



WMAIAnews

Newsletter of the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

Spring's Finally Here, But We're Green All Year

Has sustainable become the new "it" word? Undoubtedly. Has it lost its meaning because of overuse by everyone and everything from floor cleaner to footwear? Well, the articles in this issue of WMAIA news will attest to the fact that "green" is still good (and getting better). Read on for a multi-faceted view of what sustaining communities means to architects in western MA.



Truss being lifted into place on the second of four Habitat for Humanity Houses designed by Kuhn Riddle
photo by Erika Zekos Assoc. AIA

Return to Grassroots

by Lorin Starr Affiliate AIA, WMAIA Executive Director

This February I attend my second "Grassroots," the AIA's annual Leadership and Legislative Conference in Washington DC, and, as with my first visit two years ago, I could not help but be impressed by the sheer number of participants – over 800! These are all people involved in AIA chapters across the country– people like me who are component "executives," chapter presidents and vice presidents, AIA National board members (like our own Erica Gees AIA), and AIA National staff. Typically, Grassroots includes visits to Capitol Hill, where conference attendees meet with their federal legislators to discuss issues related to architecture. This year Congress was not in session so the legislative portion of the meeting focused on what chapters can do "back home" to build relationships with legislators on both the state and national levels. The leadership portion of the conference included several inspirational keynote speakers as well as more targeted breakout sessions.

For me the most interesting and relevant part of the conference was the opportunity to learn about what other chapters (especially those similar to ours) are up to. At the component breakfast, we were teamed with representatives from these chapters and the give-and-take provided an excellent opportunity to share ideas. The interface with staff from AIA National also ensures that we take full advantage of the programs and support available to local chapters and helps me to be a better conduit between you and the national organization. As we work to grow our chapter, to expand and diversify our programs and to increase our public presence, these networking opportunities are invaluable. I look forward to implementing some of these new ideas in the coming years.

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OUR NEWS



Members of NCARB, from left to right, Margo Jones AIA, John Miller AIA and Doug Engebretson FAIA

NCARB

by Margo Jones AIA (past WMAIA President)

As a new architect member on the Architect Registration Board of Massachusetts, I would like to report to our readership about what we do on the Board of Registration, and the related activities of the National Council of Architecture Registration Boards, NCARB.

I serve on the state Board with three other architects and a public member. Oddly enough, three of us are from western Massachusetts—Doug Engebretson FAIA, Stephen Schreiber FAIA, and myself. We can be very proud that Doug Engebretson, one of our former WMAIA Presidents, is currently the president of NCARB. He has been active in NCARB for 14 years, serving on most of the committees within the organization. Steve Schreiber, Chair of the newly accredited Architecture program at UMass Amherst, is also very experienced, having served on the

Florida and Arizona state Boards of Registration. John Miller AIA, is the Boston area architect (and former Region I NCARB Board member). The public member, Rogina Jeffries, is also from Boston, and is a computer scientist by trade.

The Board meets monthly in Boston. At our meetings we process applications for registration - new architects, architects from other states applying for registration, and architects who have let their registration lapse and wish to re-register. We also deliberate on cases which are brought to the Board for disciplinary action. Those cases primarily consist of complaints about persons who are practicing architecture without a license, or registered architects who may not be acting according to professional standards of conduct. The cases can be difficult, and they often involve subtleties of law and regulation.

As a state member Board member, we

Welcome New Members

WMAIA would like to welcome those who've joined the chapter over the past year.

New Architect Members:

Peter Frothingham AIA
Tristram W. Metcalfe, III AIA
Diego M. Gutierrez AIA
John J. Krifka AIA
Blake Williams AIA

New Associate Members:

Craig D. Spice Associate AIA
Sarah Anne Violette Associate AIA
David C. Dower Associate AIA

New Student Members:

Alex Siekierski
Michael Bergin
Patricia O'Flaherty
Tracie Jean Reed

New Corporate Affiliate Members:

Cinda Jones and Brinton Parker of Cows Sawmill/The Cows Companies
Richard Medairos and Rory Barratt of Medairos Engineers, Inc.
Suzanne Webber of Massachusetts Woodlands Cooperative
Thomas J. Hogan, III, PE of Doucet & Associates, Inc.

And welcome to these new individuals at existing Corporate members:

Jerry Shattuck of Integrity Development & Construction Inc.
Todd Kirton, Joseph P. Viamari PE, Dana Huff PE, and Brian F. Day PE of Tighe & Bond Inc.
Allen Dunn of Aquadro & Cerruti, Inc.

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UMass Reception at AIA 08

The UMass Architecture+Design Program is hosting a reception for UMass alums and WMAIA members during the AIA national convention in Boston. The reception will be Friday, May 16, 5:30pm to 7:00pm at the offices of Utile. (Thanks to UMass alums, Michael LeBlanc, principal, and Seth Hoffman, designer). For more information and to RSVP, contact Jean Crossman, UMass Architecture+Design Program, jcrossman@art.umass.edu, (413) 577-0943.

AIA 08 Volunteer Opportunities

The BSA is looking for volunteers to help set up exhibits at the convention center, act as greeters at the host city information booth, monitor tours, help at the host city celebration and more. All you have to do is go to www.architects.org/2008 and then click on 'Volunteers and Committees' and then scroll down and click on 'Volunteer Opportunities'. A survey identifying specific opportunities will be sent to everyone who completes this form.

