

# Message from the Chief Executive Officer

Dear Friends,

2015 was a momentous year for the Association for Learning Environments, as we announced groundbreaking changes, embracing new and innovative directions that will position us for the future. Ushering in a new beginning, the Board of Directors unveiled the organization's new name and brand at the 2015 LearningSCAPES Conference in San Diego. The rebranding also introduced a new logo, a new website URL and a new conference format. Representatives from all of our regions participated in planning sessions over the past six years that led to this unprecedented transformation of the organization. However, the new name is just the beginning!

Earlier in the year, the initial phase of rebranding took place with the announcement of the revamped certification program, the Accredited Learning Environment Planner (ALEP), formerly the Certified Educational Facility Planner "CEFP". The ALEP is now the most comprehensive professional program in the educational facility industry. Today the program stands as the industry's benchmark for professional knowledge and excellence. The ALEP Commission, which governs the credential, began issuing new certificates in October to the existing holders of the CEFP and started implementing the new program for those earning the designation going forward.

The rebranding efforts were only a piece of how our organization is transforming to meet the needs of tomorrow's professionals within our industry. In the coming months and years you will see a re-tooled Advanced Academy for Learning Environments, further development on making our content delivery (conferences) state-of-the-art, an enhanced SchoolsNEXT program, a new suite of technology/communications applications for the membership, and much more.

With nearly 4500 members, the Association for Learning Environments embraces more disciplines and professions than ever



*The Entity's acronym changed from CEFPI to AL4E, so naturally, their certification program's acronym should also change (from CEFP to ALEP)*

**John K. Ramsey, CAE**  
**Chief Executive Officer**