



December 2016

College of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape Architecture

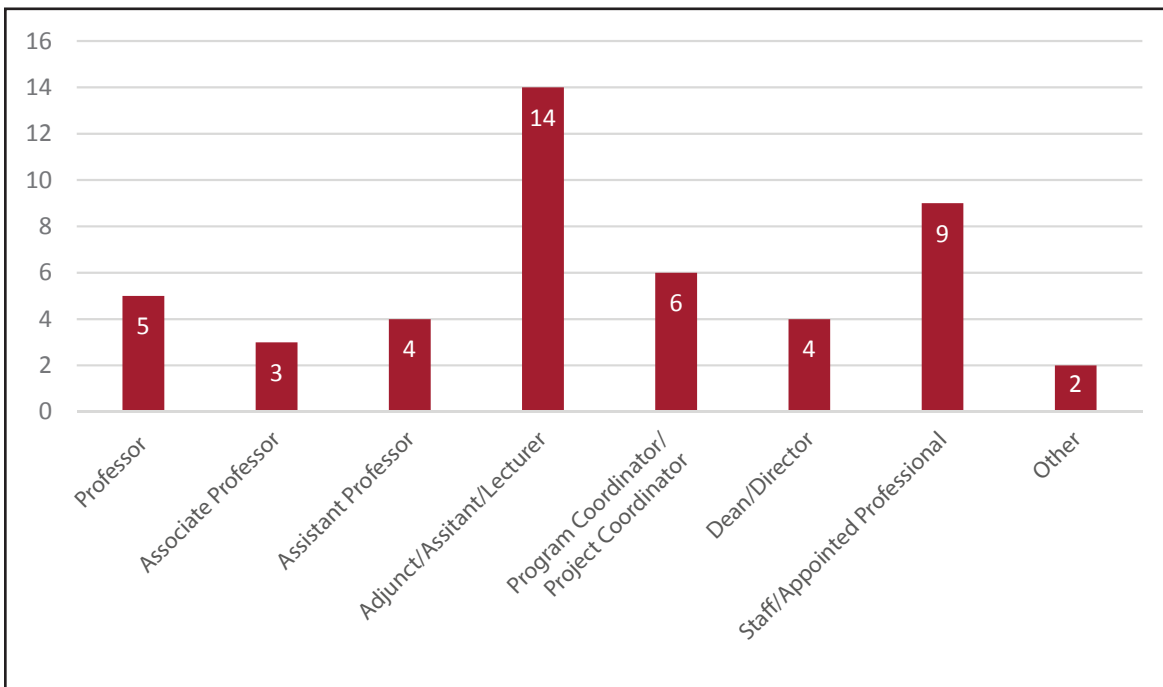
# Drachman Institute Feedback from Faculty and Staff

On October 17th, Gina Chorover, Kelly Smith, and Laura Jensen from the Drachman Institute, along with Courtney Crosson, Assistant Professor in the Architecture Degree Program, delivered a presentation to CAP- LA faculty and staff in order to kickstart a visioning process for the future of the Institute. As a result of recent changes in leadership, including the current search for a new CAPLA Dean, Drachman has solicited input from interested faculty through an online survey and is embarking on an RFP process in order to best determine the Institute's future role in both the college and the larger community.

This document contains the results from the online survey that was completed by 38 members of CAPLA faculty and staff.