WHERE WE LIVE | WHERE WE WORK | OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD | HOW WE COME TOGETHER | OUR PLACE ON THE LAND

CONVENTION 2008

We the people

MAY 15-17 | BOSTON | Register online at www.aiaconvention.com

WMAIA NEWS

The Western Mass. Chapter of the American Institute of Architects publishes WMAIA NEWS four times a year. It is circulated to all members, advertisers and subscribers.

Please direct all newsletter correspondence to Erika Zekos, Associate AIA, Editor, Studiozed, 40 Hulst Road, Amherst MA 01002 (617) 388-3994, studiozed@comcast.net

Articles, photos, notices of events and other information are welcome.

Opinions expressed in the newsletter are not necessarily those of the WMAIA. The Editor reserves the right to reject or revise material as space and subjective opinion permit.

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William Austin AIA

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Jeremy Toal AIA

Julie Waggoner Associate AIA

For more information on WMAIA Chapter, please contact Lorin Starr Associate AIA, Executive Director, director@wmaia.org.

ADDY Winner

MicaBlue Creative, a marketing and design agency run by Julianna Waggoner Associate AIA, has received a Silver ADDY Award through the Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts for the designs of logos for Northampton's PaintBox Theatre's 2007 summer season. The logos were entered and won in the category of "Illustration". The awards ceremony was held at Springfield's City Stage, on March 20, 2008.

In business since 2005, MicaBlue Creative does marketing, graphic design, photography and copyrighting for businesses in New England.

The ADDY Awards are held at the local and national levels, and are considered one of the toughest awards contests for the advertising industry. The awards programs are conducted by member organizations of the American Advertising Federation, of which the Ad Club of Western Mass is one.

AIA HQ Renovation

The process to renovate the aging AIA headquarters building and its systems, designed by TAC in 1972, began early last year, when Quinn Evans Architects undertook extensive user group studies and drew up a preliminary plan of what the renovation could entail. Based on those findings, the AIA issued a RFQ in Oct. 2007 to all AIA members. Studios Architecture made the shortlist of five firms and, after presentation to the AIA Board of Directors in Dec. 2007, was chosen unanimously to carry the project forward.

At AIA Grassroots the team from Studios invited the audience (of nearly 500) to share their visions of what the ideal workplace of the future would be like. You can follow the comments at www.aia.org/aiarchitect/thisweek08/0229/0229n_town.cfm.

Building Energy Conference

On Wednesday morning March 12 Governor Deval Patrick announced the establishment of a task force on net zero energy buildings at the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association's (NESEA) Building Energy Conference and Trade Show at the Seaport World Trade Center in Boston. The Governor further thrilled the audience of 1,000 by saying that he would return to the NESEA's 34th annual event in 2009 to announce the recommendations of the task force.

"Buildings that reduce their energy use by 40% are great, but that is simply not enough," the Governor said. "We need to set our sights lower. Therefore I am establishing this task force on net zero energy buildings today and asking them to have their recommendations, including recommendations for construction finance, ready for announcement to you here at the Building Energy conference one year from today."

Governor Patrick then called upon the conference participants to help him achieve his goal of net zero energy buildings. "Those of you in this room are the ones who can make this happen. You have what it takes to lead the energy revolution and my challenge to you is to help us get to zero. That is the least we can do!"

Net zero energy buildings are buildings that produce as much energy as they consume and represent the cutting edge of environmentally responsible construction. These buildings utilize state-of-the-art energy-efficient construction and renewable energy



NESEA organizers. Fifth from left is Governor Deval Patrick standing next to Thomas R.C. Hartman AIA

photo by NESEA

systems, such as solar and wind, to reduce the buildings' carbon emissions and impact on the environment.

To help spur the market for net zero energy buildings in the Northeast, the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association (NESEA) has developed a Net Zero Energy Building Award to recognize net zero energy buildings designed for the unique northeast climate. As an incentive for design/build teams, NESEA will award a \$10,000 cash prize for the best building in the Northeast that can document net zero energy use while offering a high level of comfort, affordability and reliability.

The Building Energy Conference and Trade Show features over 150 speakers in dozens of sessions and workshops, plus an extensive Trade Show to address practical steps that energy and building practitioners, and the world at large, can take to improve quality of life while reducing energy costs and the impact of the built environment.

Thomas R.C. Hartman AIA was conference co-chair and organized the Boston Green Tea Party: An Energy Revolution, a panel discussion on our energy and climate future.

NCARB, continued from Page 2

are each eligible to become active in the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), which I have done. NCARB is the national federation of state registration boards that administers the Architectural Registration Examination, the Intern Development Program, provides certification for reciprocal registration in other states, establishes model architectural registration law, and sets rules for the recognition of foreign architects practicing in this country. NCARB also has many other activities, such as issuing professional education monographs, processing architectural licensing application for states, etc., but those are the most significant. There are 34,400 architects in the United States who hold an NCARB certificate.

NCARB, is governed by volunteer architects who are elected to the Board of Directors, but the day to day operations are run by a large staff in Washington DC.

At its Annual Meeting last year, NCARB approved a major change in the process for getting registered as an architect. It was voted by representatives of all 54 jurisdictions to allow qualified applicants to start taking the ARE while completing their internship. By letting a candidate sit for sections of the ARE while completing their internship, a high standard of competency will be maintained, but applicants will be able to finish the registration process in as little as three years, in keeping with how long it used to take when the exam was given in three days straight.

