

ROBERT L WILLIAMS AIA

Department of Architecture
University of Massachusetts Amherst
345 Olver Design Building, 551 North Pleasant Street
Amherst, MA 01003
roblwilliams@umass.edu

EDUCATION

- 2010 **M.Arch with Honors**
Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
Henry Adams Gold Medal AIA National: top-ranked graduating student, 2010
Henry D. Fernandez Award for Excellence in History and Theory, 2010
Department of Architecture Alumni Travel Award, Honorable Mention, 2009
- 2005 **Bachelor of Arts, Magna cum Laude**
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
Major: Physics; Philosophy
Paul and Irving Tanner Dean's Scholar, 2001-2005

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Massachusetts Amherst, Department of Architecture

Assistant Professor, 2020-present

Visiting Full-time Lecturer, 2019-2020

Rhode Island School of Design, Department of Architecture

Teaching Assistant, Design for Development, Elizabeth D. Hermann, Winter 2010

Lead Teaching Assistant, Design Principles, Thomas Gardner, Fall 2009

Teaching Assistant, Architectural Design Principles, Anastasia Congdon, Spring 2008

Teaching Assistant, Design Principles, Olga Mesa, Fall 2008

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Registered Architect, Commonwealth of Massachusetts. License #951531, 2018-present

Certified Passive House Consultant (CPHC), Passive House Institute US (PHIUS), 2019-present

American Institute of Architects (AIA), 2019-present

PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS

Truth Box Architects, Providence, RI

Architect/Consultant, 2019-present

Architect & Project Manager, 2013-2019

from-in-form design/build, Providence, RI

Architectural Designer, 2013-2014

Stempel Form Architects PC, Virgin, UT

Architectural Designer, 2011-2013

Design Intern, Summer 2008

Business Innovation Factory, Providence, RI
Design Lead, 2010-2011

3six0 Architects, Providence, RI
Design Intern, Summer 2009

PROFESSIONAL & ACADEMIC MEMBERSHIPS

Member, Passive House Alliance (PHAUS), since 2020

Member, Building Technology Educators Society (BTES), since 2020

Member, American Institute of Architects (AIA), Western Massachusetts, since 2019

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

1. 2022 **Western Massachusetts AIA Honor Award (top award)**
Project: 1492 Westminster Street Passive House
With Truth Box Architects
2. 2022 **Rhode Island AIA Honor Award in Sustainable Architecture (top award)**
Project: 1492 Westminster Street Passive House
With Truth Box Architects
3. 2020 **Most Innovative Design Award**
Massachusetts Clean Energy Center; Triple Decker Design Challenge
Project: (re)Facing the Future
With Ajla Aksamija and Travis Anderson
4. 2020 **Western Massachusetts AIA Honor Award (top award)**
Project: Cranston Street Redevelopment
With Truth Box Architects

PUBLICATIONS: PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS AND CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

1. To appear 2024. (With N. Darling, A. Darvish, D. Picciotto, C. Fiocchi, and K. Hicks). "Design for Embodied Carbon and Operational Carbon Impacts: A Case-Study of a University-Based Design-Build Program". In *ACSA/AIA Intersections Research Conference Proceedings: Material Economies*, October 19-21, Amherst, MA.
2. 2023. "Relationships between Embodied, Operational, and Life Cycle Carbon in Passive House Multifamily Residential Buildings". *Journal of Green Building* 18 no 3 (Fall): 81-103.
3. 2023. (With Jordan Kanter). "From Integration to Embodiment: An evolving approach to teaching design and building technology", In *Proceedings of the Building Technology Educators Society 2023 Conference. Beyond the Artifact: Constructability, Complexity, and Constraints*, June 1-4, 2023, Tempe AZ.
4. 2023. "Boxed-In: Comparative Analysis of the Environmental Performance of Recycled Shipping Containers". In *111th Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting Proceedings: In Commons*, March 30 – April 1, 2023, St. Louis, MO, 34-40. <https://doi.org/10.35483/ACSA.AM.111.5>

5. 2022. "Ghosts of Borges: The Evolving Role of Scale in Architectural Imagination, Representation, and Building" in *Blatant: Latent: Proceedings of the 37th National Conference on the Beginning Design Student (NCBDS)*, April 1-2, 2022, Ball State University Muncie, IN.
6. 2022. "Backyard Carbon Sinks: A prototype for a net-negative carbon accessory dwelling unit". In *110th Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting Proceedings: Empower*, May 19-20, 2022, virtual.
7. 2021. (With Carl Fiocchi). "The Hygge House: design-build as a model for interdisciplinary and integrative architectural education", In *109th Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting Proceedings: Expanding the View*, March 24-26, 2021.

