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By Julie Lenczycki, Western Michigan University

As we close another successful year, it is good to reflect on what has happened in the previous. The Association of University Interior Designers has come a long way since its inception in 1979 when a few forward thinking interior designers formed our networking group. Today, AUID represents 61 universities, 104 members in 23 states and continue to add new members each year; many of whom were at this year’s fall conference at University of Illinois.

As we look forward and study how we communicate with each other; I count my blessings to have email, the internet and our own AUID intranet that we use as a research tool, bounce ideas and sometimes commiserate together because nobody else understands. Each of us brings a wealth of knowledge back to our own university just by being a member and attending our fall conference. Look at how many times you personally have shared information gained from this great association and how many colleagues do you have that you only see for 3 days per year yet know them like a close personal friend?

Members of AUID may not be educators in the teaching of young people sense but we educate everyone we have contact with on a daily basis. As Interior Designers we educate our campus clients, administrators and each other on code changes, product life cycles and pedagogy trends. It is this knowledge base that AUID members share and make AUID what it is today – another valuable tool in our back pocket.
2011–2012 AU&ID Board Members

Back Row, Left to Right: Julie Lenczycki, Western Michigan University – President
                       Kristi Koch, University of Texas – Director at Large
                       Elspeth Brown, The University of Central Oklahoma - 1st Vice President
                       Terri Smith-Wright, Purdue University – Secretary
                       Kris Willis, John Carroll University – Director at Large
                       Cindy Howe, Iowa State University – Past President

Front Row, Left to Right: Kenna Webber, University of Missouri – Historian
                         Alicia Kelly-Stryker, Georgia Tech – Publicist
                         Mary Lee Schott, Northern Kentucky University – Director at Large
                         Jessica Brownfield, University of Missouri – Director at Large
                         Carlos Lugo, The Ohio State University – Treasurer
                         Debi Miller, University of Kentucky – 2nd Vice President (Not In Photo)
By Elspeth Brown, The University of Central Oklahoma

Known for its beautiful grounds, its acronymic buildings, its ability to accommodate students with disabilities, and its leading innovations in green building design, The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was the host for the 2011 Association of University Interior Designers Annual Conference. Attendants met at the University of Illinois from October 10 – 13th for four days filled with continuing education, tours of the campus buildings, and of course networking and collaboration. Highlights from the conference as well as the winners of the design competition are highlighted in this newsletter.
By Leslie Strong, Stanford University

Wayne Shaw, architect from Housing Facilities Planning, graced us with an overview of University of Illinois from a planning, architectural and historical perspective. The University began in 1867 and currently serves over 30,000 students in graduate and undergraduate studies. Housing serves about 8500 undergraduates and 2000 graduate students. Historical buildings are Georgian with contemporary buildings with Georgian influence integrating a continuously growing and changing campus. U of I’s strengths lie in its 17 colleges including agriculture, medicine, engineering, architecture and veterinary medicine. Strong emphasis in campus research is in science and engineering. The campus includes museums, sports facilities, performing arts centers as well as wonderful programs and services for people with disabilities. The Fighting Illini certainly have a beautiful home, rich academic, and athletic traditions to be proud of.
Business Instructional Facility (BIF)
Our first tour of the 2011 AUID Conference at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign was of their new Business Instructional Facility. Mr. Tracy McCabe served as our tour guide. The Business Instructional Facility (BIF) is certified as a Platinum LEED building, the highest ranking possible of the U.S. Green Building Council’s certification program. It is the first such building at any public business school in the world and one of only fifteen platinum certified buildings in Illinois. This impressive facility provides over 160,000 square feet of state-of-the-art classroom space, career development and academic counseling centers, a large auditorium, student program offices, and spaces for students to meet and study. The $65M facility was built with no state assistance, but with corporate donations and university financing.

