



SUMMER
2003



Photos: Jeff Culp

Nature trails surround Waycross conference center and camp site. Bring appropriate footwear, log hopping and topography are involved.

[This image is from Jeff Culp's retreat venue preview. To glimpse what awaits you in Indiana check out <<http://www.bsue.edu/provost/ceres/sbse/2003retreat/venue.html>>.—ed.]

THE RETREAT: ARCHITECTURE AS PEDAGOGY

THEME SESSIONS WITHOUT PARALLEL

After our Monday night (August 11) kick-off Evening Roundtable, there are four theme sessions on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and afternoons (sandwiching a Columbus discovery tour on Wednesday). To ensure that no one misses any of the action, there are no concurrent sessions. Our typical half-day theme session pattern has three parts:

- ♣ Whole group—Invited theme presentations
- ♣ Small groups—Discussions
- ♣ Whole group—Theme summaries

Each day concludes with an informal wrap-up session. This schedule allows plenty of time for that all-important informal networking we all crave.

—Leonard Bachman

COLUMBUS DAY MOVED FORWARD TWO MONTHS

On August 13 SBSEers embark for Columbus, IN, where we'll view a video presentation at the Visitors' Center followed by a tour of the First Christian Church led by the architect of its new addition. A downtown walking tour beginning at the Cleo Rogers Library plaza precedes a box lunch at Mill Race Park replete with ice cream, other tasty treats, and a Nickelodeon performance at Zaharako's. To facilitate thorough tours of selected, but widespread, daylighted buildings, we'll enjoy a narrated motor coach tour to signature architecture sites throughout the city. An early dinner at Smith's Row follows a period of free time for self-directed explorations. We'll disembark from our twelve-hour voyage of discovery back in Morgantown by 8 pm. ||

—Bob Koester

SBSE CALENDAR

2003

- Jun 21 Tool Day; Austin, TX
- Jun 21–25 ASES Solar 2003; Austin, TX
- Jun 24 SBSE Annual Meeting; Austin, TX
- Jun 28–Jul 2 ASHRAE Conf.; Kansas City, MO
- Aug 8–10 AoC Workshop; Oberlin, OH
- Aug 11–15 SBSE Retreat; Columbus, IN
- Nov 9–15 PLEA Conf.; Santiago de Chile

2004

- Jan 8–11 AoC Workshop; Phoenix, AZ
- Apr 28–May 1 TIA/SBSE POE Conf.; Windsor, UK
- Jun 2–4 ARCC/EAAE Conf.; Dublin, IE
- Jun 26–30 ASHRAE Conf.; Nashville, TN
- Jul 11–14 ASES Solar 2004; Portland, OR
- Aug TBA AoC Workshop; Santa Barbara, CA

2005

- Jun 25–29 ASHRAE Conf.; Denver, CO
- Aug 8–12 Solar World Congress; Orlando, FL ||

PAY YOUR DUES NOW

SBSE annual dues are due on the summer solstice. You can now pay from anywhere in the world using your credit card. See <<http://www.sbse.org/membership/>> for all the fiscal details. If you don't pay, Sandy may have to compose a bit of doggerel. You don't want that to happen again! ||

—Bruce Haglund

RETREAT INFO [HTTP://WWW.SBSE.ORG/RETREAT2003/](http://www.sbse.org/retreat2003/)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

When the Spring *News* arrived, it made my day. How wonderful to see someone in London with a quality book in hand rather than a tabloid! Cheers!

—Amanda Miller, *John Wiley & Sons*

[FDR and Winny are a bit more erudite than the average Tube crowd, but we're taking Integrated Buildings Underground to win over the populace.—ed.]



Remember the picture of Bruce reading in London with the statues? Is there any way to get this pic in the news “under the radar?” I think the resemblance uncanny.

—Nick Rajkovich, *EPRAE*

Q: WHO IS THIS?

- Samuel Langhorne Clemens
- ed. (aka Bruce Haglund)
- Dale Brentrup
- Mark Twain
- all of the above



Nice editing, though some of the comments on the back page (e.g., “For years I’ve heard about Soldiers Grove from many sources, but never in *Solar Today* ... The idea of a *Solar Today* article is great ... Certainly Soldiers Grove should be included in the ASES National Tour of Solar buildings if it’s not already.”) were Frank de Winter’s, not mine. I tried to see the *News* on line, but got “web page unavailable” instead of the Spring issue. I’ll be on vacation in London from 5/3–8.

