

THE NEBRASKA ARCHITECT



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2007: ISSUE 1

A NEW TAKE ON HEALTH SAFETY AND WELFARE

BY THOMAS J. TRENOLONE, AIA

In the world of architecture and urban planning, how often do we consider the consequences of design? Yes, we are all familiar with the tragedies like the Hyatt in Kansas City, where structural failure resulted in the death of several party-goers that evening. Yet, how often do we consider the consequences of the day-to-day impact on the world we shape? On a daily basis we work in a world and a profession that is driven by parameters, and all too often the parameter of budget takes center stage. Dr. Richard Jackson, MD MPH presents a look at the cost of design (or lack of it) from a medical and environmental perspective. This perspective comes from experience as former Director of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and his current capacity as an adjunct professor of Environmental Health at the University of California at Berkley. His presentation demonstrates how we as a design profession have become complicit in many of the troubling trends that are part of today's urban landscape.

Dr. Jackson's lecture, "Why Good Design is Better than an Apple a Day," held on April 11 at UNMC, begins with the diagnosis of a patient, a patient that could be any number of us. Today's average American, overworked, overweight and looking for the magic pill that will restore balance to it all. As he elaborates you begin to feel like you are listening to scenarios from an episode of "24" as the fate of the U.S. hangs in the balance. The difference here, is the adversary is not foreign power or terrorist but our own culture. His graphs and charts start to tell the story of the rising obesity rates and their direct relationship to the rise of diabetes in the United States. We have seen this information before, in Newsweek and on the evening news, but have we ever considered that our design was part of the epidemic? I know that many in the profession are aware of these consequences, but in the realm of the commercial the public good is not always the driving force behind the construction of buildings.

The usual suspects are presented over the course of the lecture, our love of the automobile, our love of less than healthy food and decrease in physical activities. Each is dissected and presented as to how these factors are all taking a toll on our cities, our healthcare system and profession. He also touches on how design is directly affecting the environment sighting the increase in carbon emissions over the last 50 years, a topic that many of us are keenly aware of as we know that buildings account for 38% of CO2 emissions more than either the transportation or industrial sectors.¹

(cont. on page 2)

Why Good Design is Better Than an Apple a Day

Dr. Richard Jackson, MD MPH

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PowerPoint available www.aiane.org

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Knowledge Communities

HDR



WHAT CAN SAVE OUR CHILDREN, OUR COMMUNITIES AND OUR PLANET – BUILD ON EACH OTHER.

RICHARD JACKSON, MD MPH

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He tells the story of a hot day in Atlanta, Georgia, as he is waiting at a stop light. He observes a heavy set woman carrying bags of groceries along the road in the hot summer heat walking along an asphalt paved stretch of road. The road is absent of trees or any paved sidewalk. He wonders to himself, if this woman was to be hit by an automobile or suffer heat stroke and die, in all likelihood the death certificate would read motor vehicle accident or myocardial infarction (heart attack) brought on by heat stroke. He realizes that the death certificate would not reference that she died from lack of shade, or lack of proper sidewalks and medians to offset her proximity to the busy thoroughfare. He references this event as galvanizing moment and one that has led him to be a trusted counsel to the subject of health and environment to the State of California and most recently to the National Board of the American Institute of Architects.

The evening's greatest lesson, other than we need to exercise and eat more vegetables, was one that is being applied with greater frequency, and that lesson is the strength of professional collaboration. All too often, we allow our design hubris to isolate our work keeping free from the entanglements of the uninitiated. The lecture did not offer any insight into the discussion on why the healthy urban trends of the density and mixed use must take on the façade of turn of the century town square, but to Dr. Jackson's credit it is another lecture entirely. So in the interim while this collaboration is taking place, remember an apple a day is still a good prescription.

1) U.S. Green Building Council, Press Release "Building Design Leaders Collaborating on Carbon-Neutral Buildings by 2030" May 7th, 2007

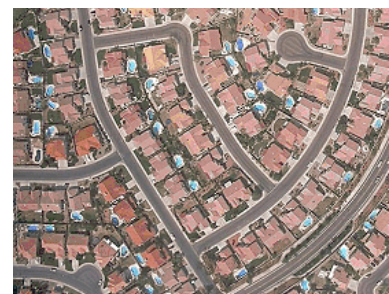
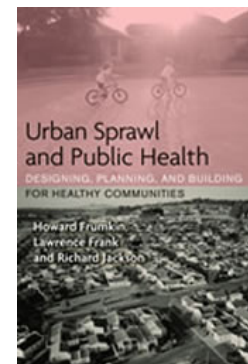
About the Author: Thomas J. Trenolone, AIA is an architect with the Omaha based firm of HDR Architecture, Inc., where he currently serves as an Architect and Designer. He is also the founder and chairman of daOMA (design alliance OMAha) a not for profit organization devoted to educating the public on architecture and design.