The first major space we toured was Deloitte Auditorium, a beautiful 300-seat auditorium with exceptional acoustical design. Mr. McCabe noted it is one of the quietest classrooms on campus because students will refrain from talking too loud or too much because even whispering can be heard from one side of the room to the other and from the stage to the back of the room. The delightful ceiling design and wood panel wall treatment were excellent design features. The tour moved on to various classrooms, both lecture auditorium style and flat flooring rooms, with no more than 70 students in each classroom. Distance learning is available in all classrooms.
The building runs on sensors for many features, such as daylighting (large shades will move up/down as programmed by the building system), the mechanical system (80% of the air is recycled), lights, etc. It was interesting to note the busiest hours of building utilization is between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m. on Sunday evenings. Many group studies are going on then!

Mr. McCabe noted that it has been expensive to maintain this platinum green building. One such item they have found is that it is hard to take care of the walls due to the paint specified for the project. However, this will not stop them from recertifying the building to maintain their platinum level in the future. Way to go!!
Huff Hall
As usual, furniture inspections were ongoing at the conference.

*Taken from conference guide*
Originally constructed in 1924 as the primary athletic facility at the University of Illinois, Huff Hall is now the home to the College of Applied Health Sciences. More than 24,000 square feet of state-of-the-art classroom, research, conference, and office facilities have been added to Huff Hall’s north side. The addition will house the Center for Health, Aging, and Disability and the Master of Public Health degree program, and serves as the hub of vibrant, interdisciplinary research and education efforts aimed toward improving the health, wellness, and quality of life needs of a diverse society.
Keith Gray, engineer /scientist and director of the healthcare and education for the Mohawk flooring group offered a one hour credit for AIA and IDCEC approved CEU course. The one hour session focused on how flooring affects human performance and facility performance in the education environment. The research included acoustics, indoor air quality, ergonomics, safety, infectious disease control, air quality and maintenance. Carpet, rubber and vinyl flooring were compared in the research.

Carpet was shown in many areas to be the best flooring choice in much of the research that was shared by Keith. Carpet is less timely to maintain than VCT and therefore larger areas of flooring can be cleaned on a regular basis. This then goes on to improve the life cycle cost of the carpet which according to IICRC has 52% less ownership cost. The facility looks better for a longer time and also contributes to other positives of having carpet for the flooring in a facility.

Air quality is better with carpet for flooring due to air particles and allergens that get trapped in the pile of the carpet and are not in the breathing zone. A carpeted floor is also less likely to cause injury when someone falls. A person will be 29% more likely to be injured falling on a hard surface floor versus a carpeted floor.

In a class room setting for example, carpet is also a better flooring choice for acoustical reasons. Carpet is better at lowering background noise, increases speech recognition and absorption of loud noises. Better acoustics was shown to increase teacher performance as well as improving student outcomes. Carpet from a comfort standpoint is also better for the user. Leg fatigue and heel spurs are less likely to occur when a teacher for example is standing on carpet in the classroom.

So according to the research presented by Keith, carpet is the best flooring choice for aesthetic reasons as well as the health and safety of the people occupying the educational facility.
In addition to the physical design elements of individual student rooms, all residents of Nugent Hall have direct access to the new Student Dining and Residential Programs Building. The SDRP offers students a 24 hour Learning Commons, comprised of both the computer lab and Residence Hall Library; 3 different dining options, classroom and general purpose space, a large multi-purpose banquet room, a cardio room and TV lounge. The SDRP is also home to the Student Leadership suite offering office space for registered student organizations; office and resource spaces for professional and paraprofessional staff; and 4 music practice rooms.
In the fall of 2010 the University of Illinois opened its first new residence hall in over 40 years. This newest residence hall is named for Timothy J. Nugent, founder of Disability Resources and Educational Services. The vision for this new partnership was to maintain what is best about Beckwith, and to expand and broaden the opportunities and experiences of Beckwith-supported residents within a larger university context.