—Nick Fine, *Fine Associates*

[Thanks for stopping by London to straighten me out on who said what. Kudos to Diane Armppriest for her Herculean labors—getting the SBSE *News* hard copy to you ahead of the computerized version.—ed.]

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THE NATURE OF GREEN CRITIQUE



photo: Joel Krueger

Photo montage of the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center late in construction.

[Upon reading the bit below in Greenclips, I wondered if a local SBSEer could shed further light on the situation. I wasn’t disappointed. Mike Utzinger was the “green” consultant on the project, classmate to Tom Kubala and Alan Washatko, and thesis chair for Joel Krueger in the mid-1980s. Mike’s comments are admittedly biased, just the right stuff for our op-ed column.—ed.]

DESIGN OF WISCONSIN NATURE CENTER DISAPPOINTS, DESPITE GREEN FEATURES Despite a long list of green features, from low-flow toilets to solar power, the new Schlitz Audubon Nature Center in Bayside, Wisconsin, is not memorable architecture. Designed by Kubala Washatko Architects of Cedarburg, Wisconsin, the \$5.5 million, 30,000-square-foot building is spatially coherent, light-filled and engaging inside. The exterior, however, is another story. The building sprawls and is too heavy for its site—a reflection of the myriad functions packed in, including classrooms, a preschool, offices, an auditorium and space for corporate rentals. The three-layered, seamed aluminum roof all but overwhelms the long, horizontal mass, calling attention to sun-shading and water-recovery technologies instead of becoming one with the composition. “The building was the product of so many different forces,” said design architect Joel Krueger, including a visual preference survey, the center’s mission as both an indoor and outdoor classroom, and the need for something that would last as long as a century. In this throwaway age, an enduring building is the ultimate way to go green. But, within that framework, it is possible to imagine a structure that would have exploited green technologies, perhaps even a vegetative roof, while blurring the distinction between inside and outside space in a more graceful way. [More: <<http://www.schlitzauduboncenter.com>>; <<http://www.tkwa.com>>]

—Whitney Gould, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, 4 May 2003

Whitney Gould has been a helpful architecture critic in a city with an anti-modern bias. Unfortunately, she confuses design with style, and her bias toward modern architectural style makes her positive opinion of architecture based on traditional form rare. The design of the Schlitz Audubon Nature Center features a massing that gives all occupied spaces exterior views in at least two directions as well as access to natural cross or stack ventilation whenever an HVAC economizer cycle typically would be used. The style is similar to the classic national park lodges of the 1930s due in part to simple peeled bark log columns made of donated pine logs from an Aldo Leopold-planted forest and ten spruce trees from Schlitz Audubon. Kubala Washatko’s design features an exhibit wing with low-roofed side aisles flanking the high central roof with its clerestories and heavy timber framing. The double-loaded corridor classroom wing, with an open office above, uses a similar cross-section, making a long building with a stepped, standing-seam sloping roof that bounces light into windows, reduces heat island effects, and provides a substrate for the 10kW photovoltaic array. The glass area is already 26% of the wall area (near code maximum), yet Ms. Gould suggests that the building needs more. The large roof overhangs help minimize summer solar gains, critical for a building only partly air-conditioned, and they provide a protected outdoor area to welcome school busses full of kids on rainy days. Since there are a number of possible successful architectural solutions to any design problem, a “modern” style could also have resulted in a successful sustainable design. I won’t knock a solution because its form and style appears “traditional.”

On June 2 Steven Strong held an all-day building-integrated photovoltaics session at SANC for 60 local architects, utility representatives, and state energy folks. With lights and mechanicals turned off, participants spent a delightful day in the auditorium enjoying daylight and natural ventilation. As it was cold outdoors, only two of the five lower windows were opened to control CO₂ concentrations (800ppm in the morning) while maintaining temperature at 21°C. As Wisconsin Code does not permit natural ventilation for assembly occupancy, we hope this and future tests at the building will lead to code-acceptance of well-designed natural ventilation systems. Most of the architects in attendance spoke positively of the building’s design. [Too bad Whitney wasn’t at the workshop!—ed.] ■

—Mike Utzinger

JEFFREY COOK, 1934–2003

We all lost a good friend with the passing of Jeffrey Cook on the morning of March 24, 2003. While Jeff was not recently active in SBSE, he helped pioneer the ideas underlying passive and low energy architecture that have made our paths much easier to follow.

