



photo: Chris Benton

Inaugural SBSE retreaters pose at the haunted Coast Guard Station at Heceta Head in 1986. Send ed. their names and win the total admiration of your peers!

RETREAT 2004: RESEARCH AND TEACHING

20 YEARS AFTER: REFLECTIONS & PROJECTIONS ON RESEARCH & TEACHING

Sitka Center for Art and Ecology, Cascade Head, OR
Wednesday July 7, 2004—Saturday, July 10, 2004

Under the shade of a live oak in Berkeley, CA, in 1982, “Charlie” Brown and Ed Arens came to the realization that because of their teaching colleagues’ relative isolation building science faculty need to exchange ideas, materials, and resources on curriculum, teaching, and research. To support this exchange they formed the West Coast ECS Club. The first organizational meeting at the International Daylighting Conference at Phoenix, AZ, on Feb 17, 1983, attracted 30 members. Over the summer the club adopted the name Society of Building Science Educators [Ed’s favored name! Charlie suggested the motto, “As simple as we are.”—ed.]. SBSE first met at the University New Mexico School of Architecture on Sept 10, 1983, and held its first curriculum development retreat at Heceta Head on the Oregon coast in 1986.

Come celebrate SBSE’s 20-year reunion (okay, we can’t count) at the 2004 retreat focusing on research and teaching themes originating from SBSE’s founding members. How has SBSE influenced teaching? Where is SBSE headed in terms of embedding research in architectural education? Submit a proposal, or simply register to participate. Space is limited.

Call for Proposals:

We are seeking your proposals for a 90-minute presentation, mini-workshop, interactive exercise, or demonstration that addresses one of the following themes.

- 1. Methods and Models:** research methods courses, Ph.D. programs in building science, seminars, innovative courses, and studios based on research methods

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SBSE CALENDAR

2004

- Jan 8–10 AoC Workshop; Phoenix, AZ
- Mar 16–18 ACSA Tech. Conf.; Miami, FL
- Apr 29–May 2 TIA/SBSE POE Conf; Windsor, UK
- Jun 2–4 ARCC/EAAE Conf.; Dublin, IE
- Jun 26–30 ASHRAE Conf.; Nashville, TN
- Jul 7–10 SBSE Retreat; Cascade Head, OR
- 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 ■

ELECTION RESULTS

Once again, SBSE experienced a peaceful transfer of power. Thanks to all 87 SBSEers who voted, and thanks to all the talented candidates for running. Let’s welcome and congratulate our new board:

- President: Jim Wasley
- President-Elect: Chris Theis
- Secretary/Treasurer: Sandra Mallory
- Past-President: Alison Kwok ■

—Sandy Stannard

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I try all kinds of things to make students think about the environment and act more sustainably. One of my best ideas is the “Green Earthling Bonus Award.” Students earn one or two points on their final grade for being green earthlings. They write short reports describing their activities at weeks 3 and 12. Before I started reading these reports I believed students were only pretending to be green earthlings to get the bonus points. But the reports seem genuine. I now believe most of the students are very receptive to being green and just need a slight push from me to more actively support sustainability. I have done this exercise for several years in all my courses. I think it reaps large benefits for students with minimal input from me. I recommend this idea to you. Ask me for a copy of the assignment.

—Norbert Lechner, Auburn

[Cool! A very positive exercise! I usually just bum my students out by having them calculate their environmental footprint and carbon debt.—ed.]



My students and I recently developed a web site <<http://www.concerthalls.org>> that discusses concert hall acoustic design. We believe it will help students studying architectural acoustics since it contains audio samples of various conditions in concert halls. Thanks to the Newman Fund’s Schultz Grant that supported our work.

—Lily Wang, Nebraska

[Thanks! We all need a lot of help with acoustics.—ed.]



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SHINY BUILDINGS

[This issue’s web gem is from the SBSE list server, inspired by Sue Roaf’s innocent query: “Does anyone have an example of a problem caused by a highly reflective building, and what was done to mitigate the problem?” I’ve simply compiled the best of the responses.—ed.]

The Hooker Building (Occidental Chemical, 1980) in Niagara Falls, NY, was one of the first double-skin buildings in North America. It was designed with highly reflective, moveable shading devices on all sides that were supposed to direct sunlight/daylight deep into the interior. The reflection of the sun off these airfoils was so bright motorists crossing the Rainbow Bridge from Canada to the U.S. were temporarily blinded—so within 4 months the louvers were refinished flat white.