URBAN SPRAWL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

DESIGNING, PLANNING, AND BUILDING
FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

"Years ago, we could see that the correlation between sprawl and poor health should be made. Now it is done. **Urban Sprawl and Public Health** details how our lifestyle leads to serious health problems. This book should be reviewed widely and its facts should be known by all of us. It will be one of the central texts of the New Urbanism." – Andres Duany, Town Planner DPZ, and author of **Suburban Nation: The Rise of Sprawl and the Decline of the American Dream**.

In **Urban Sprawl and Public Health**, Howard Frumkin, Lawrence Frank, and Richard Jackson, three of the nation's leading public health and urban



AIA'S HOME DESIGN TREND SURVEY RESULTS

THE AIA RECENTLY RELEASED THE RESULTS OF A HOME DESIGN TREND SURVEY AND IT APPEARS THAT COMMUNITY DESIGN IS MOVING TOWARD GREATER ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC FACILITIES SUCH AS TRANSPORTATION AND COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES.

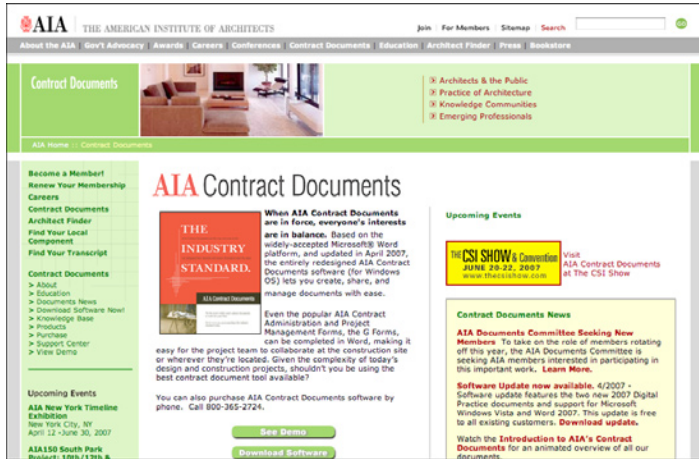
It also notes that neighborhood design trends favor more mixed-use activities with infill and other higher-density development, with dedicated areas for recreation and open space. Also gaining popularity according to the AIA are traditional neighborhoods and homes with upscale exteriors, but also windows and porches to encourage more street-level interaction.

However, the survey notes that residential architects are reporting a continued slowing of business conditions, with an even great easing of inquiries for new work. There is also a softening in affordable entry-level homes due to growing concerns over housing affordability, but virtually all new residential construction sectors are reported as weakening. In contrast, homeowners are still investing in their current homes. Kitchen and bath remodeling projects as well as additions and alterations are reported to be very strong.

planning experts explore an intriguing question: How does the physical environment in which we live affect our health? For decades, growth and development in our communities has been of the low-density, automobile-dependent type known as sprawl. The authors examine the direct and indirect impacts of sprawl on human health and well-being, and discuss the prospects for improving public health through alternative approaches to design, land use, and transportation.

Urban Sprawl and Public Health offers a comprehensive look at the interface of urban planning, architecture, transportation, community design, and public health. It summarizes the evidence linking adverse health outcomes with sprawling development, and outlines the complex challenges of developing policy that promotes and protects public health. Anyone concerned with issues of public health, urban planning, transportation, architecture, or the environment will want to read **Urban Sprawl and Public Health**.

Purchase your copy today from AIA Nebraska.



AIA CONTRACT DOCUMENT SOFTWARE UPDATE

THE AIA released updated Contract Document Software. The revised software (version 3) was updated to better meet users' needs allowing us to more easily create, share, and manage contract documents.

The software is available at:
aia.org/docs_default

The update is free to current customers.

Additional features include: enhanced functionality in how documents are drafted, edited, shared, and finalized; an improved homepage launch pad for creating a document within an existing project or accessing software resources and licensing information; a five-tab layout for quick accesses to data; an integrated help function and more.

