

## Sustainable Built Environment

The role of the research community in meeting UN SDGs

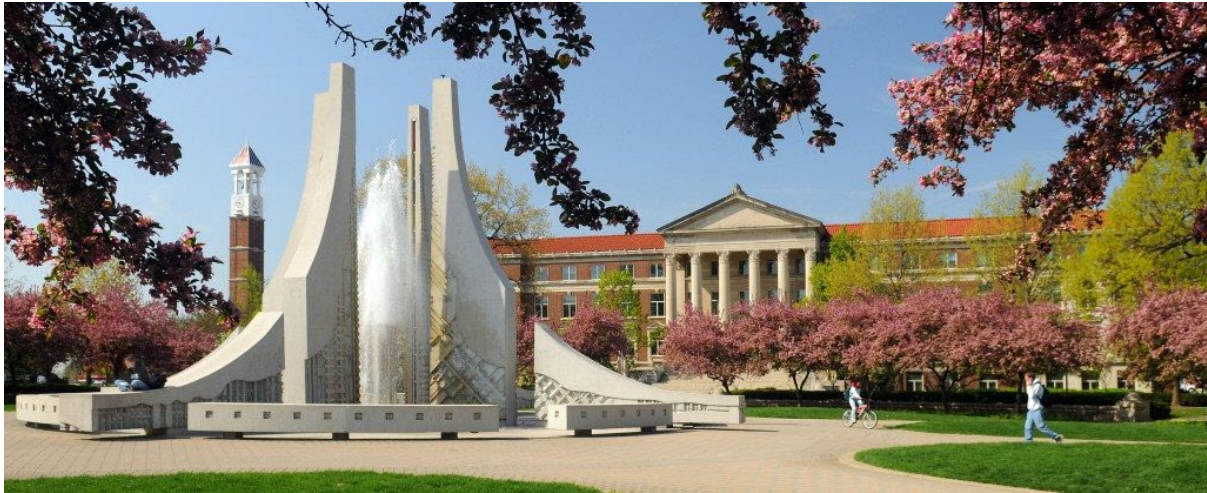


International Council  
for Research and Innovation  
in Building and Construction

## World Building Congress 2025 19 – 23 May

<https://cibworld.org/world-building-congress/>

Purdue University, USA



## Structure of the City: Designing for Today and Tomorrow Spatial Equity and Inclusiveness

### Joint Session

**W096 Architectural Design and Management**

**W104 Open Building Implementation**

**invitation to submit abstracts for papers**

In accordance with the theme of the conference, this session will follow the

### **UN Sustainable Development Goals**

**SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities**

- *enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanisation*
- *ensure access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing*
- *provide access to safe, inclusive and accessible, public and green spaces*
- *support least developed countries, in building sustainable and resilient buildings utilising local materials.*

supported by - SDG 3: good health and well-being

SDG 16: peace and justice – strong institutions

SDG 17: partnerships to achieve the goals

The concept and practice of layers in city structure to engender Spatial Equity and Inclusiveness have been evident in the built environment throughout the world historically, and equally today, are crucial to society. It is a notion in which both community and individual values actively play important roles. Layers of time enable evolution at different rates, where change to the symbols of society change at long time scales, to maintain identity; whereas small scale elements change rapidly and often, to provide vitality. The design of city centre buildings has involved larger and more anonymous structures. The heights of buildings could be reduced, and there ought to be a return to traditional design principles, such as views, natural light and ventilation, and a relationship between inside and outside. Adaptability of buildings is going to become increasingly important. The ability to adapt current commercial buildings for housing needs careful appraisal. The building codes should be updated, and researchers and students can become advocates for sustainable cities and communities. Commuting is wasteful in terms of time and other resources. It requires support from employers, childcare, equitable and accessible workplaces. Reducing office space could be more sustainable. Re-using empty buildings in the city centre can reduce residential costs and provide shorter travel distances. Redundant buildings could even become play spaces. The terms Space and Place are often used interchangeably, but public spaces are for community engagement and public places for community identity. Public spaces can be climatic modifiers and offer comfort and safety. The space in-between buildings, is the glue that binds settlements together, and the hierarchy of spaces should have a nuanced gradient between public and private. Food production in cities can be included as part of urban interventions.

Proposed papers can be based on any of the following perspectives:

Environment

Social Change

Economic Challenges

Movement

Culture

as well as Governance

The intent is that it will be an interactive session, in which contents of the papers will be discussed and research strategies devised to take the topics forward to generate journal papers and funded research projects, rather than formal presentations. There are a number of possible CIB partner journals including – *Buildings*, *Buildings and Cities*, *Journal of Construction in Developing Countries*, *Open House International*, and *Sustainability*.

## Call for Abstracts

Please send abstracts to [bob.giddings@northumbria.ac.uk](mailto:bob.giddings@northumbria.ac.uk)

**deadline August 31, 2024**

**current deadline for papers**

**2 December 2024 to Conference Website**