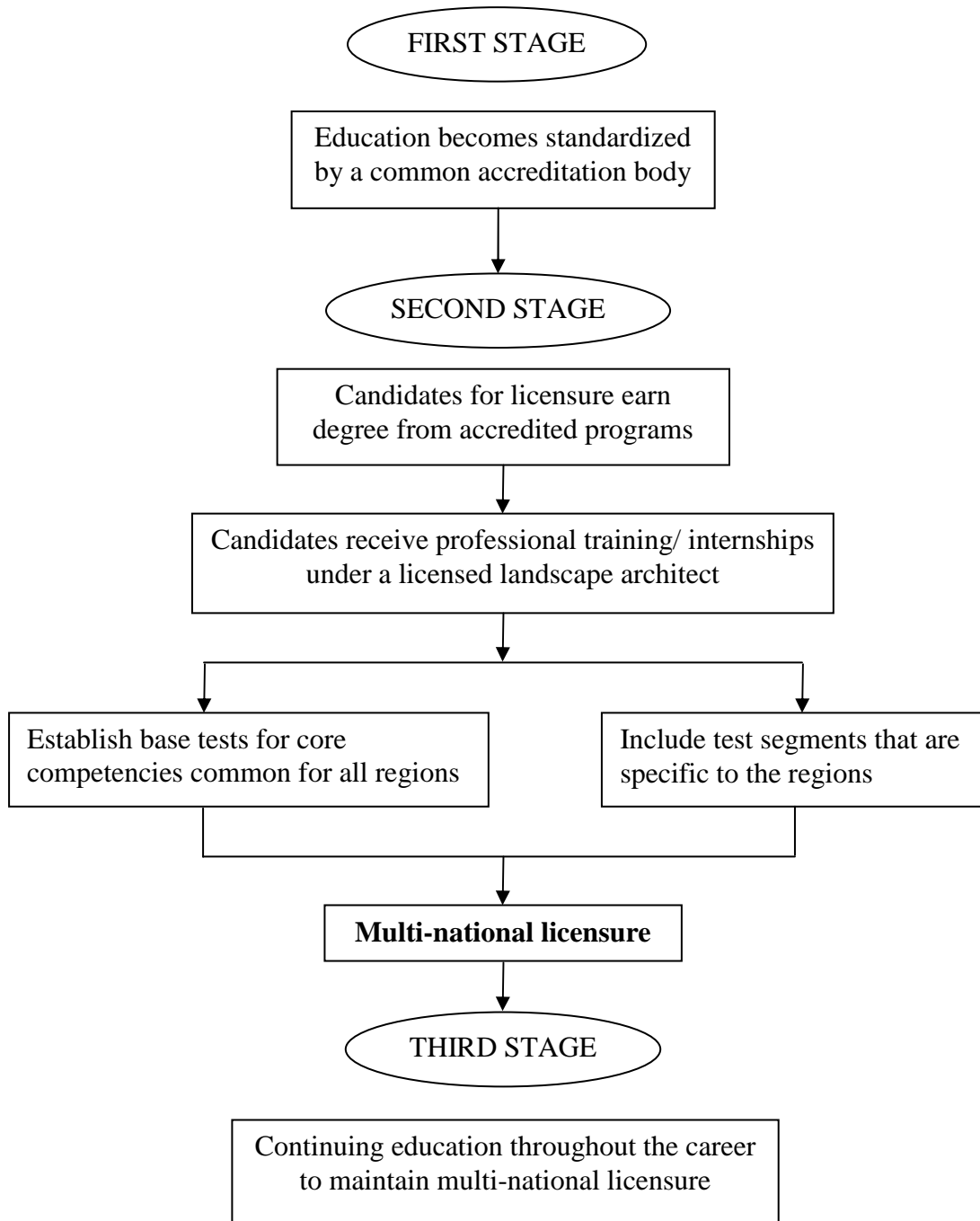
A common view among key informants was that the process of forming international standards and multi-national licensure in landscape architecture is likely to begin with the international standardization of education. For instance, Diane Menzies stated, "There are quite a lot of places in the world that has no (sic) training in landscape architecture." Menzies thought that "...first [priority would be] taking up educational courses so that there is basic knowledge of landscape architecture in place where there [are no educational programs in landscape architecture]". Further, Menzies stated that the "second priority is to achieve standards in education...make sure that training around the world has a basic level", which the International Federation of Landscape Architects is trying to achieve through its education charter. Tary Arterburn suggested that instead of multi-national licensure making an impact on education, education will become more standardized internationally before licensing becomes standardized, "and actually that might help licensing in the long term." James Taylor

added that standardization could come from “[...] [a] commonly accepted body of knowledge for landscape architects.”

Respondents stated that professionals seeking multi-national licensing are likely to have a degree from accredited programs followed by professional training under licensed landscape architects for one to two years. After the training has been completed, professionals usually are required to pass tests on core competencies in which one part is a common test for all the participating countries, and the second part includes tests specific to countries where the individual intends to practice. Tests specific to those countries summarized from interview data included tests on:

1. Seismic activity;
2. plant material and ecology;
3. historical, cultural and economic backgrounds; and,
4. density of population.

Upon passage of these tests the individual can achieve multi-national licensure, and thereafter, as suggested by Fuller and Respondent 11, the licensee can have a licensure renewed by participation in continuing education courses or continuing professional development.



**Figure 4.1 Model 1: Multi-national licensure process**

#### *4.5.1.2 Registration of individuals (See figure. 4.2)*

Two respondents stated that licensure would lead to bureaucracy and politics because it would require approval from the government. Therefore, instead of establishing multi-national licensure, their preference inclines more toward the assessment and registration of individuals and projects to regulate the profession of landscape architecture. This tactic is thought to minimize dealings with governments. This process also would be similar to the multi-national licensure process. The difference would be that instead of individuals earning multi-national licensure, they would be assessed and registered by an international professional body.

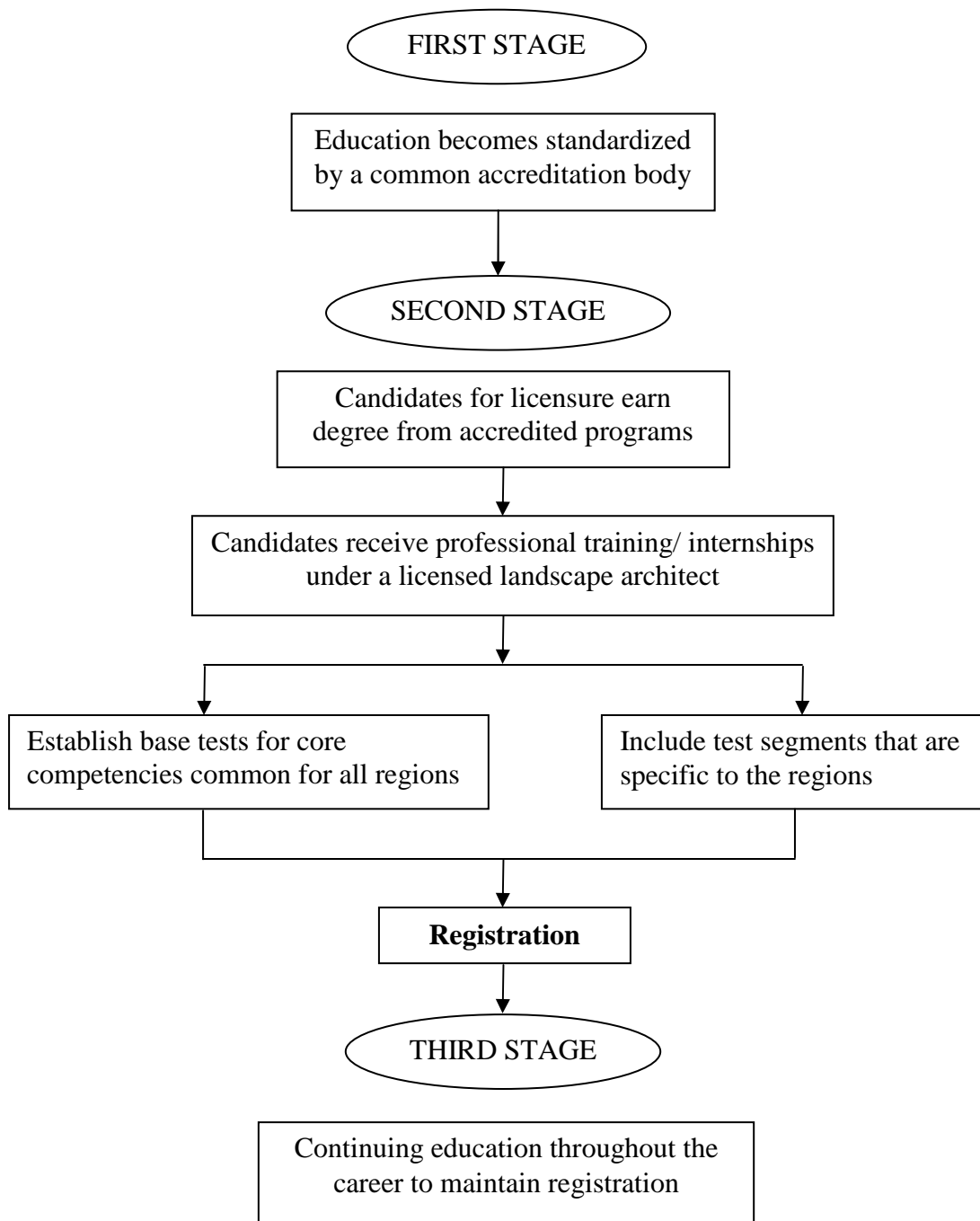
Key informants' preference for the regulated model of multi-national licensure was similar to the regulation systems with which they are familiar in their countries of origin. For instance, Mark Fuller stated "I think it is more along the model of what we have here and that we can see as being very good...the profession and organization rather than licensure."