The TD Bank Tower (Mies, black, like Seagram in NYC, 55 storeys) was the first true skyscraper in Toronto. It was designed for thermal expansion on its south, east, and west sides due to sun effects (black metal being highly affected by heat). When a reflective glass tower was built to its immediate north, the tenants were greatly upset by the wild creaking and groaning the building started to exhibit because the sun was now causing thermal expansion on the north side. The rest is folklore. I am not sure what was done, but hearsay says that they had to do “something” to control this unexpected movement. The solution, however, did not affect the neighboring building which stands as reflective as ever!



Photo: Marc Schlier

The shining eye of Gehry’s Walt Disney Concert Hall.

—Terri Meyer Doak

The REJ building in Austin, TX, has curvilinear, specular light shelves that project light deep into the interior of the building. Unfortunately, the light is also projected down hallways, making them impossible to navigate when the sun is shining just so. To fix this problem the building operator hung permanent blinds in front of the offending light shelves, making them expensive planter shelves. Office furniture, not installed as specified by the architects, also blocks the shelves.

—Jeff Haberl

Many years ago I heard that the Ontario Hydro building in Toronto (corner of College and University Avenue, near UToronto) focuses the sun’s rays onto the sidewalk. Its concave, curved façade with reflective glass not only caused glare problems, but intense solar heating. Luckily this façade faces NE causing these problems only during early mornings in summer.

—Tang Lee

The late James Lambeth (Fayetteville, AR) designed a house with a concave solar reflector over the main entry to expedite snowmelt on the front steps in winter.

—Don Watson

The mirror-glass Hancock Tower in Boston was (probably still is) causing substantial glare for motorists on eastbound Storrow Drive in the late afternoon during those times of year when the low western sun reflects into motorist’s eyes. There was some flap about it in the *Boston Globe*, but as I recall:

1. nothing could be done about it (short of reglazing the entire building)
2. it wasn’t any worse (less than 100% reflectance) than the glare that the westbound motorists were experiencing from the sun itself. *[Great! Blind eastbound motorists confronting blind westbound motorists!—ed.]*

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SHINY BUILDINGS [CONTINUED]

I think people have worried about this issue, but I don't know of any situation where anybody's actually done anything about it—kind of like the weather.

A related issue, however, is the increased solar heat gain on an adjoining building. I think there was a successful lawsuit against the owner of a new, reflective glass building where the north façade of a neighbor's building started overheating because its HVAC systems were not designed for the unanticipated, substantial, reflected solar heat gains. I think the new building owner had to pay the bill for increasing the capacity of the existing building's HVAC system.

—Doug Mahone

My memories of shiny building problems are left over from my time at MIT (possibly from the course Doug TA'd!). We talked about the Hancock Building reflecting so much heat into the Copley Plaza Hotel that the hotel sued the Hancock Building owners to pay for increased air-conditioning equipment and operation costs. As I recall, the Hancock Building owners ended up purchasing the hotel to settle the issue.

—Naomi Miller

The University of Washington's BetterBricks Daylighting Lab has recently done a series of studies on the "environmental" impacts of the reflections from the new all-glass skinned OMA-Koolhaus Central Seattle Library. We worked with EDAW Landscape Architects in developing a procedure for documenting and assessing reflection impacts, as required by Washington SEIPA regulations. When the building is completed in the next six months, we will verify the model-based sun pattern predictions and present our findings.

OMA spent a great deal of time and money working with Schott Glass in Germany (OKALUX, OKASOLAR & OKATEK) in developing a multi-layered glass system that would reduce solar gain, glare, and reflected sun problems while admitting as much light as possible in overcast Seattle. There will be a report on this project on our web site <http://www.lightingdesignlab.com/daylighting/daylighting_studio.htm> in the next month.

