

STEVE AUSTIN, JD, ASLA

steve.austin@wsu.edu

academic positions

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR of PRACTICE, Landscape Architecture,
School of Design and Construction, Washington State University,
8/21 – present
(Instructor, 8/13 – 5/16, Assistant Professor of Practice 8/16-5/21)
INTERIM PROGRAM HEAD, Landscape Architecture, Washington State University,
1/17 – 5/17
ADJUNCT FACULTY, Landscape Architecture Dept., University of Kentucky, 8/89 – 5/12
GUEST LECTURER, College of Law, University of Kentucky, 2000 – 2006
VISITING LECTURER, University of Kentucky, College of Design, Master of Historic
Preservation Program, 2003
RESEARCH ASSISTANT, Thomas Nieman, Ph.D., FASLA, University of Kentucky, 1985-86

FACULTY ADVISOR:

Washington State University Community Design Team 8/13-present
American Society of Landscape Architects, Student Chapter 8/14-present
Sunrise Washington State 8/19-present

professional positions

FOUNDER/OWNER, SdA + Associates, LLC. Land Planning | Design | Law, 1989 – present
FOUNDING DIRECTOR, LEGACY CENTER /VICE PRESIDENT,
Bluegrass Community Foundation, Lexington, Ky., 4/08 – 7/12
PRESIDENT/CEO, Bluegrass Tomorrow, Lexington, Ky., 2/00 – 3/08
(Regional Planner, 3/97 – 2/00)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Georgetown-Scott-Joint Planning Commission,
Georgetown, Ky., 6/92 - 8/96
(Assistant Planner, 3/89 - 6/92)
PROJECT MANAGER, Darby and Way, Inc., Pompano Beach, Florida
SITE DESIGNER/LAND USE PLANNER, Heilbron Associates, Lexington, Ky.

education

JURIS DOCTOR, University of Kentucky College of Law, Lexington, Kentucky, 1999
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, University of Kentucky, 1987

professional development

CAPSTONE ASSESSMENT, National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment,
Washington State University, 2016
TRANSITION TOWN PLANNING STUDY, Europe 2012 - 2013
SOCIAL MEDIA IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, Annenberg School of Communication
& Journalism, A Knight Foundation Workshop, University of Southern California, Fall 2011
LEADERSHIP SCOTT COUNTY, (Kentucky), 1993
CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN, Florida Attorney
General's Office, 1988
CHINA/JAPAN EXCHANGE STUDY, University of Kentucky, 1986

professional affiliations

American Society of Landscape Architects
American Planning Association
Kentucky Bar Association

awards and
recognition

Teacher of the Year (Career Line), School of Design + Construction, Washington State University, 2019-2020
Provost's Featured Faculty, Washington State University, 2019-2020
Civic Engagement Award, Pullman Civic Trust, May 2019
Outstanding Teaching Award, Landscape Architecture, School of Design + Construction, Washington State University, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018
President's Award for Leadership and Service, Washington State University, 2015
Nominated - Martin Luther King Distinguished Service Award in the category of Faculty, Washington State University, 2015
Landscape Preservation Award, Bluegrass Trust for Historic Preservation, Lead Team Member, 2015
Legacy Trail Dedication Plaque – *"With gratitude to Steve Austin and Beth Willmott whose leadership helped make the Legacy Trail possible from the Staff and Board of the Bluegrass Community Foundation"*, 2012, Lexington Ky.
Bluegrass Connector, *"Trusted leaders who get things done..."* - Public nomination process; 5,000 names submitted, one of 138 chosen from Lexington, Ky. Metro Region, 2012
Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Award, *"In Recognition of Your Efforts of Promoting Dr. King's Dream of Unity within the Lexington Community"* presented by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, 2011, Team Leader, Lexington, Ky.
Project of the Year, Legacy Trail, Mid-America Trails and Greenways, 2011, Team Member, Lexington, Ky.
Commissioned Colonel, Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, for service to the Commonwealth of Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear, 2009
Resolution of Appreciation – Bluegrass Tomorrow Board of Directors, 2008
Practice Honor Award, Urban Design - Southend Village, Lexington Ky., American Society Landscape Architects, Ky. Chapter, 2005, Team Member
Environmental Commission Award – Ashland Park Reforestation Plan, Lexington-Fayette County Urban Government, 2005, Team Member
Best Oral Argument - Moot Court Board, University of Kentucky College of Law, 1997
Resolution of Appreciation - Resolution #96-08, City of Georgetown, Ky., 1996
Excellence in Community Service Award - National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 1994
Winner, "Public Landscapes of America," Design Competition - Landscape Architecture Magazine, 1994
Highest Honors Award, 1991 Georgetown-Scott County Comprehensive Plan – American Planning Association, Ky. Chapter, 1991
National Honor Award - American Society of Landscape Architects, Student, 1987
Outstanding Landscape Architecture Student - University of Kentucky, 1986
Outstanding Landscape Architecture History and Theory Student - University of Kentucky, 1985
Undergraduate Dean's List - University of Kentucky: 1982, 1983, 1985, 1986
Undergraduate Academic Scholarships – University of Kentucky: 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987