The second phase of Nugent Hall is expected to be completed summer 2012. The east-west wing will be five stories (including a wall of glass known as the “lantern”), and the north-south wing will be four stories. There will also be more lounges, many of them with abundant natural light and great street views. Overall, the addition will add 250 beds, new area desks, and staff offices. –

**Beckwith Program at Nugent Hall**

*By Sara Powell, Spelman College*

The Beckwith Program is a unique and innovative front runner in residence hall living and college transitioning for students with special physical needs. The brand new wing of Nugent Hall has dedicated is first floor to this program. State of the art ceiling mounted lifts allow students the freedom to maneuver around their rooms independently out of their wheelchair. Semi-customizable furniture gives the residents the flexibility to create a space that works for them not against them. Students have embraced this program and were critical to the outcome throughout the planning stages offering guidance and input for the designers. The success of this design is clearly evident in how easy the residents are able to maneuver around without the need for assistance. Particular attention was paid to the level of design and finish so that it is cohesive with the remainder of the building.
Mr. Gary Miller, Associate Director of Campus Recreation, led the AUIC tour of the Activities and Recreation Center (ARC) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The 340,000 square feet facility receives approximately 1.7 million visitors annually. The original facility opened in 1971 with the recent renovation being completed in August, 2008.

The ARC facilities are available to the Student, Faculty and Staff population of the campus for a monthly fee of $32.00. The amenities include a 35 foot climbing wall, which has also served as a venue for children's birthday parties; a 1/5 mile indoor, 'backwards 'L' shaped track; two 50meter swimming pools; 35 person sauna; twelve racquetball courts; hundreds of machines and weights that include the popular free weight areas; four gymnasiums; nine multi-purpose areas that serve everything from Student Organizations to wedding receptions; an instructional kitchen; a 150 seat auditorium that serves as a movie theater when the Housing Department sponsors movie nights, as well as for the University of Illinois Wellness Center, a Courtside Cafe and three meeting rooms.

Mr. Miller called our attention to the entrance design of the large barrel vault ceiling that allowed the ARC to define 'Green Hours', from approximately 6:30 AM to 4:30 PM daily. One third of the lights that are computer controlled / timed are switched off during those hours to conserve energy. With this schedule the ARC realizes a utility savings of approximately $12,000 per month.

An interesting challenge facing the design / construction team while trying to meet the ARC 'opening deadline' involved the railing around the indoor track. Three days from opening it was discovered the original railing was too low to meet life safety code requirements. The Above Finished Floor (AFF) dimension was taken prior to the rubber track flooring being installed. Three crews worked approximately 28 straight hours to remedy the challenge by adding another section of hand rails at the top of the design.

Mr. Miller reiterated the University of Illinois' charge to "recruit and educate every student in the University experience" is accomplished, in part, due to the success of the Activities and Recreation Center availability to the student population, faculty, staff and surrounding communities.
Krannert Center for the Performing Arts (KCPA)

By Becky Owens, Georgia Perimeter College

Krannert Center is the result of the inspiring vision and philanthropy of Hermann and Ellnora Krannert. The first of its kind, Krannert is unique in its deep integration of education, research, and public engagement in an expansive and beautiful facility with full production and presenting capabilities. The Krannert Center houses four main theatres that seat from 200 to 2000 patrons and nine rehearsal and teaching studios, including a fully equipped digital color television studio, an advanced computer design center, professional design and technical ateliers, and production shops. Together these facilities support more than 350 performances annually, including resident productions of theatre, dance, and opera, as well as outside professional events.

Dedication of the space, in its entirety, was November 20, 1969. The Krannerts originally donated 16 million dollars, but later increased their donation to 21 million in order to ensure the project’s completion. Herman Charles Krannert graduated from the University of Illinois in 1912 with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering. In 1925, he founded the Inland Container Corporation, the third largest manufacturer of packaging materials in the world. His company was instrumental in the development of a process to produce corrugated cardboard. We were told that this background drove the design of the expansive ceiling in the main gathering spaces.

Playhouse Theater seats 679. The foyer for this spoken word theater, the Krannerts wanted a different atmosphere that would prepare the visitor for the theater experience. Acoustics are used to enhance the sound so there is no need to use microphones. The foyer art piece, Dedication to Grace, supposedly is designed to reflect your whispered words back to your clearly. Our guide still hasn’t found the right spot. Mrs. Krannert wanted to focus on the spoken word by creating a darker theater. The chairs are red and the walls black, which created the scene for these productions; typically depressing and sad. Continental seating is used; no isle with an increased distance between the rows allowed them to still meet fire code.