Few key informants believed that apart from having multi-national licensure or registration, practitioners would need to have local partners in the countries where they work. For example, Jeff Stouffer mentioned that in many countries, such as India, because of the economic differences, they need expertise "to be local or within that country because the fee reimbursement is low". Because of the low fee reimbursement, he stated, that "there is no way [they] would produce a project in [the] United States or in Europe and remain a viable company." Meanwhile, Diane Menzies mentioned that IFLA has an ethic's policy that requires practitioners to have a local partner when they

are working in another country.” As she suggested, local partners help in solving local language, cultural and economic barriers.

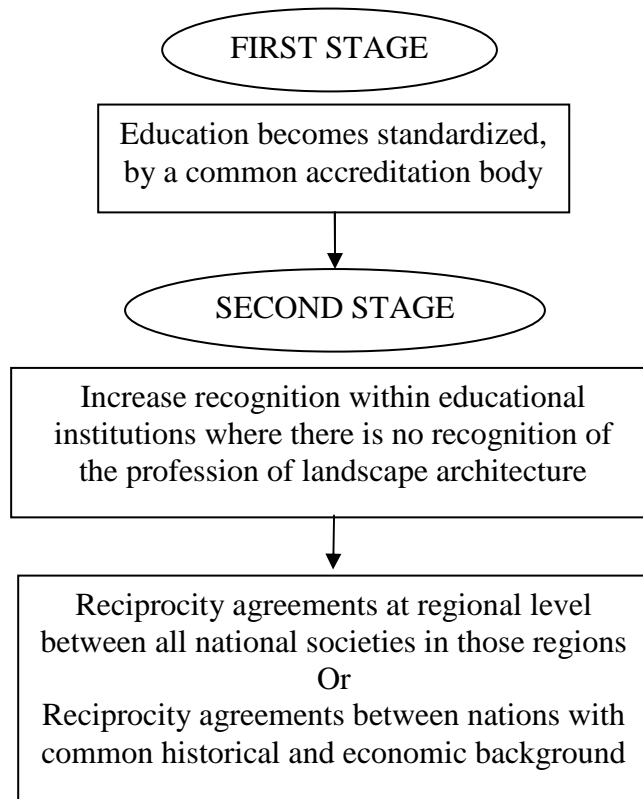
#### *4.5.1.3 Reciprocity between nations* (See figure. 4.3)

In this process education would become standardized, similar to the process of establishing multi-national licensure or assessment and registration of individuals. Menzies, in explaining the existing reciprocity agreements between countries, stated “What does exist now is some bilateral or trilateral agreement,” but “[what] is in-place at the moment is quite small.” For example, she mentioned that there is reciprocity agreement between the New Zealand Institute of Landscape architects, the Landscape Institute, the AILA and the Hong Kong Institute of Landscape Architects. She suggested that there could be joint agreement between all associations in a region, such as in the Asia-Pacific region, in which each can work in the others’ countries assuming that they hold first professional degrees from an accredited university.



**Figure 4.2 Model 2: Registration of individuals**





**Figure 4.3 Model 3: Reciprocity between nations**

#### 4.5.2 Who will lead?

Key informants agree on what type of organizations and which countries are apt to lead the process of multi-national licensure. They also agree on which countries are “equipped” to immediately participate and establish international standards and multi-national licensure.

Respondent 9, who chose anonymity, stated that in the process of establishing multi-national licensure, academic organizations would need to collaborate with licensing organizations in each country to assure that both sides participate effectively in forming the international body which would develop and establish multi-national

licensure. “On that international body there has to be educators and practitioners from all the countries to ensure that there is an elaborate representation of practitioners and educators”. As he suggests, it will be important to know the needs of educators and practitioners in establishing multi-national licensure and to know what roles they would play in establishing it.

Dennis Law stated that nations which have established and demonstrated standards to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the public in construction practices would lead the model of multi-national licensure. Law also noted that landscape architects practicing in countries where there are no regulations or education in the field, or where the profession has only recently received recognition, have earned their landscape architecture degrees mostly from schools in the United States or the United Kingdom. Law stated that since those practitioners “...have taken the standard and curriculum from United States...there is a heavy American influence in other parts of the world.” As he stated, foreign landscape architects, who after earning degrees from the United States have returned to their countries of origin, and have level of competencies from the United States; therefore, there is heavy influence from American standards in countries where those landscape architects practice.

Meanwhile Tary Arterburn mentioned that “in things like disability standards, without calling them the American disability standards, many [countries] follow the American standards [and] they say that just [following] the American standards...you will be fine; they [other countries] don’t really have [such] standards.” Law and Arterburn confirmed the assertion that North America is the most advanced and

developed as far as licensure of landscape architecture and regulations are concerned, and there is a belief that following North American standards best advances public health, safety and welfare. James Taylor suggested that standardization in education can come from a commonly accepted body of knowledge and that body of knowledge has been formed in the United States and captured within the Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge (LABOK) study. Tary Arterburn stated that "...the United States and Britain are ahead of the curve in the regulations of landscape architecture. It [multi-national licensure] probably would become some blending between the British system and the American system."

Respondent 11 suggested that countries which could immediately be involved in multi-national licensure were the United States, Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, Germany, Canada and Scandinavian countries because these nations have implemented similar standards. Stouffer added that other countries that could join-in multi-national licensure due to the synergy between them which are the United States, India, European countries, the Middle East, Mexico, Canada and a few South American countries. It was also mentioned that China and Russia would probably not join due to political reasons.

#### 4.5.3 Impacts of multi-national licensure on education

Perspectives of key informants regarding the impact of multi-national licensure on the education of landscape architects were contrasting, focusing on whether it would or would not make an impact. For example, Philip Neeley's view was that multi-

national licensure would not impact education whereas other key informants thought that it would. Neeley thought that the impact of multi-national licensure on landscape architecture would be post-academic because not all landscape architects would choose to practice in multi-national environments. Neeley added that in the United States it takes a while for a student to get an undergraduate or a graduate degree, "...so if we have any more [courses] then you are trying to add that into academics, [then] it seems like that [would]...be [an] overload [in the curriculum]". An Interpretation to Neeley's comments would be that landscape architecture education curricula could offer two paths with one focusing on local practice and the other on international practice. Under this model students would have the flexibility to choose between paths. Either way, Neeley's comment reflect his belief that an impact would be felt by education.

Other key informants' views on the impacts of multi-national licensure focused on the changes to curricula and on the accreditation of programs in landscape architecture. Following are the summary impacts of multi-national licensure on landscape architecture education extracted from key words and content analysis from interview data:

1. Regarding international standards: Key informants are of the opinion that if international standards in education are formed, then countries which are developing awareness and regulations of landscape architecture can use those standards to bring global uniformity to the forefront, thereby helping to define core competencies for multi-national licensure.

James Taylor stated that education is the first step in the process. This will help establish "...general guidelines for minimum standards in articulation with the body of knowledge". Taylor added that once uniform education guidelines have been established, then the next step would be to get "acceptance from UNESCO as they are responsible for education". When this information becomes available to all the countries and the "body of knowledge becomes more universally embraced, then the curriculum will have to address that." This will refine or promote the development of standards of education in various parts of the world and support a new licensure system which "will have an impact on [both] curriculum and licensure." Mark Fuller noted that if education becomes standardized internationally, then students would not have to leave countries where there are no good standards for countries where higher educational standards exist. One interpretation of this is that it could also lead to the reduction of international students enrolled in countries where higher standards of education exist.