guided
student
work
(selected)

Framework for a Regenerative, Climate-wise, User-friendly Landscape Ordinance, Wenatchee, WA, 2022
Pullman-WSU Gateway District, Pullman, WA, 2021
Tiny Home Village Model Zoning Ordinance, Lewiston, Idaho, 2021
Thornton Murphy Community Garden, Spokane, WA, 2021

Children's Gardens, Washington Correction Center for Women, Gig Harbor, WA, 2021
Reimagining Lincoln Street, Port Angeles, WA, 2020
Indian Creek Community Forest, Kalispel Tribe, Pend Oreille County, WA, 2019
Colfax Community Plan, Colfax, WA, 2018
Chief Morris Antelope Park, Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, 2016
Swenson Park, Community Design Team, Potlatch, Idaho; *ASLA Merit Award*, Washington State Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, 2016
MosaiCity, Smart City Spokane, Integrated Design Research Studio; *ASLA Honor Award*, Washington State Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, 2016
Palouse Bioregional Plan, Washington State University, 2013
Flight 93 National Memorial: Site Master Plan, National Park Service, Shanksville Pennsylvania, 2012
Georgetown/Scott County, Kentucky: A Comprehensive Plan, 2011
Beyond the Legacy Trail: A plan for a regional trail system in the Bluegrass, 2010; *Honor Award*, Student Project, American Planning Association, Kentucky Chapter
Russellville/Logan County, Kentucky Comprehensive Plan, 2009
Bluegrass Corridors: Windows to the Future, 2008
Owen County, Kentucky Community Plan, 2007
Franklin/Simpson County, Kentucky: Vision Plan, 2006
Pendleton County, Kentucky: Planning for the Future, 2005
Oldham County, Kentucky: A Plan to Create The Most Livable Community in Kentucky, 2004
Footprints for Tomorrow: A Plan for Washington County, Kentucky's Future, 2003
Legacy Plan: A Vision for Mercer County, Kentucky, 2002
Harlan County, Kentucky 2001 Plan, 2001
Elliott County, Kentucky Heritage Plan, 2000; *Special Recognition Award*, American Society of Landscape Architects, Kentucky Chapter
The Bluegrass: A Finite Resource, 1999; *Honor Award*, Student Project, American Planning Association, Kentucky Chapter
A Plan for the Future: Columbia and Adair County, Kentucky, 1998

academic lectures

Net-Zero Landscape Architecture: what Washington state's new climate laws could mean for the profession, Idaho/Montana Association of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, May 2022
Countdown to net-zero 2050: what Washington state's new climate laws mean for urban planning, *Keynote*, Planning Association of Washington, November, 2021
Countdown to net-zero 2050: what Washington state's new climate laws mean for landscape architecture, Washington Society of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, October 2021
Closing the value-action gap: examining landscape architectural practice in a zero carbon future (with Rob Kuper, ASLA), Pennsylvania/ Delaware Society of Landscape of Architects Annual Convention, November 2020
Landscape Architecture and the Green New Deal, Washington Society of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, October 2020
Virtual Study Abroad, Washington State University, May-June 2020
Post Carbon Landscape Architecture, Washington Society of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, March 2019
Welcome to the Anthropocene: What will it mean for practice?