Born in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, Canada, Jeff received his architecture training at the University of Manitoba (B.Arch.) and Pratt Institute (M.Arch.) with additional study at the Royal Academy in Copenhagen. He joined the architectural faculty at Arizona State University in 1961, achieved the rank of Professor in 1972, and became Regents' Professor in 1985. Over the years his teaching responsibilities spanned the architectural curriculum, culminating in his particular interest in passive and low energy architecture. In 1975 with John Yellott, he founded the first graduate program to focus on energy and climate-responsive design. Through Jeff's active leadership this program, still operating today, has influenced numerous students who have pursued significant careers in practice, teaching, and research. In addition to his academic interests, Jeff maintained a continuous involvement in both practice and research. Jeff's most enduring design was the desert house he lived in for nearly thirty-five years—an early example of passive solar design that captured community-wide attention. Situated on a two-acre lot of native desert vegetation, it stands in stark contrast to the manicured lawns of the Santa Barbara McMansions now surrounding his property.

Jeff's accomplishments in our field are well-known: *Cool Houses for Desert Suburbs* (1979), *Passive Cooling* (1989), *Sustainability Through Building* (2001), founding editor of the *Passive Solar Journal*, chair of numerous ASES conferences, founder and past-president of PLEA, recipient of ASES's Passive Pioneer Award, and more. However, many of us are unaware of Jeff's accomplishments in other areas. Two that stand out have been serious studies of vernacular architecture and active promotion of contemporary organic architecture.

Jeff was introduced to vernacular architecture by Sybil Moholy-Nagy, his mentor at Pratt Institute. Over the years he participated on several archaeological digs and wrote a number of papers on Native American, North African, and Middle Eastern vernacular buildings. His most influential publication on this subject was *Anasazi Places: The Photographic Vision of William Current* (1992), which interprets early photographs of Anasazi dwelling remnants.

Jeff's interest in organic architecture was established early; he was the first to write about the noted "organic" architect Bruce Goff in *The Architecture of Bruce Goff* (1978). His interest in this subject continued and after a number of visits and a sabbatical year in Hungary he wrote *Seeking Structure from Nature: The Organic Architecture of Hungary* (1996), the most authoritative study of the "Makona" school and, in particular, the architecture of Imre Macovecz. At the time of his death, he was nearing completion of a book on the built work of noted urban theorist and organic architect Paolo Soleri. Everyone who has seen this manuscript believes it is nearly complete, and with some minor work it should be heading to the publisher soon.

I believe Jeff's next work would have been a weaving of energy, vernacular, and organic threads into his "mega opus." The completion of that task will be left to the next generation he has nurtured. Since arriving at ASU four years ago, I have been privileged to work so closely with him, and I am honored to be a co-author, along with several of Jeff's students, of his final paper to be presented at this year's ASES Conference.

Jeff, we miss you greatly! ■

—Harvey Bryan



Image: Harvey Bryan

SBSE PEOPLE

🏠 A recent *Architecture Week* article praises SBSEer incognito **Soontorn Boonyatikorn's** Bio-Solar House in Thailand. Definitely worth a virtual visit to <http://www.ArchitectureWeek.com/2003/0514/environment_1-1.html>.

👤 **Harvey Bryan** was promoted to Professor of Architecture at ASU.

👶 May 20 saw Joanna and **Alfredo Fernandez-Gonzalez** become parents of a baby boy (even though the ultrasound and the doctor told them for many months that he was going to be a girl)! Both Joanna and Federico are healthy and doing well. He was 20" long and weighted 7lb.-8oz. at birth.



photos: Alfredo Fernandez-Gonzalez

Federico Bogumi Fernandez-Kepka

🏠 **Martin Gold** and Stephen Luoni recently won an ACSA Faculty Design Award for "Bicycle Promenade" a 3.5-mile rails-to-trails design that also won a national competition sponsored by the NEA. [See story, p.5.]

👤 **Ralph Knowles**, FAIA, was named this year's ASES Passive Pioneer Award winner!

🏠 After his three-year term as Head of the School of Architecture ended on 31 January 2003, **Werner Osterhaus** is on Research and Study Leave until April 2004, and plans to check his e-mail.