The teakwood flooring in the lobby is from Sri Lanka and Burma. It was the last full shipment allowed to America in 1968 and since then has been endangered. They have some replacement pieces for repairs but they whole floor cannot be replaced. The design is meant to emulate the look of Illinois (Midwest) from over head and can hold 4,000 visitors at once.
The Studio Theater, holds 200, and is a giant black box which is a moldable multi-function space. Stage Five was the bar area where we were later serenaded by cool styling’s of Elspeth Brown. This is used for after parties entertainment.

The Great Hall seats 2,079 people. This is an awesome and magnificent main theater space. We gazed out over the balcony as the tour guide described the specifications. Chairs are designed to absorb the same amount of sound full or vacant. Indiana Butternut was the species used and every effort was made to pick out the right wood to ensure the consistent symmetry throughout the space. They used symmetry to the extent of even trying to hide things that weren’t symmetrical. There are little to no 90 degree angels, so no sound gets lost. Real acoustic ceiling is 30 feet above the existing ceiling. Mrs. Krannert didn’t like the look of the original, so she had second ceiling installed. The tour guide was sure that all the finishes were original. Despite the enormous expanses of theater space, they are still struggling with storage. They have roughly 40,000 costumes that are stored onsite, in the VACANT organ room. All the production spaces are down on the second level. All old pieces from the scene shop are given to the Fire Service Institute to use for their simulations. We all debated on how they change a light bulb.

Tyron Festival Theater seats 979 and considered to be modified continental seating. Built for specifically for Operas, the design eliminates echoes. There is a fly system that allows scenes to be stored up to two stories above the stage here and in the playhouse theater. Very unique and allows for extra storage at the sides of the stage. White walls with red chairs, designed to set the mood for a happier style of production. All theaters are handicapped accessible. The floor is a painted concrete floor for added slip resistance for actors and performers when they enter from the audience. The lights can be arranged into any configuration and this is highly desirable for traveling shows.
The Gable House

By Kris Willis, John Carroll University

Designed and built by architecture, computer science, and industrial design students from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign as a competition entry to the 2009 Solar Decathlon, the Gable House is an example of Mid-western vernacular architecture melded with net-zero energy design and construction practices. The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency in partnership with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has sponsored the Solar Decathlon biennially since 2002 on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. The Gable House placed 2nd and is the second entry for the University of Illinois since the inception of the competition.

The 517 square-foot structure is framed with laminated bamboo, is constructed of exceedingly efficient, super insulated, and air-tight wall and roof systems, has innovative HVAC systems, and has a streamlined and simple floor plan. There are solar photovoltaic panels on the south facing roof, passive solar features with the orientation of the house, the glazing shading, and the orientation/placement of windows. The triple pane windows from Germany and the super insulated walls contribute to the minimal energy loss from the structure. Generating as much energy as consumed by the occupants of the house is the goal of a net-zero building. Net metering allows energy flow to be measured over the course of time. The house has earned certification as a Passive Home.

The interior is finished with materials considered to have sustainable features: recyclable cabinetry, linoleum and wood flooring, LED lighting, low/no VOC emitting painted walls, and furniture and artwork supplied by local craftsmen and sources. Appliances are all highly efficient in energy and water usage. The small nature of the combined living room, kitchen, and dining is made to feel larger with the height of the ceiling through the center of the house.
More information about the Solar Decathlon can be found at: http://www.solardecathlon.gov/about.html

The group was able to take a walking tour of campus to catch glimpses of some of the prominent historical buildings and landmarks of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Walking Tour

Wait a second….. is that the AUUD President making bunny ears for the camera?
Walking Tour – Illini Union
The highlight of the conference was the Alumni Center Conference Table – custom made by the University of Illinois carpenters.
The Illinois Fire Service Institute is the statutory fire academy for the state of Illinois. We met in the main conference room and got a brief history and overview of the design process from the Assistant Director Brian Brauer. We learned that in addition to training, the Institute offers DHS grant-approved technical rescue, HAZMAT and NIMS training, hands-on fire office training, online classes and conducts training throughout the state at Regional Training Centers and local fire stations.

