ANNOUNCING RETREAT 2015: REGIONS AND LOCALITIES

The Mountain Retreat and Learning Center, Highlands, NC, Tuesday, June 16—Friday, June 19, 2015.

Green building design is a global activity, and it’s the responsibility of architects and engineers to understand green strategies for multiple climates and users. The 2015 SBSE retreat theme, Regions and Localities, focuses on the strategies, tools, and ideas that SBSEers are using to teach and practice appropriate building design for region and place. Systems, energy, materials, and know-how are all subject to regions and localities. How do we teach appropriate strategies for various locations, and how can we continue to value place while working globally?

In the subtropical highland climate of the Appalachian Mountains of North Carolina we’ll share ideas, discuss solutions, and learn from others’ experiences. As a climate traditionally difficult to contend with passively, North Carolina’s summer humidity will be tempered by the elevation of our camp at 4,118 feet above sea level. The rolling beauty of the nation’s oldest mountain chain will be the natural centerpiece of the retreat.

Participants will stay in comfortable lodge rooms or cabins and take buffet-style meals in the community dining room. Meals will be carefully prepared from regionally grown food and seasonal produce from The Mountain’s farm. The retreat schedule is organized with morning walks, formal presentations, evening programs, a possible visit to the UNC Institute for the Environment Highlands Biological Research Station, and plenty of open time for informal networking and impromptu gatherings.

The retreat will be organized around four “Regions and Localities” themes in addition to participant-defined roundtable discussions and working themes:

1. **Global Perspectives on Place: Activities.** programs, and research reflecting how these perspectives inform teaching and practice.

2. **Materials and Embodied Energy.** Activities, assignments, and exercises that enhance an understanding of local resources, materials, and manufacturing energy.

3. **Regional Climate and Appropriate Technology.** Projects and activities involving weather and climate analysis as well as strategies that address building and community issues.

4. **Strategies and Tools.** Exemplar tools, methods, and design strategies that teach the importance of place and appropriateness in building design and planning.

5. **Roundtable Discussions and Working Groups.** “Hot topics” that could include case studies, book and grant proposals, promotion/tenure/mentorship issues, contributions to the 2050 Imperative, and so on.

—Emily McGlohn and Alison Kwok

FULL RETREAT INFO SOON: HTTP://WWW.SBSE.ORG/RETREAT2015
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for Michael’s review of two Tim White reprints, but there’s no mention of how to get copies. Interested parties should go to <http://www.ArchBasics.com>. Also, I’m now offering seven Tim White titles, including Building Meaning, Concept Sourcebook, Ordering Systems, Path—Portal—Place, and Presentation Strategies for Architects.

—Barry Yatt, ArchiBasics

Okay, the source is now mentioned! Especially appropriate in light of your slightly revised url. Thanks for providing these valuable resources—ed.

For a daylighting course I’m trying to compile a list of equipment to be purchased, and I remember such an SBSE email thread a couple of years ago. I wonder if you could tell me if there is an archive of SBSE email communications and if so, how I can access/search it. Any advice would be appreciated.

—Rahman Azari

[Okay, the source is now mentioned! Especially appropriate in light of your slightly revised url. Thanks for providing these valuable resources—ed.]

SBSE News is published quarterly by the Society of Building Science Educators, a not-for-profit corporation. Submit material for publication before the first of March, June, September, or December to Bruce Haglund, Editor; Department of Architecture; University of Idaho; Moscow, ID 83844—2451; tel 208.885.6781; fax 208.885.9428; e-mail bhaglund@uidaho.edu. Direct membership and mailing list inquiries to Alexandra Rempel, Secretary–Treasurer; School of Architecture, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 110 8th ST, Troy, NY 12180; e-mail rempea@rpi.edu. To join our list server or to manage your account go to <http://www.lists.uidaho.edu/mailman/listinfo/sbse>. For full membership info and more, visit our home page <http://www.sbse.org>.