DESIGN BLOGS FOR ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS

STAY UP-TO DATE WITH INDUSTRY NEWS AND CHECK OUT THE HOTTEST ONLINE TECHNOLOGY WITH THESE POPULAR BLOGS.

blog.aia.org/nac

AIA ARCHIBLOG

Created by the National AIA Associates Committee.

aia.org/podcasts

AIA PODNET

Downloadable podcast series of interviews and discussions by architects.

blawg.midwestconstructionlaw.com

CONSTRUCTION LAW BLOG

Attorney Dave Seitter covers insurance issues, legal articles and advice.

asla.org/land/dirt/blog

THE DIRT

The American Society of Landscape Architects blog discusses events, mergers and general LA news.

AIA COTE MEASURES OF SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

As green and sustainable design become part of the building industry's daily dialogue, the national AIA Committee on the Environment (COTE) notes that it is important to be clear about what the particular elements of this movement mean. In that vein, COTE defines 10 measures of sustainable design:

Sustainable design intent and innovation – embraces the ecological, economic, and social circumstances of a project; architectural expression itself comes from that intent.

Regional/community design and connectivity – recognizes the cultural and natural character of place, promotes community identity and interaction and alternate transit strategies.

Land use and site ecology – reveals how natural systems can thrive in the presence of development, relates to ecosystems at different scales, and creates or preserves open space.

Bioclimatic design – conserves resources and optimizes human comfort, using place-based design to benefit from free energies of sun, wind, and water.

Light and air – daylight, lighting design, natural ventilation, improve indoor air quality and enhance the human link to nature.

Water cycle – conserves water supplies, manages site water/drainage, and capitalizes on renewable site sources using water-conserving strategies, fixtures, appliances, etc.

Energy flows and energy future – reducing or eliminating the need for lighting and mechanical heating and cooling; smaller/more efficient building systems reduce pollution and improve building performance.

Materials, building envelope, and construction – selection of materials and products can conserve resources, reduce the impacts of manufacture/transport; high-performance building envelopes improve comfort/reduce energy use and pollution.

Long life, loose fit – materials, systems, and design solutions enhance versatility, durability, and adaptive reuse potential.

Collective wisdom and feedback loops – most intelligent design strategies evolve over time through shared knowledge within a large community.

To view the source of this information, go to:
aia.org/cote_news_define_sust_design.

AIA NATIONAL LEADERSHIP VISITS NEBRASKA ARCHITECTS

Recently Christine McEntee, new AIA National EVP/CEO and Beth Bush, VP of Member Value and Communications visited Nebraska and met with leadership from AIA Nebraska, Lincoln and Omaha along with firm principals from firms of all sizes. Chris has been on the job for 15 months and Beth started in January.

Two roundtable discussions were held with principles representing the smallest and largest firms in Nebraska. Here is a summary of the issues brought forth in these discussions:

Question: In Architectural Record the projects featured are typically on the coasts. How can we get more projects from the middle of the country published?

Answer: The AIA's contract with McGraw Hill to have Architectural Record as the official publication of the AIA is up for renewal and the AIA is currently in negotiations to renew this contract. The AIA is pushing to establish an editorial board to address this issue and others as they relate to the AIA and our members. Expect to see positive changes to Arch Record.

Question: Is there a plan to renew support for the State Government Network (SGN)?

Answer: The Government Affairs Department will be making grassroots leadership and the SGN priority as the AIA continues to make strides on local and federal issues that impact the profession.

Question: How is the AIA addressing the rising costs of health and liability insurance?

Answer: AIA National continues to work with Congress in introducing legislation relating to affordable health insurance. A bill was defeated in the last session of congress that would have allowed professional organizations (like the AIA) to offer health insurance to its members. The AIA is pursuing reintroducing this bill and others to address this issue. The AIA is thoroughly reviewing the commended liability program to make sure the optimum benefit is being provided to members. Approximately 7,000 firms utilize the AIA Trust liability insurance.

Question: How can architects take the lead in integrated practice?

Answer: The AIA has been working for over a year with groups like GSA, CURT (Construction Users Roundtable) and AGC (Association of General Contractors) to understand responsibilities and liabilities and come to a shared understanding of the complex issues surrounding IP. The AIA is also developing contracts that specifically address IP. The first draft of these should be available by next summer. Other contracts recently released are C106™– 2007, Digital Data Licensing Agreement, and E201™– 2007, Digital Data Protocol Exhibit. These new documents address ownership rights and allow project participants to establish protocols for the transmission of digital data.