2. Regarding global awareness: John Thompson, of Talley associates, concludes that multi-national licensure will broaden the scope of education by involving more courses relating to the history of landscape architecture and its origins in different regions of the world. However, Stouffer argues that world history is part of existing curricula, and that new curricula should contain more classes about current projects from across the world.

David Gibbs of South Africa added that education will need to include more global awareness about “where the different needs are and where the urgencies of particular types of expertise are, whether it is rehabilitation or human habitation.”

3. Regarding a unit system: Dennis Law commented that there should be international standardization in the measurement unit system and that would most likely be the “metric system”. Law added that “the United states has been very slow in adapting the metric system. If we adopt the international metric system then that will change the curriculum of programs in the United States”.
4. Regarding enrollment rates: Neeley stated that multi-national licensure will increase the scope of international practice, which will attract people to pursue careers in landscape architecture and increase enrollment in landscape architecture education programs.
5. Regarding length of programs: Respondents 9 commented that the length of landscape architecture programs differs globally, ranging from one year to five years. He stated that landscape architecture undergraduate programs in most parts of the world are four year or five year programs, in which all courses taught are landscape architecture courses. Whereas, in some landscape architecture graduate programs students with undergraduate degrees in architecture obtain first professional degrees in landscape architecture in one or two years. Respondent 9 disagreed on the difference in duration of the programs aimed towards getting the same professional degrees. He said, “I find it quite difficult that four years of landscape architecture is finished in one to two years. Every state or country should

have...a...similar curriculum. There has to be an adjustment towards degree of the curriculum.” As he suggested, the length of programs should be adjusted to match the curricula requirements for establishing international standards.

6. Regarding exchange programs: Gibbs said that education will have more of a “global communications” increase when multi-national licensure comes into place. The exchange of students will increase, especially with the students interested in pursuing careers with multi-national firms. Gibbs believes “education would probably need to have a far more mobile teaching staff where there are visiting lectures in different universities across the world by educators from different countries.” He also believes that these lectures will bring sharing of knowledge and new ideas into the existing programs and international exchange of faculty and visiting lecturers will also be very efficient in building global interaction and networking.
7. Regarding collaboration between academics and practice: David Gibbs and Mark Fuller stated that academics and the profession should practice better collaboration than what is in existence. Gibbs believes that academics and professionals are separated, explaining that, “It is not helpful to have this polarization, where you have researchers on one side developing academic theory a-contextually and practitioners on the other side who leave the academic world behind and practice without critical thought.” Furthermore, Fuller believes that the curricula of many programs do not match the priorities of the professional institutes or the profession, and that there are conflicts between research and publication requirements of

academics and what the profession needs from academics. As he suggests, collaboration between the academic and professional worlds can help capture the academic interests of practitioners. This collaboration can give feedback regarding the needs of the professional world to develop educational standards, and to train students to meet the professional practice expectations at the international level.

#### 4.5.4 Impacts of multi-national licensure on the practice

Key informants shared their knowledge and experience regarding the multi-national practice of landscape architects. Following are summary impacts of multi-national licensure on the practice of landscape architecture as extracted from key words and content analysis from interview data. Definitions of each impact are teased from the themes extracted from the data.

1. Recognition: Recognition to a profession is defined as a formal acknowledgement of the existence of that profession. Though key informants perceived recognition to the profession of landscape architecture as one of the major issues in establishing multi-national licensure, Respondent 11 said that multi-national licensure in landscape architecture would be "...a phenomenal step in giving recognition to the profession." He believed that "if landscape architects are not recognized as a profession in their own light then it is very difficult to operate, because they are always operating under the shadow of somebody else, either an architect or engineer". As he mentioned, multi-national licensure can give the profession of landscape architecture a distinct identity and recognition which can separate it from the dominance of architecture.



2. Deficit: Deficit is defined as a deficiency in the number of landscape architects in comparison to the demand in certain countries. Key informants mentioned that countries have a deficit in the number of practicing landscape architects. As confirmed by Gibbs, “In Africa as a whole there is a deficit of landscape architects. There are a total of one hundred and twenty landscape architects in South Africa, but only two or three in Botswana, one in Tanzania and handful in other countries in Africa.” He stated that the government of South Africa has identified the profession of landscape architecture as a ‘scarce skill’. If these countries participate in multi-national licensure then landscape architects from other countries can easily practice there which could result in an increase of immigration of landscape architects into those countries.

Jeff Stouffer stated where his firm conducts multi-national projects it hires local landscape architects if possible; or, the architects working on multi-national projects bring landscape architects to the team. Stouffer also mentioned that in locales such as the Middle East and Mexico his firm brings landscape architects from the United States to their team because it is difficult to find foreign landscape architects with the experience required on international projects.

This confirms the literature’s assertions that landscape architects work closely with architects where international practice is concerned. An interpretation from the key informants’ insights is that as long as there is a deficit in the number of landscape architects and a lack of recognition to the profession of landscape architecture internationally, architects will keep hiring landscape architects (with

whom they are familiar) for their international projects. Therefore, the international practice of landscape architects is apt to increase with increased international practice among architects.

3. Immigration: Immigration refers to work visas required to practice in foreign countries. Tary Arterburn reported that countries like Dubai require licensure for the immigration of foreign professionals. Arterburn, sharing his experience about his practice in Dubai, noted that “Most of the contracts in the United Arab Emirates might not even require licensing but in order to get visas for our employees we have to have a license to practice [in the country where the project is]...” In that case, it is likely that, multi-national licensure would make immigration easier for practitioners from countries participating in multi-national licensure.
4. Competition: Competition is defined as the effort of two or more firms acting independently to secure a project of a third party by offering the most favorable services. Respondents thought that multi-national licensure will increase international “competition” because as Gibbs stated “...[multi-national licensure] will probably bring about far more flexibility and mobility [for landscape architects].” Neeley reinforced this view when he noted that “...[landscape architects] could seal drawings...” in various countries. Both informants thought that international competition and the opportunity to practice in new cultures could improve the quality of work worldwide, because local practitioners would try to seek projects in competition with international practitioners by improving the quality of work. Key informants were hoping to see an inflow of multi-national

companies into their countries, as they think that multi-national licensure will open doors for multi-national companies to be awarded projects in their countries, which in turn will improve the quality of projects in their countries.

5. Employment: Employment is defined as an activity or work in which one engages to earn wages or salary. Tutundzic mentioned that if there is recessionary unemployment in one country then professionals who possess multi-national licensure can more easily work in other countries where the economy is better. As he suggested the existence of international standards and multi-national licensure can give qualification to landscape architects to work in multiple countries, and this in turn, can improve the employment rate in those countries that participate in multi-national licensure.
6. Nomenclature: Nomenclature refers to a system or set of terms or symbols in a particular science, discipline, or art. Tary Arterburn noted that nomenclature used in different phases of work performed by architects and landscape architects differs globally. Different nomenclatures used by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) for isomorphic stages of work include, for example, “schematic design” and “concept design.” Arterburn commented that landscape architects follow architecture’s systems of nomenclature reinforcing the hypothesis that architecture’s experiences can be seen as harbingers of what landscape architecture is likely to experience. As Arterburn mentioned, multi-national licensure would require a common system of nomenclature for different stages of work performed by landscape architects, and it would have to be

agreed upon by participating nations. Also, standardization of nomenclature in landscape architecture can follow the accord of the International Union of Architects which is followed by architects practicing internationally.

7. Difference in standards: Standard is something set up and established by an authority as a rule for the measure of quantity, weight, extent, value or quality. Respondents mentioned that the concentration of international practice among landscape architects is denser in regions where the economy is vibrant and where there is more demand for landscape architects. Diane Menzies stated that China and the United Arab Emirates have had many international landscape architects practicing in recent years. She noted that since the United States has more advanced regulations compared to China, where there are no restrictions to practice. She added that many American landscape architects practice easily in China. This means that landscape architects, from countries where regulations are advanced, work easily in countries where there are no regulations. Jeff Stouffer noted that in countries like Mexico and India architects achieve licensure upon completion of degrees from an accredited program. No competency tests are required.

Stouffer believes that “in other countries like India the standards of health, safety and welfare of the public are not the same as the standards in the United States; they are very poor, much lower than the America standards.” He is of the opinion that in countries where the standards are low, and where the professionals do not have to be tested in order to be licensed, professionals may consider the process of multi-national licensure as a detriment. The reason is because of the

perceived rigor of testing as a criterion for practice. To the contrary, however Stouffer also mentioned that “[multi-national licensure] will open up their capability to pursue practice in the whole world much easier”. Therefore, an increase in practice can be an incentive for other countries to support multi-national licensure.