CONTEMPLATING NAAB

[NAAB has just released their new conditions for accreditation. Predictably, they’re far from visionary. However, it is the responsibility of each school’s faculty to set curriculum. NAAB criteria are only one of many concerns to which each school responds, and they’re only fully considered every six years. I challenge you all to rally your faculty to exceed NAAB’s expectations by a large margin. Nonetheless, here’s SBSE commentary—ed.]

I’m on vacation, but noticed that NAAB released their conditions for accreditation. They did adopt one of SBSE’s suggestions, probably the single most important one. In Student Performance Criteria (SPC) B.6 Environmental Systems they changed “understanding” to “ability”. I keep on rereading it to see if I am not reading it incorrectly, but it seems real. Looks like our concerted effort did make at least some difference. Thank you all!

If you have not seen it, it’s at <http://naab.org/r/news/view.aspx?record_ID=158>.

—Pablo LaRoche

You may have seen the recent press release from NAAB touting the final version of the 2014 Conditions for Accreditation. What should be an abject embarrassment for NAAB is instead shamelessly promoted as a great step forward. Ignoring the reasoned input of dozens of subject matter experts and the impassioned pleas of educators and design practitioners, NAAB decided (through what it claimed was an open and transparent process, but seemed more like backroom wheeling and dealing) to eviscerate environmental concerns from the conditions for accreditation. Their rationale: based on their interpretation of input at ARC13, NAAB established a perspective on environmental stewardship and embedded responsibility for the environment and sustainable practices into several SPC. ARC13 participants believed that a stand-alone SPC on sustainability did not sufficiently express the extent to which environmental considerations must be included across the spectrum of design decision-making. As a result, NAAB eliminated the specific SPC on sustainability.

Others may want to comment on the logical flaws inherent in this statement, but I’ll just note that at roughly the same time as this massively disappointing b*** s*** was released by NAAB, Architecture 2030 announced success in launching the 2050 Imperative. Where architecture students in the U.S. will receive the knowledge necessary to contribute to carbon-neutral design efforts targeting the year 2050 appears to be of no concern to NAAB since the 2014 (or is this really supposed to be 1914) conditions do not even mention the words “green,” “net-zero,” “carbon,” nor “sustainable.”

—Walter Grondzik

Sustainability and resilience to climate disruption are the foremost agendas of the worldwide community, bar none. Sane and enduring responses require knowledge of science, design imagination, and leadership. SBSEers with deep understanding of building climatology are by necessity at the leading edge of what is a societal-wide and international agenda. This has all been said … what is not yet defined are coordinated and collaborative actions like Architecture 2030 and the 2050 Imperative. Walter, thank you for leading the SBSE community in what is right.

—Don Watson

Wait, are we saying we can’t do what everyone agrees we must because of NAAB! Doesn’t pass the sniff test. Remember the words to the song, “your old road is rapidly aging; please get out of the new one if you can’t lend a hand ...” Leadership can’t be delegated.

—Vernon Woodworth

I’m not sure why I’m continually surprised by the dumbing down at NAAB. Needless to say we will persevere. But that may not be enough. Who made this decision, and how are they replaced?

—Dan Williams

It is time to create an alternative architectural accreditation organization. Whether Architecture 2030 wants to play a role is an issue. I have asked Ed Mazria what Architecture 2030 would like to do. NAAB has made itself irrelevant with this latest action by ignoring the single most important architectural issue on the planet and ignoring all the experts who have petitioned them to fix their flawed criteria. What would SBSEers like to see happen? Let’s decide as a building science community, and then move forward.

—Michael Holtz
July 7, 12:30 pm, Intercontinental Hotel, San Francisco, CA

Attendees: Emily Boone, UNCC; Dale Brentrup, UNCC; Harvey Bryan, ASU; Fiona Cahill, UNCC; Craig Christensen, NREL; Anthony Denzer, Wooming; Alfredo Fernández-Gonzalez, UNLV; Alejandro Gamas*, USC; Bruce Haglund, Idaho; Juanita Hu, NCSU; Shamim Javot*, VA Tech; Karen Kensek, USC; Pablo LaRoche, Cal Poly Pomona; Elham Motevalian*, USC; Rhett Noseck*, UNLV; David Panich, ASES; Rob Peña, Washington, Wayne Place, NCSU; Ash Ragheb, LTU; Alex Rempel, RPI; John Reynolds, Oregon; Edna Shaviv, Technion