Keynote, Washington Society of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, April, 2016
Student Perspectives of the Anthropocene, *Coordinator and Moderator*, Washington Society of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, April, 2016
Of Bird's Nests and Beaver Dams: Landscape Architecture in the Anthropocene, Presented at the Washington Society of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, May, 2015
Of Bird's Nests and Beaver Dams: Landscape Architecture in the Anthropocene, Presented at the *Anthropocene: Confronting Global Environmental Change and Hazardous Worlds* conference, Washington State University, April 2015
Of Bird's Nests and Beaver Dams: Landscape Architecture in the Anthropocene, Presented at the Kentucky Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Conference, March, 2015
Landscape Architecture in the Anthropocene: A New Definition of Beauty, Presented at the Idaho Nurseryman's Association Annual Conference, February, 2015
Rethinking Design: The College of Design at 40, University of Kentucky, 2012
The Evolution of Suburbia, Spring Lecture Series, Inaugural and Closing Speaker, University of Kentucky Landscape Architecture Department, 2002
New Urban Cities, Clemson University, 2002
Urban Growth Boundaries, Segoe Debate Series, University of Cincinnati, 2001

built urban/
community
design

The Legacy Trail - Lexington, Ky.
Yuko-En, The Official Kentucky-Japan Friendship Garden - Georgetown, Ky.
Royal Spring Park - Georgetown, Ky.
South End Park – Lexington, Ky.
Main and Rose Plaza - Lexington, Ky.
Old Todd's Road Townhouses - Lexington, Ky.
Ashland Park Neighborhood Urban Forestry Plan - Lexington, Ky.
East End Neighborhood Urban Forestry Plan - Lexington, Ky.
Isaac Murphy Memorial Art Garden - Lexington, Ky.
Signature Estates - Traditional Neighborhood, Lexington, Ky.
Wooldridge - New Urban Neighborhood, Versailles, Ky.
Scott County Courthouse Memorial Plaza - Georgetown, Ky.
Born Learning Trail, Lexington, Ky.
Main Street Master Design Plan - Georgetown, Ky.
Elkhorn Creek Greenway - Scott County, Ky.
M.L. King Park - Georgetown, Ky.
U.S. 460 and 62 Corridor Enhancement Plan - Georgetown, Ky.
Meditation Garden - Carlisle Catholic Church, Carlisle Ky.
Coordinated Entry Sign Program - Georgetown, Ky.
Village on the Green - Conservation Development, Jessamine County, Ky.
Patchen Wilkes - New Urban Neighborhood, Lexington, Ky.

Numerous completed private garden landscapes and proposed site projects

professional
planning
studies
(selected)

48 Mile Greenway, Fitness for Life Around Grant County, Grant County, Kentucky
Street Reclamation: An Independent Review, Totnes, England, U.K.
Bluegrass Regional Plan, Bluegrass Tomorrow
Legacy Trail Public Art Master Plan, Plan Coordinator, (Bressi & Levy, Authors)

Jenkins, Kentucky Relocalization Plan, Consultant to KY League of Cities
New City Moscow, Idaho; A Vision for the Future, New Cities Institute
Revenue Sharing Options for the Bluegrass, Bluegrass Tomorrow
Bluegrass Corridor Management Planning Handbook, Coordinator, U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (Gladding-Jackson, author)
Bluegrass Tomorrow Community Design Handbook – Coordinator, (UDA Architects, author)
Base Realignment Plan, Land Use Visioning Element, Fort Knox, Kentucky, U.S. Department of Defense,
Mayfield, Kentucky Downtown and Greenway Plan, Consultant to KY League of Cities
Dawson Springs, Kentucky Downtown Plan, Consultant to KY League of Cities
Williamstown, Kentucky Comprehensive Plan, Consultant to KY League of Cities
Greensburg, Kentucky Strategic Plan, Consultant to KY League of Cities
East End Small Area Plan, Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government, Kentucky
Bluegrass Innovision 2018, Bluegrass Tomorrow
New City Madisonville/Hopkins County; A vision for the Future, Consultant to the New Cities Institute, Madisonville/Hopkins County, Kentucky
Bluegrass Regional Economic Analysis, Bluegrass Tomorrow
A Global Homeplace: A 21st century plan for Economic Development, Environmental Protection, and Quality of Life in the Valley of Troublesome Creek, Knott County, Ky.
Pendleton County, Kentucky, Comprehensive Plan
New City Morehead; A Vision for the Future, New Cities Institute, Morehead, Kentucky
Connections: Understanding Our Region, Bluegrass Tomorrow
Regional Coordination Element, Versailles/Midway/Woodford County Kentucky Comprehensive Plan, 1st in Kentucky
Suburban Evolution, Bluegrass Tomorrow
A Bluegrass of Parking Lots: Over-parking and what to do about it, Bluegrass Tomorrow
Lessons in Redevelopment: Building Great Downtowns, Bluegrass Tomorrow
Bluegrass Choices, Bluegrass Tomorrow
Trend v. Vision Development, Madison County, Kentucky
Issue Statement, Bluegrass Tomorrow Agricultural Task Force
Trend Implications Element - Bluegrass Tomorrow Regional Plan
Georgetown/Sadieville/Stamping Ground/Scott County Kentucky Comprehensive Plan