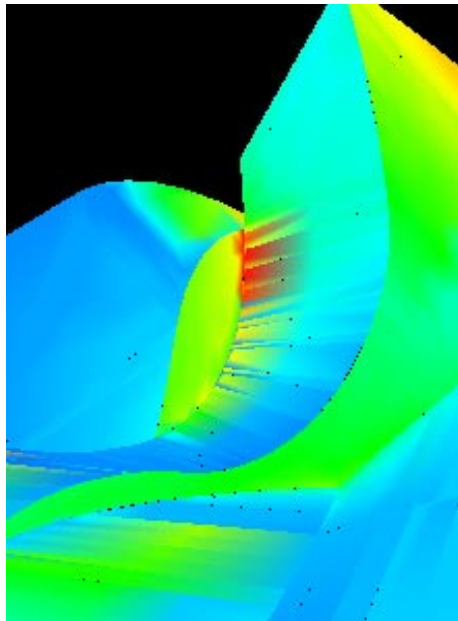
—Joel Loveland

What a timely question! We've been contracted by the County of Los Angeles, owners of the new Walt Disney Concert Hall designed by Frank Gehry. We're examining the glare and thermal issues literally surrounding the building. There are convex and concave stainless steel surfaces, both brushed and polished. We're not done yet, so I'm reluctant to release any findings. What is most interesting so far is the county's responsible, proactive attitude, asking us what they should do with our findings. As of yesterday, there was one completed modification of a reflective surface to change the reflectance, and we have made recommendations for three more—from inconspicuous to prominent.

LA County is already going to significant lengths to avoid causing difficulty for neighbors. However, you can guess that this building is not easily or lightly modified. Furthermore, in today's society, admitting such difficulty invites speculative controversy. There are many buildings in downtown LA that are less significant and yet very reflective, in some instances onto the northbound lanes of the 110 freeway during commute time.

We plan to publish at least the processes and theoretical insights we have learned from the dataloggers, the digitized images, and the simulations. It has been interesting to hear of the other buildings the group's experience has uncovered! ■

—Marc Schiller



Lightscape analysis of the Walt Disney Concert Hall. Check it out in color in the web-based SBSE News.

LETTERS [CONT.]

In response to my plea for HVAC resources I received a veritable flood of links, documents, and miscellaneous tidbits. Some of the information was quite helpful, while some didn't relate directly but were interesting nonetheless. Here's a list of the more helpful resources:

<http://www.ece.vill.edu/~nick>

<http://www.deringergroup.com>

<http://www.ecoadvisor.com>

<http://www.icbec.org>

<http://xp20.ashrae.org/ABOUT/history.htm>

<http://www.natmus.dk/cons/tp/aircon/aircon1.html>

<http://support.caed.asu.edu/radiant>

—Roger Ota, Oregon

[Thanks, Roger. Another SBSE resource sharing success story!—ed.] ■

SOLAR 2004 INVITATION

By the time you read this it is already too late to send an abstract to ASES for Solar 2004, *A Solar Harvest*, in Portland. If you missed the deadline, don't despair—come to this one, and expect great rewards! If you are not coming to the SBSE 20th anniversary retreat at Cascade Head just before the conference, watch for workshops and tours on Saturday, July 10 that include earth-sheltered wineries, the Oregon Coast, Aalto's Mount Angel Library, windfarms, and waterfalls.

Sunday, July 11, the conference begins at noon. Peter Clegg (Fielden Clegg, Architects, Bath) will be among the featured speakers at Sunday evening's Emerging Everything (actually "Emerging Opportunities") showing us their new headquarters for Britain's National Trust. Expect a mix of topics, a mix of accents, and a great reception to kick-off the event. [Full conference info at <<http://www.ases.org>>.—ed.]

A record-setting 300+ abstracts were received by the Dec 2 deadline. Look forward to an architecture-rich conference! ■

—John Reynolds

SBSE PEOPLE

✧ After teaching for 3½ years at Ball State University, **Alfredo Fernández-Gonzalez** is moving to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Alfredo's passive solar test room research at BSU will continue through spring 2004, thanks to the sponsorship of Harold Hay, CERES, and the College of Architecture and Planning at BSU, as well as the hard work and enthusiasm of graduate students **Rita Macias** and **Ahmet Ugursal**.

✧ **Anat Geva** was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor at Texas A&M University.

■ UCLA Research Professor **Murray Milne** has been awarded a contract by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District to create an expanded version of *HEED, Home Energy Efficient Design*, specifically for home owners, builders, and architects in the Sacramento delta area.