Question: Why aren't more graduates becoming licensed?

Answer: This is a national problem and is not unique to Nebraska. Some of the reasons being evaluated are; survey data indicating the average time to complete IDP and the ARE is six to seven years; opportunities for graduates outside of traditional practice and graduates not making it a priority because they don't see a need to be licensed. A suggestion was made to hold a meeting with the University of Nebraska College of Architecture be held to strategize on dealing with this crisis on a local basis.

There needs to be more information and continuing education specifically for the residential architects. 50% of the membership represents 5 employees or less.

Chris announced the development of Soloso, a web based knowledge resource for architects, created by AIA. The web site is intended to be a portal to information, whether contained on this site or linked to other existing sources. Content will be provided by the AIA, AIA Knowledge Communities, industry experts and visitors just to name a few. Users will have the opportunity to customize their interface in a number of ways. They can also post content, content reviews and other information.



(cont. on page 5)

(cont. from page 4)



Question: It would be helpful to know what other architects are charging, why can't AIA talk about fees?

Answer: Due to the antitrust laws, the AIA is prohibited from facilitating any discussions about fees.

Chris inquired about clients paying late; this doesn't seem to be an issue in Nebraska. She also asked about lines of credit and if it would be helpful for AIA National to provide assistance. One member indicated he is not interested in AIA becoming a bank.

Other issues discussed included the job of the sole practitioner juggling of responsibilities and the importance of AIA Nebraska defeating the sales tax on services bill in the Legislature a few years ago.

Chris and Beth are very interested in keeping in contact with the membership, direct any issues to their e-mails.

Chris McEntee: CMcEntee@aia.org
Beth Bush : BBush@aia.org

Thanks to Greg Staskiewicz, Associate AIA, for his contributions to this article.

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AIA Lincoln

July 13-15 is AIA Weekend at the Lincoln Children's Museum!

July Events

Mr. Potts' Garden

Every Saturday
1:00-2:00

Wonderful Wednesdays

Wednesdays through August 15
1:00-3:00

Music & Mozzarella

Thursdays through July 26
5:00-7:00

Museum Open Late!

Thursdays through July 26
9:30 am - 7:30 pm

Lincoln Children's Museum Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday 9:30 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Closed Mondays

**Special Museum Store Discount
for AIA Members during
the weekend of July 13-15!**

10% off purchases all weekend long!



No other discounts apply.  **AIA** Lincoln

AIA is supporting the Lincoln Children's Museum as a KEVA Planks Exhibit Sponsor! In appreciation of AIA's support, all AIA members and their immediate families will be admitted to the Museum free during the weekend of July 13-15.

How it Works

- As an AIA member, you, or your spouse and immediate family (dependent children under age 18) will receive complimentary regular admission to the Museum for the weekend of July 13-15. If you are a grandparent, your spouse and grandchildren (under age 18) will receive complimentary regular admission.
- Grown children and grandchildren of AIA members are welcome to enter the Museum at the regular admission price.
- **Please keep this sheet as your admission coupon, and bring this sheet with you along with company identification for free admission to the Museum during the weekend of July 13-15!**

Where to Park

Parking is available at the University Square Parking Garage located at 14th and P Streets. Bring in your parking stub to the Museum Welcome Desk to purchase reduced-rate parking stickers for 30 cents each (3 hour maximum).

Thank You AIA Members!

Architectural Design Associates
Architectural Foundation of Nebraska
The Architectural Partnership
Bahr, Vermeer & Haecker Architects
The Clark Enersen Partners
Davis Design
John Badami Architects
Sinclair Hille Architects
Studio951, Ltd.



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www.LincolnChildrensMuseum.org

NEW AIA MEMBERS

Thomas Scott Hicks, AIA
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Francisco Jose Herera, AIA
The Schemmer Associates, Inc.

James W. Linkletter, Jr., AIA
The Schemmer Associates, Inc.

Michael J. Penn, AIA
Sinclair Hille Architects

NEW ASSOC. MEMBERS

Jeramie Nelson, Assoc. AIA
Sandstone Construction, LLC

Stan D. Peterson, Assoc. AIA
Davis Design

Alberto Sanchez-Aparicio, Assoc. AIA
Davis Design

Martha Sanchez, Intl. Assoc. AIA

REINSTATED MEMBERS

Gregory S. Galbreath, Assoc. AIA
BCDM, Inc.