★ The Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology has named **Tengfang (Tim) Xu** and William Tschudi recipients of the 2003 Maurice Simpson Technical Editors Award for their paper, "Energy Performance of Cleanroom Environmental Systems," published in the ESTECH 2002 proceedings. ■

EVENT HORIZON

GREENING OF THE CAMPUS V

“Connecting to Place” will be held **September 17–20, 2003**, at Ball State University in Muncie, IN. Full conference info is posted to <http://www.bsu.edu/greening>—share it with colleagues. See you in September!

—*Becky Amato*

SYMPOSIUM: BRIDGES IN LIGHT

The inaugural Lighting Research Center symposium connecting traditional and nontraditional markets and technologies will be held **October 22–23, 2003**, in Saratoga Springs, NY. Topics include Light and Health, Energy, Solid-State Lighting, Sustainable Design, Transportation and Roadway Systems. Will provocative concepts, new technologies, and unexpected markets merge to begin building lighting networks? See the light through new eyes. For more info contact Patricia Rizzo, 518.687.7194, <rizzop@rpi.edu>.

—*Patricia Rizzo*

PLEA 2003 CHILE

“Rethinking Development: Are we producing a people-oriented habitat?” will be held in Santiago de Chile at 33°30'S on **November 9–12, 2003**. Though the official language is English, Spanish translation will be provided. Tours and invited presentations in other cities will make for a memorable week in November. For more info on PLEA topics e-mail <plea2003@puc.cl> or visit <<http://www.plea2003.cl>>.

—*Jeffrey Cook*
• continued page 5

CHECK IT OUT

GREEN TOP 10

AIA/COTE Top 10 Green Projects for 2003 are posted at <<http://www.aia.org/media/news/030422.asp>>. This annual design competition seeks to identify and recognize the benefits of a high performance, sustainable design approach; to educate the architectural community and the public at-large on the increased value that sustainable design provides for developers, building owners, and occupants; and to acknowledge architects as experts in the creation of energy-conscious and environmentally responsible design solutions. National and international submitted projects, evaluated by a jury, are based on a broad and inclusive definition of design quality that includes performance, aesthetics, community connection, and stewardship of the natural environment.

—*AIA/COTE*

NY FIELD TRIP?

The first year of Arup SoundLab#2 operation was filled with incredible success for both technical and business development. We have had a stream of clients visit the room, and all have been amazed with what they were able to hear. The room uncloaks the mystery of acoustics for many clients, and encourages meaningful subjective discussions about preferences, quality, and criteria that we would normally shroud in numbers and jargon. The most interesting factor was how surprised people were to hear the difference between a rectangular room and a square room. Most clients erroneously think that these differences are only audible to people with “special” hearing. Most important, as the only firm providing this service, Arup has found a clear and obvious way to highlight our capabilities and to differentiate ourselves from our competitors. It’s becoming clear to clients that if this facility exists, it should be used for every hall designed or refurbished. Why spend \$300M without listening first?

—*Chris Luebke*

MAKING POE AND FEEDBACK ROUTINE

Probe team members have been seeking ways to make feedback and POE more routine. Two years ago we started work on “a feedback system for construction clients and the industry,” sponsored by the newly-formed (and already dissolved) Confederation of Construction Clients (CCC) and the U.K. government. A new website (the prototype is at <<http://www.usablebuildings.co.uk/FP2/>>) gives ready access to a portfolio of feedback techniques, contacts, and, in due course, results. These techniques will be evaluated on projects by a new user group consisting largely of designers and where possible, clients and contractors for their projects. Results are due early in 2004.

—*Bill Borkas*

REAL TIME WEATHER DATA

DOE is pleased to announce that a weather data archive in near real-time for more than 1,600 locations in the U.S. and another 2,500 locations around the world is now available at <http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/energy_tools/cfm/weather_request.cfm> or through the real-time weather data link on the right-hand side of the *EnergyPlus* web site <<http://www.energyplus.gov>>. ■

—*N. S. DOE*

JOB OPPORTUNITY

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY—CERES

We have a one-year, fully-funded contract position available for the 2003–04 academic year. The position will have a unique load involving a 50/50 assignment for teaching/research—two sections of environmental systems course offerings each semester and an open research load that could be coordinated with the research program planned for the new CERES daylighting lab scheduled to open September 2003. The position could be filled by a seasoned faculty person on sabbatical leave or by a younger faculty person in the early stages of her or his career. Contact <rkoester@bsu.edu> for the job description and more info. ■