Online submission of IDP Training Units is in the works, which will streamline the process and make it quicker. It is already possible to start an NCARB Record online. This will be expanded to include the processing over the next few years. Other changes are being discussed, which will serve to improve and strengthen internship for architects.

Doug, Stephen and I hope to keep the

WMAIA membership informed of our state Board and NCARB activities, and would be happy to address any questions or concerns readers may wish to forward to us. I can be reached at office@margojones.com.



I am Jose.
I am in 6th grade.
This is MY Holyoke.

Holyoke Greetings

by Erika Zekos Associate AIA

When WMAIA received a grant from the AIA's Blueprint for America project part of our commitment was to provide as many Holyoke residents as possible with a venue for sharing their ideas about the future of their city. Paralleling the planning efforts with the adult community was a project aimed at a younger crowd. Erika Zekos Associate AIA and Gretchen Schneider Associate AIA worked with 20 sixth grade social studies students at John J. Lynch Middle School on an architecture and photography project called *Greetings from MY Holyoke*.

Our goal was to work with the students to create photo essays of their

neighborhoods and to turn some of those photos into real postcards. Whether defined by racial identity, architectural style, urban density, landscape, class or culture, the home neighborhoods of these students include places rarely, if ever, seen in conventional tour guides or the familiar glossy postcards.

We met with the class over four sessions. The students worked with us to learn about their disposable cameras, composition, and careful observation. They also learned about Holyoke through mapping exercises and had the opportunity to discuss their own special places as well as the public's perception of those places (as projected in the media and reflected in community services, for example). Only then did they venture out to document their neighborhoods. Afterwards, through a guided process, they selected the photographs to be printed as postcards.

While the postcards themselves are compelling, what's more profound is the resulting sense of ownership and pride in Holyoke's uniqueness, in the student photographers and in the residents who have the chance to view and utilize the cards. Their distribution (and collection) is an example of their effect, and while impossible to quantify, it can be imagined to extend far beyond the reaches of the neighborhoods of their origin.

Greetings from MY Holyoke postcards will be printed soon. Look for them at the next WMAIA event and around Holyoke.

WMAIA Design Awards 2008

WMAIA's biennial design awards program comes around again this year. We would like to give you advanced notice that submissions will be due in June and that an announcement outlining the details will be coming to you soon.

MISCELLANEOUS

Zero Net Energy Home

by Christina Gay

“Zero Net Energy” - It’s a term we’re hearing quite often these days. In the simplest terms, it means producing as much energy as you consume. And when it’s a Zero Net Energy house - that’s quite a bit. Austin Design Inc. worked with Rural Development Inc. to create the Zero Net Energy House in Colrain, MA. The home design is relatively simple - a three bedroom, two bath, 1,352 square foot home. However, Bill Austin AIA designed this home with distinct features to retain and produce energy.

The home was recently awarded a LEED for Homes Gold rating, and is only the second affordable home in the nation to achieve this high standard. How did this happen?

First, the double –thick walls (12 inches as opposed to six) allow for 12.5 inches of blown-in recycled cellulose insulation, creating a tight envelope around the home. The home was designed to sit along an East-West axis to allow for passive solar gains and a large south-facing roof for solar energy collectors. The photovoltaic panels on the roof collect solar energy which is distributed through the home in the form of heat, hot water and electricity. Radiant heat is distributed under the polished concrete flooring, and heat mirror windows ensure that heat-loss, if any, is minimal. Frequently used living spaces (kitchen, living room) are located on the south side of the home, while secondary rooms (bedrooms, baths, mechanical room) are located on the north side.

Owners, Adam Grandin and Megan McDonough are also well-versed in the mechanical processes and features of

the home, and were very involved in the entire process—from initial meetings to contributing “sweat equity.”

Through a Department of Energy grant, Steven Winter & Associates and Robb Aldrich were able to provide consulting and computer modeling of the home’s design. The house was modeled to produce 3,694 kilowatts of electricity annually while using 4,339 kilowatts. They predicted that only \$1,030/year will be required to operate the home. Steven Winter & Associates will be monitoring the home’s energy systems for one year.

This home is the prototype for future Rural Development Inc. projects, such as the Wisdom Way Solar Village in Greenfield, MA (also designed by Austin Design Inc.). Double wall construction and solar electric systems are just two of the features that will be carried over to the Solar Village homes.

“The annual \$1,500 dollars a year in savings that the solar hot water system will generate for RDI’s client shows everyone the value of the sunlight they already own, we all just need to tap it.” - Craig from American Solar Works, a contributor to the home.



LEED Gold home in Colrain
photo by Austin Design Inc.

Professor Receives Fulbright

Max Page, associate professor of architecture and history at UMass Amherst, has been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Argentina for the spring of 2009.

During his stay in Buenos Aires, Page will lecture about historic preservation in the United States and study the politics of preservation in Argentina for a book about the history and politics of historic preservation. He also will work to develop an exchange program between his department and El Centro de Estudios de Arquitectura Contemporánea at Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, where he will be based during his fellowship.

The fellowship is the second major award he has received in the past year. Last April, Page received a \$25,000 fellowship from the Howard Foundation to support his book project titled “Priceless: The History and Politics of Historic Preservation.”