David E. Quade, AIA
Sinclair Hille Architects

Alison M. Topp, Assoc. AIA
TSP, Inc.

NEWLY LICENSED MEMBERS

Travis Brodersen, AIA
Holland Basham Architects

Peter Hind, AIA
Studio951, Ltd.

Donette Koelzer, AIA
Kenneth Hahn Architects

Bruce McCauley, AIA
U.S. Air Force

Steven Shogrin, AIA
Alley Poyner Architecture, PC

TRANSFER-IN MEMBERS

Craig E. Park, Assoc. AIA
Leo A Daly

NEW AFFILIATE MEMBERS

Robert Stargel, Affiliate AIA
The Weitz Co.

IN MEMORY

Burket E. Graf, AIA
John J. Tewhill, Jr., AIA



Pat Birch, AIA, has joined Schemmer Associates, Lincoln

TSP Group has added Roger Doehling, AIA, as an associate.

DLR Group has appointed the following to associates in the firm: Jay Palu, AIA and Aaron Persen, Associate AIA.

Thomas J. Trenolone, AIA, HDR has been named to Building Design & Construction's second annual "40 Under 40" honor roll.

Thomas L. Findley, AIA, Leo A Daly, was the recipient of the University of Nebraska College of Architecture's distinguished alumni award.

Edward J. Vidlak, Leo A Daly, received the Psi Chapter of Tau Sigma Delta silver medal in recognition of his career performance and commitment to the community and the University of Nebraska College of Architecture.

George Haecker, AIA received the Alumni Achievement Award from the UNL Alumni Association.

Jackson-Jackson & Associates was recognized as a national design winner for excellence in education design by American School & University magazine in its publication of the 2006 Architectural Portfolio in November.

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BRUCE CARPENTER, AIA**AIA NEBRASKA PRESIDENT**

In my entire career, I have not sensed more excitement in the profession of architecture than right now.

Architects have important work at hand to deal with (1) the profound energy initiatives for buildings and (2) the expanding demand for creating the future built environment including refurbishing existing structures for reuse.

More clients and the public in general are asking for sensitive environmental solutions from design professionals. Research and advanced technology are providing the tools to create more efficient systems, but it may not be happening as quickly as it needs to.

If you are designing a building today and not thinking about how to make it more sustainable and energy efficient, you need to think again. Projections indicate that we will be building or renovating the equivalent square footage of space currently in use by 2037.

It is critically important for Architects to bring the creative solutions to improve the built environment; to be creative problem solvers for the future. The building industry must change regarding energy use. Without losing site of the functional and aesthetic issues we have solved historically, sustainability is a part of every decision we consider.

AIA Nebraska is here to help as both a resource for information and to provide focused continuing learning opportunities. We celebrate creative design and watch legislation important to maintain a public focused profession. We encourage camaraderie among members and provide insight to current events.

The cliché statement is "the more you put into it, the more you get out of it". This is very true with regard to the AIA. Please be involved and use AIA Nebraska to the fullest extent.

AIA Nebraska is successful in a large part because of the dedicated and capable staff, Executive Director Sara Kay and her assistant Kelsey Clymer.

I am honored to be a part of this great organization.

Respectfully,

Bruce Carpenter AIA Nebraska President

bruce.carpenter@hdrinc.com



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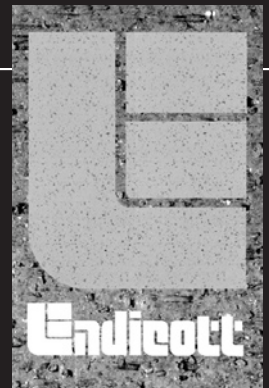


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JOHN DINEEN, AIA

AIA OMAHA PRESIDENT



The year 2007 is earmarked for political campaigning, and use of the media to reach out to the community. AIA Omaha representatives attending the 2007 Grassroots and leadership conference earlier this month advocated better architectural design and energy efficiency in our communities. This year AIA Omaha combines these concepts with a continued effort toward Community Outreach/Education promoting of value of an Architects in our community.

Remaining involved with the efforts of Omaha By Design, there are many opportunities for our chapter to capitalize on public outreach, and celebration of our profession. The development and implementation of a broadcast media outlet for AIA Omaha is our next logical step.