8. Litigation: Litigation is an act or process to carry on a legal contest by judicial process. James Taylor stated that “Where there is litigation, in Canada for example, liability insurance is required by most jurisdictions and if [landscape architects] are not recognized or licensed, [then] sometimes it is difficult to get insurance. That is not exactly an illegal matter but it protects [professionals] against legal issues.” Therefore Taylor thought that “the universal standards of some sort will better protect practitioners against legal issues.”
9. Global climate issues: Global climate issues refer to global warming and climate change and the rise in sea level. Respondent 9 thought that landscape architects should play an important role in solving the global climatic issues, which they do not do at the moment. Respondent 9 added “When people talk about global issue such as sea level rise, then media don’t go to landscape architects.” He believes that “landscape architects should develop advocacy in the global warming issue.” Referring to multi-national licensure he said, “It will be a very good beginning to develop the gravity at international level for landscape architects”, which will help provide a position for the landscape architects in solving global environmental issues.

#### 4.6 Health, safety and welfare of the public

The value of licensure was perceived differently in different jurisdictions. James Taylor noted that, “Some jurisdictions [have licensure] to regulate business and some to protect the public.” The relevance of the aspects of health, safety and welfare to licensure varies globally. Respondent 11 divided the relevance of health, safety and welfare in three degrees. He explained that “[in] some countries [the issues of health, safety and welfare] are incredibly well looked after,...well maintained [and] well implemented. Then there are some countries particularly within Europe,...the younger European Union countries,...in the eastern block where health and safety is irrelevant”. He mentioned that there are countries where people have absolutely no knowledge and awareness of health, safety and welfare of the public aspects of design. He described the situation in China as “scary; literally scary.” Figure 4.4 reflects the lack of awareness of health, safety and welfare issues in architecture in China. As Respondent 11 suggested, globally the relevance of the public health, safety and welfare as part of the profession of landscape architecture is categorized as either well defined and maintained, or irrelevant, or there being no awareness of the profession on the issue.

Key informants from the United States, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom and South Africa noted that the “health, safety and welfare” of the public is a major part of landscape architecture regulations in their countries. Two key informants who were from New Zealand and Serbia, where the public health, safety and safety is not a part of regulations, thought that it would not become a part of multi-national licensure. From the perspectives of key informants it was interpreted that the relevance of health, safety

and welfare of the public is perceived by individuals depending on its relevance in regulations in the countries where they hold citizenship or residency.



**Figure 4.4 Building in Shanghai, China that collapsed in June 2009 (Cress, 2009)**

Key informants' agreed that the health, safety and welfare of the public as a legal under-pinning of multi-national licensure would be a "critical issue" and a major part of licensure because of how the work of landscape architects affects the public. According to Respondent 11, defining health, safety and welfare will be beneficial to bringing awareness of its merits to parts of the world where there is no awareness. Respondent 11 stated that "...landscape architects...deal with [the] public... [Therefore,] landscape architects have to be fully cognizant of all the health and safety requirements at every stage of design" and implementation of a project. Respondent 11

also noted that “landscape architects have to be competent of what they have designed, such that nobody gets hurt throughout those stages of design and construction.”

As health, safety and welfare is the main clause of licensure in North America, issues of sustainability and environmental issues are important and critical in many other countries. Key informants believed that sustainability and environmental issues are an extension to the health, safety and welfare of public requirements of licensure. Respondent 9 explained, “The issues of health safety and welfare of the public does (sic) catch on issues to do with climate change, sea level rise and kind of major global warming. Any organization that wants to form licensure needs to understand the major global critical issues.” European countries are much advanced in the sustainability and environmental aspects of design. Stouffer thinks that “[European countries] are the leaders in sustainability.” Fuller stated that “landscape architects always have different levels of competencies within the profession everywhere but we all can share the same objectives and move ourselves towards enhancing our ability to responding to those objectives”. Thus, according to respondents, core competencies in multi-national licensure can be defined from the most advanced standards of health, safety and welfare various environmental aspects affecting different parts of the world.

#### 4.7 Summary

Interviews with thirteen key informants from a variety of countries captured their insights and perspectives regarding multi-national licensure in landscape architecture. Issues in forming multi-national licensure, possible models of multi-



national licensure and impacts of multi-national licensure on the academic and professional practice of landscape architecture were extracted from key words and their content analyzed from the transcripts. Key informants also shared the relevance of the health, safety and welfare aspects of design in their own countries and the benefit of using it as a legal under-pinning of multi-national licensure.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSIONS AND FUTURE RESEARCH

#### 5.1 Introduction

The objective of this research was to search for potential impacts of multi-national licensure on academic practice and professional practice in landscape architecture. Eleven landscape architects and two architects participated as key informants. In the course of interviews suggestions emerged about changes apt to occur in academic and professional practice should multi-national licensure be established. In addition, anticipated impacts of multi-national licensure on academic practice and professional practice from key informants led to suggestions of future research for establishing international standards and multi-national licensure in the profession.

#### 5.2 Research and conclusions

Three themes about key informants' reactions emerged from the analysis of interview data. In the first theme key informants reported that multi-national licensure was not needed; in the second theme key informants reported that multi-national licensure would be advantageous but impossible to establish; and in the third theme key informants reported that multi-national licensure would be advantageous and possible to establish. Three possible models for multi-national regulation of landscape architect

were derived from the interview data. These were: Multi-national licensure; registration of individuals; and, reciprocity between nations.

From their international experience in professional and academic practice, key informants (from seven different countries) agreed upon five issues that would have to be resolved in the process of developing multi-national licensure.

Issues that were described by the thirteen key informants were summarized as:

1. A lack of recognition of the profession in many countries;
2. political issues with architects;
3. restrictions or differences in titles of landscape architects in different countries;
4. differences in economic conditions globally; and,
5. corruption that could be involved in managing multi-national licensure.

Resolving these issues would require more research. For example, Tary Arterburn of Mesa Design Group, noted that landscape architecture can achieve better recognition through education which in turn can generate new research within education about developing global awareness, about the profession and establishing international standards to match the core curriculum. Specifically, key informants' called for research on ways of normalizing and standardizing the profession to prepare for multi-national licensure.

From the relevant literature, it was found that diversity exists in regulatory practices of landscape architecture within different parts of the world. Definitions of licensure, registration and chartership helped clarify those differences within this study. These definitions, along with the review of literature and the interview data, verified

that the United States and Canada were the only countries implementing licensure in landscape architecture. It was also found that sixty eight out of one hundred and ninety five countries contain national professional societies of landscape architecture; that twenty seven out of one hundred and ninety five countries either practice some form of regulation or are in the process of regulating the profession of landscape architecture; and that the United Kingdom uses chartership to regulate landscape architecture.

### 5.3 Academic practice

Data from key informants suggests that changes in education must precede the implementation of multi-national licensure. In the three models of multi-national regulations, derived from interview data, the first step towards developing multi-national licensure is the standardization of education, which would require changes to landscape architecture curricula globally.

Key informants agreed that to develop international standards, curricula would have to address more global environmental issues, and focus more on design and construction. David Gibbs thought there would have to be an increase in the exchange of students and faculty in order to build global interaction and networking. Citing the separation between the professional and academic worlds, key informants stated that participation of practitioners in academics would have to increase so that academics can capture the needs of the professional world to better influence international educational standards. Philip Neeley stated that multi-national licensure could increase the scope of

international practice, and the increase in scope would attract students to pursue landscape architecture as a career, increasing enrollments in education programs.

Educators referred to differences in the core curriculum of landscape architecture programs globally. For example, the lengths of programs differ widely and would have to be made more uniform if international standards are to be adapted. James Taylor stated that in order to establish international standards in education, "...general guidelines for minimum standards, in [the] articulation with the body of knowledge" would have to be established and curricula would have to accept and teach the common body of knowledge. Taylor suggested that the Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge (LABOK), developed in the United States, could be followed internationally. Dennis Law stated that academics would have to accept a common language of communication and a common unit measurement system. He agreed that programs would have to accept an international system which would most probably be the metric system.

Issues regarding the differences in languages were also found in the literature. Licka and Roehr (2008) suggested that English, being the most common spoken language in the world, and considered the current language of business and science, could be readily accepted as the common language of communication in the profession of landscape architecture (p. 320).

Neeley shared concerns that adding more courses to curricula that address international issues would overload existing programs in landscape architecture. One solution to Neeley's concern was that educational programs could include two paths,

one focusing on local practice and the other on international practice. Under this model students could have the flexibility to choose between both paths.

#### 5.4 Professional practice

Some countries in which there are no regulations in landscape architecture are in the process of establishing regulations. If these countries begin establishing their own standards and regulations, then the diversity of licensure models and differences in standards would likely increase. Key informants explained that international standards and multi-national licensure would bring uniformity to the profession globally as those countries where there are no regulations begin to follow the global standards and licensure practices. James Taylor stated “[multi-national licensure] would elevate standards, especially in those areas where there [are] no regulations and [where there is] little understanding of what landscape architecture [is].” Key informants agreed upon the advantages of multi-national licensure in landscape architecture. They suggested changes to the professional practice worldwide in order to develop international standards and multi-national licensure in landscape architecture.