*ASES Travel Scholarship awardees

NAAB Efforts—Pablo. SBSE’s critiques of the draft conditions were ignored. Nonetheless, SBSE responded to the first reading by the deadline and published our recommendations to the list server. Letters from Ed Mazria, sustainability directors at national firms, and Building Green echoed SBSE’s sentiments. Pablo scheduled a meeting with the potential NAAB President and the Huffington Post. We’ll see.

Train-the-Trainers—Pablo. Autodesk will host lunch and five presenters (from Autodesk, IES, LBL, NREL, and UCLA) on July 9. Free to SBSEers!

SBSE Scholarships—Pablo & Alex. One scholarship was awarded for SB14. Four SBSE ASES scholarships were presented (Alejandro, Shamim, Elham, and Rhett.) [More, see below—ed.]

Treasurer’s Report—Alex. Wild Apricot has been successful in managing dues and memberships, and we now have 230 active, dues-paying members. The SBSE awarded five retreat scholarships and four ASES scholarships this summer, and we have commitments to provide three PLEA scholarships and one SB14 scholarship this year as well. Thanks to a successful retreat, sales of sun-angle calculators, and robust membership income, we are able to comfortably meet these commitments.

Arch 2030 Pallet—Harvey. The pallet needs more depth added to swatches. Potentially a great student project. Send complete/good swatches to the development team (Alfredo). Bug Harvey for the template.

ASES Prognosis—David. ASES is targeting emerging professionals (<35-years-old). High probability that ASES 2015 will be at Penn State in July. Looking for future university sites for conferences. Also collaborating with PSU to digitize all past ASES publications.

SBSE 2015 Retreat will be in North Carolina.

—Bruce Haglund

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE—Michael McGlynn is currently developing an online educational resources portal powered by the open-source software Drupal. The portal will provide individual members the opportunity to share a variety of educational resources with the membership as a whole. Georg Reichard of Virginia Tech is graciously donating his time to develop the portal and ten additional SBSEers have joined the committee to beta test the portal over the next couple of months. Following the beta test, the committee will share the portal with the SBSE Board for comment and approval, after which we’ll release the portal for the use of the general membership.

Scholarships—Walter Grondzik. ASES travel scholarship awardees will be known and feted during the annual meeting. Only one application for an SB14 scholarship was received by the deadline (it looks OK, so will likely be awarded); we were successful in raising funds for four scholarships. Sadly student interest lagged behind this funding success. PLEA scholarship applications are not yet due (conference is in December). One retreat student scholarship was rescinded because at the last minute the student informed SBSE he/she was only going to attend half the retreat. Wording to indicate that any lapse in attendance is not acceptable will be added to future calls. The two Cook retreat scholars both found it impossible to attend the retreat; no structural problems with the scholarship system—just life and bad luck. Because of the very late delivery of final ASES papers (large-scale schedule slips on the part of ASES), the ASES Best Paper Awards process was not deemed viable, and no such awards were conferred by SBSE; for this award to function, ASES will need to solidify its schedules.
FORGET ABOUT NAAB, EMBRACE “LEED–TEACH”

I have very good news to announce. Ed Mazria supports and is a member of our committee. However, because he is so busy, he will not actively participate in our effort. I promised him I would keep him informed of any decisions we make so his name is not used without his consent.

I have also invited Bruce Haglund to join our steering committee. More than anyone else, Bruce represents SBSE. Officers of SBSE serve only 2 years while Bruce has been editing the newsletter for over 20 years. He is a constant in the organization. Other good news is that Ed introduced me to Bob Berkebile, who is willing to consider our work and goals. I’m eager to get Bob’s help because he is the founder of COTE, and COTE is potentially one of our supporters.

As we gather momentum for this project, we’ll documentation on the state of architectural education in terms of each school’s effort in teaching sustainable design. [Elizabeth Grant at Va Tech is doing such a survey.—ed.]