PUBLICATIONS: PEER-REVIEWED CONFERENCE POSTERS AND ABSTRACTS

1. 2022. "Accessory Carbon Units". In *Resilient City: Physical, Social, and Economic Perspectives, Proceedings of the ARCC-EAAE International Conference*, March 2-5, 2022, Florida International University, Miami FL, 779.
2. 2021. "Redevelopment of 95 Cranston Street: Innovative Models for Sustainable Urban Development". In *Proceedings of the 52nd Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association. EDRA52 Detroit: Just Environments: Transdisciplinary border crossings*, May 19-23, 2021, Detroit MI (virtual).
3. 2020. (With Carey Clouse). "Sustainable Communities in a Warming World: Developing Interdisciplinary Design Studios to Address Climate Change and Urban Communities". In *Proceedings of the 51st Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association*, April 4-7, 2020, Tempe AZ (virtual).

PRESENTATIONS: ACADEMIC CONFERENCES, PEER-REVIEWED

- 2023 (With N. Darling, A. Darvish, D. Picciotto, C. Fiocchi, and K. Hicks). "Design for Embodied Carbon and Operational Carbon Impacts: A Case-Study of a University-Based Design-Build Program". In *ACSA/AIA Intersections Research Conference Proceedings: Material Economies*, October 19-21, Amherst, MA.
- 2023 (With Jordan Kanter). "From Integration to Embodiment: An evolving approach to teaching design and building technology". Paper presented at *The Building Technology Educators Society 2023 Conference. Beyond the Artifact: Constructability, Complexity, and Constraints*, June 1-4, 2023, Tempe AZ.
- 2023 "Boxed-In: Comparative Analysis of the Environmental Performance of Recycled Shipping Containers". Project presented at *111th Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting: In Commons*, March 30 – April 1, 2023, St. Louis, MO.
- 2022 "Backyard Carbon Sinks: A prototype for a net-negative carbon accessory dwelling unit". Project presented at *110th Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting Proceedings: Empower*, May 19-20, 2022, Virtual.
- 2022 "Ghosts of Borges: The Evolving Role of Scale in Architectural Imagination, Representation, and Building". Paper presented at *37th National Conference on the Beginning Design Student (NCBDS): Blatant: Latent*, April 1-2, 2022, Ball State University Muncie, IN.

- 2022 "Accessory Carbon Units". Poster presented at *Resilient City: Physical, Social, and Economic Perspectives, ARCC-EAAE International Conference, March 2-5, 2022*, Florida International University, Miami FL.
- 2021 "Redevelopment of 95 Cranston Street: Innovative Models for Sustainable Urban Development". Poster presented at *52nd Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association. EDRA52 Detroit: Just Environments: Transdisciplinary border crossings, May 19-23, 2021*, Detroit MI, Virtual.
- 2021 (With Carl Fiocchi). "The Hygge House: design-build as a model for interdisciplinary and integrative architectural education". Project Presented at *109th Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Annual Meeting: Expanding the View, March 24-26, 2021*, Virtual.
- 2021 (With Carl Fiocchi). "The Hygge House: An Alternative Model for Interdisciplinary Design-Build Courses". Presentation at the *The Building Technology Educators' Society 2021 National Meeting, June 10-12, 2021*, Auburn University (virtual).
- 2020 (With Carey Clouse). "Sustainable Communities in a Warming World: Developing Interdisciplinary Design Studios to Address Climate Change and Urban Communities". Abstract Presentation at *51st Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association, April 4-7, 2020*, Tempe AZ (virtual).

PRESENTATIONS: ACADEMIC GUEST LECTURES & INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 Williams, Robert. "The Passive House Paradox: Operational, Embodied, and Life-Cycle Carbon Emissions in Passive House Multifamily Buildings". Presentation at the UMass Department of Architecture Faculty Research Symposium, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. March 2023.
- 2023 Williams, Robert. "Introduction to Green Building and Sustainable Architecture". Guest lecture in Undergraduate Design IV, Department of Architecture, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. March 2023.
- 2022 Williams, Robert and Ray Mann. "Accessing Accessory Dwelling Units". Presentation at the UMass Department of Architecture Faculty Research Symposium, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. March 2022.
- 2019 Williams, Robert. "Parcel 6 Redevelopment Proposal". Presentation at the UMass Department of Architecture Faculty Research Symposium, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA. Fall 2019.