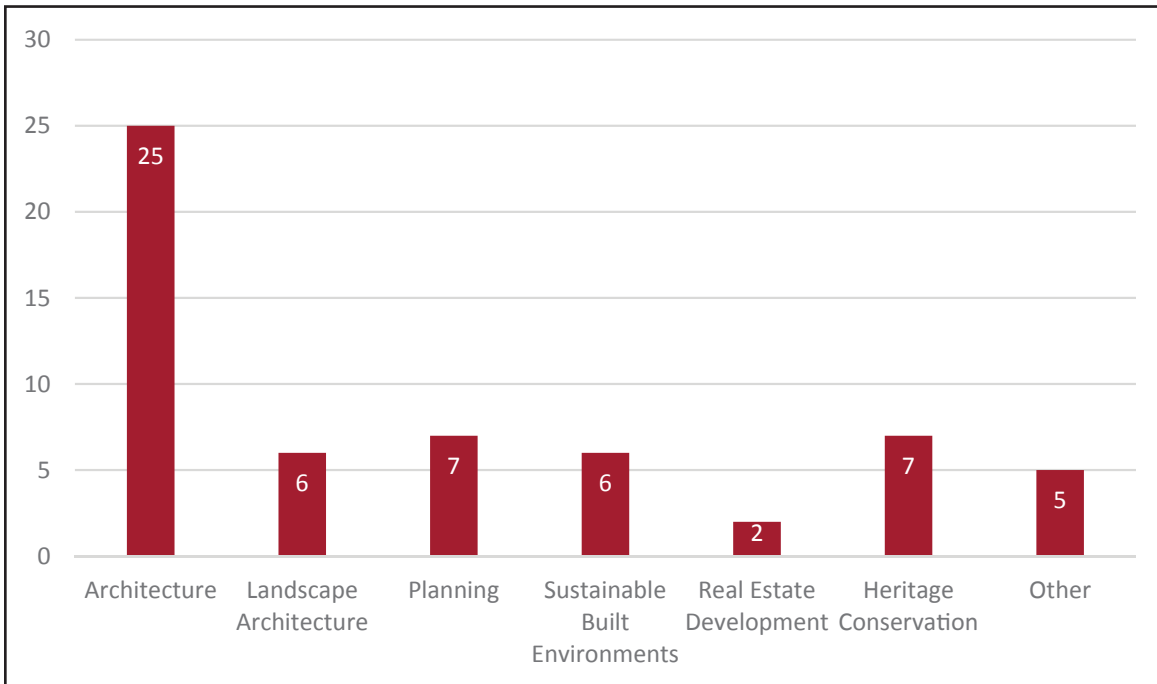


## Q1 – Please indicate your role in CAPLA (check all that apply):



Total n=38

**Q2 – With which program(s) are you affiliated? Check all that apply.**



**Q3 – Did you attend the Drachman History presentation on 10/17/16?**

|              | %     | N  |
|--------------|-------|----|
| <b>Yes</b>   | 55.3% | 21 |
| <b>No</b>    | 44.7% | 17 |
| <b>Total</b> | 100%  | 38 |

**Q4 – How familiar are you with the Drachman Institute’s mission and previous work?**



## Q5 – What do you see as the main strengths of the Drachman Institute?

Most common words in responses:

- Community/communities (34/38 – 89%)
- Outreach (15/38 – 39%)
- Students (11/38 – 29%)
- Engagement (9/38 – 24%)
- Projects (10/38 – 26%)
- Research (10/38 – 26%)
- Service (8/38 – 21%)
- Recognition/reputation (7/38 – 19%)

## Q6 – What do you see as the main challenges of the Drachman Institute?

Most common words in responses:

- Funding/Money (30/38 – 78%)
- Time (8/38 – 21%)
- Support (7/38 – 18%)
- Grants (6/38 – 16%)
- Purpose (4/38 – 11%)
- Leadership (3/38 – 8%)
- Identity (3/38 – 8%)

Respondents most commonly mentioned a lack of funding as Drachman’s primary challenge, from both the college as well as from outside grants and contracts (i.e. not enough funding from either to sustain DI staff during lean times/between projects). The model that assumes staff will run projects while looking for funding at the same time was also mentioned by a few respondents as being problematic and unsustainable.

Respondents also mentioned a lack of support from college leadership, a lack of buy-in from faculty, lack of recognition and familiarity with the Institute, and a lack of time for those who might be interested in participating. Drachman seems to suffer from a lack of branding and self-promotion.

Some respondents noticed a lack of identity. Changing directors and missions over the years has led to a loss of clarity of vision and purpose.