Having a memorable name with an acronym that is easy to say is important. How about Excellence in Teaching Energy and Environmental Design (ETEED)? Or Excellence in Energy and Environment Design Education (EEEDE), or Education Excellence in Energy and Environment Design (EEEED, E’D, E’D)? Help!

Let’s get active, and make this happen!

—Norbert Lechner

I noticed that Norbert had to backtrack a bit on the term “LEED–Teach”, not a good way to begin conversations. I suggest building on the 2050 Imperative which has been adopted by the UIA and the regional councils of Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas.

Some additional thoughts: I do not believe this initiative should compete with or try to change NAAB accreditation, but should complement it. It can be an additional accreditation/certification for those schools that integrate the principles of the 2050 Imperative in design studio education, coursework, research, and community outreach. It would be like having FRAIC, FAIA, LEED Certified, for example after one’s name to illustrate a higher degree of accomplishment.

It could also be a well-publicized annual or bi-annual ranking of schools, something the DFC does in their annual reports, or an Award at Greenbuild, AIA Convention, AIA COTE Top 10 Schools with lots of PR (studio projects). So many possibilities for your group to discuss.

I want to thank Norbert for taking on this critically important issue. He has been steadfast in his determination that we adequately address sustainability in professional education. I will do what I can to support this initiative.

—Ed Mazria

I think Norbert can now change his place-holder name to something like “Teaching for the 2050 Imperative.” NAAB as always will be the non-aspirational low bar: T4-2050I raises the roof.

And thanks, Ed, for all that you’re doing to save the planet. I’m sorta fond of it.

—Bruce Haglund

If you would like to help, please contact ACSA, AIA, AIA COTE, or any other relevant group for support. Please let me know which groups you’ve contacted. Also talk to your colleagues and students about this idea and write an email to the SBSE listserve encouraging support of this initiative.

—Norbert Lechner
RESILIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY


After attending so many scientific conferences, I noted many similarities across various disciplines. Here is the simplified version of what I have learned:


- Bottom-up framework of the “New Commons” based on the work of the Ostroms. Includes the notions of “focal action” project work, a “research approach” to each project, comparative case study analysis (à la Charlotte Hess), focusing on development of resilience of the “social ecological systems,” and more. Vandana Shiva’s work focuses on this community-building level as well. See WOW5 <http://www.indiana.edu/~wow5/agenda.html>, Ostrom Workshop <http://www.indiana.edu/~workshop/>, Digital Archive of the Commons <http://dlc.dlib.indiana.edu/dlc/>, and Vandana Shiva <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vandana_Shiva> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yYwOTLopWIw>.

- Team process of planning and design includes qualified ecologists, restoration-oriented landscape architects, and qualified contractors.

- Project process seeks to activate the natural self-organizing, “healing,” and ecosystem processes of nature, and to “adaptively manage” them (in contrast to heavy engineering and hard infrastructure approaches).

There are many examples emerging:

- Working with the Society for Ecological Restoration—I am working on a program design that incorporates the above and more. The plan is to create an organizational “section” to work on community-scale programs following the work of ecologists, the Stockholm Resilience Center, the Ostroms, and others.

- At the annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America (ESA) I learned of the ESA Earth Stewardship Initiative. <http://www.esa.org/esa/?page_id=2157>.

There is much more out there, but I hope this introduction will start the conversation.

—Arlene Hopkins

WATER TREATMENT

Oregon BEST has awarded a second round of commercialization funding to help advance a floating, solar-activated stormwater treatment device that can be deployed in retaining ponds and ditches to keep contaminants from reaching streams.

Puralytics has been working with Oregon State University researchers for the past year on small-scale testing of the “LilyPad” technology. The test results have been so encouraging that Oregon BEST is funding phase II testing, as well as the construction of a new outdoor green stormwater research lab in Corvallis, OR. Tests will span a range of common environmental contaminants over a range of environmental conditions and define performance guidelines, such as maximum water depth and required treatment rates per LilyPad.