For example, Respondent 11 stated that “[multi-national licensure] will give immediate recognition of what...landscape architects can do and tackle”. As Respondent 11 stated, multinational licensure will define the scope of work by landscape architects and hence bring awareness about the profession globally. Interviewees explained that with multi-national licensure landscape architects would have the ability to more easily practice abroad which would, in turn, increase

international competition thus increasing the quality of professional work. Gibbs added that multi-national would help overcome the deficit of landscape architects in countries where there is a deficit. Also, Tutundzic stated that multi-national licensure would reduce recessional unemployment because professionally licensed practitioners would have opportunities to work in other countries where better jobs could be expected from better economies. Respondent 9 added that landscape architects are not appointed to address environmental issues but multi-national licensure would give recognition to landscape architects as players in such issues.

Respondents observed that landscape architects from countries where regulations are advanced, such as the United States, work easily in countries where there are no regulations, such as China and India. They further noted that once international standards and multi-national licensure become established, the profession would see increases in reciprocal practice, and international practitioners would emerge from more countries. As Arterburn stated, this would increase the need for a common system of nomenclature which would particularly effect the design and construction phases of practice.

### 5.5 Future research

A review of the literature and an analysis of interviews corroborate that this research is an introduction to the concept of multi-national licensure in landscape architecture. This research also confirms that a significant foundation is required to ensure the success of developing international standards and thereby establishing multi-

national licensure. Further research can be conducted to more deeply address the issues presented in this study. In fact, further research in the following areas is essential if the topic is to gain traction among those most capable of advancing it.

First, the accord of the International Union of Architects can be studied in detail to reveal the process that was used in its development, including the involvement of experts, the duration that was required to establish the accord, and how it has been implemented in academic and professional practice worldwide.

Second, Tary Arterburn pointed out that various countries follow the American Institutes of Architects (AIA) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) nomenclature system for different phases of architectural projects. Future research could determine which countries follow the AIA system and which follow the RIBA system of nomenclature. Similarities between these systems could be determined to find the stages of work and how the nomenclature system could be standardized.

Third, in this research the relevance of health, safety and welfare to the public fell into three categories according to key informants, who described the concept as either well defined and maintained, irrelevant, or that there was no awareness of this issue. Additional research can focus on the concept's value or relevance in those countries where regulations are already established in landscape architecture. Solutions to bringing awareness to countries where there is no awareness on this issue can also be the focus of future research.

Fourth, landscape architects from countries which are part of the European Union are allowed to practice in any other country which is also a part of European



Union. Future research can test the relevance of multi-national licensure within the European Union free market verses North America and other countries.

Fifth, international exchange programs in education was one of the topics that key informants raised in this research. Future research can determine the interest among educational institutions for participating in exchange programs and the implications such exchange programs are apt to have on the international standardization of education in landscape architecture.

Sixth, differences in the core curriculum of landscape architecture were mentioned by the respondents; for example, the duration of programs. Additional research can focus on the diversity of the core curriculum globally and a process to standardize the curriculum could be determined.

Seventh, architects and landscape architects participated in this study. But, interviewing more key informants from other professions in the construction industry can contribute to the premise of the research. For example, future research can focus on collaborations between civil engineers and landscape architects in the United States and various parts of the world; and specifically, existing international standards in the profession of civil engineering can be searched to determine how they relate to landscape architecture.

Eight, respondents reported on the various titles used to describe the scope of work carried-out by landscape architects globally. For instance, in Dubai, landscape architects are referred to as landscape engineers while in other part of the world as gardeners. Future research can focus on the variance of scopes in the work of these

different professionals and how their work could be integrated as a part of or contributors to the profession of landscape architecture.

## 5.6 Summary

Thirteen key informants who were from seven different countries participated in this research sharing their knowledge regarding multi-national licensure in landscape architecture. They revealed their preferences about what would multi-national licensure look like. Three possible models for the multi-national regulation of landscape architecture were derived from interview data. These were: Multi-national licensure; registration of individuals; and, reciprocity between nations.

The profession of landscape architecture is dedicated to protecting, conserving and manipulating natural environments with the public health, safety and welfare in mind. As mentioned by one of the respondents “it would be more than beneficial” to define the public health, safety and welfare as the legal under-pinning of multi-national licensure, because there is absolutely no awareness regarding this critical issue in many countries. In this research, countries which have demonstrated higher standards in protecting the public and the environment have proved to be most successful in international practice and would play a leading role in establishing multi-national licensure.

Landscape architecture deals with the art and science of both natural and built environments in a way that no other profession does. Non-existence of this profession in many parts of the world and the struggle to give it recognition in many countries have

been a major concern to this profession. This research demonstrates that establishing international standards and multi-national licensure would define the importance of the scope of work for landscape architects internationally, which is critical to the public and the environment, and it would bring the profession of landscape architecture into the limelight globally. As the process of establishing international standards and multi-national licensure gains momentum, there would be opportunities for future research, deliberating the anticipated impacts of multi-national licensure on the academic and professional practice of landscape architecture.

## APPENDIX A

### INTRODUCTION EMAIL TO PARTICIPANTS

Email Subject: Participation in graduate landscape architecture research REQUEST.

Dear Participant:

My name is Madhavi Sonar and I am a graduate student in the Program of Landscape Architecture at The University of Texas at Arlington, USA. I am working on my master's thesis under the direction of Dr. Pat D. Taylor.

The title of my research is "Multi-national licensure in landscape architecture: Searching for its impact on landscape architecture". Because of increasing globalization in landscape architecture, and differences in standards and licensure globally, this thesis looks at multi-national licensure in landscape architecture. In other words, the thesis broaches the question of international standards in professional practice and higher education including such issues as health, safety and welfare. As a part of my research, through interviews I am searching to find the perspectives of architects and landscape architects regarding multi-national licensure in landscape architecture.

I obtained your information either through your company website or the directory of IFLA (the International Federation of Landscape Architects) or from key informants who recommended you.

Could you let me know if you would be available to participate in the research either through a face-to-face interview or a telephone interview? I will need an hour of your time and I can generally adjust to fit your schedule. If you are interested in participating in the interview, then I will email you a consent form and further information about the interview.

If you have any questions then please contact me at ---.---.---- or email at -----

Thank you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

Madhavi Sonar  
Address and phone number

APPENDIX B

INTERVIEW SCRIPTS

My name is Madhavi Sonar. As per our email correspondence, I am calling you regarding my research on “Multi-national licensure in landscape architecture: Searching for its impact on the profession”. In order to assist with this research, would you please answer the following questions?

1. What would multi-national licensure “look” like?
2. What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on the education of landscape architects?
3. What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on the practice of landscape architecture?
4. Would multi-national licensure be dependent on the “health, safety and welfare” of the public as licensure is in The United States?

APPENDIX C

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPTS



## Interview 1

Madhavi: Hello, Mr. James Taylor, this is Madhavi Sonar. How are you doing?

James: Doing very good.

Madhavi: As per our email correspondence, I am calling you regarding my research on “Multi-national licensure in landscape architecture: Searching for its impact on the profession”. In order to assist with the research can I ask you some questions?

James: Yeah, I got your information. As I said there are atleast 2 or 3 other students, looking at similar issues on what you are investigating. You might want to get in contact with them. I will give you that information later.

Madhavi: Ok. Are they with University of Guelph?

James: No, one is at TX, Arlington, one is at New Zealand, Lincoln and one is at university of Manitoba. So I have a kind of a network of people out there working.

Madhavi: Universtiy of TX, Arlington would be myself.

James: Yeah, that would be you, that is right.

Madhavi: Can I go ahead with the questions?

James: Yes, let us do the questions first and then we can have a chat.

### *1. Madhavi: What would multi-national licensure look like?*

James: Oh, that’s an interesting one. It doesn’t exist now, that you probably know. At the moment there are various forms of regulations and licensure. You are probably quite familiar with the North American model. In United Kingdom they have a slightly different approach but they do have an exam that is called “Pathway to chartership”, but is somewhat similar requirement. Europe I am trying to get a better handle on. And in New Zealand and Australia are probably somewhat similar to our form of regulation, but without the CLARB or landscape architects examination. Rest of the world is struggling with this, so it is certainly an area of interest and certainly something that international body will be looking at. Are you asking about what it might look like in future?

Madhavi: Yes

James: That again is difficult to predict. I think there needs to be some kind of a international frame work that would set up guidelines for reciprocity and recognition and each nation would have to have a component within their regulatory body that would consider international practitioners. So it would probably look something like that.