Architecture Week

Architecture Week - established in 2007 in conjunction with a congressional resolution and presidential proclamation marking the AIA's 150th anniversary - will be observed the second week of April this year. Announced during the Grassroots Leadership and Legislative Conference Open House February 21, this year's celebration will kick off with a reception April 8 at the AIA national component headquarters in Washington, D.C., and include the initial release of **Architecture: Celebrating the Past, Designing the Future**. The book is a definitive look at American architecture and the forces that shaped it over the last century and a half.

Architecture Week will also launch the **AIA Blueprint for America Mosaic**, a web resource for members, elected officials, and communities. The AIA50 Blueprint for America project features efforts undertaken by local and state AIA components across the country.

Finally, Architecture Week also marks the beginning of **Shape of America** radio programs, meant to pique the public's interest in the merits of their built environment and give them an appreciation of the experience of architecture. The overall goal is to produce 175 audio clips over a three-year period. Market research will be conducted to ensure there is an audience for such programming as well as component interest in promoting or participating in spin-off programs. Listen for them on the airwaves.

UMass Alumnus Wins PA Award

Patrick Tighe AIA, a UMass BFA-Design alumnus has won a 2008 Progressive Architecture (P/A) award. Patrick was featured on the cover of Architect Magazine, the journal that administers the P/A awards program.

He won the award for the Nodul(ar) House, a speculative project based on nodes that are manufactured in a factory and then brought to the site and installed on the foundation. Each is structured like an onion, in layers, with a central spine that contains all utilities, including plumbing, electrical, and HVAC. When the pods are stacked, the utilities can be run together, like the plumbing in upstairs and downstairs bathrooms in a conventional house.

Patrick founded Tighe Architecture in 2000 in Santa Monica, CA. He gained recognition for projects that transform substandard conditions into functional spaces. Sustainable design is an important aspect of his work.

Tighe and his firm have won National AIA Honor Awards for his Los Angeles work: The Collins Gallery, a 1,400-square-foot combined art gallery and residence; The Jacobs Subterranean project, a 1,200-square-foot art gallery beneath an existing post-and-beam structure on a severe hillside; and, most recently, the Black Box house, built in the Scandinavian tradition of an earthy palette. He has also won two Los Angeles AIA awards. Tighe's work has been publicized in LA Architect magazine. His firm has also won two American Architecture Awards.

Tighe earned his BFA in Design in 1989 from UMass Amherst. Prior to establishing his practice, he was an associate at the Santa Monica architecture firm Morphosis. He taught at the University of Southern California and at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Yankee Feature

The work of UMass professor Joseph Krupczynski is featured in the March/April issue of Yankee Magazine. The story chronicles the efforts of Joe's Fall 2005 grad studio to try to envision a future for the Skinner Coffee House. While their efforts ultimately failed (the building was demolished), the story does shed light on the value of such historic buildings on our cultural character. Pick up a copy of the magazine or check out an online version at www.yankeemagazine.com/issues/2008-03/interact/10things/renovation.

Job Opening

Austin Design Inc. is looking for an energetic, dedicated draftsman. Job would involve supporting the principal and other architects of the firm in all phases of the design process, including general administrative tasks, physical and computer based model-making, and production drafting. We offer a great atmosphere; pay negotiable. Part-time or full-time.

VectorWorks drafting experience required; a comprehensive knowledge of residential construction assemblies and thorough understanding of working construction documents is also required. Our work can be seen at our website: www.austindesign.biz.

If interested, please email resume, work samples and cover letter to Christina Gay at: christina@austindesign.biz





the ReStore Deconstruction team
photo by John Grossman

Green Alternative To Demolition

by Dani Martin

It is estimated that 25% of all solid waste in the U.S. comes from construction and demolition. That's about 130 million tons per year!

Deconstruction services, such as those offered by the ReStore Home Improvement Center in Springfield, can recover about 70% of the discarded materials from remodeling or demolition projects. In a recent deconstruction of a 5400 square foot house, the ReStore salvaged 31.1 tons of reusable materials and recycled 4 tons of other materials, for a total of 35.1 tons saved from the landfill.

Green Building is becoming an increasingly popular trend, and homeowners are looking for ways to make their building and remodeling projects environmentally friendly. When homeowners choose deconstruction over demolition, they not only save thousands of tons of materials from the landfill, they also receive a tax benefit and are helping their community by providing affordable building materials to others.

Skilled deconstruction teams will neatly remove all items that are salvageable or recyclable, using specialized tools and equipment. They recover useful items

such as doors, windows, plumbing fixtures, cabinets, flooring, sheathing, framing and insulation. Pipes, wire, clean wood scraps and more are also separated for recycling. All other materials are removed and disposed of, leaving a completely clean job site that is ready for the next phase of the project.

Deconstruction is a sensible solution for smaller remodeling projects as well. "Soft strips" take the place of pre-renovation demolition and recover unwanted materials such as old cabinet sets and plumbing fixtures, leaving a clean site to begin renovations.

ReStore Deconstruction has grown significantly in the past year, becoming a full-time operation. We've been working from the North and South shores of Boston to the Berkshires, doing a total of 127 pre-demo strip outs, four garage deconstructions and four whole house deconstructions in 2007.

ReStore Deconstruction is a Registered Home Improvement Contractor and all jobs are managed by our Licensed Construction Site Supervisor. Deconstruction is cost-competitive with demolition and can be performed without delays to the project schedule.

