Landscape Architecture
Finding Jobs & Work Experience

JOBS AND WORK EXPERIENCE
The Careers Service has lots of information relating to finding jobs and work experience or part-time jobs. This publication details some of the most relevant sources for Landscape Architecture students. Also see the Careers Service’s webpages for Landscape at www.sheffield.ac.uk/careers/students/degree/lsc

FINDING WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES AND/OR PART-TIME JOBS
Many students find jobs or work experience in landscape architecture by identifying potential employers and enquiring about opportunities with them. Use a range of approaches to find employers, including online directories (see below) and talking to people who may know employers you could contact. This includes postgraduate students in your department who have done their year in practice. Note, when contacting firms to find out about work, don’t just write and ask for a job. Employers are more likely to offer work to someone they know, so try to establish a relationship with them first. Do some research into their organisation, get a named contact there, and then get in touch with them to find out more. Once you’ve got yourself known you can send them your CV and covering letter. The Careers Service has advice on making approaches to employers for jobs and work experience at www.shef.ac.uk/careers/students/jobs/creative

If you’re looking for short-term experience (e.g. during the summer of your first or second year), as well as landscape architecture practices, you should also consider the different kinds of work that might relate to the profession, such as landscape gardening firms, garden centres and voluntary/not-for-profit organisations. Remember all work experience is valuable as a way of developing your skills but opportunities to develop the following are particularly valuable:

- design/drawing skills including CAD
- teamwork, communication and negotiation
- creative ability, imagination and enthusiasm
- plant knowledge & practical experience
- observation skills and an eye for detail
- understanding of conservation and environmental issues

MAKING APPLICATIONS
Your application for any job or work experience needs to be well-designed and present you in the best possible light, so take your time over your applications and get feedback on them. You can get advice from the Careers Service as well as your tutors. For advice see www.shef.ac.uk/careers/students/gettingajob

WHERE TO LOOK
In addition to jobs advertised in your department, use the following websites for jobs, work experience and advice:

Landscape Institute wwwlandscapeinstitute.org - The Chartered body for Landscape Architects in the UK.
Landscape Architect Jobs wwwlandscapeinstitute.org/jobs
Directory of Registered Practices at wwwlandscapeinstitute.org/registeredpractices/search.php
Careers advice wwwlandscapeinstitute.org/education and their careers website belandscapeinstitute.com
Latest news and the professional journal 'Landscape' wwwlandscapeinstitute.org/news
Membership Join as a student member wwwlandscapeinstitute.org/membership/index.php. Membership ranges from a free to join ‘e-network’ to £25 pa to get a full range of benefits.

British Association of Landscape Industries (BALI) - www.bali.org.uk has a Membership Directory of firms searchable by service.

Careers Service – landscape vacancies received by the Careers Service are notified to your department, and publicised on ‘myVacancies’ via at www.shef.ac.uk/careers/students/jobs

Continued:-

www.sheffield.ac.uk/careers
www.bd4jobs.com - construction industry jobsite which includes landscape opportunities

www.architecturejobs.co.uk – construction design jobsite

Public sector The Landscape Institute estimates around 20% of Landscape professionals work in local authorities or other public sector bodies. Jobsites which cover the sector include www.publicsectorcareers.org, www.lgjobs.com and www.jobsgopublic.com

WORKING IN OTHER COUNTRIES
Landscape Architecture is a relatively young profession in some countries compared to Europe, North America, and Australasia. Consequently, the number of employers and jobs can vary greatly, as can the way employers recruit. Some of the websites mentioned above advertise vacancies abroad. Otherwise, try internet searches for jobs and practices abroad, and find the relevant professional body for landscape architecture in those countries where you want to work. The International Federation of Landscape Architects is a good resource http://iflaonline.org/about/ifla-regions. For information about working in specific countries, use the Careers Service’s ‘myInternationalCareer’ and ‘Going Global’ database via www.careers.dept.shef.ac.uk/infotree/EmploymentOverseas.php

There are specialist services for International Students at www.shef.ac.uk/careers/students/inter

USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO FIND JOBS
Social media is an essential way to find jobs and raise your profile in your chosen occupation.

See Careers Service advice on using social media at www.shef.ac.uk/careers/students/gettingajob/media

LinkedIn The networking site LinkedIn is an excellent way to make contact with landscape professionals. Over 400 Sheffield graduates now working in Landscape Architecture are on there! The professional interest groups you could join include World Landscape Architecture; Landscape; and the Urban Design Network. LinkedIn is an excellent place to make contacts, get careers advice from landscape architects and find possible jobs. BUT your Profile and approach must be professional and you should follow the usual rules of ‘netiquette’ when emailing potential contacts. If in doubt about how to use LinkedIn, ask for advice from the Careers Service and see the short tutorials on students.linkedin.com

Land8 is a social media company connecting students and professionals within the field of Landscape Architecture and Design land8.com.

Facebook and Twitter - follow practices and landscape architects that interest you to find out the latest information/jobs etc. Join in discussions, re-tweet interesting tweets, and generally get yourself known.

GENERAL RESOURCES FOR ALL TYPES OF JOBS AND WORK EXPERIENCE
myVacancies Careers Service’s jobs and work experience listing carrying graduate jobs, internships, part-time work and volunteer opportunities http://shef.prospects.ac.uk/

The Careers Service has lots of advice on finding jobs and work experience, including links to graduate jobsites and our guide to ‘Job Hunting Strategies’ www.shef.ac.uk/careers/students/jobs. We also run careers events and provide expert careers advice and guidance. Based at 388 Glossop Road, we are open Monday to Friday – check www.shef.ac.uk/careers for details of all our services

Careers Service’s Information Resources www.careers.dept.shef.ac.uk/infotree to find information and links for a wide range of careers and postgraduate study and research

National graduate careers sites: e.g. TargetJobs - targetjobs.co.uk and Prospects – www.prospects.ac.uk

Careers publications including directories of graduate employers and work experience listings are available free from the Careers Service

Yellow Pages – use www.yell.com to find firms and organisations in your chosen region (search by type of organisation and by geographical location)

Please note: the above information was believed to be correct at the time of publication. Although care is taken to check external agencies and their websites, inclusion should not be taken as an endorsement of the agency by the Careers Service.