For the following questions, please consider the mission of CAPLA: “As a professional college, CAPLA’s Core Mission and strength is training architects, landscape architects, and urban planners to work effectively within a challenging array of social, economic, and environmental conditions. As a campus leader in community engagement, CAPLA advances the University’s historic land-grant mission through design and planning assistance to diverse communities throughout the state of Arizona, the United States, and beyond.”

**Q7 - Keeping in mind the mission of CAPLA, please rank order what you think should be the priorities of the college that could be accomplished through the Drachman Institute. Drag and drop into the boxes of high, medium, low, and not a priority (with no more than three items per box).**

### High Priority:

- Service Learning: The opportunity for students to work on real-world design and planning projects (20/38 –

53%)

- Community Outreach: Technical assistance projects for communities in need (18/38 – 47%)
- Service Learning: The opportunity for students to engage in research (17/38 – 45%)

**Low Priority or Not a Priority:**

- Community Outreach: Providing research and data for public use (9/38 – 24%)
- Community Outreach: Educating the public through workshops, forums, etc. (13/38 – 34%)
- Developing and investing in UA Downtown as a community outreach/design center (25/38 – 66%) (note: 10 of the 25 said “not a priority”)

**Overall Rankings:**

Within each priority column items were ranked between 1 and 3. Those values have been recoded on a scale from 1 (lowest priority) to 12 (highest priority) and then totaled to create an overall ranking.

Results from highest priority (most points) to lowest priority (fewest points):

|  | <b>Total Points</b> |
|--|---------------------|
| Service Learning: The opportunity for students to work on real-world design and planning projects    | 338                 |
| Community Outreach: Technical assistance projects for communities in need                            | 295                 |
| Service Learning: The opportunity for students to engage in research                                 | 292                 |
| Support for faculty research: help with looking for grants, grant-writing, conducting research, etc. | 274                 |
| Community Outreach: Providing research and data for public use                                       | 256                 |
| Community Outreach: Educating the public through workshops, forums, etc.                             | 246                 |
| Developing and investing in UA Downtown as a community outreach/design center                        | 151                 |