The ReStore Home Improvement Center is an innovative non-profit enterprise with a three-fold mission:

- Reuse valuable building materials
- Make home improvement more affordable
- Create local jobs and provide job training

The ReStore sells used and surplus building materials at low cost to help hardworking do-it-yourselfers rebuild their homes, lives and communities. The materials are donated by individuals, contractors and manufacturers who wish to see quality goods used to help their neighbors. Over 20,000 residents have been able to improve their homes and the quality of their lives and communities in ways that would have

been out of their reach without these low-cost materials. These customers have saved a total of over \$1,000,000 over the past five years, keeping hundreds of tons of materials out of the landfill. The ReStore employs eight people, and has worked with dozens of Americorps*VISTAs, interns, and volunteers who have gained valuable job experience while advancing its mission.

Area architects can add ReStore Deconstruction to the list of green options or suggestions they provide to their clients. The ReStore works together with architects and contractors to offer the option of Deconstruction to their clients, and can provide materials to include in customer information packages as appropriate. Architects can also continue to refer clients and contractors to the ReStore's free pick-up service for donations of materials that are removed by the owner or contractor.

More information about ReStore Deconstruction, including videos, can be found on the web at www.restoreonline.org/decon.htm. If you have questions about Deconstruction, or would like brochures for your clients, please contact John Grossman, Store Manager or Dave Giese, Deconstruction Supervisor at the ReStore at (413) 788-6900.

Looking for Drawing Sets

The Architecture + Design Program at UMass Amherst is starting a collection of sets of working drawings from architects in the region. These will be used as reference documents for graduate students taking "The Integration Studio", a course in which the students assemble CD's for a project they have designed. The sets can be marked up sets. Any building type is welcome. If your firm is interested in contributing please contact Professor Sigrid Miller Pollin: smillerp@art.umass.edu.

IN THE GALLERIES

Williams College Museum of Art

Julie Mehretu: City Sitings
April 19–July 27

Julie Mehretu: City Sitings brings together 12 of the artist's monumental paintings. Mehretu's compelling canvases re-envision urban experience and rewrite narratives of exclusion, reconciling divergent histories through her expansive, dynamic compositions. Inspired by community, history and the built environment, Mehretu's paintings engage viewers in her vision of metropolitan landscape.

Mehretu's work evokes highly personalized, yet distinctly universal themes that draw on her experiences as a citizen of the world and of the city. Born in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, raised in Michigan and now a resident of New York City, she employs a dynamic visual vocabulary that combines maps, urban grids, and architectural renderings to articulate complex social and geopolitical structures. The immense proportions, organic layering, and careful detail convey the complexities of the urban environment.

Mass MoCA

Jenny Holzer's PROJECTIONS
through Fall 2008

For thirty years, Jenny Holzer has presented her astringent ideas, arguments, and sorrows in public places and international exhibitions. Her medium, whether formulated as a light projection, a plaque, an electronic sign, or a painting, is writing, and the public dimension is integral to the delivery of her work. In *PROJECTIONS*, opening at MASS MoCA on Sunday, November 18, 2007, Holzer will use MASS MoCA's massive Building 5 as the site of her first interior light projections installed in the United States. In an adjoining gallery, Holzer will exhibit a new series of paintings shown, in part, at the 2007 Venice Biennale.

Akin to credits rolling at the end of a film, light projections allow Holzer to work demonstratively with the ephemeral. Since 1996, Holzer has engaged landscape and architecture as the screens for her work; spaces, people, and time are tucked into a spare and affirming gesture.

UMass DuBois Library

A World of Cities
Through April 30

A World of Cities examines artists' approaches to the depiction of cities. Universal aspects of urban life are explored across time and place, while defining the sharp differences in how people live, work, and interact in cities around the world.

Included in this exhibition are prime examples from the university's significant collection of contemporary works of art on paper, such as photographs by the pre-eminent American photographers Robert Adams, Lee Friedlander, Robert Frank, and Garry Winogrand.

The University Gallery is committed to making its collection an inspiration for teaching and research in all fields and a dynamic extension of the classroom — promoting critical thinking and visual literacy. By collaborating with faculty and students across the disciplines, as well as with colleagues at the university's libraries, the University Gallery advances creative teaching and active learning, as well as engaging in active outreach beyond the Gallery. With this exhibition at the W.E. DuBois Library, the University Gallery invites a wider public to enjoy its offerings.

National Yiddish Book Center

At Home in Utopia
April 6 at 4:30pm

(on the Hampshire College Campus)
This new documentary film about housing cooperatives built in the Bronx in the 1920s features an interview with Daniel Libeskind. For more info visit www.pvjff.org. Tickets are \$8.

**This firm knows
how to have a
good time!**
**Laura Fitch AIA
and Mary
Krauss AIA
compete in the
Amherst
Winterfest
"Kardboard
Klassic" sled
race in their
Zero Net Energy
"sled".**

photo by Erika Zekos
Assoc. AIA



CONFERENCES / PROGRAMS

Public Art Symposium

April 25
9:30am - 4:30pm
Student Union Ballroom

(Exhibit April 25 to May 24
University Gallery)

The University Gallery at UMass, Amherst, invites area architects to attend *Art In The Public Sphere: Singular Works, Plural Possibilities* to examine the complexities and challenges of producing work *in* and *about* the public domain. In conjunction with a daylong symposium exploring the conceptual and tangible difficulties of art in the public sphere, the University Gallery will present a juried exhibition of proposed public art projects that address issues of temporality, community, place, and practice on local, national, and global levels, which will highlight the contemporary trends and new ideas in the field of public art.