● ARCC announced this year's board of directors—**Fatih Rifki** is chair; **Brooke Harrington**, secretary; **Stephen Weeks**, treasurer; and **Leonard Bachman**, **Lucie Fontein**, **Alison Kwok**, and **Brian Sinclair**, board members. As past-president, **Walter Grondzik** remains on the board.

✦ **Judy Theodorson's** "Machu Picchu: Design Elements," took first place in the Observational Images category of the Design Communication Association's annual drawing competition. Her "Machu Picchu" is a series of field sketches in watercolor, pencil, and black marker on recycled brown paper that study formal and spatial design elements in an attempt to uncover the patterns, ideas, and design language used by the Incas.

■ **Tengfang (Tim) Xu** has accepted an invitation to serve on the Editorial Board for "*Building and Environment*." The position was offered in acknowledgment of his valuable and continuing contributions. ■



Photo: Sopa Visitrak

SBSEers **Liliana Beltran**, **John Reynolds**, **Leonard Bachman**, **Jeff Haberl**, and **Larry Degelman** gathered at Texas A&M for John's talk on courtyards and an A&M doctoral dissertation defense.

JOB OPS

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

The Department of Architecture invites applications for two tenure-track faculty positions at the assistant professor level. Candidates must hold an M.Arch. or equivalent. Professional licensure is desirable. The appointments commence in August 2004.

Position 1. Teach architectural design studios and courses in environmental systems focusing on the integration of thermal, illumination, water, sanitary, and acoustical systems into the design process. Ideally, the candidate will have a teaching, research, and/or design interest in green architecture and sustainable design.

Position 2. Teach studios in architectural design as well as lecture and studio courses in building construction systems covering materials and methods of building technology in addition to the preparation of construction documents.

Candidates should send a letter of interest; a curriculum vitae; a list of three academic and/or professional references with addresses and telephone numbers; and some non-returnable examples of creative/scholarly work to: David Seamon; Chair, Faculty Search Committee; Department of Architecture; 211 Seaton Hall; Kansas State University; Manhattan, KS 66506-2901. Review of candidates will begin March 1, 2004, and will continue until positions are filled. Tel: 785.532.5953; fax: 785.532.6722; <triad@ksu.edu>.

—David Seamon

PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

PCT is currently searching for a full-time faculty member with a broad experience base, particularly with computer applications and working drawings (including building materials/detailing). The architectural technology program has 5 full-time faculty and about 125 students. For further information about the position and application please see <<http://www.pct.edu/humareso/stafjobs.htm#ft-faculty>>.

—Dorothy Gerring

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Tenure-track positions for the 2004–2005 academic year. Applicants for these positions must demonstrate potential for creative achievement in their field through scholarship, research, and/or professional practice.

Environmental Technology. Applicants for this position must be capable of teaching course sequences related to lighting, acoustics, energy, mechanical systems, sustainability, and life safety issues at the undergraduate and graduate levels including large lecture and seminar classes.

Applicants should also identify a secondary area of interest in teaching: design studio, computer applications, technology, history, or theory. A willingness to actively engage in curriculum development with the faculty is essential and a record of funded research is valued. The position requires a professional degree from an accredited institution. Professional license, Ph.D., or equivalent is desired. Previous teaching, research, or professional experience is preferred. Rank and salary are commensurate with experience and qualifications. The University of Florida is an EO/AA institution. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.

By February 1, 2004, send a statement of interest, pedagogy, and expertise; a curriculum vitae with telephone numbers and addresses of at least three references; and examples of professional, academic coursework, research, scholarly, or creative work to: Rocke Hill; Chair, Faculty Search Committee; University of Florida; School of Architecture; PO Box 115702; Gainesville, FL 32611-5702; phone: 352.392.0215 ext.218; e-mail: <rocke@ufl.edu>.

—Martin Gold

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

The Department of Architecture seeks a full-time, nine-month, tenure-track assistant professor of interior design beginning August 2004, to teach interior design studios and lecture courses in one or more of the following areas: furniture design, human factors, codes, and specifications. The studio courses emphasize the integration of creative design process and

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JOB OPS [CONTINUED]

application of technical and theoretical aspects of design; lecture courses integrate theory and practice.

Required qualifications: master's degree and a baccalaureate one of which must be in interior design or architecture and noteworthy experience in interior design/interior architecture teaching, research, or practice.