The mission of the institute is to help firefighters do their work through training, education, information & research. Housed in these facilities there is a 2,774 square foot Library. The only library in the state dedicated to fire and emergency services. There is a 914 square foot Firefighter Memorial Hall & Museum at the main entrance. The 110 seat conference Center auditorium and adjoining conference room total 2,821 square foot. The auditorium is equipped with a 10G fiber Internet connection, live video transmission, digital recording facilities and simultaneous translation booths. This improved connectivity allows IFSI to expand their “Virtual Campus” globally offering live courses with blended learning programs that combine online activities with hands-on training and saving training expenses for fire departments. The Computer lab and IT center take up another 1,680 square feet. The research laboratory, not yet fully furnished is the remaining 3,580 square foot. On the lower level they have a 3,533 square foot Emergency Operations Training Center. It is designed as a training center incorporating the most advanced technologies for simulating an actual emergency operation center. Used primarily for training communities to train and test their emergency plans and response capabilities. In the event of an actual emergency this training facility would become an actual Emergency Response Command Center.

Furnishings in the building included; Hon Tables in the Computer Lab with Hon task chairs. The Auditorium had KI seating. Conference room chairs were Hon. There were Allsteel Relate 4 leg side chairs on casters at the study carrels and tables in the library. Systems furniture throughout the building was an Allsteel system.
We took a break from walking and held a round table discussion in the conference room of the Illinois Fire Service Institute. Since many of our roles are evolving to more project management, the question was posed about what people are using to manage projects. Many are using Microsoft SharePoint which allows you to set up websites, share information, manage documents and create reports that can help in the decision-making process. Everyone on an internal team can use it, but access can also be granted to external users. One of the advantages is that it is easy to pull up drawings rather than look through a cumbersome roll of drawings. Some thought that you need to know where you want to go before you set it up in order to make it more user friendly. Others thought there was a real learning curve to it, but since many architectural firms use it, they have been helpful in teaching clients how to use it effectively. Missouri noted that they have a SharePoint coordinator to help manage the system.

Others commented on the use of FTP sites but found them inefficient. Illinois uses PRISM which is proprietary to their university. Other software being used includes Trirega (Stanford) and Vela Systems (Northern Kentucky) which is field management software. Mary Lee Schott gave us a demonstration on her iPad to show how easy it is to do a punch list in the field.

This was a valuable discussion as we all learn to navigate different software that is helpful in project management.
The last night of the conference, all the attendees met to celebrate another great conference at the DESTIHL Brewery in Champaign, IL.
By Carlos Lugo, The Ohio State University

The last events of our conference included a short presentation by a local historian and a tour of the headquarters of the John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders Company. The local history presentation took place in the Atkinson Monument building which houses the offices of the Champaign County Convention and Visitor Bureau. The building, which dates from 1904, is considered one of the finest examples of Richardsonian Romanesque architecture in Champaign.

The city of Champaign has a population of 75,254. It was originally founded as West Urbana in 1855 when the Illinois Central Railroad laid its track two miles west from the center of the existing town of Urbana. West Urbana changed its name to Champaign in 1860 when the city acquired its city charter. The name reflects the place of origin of its original settlers, which was Champaign County in Ohio. The University of Illinois straddles both the towns of Champaign and Urbana.

The Buzard building is located in a historic building in downtown Champaign. The facility was originally built as the Women’s Town Club which served as a rooming house for single women in the early 20th century. The building had several tenants throughout its existence until the Buzard company acquired the property. Buzard started as a pipe organ restoration company and has since then added fabrication to their services. Their main clientele is religious institutions from across the entire country. They also work on the restoration of theater organs.