—*Bob Koester*

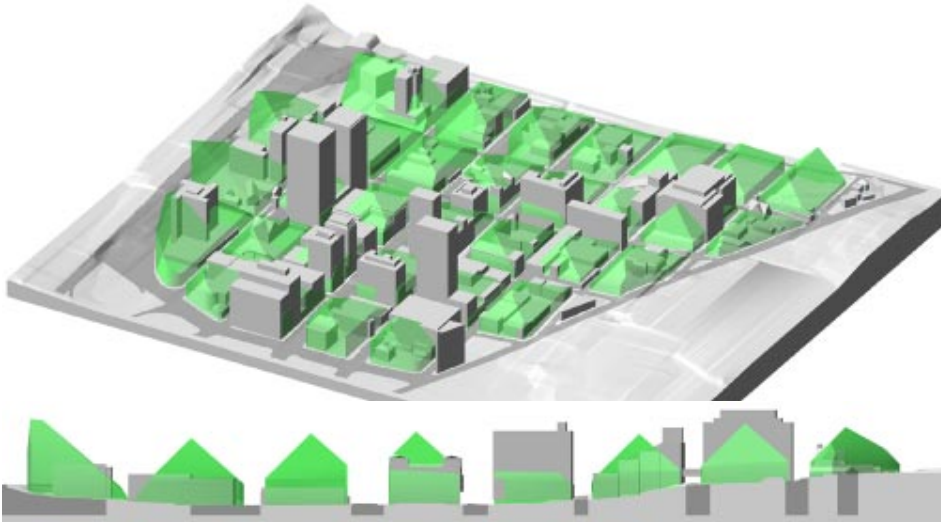


Photo: Hofu Wu

Hofu Wu, traveling in excess of the speed of light, captured John Reynolds enjoying his well-deserved FAIA induction at the Salk Institute in La Jolla.

RESEARCH VIEWS

CLIMATIC STUDY OF CHATTANOOGA



The two images above show “climatic envelopes” generated for downtown Chattanooga. A combination of daylight envelopes and solar envelopes, they are overlaid on a 3-D massing model of existing buildings. It is easy to see which buildings violate the envelopes and are, therefore, poor neighbors. We can also show how building masses can fill and fit within the envelopes by being cut and reduced through a series of rules for improving daylight use.

We also calculated the FAR of existing buildings and that of the daylighted masses within the climatic envelopes. We determined that, compared to the existing massing, daylighted, envelope-conforming buildings would still allow a 50% increase in FAR. If the city encouraged a gradual shift to this urban pattern, it would end up with a height and density similar to that of Washington, DC, evenly distributed, with a four- to ten-story pattern. It would also, in contrast to building more high-rise structures, encourage site-filling downtown buildings that activate the streets and infill downtown’s 20% vacant land.

– Mark DeKay

DESIGN RESEARCH



Cultural Braids—Farmers Market and public space with shade canopies/grove and railroad ghosts.

The NEA, in conjunction with the City of Gainesville (FL) and the Center for Construction and the Environment (UF) sponsored a competition for the Gainesville Eco-History Trail, a 3.5-mile rails-to-trails project that runs through central industrial, commercial, and residential areas. Many of the residential neighborhoods are minority-based and low income. Our design was selected by an invited jury that included James Wines, Site Studio. The competition announcement claimed that the winning design would have negotiation privileges to reach an agreement with the city for implementation. So far the city has been quite cold to the project.

• continued next column

EVENT HORIZON [CONT.]

CLOSING THE LOOP

“Post Occupancy Evaluation: The Next Steps” will be held **28 April–1 May 2004**, at Cumberland Lodge, Windsor, UK. See the conference brochure at <<http://www.sbse.org/calendar/WindsorBrochure1041.pdf>>. Accommodation at the lodge is strictly limited to 80, so register as soon as possible, preferably by 28 October 2003. Call for papers—submit an abstract of no more than 300 words no later than **30 September 2003** to Sue. For more information contact Susan Roaf <windsor@brookes.ac.uk>.

– Sue Roaf

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

EAAE/ARCC Conference “**Between Research and Practice**,” **2–4 June 2004**, at DIT School of Architecture, Dublin, Ireland. See conference details at <<http://www.sbse.org/calendar/>>. Call for papers—500-word abstracts due **19 September 2003** to <eddie.oshea@dit.ie>. ■

– Eddie O’Shea

DESIGN RESEARCH [CONT.]