Applications must include a current curriculum vitae; a statement of interest, objectives, and pedagogical goals; and three references. Applicants must be prepared, on short notice, to provide a portfolio of work including examples of professional and students' work completed under the candidate's direction where appropriate.

The application deadline is January 15, 2004, or until a suitable applicant is found. Inquiries and applications should be addressed to: Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Interior Design Program Coordinator; Department of Architecture; University of Idaho; Moscow, ID 83844-2451; or <rlaa@uidaho.edu>.

-Rula Awwad-Rafferty

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Full-time, nine-month Associate/Full Professor of Architecture & Ecological Design and Technologies to commence during the 2004-2005 academic year. Candidates are expected to teach and develop coursework in their subject area and at least one design studio that explores the implications of environmental issues to design practice. Candidates should have expertise in at least one related research area with an established history of funded research. The candidate is also expected to take a leadership position in the college's master's and doctoral programs, as well as to supervise graduate research. Candidate should have a degree in architecture (B.Arch/M.Arch./Ph.D.) and a record of excellence in teaching, research, or practice.

Applications must be in an 8½" x 11" or A4 format and include the following: current curriculum vitae; short statement of interest; preliminary evidence of creative achievement/research (10 pages maximum); names, addresses, phone/fax numbers, and email of at least three references. These materials will not be returned. The candidate should be ready to send, on short notice, a complete portfolio of work, which will be returned.

Send completed applications to: Faculty Search Committee; Department of Architecture; Box 355720; University of Washington; Seattle, WA 98195-5720. For further information, email <archsrch@u.washington.edu>. See also <<http://depts.washington.edu/archdept/>>.

Review of applications begins January 7, 2004, and continues until the position is filled. ■

-Joel Loveland

PRACTICE NOTES

In January Environmental Works Community Design Center (EW) in Seattle will begin to evaluate how well the "green" strategies they've incorporated in recent projects are actually working. Sandra Mallory has obtained \$35,000 from The Russell Family Foundation and \$25,000 from the Home Depot Foundation to continue her "Sustaining Affordable Communities" initiative. With this funding EW will continue its green building materials research and sustainable design assistance and will conduct post-occupancy evaluations of two of its more sustainable projects—Traugott Terrace, 50 units of low-income housing in downtown Seattle, and the Evergreen State College Campus Children's Center (TESC Childcare) in Olympia, WA. The primary focus at Traugott will be energy use as compared to modeled assumptions. At Evergreen EW will assess the effectiveness of the daylighting and natural ventilation designs as well as the radiant floor heating system. We're hoping to get some of you talented and insightful SBSE members to participate in a one-day evaluation of the Children's Center—stay tuned for your opportunity to contribute. If you'd like to see past work of the Sustaining Affordable Communities initiative, including green building materials fact sheets, check out our web site at <<http://www.eworks.org>>. ■

-Sandra Mallory

RESEARCH NEWS

SBSE members Mary Guzowski, John Carmody, and Lance LaVine with colleagues from the University of Minnesota recently received a \$400,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as part of a national effort to revitalize and rebuild local neighborhoods. The grant will be used to establish a Community Outreach Partnership Center (COPC) for affordable housing in partnership with the Amherst H. Wilder Foundation and the Greater Frogtown Community Development Corporation. The goal of the project is to create affordable housing that integrates environmentally- and socially-responsive design with new building technologies. The project involves development of ten demonstration housing units in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul. Over the past two years the design-research team has completed Phase One of the project, including the design and construction of the first affordable house prototype (House One) using a new Structural Engineered Panel (SEP) construction. House One also employs a range of design and construction strategies to optimize space use and flexibility while addressing social/cultural responsiveness, sustainability, and health. This phase of the project focuses on the design, construction, and evaluation of additional demonstration houses to test that high performance, sustainable, and healthy features can be added to new construction while maintaining affordability. For information on the project please contact Mary Guzowski, COPC Director, Department of Architecture, University of Minnesota, <guzow001@umn.edu>. ■