GRANTS & FUNDED RESEARCH

- | | | |
|------|--|--------|
| 2023 | UMass Department of Architecture - ARC Seed Grant
Project: 6-Axis Robot Fabrication
Co-investigator: Jordan Kanter | \$3000 |
| 2023 | Mutual Mentoring Team Grant
Project: Building Technology Educators Advancing Mentoring (B-TEAM)
Co-investigators: Caryn Brause, Jordan Kanter, & Ray Mann | \$5950 |

2022	UMass FlexLearning Fellowship Project: Expanding Flexible Learning for Professional Development in Architectural Education. Co-Investigators: Jordan Kanter	\$29,600
	UMass Department of Architecture - ARC Seed Grant Project: By Right: assessing and addressing the barriers to accessory dwelling unit construction in the Northeast. Co-investigator: Ray Mann	\$3000
	Center for Teaching and Learning - FLEX Grant	\$500
2021	Faculty Research Grant Project: Green, Greener, Greener: A comparative analysis of energy efficiency and carbon impact in Passive House multifamily residential buildings	\$16,248
	Mutual Mentoring Micro Grant	\$1300
	Massachusetts Society of Professors – Research Support Fund	\$1000
	Center for Teaching and Learning - FLEX Grant	\$500
2020	Massachusetts Society of Professors – Research Support Fund Center for Teaching and Learning - FLEX Grant	\$1000 \$500
2019	Massachusetts Society of Professors – Research Support Fund Center for Teaching and Learning - FLEX Grant	\$1000 \$500
2011	Finalist, Rose Architectural Fellowship, Yakima, WA.	
2010	Finalist/Alt., Fulbright U.S. Grant. “Conflicting Ecologies in the Canadian Arctic”.	

BUILT STUDENT & RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2023 **The Paper House, UMass DesignBuild.**
550 square foot Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) designed and built by the UMass DesignBuild team for OneHolyoke Community Development Corporation, a not-for-profit affordable housing provider in Holyoke, MA. ADU is designed to be net-zero energy and low-carbon, and features novel biogenic material-based envelope assemblies.
- 2022 **The Hygge House, UMass DesignBuild.**
350 square foot Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) designed and built by the UMass DesignBuild team for OneHolyoke Community Development Corporation, a not-for-profit affordable housing provider in Holyoke, MA. ADU is designed to be net-zero energy and low-carbon, and features novel biogenic material-based envelope assemblies.
- 2022 **Container House**
UMass students in my Arch 597ST: Shipping Container Housing Design research seminar (Spring 2022) collaboratively designed a small house based on a single, upcycled shipping container. Their proposal, accompanied by design development drawings, was constructed by a separate student and instructor team at the Yestermorrow Design/Build school in Vermont in Summer 2022.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Selected work completed through independent practice.

- 2022 **Low Energy Lake House.** Single Family residence, new construction, Western MA. Schematic design, in collaboration with East Branch Homes.
- 2021 **Net-Zero Carbon Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU).** Pre-fab, new construction. Location TBD. In collaboration with East Branch Homes.

Selected work completed as Architect and/or Project Manager with Truth Box Architects

- 2023 **Flat Hills Passive House.** Single family, PHIUS certified, new construction. Amherst, MA.
- 2022 **Parcel 6.** Mixed-use development. New construction. Providence, RI (design lead).
- 2021 **1492 Westminster Passive House.** 7-unit mixed-use housing, PHIUS pre-certified, new construction, Providence, RI.
- 2019 **Upton Residences.** 30-unit multifamily housing, new construction, Providence, RI.
- 2018 **Urban Greens Grocery Coop.** Grocery store, new construction, Providence, RI.
- 2017 **101 Hillside Housing.** 22-unit multifamily housing, adaptive re-use, Providence, RI.

