

For Immediate Release

The NDSU School of Design, Architecture, + Art Announces.

THE DEPARTMENT OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, DISASTER RESILIENCE, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT. LADREM.

Minneapolis— *October 27th, 2023, and Los Angeles – November 3rd, 2023.*

At the 2023 American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA est. 1899) Conference on Landscape Architecture: SCALE-UP, the NDSU College of Arts and Sciences announced the formation of the Department of Landscape Architecture, Disaster Resilience, and Emergency Management (LADREM). This announcement is being jointly delivered at the premier Emergency Management conference: the 71st Annual Conference of the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM est. 1952).

This purposeful recalibration of NDSU’s highly ranked and nationally recognized Emergency Management, Geographic Information Systems, and Landscape Architecture programs consolidates a suite of degrees and certificates focused on planning and designing for resilience. LADREM will prepare practitioners to address the layered vulnerabilities faced by local and global communities in an increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous (VUCA) world. “This new department puts NDSU in a position to holistically address the challenge of developing both individual and community level resilience in an era where volatile hazardscapes are marked by more frequent and severe events, devastating impacts on lives, livelihoods, and quality of life, and unsustainable disaster costs. The LADREM team is situated to advance education, research, and practice through a collaborative lens that will change the way resilience is understood and operationalized,” said Dr. Carol Cwiak, internationally recognized emergency management subject matter expert and award-winning Associate Professor of Emergency Management (as recognized by an IAEM-USA presidential citation in 2022).



Dr. Kimberly Wallin, Dean of the NDSU College of Arts and Sciences stated, “This faculty-led merger is an achievement that marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter. The dedication and collaboration in envisioning this alliance is commendable and will bring new opportunities for our faculty, students, staff, and stakeholders.”

PROGRAM IMPACTS

The NDSU Landscape Architecture and Emergency Management programs bring 40 years and 20 years of historical contributions, respectively. NDSU’s Emergency Management program was the first in the nation to develop a full complement of emergency management offerings from the minor to the doctoral level and delivered the first emergency management doctoral degrees in the world (two of these degree holders remain as faculty at NDSU). The program has led discussions and initiatives focused on advancing emergency management education and practice nationally and internationally and is recognized as a leader in developing the discipline of emergency management. Emergency management program alumni are leading the field across a wide variety of sectors, including government (e.g., local, regional, state, tribal, and federal); education (e.g., K-12, colleges); healthcare (e.g., assisted living; nursing facilities, hospitals, healthcare systems); private sector (finance, energy, service provider businesses, major retailers, insurance), and nonprofits (e.g., emergency and disaster aid, humanitarian relief). NDSU is consistently ranked in the top 5 for the best value bachelor’s degree and the best crisis, emergency, and disaster management bachelor’s degree schools. Emergency management directors' employment, including disaster and emergency management professionals, is projected to grow by 3 percent from 2021 to 2031. This growth is driven by an increasing demand for preparedness and response measures, particularly in response to natural disasters. The combined knowledge of systems scale and design thinking and the competency to create and analyze scaled drawings will boost our graduate's ability to lead resiliency planning and design projects long into the future.

The Landscape Architecture program is consistently ranked in the top 10 for value and the top 20 most hired from programs in the United States. The undergraduate program was established in 1983 and has produced over 400 alumni. The graduate program for the master’s degree in landscape architecture has produced award-winning and employable graduates since 2018 and is continuing to grow with a 24% enrollment increase between 2020 and 2023.



According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) about 1,800 openings for landscape architects are projected each year, on average, over the decade. But don't just take our word for it, talk to agencies and employers around the country like Kevin Reed, Deputy Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management for the Minnesota Department of Public Safety impressed by "and once again reminded of the quality of students that the program produces...and we will be using the information to better enhance our state training programs. Once again job well done!" And from our current students, "the community of these programs creates a unique environment and open studio (project-based learning) space that encourage students to work together between disciplines and classes to problem solve creatively and technically." Faculty and students have 24/7 access to world-class facilities, including high-powered computer labs, a research library, dedicated workspaces, and workshops, all within walking distance of a vibrant downtown community in Fargo, ND.

The Department of Landscape Architecture, Disaster Resilience, and Emergency Management (LADREM) is currently accepting applications for Fall 2024 enrollments in the following:

1. Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture (MLA)
2. Master's Degree in Emergency Management (MSEM)
3. Bachelor's degree in Emergency Management (BSEM)
4. Bachelor's degree in Environmental Design/Landscape Arch. (BSENV D)
5. Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
6. Undergraduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
7. Minors available in Landscape Architecture and Emergency Management

For more information regarding qualifications and graduate assistantships, please contact:

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