In addition to the Eco-History Trail competition the project also garnered national awards from SARA (Society of Registered Architects) and the ACSA (Faculty Design Award).

The project integrates traditional and leading edge “building sciences” through design. Natural ecologies are leveraged to provide removal of toxic contaminants through phytoremediation which reestablishes natural habitats and eliminates the need for moving massive amounts of earth either away from (clean up) or to the site (capping). Additionally, constructed wetlands are developed to filter cement plant discharge and recharge ground water while extending habitat diversity in the community. Recycled materials are used to surface the trail and high-efficiency LED lighting is controlled to illuminate the trail while minimizing light pollution and trespass. Cultural references are incorporated in the woven fabrics that provide shade in the farmers market and in the open-air pavilions along the trail. Historical references are made through railroad ghost images projected on the ground in the evenings. ■

– Martin Gold

STUDENT ACOUSTIC DESIGN WINNERS

The Acoustical Society of America (ASA) Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics (TCAA) and the National Council of Acoustical Consultants (NCAC) sponsored a student design competition adjudicated at the 145th ASA conference in Nashville (TN) in April. The program featured schematic design for an education building at a college of moderate size, containing lecture halls, classrooms, and assorted support spaces. This year's competition included 16 entries from 9 different schools.

First Honors (\$1,000) was awarded to Brandon Campbell from the University of Arizona (faculty advisor: William Bickel). Commendations (\$500 for each team) were given to: Geoffrey Sparks, Matthew Hall, and Joshua Bonati from Johns Hopkins University (advisor: Neil Thompson Shade); Bill Elliott from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (advisor: Bill Hubbard); David Fannon, Nicole Campbell, and Weifang Wang from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (advisors: Yasushi Shimizu and Rendell Torres); and Robert Lee from the University of Kansas (advisor: Bob Coffeen).

Many thanks to the Wenger Corporation of Owatonna (MN) and the Newman Student Award Fund for generously sponsoring this year's competition. Competition images are posted <<http://www.newmanfund.org/sdc2003.htm>>.

Next year's competition will be judged at the 75th anniversary meeting of the Acoustical Society of America in New York City, May 24–28, 2004. Information will be available early in the fall by e-mail and on the Newman Fund web page. ■

—Lily Wang



photo: Alison Kwok

Alison's team dissects Arup's trademark displacement ventilation system at Arup Manchester Tool Day.

AGENTS OF CHANGE OBERLIN AND BEYOND!

If you're not among the lucky ones slated to enjoy the benefits, challenges, and fun of on-site building performance investigation this August 8–10 at the Lewis Center in Oberlin, OH, you and your faculty–TA team can still conspire to become Agents of Change. Vidar Lerum's team from Arizona State University and Sandy Stannard's team from California Polytechnic State University (San Luis Obispo) have been awarded \$15,000 each to conduct the 2004 regional training workshops for the FIPSE-funded Agents of Change project.

Mark your calendars! The ASU training workshop 8–11 January 2004 will focus on the Phoenix Public Library (right) by Will Bruder. In early August 2004, participants in Cal Poly's training workshop will study the LEED platinum-rated Bren School of Environmental Science and Management building on the UC Santa Barbara campus <<http://www.ArchitectureWeek.com/today.html>>.

Enrollment at each workshop is limited to 24 to ensure access to equipment, encourage full participation, and provide effective training. Teams from non-U.S. schools will be considered and are welcome to participate in the workshops at their own expense (due to Federal funding restrictions).

Your out-of-pocket costs are transportation to and from the workshop as well as incidentals. Room (double-occupancy housing) and two team-building dinners are provided through the Agents of Change project. If you want to get a head start compiling your application packet, review the application and project information at <<http://aoc.uoregon.edu>>. Once application deadlines have been announced, new application forms will be posted on the AoC web site. ■

—Alison Kwok



Reading desks with task lights and ambient daylight.

photo: Bill Timmerman, Arup Archive

TOOL DAYS OF OPPORTUNITY

Can you imagine a Tool Day in the offices of an engineering firm in England? Arup R&D could. Consequently, Walter Grondzik, Bruce Haglund, and Alison Kwok organized and conducted Tool Day workshops at two Arup offices (Bristol and Manchester) for Arup engineers as well as local architecture and engineering students and faculty. Our experience was akin to Mr. Toad's wild train ride through the English countryside with intensely thrilling explorations of building physics and rapt audiences. Because we had the delegates evaluate their learning experiences, we were able to compare the effects of the Arup training with Agents of Change workshops for teachers and teaching assistants. We were delighted that the training didn't lose effectiveness when translated to this new venue, although participants yearned for more time to use the tools and examine the building. The hard work of training and travel was spiced up by a delightful performance by the Hallé Orchestra at Manchester's acoustically superb Bridgewater Hall, an insiders' preview of Grimshaw's Thermae Bath Spa project (due to open in August) [*Thanks, Andy Jarvis!—ed.*], and a ramble through the jungle and desert enclosed in Grimshaw's Eden Project biomes in Cornwall.