While the term “public art” traditionally tends to suggest the timeless and immutable – the very “stuff” of traditional monuments – today’s public art often provides a dynamic commentary on the change and indeterminacy that is a part of our daily lives. As public life becomes dominated by increasingly fragmented identities and restless societal differences, the University Gallery’s daylong symposium will consider how the operative criteria for actualizing work in the public domain can be culturally resonant, ecologically sound, imaginatively stimulating, perceptually engaging, and politically effective.

Architects, artists, designers, curators, scholars, and landscape architects will examine the complexities and

challenges of producing work in and about the public domain in relation to Temporality, Community, Place, and Practice. A series of conversations and panel discussions will provide a critical space to consider various theories, processes, and models for artistic intervention. Individual presentations by distinguished panelists include **Vito Acconci**, Designer/Architect, NYC; **Annaliese Bischoff**, UMass Dept. of Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning; **Joseph Krupczynski**, UMass Dept. of Art, Architecture and Art History; **Rick Lowe**, Artist, Founder, Project Row Houses, Houston, TX; **Anne Pasternak**, President/Director, Creative Time, NYC; **Frank Slegers**, UMass Dept. of Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning; **George Trakas**, Artist, Amherst, MA and NYC. Moderators are **Jack Ahern**, UMass Dept. Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning; and **Mario Ontiveros**: UMass Dept. of Art, Architecture & Art History.

Directly following the symposium is the opening of the juried exhibition. For more information please visit www.umass.edu/fac/universitygallery.

See page 14 for information about Learning Units for Architects.

MASS IMPACT: Cities and Climate Change Symposium

June 9
The Tang Center at MIT
Cities and Systems: Strategies for the Future

Visit the Mass Impact web site for all details: www.architects.org/massimpact. Register online NOW.

Design-Build Web Seminar

April 9
1:00pm - 2:30pm

Speakers:
 Martin Sell, AIA, President, MSA Integrated Project Delivery
 Ben Wilking, AIA, DBIA, Vice President LBA Corporate Services, Inc.

This webinar is the first in a series offered by the AIA Design-Build Knowledge Community in 2008. Topics covered in this session will include: a general history of Design-Build; analysis of the growth of Design-Build through industry statistics; reasons why architects should be in the leadership role of Design-Build, important teaming aspects of the process, as well as other concerns.

After registering for this Web seminar, you can invite as many coworkers and clients as you want to share in the live meeting with you. This session qualifies for 1.5 CEUs. Site Registration: \$195.00 www.aia.org/db_default

Open Door Schedule

“Open Door” is a lunch time series for local architects and UMass Amherst Architecture + Design students. Many presenters are AIA CEU providers, but if not then architects may self-report to obtain learning units. The sessions will be 1 hour and eligible for 1 CEU.

Lectures are held on Wednesdays 12:00 to 1:00pm through May 7th in the 3rd Floor Conference Room of Gordon Hall, 418 N Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA. Need more info? Contact Kerry Jackson at kmj@student.umass.edu

Prefab Conference Call for Papers

September 25 - 27
UMass Amherst
Abstracts and Projects Due
May 21

The 2008 Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Northeast Fall Conference will focus on the art and science of contemporary prefabricated architecture. Light on the environment, prefab construction is enjoying a renewed interest. Sections of a home (by some estimates, 30% of all new homes) are built in a factory to minimize construction waste, energy use and design costs. And recently, many new prefab homes are designing in other green building options. This conference will provide a unique opportunity for the assessment of the past and a focus on the future of manufactured building systems. Conference chairs invite papers and projects from a broad range of perspectives and are particularly interested in papers that focus on innovative prefabricated wood systems and structures, as the ACSA conference will run concurrently with the UMass Wood Structures Symposium. Additional information at www.acsa-arch.org/conferences/regionalmeetings.aspx and www.umass.edu/architecture.

Prefab-ulous

Mark your calendars for this summer's prefab show at NYC's MoMA. Full scale examples (featuring MIT professor and friend of WMAIA Larry Sass's laser cut house, among others) will be installed in an adjacent empty lot. After your visit you'll undoubtedly want more and WMAIA is happy to provide. We're planning a fall program with Empyrean International (manufacturer of the Acorn and Deck House building systems) in conjunction with UMass Amherst's prefab symposium in September.

UMass Lecture Series Wraps Up

These are the last two lectures of the season:

Jason Chandler AIA
Tuesday, April 8 / 6:00pm Herter Annex, Room 227

"Reconciling Context: Buildings and Projects by Jason R. Chandler, A.I.A." Jason R. Chandler, A.I.A., is an Assistant Professor at the School of Architecture at Florida International University and is principal of Chandler and Associates, Architecture, P.A. Jason received his Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University and his Master of Architecture from Harvard University.

Skender Luarasi
Tuesday, April 15 / 6:00pm Herter Annex, Room 227

"Geological Materialities, Vectorial Fields, Ideogramming" Skender Luarasi is a practicing architect and an Assistant Professor of Architecture at the Architecture + Design Program at University of Massachusetts in Amherst. He has worked as a designer for dEcoi architects/MIT Digital Design Group, Kennedy & Violich Architects Ltd and Finegold + Alexander Associates Inc. His practice can be characterized as a meshwork of design and research that focuses on the applied theories of visualization technologies and ideogrammatic culture in design.

Enterprise Community Grant

Enterprise Community Grant Funds up to \$50,000 per project. Now available for developers committed to providing green affordable housing.