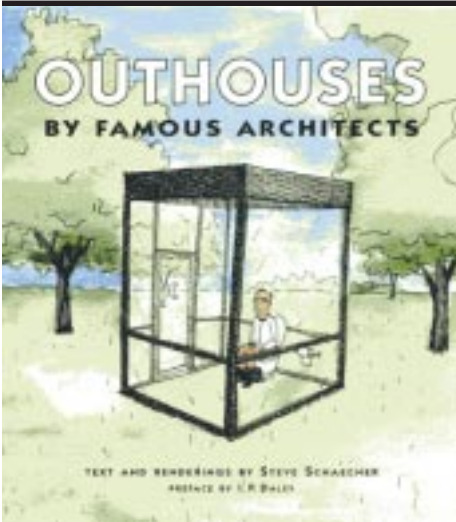
-Mary Guzowski

CONF. REVIEWS [CONT FR P 7.]

their nifty new *BuildingGreen Suite*. Come to the retreat to find out! Big events that I clearly missed: Ray Cole (UBC) was awarded the USGBC Green Public Service Award for NGOs, and Vivian Loftness (Carnegie-Mellon) was awarded one for local/regional leadership. USGBC still doesn't recognize education per se, but two out of five award winners are professors of architecture—not bad! ■

-Jim Wasley

BOOK REVIEW

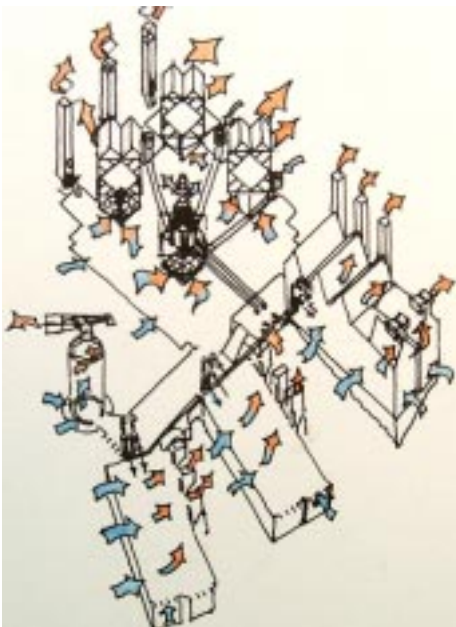


Outhouses by Famous Architects, by Steve Schaecher, San Francisco: Pomegranate Communications, 2000. ISBN: 0-7649-1260-7.

Through pen, ink, and watercolor renderings architect Steve Schaecher illustrates a collection of outdoor bathroom designs by famous architects accompanied by “historical and analytical” criticisms of the architect’s use of technology, architectural expression, spatial configuration, and construction methods. Without giving away too much of his tongue-in-cheek humor, The Caca Sophia, The Taj Ma-Stall, and Frank Lloyd Wright’s Flushingwater are highlighted.

—Ben Joe LaTreen*

**This review was submitted anonymously by an SBSEer who, seeking relief from the pressures of academia, wandered under half-moonlight into the backyard of truly low-flow architecture, Sears catalog and said book in hand. ■*



graphic: Alan Short

STUDENT OPPORTUNITY CORNER

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SBSE RETREAT AND ASES CONFERENCE

Last year SBSE was delighted to award 12 student scholarships to the Retreat and ASES. We also made awards in 4 categories to student participants at ASES—Best Presentation, Best Student-Authored Paper, Best Co-Authored Paper, and Best Poster. See the SBSE web site <<http://www.sbse.org/awards/2003.htm>> for details.

This year we’re pleased to announce even more funding is available for student scholarships to ASES and the Retreat, SBSE has taken over sponsorship of the ASES Passive Solar Poster Contest, and SBSE will continue to award prizes for student papers. Poster submittals are due March 3 with notification on March 23. Scholarship applications are due on March 31. We’ll send reminders on the SBSE list server and the SBSE web site will give full details. Stay tuned!

Thanks to incoming SBSE president Jim Wasley for coordinating the awards program. We look forward to more student papers at Solar 2004 in Portland, OR, July 10–14, 2004.

—Alison Knox

2004 STUDENT ACOUSTIC DESIGN COMPETITION

We are pleased to announce the 2004 Student Design Competition sponsored by the Technical Committee on Architectural Acoustics of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) and the Newman Student Award Fund. This year’s design scenario—a music pavilion with covered and lawn seating, that will serve as a summer home for a city orchestra as well as ballet, theater, and opera companies. Entries will be judged at the 75th ASA meeting in New York City, May 24–28, 2004. Details may be found at <<http://www.newmanfund.org>>.