The LilyPad technology, which resembles a large lily pad and floats just below the surface of standing water, can also be used to pre-treat stormwater, helping reduce overflow situations at municipal treatment facilities during severe weather events.

—Gregg Kleiner

Wayfinding signage at the Lighthouse (a Charles Rennie Mackintosh museum) in Glasgow.

LilyPads treating water.

Lily pads treating water at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew.
DIVA DAY SEATTLE

We are pleased to announce that the third DIVA Day will be held in Seattle, WA, on Oct 2!

DIVA Day is a full-day event focused on the use of DIVA and associated simulation tools to improve and enhance design through performance-based workflows including presentations by practitioners and researchers at leading architectural, consulting, and engineering firms and universities. Conference sessions will include the introduction of new features by the DIVA Team, presentations of research and case studies by our speakers, and a panel discussion on the evolving daylighting credits in codes and point systems like LEED v4. As always, the dinner following the event will provide excellent opportunities to meet and talk with speakers and other attendees.

Stay tuned to <http://diva4rhino.com/diva-day-2014> or contact <kera@solemma.net> for registration, program, speaker, and travel information!

— Kera Lagios

OPPORTUNITIES

CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE TROPICS

Tri Harso Karyono of Tanri Abeng University in Jakarta is organizing a conference, "Mitigating and Adapting Built Environments for Climate Change in the Tropics," 30–31 March 2015, in Jakarta, Indonesia (aided by Sue Roaf of Heriot–Watt University and myself), supported by NCEUB. Abstracts should be sent by 27 September 2014.

A conference flyer is available on the Tanri Abeng University website at <http://www.tauiversity.ac.id/en/index.php?option=agenda&listData=4>. Download the pdf flyer by clicking the link at the right bottom of the screen on the flyer web page. Direct any detailed queries to Tri Karyono <t_karyono@tauiversity.ac.id>.

— Fergus Nicol

SIMAUD 2015

We are pleased to announce the sixth year of the Symposium on Simulation for Architecture and Urban Design (SimAUD) at the Spring Simulation Conference, April 12–15, 2015, Washington, DC <http://www.simaud.org/2015/>.

TRAIN-THE-TRAINER DAY FOLLOW-UP

UCLA SOFTWARE UPDATES

The new California code is more stringent than any other state code, but HEED users can test their own state codes and even spec the Passive House Standard using EPW climate data from anywhere in the northern hemisphere. [Why not for the whole world and future climate data files?–ed.]

Home Energy Efficient Design (HEED) has been upgraded to meet California 2013 Title 24. The new version of HEED was posted on our web site in time for the statewide July 1 enforcement of the 2013 California Building Energy Efficiency Standard (Title 24). HEED can automatically create a reference home that meets the 2013 Prescriptive Compliance Method, plus a second reference home that is about 15% better. Then HEED lets users create up to seven additional versions of their own home and displays a series of graphics that show how close each is to approaching ZNE (zero net energy). This new version of HEED runs on both the Mac and the PC.

We’ve developed three YouTube Tutorials showing how to use HEED to create residential design alternatives that meet the 2013 California Energy Code, and even how to create Zero Net Energy homes.

- HEED Overview Tutorial <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZnoMYDq5T8Y>
- HEED Basic Design Tutorial <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFhC821aXU8>
- HEED Advanced Design Tutorial <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g-pdhm3rCk>

We’ve also posted a new YouTube Climate Consultant Tutorial authored by Carmen Trudell.

- Climate Consultant Overview Tutorial <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7p3smdZpDM>

We continue to maintain the User Hot Line for questions on HEED and Climate Consultant.

— Murray Milne

FURTHER IES-VE INFO

Our current list of R&D projects (including master planning, retrofit, real-time control, and smart cities) can be found at <http://www.iesve.com/research>. There are currently 17 projects active with various research partners in academia and in practice.


Several universities (e.g., Minnesota, Houston, Arizona, Penn State, and Nebraska) have hosted our training and professional development courses, including net-zero energy workshops. See <http://www.iesve.com/training>. Our YouTube channel is the place to go for introductory tutorials and demos of new features at <http://www.youtube.com/user/IESVE>. We have new support forums moderated by many of our staff at <http://www.iesve.com/support>.