CITATIONS AND RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONAL & CREATIVE WORK

- 2023 "Western Mass Design Awards 2020", Western Massachusetts AIA Newsletter, Winter. Project: 1492 Westminster Passive House (with Truth Box Architects).
- 2021 Cover Image, Western Massachusetts AIA Newsletter, Winter 2021. Project: 93 Cranston Street Redevelopment (with Truth Box Architects).
- 2021 "Western Mass Design Awards 2020", Western Massachusetts AIA Newsletter, Winter. Project: 93 Cranston Street Redevelopment (with Truth Box Architects).
- 2021 Massachusetts Clean Energy Center Triple Decker Energy Efficiency Challenge Press Release, February 26, 2021. <https://www.masscec.com/press/baker-polito-administration-announces-awardees-triple-decker-energy-efficiency-challenge>
Project: (re)Facing the Future
- 2021 Massachusetts Clean Energy Triple Decker Design Challenge Competition Website, <https://www.masscec.com/program/triple-decker-design-challenge>
Project: (re)Facing the Future

TEACHING

- 2023 FALL Analysis & Representation I
Undergraduate Design Studio III
- 2023 SPRING Tectonics I
UMass DesignBuild DESIGN Studio
- 2022 FALL Analysis & Representation I
Undergraduate Design Studio III

2022 SPRING	Graduate Design Studio IV Shipping Container Housing Design
2021 FALL	Analysis & Representation I UMass Honors College Seminar: Shades of Green
2021 SPRING	Undergraduate Design Studio III Graduate Design Studio II
2020 Fall	Analysis & Representation I Undergraduate Design Studio V
2020 Spring	Undergraduate Design Studio II Graduate Design Studio II
2019 Fall	Integration Studio Graduate Design Studio III

Graduate Thesis Advising: Committee Chair

2023	Zach Lefever. "Sustainable Architecture in Athletics: Using Mass Timber in an Old-Fashioned Field".
2023	Hannah Campbell. "Designing for the Unhoused: Finding Innovative and Transformative Solutions to Housing".
2023	Patsun Lillie. "Off-grid Living for the Normative Society: Shifting Perception and Perspectives by Design".
2022	Megan Futscher, "Beneficial Invasive: A Rhizomatic Approach to Utilizing Local Bamboo for COVID Responsive Educational Spaces".
2021	Aleesa Asfoura. "Creating New Cultural Hubs in American Cities: The Syrian Diaspora of Worcester, Massachusetts".
2021	Nate Lumen. "An Architecture of a New Story".
2020	Hitali Gondaliya. "Architectural Agency through Real Estate Development".
2020	Tyler O'Neil. "The Built Environment and Well-Being: Designing for Well-Being in Post-Industrial Communities During the Age of Urbanization".

Graduate Thesis Advising: Committee Member

2023	Richard Marcil. "Refreshing Refinery: An Analysis of Victorian Architecture and How to Translate its Elements for Contemporary Architecture".
------	---

Independent Studies

2023 Fall	Tyler Young, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 2 credits.
-----------	--

- Naiti Mewada, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Yirkelys Santana Che, Arch. Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Jeyestha Naval, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Emmit Varitimos, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 1 credit.
 Freya Johnsen, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 2 credits.
- 2023 Spring Tyler Young, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Emmit Varitimos, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Zach Lefever, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Russell Call, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Palmer Berry, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Viraja Bhosale, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Leahna Augustin, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
- 2022 Fall Connor Tiches, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Riya Premani, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Tanisha Kalra, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
- 2022 Spring Molly Clark, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
- 2021 Fall Molly Clark, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Micaela Goodrich, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Alex Stoicheff, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 Megan Futscher, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
- 2021 Spring Cami Quinteros, Toronto Affordable Housing Competition, 1 credit.
 Connor Slover, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
 David Fite, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
- 2020 Fall Jake Paige, Advanced 3D modelling and Rendering with Rhino, 3 credits.
 David Fite, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.
- 2020 Spring David Fite, Architectural Registration Exam prep (IPAL program), 3 credits.

RECOGNITION AND CITATIONS OF STUDENT WORK

- 2023 "Hammer Time: How Students, Faculty, Local Businesses, and Holyoke's Community Development Corporation are Teaming Up to Fight the Housing Crisis. UMass College of Humanities and Fine Arts News. October 2, 2023. <https://www.umass.edu/humanities-arts/news/designbuild-2023>
- 2023 Belmont, Monty and Kaliis Smith. "LIVE from Green River Festival". The Fabulous 413 on New England Public Radio (radio appearance). <https://www.nepm.org/podcast/the-fabulous-413/2023-06-27/live-from-green-river-festival>
- 2022 "Getting Hygge With It At the Green River Festival". UMass News Webpage and Inside UMass Newsletter. July 12, 2022. <https://www.umass.edu/news/article/getting-hygge-it-green-river-festival>

- 2022 "UMass students' design-build gets festival premiere before being donated to Holyoke". Hampshire Daily Gazette, June 23, 2022.