Madhavi: Like every country would have a different network that would be specifically be for international practitioners?

James: Like if someone came to TX, they would have to go to TX registration board and ask for permission. At the moment there is probably no need for doing that in my understanding. All that needs to be established. I think I mentioned to you that I will be speaking to the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards in Seattle next month.

Madhavi: Yes, yes.

James: They have a interest in what you are doing and how, what model should they be promoting is interesting because it is not developed.

Madhavi: I was looking for the preferred model for this for the research, if the professionals prefer a state licensure or licensure by membership.

James: I look forward to seeing what you come up with. My idea is that each local registration board or association responsible for licensure will need to sign on to some kind of international guideline for recognizing foreign practitioners.

Madhavi: So for example the licensure practices in the US, Canada and England would stay the same, but it would recognize the international standards?

James: No, the system for example in India will have to recognize the American. So, I don't think that we will see each nation or registration board changing their approach. Because they have their own special needs. United States for example has health, safety and welfare, another countries have other ideas for why professionals need to be licensed or educated. But I don't think that you will ever see a common registration mechanism. So the system that anyone would have to come up with will have to understand diversity of regulation and licensure.

**2. Madhavi: *What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on education of landscape architects?***

James: I think it will tend to make the education standards more uniform or more consistent. If there are similar or identical procedure for licensure, the educational process will have to recognize that. Now in many countries there is no recognition, there is no licensure, so you find clear diversity of educational programs in landscape architecture, especially in China.

Madhavi: Would that change curriculum of schools all over the world?

James: It would definitely have an impact.

Madhavi: What kind of impact?

James: Personally I don't think that we will ever have a uniform multi-national system for registration. I don't think you will find that exactly in other profession.

Madhavi: Could it be more regional?

James: Yeah it could be more regional, like in Europe. In European Union there is common recognition, especially in education.

Madhavi: In what way would the curriculum change?

James: Well it is probably where there are deficiencies. CLARB, the definition of landscape architecture what we test for, what we examine for would be clear definition of a commonly accepted body or knowledge for landscape architects. And that body of knowledge is universally embraced, accepted then the curriculum will have to address that.

Madhavi: Can CELA or IFLA do that?

James: It has been done in kind of in the United States through LABOK (Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge) survey and that has kind of an impact on curriculum and licensure.

3. Madhavi: *What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on practice of landscape architecture?*

James: I would hope that it would elevate the standards, especially in those areas where there is no regulations and little understanding of what landscape architecture is.

Madhavi: There is deficit in Africa for landscape architects, would that change in other parts of the world?

James: As I understand in South Africa they have system in place for licensure and evaluating candidates so it might have some minor impact on them but they have a system accepted by their government and by their local practice. I think it would have a less impact in a developed nation than developing nations.

Madhavi: What would be the approach of forming these international standards?

James: The way to approach is through IFLA (the International Federation of Landscape Architects). To start with education and establish sort of general guideline for minimum standards, in articulation with the “body of knowledge”, and then getting acceptance from UNESCO as they are responsible for education and then make that information available as various countries refine or develop new licensure system. But education enters high quality with minimum standards of education, then practice will follow and come to shape. The quality of practice also measure for licensure. To get reference point where there is litigation, in Canada for example liability insurance is required by most jurisdictions and if you are not recognized or licensed sometimes it is difficult to get insurance. That is not exactly a illegal matter but it protects yourself against legal issues. So I think the universal standards of some sort will better protect practitioners against legal issues.

4. Madhavi: *Would multi-national licensure be dependent on health safety and welfare of public as licensure is in the United States?*

James: That is the thing I would like to be studied. And I am hoping that you in your questions, I am hoping that you get data from other countries especially developing countries, getting a better handle on what is the basis on regulation for engineers, architect and possibly LA. I don't really have that answer something that I feel needs to be researched.

Madhavi: I have been asking that question and every gives a different answer for that.

James: Yeah, yeah, a lot of landscape architects for example in Brazil and other countries are under the umbrella of architects. So as the matter of understanding why government regulates architecture in terms of, are they trying to protect public in some way and so what are they just trying to regulate business? I don't have those answers that will be a research area.

Madhavi: That would be a difference in how value of licensure is perceived by different people.

James: Yeah, some jurisdictions do that to regulate business and some to protect public.

Madhavi: And how is it the regulations in different countries that you mentioned in the beginning of this interview?

James: I am trying to get information on this myself.

Madhavi: These were the questions I had for today. Thank you.

## Interview 2

Madhavi Sonar: Can I talk to Mr. David Gibbs?

David Gibbs: This is David speaking, Hi.

Madhavi: Hi, How are you ?

David: I am well, thank you, how are you?

Madhavi: I am doing good, thank you. Can I start with the interview now?

David: Absolutely. I am sorry, this time might not be too good for you now, it must be 3 O'clock on the morning?

Madhavi: No, that's fine. It is actually 4 o'clock.

David: Oh ok, hahaha. I will do my best to answer your questions. Like I said in your email, I have a number of different roles to play in our profession, like different aspects of interest. May be it will help all together. But yeah you can go ahead and ask me what you need to ask me.

Madhavi: In order to assist with this research, will you please answer the following questions?

David: sure

### *1. Madhavi: What will multinational licensure look like?*

David: It's quite a complex question. If I can just preface it by saying, my understanding with 'licensure' is that it is what we call in South Africa, 'Professional Registration' and that is quite closely associated with understanding of the particular laws of the country. So we need to understand that if we have an international licensure, we will have to have some kind of global consensus on what international laws govern our profession. So I would imagine, it might be based on the sort of local or national model of licensure or professional registration, but then obviously expanded to be far more inclusive. I haven't really thought it through as far as your research.

Madhavi: But would you have a rough idea on what would be the easier way to have this?

David: If this is going to be international licensure then means it needs to be some kind of registration body or registration authority who monitors and the quality of the professional practice or the ethics of the discipline. It almost requires a decentralization down to a regional or national level but it may consider a reporting-back mechanism into the global hierarchy. And I wonder if it would happen through a body like International Federation of Landscape Architects. It would have international criteria. The way professional registration works locally is as follows: after you graduate from your professional degree you need to work for a 2-year internship period under a mentor (who is registered) and then you write the professional registration examination for your country. That exam covers aspects of contract law and professional ethics and contract administration, as well as environmental legislation which is particularly for the land in which you want to be licensed. Perhaps national professional registration should be seen as a prerequisite to the international licensure. Thus, once you have passed the national exam, then perhaps you can embark upon a program or a study or internship in

international law, international context and then write an international exam; or submit some kind of portfolio for international - review before you license internationally.

Madhavi: But you don't have to go through country to country?

David: Well, I would imagine that different countries have specific environmental laws and in fact in South Africa we have a Roman-Dutch legal system which is quite different from the system in United Kingdom for instance, or the United States as a federation, each state I would imagine have slightly different laws. So even within a region it might be, but I would assume that you wouldn't have to be licensed in different country independently but there is some sort of common ground that is over lasting and then you just need to be aware of specifics of particular context to practice. It is a tricky question.

2. Madhavi: *What would be the impact of multinational licensure on the education of landscape architects?*

David: I think it will have to be far more globally aware and far more into global issues. I would imagine education to be more **comprehensive** in terms of issues of global sustainability. For instance while practicing in South Africa we tend to teach, (I am involving in teaching), a very context-based and focused methodology, so whenever you are applying global principals of design or philosophy, you always want to make it relevant to local context. So I would imagine that if you are into international licensure, you need to be aware of what is going in the world, and where the different needs are and where the urgencies of particular types of work whether it is rehabilitation or human habitation or whatever. One needs to be engaged in international dialogue. Education would probably need to have a far more mobile teaching staff where you have visiting lectures in different universities of different countries, constantly bringing new ideas; exchanges of students perhaps as well. I would imagine it to be far more communicative, far more global communication. Being out on a limb in the south-westernmost point of the African continent, we are somewhat isolated, but we have been fortunate to have some visiting academics from Australia, Canada and New Zealand most recently. But yes that constant networking is going to be quite important.

Madhavi: Would that networking would come from single body of accreditation?

David: It is possible that it could be through the accreditation process, however accreditation is quite a targeted activity, with particular focus and it is more a case of the university or school or college presenting itself to the accreditation board whereas we almost need to have something that is more interactive, more exchanging than presenting. In just in terms of accreditation body. Can you repeat that question?

Madhavi: Would it be helpful to have one kind of accreditation body to most of the universities, something like IFLA or CELA?