While the new web site has our current student offer, it does not have information yet about our academic program which offers free software for universities in their labs. For information on that program, please work directly with me. [Nathan, the idea of a school lab has become passé due to high-power desktops and laptops as well as the cloud. Students are now looking for free software they can use on their computers and with the cloud.—ed.]

— Nathan Kegel
A design competition presented by AIA COTE and ACSA to recognize student work that addresses sustainable design at the highest level.

As today’s architecture students move into the profession, they will inherit a rapidly changing world, both in terms of the physical contexts of their work, as well as the tools, materials, and processes available to create it. Preparing students for this challenging, dynamic future calls for greater integration of innovative ecological design thinking within the design discourse of universities across the country.

The Competition

The American Institute of Architects Committee on the Environment (AIA COTE), in partnership with the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), is pleased to announce the first annual AIA COTE Top Ten for Students. The program challenges students, working individually or in teams, to submit projects that use a thoroughly integrated approach to architecture, natural systems, and technology to provide architectural solutions that protect and enhance the environment. The competition will recognize ten exceptional studio projects that seamlessly integrate innovative, regenerative strategies within their broader design concepts.

Criteria for Judging

Entries will be judged on their success in addressing all ten sustainability measures. Successful responses will demonstrate creative and innovative integration of daylighting, materials, water, energy, and ecological systems—all through a cohesive and beautiful architectural understanding. Entries are examined in regard to their design and innovation, integration with their community, land use and effect on site ecology, bioclimatic design, energy and water use, approach to light and air, materials and construction, long-life considerations, and feedback loops. Entries will also be judged on the success with which the project has met its individual requirements, with particular emphasis on design excellence.

Schedule

- Dec 3, 2014: Registration Deadline (free) + Submission Site Opens
- Jan 14, 2015: Submission Deadline
- Apr 22, 2015: Winners Announced on Earth Day
- May 14–16, 2015: Exhibition at the AIA Convention; Atlanta, GA

Full Competition Info


—Eric Wayne Ellis

Opportunities [cont.]

Researchers in simulation, architecture, urban design, human–computer interaction, computer graphics, engineering, software development, education, and business who develop or use modeling, simulation, visualization, validation, interaction techniques, or tools related to the built environment are invited to participate and present original full papers, short papers, and extended abstracts.

All submissions are peer-reviewed and considered for selection by the committee. All accepted submissions will be published in the ACM Digital Library. Additionally, any video or contributed data set accompanying an accepted submission will be featured on the SimAUD website <http://www.simaud.org>. SimAUD is run collaboratively with ACM/SIGSIM and is sponsored by the Society for Modeling and Simulation International.

—Holly Samuelson
**MORE OPPORTUNITIES**

**INT’L BUILDING PHYSICS CONF.**

You are invited to participate in the 6th International Building Physics Conference (IBPC), to be held in Torino, Italy, from 14-17 June 2015 <http://www.ibpc2015.org/>. This conference, focused on the theme, “Building Physics for a Sustainable Built Environment,” is hosted by Politecnico di Torino and co-organized by ATI Piedmonte and the Department of Energy–Politecnico di Torino. The abstract deadline is 30 September 2014, with submissions through <http://www.ibpc2015.org/abstract_submission.php>.

—Lily Wang

**NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND**

We are currently recruiting three researchers at the National University of Ireland, Galway for the nZEB-RETROFIT project: Achieving nearly zero-energy buildings using a lifecycle assessment approach to retrofitting existing buildings. Each position is fully-funded for four years, leading to a Ph.D. Further information is available at <http://www.nuigalway.ie/iruse/vacancies.html>. Please circulate these opportunities to potential candidates.

—Jamie Goggins

**COMFORT RESEARCH**

Alison Kwok checked out the architecture of Bali this summer. She reports that Bali is even more beautiful than Hawai’i [and she’s biased!—ed.] and that its comforting architecture shines.