Encourage your students to participate! If you have questions or would like more information, contact me <lwang4@unl.edu>, Bob Coffeen <coffeen@ukans.edu>, or Robin Glose-Meyer <rglosemeyer@jhacoustics.com>. ■

—Lily Wang

NEW GREEN ARCHITECTURE BUILDING

On November 20 Congressman Dennis Hastert announced that Congress approved \$7.5 million to construct a new library and academic center, that will house the Department of Architecture at Judson College. According to Hastert’s office, “The building will serve the community through its use of ‘green’ technology, cutting down on fossil fuel costs, and making the most of alternative natural resources. Within the building, the Department of Architecture will continue to involve undergraduate and graduate students in environmentally-significant community projects.”

Selected from five invited entries submitted in a competition conducted in 2001, Alan Short and Associates, London, England, designed the 100,000-square-foot structure. The proposed ventilation towers, a clear visual expression of Alan Short’s design philosophy (the use of natural ventilation and sustainable practices), coupled with the influences of the Arts and Crafts style create a unique image for Short’s first American building. Energy consultant on the project is Kevin Lomas of the Institute of Energy and Sustainable Development, DeMontfort University.

In their winning presentation the team stated: “We believe that a building that integrates itself into the natural environment; that responds to the seasons, the climate, and the weather; that brings its occupants in closer touch with the natural environment also makes a contribution to Christian understanding. We believe it is profoundly important to build to achieve effective stewardship of our resources.”

The building responds to the campus environment and will create a unique identity for the architecture program when occupied in fall 2006. ■

—Jack Kremers

← Natural ventilation diagram for the Judson College Academic Center.

CONFERENCE REVIEWS

THE ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING INSTITUTE: *BUILDING INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS*—AUSTIN, TX, SEP 17–20

The American Society of Civil Engineers held this inaugural meeting, hosting a technical program of 105 papers. The 28 sessions were held in 4 parallel tracks so we were unable to see even half the papers. Major themes included: (1) automation, management, and commissioning; (2) codes and standards; and (3) HVAC, energy, and IAQ. There were two sessions on architectural design issues and one on education. Several participants felt the paper selection could have been more stringent to reduce the number of tracks and allow more time for papers. You can probably still see the program listings at <http://www.asce.org/conferences/aei2003/>. If one of the papers interests you, I'll forward a pdf from my proceedings CD.

Keynote Mel Garber, Senior Project Manager for Robert Silman Associates, discussed the nondestructive testing of structural systems at Fallingwater and the resulting plan to save it from incipient failure. Mel is a former employee of Arup and had six or eight ardent Arup fans in the crowd. Basically, the cantilevered floor beams have been reinforced by drilling through the width of the existing beams and adding pretensioned beams doweled into each side. The photography was anatomically impressive to say the least. Sorry, no leads on duplicate slides.

One of the presenters coined the perjorative term, designosaur, to describe object-oriented building designers. As the conference designosaur, I tried to put a more positive slant to the term by emphasizing the critical role of design intention as the fulcrum for selecting and configuring technical systems. Though AEI touted the “integration of building design, construction, and operation,” I noticed a concern for integration merely among building systems. The theme of commissioning—continuous, retrofit, and design-phase commissioning—was perhaps the conference’s strong suit. It seems to have reached or surpassed the status of POE as an evaluation tool. I also gained a new appreciation for, and many new friends among, the cadre of educational programs dedicated to architectural engineering, programs apart from the structural, civil, or mechanical engineering. I tried to be a good SBSE ambassador and believe we could easily foster common interests with AEI.

—Leonard Bachman

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF THE PASSIVE AND LOW ENERGY ARCHITECTURE—SANTIAGO DE CHILE, NOV 9–12

The 20th PLEA conference convened to discuss, learn from, and identify visions and experiences towards a new role for architectural practice in the creation and improvement of the built environment. The theme of the conference was “Rethinking Development: Are we producing a people-oriented habitat?” A review of progress during the 20th Century and rapid improvements in communications move us to question our future path, particularly in large cities. Some pertinent questions asked:

- § Is the built environment being shaped by conscientious designers or by the dominant consumption and production patterns?
- § Are emerging countries repeating the mistakes made by developed countries?
- § Are experience and local culture being lost in current knowledge?
- § Are architectural practice, research, and teaching effectively producing more pleasant built environments?

