ABSTRACT

DISSERTATION/THESIS/RESEARCH PAPER/CREATIVE PROJECT: Perceptions of Environmental

Influences on Creativity in Landscape Architecture Design Students

STUDENT: Brittany Harvey

DEGREE: Master of Landscape Architecture

COLLEGE: Architecture and Planning

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Ball State University landscape architecture students (n = 42) described their preferred types of

environments for doing creative work as well as reported the environmental factors that hindered their

creative work. Being alone and having quiet, ambient noise were the most common preferences for

beneficial environmental characteristics. Bad lighting, uncomfortable temperatures, and loud,

incongruous noises were most frequently reported as detrimental environmental characteristics. The

presence of natural elements and/or access to views of natural elements were also common responses.

The findings of the study largely support the current research on creativity and preferred working

environments; however, there were some notable differences in the hierarchy of preferences within this

subpopulation that should be further examined. Some discernable environmental preference profiles

and patterns appeared in the survey responses. The results of this study are a starting point for further

research on creative environment preferences of specific user subpopulations.