technical planning documents

Subdivision and Development Regulations
 Zoning Ordinances
 Cluster Subdivision Ordinances
 Small Area Plans and Ordinances
 Urban Service Boundary Expansion Planning Guides
 Historic Preservation Ordinances
 Transportation Plans

books

Steve Austin, Kalantari S., Griechen D., Theodorson J., **WSU IDR Studios: Smart City**, Washington State University, Pullman, WA (198 pages), 2015
 Steve Austin, **Planning A Great Region: Collected Essays 1998-2006**, published by Bluegrass Tomorrow, Lexington, Kentucky, 2006

peer-reviewed

Lee, B.D., J. Adams, and S.D. Austin. **The Landscape Tension Index**. In T. Mueller, G.

book chapter

Sassenrath, & S. Shearer (Eds.), *GIS Applications for Agriculture, Volume 4 – Conservation Planning*. Boca Raton, Florida: CRC Press 2015

planning + design
commentary
(print, selected)

In the Long Heat, a Vision of Shade Cities, Moscow-Pullman Daily News, 9/10/19
Can We Get To Zero?, Landscape Architecture Magazine, June, 2017
Regional Economic Development Crucial for Bright Future, Lexington Ky Herald-Leader, Sunday, 3/30/15 (Sunday Circulation approx. 360,000)
Local is the New Global, Kentucky League of Cities Magazine, July 2011
Turn Bluegrass into Nation's Green Center, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday 5/30/05
Southend Park, S. Austin and E. Holmes, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday 2/15/04
Problems Cross County Lines; So Must Planning, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday 2/1/04
Are Cities Obsolete? Kentucky League of Cities Magazine, Fall 2003
PDR a Building Block For Economic Success, Lexington Herald-Leader, 7/28/03
Housing Boom Moves to the Country, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday, 5/18/03
Counties Must Work Together or Fall Apart, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday, 9/01/02
A Renaissance for Lexington, Chevy Chaser Magazine, April, 2002
Variety of Projects Prove that Developers can Build Friendly, Inviting Neighborhoods, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday, 11/25/01
Planning is Essential for the Future of Cities, Kentucky League of Cities Magazine, 2001
The Growth Dilemma, Kentucky Journal, Kentucky Center for Public Issues, University of Louisville, Spring 2001
Planning to Stay – Parts I & II, Chevy Chaser Magazine, April, June, 2001
Turning Urban Brownfields into Vibrant Streetscapes, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday, 05/27/01
PDR Will Help Preserve Our Rural Heritage, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday 07/21/00
Growth By Design, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday, 05/28/00
Growing Wisely - Our Way, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday 11/30/97
Before It Was Neo, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday, 6/8/97
Planning Seen Through Longer Lens, Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday 1/26/97
Learning From Georgetown, Herald Dispatch, Huntington, W.Va. 4/28/96
Citizens Can And Should Lead The Planning Process, published by Lexington Herald-Leader, Sunday 2/25/96
What Kind of Town? Lexington's Paradox of Limited Growth and Rural Preservation, published by Lexington Herald Leader, Sunday 2/2/95

legal
scholarship

Planning for Kentucky, A Critical Analysis of K.R.S. 100 – Thesis, College of Law, University of Kentucky, 1999
Conservation Easements: Hope for the Bluegrass?, Tax Policy Seminar, College of Law, University of Kentucky, 1998.

published
recognition

The New Civic Art: Elements of Town Planning, Duany, et al., Rizzoli, 2003.
Smart Growth is Smart Business, NALGEP/Smart Growth Leadership Institute, 2006.
Lost Bluegrass: History of a Vanishing Landscape, Driestadt, The History Press of Charleston, S.C., 2011.
Planting a Sustainable Community: An Organic History of New Pioneers for a Sustainable Future, McGowan, St. Catherine College (KY), 2010.

public

Campus Community Forum, Washington State University, 2015

presentations
(selected)