Particularly conspicuous by his absence was Jeffrey Cook, founding member and past President of PLEA. Missed by all, the conference was aptly dedicated to his memory. Commemorative addresses and presentations were made during the opening ceremony by the current PLEA President, André De Herde, and the chair and host of the conference, Waldo Bustamante. The last technical paper co-authored by Jeff was also presented.

About 400 people from more than 33 countries around the world attended the conference with about 250 papers presented on a wide range of topical issues.

—Aalok Deshmukh

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USGBC 2003 GREENBUILD CONF.—PITTSBURGH, PA, NOV 12–14

The 2003 USGBC Conference was amazing, though admittedly I attended committee meetings Nov. 10 and 11 and left the next day. Who knows what I missed!

Monday was USGBC Chapter Day, the second meeting of local upstarts. The message to SBSEers: USGBC is rapidly morphing to accommodate pent up local interests. There are now 30 recognized local chapters and affiliates along with another 19 chapter organizing groups. The chapters are a great way to get architecture students involved in the local green building scene; I encourage SBSE members to take advantage.

Tuesday was Member Day, filled with hoopla. No denying the amazing growth, with USGBC boasting 3,500 members and a 2002 income of \$6.4M. The academic sub-committee met face-to-face for the first time, asking such tough questions as when LEED accreditation will actually imply understanding green building issues. A huge controversy over USGBC policy on trade associations was discreetly alluded to. (Sub-text is intergalactic fight between the vinyl industry and the green building movement.)

Wednesday the conference presentations began, but I spent all my time in the hall schmoozing. Jerelyn Wilson of *Environmental Building News* stopped to say hi and ended up implying that SBSE might have access to

• continued p. 5



Jeff Cook present in spirit at PLEA 2003.

TRICK OR RETREAT?

photo: Alison Kwok

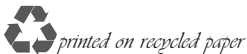


UO ECS TAs Fumiko Docker, Jon Meendering, David Posada, Sara Goenner help Alison Kwok determine thermal nuances in class on Halloween.

RETREAT LOGISTICS

Check out our 2004 retreat site, the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology on the beautiful southern slopes of the scenic Nature Conservancy Cascade Head Preserve (OR) <<http://www.sitkacenter.org/>>. Detailed retreat logistics information—housing, meals, costs, and transportation—will be mailed separately and posted on the retreat web site. Housing will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis so register early. After the registration deadline, April 20, SBSE-reserved housing will no longer be available. Pose your logistics questions to logistics coordinator G. Z. Brown at 541.346.5647 or <gzbrown@aaa.uoregon.edu>. ■

—Bruce Haglund



SBSE NEWS
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RETREAT 2004 [CONTINUED]

2. **Current Research:** administrative perspectives, evaluation results, funded projects, publications, applications to practice, lessons learned
3. **Resources, Tools, Gadgets:** research funding, resource centers, newest tools, sketch exercises
4. **Case studies:** building studies using unique research methodologies and equipment, interesting building stories investigated by faculty and students, new projects, new buildings using renewable energies or energy-efficient design strategies, older buildings that still have interesting stories to tell.

Presentations will be scheduled in parallel tracks. All factors being equal, we will balance topics and time slots. Presenters will submit session artifacts for web site archiving at the end of the retreat.

PROPOSALS: Send to <akwok@aaa.uoregon.edu>. Selection will be based on the clarity of objectives, originality, scope, approach, and relevance to the themes. Keep in mind:

1. One page limit **maximum!**
2. Include:
 - § Theme category (one of the four above)
 - § Description of project, presentation, workshop, or activity; primary objectives, predicted agenda, and special knowledge and information participants will take away.
 - § Materials you will provide and your audiovisual needs.
 - § Names, affiliations, addresses, and contact info (phone and e-mail) for all presenters.

SCHEDULE

February 5, 2004

Deadline: One-page (**maximum**) proposal by **5:00p PST**

February 20, 2004

Presenters notified of proposal acceptance.

April 20, 2004

Deadline: Retreat registration (or until filled). ■

—Alison Kwok

SPRING ISSUE SUBMITTAL DEADLINE—MARCH 1

FIRST CLASS MAIL