

# Lauren Schwartz

## University of Oregon Century West Sustainability

Lauren received her undergraduate degree in biology and Spanish from Willamette University in 2008. During college she rowed from the women's crew team, was a teaching assistant, and studied abroad in Spain.

Currently, Lauren is working toward two masters degrees at the University of Oregon. She has completed two years of her Masters of Landscape Architecture and will be starting the first year of her Masters of Business Administration in Sustainable Business Practices this fall.

This past academic year, Lauren was the President of the UO Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and a graduate teaching fellow. She participated in the Sustainable Cities Initiative with Professor Nico Larco. The urban design studio worked with the Rockwood area of Gresham, Oregon, to design and redevelopment scheme for the neighborhood center. The Rockwood area posed many challenges including a severely depressed local economy, high crime rate, and an ethnically diverse population. Community participation turned these constraints into opportunities in the creation of a successful final product.

Her masters thesis research combines these two disciplines to explore alternative business strategies for landscape architects that will encourage more sustainable design. This includes exploring the economic, environmental, and social benefits of landscape elements such as stormwater infrastructure, native plantings, green street design, and public greenways. By harnessing the many values of these designs, landscapes will become a more integral part of the build environment. Ultimately, she hopes to work for an interdisciplinary firm in the Pacific Northwest where she can utilize both her design and business knowhow.

This summer, Lauren is an intern for the City of Eugene Planning Department and for the Landscape Architecture firm Stangeland and Associates. In addition she continues to run her own landscape design and maintenance business. In her free time she likes to cook, bake, and run Eugene's magnificent trails.

*Lauren Schwartz, ASLA*

MLA Candidate 2012, University of Oregon

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American Society of Landscape Architects Student Chapter President 2010