Somehow ACSA was inspired, albeit at the last minute, to invite Jim Wasley to lead a Tool Day workshop June 13–15, one of three forming the centerpiece of this year's Cranbrook Seminar. He's set to enthrall three teams of five architecture faculty who will assess the performance of three Cranbrook buildings—Williams and Tsien's Natatorium, Steven Holl's Institute of Science, and Rafael Moneo's Art Building.

Want to Tool Day, too? ■

—Bruce Haglund

CONFERENCE REVIEWS

WHAT COLOR IS YOUR WORLD?

The Indian Environmental Society invited me to give the keynote address at their March 24–25 conference in New Delhi. The delegates were surprised when I admitted that because the U.S. consumes 40% of the world's energy, it produces about 40% of global warming. At another conference, I was told, the U.S. delegation walked out when it was pointed out that the U.S. is a major cause of global warming. I visited the prestigious School of Architecture and Planning in New Delhi, where Arvind Krishan told me of the death of his good friend, Jeffrey Cook, and showed me his book for which Jeff wrote the foreword and a case study. *Climate Responsive Architecture* is an excellent book that Krishan edited with Simos Yannas, Nick Baker, and S. V. Szokolay. Arvind also showed me *Climate Responsive Architecture 1.0*, a splendid computer-aided expert system he helped produce that enables design decision-making to achieve ecologically responsive architecture. I told professors Arvind Krishan, Asesh Kumar Maitra (director of the school), and Desh Pandhu, about SBSE and our annual retreats. They were very interested in participating, but mentioned how financially difficult it is for them to travel so far. Maybe it is time for SBSE to become more international by setting up a scholarship that honors Jeff Cook and provides the registration fee each year for one professor from a developing nation to join us at the SBSE retreat.

Fortunately, I had time for sightseeing. I climbed to the top of a minaret and visited many Hindu temples, Mogul forts, and, of course, the Taj Mahal. I survived Indian traffic (just barely) and urban encounters with cows. My visit to Chandigarh was somewhat disappointing. Because security (India has its own terrorism problems) limited access to Le Corbusier's buildings, I only managed to get into the Secretariat Building. I was disappointed to see the consequences of poor maintenance and poor housekeeping—some of the brise soleil was used to store old furniture and rusty bicycles, and the well-known reflecting pond in front of the High Court Building was used as a parking lot. Ironically, one of the surest signs of progress is the shortage of parking spaces. Still, the trip was a great experience. India has an incredibly rich architectural history. Its culture is fascinating, and everything is colorful. What a shock returning through the Paris airport, a model of modern Western architecture—all glass, stainless steel, and everything painted grey. Inside and outside the immense glass walls was a grey day in a grey world. I then remembered how colorful India was and how I didn't notice the greyness of the Paris airport on my way to India. Now, I also notice that my own architecture building at Auburn has grey floors, grey door frames, grey furniture, and grey painted stairs. [See page 8 for a bright idea.—ed.] We can learn much from India.

—Norbert Lechner

ARCC STIMULATING, WHAT'S THE NEXT BUZZ?

The ARCC Conference, "Stimulating Research," was held at Arizona State University from April 10–12, 2003. This year's theme served as a forum for the dissemination and discussion of architectural research issues, concerns, findings, approaches, and philosophies. ARCC welcomed researchers, educators, practitioners, scholars, and students to two days of paper presentations and countless opportunities to participate in "stimulating" [cattle prods?—ed.] roundtable discussions. Papers presented at the conference are published on a CD; this year's proceedings will be available from ASU by the end of the summer.