**Additional Comments on priorities:**

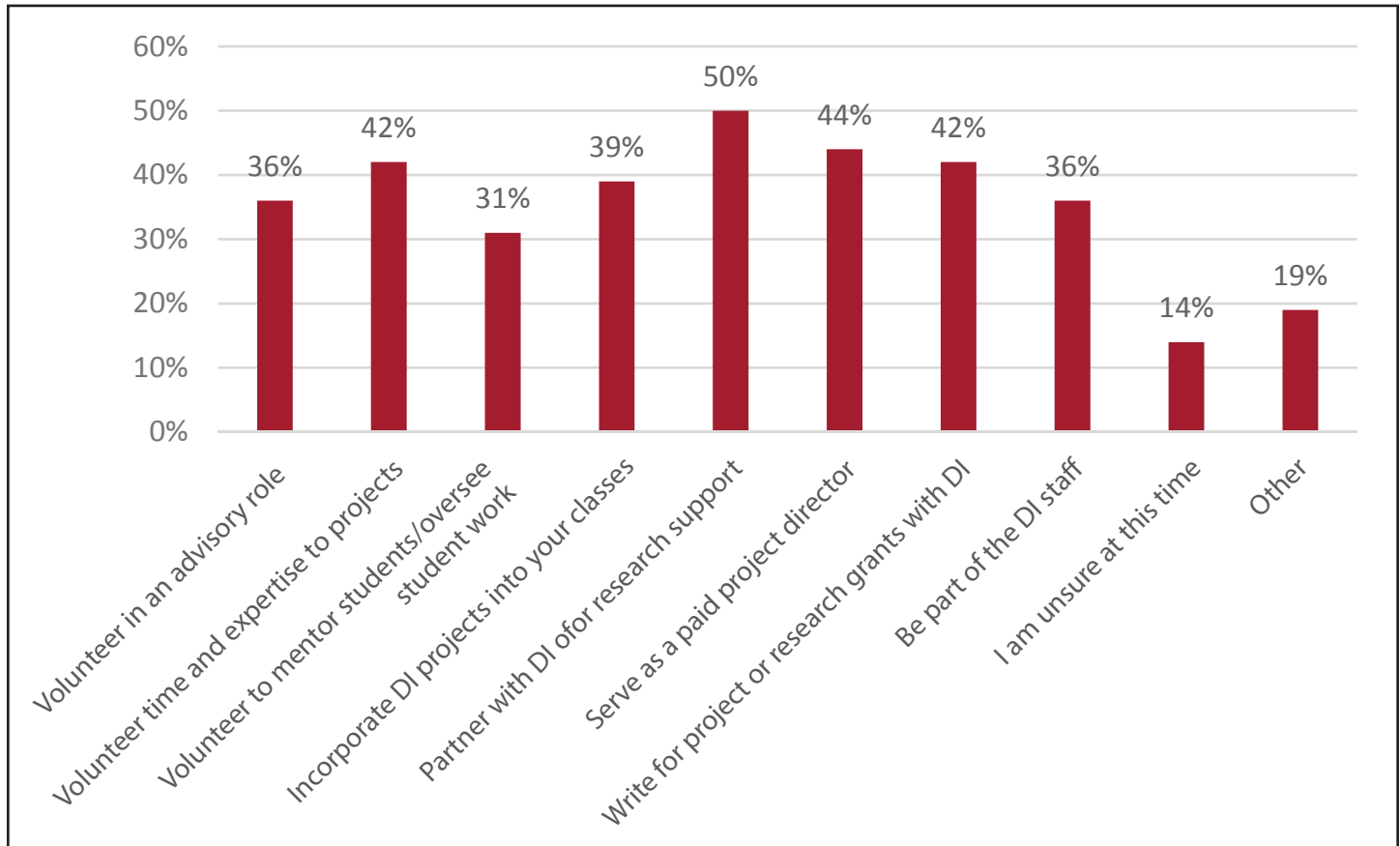
Additional comments fell into the following categories:

1. Address community needs
2. Funding issues
3. The importance of integration with and support from the college
4. Remaining student-focused

**Q8 – In your opinion, should the college dedicate some level of base annual funding to support the Drachman Institute?**

|               | <b>%</b> | <b>N</b> |
|---------------|----------|----------|
| <b>Yes</b>    | 71%      | 27       |
| <b>No</b>     | 5%       | 2        |
| <b>Unsure</b> | 24%      | 9        |
| <b>Total</b>  | 100%     | 38       |

**Q9 – Moving forward, would you be interested in being involved with the Drachman Institute in any of the following ways? Check all that apply.**



**Q10 – Moving forward, do you have any ideas about how Drachman Institute could be structured in terms of staffing, integration with the college, or other ideas?**

Many of the responses to this question include very specific recommendations. The ideas tend to fall into four main groupings:

1. **STAFFING:** similar to the past, with a director (with varying recommendations for % effort and funding), project managers/coordinators, and faculty affiliates.
2. **INTEGRATE DRACHMAN INSTITUTE INTO COLLEGE RESEARCH AND STUDIOS**
3. **BE AN UMBRELLA ORGANIZATION FOR THE COLLEGE:** ideas centered around drachman bringing together different programs and priorities of the college.
4. **COLLABORATE WITH OTHER UNITS ON CAMPUS**

**Q11 - Moving forward, do you have any ideas about sustainable funding models for the Drachman Institute?**

Generally, respondents support the idea of some base level financial support from CAPLA coupled with other sources, mostly grants and contracts. It was also mentioned by several the use of F&A return as a reward structure for faculty.

Others want to see some sort of fundraising effort or capital campaign as a funding strategy beyond grants and contracts.

**Q12 – Please let us know any other comments, suggestions, or concerns regarding the Drachman Institute.**

Final comments were overall very positive and optimistic about Drachman Institute’s future, pointing out that Drachman has been a valuable resource to the College for many years.