- 2022 Belmont, Monty. "The HyggeHaus at The Green River Festival". WSRI, June 13, 2022.
<https://wrsi.com/monte/the-hyggehaus-at-the-green-river-festival/>

- 2022 Western Massachusetts AIA Student Scholarship
Connor Tiches, Graduate Design IV Studio: Diplomacy Lab

SERVICE TO THE DEPARTMENT & UNIVERSITY

- 2021 – present **Department of Architecture Lecture Series Coordinator**
- 2019 – present **Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) Coordinator & Advisor**
- 2022 – present **Design Building Technology Committee**
- 2019 – present **Undergraduate Faculty Advisor**, Department of Architecture
- 2019 – present **M.Arch Thesis Committee**, Department of Architecture
- 2023 – present **UMass ADVANCE Faculty Fellow**
- 2022 – present **Freedom by Design Faculty Advisor**
- 2021 – 2022 **Faculty Search Committee**, Department of Architecture
Resulted in tenure track hire.
- 2021 – 2022 **Strategic Plan Committee**, Department of Architecture
- 2020 – 2021 **Undergraduate Curriculum Committee**, Department of Architecture
- 2019 – 2021 **Undergraduate Admissions Committee**, Department of Architecture

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

- 2023 **External Reviewer (invited)**, Architecture Thesis Reviews, Department of Architecture, Cornell University. December 7, 2023.

- 2022 **Peer Reviewer**, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture ACSA111 Annual Meeting.
- 2022 **External Reviewer (invited)**, Arch 3010: Circulation Desk (instructor: Ben Small), Department of Architecture, University of Virginia, December 8, 2022.
- 2022 **External Reviewer (invited)**, Arch 3010: An Urban Domestic Scenography (instructor: Maria Gonzalez-Aranguren), Department of Architecture, University of Virginia, December 8, 2022.
- 2022 **External Reviewer (invited)**, Arch 2010: Responsive Space (instructor: Chen Cheng), Department of Architecture, University of Virginia, December 9, 2022.
- 2022 **External Reviewer (invited)**, Arch 2010: Responsive Space (instructor: Kyle Sturgeon), Department of Architecture, University of Virginia, December 8, 2022.

- 2021 **Peer Reviewer**, Environmental Design Association Research Conference. EDRA52: Detroit
- 2021 **Peer Reviewer**, ACSA/AIA Intersections Research Conference: COMMUNITIES
- 2021 **Peer Reviewer (invited)**, Technology: Architecture + Design (TAD) Journal

- 2019 **Peer Reviewer (invited)**, Journal of Architectural Education
- 2019 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Arch 225ED - Environmental Principles (instructor: Naomi Darling), Mount Holyoke College.
- 2019 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Thesis Jury Panel, Department of Architecture, UMass Amherst.

- 2018 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Arch 600: Grad Design Studio III (instructor: Kathleen Lugosch), Department of Architecture, UMass Amherst.
- 2018 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Arch 400: Design Studio III (instructor: Stephen Schreiber), Department of Architecture, UMass Amherst.
- 2018 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Arch 301: Design Studio II, Department of Architecture, UMass Amherst.
- 2018 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Urban Systems Studio (instructor: Elizabeth Dean Hermann), Department of Landscape Architecture, Rhode Island School of Design.
- 2017 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Graduate Studio (instructor: Jack Ryan), School of Architecture, Roger Williams University.
- 2015 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Advanced Studio (instructor: Elizabeth Dean Hermann), Department of Landscape Architecture, Rhode Island School of Design.
- 2015 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Urban Design Principles (instructor: Manuel Cordero), Department of Architecture, Rhode Island School of Design.
- 2014 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Arch 114: Design Studio II (instructor: Rachel Stopka), School of Architecture, Roger Williams University.
- 2013 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Design for Development (instructor: Elizabeth Dean Hermann), Department of Architecture, Rhode Island School of Design.
- 2013 **External Reviewer (invited)**. Urban Design Principles (instructor: Gabriel Feld), Department of Architecture, Rhode Island School of Design.