**Architecture in the Fourth Dimension**

**Methods + Practices for a Sustainable Building Stock**

November 15 - 17, 2011 / Boston, Mass., USA

# CALL FOR PAPERS + DESIGN EXERCISES  v.2011.03.16

**Please note that the deadline for abstracts has been extended until April 1st.**

*This 3-day international conference - embedded in Build Boston, the largest regional trade-show and convention for the design and construction industry in the United States - will engage participants from all the world's continents in considering architecture in the fourth dimension.*

*It is no longer adequate for society to expect architecture in only three dimensions. The urgency of an across-the-board societal commitment to build for the long term is the dominant theme we will address. Evidence for the urgency of this task is ubiquitous – as is evidence of pioneering built environments in consonance with it. But implementation of new methods and practices needed to address the inevitable tensions, varying cycles of change, and new patterns of responsibility and control are far from being uniformly understood, taught or implemented.*

*Our conference will have keynote speeches and panel discussions; academic paper sessions; exhibits of built projects around the world; display of the student competition winners and; hands-on design exercises using local sites, hosted by local architects, with practitioners, researchers and students from the region and around the world taking part. This immersive learning experience will search for consilience in here-to-fore fragmented concepts and ways of working. The conference's two subthemes – health care and residential architecture – will be the foci, but other use-types as well as overlapping and shared principles will also be probed, all with the light focused on the fourth dimension of architecture.*

## Major Subthemes of the Conference  rev. 2011.02.17

CUSTOMIZED COLLECTIVE HOUSING

Rapid urbanization is a dominant reality in Asia and developing countries around the world – and also in developed countries. Meanwhile, collective (multi-family) housing design and construction are trending toward improvements in the quality and personalization of housing. In the best cases, living spaces can be directly responsive to evolving preferences of residents. In the worst cases, higher cost but still rigid buildings with false "variety" are produced, soon to become obsolete. The idea of "custom home" has to be reinvented and implemented into a more dense, environmentally responsive and economical collective housing process. This is a new challenge for architects, policy makers, developers and housing institutions, and product manufacturers around the world. Much has been learned and realized in pioneering open building projects, but the job is not finished. New ideas, processes, policies, building methods and products are needed and are welcomed for presentation and discussion at the conference.

ADAPTABLE HEALTH CARE ARCHITECTURE

How can clients get the kind of agile, long-lasting and yet change-ready facilities they need and want, balancing long term asset value and the fine-grained patterns of change in medical practices, demographics, technology and policy that are so much part of today's health care systems world-wide? Can the need for efficiency, security and infection-free spaces be balanced with the need for a healing and humane environment? Public, private and academic clients and projects, from neighborhood clinics to large hospital campuses and geographically distributed health care systems will be considered.

EFFICIENT, CONTINUOUS CUSTOMIZATION IN OTHER USE-TYPES

Other use types such as office and retail architecture, as well as laboratories and educational facilities, also aspire to stability while experiencing change at varying cycles, on many levels of intervention, also involving distributed responsibility and many technical and organizational ripple effects that are difficult to account for and manage. Papers addressing these themes are welcomed.

## This announcement calls for the submission and peer review of the following:

a) PAPERS discussing academic or research-oriented efforts congruent with the conference theme;

b) PAPERS discussing work in practice (either by design, building, or management) that is congruent with the conference theme and which has a particularly scholarly, theoretical, or innovative contribution to the conference ;

*In addition, we invite:*

c) EXEMPLARY PROJECTS, built or un-built, aligning with the conference theme, for exhibition during the conference. Projects should have been commissioned – i.e. developed in the context of a client (or clients) and program.

*Please note that a student competition has been organized for the conference as well. If you are involved in teaching, please direct your students to the conference website to learn more.*

## Abstract and Paper Review Process

This is a two–step process in which both steps are peer-reviewed.

STEP 1: submit an abstract electronically, following the format noted below. An abstract is requested for proposals in all of the three submission categories (papers on academic work and research, papers related to practice, and built projects). Read below for details regarding the submission of abstracts.

STEP 2: After a blind review process of the abstracts, authors will be notified if they are invited to submit a full paper of maximum ten pages in length or submit project information and graphics for exhibit. All submissions, including project graphics, will be completed via e-mail. Papers and posters will be subject to a second blind review before acceptance into the conference publication or exhibit. The conference will publish proceedings in book format containing the accepted papers. All registered conference participants will receive a copy of the proceedings. **Accepted papers will be published ONLY if authors have registered for the conference and paid conference fees before the registration deadline.**

## Review Schedule rev. 2011.03.16

*Dates below are provided for your convenience but are subject to change by the organizing committee. Please refer to the website for the most recent dates and information, including updates to this document.*

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| **April 1** | Deadline to Submit Abstracts for Papers and Projects |
| **April 15** | Notification of Acceptance of Abstracts |
| **June 15** | Deadline for Full Papers (Final Review) |
| | Deadline for Project Graphics (Final Review) |
| Sept. 1 | Notification of Accepted Papers |
| Oct. 1 | Deadline for Final Manuscripts of Accepted Papers |
| | Deadline for Final Project Graphics |
| Oct. 15 | General Registration Deadline |
| | *Authors must pay registration fee before this date for their work to be published in the conference proceedings.* |

## Paper Abstract Submission Details rev. 2011.02.17

Authors proposing academic, research, or practice oriented papers shall electronically submit abstracts as two-page PDF documents (one file with two pages). The first page will have complete author contact and affiliation information, and the abstract title. The second page will give only the abstract title, key words and body of the abstract.

A Microsoft Word template is available at the following URL:
http://www.open-building.org/conference2011/web_documents/abstract_template.doc

The file name of the PDF shall be formatted as follows: **Lastname_firstname_A4D_PAPERABSTRACT.pdf**
Abstracts shall be sent as file attachments to the following e-mail address: a4dpaperabstract@sp2007.bsu.edu
Please use "Paper Abstract Submission" as your email subject line, and add the author(s) name(s) and abstract title into the main body of your submission email. (11/29/2010)

## Project Abstract Submission Details rev. 2011.02.17

The call for projects and process of submission has been modified by the conference organizers. Firms and professionals interested in submitting their projects should now refer to the "Call for Projects" document for instructions and formatting guidelines.

## Abstract Submission Deadline rev. 2011.03.16

Submission of paper and projects abstracts will be via e-mail and submissions must be received before 5:00 PM EST (GMT-05:00) on **April 1, 2011** in order to be included in the review process.

## For Further Details

Authors are invited to contact openarch@bsu.edu for further details.
Authors whose paper or project abstracts have been accepted will be contacted directly by the conference organizers with further instructions on the submission of papers and project graphics.