Last year AIA Omaha explored the opportunities that exist with local cable Public Access Programming with the broadcast of com-mun-i-ty. You'll recall the program aired on COX 23 in prime time immediately followed by home video of an Ultimate Fighting Championship cage match. Although this was not the desired outcome we anticipated, one of the strategic goals for AIA Omaha in 2007 involves the development and implementation of a broadcast media outlet for our chapter. Our vision for a program would be a television broadcast to the public, in an interview format that could engage viewers with real issues concerning our communities and our built environment.

AIA Omaha is in a unique position to address several issues with such a program, and position the AIA branding in a positive professional manner. Various production outlets may be available to us, and we are exploring and investigating these opportunities which may include NETV, KUON, Cable Access programming, or local Network programming. We anticipate kicking off the our endeavor with a repeat broadcast of the independent film this summer. For those of you who missed our debut, com-mun-i-ty, is a half-hour film featuring observations, thoughts, and dreams of

present and future community produced by the American Institute of Architects. Featuring 2005 Pritzker Prize winner Thom Mayne, FAIA; Las Vegas mega-developer Steve Wynn and his architect Tony Marnell, AIA; Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, FAIA; Julie Eizenberg, AIA; artist China Blue; and Navaho cultural educator James Peshlakai, among others, the video is intended to provoke discussion about the future of our community.

As Former AIA President Douglas L Steidl, FAIA, addressed the 137th National Convention of The American Institute of Architects in May, 2005 Steidl explained the convention theme of The Power of Architecture: Imagine | Create | Transform. "We live on a dynamic planet. It's a jungle out there," he said. "What makes your community and my community possible is not the permission of nature; it's the power of architecture. But this power must be used wisely and with great skill if we are to imagine, create, and transform the raw materials of this planet into living, vibrant, healthy, sustainable, and livable communities," The American Institute of Architects celebrates its 150th birthday in 2007, however this is not simply an opportunity to celebrate the contribution AIA members have made to their communities, but an advocacy effort, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to generate awareness and raise the quality of life in the places we live through Architecture.

AIA Omaha seeks to approach this milestone in our history as an opportunity for advocacy on behalf of the public good. We seek to work together with our neighbors, to promote our Blueprint for America, to elevate, inspire, and educate people about architecture and how our decisions can define meaning in our community, can affect energy policy, and can promote a healthy environment. In the view of, Hon. Jeremy Harris, Hon. AIA, public director on the national AIA Board and former mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, we live in the urban era, and our cities are in crisis through our development of "an unsustainable paradigm of consumerism and waste ... the challenge to transform community is in your hands." The film makers intend to open our imaginations and give us much to reflect on about the future of our communities. The future we study, and plan for, begins today.

I invite you to seek out our screening of com-mun-i-ty and consider what role we will all collectively play in the coming year.

JOHN BADAMI, AIA

AIA LINCOLN PRESIDENT

The 2007 AIA Lincoln Chapter Board has had no time to let the grass grow under our feet. We have a packed agenda set for this year. Fortunately, I have the privilege of working with a very diverse and well represented Board. This year's members are made up of small and large firms alike. So far, we have had great participation and attendance at our first few meetings. I would like to thank all of the Lincoln AIA board members for their help and enthusiasm.

We will continue with our monthly continuing education lunch seminars. Some of the topics have included: January; New Rules for Architects and Engineers by Melinda Pearson, February; a presentation by Kent Seacrest of the Lincoln 2015 Visioning Group, March; Code Issues by Building and Safety. In April, we had our first Mayors Forum between candidates Chris Beutler and Ken Svoboda who addressed their positions on questions asked by AIA Lincoln's membership. It was very successful and we hope to continue this tradition for future election years. In May; a report from Cecil Steward, FAIA on the Lincoln Green Building coalition. We will also be sponsoring three PAL lectures this year.

This spring, we received exciting news that 15th street south of the Capitol was approved by the City Council to be named Goodhue Boulevard, in honor of Bertram Goodhue, the architect that designed the Capitol in 1922. A special thanks to Bob Ripley for leading the charge and pulling together support to make this happen. The announcement of the unveiling of the new street was June 14th in the State Capitol rotunda presented to the public by Governor Heineman, Bob Ripley, Dean Drummand and others.

