

Session 2: 1-2:30 p.m.

Anne Harney and Lona Rerick - *Material Transparency Revelations*

The amount of information available to practitioners seeking a better, multi-attribute understanding of our material palette is large, and growing larger on a daily basis. Sorting through this information to identify healthier building materials with a lower environmental impact can be daunting. How do you prioritize goals and guide decision making for your building project? We will tackle this issue head on, providing information to help you prioritize for various impacts while offering solutions to gain understanding of the new Material Transparency criteria.

Diane Alexander and Louise Nicholson Carter - *Therapeutic Gardens: Where Science and Art Merge*

This talk provides architects and designers with a multitude of biophilic and sensory integrated approaches to designing purposeful "havens" for clients with challenges. Well Building criteria will be interwoven in the designs of case studies and personal stories from colleagues shared to stimulate your imagination to the many ways to incorporate meaningful outdoor and indoor gardens environments into projects. Discussions on bringing design to a more personal and community level of "placemaking" are introduced to help people continue healing in their life after they leave an institution.

Jack Holmgren - *Rainwater as a Resource*

The benefits of rainwater harvesting are numerous, and cross-agency funding is common. This presentation compares the costs, rewards and funding sources for four types of projects. A change of perspective, resulting in a permanent water conservation mindset, is shown to occur when rainwater harvesting is widely adopted in a community.

Z Smith - *Closing the Loop Between Modeled & Measured Results—Across your Portfolio*

Some buildings model well, others actually perform well. A few do both. How can we close the loop between prediction and performance? This session describes a firm's seven-year effort to implement practices to raise the predicted performance of their projects—and the more difficult effort to figure out why some projects perform well and others, not so much. It describes work to monitor and understand the comfort and energy use of projects across the Gulf South, led by Z Smith with AIA Firm Award winner Eskew+Dumez+Ripple. Revealing. Frustrating. Fun.

Eddy Santosa - *Are You Still Using Rules of Thumb for Sustainable Design?*

Many architects still rely on sustainable design's rules of thumb. Collaboration with building and energy modeler is often still lacking and many modelers are not familiar with working in early design with architects. This presentation will discuss successfully embedding building and energy modeling practice into design. Eddy will explain how architects can work together with modelers and extract important information for design. The presentation will also discuss some common rules of thumb that may not work as intended. Case studies will use building and energy performance data to find better rules of thumb for the future.

Walter Murphy, Kyle Humphries, Jaron Martin, David Bucek, Catherine Callaway, Amanda Tullos - *Autobiography of a LEED Platinum Building*

This presentation is a panel discussion between the stakeholders, designers, and consultants involved in the creation of the AIA Houston office building. The intent of the panel is to provide an overview of the integrated design process - from the initial budgeting and design phases all the way through construction. Specific topics of discussion include which sustainable design techniques were incorporated in the project, how to achieve design goals while staying within the budget, working with sustainability consultants to achieve those goals, as well as future plans for the building including benchmarking and using the building as a tool for education.

Bill Dwyer and Jody Henry - *Harnessing History: Restoration through Modern Technologies and Traditional Techniques*

One might say that there is nothing more sustainable than expanding the lifespan of an already-existing building. This involves taking advantage of its embodied energy, recognizing its significance within its context, and learning from its construction techniques and past performance. Houston is known for demolishing its historic buildings, but our team had the rare opportunity to explore the restoration of one of Houston's oldest high schools while integrating it with new facilities on the same campus. Developing the documents for the old and new buildings allowed us to both utilize the latest cutting-edge technologies as well as return to some fundamental design and construction strategies to ensure the optimal performance of the structures.