Applications must be received online by April 11. Grant guidelines and application available at www.greencommunitiesonline.org. Awards are expected to be made by the last week of June. Please note that Enterprise and its partners have updated the Green Communities Criteria. Before starting the application please make sure to request the new Criteria at: www.greencommunitiesonline.org/tools/criteria/request.asp For information related to the application, call 410.715.7433 or email greencommunities@enterprisecommunity.org

Rose Fellowship

Four new Rose Fellowship opportunities in San Francisco; East Biloxi, Mississippi, Minneapolis and rural Minnesota. The Rose Fellowship fosters a unique partnership between Fellows and their host organizations. Both parties make a commitment of three years. The Fellow contributes his or her time and energy to work as part of the host organization's staff, building capacity and bringing fresh experience and ideas to the organization. The host provides mentorship and guidance, supporting the development of the Fellow's career by providing meaningful experiences in design, development, financing, construction management and resident services. Applications are due on April 25, 2008. Start Date: September 2, 2008 .

Applications are available at www.rosefellowship.org.

WMAIA Needs Writers!

WMAIA news is always looking for interesting articles about your practice, conferences you've attended, your hobbies or things you've observed. Please contact the editor at studiozed@comcast.net if you have a topic to contribute.

Pencils Down!

by Derek Noble AIA

BIM... Not a very robust sounding name for what is quickly becoming the next major shift in the design and documentation of our architecture projects. As you may have heard, BIM (Building Information Modeling) software can be found everywhere, including in western Mass. Chris Riddle AIA organized a March 17 panel of colleagues to discuss the 3D Modeling and BIM software currently being used in the region.

BIM, by definition (for those of you who weren't able to attend the discussion and listen to the panel), is a parametric, element-based, 3-dimensional computer model linked to a database of project information. BIM software is paving the way toward a 3-dimensional model-based process and away from a 2-dimensional drawing based process.

The first portion of the afternoon involved quick, introductory demos of software by the architects who use them. Karel De La Cruz of Kuhn Riddle Architects walked through **Sketch-Up** and Skender Luarasi of the UMass Architecture+Design Program showed the capabilities of **Rhino**. Both programs are 3D modeling and visualization tools, best suited for design and presentation materials and not for full architectural documentation. The difference between the programs is their target output. Rhino is has the capability to produce rendering and animation of complex shapes, curves and surfaces for architecture and industrial design (think Frank Gehry) and Sketch-Up's strength is it's easy interface and 3D model rendering (think digital cardboard model).

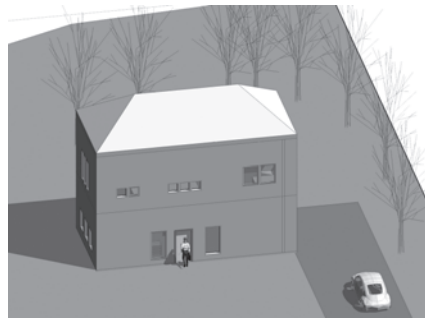
The BIM software was up next with Tom Hartman AIA of Coldham & Hartman Architects presenting **Archicad** and Jonathan Salvon AIA of Kuhn Riddle Architects demonstrating **Revit**. The two programs are very similar in their

abilities as a design tool, and as a design development and construction documentation tool.



Jonathan Salvon AIA's Revit model from the BIM Shoot Out

The discussions that occurred during and after the presentations were very candid and included expectations of what BIM can do and the return on investment. Panel members emphasized that moving into the BIM realm will have immediate effects on staffing, training, project schedules, deliverables (both presentation and construction documents) and not all effects will be positive at first.

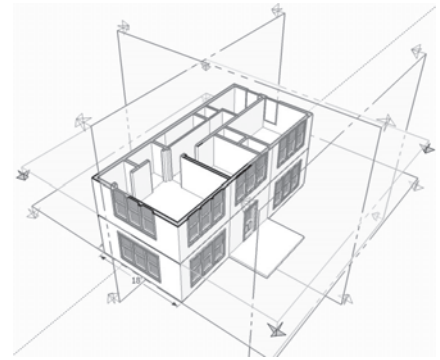


Diego Torres-Palma's Revit model from the BIM Shoot Out

The second part of the afternoon was the **BIM Shoot Out**. Chris prepared a hand sketched plan and section of a house with enough information for the participants to model. Bruce Coldham AIA, using Archicad, Jonathan and Diego Torres-Palma on Revit, and Karel using Sketch-Up, had an hour and a half to represent the design in 3D. Each computer screen was projected on the wall and allowed

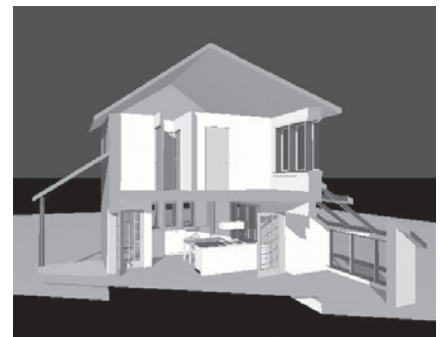
the audience to see the difference in the programs' interface and functionality in action. There was a lot of cheering (and some heckling) as the participants pushed to produce a fully realized 3D model of the design.