AIA Lincoln has also reached its goal to raise \$5000.00 for the Lincoln Children's Museum, KEVA building blocks project. A celebration of this event took place at the Lincoln Children's Museum in mid March. The kick-off event included a competition between local architectural firms (Davis Design, The Clark Enersen Partners, Sinclair Hille, John Badami Architects, Studio951, Bahr Vermeer and Haecker) and their children to create structures with the building blocks. The event was great fun and a big success. Thanks to all the firms that participated in reaching our goal.

In celebration of AIA 150, AIA Lincoln has developed and committed to our 2010 City Green Building Initiative:

"AIA Lincoln's 2010 City Green Building Initiative: To help develop and adopt sustainable design guidelines for new buildings and renovations for: the City of Lincoln, LPS, UNL, the Public Building Commission and others by the year 2010."

We are currently planning several meetings with local officials to get the ball rolling in meeting our 2010 goal.

In September, the third annual bike ride / social is planned from Arch hall to a destination yet to be announced. In October, Lincoln will be hosting the 2007 AIA Nebraska Fall Conference and we will be ending the year with the annual AIA Lincoln Holiday Party to take place at Bahr Vermeer and Heacker's new office currently under construction in the Haymarket.

The Lincoln Chapter Board would like to thank those firms that have allowed us to use their office space for Board meetings this year and last. We all look forward to another great year. If you have any questions or comments about the years coming events, please e-mail me John Badami, 2007 AIA Lincoln President at www.archjb@neb.rr.com



CHILDREN AT THE LINCOLN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM BUILDING CREATIONS WITH KEVA PLANKS.

KURT CISAR, ASSOCIATE AIA

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



Approaching my second year out of college I have been asked as a part of my AIA duties to author an article in this quarterly newsletter. At first it seemed a bit of a daunting task, due to the fact that my peers would actually be reading this. However, I began to think about what I would like to read as an emerging professional. So I decided to write this first article about the transition I have seen between university and professional design.

In future articles I would like to use this space in the newsletter as a springboard for open discussion in regards to this transition and include pertinent information that emerging professional's can relate to and have interest in. Subjects in future articles quite possibly will range from discussions about technology integration to the professional design process. Feel free at any time to contact me with your thoughts or possible ideas for topics you would like to see discussed.

PROFESSIONAL TRANSITION & THE 'IDEA'

Schematic to Design Development. Semester to a week. How things change, although the process has not. I have found that the transition from a student of architecture to an emerging professional has been one of both subtleness and difference. After several years of 'studio' atmosphere design, the shift to professionalism was slight, but the process to which production is performed has greatly changed. The overall timing of production has taken time to mold into.

The design process still follows the same order, concept to design, and then detail. However, the speed of development has taken a while to get used to. Schematics seem to range from a couple days to several weeks, in each case seeming like a blink of an eye. In comparison, in school production seems to rarely reach beyond the schematic level in an entire semester. I am for no reason in disagreement for the indifference; coincidentally it seems as if the first has better prepared you for the second. The continuation and importance of 'idea' at the university level becomes ingrained to a point that when you reach a professional level of design, you understand its importance and are able to develop this process at a more efficient speed.

The process around the 'idea' has a tendency to become less apparent at the professional level due to budget constraints, client needs, and timing. But by no means should it be used as an excuse for restriction. It seems as if the experience of six years of studio has forced the professional process to include an 'idea'. Does this mean that the idea should be carried through every aspect of the design? That is for the individual to decide. Simply said, time and money create a much more difficult scenario in the professional world than that of studio.

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SAFEGUARDING THE LIFE, HEALTH, AND PROPERTY OF NEBRASKANS

BY MELINDA PEARSON, AIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As many of you know, there are eight members of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects: four engineers, three architects, and one public member. Your current architectural board members include the Vice Chair of the board, Mark Champion, AIA, in Lincoln; Secretary of the board, Albert Hamersky, AIA, in Lincoln; and Thomas Laging, FAIA, with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Board members are appointed by the Governor and serve five-year terms.

This spring the board completed its annual Strategic Planning Session to set goals for the coming year. Some of those plans include:

- 1) Updating Rules and Regulations. Negotiated Rulemaking was completed last fall and the recommended language for the new exemption matrix has been written into the Rules. Until now, the exemptions for buildings and projects that do not need professional design services have been written in Statute. The new Rule language is available on the board's website at www.ea.state.ne.us.