—Bruce Haglund

**RESEARCH NEWS**

**OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY AND BIOREGIONAL**

The Eco–Bicester Living Lab (EBLL), a joint collaboration between Oxford Brookes University Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development (OSID) and the BioRegional Development Group, has been developed to capture the lessons learned in Bicester and share them with communities in the UK and beyond. The Living Lab has thrived on the significant housing growth, research, and innovation in Bicester, partly due to its status as one of four “eco towns” in the UK. The project, launched in July 2014, will see 393 high-performance homes constructed on site, with plans for a further 6,400 new homes by 2026.

The aims of the Living Lab are to:
- Bring world-leading academic research and innovation to Bicester to enable the creation of a truly sustainable town for the 21st century.
- Build a framework of learning and improvement for the various sustainability initiatives and programs in the town.
- Capture with rigor the learning from the various initiatives and spread it across the UK and around the world.
- Provide a focus for advances in solutions to sustainability as applied, tested, and evaluated in Eco–Bicester.
- Promote Bicester as a centre for research and innovation.

“Eco–Bicester Living Lab is a unique cross-sector and cross-disciplinary initiative in which novel ideas related to sustainability will be tested in the urban realm with the explicit goal of learning for continuous feedback and improvement. The rigorous academic evaluation will underpin knowledge-sharing with industry, policy-makers, and voluntary sectors across the UK and around the world.” said Rajat Gupta, Director of OISD and Co-Director of the Eco–Bicester Living Lab.

The agenda, presentations, and list of attendees of the Living Lab launch event are available at <http://bicesterlivinglab.org/events/>. Further details on the Living Lab and related projects can be found at <http://bicesterlivinglab.org/>.

—Rajat Gupta

**Did Sue Roof’s Oxford Eco–House set the stage for Eco–Bicester?**

**Eco–Bicester Master Plan**

—Rajat Gupta
After we waited nervously for many months, ASES announced it would partner with InterSolar North America in San Francisco, in early July. Our able ASES Board President and SBSE member David Panich deserves a huge amount of credit and gratitude for his perseverance with this effort! This conference was expensive in an expensive city, but a bunch of SBSEers went anyway. I, for one, am very glad I did.

Alfredo Fernández was SBSE’s lone and able representative on the Technical Review Committee. A huge thank you to him for hustling reviewers, then hustling many of us to chair sessions. As a reward, Alfredo brought his family along, and his sons enjoyed watching the World Cup games on TV.

The SBSE annual meeting seemed more sparsely attended this year, but enthusiasm was undiminished. Big bonus—we sat around a table for once, and ate on plates like civilized humans. Even discussions were civil! I thought the food quite impressive—lots of it and good quality. There were serving lines right outside the meeting rooms, and smaller empty meeting rooms adjacent with tables and chairs. Well done!

At long last, veteran architect, author, and educator Don Watson received the Passive Pioneer Award. It seems that every year I ask myself, “What, s/he hasn’t already received it??” Thanks to Murray Milne for carrying the ball on this one, soliciting letters of support. At the same Tuesday evening awards reception, five new ASES Fellows were announced: solar resource expert Christian Gueymard, sustainable transportation advocate Scotte Elliott, Solar Today editor Gina Johnson, “our” David Panich, and mounting systems manufacturer Claudia Wentworth. The selection panel included SBSEers Walter Grondzik, Margot McDonald, and John Reynolds.

There were nine sessions in the “Solar Buildings” track, and for the first time in memory, none conflicted with any other! Terrific! There were at least two SBSE papers outside these nine sessions (Ken Haggard on the Great California Drought Crisis, and Moji Navvab on the Estimated CIE Sky Luminance Distributions’ Frequencies and the Circumsolar Size).

I estimate that about half the presentations in “our” nine sessions were by beginners or others very early in their careers. Encouraging on the one hand, though a few speakers were difficult to understand, scared stiff, or just plain uninspired. Many veterans presented, including two memorable talks on the Bullitt Foundation Building by Rob Peña. One highlight was Steven Strong’s no-holds-barred critique of a famous designer (who shall remain unnamed, but “we know who he is”) who thought surely his PV placements would work “because I designed them that way.”