Perhaps the most provocative presentation was done by Jim Whalen and Diego of Daniel O'Connell's Sons (DOC). They presented the challenges of working with their first project to utilize BIM technology, the Health and Wellness Center at Bunker Hill Community College. At the request of the owner, the project was required to utilize BIM to help with the construction



Karel De La Cruz's Sketch-Up model from the BIM Shoot Out

coordination and estimating. To provide the required construction administration services, the architect's 3D model of the building envelope and the 3D models Diego created of the structure and the mechanical systems were combined into a software program by NavisWorks called **JetStream**. Utilizing the "clash detection" function, DOC was able to



Bruce Coldham AIA's Archicad model from the BIM Shoot Out

automatically find conflicts between the architecture and the proposed mechanical systems.

Hmmm.... it all sounds too good to be true. As architects, it's easy to understand the many benefits BIM provides: making changes to a project in the design phase and having those changes processed, coordinated and applied automatically in the drawings; it's a visualization tool available throughout both the design and documentation phases, and an information manager allowing for easy scheduling.

Why not jump aboard the BIM train? We have to remember BIM software is still an evolving tool. Architects need to be prepared for the pressures to draw and model more information as our clients expectations increase. Jim Whalen noted, "if you (architects) don't model it, we (contractors) will." This raises questions about where the division of responsibility needs to be drawn. As we develop more accurate models, we need to understand how the information will be accessed, used, and exchanged between all parties involved in the construction process. And at the production level, the person modeling the project needs to fully understand how a building goes together.

With more time, experimentation and understanding, BIM will evolve into an integrated design tool and project delivery system used by the architecture, engineering, and construction communities. Our office in Enfield, CT has cautiously adopted Revit and so far the experience has been positive, but I'm not planning to toss my pencils and trace.

IN THE WORKS

"In The Works" is a regular feature of the WMAIA News. If your firm has new or recently completed work that you'd like to share with the readers then please send 300 dpi jpg images and a short project description to Erika Zekos, WMAIA news editor (studiozed@comcast.net). The deadline for the next issue is June 16th, 2008.



**Hopkins Building Renovation
Williamstown, MA**

**Bartels / Architecture +
Landscape Design**

of Williamstown is renovating the existing "Hopkins" building, a landmark building along Spring Street in Williamstown. The building along the town's main public space, is slated to

be expanded and renovated this Spring for the Paresky family. A total of 24,000 square feet will provide a variety of spaces for retail, office and restaurant/bar uses. An L-shaped building for the new Purple Pub with a courtyard for outdoor seating will be built into the embankment in the rear in what is currently an unattractive and wasted area. The embankment becomes a "seam" between educational and commercial uses, an opportunity for exchange rather than separation.

**The Institute for Musical Arts
Goshen, MA**

Metcalf Associates of Northampton has this project on the boards. The final phase of the Institute for Musical Arts is a state-of-the-art sound recording studio. Its new wing is part of a 7 structure campus created from an historic farm. IMA is teaching, performing and promoting women and greater diversity in the Music Industry. Their 25-acre estate features a house and several barns all built in the early 1800's (except for two Yurts and the most recent storage barns built from 85% recycled demolition material from the main barn using 8 removed sliding doors and 3" nominal flooring planks and frame to create pole barns on dry stone wall surface foundations). The largest barn has been converted into a recording, performance and teaching facility. The spaces accommodate a multitude of artistic endeavors with a seating capacity of 200, a recording chamber that could hold an orchestra, plus some dormitory housing. The sound studio is fund raising now through an e-Bay auction of donations from Bonnie Raitt, David Bowie and a full list of noted artists, many local. It can be found at www.ima.org/pages/auction.html.



WMAIA PROGRAMS

WMAIA Upcoming Programs

Requirements of the Massachusetts Residential Energy Code: Catch the Wave to Greener Construction

Wednesday, April 23

8:30am/Workshop, 9:00-10:30am
Lenox Town Hall

LUs: 1.5 HSW

This program is offered by the Center of Ecological Technology and is co-sponsored by WMAIA. For more information or to register email peggy@cetonline.org or call 800-369-3333x26

The Nuts & Bolts of Super-Insulated Houses

Friday, April 25

8:30am -4:30pm

Great Falls Discovery Center,
Turners Falls, MA

LUs: 7 HSW

Presenter: Marc Rosenbaum, P.E.

The meeting space has generously been provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

This workshop presents the concept of super-insulation as the principal approach to energy use reduction in housing and other wood-frame buildings.

Space limited to 50 – register now!

Art in the Public Sphere: Singular Works Plural Possibilities

Friday, April 25

9:30am-4:30pm

UMass Amherst / Cape Cod Lounge Student Union

LUs: 5.5 (HSW designation pending)

This daylong symposium will bring together architects, artists, curators, scholars and landscape architects to examine the complexities and challenges of producing work in and about the public domain. A series of conversations and panel discussions will provide a critical space to consider various theories, processes, and models for artistic intervention.

This program is free and open to the public. WMAIA will charge a registration fee to those who seek AIA Learning Units for attendance. A registration form will be posted on our website. For more information about the program visit www.umass.edu/fac/media/SymposiumB.pdf

Watch your mail for more detailed program information and registration forms or just download what you need from our website at: <http://www.wmaia.org/programs/programs.html>.

WMAIA Program registrations should be sent to:

Lorin Starr

WMAIA Executive Director

71 South Main Street

Sunderland, MA 01375

or faxed to:

413-665-2424

For questions regarding programs or to offer ideas for future programs (always appreciated!) please email director@wmaia.org.



40 Hulst Road
Amherst, MA 01002