David: Yeah, that is a very good point. IFLA is a very useful body with which to be associated. It has always been my ambition to see a closer relationship between the academy (or the academic world) and the profession where we have far more interest in engagement between the professionals and academics. It isn't helpful to have this sort of polarization - where you have researchers on one side developing academic theory a-contextually; and professionals / practitioners on the other who kind of leave the

academic world behind and practice without critical thought. We actually need - because landscape architecture has such practical implications - we need to see a closer association, and this may be achieved through bodies like IFLA. It may indeed be IFLA itself, which has practitioners and academics meeting together and debating and discussing. It is very, very valuable. I am currently president of our local institute of landscape architects (ILASA) and we are affiliated to IFLA.

I try to ensure that all of our committee meetings and presentations are held within the universities, so that the students and teachers can all participate in the profession and pique the academic interest of professionals as well - because they are very very closely linked. I think we need to strengthen that. So, perhaps if IFLA becomes the accreditation body (or a specific task-team of IFLA) then I think then the local institutes are also going to play the role in facilitating their accreditation. We already have a model for accreditation locally which could be projected upwards to accommodate the global perspective.

Madhavi: Is there a local South African body for accreditation?

David: Yes, landscape architecture in South Africa is governed by a professional council, called the South African Council of Landscape Architecture Profession (SACLAP). That council is created by an **act of** parliament (Act 45 of 2000) and one of the duties of that council is to review and accredit (or not) courses or universities that offer professional education in landscape architecture. But, as that council obviously has a four year term of office, accreditation needs to occur at least once within each successive term. Thus SACLAP is obliged to visit each of the institutions that provide landscape architecture education on an ongoing basis - to constantly monitor progress.

Within the landscape architectural profession in South Africa we have a graded professional registration which is aligned with the level of academic education and experience achieved. So if you have an accredited 3-year diploma, then you can (after two years internship) become registered with the council as a 'landscape technician'. If you have an accredited undergraduate degree, then you can become a 'landscape technologist'. And if you have an accredited post-graduate degree or master's degree, then you can become a 'Landscape Architect'. This is a legally-protected term. All drawings and other professional documents are signed by the registered professional with the acronym PrLArch afterwards. It is through the registration committee and education committee of SACLAP that accreditation visits are conducted - to see if indeed the right academic level and right professional level is being achieved - in order to graduate people who can be registered in the appropriate category. SACLAP has a 'memorandum of understanding' or 'agreement' in place with our council for higher education (CHE) which means that a university program which meets the accreditation requirements of SACLAP in terms of meeting professional standards, also meets the standard requirements for the education ministry as well, avoiding a duplicate accreditation process. The CHE has established a set of criteria by which the professional councils need to accredit the academic institutions. So that goes to universities to see if they are providing the right sort of education to fulfill the requirement for profession as well as for education sort of globally.

But yes there is that system and it is one of my responsibilities as a councilor on SACLAP to organize these accreditations.

Madhavi: Yes, I was aware about SACLAP. Actually I read one of your papers on IFLA.

David: Oh ok.

3. Madhavi: *What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on the practice of landscape architecture?*

David: Oh, I think that will make us all very much more mobile. And we might see a lot more international competition in local settings. Currently we do have instances where landscape architects from abroad design projects that are implemented under local supervision. But we might see far more American people setting up practices in different countries or vice versa. So I think it will probably bring about far more flexibility and mobility and it also might mean that the fusion of skills is facilitated for instance in Africa as a whole there is a deficit of landscape architects. There are 120 in South Africa, but there are only 2 or 3 in Botswana and 1 in Tanzania and a handful in other countries. So we might be able to see landscape architects from other countries be able to participate in projects far more easily if there are licensures recognized by those countries. However, I can see there are a lot more problems where in certain countries government officials are not even aware of landscape architecture as a discipline. So if there are foreigners with international global licensure, it means that the individual government of each country will need to recognize that qualification.

There is a lot of interest in South Africa and if there is international licensure then perhaps we will see a lot more immigration, perhaps. Just as a footnote, our government has undertaken a study of the various built environment professions and landscape architecture is identified as 'scarce skill'. Government projections are that we really ought to be graduating about 200 graduates a year to meet current needs. And currently we are probably graduating (between the 2 universities that have post-graduate landscape architecture courses) we are probably graduating maximum only 20 students per year. So we are in urgent need of a lot more qualified practitioners. But at the same time - it is the same old story - we still need to create the general awareness of what the profession is all about and how we can create greater value on a project and not just come in the end - after the engineers and the architects.

4. Madhavi: *Would multi-national licensure be dependent on health, safety and welfare of the public as licensure is in the United States?*

David: I don't have a lot of information on what the situation is in the United States but I can tell you that health and safety is obviously a big issue, in our licensure or registration you do need to be familiar with health and safety act and various implications of that. And when it is as a project implementation there is always a health and safety plan and health and safety officer who is responsible for insuring health and safety on the site that includes environmental health and safety. One of the points of the licensure is it is really for public protection, to protect the public from malpractice or incompetence in behalf of the registered professional. So definitely I would agree yes, health and safety are quite important.

Madhavi: How is it defined in South Africa and how will it be defined in multi-national licensure?

David: We are bound with the situation of health and safety act which sets out certain rules of conduct and behavior and off course business system and accounting and accountability. That obviously needs an international agreement on what the criteria are and what the standard of practice would be. And obviously if you subscribe to that and if you have certain amount of insurance into that. I guess there needs to be a international charter or some kind of document that people can subscribe to in an international situation. It can be tied to international human rights issues and different countries have different records on human right successes and failures. In our legislation locally in terms of building bye-laws as well they are more inclusive in designing acts for people who do have disabilities. I think you can only benefit from global experience. Global view needs to be contextualized with the specific applications and there is whole contextual agenda that also needs to be accounted for. In South Africa we have a very heterogeneous society with various different --- that play and people have very different concepts on personal space and health and safety. The bottom line is that, yes indeed the global principles they need to be locally defined as well.

Madhavi: Thank you for answering these questions.

David: It is a pleasure. I hope it was helpful. If you need me to clarify anything then send me an email or ask me to break it down. I will do my best. I hope I wasn't too off target.

Madhavi: Actually you were really on the point. Those were very clear responses.

David: I certainly hope that your research goes well and I wish you the best of luck and I look forward to seeing the content.

Madhavi: Thank you. Bye.

David: bye.

### Interview 3

Madhavi Sonar: Can I talk to Mr. participant?

Respondent 11: That is who I am speaking.

Madhavi Sonar: How are you doing?

Respondent 11: I am fine, thank you.

Madhavi Sonar: Can I start with the interview now?

Respondent 11: Yes, off course.

Madhavi Sonar: To give a brief introduction, my thesis topic is "Multi-national licensure in landscape architecture: searching for its impact on the profession." In order to assist with the research will you please answer the following questions?

Respondent 11: Yes, off course.

**1. Madhavi Sonar: *What would multi-national licensure look like?***

Respondent 11: O ho ho.. what would multi-national licensureship look like?

Madhavi Sonar: yes



Respondent 11: Can you explain that a little, what are you trying to get at?

Madhavi Sonar: Like UK has the pathway to chartership, the United States has state licensure, many countries have registration with the national societies, or would it have continuing education? Like these are just different options.

Respondent 11: Ok, from my perspective I have been mostly with the UK, so what I would like to see is that there is a certain educational standard you start with, and that would be sort of an undergraduate degree and then thereafter there will be a process by which you are judged by a professional and that would continue throughout your professional life.

Madhavi Sonar: Would it be handled by some kind of a multi-national body or would be different from country to country?

Respondent 11: I think it has to be different from country to country. I think the intention will have to be the same, the aiming for the same professional arena. But I think it has to be specific to individual countries just as landscapes are specific so landscape professionals have to be specific in individual international countries. But I think that could be governed by an international body representation by each of the countries interested.

Madhavi Sonar: Would it be kind of a common in some parts?

Respondent 11: Oh yeah, no question yes. I mean some sort of base line information is required throughout and it would be an allowance to change it if necessary within country. Equally there could be allowance to change with specialism of the individuals who wish to do certain elements.

Madhavi Sonar: And what would those elements be?

Respondent 11: Hey, they are numerous. You know the visions which we are trying to remove in the UK are the barriers and divisions within landscape as a recognition of all forms of landscapes, professional responsibilities across the board, so it is not seen as purely designing and planning, but it is management, it is science, it is urban design, it is a whole variety of things.

Madhavi Sonar: UK uses the terms Chartered and Charity. Where can I find definition for charity?

Respondent 11: Charity is particular type of organization which is governed by what it is called, the Charities commission. If you wanted information on that, you went to google and type in Charities commission UK, you will get their website. Charities commission has a set of guidelines in which you can set up a charity and the code being that you cannot make profit as an organization, set up not to make a profit.