Buzard builds one or two organs per year. They fabricate all components in-house, except the pipes. The renovation projects usually involve dismantling entire pipe organs and surrounding wood wind boxes and paneling, and bringing them to the facility to have all the parts repaired or replaced. They are currently restoring the second oldest organ in the state of Illinois. The company has 15 persons on staff.

Our group was very fortunate to be able to tour the facility and learn about the process of renovation and fabrication of pipe organs. The work is done by true crafts people who take ownership and pride in their work. The level of detail and craftsmanship that we observed was impeccable and comparable to top grade millwork. For more information about this company and to listen to samples of organ music played in their instruments please go to http://buzardorgans.com/
Tour of Downtown Champaign

Who knew there was a button to go from Swell to Great?
Design Competition 2011 – Renovation Under $50,000

1st place - Switzler Hall Student Lounge
Designer: Cyndi S. Curnutte, University of Missouri

2nd place - Bill Brown Alumni Football Center
Designer: Sheri Harper, Western Michigan University

3rd place - Mumford Hall Men's Restroom
Designer: Cyndi S. Curnutte, University of Missouri
Design Competition 2011 – Renovation $50,000 - $150,000

1st place - Souls Family Visitors Center
Designer: Cindy Howe, Iowa State University

2nd place - School of Nursing, Student Commons Lounge
Designer: Cyndi S. Curnutte, University of Missouri

Right, Middle: 3rd place - Schneider Hall, MBA & Global Business Center
Designer: Sheri Harper, Western Michigan University

Right, Bottom: 3rd place - Moore Hall, Archeology Lab
Designer: Sheri Harper, Western Michigan University
Design Competition 2011 – Renovation Over $150,000

1st place - Davis Dining Hall
Design: Eleonora Philopoulos, Western Michigan University

2nd place - Busey Dining Hall
Design: Melissa Marriott, University of Illinois

3rd place - Kennedy Commons
Design: Lannetta Knotts, The Ohio State University
Design Competition 2011 – New Construction

1st place - MU Student Center
Designer: Tracy Schultz, University of Missouri

2nd place - Almetrius Duren Hall, Lobby and Formal Lounge
Designer: Kristi Koch, The University of Texas at Austin

3rd place - Huff Hall North Addition
Designer: Becky Franz, University of Illinois
Design Competition 2011 – Specialty

1st place - Gilmore Alumni House
Designer: Sheri Harper, Western Michigan University

2nd place - B-Hall Pediment
Designer: Kristi Koch, The University of Texas at Austin

3rd place - Station 88 Retail Store
Designer: Lannetta Knotts, The Ohio State University
Each year, two $1000 scholarships are awarded to interior design students at universities where AUID members are employed. Application forms are sent out each spring for AUID members to distribute to their interior design college. Please encourage your university’s Interior Design students to apply for the scholarship.

For more information on the Scholarship Recipients, please go to www.auid.org.
Upcoming Conferences

2012, October 9-12
University of Missouri

2013
University of Texas, Austin

2014
University of Memphis

Save the Date AUD

October 9-12, 2012

How do you synthesize?

The University of Missouri invites you to spend a few days in October with interior designers across the nation. Share your experiences synthesizing the needs of students, campus departments, community and the environment into comprehensive and innovative interior design.

Highlights of the conference include tours of:
- The brand new MU Student Center
- The nationally recognized Reynolds Journalism Institute
- The historic Tiger Hotel

More information including a schedule of events and information on attending the conference will be coming soon!

DESIGN SYNTHESIS

Blending student, campus, community and environmental needs with innovative design
Reminders

A few reminders for AUID Members:

1. Membership Dues are due by June 30, 2012.

2. Make sure to reserve your spot for the 2012 AUID Conference at the University of Missouri early! The block of rooms reserved for the conference will fill up.

3. When sending an email to the organization, make sure to add AUID in the subject line of the email.

4. When you are stressed by a project, all the rest of the AUID members are probably feeling the same way!

5. Smile. Everything will work out one way or another.