It was gratifying to see once again in action such long-time SBSE educators Dale Brentrup, Harvey Bryan, Anthony Denzer, Bruce Haglund, Karen Kensek, Pablo LaRoche, David Ogoli, Edna Shaviv, and Sandy Stannard. And I got to talk yet again about that EPUD building. One SBSE member on the program unable to attend was Troy Peters; we missed your subtle sense of humor, Troy!

Relative newcomers included the unsinkable SBSE Treasurer Alex Rempel in transition from Oregon to RPI, the spirited Jinger Zeng and partner from Las Vegas, Shamim Javed from Virginia Tech, and several other promising young people from as far away as Korea. I thought that UNLV and USC were quite well-represented in this group. Older “newbies” included Ramana Koti [Lord Aeck Sargent] with a paper on light shelves, and redoubtable Betsey Dougherty discussing her naturally ventilated building.

Also missing was the huge and lengthy Awards Banquet that always left me with sore hands from so much clapping. The smaller Awards Reception was more pleasant, but entirely too exclusive. Such stuff still needs fixing for 2015! See you there! 🤗

—John Reynolds
A YOUNG TRUETT JAMES

How many future SBSEers were cowpokes in their youth? [I was!—ed.] And some still are. See Wasley stamp below!

TEACHING: LEED LAB COMES TO NC STATE

NCSU College of Design is one of six schools participating this semester in USGBC’s LEED Labs program that focuses on using the campus as a laboratory for learning about existing building operations, maintenance, and efficiency.

The NCSU course will host 32 students from the colleges of design, engineering, and natural resources in an interactive seminar on occupant engagement, air quality testing, dumpster diving (for a waste audit, of course), and much more. Focusing on the NCSU Poole College of Management home in Nelson Hall, this course will actively and rousingly engage four of our colleges.

If our “Myths and Stereotypes” ice breaker in the first class was any indication, we are all going to have a memorable time! The students had to identify stereotypes about themselves, not just the others. Apparently (according to the class), design students are stressed about studio, have a lot of free time, are often mistaken for homeless because they don’t sleep or shower, are good at math, and are hipsters. Engineering students are all men, socially awkward, think highly of themselves, have rigorous classes, and hate designers. Natural resources students are all about grass management, are treehuggers, have an easy course load, and are engineering drop outs. It’s a good thing we identified the classroom as a “safe place,” and they seemed to enjoy the exercise!!

—Traci Rider

SBSE CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>World SB14 Conference/Barcelona, Spain</td>
<td>Oct 28–30</td>
<td>Barcelona, Spain</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MACDES 2014 Tercer Congreso Internacional/Habana, Cuba</td>
<td>Nov 24–28</td>
<td>Habana, Cuba</td>
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<td></td>
<td>PLEA 2014/Ahmedabad, India</td>
<td>Dec 16–18</td>
<td>Ahmedabad, India</td>
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<td>2015</td>
<td>Climate Change in the Tropics Conference/Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
<td>Mar 30–31</td>
<td>Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>ARCC Research Conference/Chicago, Illinois, United States</td>
<td>Apr 6–9</td>
<td>Chicago, Illinios, United States</td>
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<td>SimAUD Spring Simulation Conference/Washington, DC, United States</td>
<td>Apr 12–15</td>
<td>Washington, DC, United States</td>
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<td>AIA Convention/Atlanta, Georgia, United States</td>
<td>May 14–16</td>
<td>Atlanta, Georgia, United States</td>
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<td></td>
<td>International Building Physics Conference/Torino, Italy</td>
<td>Jun 14–17</td>
<td>Torino, Italy</td>
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<td></td>
<td>SBSE Retreat: Regions and Localities/Highlands, North Carolina, United States</td>
<td>Jun 16–19</td>
<td>Highlands, North Carolina, United States</td>
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WINTER ISSUE SUBMITTAL DEADLINE—DECEMBER 1

SBSE NEWS
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TO: SBSE MEMBERS & FRIENDS
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OUR 2 CENTS
WASLEY MAIL