**2. Madhavi Sonar: *What would be the impact of multi-national licensure on education of landscape architecture?***

Respondent 11: I think it would be enormous, I think it would be immense, it think it will give well obviously it will give international recognition to the profession of landscape architecture. The difficulty we have at the moment and I quite specifically am from Europe, landscape architecture as a profession in some countries is not even allowed to be practiced. You cannot call yourself a landscape architect. Because the title of “architect” is protected. For instance in Spain, in Italy, in Turkey, in France you are

not allowed to call yourself a landscape architect because can't use the title "architect" in any shape or form. Even that we know that there other civilized countries in Europe, it is recognized profession.

Madhavi Sonar: Would it change the curriculum of education around the world?

Respondent 11: I think it would benefit the curriculum of education around the world. I think it would enhance the curriculum of education around the world because internationally if you were sharing that knowledge then the benefits would be immense, like we have the benefit in the UK of no particular landscape architecture course being the same. And it is because it is such a diverse profession, which is the wonderful aspect of it. To have this around the world will be phenomenal.

Madhavi Sonar: In what way would it be changed?

Respondent 11: First of all it will have an immediate recognition of what it is a landscape architect can do and tackle so. There will be non of this "oh I don't understand who you are, where you are and what your profession does", which is a common reoccurrence the whole of my professional life and professional life of most of other landscape architects I come on contact with. People just do not understand what landscape architects do. I think that will be the biggest phenomenal change is that if you have a standardized approach across the world. And there will be non of that lack of recognition.

Madhavi Sonar: In what parts would it be standardized? In education constructions, planting, planning, what would be majorly impacted by this?

Respondent 11: What I think is if the international organization has to sit down and indentify clearly of what those basic principles of landscape architecture are and off course they should out come out in construction, planting, and developed design etc, etc., then they will be all baseline modules and then there after you will have different specialization like management and ecology, etc.

Madhavi Sonar: Would there be a common body of accreditation?

Respondent 11: I think that again there would be a common understanding of what accreditation would mean. But then it will have to be applicable to individual countries. You know that we have a common Union Europe trying to establish education platform, common education platform. But it is never going to work because some countries are not as forward thinking as others. You will have a baseline which you find acceptable and then acknowledge that the others would be further ahead then then perhaps some countries around the world.

Madhavi Sonar: Does Landscape Institute accredit programs in whole of UK?

Respondent 11: Yes

Madhavi Sonar: There are 9-10 schools in UK?

Respondent 11: I think there are 16-17, I don't remember the exact number.

3. Madhavi Sonar: *What would be the impact of multinational licensure on practice of landscape architects?*

Respondent 11: Again I think it will be phenomenal, again we go back to the recognition thing. If you are not recognized as a professional in your own light then the difficulty is, you know it is very difficult to operate. You are always operating under the

shadow of somebody else, either an architect or engineer or whatever. So international licensure would be a phenomenal step forward in my opinion.

Madhavi Sonar: If we have to form it now, then what countries do you think now would be involved?

Respondent 11: Obviously, I would lightly think America, Australia, New Zealand, the UK, Germany, the scandinavian countries that as an starter, Canada.

Madhavi Sonar: Do you think they will participate?

Respondent 11: I am not sure, some countries tend to be very protected about what they believe in. And in other ways if this is readily available to talk or compromise then perhaps they will.

Madhavi Sonar: Since UK is part of European Union, do people practice from one country to other?

Respondent 11: They are allowed to yes. I don't think it happens perhaps as frequently as it might, but certainly the intention of the European Union is that there are no borders when it comes to international competition and business.

Madhavi Sonar: Oh so you don't need to be registered to different countries to practice?

Respondent 11: No, no, no. If you are qualified here in the UK and are member of Landscape Institute then you are automatically recognized by any of the economic countries within Europe.

Madhavi Sonar: So you don't have to be educated in UK to be part of landscape institute?

Respondent 11: No. If you are a equivalent of chartered member of another organization within Europe- Germany, France, Belgium, you name it. You are entitled to become a member of the UK landscape Institute and work as chartered member.

Madhavi Sonar: I was trying to find information about Germany. Germany doesn't have a landscape architect institute doesn't have their own accreditation and registration? They connect to the architecture council?

Respondent 11: They are connected, I am not sure how well or how badly they are connected. But they are two organizations within Germany and it doesn't really mean that if you join the one then you have to join the other. The BDLA for instance the Bund... Landscape Architecture, you do not have to a member of that if you are a member of the other organization of registration and I think they are the one that are associated with the architects.

Madhavi Sonar: What would be the process of forming multi-national licensure?

Respondent 11: Well, again it goes back to the starting with education and a recognition of what each educational standard brings. You will have to rationalize how you are educated in each of those countries and what that process gives you. Then you will have to have a uniform understanding of how long you will have to be in practice, working with other professional members in order to become a professional member yourself. Then you have to establish how you are going to assess that and then you have to establish how you are going to continue to assess that, those individuals who wish to continue either sort of qualified member. And that will somehow have to be give a standardized person.

Madhavi Sonar: When you say that it is not recognized, I have been in the profession for 9 years and everytime when it is spring, I am asked if I am busy.

Respondent 11: Ha ha ha.. So it is summer you must be busy now.. hahaha.

**4. Madhavi Sonar: *Would multi-national licensure be dependent on the health, safety and welfare of public as licensure is in the United States?***

Respondent 11: I think it has to be. The very landscape architects we are dealing with public and public the main. I think that is titled.

Madhavi Sonar: Is that a clause in UK too for registration?

Respondent 11: Well you have to be fully cognizant of all the health and safety requirements. Under the terms law you have to be able to comply with UK legislation in terms of health and safety, specifically with the legislation called the construction design and management regulation which is a fairly recent introduction to health and safety.

Madhavi Sonar: What other factors would be included in it?

Respondent 11: Well you have to recognize that whatever you do throughout the design and a designer is defined as anybody who tell somebody else to do something or inform somebody else to bring assiduity in a particular way, you have to be competent of the possible implications of your work throughout the drawing, so essentially the minute you start thinking about the design, you get onto the site and start demolition, how could somebody be hurt through your request of them to demolishing a road or whatever. And the implication is right throughout the structure so from time of demolition to construction to implementation to long term management and maintenance and future demolition, you have to be competent of what it is you have designed. Such that anybody throughout anyone of those stages might not get hurt. So you either design out the risk and the hazard or you minimize the risk and the hazard or you protect people from that risk and the hazard. So it is a life long process and from the moment it is demolished and instigated in the beginning to the time it is demolished at the end of you design. You see what I mean?

Madhavi Sonar: Yes, also environmental aspects, sustainability and other factors would be parts of that?

Respondent 11: Good old question..It is rather strange I feel that the lights of sustainability and climate change has suddenly become on various government agendas, because as far as I am concerned the landscape architect, that is what I have been dealing with a whole of my professional career. They are not something that has just become fashionable. As far as I am concerned we always had to deal with them, they are integral to what we do from the very outset, whether or not they are on some government agenda at this time or not. It conveniently happens to be, I think it title to that would be included as a part of the whole process.

Madhavi Sonar: Yes it has become fashionable.

Respondent 11: Yes it has become fashionable, which in a sense is in our favor because off course we may well have been speaking about this term forever, but nobody has been listening, suddenly it is now fashionable and there is finance behind and that kind of changes the whole picture.

Madhavi Sonar: Yes like it is kind of an requirement to be a part of those organizations.

Respondent 11: Yes, yes.

Madhavi Sonar: When you travel how do you see these health and safety aspects are defined and perceived in the other parts?

Respondent 11: Ha haha.. to be particularly honest with you I think if you go to some countries and they are incredibly well looked after, incredibly well maintained, incredibly well implemented. But then there are some countries particularly within Europe, particularly in the younger European Union countries, I am thinking of the eastern block where health and safety is irrelevant. You know, I mean go to China and it is scary, literally scary. They wouldn't know what health and safety would be at the .. of the face.

Madhavi Sonar: So it would be beneficial if it is well defined in multi-national licensure?

Respondent 11: It would be more than beneficial, including all parts, users, non-users, including visitor and off course including workers who put all these things together.

Madhavi Sonar: It was brief and very good explanation.

Respondent 11: Thank you, I hope that it is of some use to you.

Madhavi Sonar: Thank you some much.

Respondent 11: My pleasure, thank you, bye

Madhavi Sonar: bye.

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## BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Ms Madhavi B. Sonar was born and raised in Mumbai and Nasik, India. She received her Bachelor's degree in architecture from Nasik College of Architecture, University of Pune, India in 1997. She worked as an architect in India for one year. She worked for a landscape architecture firm in Dallas, TX from 2000 to 2008. After completing her graduation Madhavi looks forward to getting licensed to practice landscape architecture in the United States and in India. Madhavi currently resides in Dallas, Texas.