The hearing was May 25th and the final language passed. The Rules will now go to the Secretary of State, Attorney General, and to the Governor for signature. We anticipate this process will be complete this summer. Some of the items of particular interest to the architectural community include:
 - a. Candidates will be able to take certain sections of the ARE after they have graduated with an accredited degree and have signed up for IDP.
 - b. Certain other sections of the exam (likely to be Contract Documents and Building Design) will be held until IDP is complete.
 - c. Candidates who start taking the exam after January 1, 2008 will have 5 years to pass all divisions of the exam. This is called the "Rolling Clock".
 - d. There will now be a Temporary Permit for architects, as well as engineers. This will allow reciprocity for architects for one time only, one project, for one year. This is primarily in place to allow architects from outside of Nebraska to offer to practice legally. We believe the offer to practice is occurring just under the compliance radar and this permit will provide a vehicle for reciprocal licensees to comply, for a fee of \$300.00.
 - e. The Exemption Section has been rewritten. This is the major reason for the rewrite but will take serious education efforts to get the word out as to the language of the new Exemption matrix. It is no longer 5,000 s.f. or 20 occupants as the bar for exemptions. Instead, exempted language is now tied to square footage only, as designated by occupancy, and defined in the State Building Code, currently the IBC. Again, please refer to the website for that specific language.

- 2) Rules and Regulations Implementation Plan. The Board is working with a number of organizations to figure out the best way to disseminate information to all interested parties on what the new Rules say, specifically regarding the Exemptions. We are looking for "best practices" on informing the public, the building industry, code officials, partner governmental agencies and design professionals so that we can get an understanding and compliance of the new language.
- 3) Website. The board's website has a new searchable database that allows anyone to search for licensed professionals from different areas; including name, city, state and zip code. The searchable database now includes organizations and temporary permits. Try it and please provide us your input on the "survey" option.
- 4) Continuing Education. The board is committed to offering a high-quality continuing education opportunity to licensees every year. This year the board is planning an event on September 13th with nationally-acclaimed speakers from both the architectural and engineering communities. They will bring us their takes on the future of the professions and what the challenges are that come with a global economy and alternative delivery systems. The main focus will be on how these impact the public health, safety and welfare. It will be a full-day event, so mark your calendars now and keep your eyes on our website.
- 5) Alexa Check. On May 16th Governor Dave Heineman issued a proclamation that May 19th would be Alexa Check Day. The Board has been working with state senators to promote the safety of park shelter buildings throughout Nebraska for the last few years since Alexa Christine Foster, age 8, was killed when a restroom wall in a park building in Crete fell on her. Four structural engineers helped draft an Alexa Checklist that was designed in a brochure. As licensees, you should have received one in the mail. If you would like more copies, please let us know.
- 6) Compliance. Compliance Officer Kandice Bremer has been working diligently with a number of interesting cases. We continue to receive a number of complaints on buildings that do not have architects and/or engineers on projects that are not "Exempted". We expect to see more of these with the change in Exemption language. On the other hand, we anticipate fewer questions in the future because the concept of exemptions will be more clear and easily understood by both the professions and the public.



The Board is the leader in safeguarding the life, health, property and the public welfare of the people of Nebraska with respect to the practice architecture and engineering.

Please write or email us at www.ea.state.ne.us with your questions or concerns.

AIA NEBRASKA FALL CONFERENCE CHAIR ANNOUNCED

GREENING SPACES: 2007
OCTOBER 17-18/LINCOLN EMBASSY SUITES



"The conference theme of Greening Spaces is not only timely but critical. I am old enough to have lived and started practicing architecture in the midst of the 70's energy crisis. I learned that architects do have a profound effect upon our collective future through our design process. Sustainability is now becoming mainstream. It is everywhere. But the essential question remains—what is good design and how can we make good sustainable solutions a part of our core process."

— DAN WORTH, AIA.

Dan Worth, AIA, Principal, Bahr Vermeer Haecker Architects, Ltd., is leading this year's efforts by serving as the conference chair. He is Vice President of the firm and Office Manager of the BVH Lincoln Office.

AIA NEBRASKA EXCELLENCE IN DESIGN PROGRAM

REGISTRATION FOR ENTRIES DUE: JULY 9

ENTRY SUBMISSIONS DUE: JULY 26

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: WWW.AIANE.ORG

AIA NEBRASKA

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