KY Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Convention, Lexington, Kentucky, 2011
Southern Municipal League Annual Conference, Keynote, Lexington, Kentucky, 2011
Kentucky League of Cities Annual Convention, Keynote, Lexington, Kentucky, 2010
Creative Cities Summit, Presenter and Moderator, Lexington, Kentucky, 2010
Kentucky League of Cities Annual Convention, 1998, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
Over 500 Presentations as President of Bluegrass Tomorrow: Governors, state government officials, local governments, chambers of commerce, university presidents, leadership organizations, planning commissions, students, civic clubs, etc. 2000-2008
Land, Food & Culture: Creating Sustainability Where You Live, Lexington, Kentucky, 2007
The Ohio River Bridges Project Smart Growth Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, 2006
Downtown Development in Kentucky, Lorman Seminar, Lexington, Kentucky, 2005
New Urbanism in the Bluegrass, Host and Keynote, 2005
American Farmland Trust Annual Convention, Lexington, Kentucky, 2005
Priester National Extension Conference, Lexington, Kentucky, 2005
National League of Cities Annual Convention, Indianapolis, Indiana, 2004
International Idea Festival, Lexington, Kentucky, 2002, 2004
International Sustainable Cities Conference, Presenter/Tour Host, Louisville, Kentucky, 2004
Ozarks Regional Partnership Annual Meeting, Springfield, Missouri, Keynote, 2003
Smart Growth in the Rural South Conference, Chattanooga, Tennessee, 2003
"Growing Smart Together," Inaugural Speaker, Lancaster County, PA., 2001
Kentucky Governor's Agricultural Development Policy Conference, Louisville, Ky., 2001
Kentucky Association of Planners Annual Meeting, Ky., 2001
"Nissan and Mississippi – Learning from others," Jackson, Mississippi, 2001
23rd Annual Kentucky Transportation Conference, Louisville, Kentucky, 2001
"Rural Development in the Bluegrass," to Kentucky Chapter, American Planning Association, 1996
"Toyota's Impact on Georgetown and Scott County," Princeton, Indiana and Buffalo, West Virginia, 1996
Town Planning Forum, World Park Festival, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan, 1995
"Toyota's Impact on Georgetown and Scott County, Kentucky," to Greater Derby Chamber of Commerce, Derby, England, UK., 1994
"Cluster Development in Scott County," to Bluegrass Area Development District, 1994
"Development Trends in Georgetown/Scott County," to Leadership Scott County, 1993
"Community Improvement Through Public Design," Royal Spring Park Dedication, 1993

**community
service**
(selected)

Board Member - Pullman Civic Trust Board of Directors, 2015- present
Member - Building Committee, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Pullman WA, 2014-present
Volunteer - Transition Town Totnes, Totnes, England, U.K., 2013
Member - Lexington, Kentucky Mayor Jim Gray Transition Team, 2010
Board Member - AIM (Art In Motion), Lexington, Ky 2008-2012
Co-Founder, The Stephen and Margaret Austin Charitable Foundation, 2009
Chair - Grounds Committee, Ashland, The Henry Clay Estate, 2008-2012
Member, Town Branch Trail Advisory Committee, 2005-2012
Co - Founder/Secretary - Isaac Murphy Bike Club (Bikes for Kids!), 2009-2012
Member - Landscape Architecture Vision Committee, University of Kentucky, 2011

Instructor, Junior Achievement, Sts. Peter and Paul Elementary School, Lexington, Kentucky, 2009-2011.

Member, Smart Growth Business Partnership Advisory Council, 2001-2007

Chair - Vine Street Task Force, Downtown Lexington, Kentucky, 2005-2006

Member - Lexington/Fayette Corridors Committee, 2000-2010

Member - Lexington/Fayette Greenspace Commission, 2000-2006

Member - Governor Patton's Smart Growth Task Force Advisory Committee, 2001-2002

Chair - Elkhorn Creek Trust - Dams and Signage Committee, 1993-1994

Co-Chair - Bluegrass Tomorrow Community Design Committee, 1993-1994

Member - Georgetown College Economic Impact Study Committee, 1993

Member - Regional Planning Council, Bluegrass Area Development District, 1992 - 2008

Member - Regional Transportation Committee, Bluegrass Area Development District, 1992-2008

Member - State of Kentucky Transportation Cabinet Intermodal Advisory Panel, 2001

Member - Scott County Library Board Long Range Planning Committee, 1993

Member - Youth Mentorship Planning Committee - Leadership Scott County, 1993-1994

Member - Georgetown/Scott County Code Enforcement Task Force, 1990-1996

Member - Non-Profit Housing Corporation - Georgetown/Scott County 1990-1996