LA 405: Design and Implementation Focus Studio (Winter 2015)
Instructor: Ellen Burke

Presidential Retro-fit: Concept Design

President Armstrong has commissioned the students of LA 405 to re-design the gardens of his on-campus residence, with the primary goal of reducing lawn areas to demonstrate a more sustainable landscape model. As a symbolic landscape within the campus, and the site of many official functions throughout the year, this landscape is envisioned to become a model of a new landscape paradigm on campus, one that is both more sustainable, and better related to the environmental context of the campus.

Program

- The President and Mrs. Armstrong are interested in implementing a student design on their front lawn, with the goal of lawn reduction, and a firm budget of $5000 inclusive for the immediate phase (student plans may suggest future phases).
- The planting design should be drought tolerant and deer resistant, and some smaller areas of lawn should be kept. Nothing is sacred about the landscape that is already there, so students may suggest changes to existing bedding locations and plants.
- No paved access is desired or needed in this area.
- Working with the existing irrigation design will significantly reduce the budget.
- There is no goal for lawn reduction, and students will quantify both amount of lawn reduced and water savings in their presentations.
- An ADA accessible path of travel to the lower patio is needed.
- See attached for Limit of Work.

The development of additional program by the students, based on their reading of site is encouraged. Designs should reflect careful attention to issues of water.

Refer to Studio Schedule for progress milestones.

February 6 – LADAC Pin-up
Monday February 9 – MID TERM REVIEW (Berg Gallery)

Deliverables – Due at Mid Term presentation February 9 (formatted on boards)

1. Illustrative Garden Plan with Planting and Grading (1” = 10’)
2. Minimum 2 site sections (1/4” = 1’-0”)
3. Minimum one perspective view
4. Site Analysis
5. Materials Images
6. Performance Metrics (for example, how much lawn was replaced)