We were enthralled by over 50 papers on a diverse set of topics presented by faculty, students, and practitioners from around the world. One fascinating juxtaposition during the conference was a presentation by Hunt McKinnon on "Case Studies as a Means of Instruction" just before Alison Kwok and Walter Grondzik's "Case Studies as Research." Hunt explained how case studies, and working with practicing architects, can enhance a student's understanding of business relations for a professional practice course, while Alison and Walter revealed how case studies can be used as a tool to uncover "the secret life of buildings," helping students to better understand building mechanics. It was fascinating to see a similar pedagogy applied to two very different courses, opening speculation about where else a case study approach to education could be implemented.

I have attended the ARCC conference for the past three years and found it to be a great opportunity to see a wide range of research at institutions all over the world. The intimate size

• continued next column

ARCC [CONT.]

of the conference allows for networking and lively discussion. ARCC welcomes research on virtually any topic related to architecture; it's a great arena to see projects outside the "typical" technical conference format and interact with people possessing disparate interests. Check the ARCC website <<http://www.polaris.net/~arcc/web>> for updates on next year's conference in Dublin, Ireland.

Many thanks to all the people at ASU who put together such a well-coordinated, seamless conference; special thanks to Mary Kihl, Sharon Haugen, and Chris Burawa for all their hard work. ■

—Nick Rajkovich

GUIDED TOUR OFFERED



photo: Alfredo Fernandez-Gonzalez

Alfredo's solar test cells hunkering in the BSU architecture building forecourt.

A few weeks ago Jim Wasley asked SBSEers for "examples of green buildings that have their features and/or aspects of their performance on display and explicitly interpreted." If you are attending the SBSE retreat (or happen to be in Indiana around retreat time), you may want to visit the architecture building at Ball State University, with its south-facing atrium intended to assist with cooling during the summer and with heating during the winter. The building designers developed a complex manual to illustrate the various modes of operation. Even though the building doesn't operate as intended, there are many lessons to be learned from comparing its design intent to its operation history. And of course, if you decide to visit the architecture building at BSU, I will be more than happy to give you a tour of my passive solar test cells, now operating in cooling mode. ■

—Alfredo Fernandez-Gonzalez



The doomed sun pattern in the Perloff Hall stairwell will no longer reveal its natural truths to architecture students at UCLA. [Apparently not all UCLA students were thus enlightened. Daniel Liebeskin walked those stairs a few times, but it had no impact.—ed.]

ECLIPSE OF THE SUN STAIRCASE

[One thing leads to another. Daniel Libeskind's lame explanation for not actually determining if the sun shines on the desired spot in the 9/11 memorial led to other horrific discoveries.—ed.]

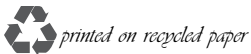
Mr. Libeskind said that he does not understand the fuss, and he added that he stuck by his characterization of the "sun shining without shadow" on the Wedge of Light. "I'm a little perplexed by the simple-mindedness" of Mr. Attia's study, he said. "If you think of the sun being a ball of fire, only at Stonehenge could you get the straight lines of light" that the study assumes. "But this is about radiating light, reflecting light, the atmosphere of light," he said. "It's not about tricks of light but about how light behaves when you look at the sun in three-dimensional form."

—Edward Wyatt, *Shadows to Fall, Literally, Over 9/11 'Wedge of Light,'* NYTimes.com, May 1, 2003

The *New York Times* article-related e-mail circulated among SBSEers goes far beyond the "limits" of environmental controls; it speaks to a basic issue of architectural design. Not only does Mr. Libeskind demonstrate an appalling lack of understanding of the sun's path, in what appears to be a basic theme of his design for the World Trade Center site, he goes on to compound that ignorance with an equally amazing show of chutzpah...gilding his ignorance with meaningless hyperbole when a simple show of humility would have been so much more appropriate—e.g., to admit that he erred and would adjust his design in an effort to create the impact he had claimed. I am surprised that he has not suggested that he would simply alter the path of the sun to conform to his design. The Emperor truly has no clothes.

In the face of this incredible lack of understanding by one of the most revered of current designers [*self-acclaimed?—ed.*] of perhaps one of the more fundamental forces of nature and that, which more than any other, has everything to do with how we see and understand architecture in light and shadow, the current decision to paint over the sun's patterns in the east stairwell at UCLA is unconscionable, no matter how slick a graphic designer we may have hired to redesign Perloff. Maybe the first-year design studio should invite Murray Milne each fall to explain the spectacular effect his students achieved in accurately predicting the sun's path a long time ago, creating a three-dimensional sundial frozen in time. ■

—Dick Schoen



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