

FALL 2023

Thursdays, 4:30pm
170 Design Building

09/07 Joel Mills
09/14 Christian Gabriel
09/21 Blake Belanger
09/28 Xiang (Jacob) Yan
10/05 Simon Bussiere
10/11 Special Event
10/26 Julie Bargmann
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ZUBE LECTURES



UMass Amherst **LA&RP**
Landscape Architecture
& Regional Planning



09/07

THE FUTURE OF URBANISM IS DEMOCRATIC

Joel Mills

Senior Director for Design Assistance,
The Architects Foundation

Global population growth and urbanization are putting enormous stress on our civilization, fueling a host of cascading crises from climate change to housing; health to inequality. As a result, major planning and design initiatives have seen a marked increase in conflict, controversy, and mistrust. In this Zube lecture talk, Joel Mills draws from his international planning experiences, concluding that the future of urbanism must be democratic if we are to succeed in this century. We must build collaborative platforms to reinvigorate public work and civic leadership.

Watch the Recording.

JOEL MILLS

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09/14

EVOLUTIONARY INFRASTRUCTURE

Christian Gabriel, FASLA
Founder & Creative Director of
Public Nature Projects

The infrastructure we build and the combination of economic, environmental, and cultural services that infrastructure provides are 'evolutionary' by nature. Despite this, the field performance characteristics of the landscapes we build are seldom understood, and the evolutionary infrastructure we construct has relied largely on predicative assumptions. In this talk, Christian Gabriel provides insights on taking green infrastructure to scale and elevating our collective ability to place greater primacy in living systems.

Watch the Recording.



Photo provided by Christian Gabriel



Photo provided by Blake Belanger

09/21

STORYTELLING IDEATION & AI:

Photomontage as a Creative Catalyst in Landscape Architecture & Urban Design

Blake Belanger, PLA, ASLA
Associate Professor of
Landscape Architecture and
Regional & Community Planning,
Kansas State University

Photomontage is one of the most pervasive forms of graphic communication in landscape architecture and urban design. In this lecture, Professor Belanger discusses how different methods of making photomontage can inspire imaginative thinking, particularly during the creative phases of incubation and insight.

Watch the Recording.

BLAKE BELANGER

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09/28

STRATEGIES FOR PROMOTING SHARED MICROMOBILITY TO COMPLEMENT PUBLIC TRANSIT

Xiang (Jacob) Yan
Assistant Professor,
Department of Civil & Coastal
Engineering,
University of Florida

The first and last-mile problem is a major deterrent to public transit use. With the rise of shared micromobility options, such as shared e-scooters, in recent years, there is a growing interest in exploring strategies to promote these options as a last-mile transit solution. In this talk, Professor Yan shares empirical insights derived from Washington DC that evidence the potential for public transit and shared micromobility integration.

Watch the Recording.



Photo provided by Xiang (Jacob) Yan



Photo provided by Simon Bussiere

10/05

CONCEPTS IN TRANSLATION

Simon Bussiere
Associate Professor of
Landscape Architecture and
Urban Ecological Design
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Conceptual Landscapes, edited by Simon Bussiere, grapples with the dilemma faced in the early moments of design thinking through a gradient of work in landscape and environmental design media by designers and educators of landscape architecture. In this Zube lecture, Professor Bussiere draws from this work to explore questions of *where* and, more importantly, *how* the process of design starts.

Watch the Recording.

SIMON BUSSIÈRE

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10/11

MINERVA PARKER: THE SEARCH FOR THE FORGOTTEN ARCHITECT

The UMass Amherst Department of Landscape Architecture & Regional Planning (LARP), the UMass Amherst Department of Architecture, the Zube Lecture Series, and the Smith College Program for the Study of Women & Gender launched "Minerva Parker Nichols: The Search for a Forgotten Architect" exhibit at the UMass Amherst Design Building.

To celebrate this exhibit opening, LARP Professor Michael Di Pasquale, together with Molly Lester and William Whitaker from the Weitzman School of Design at the University of Pennsylvania, give a new discussion on the life and archived work of Minerva Parker Nichols, the first independently-practicing female architect in the United States.

No Recording Available.



Photo by Dan Deutsch

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SPECIAL EVENT



Photo provided by Julie Bargmann

10/26

TOUGH SITES:

A Manifesto for Ugly Duckling Landscapes

Julie Bargmann
Founder of D.I.R.T Studio &
Professor Emeritus of
Landscape Architecture,
University of Virginia

Landscapes are hard; all messy and complex. Sites are entangled; many toxic and degraded. Neighborhoods are complicated; uniquely layered and wanting. To evoke the swan from tough sites, Julie Bargmann discusses how good design isn't enough. Environmental regeneration, social equity, savvy resourcefulness and sheer joy are required for landscape architects to work reciprocally with nature to revitalize ecologies and communities.

Watch the Recording.

JULIE BARGMANN

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11/2

HOUSING JUSTICE IN THE WEEDS:

**The Complications of Reducing
Housing Poverty and Insecurity
through Subsidized Housing in
the Context of Racial
Concentration and Exclusion**

Revel Sims
Assistant Professor,
Department of Planning &
Landscape Architecture,
University of Wisconsin

Professor Sims summarizes findings from several published and unpublished investigations on housing conditions within a Southern California neighborhood, and offers critical reflections on the question of housing justice.

Watch the Recording.



Photo provided by Revel Sims

11/9

LANDSCAPE DESIGN: BUILD: MAINTAIN

Matthew Benzie, ASLA, ISA
Certified Arborist,[©]
Owner of Indigenous Ingenuities

With an increased interest in native plants, stormwater management, and other ecological services, landscape architects are facing a new challenge: how to maintain built landscapes for long-term ecological success. Matthew Benzie shares his experience designing, building, maintaining, and rehabilitating landscapes with his company, Indigenous Ingenuities. A LARP alumnus, Benzie also shares his unique path after graduating from the UMass Landscape Architecture program in 2006.

Watch the Recording.

Photo provided by Matthew Benzie

MATTHEW BENZIE

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11/16

AFRICAN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Gareth Doherty, ASLA
Associate Professor of
Landscape Architecture,
Harvard Graduate School of Design

Based on landscape fieldwork across eleven African nations during 2022–23, Gareth Doherty speculates on the future of landscape architecture in Africa and the Global South. Eight African countries currently have a professional association of landscape architects, and forty-six do not. This raises fundamental questions about the role of experts and the importance of alternative professional arrangements in landscape architecture in African countries.

No Recording Available.



The Arch of the Flying Tortoise, Osun Sacred Grove, Osgobo, Nigeria: photo by Adolphus Opara



Photo provided by Blair Evans

11/30

DEVELOPING LOCAL RESILIENCE THROUGH COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTERS ANCHORED BY DIGITAL FABRICATION

Blair Evans

Founder & Director of Incite Focus

In the context of climate change disasters, pandemics, and growing political, economic, and social divide, it is critical for local communities to develop greater resilience and strengthen their ability to meet their own needs. Blair Evans is at the cutting edge of this work, combining the technology for local, community-based production with the recognition that this process is also about "growing" people to realize their full human potential.

Watch the Recording.

BLAIR EVANS

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