A'26 MN CONFERENCE ON ARCHITECTURE

November 9-11, 2026



A'26 MN Session Learning Objectives

M01. Structures of Justice: The Ethics of Disability Laws in Architectural Practice

1. Comprehend state and federal disability law fundamentals and explain how the application of these laws protect the health, safety and welfare of those with disabilities.
2. Examine how these laws impact the practice of architecture and result in spaces designed for clients that will protect the HSW of the users and provide safe and equitable access for those users with disabilities.
3. Explain how these laws provide a safe and equitable environment for architecture firms, their employees, and colleagues with disabilities, both visible and non-apparent.
4. Analyze liability and risk to understand how design oversights impact building owners, occupants, and the architect's professional liability.

M02. Know Before You Design: Due Diligence for Site Development

1. Discover publicly available due diligence tools.
2. Explain the scope and need for each due diligence tool discussed.
3. Discuss project case studies.
4. Examine due diligence examples.

M03. Toward Net Zero: Lessons from the Lakewood Welcome Center

1. Describe key interdisciplinary team roles and responsibilities – from design through operations – required to advance net zero operations.
2. Explain why modeled energy use often diverges from measured results, including challenges in metering, data acquisition, and commissioning.
3. Evaluate operational optimization strategies, including troubleshooting, system adjustments, and prioritization measures based on impact, cost, and feasibility.
4. Recognize the owner's critical role in sustaining high performance through policies, user engagement, and direct observation and intervention in building performance (data, systems, and occupant experience) to inform ongoing improvements.

M04. Beyond the Built: Why Speculative Work Matters

1. Analyze the historical and contemporary role of unbuilt architecture in advancing architectural culture, research, and disciplinary innovation through precedents including speculative projects, competitions, conceptual proposals, research initiatives, and visionary work that influenced architectural thinking despite never reaching construction.
2. Evaluate how unbuilt and speculative work can support emerging professionals, interdisciplinary collaboration, mentorship, and broader participation within the architectural profession by creating accessible avenues for experimentation, authorship, and public discourse outside the constraints of conventional project delivery.
3. Compare the cultural, professional, and representational differences between built and unbuilt architectural work, including the ways contemporary architectural culture often privileges completed and highly photographed projects while overlooking research-driven, speculative, process-oriented, or exploratory work.
4. Identify practical strategies through which firms, professional organizations, educational institutions, and cultural organizations can support and disseminate unbuilt architectural work through exhibitions, publications, awards programs, competitions, public programming, and research initiatives.

M05. How Research in Practice Drives Knowledge, Innovation, and Client Value

1. Distinguish between informal information gathering and intentional applied research in practice and identify existing opportunities within their firm's workflows to develop research that generates reusable institutional knowledge.
2. Evaluate how research conducted inside firms (regardless of firm size) connects to client value, professional development, and competitive differentiation, using examples drawn from both small and large practice contexts.
3. Apply research case studies to an active or recent firm initiative, mapping how findings could be captured, shared across the team, and embedded into ongoing practice rather than lost at project close.
4. Engage in discussions with firm leaders specific to contributing firm-based research to the broader professional community through peer networks, academic partnerships, conference presentations, or published case studies —positioning the firm as a knowledge contributor and thought leader.

M06. Unlearning to Lead: Rethinking Mentorship and Management in Modern Practice

1. Recognize the unconscious professional assumptions and cultural practices that may limit collaboration and individual growth within their architectural practice.
2. Examine ideas for reflective practices that could improve mentorship, leadership, and professional development in their firms.

3. Examine ideas around creating environments that are receptive to diverse perspectives where team members feel empowered to ask questions, take risks, and learn from failures.
4. Identify ideas to bring back to their workplace around practices and mindsets that could cultivate curiosity and continuous learning at all career levels within their organizations.

M07. Playwrights' Center New Home in St. Paul's Creative Enterprise Zone

1. Describe strategies for adaptive reuse on industrial sites, including natural interventions and approaches to addressing challenges inherent in existing construction.
2. Analyze design and product-selection decisions used to meet the B3 Small Buildings Path, including the use of non-standard products such as bird-friendly glazing and the role of variances related to distinct site conditions.
3. Explain how equity of space can be supported through design that prioritizes daylight and offers users choice among collaboration, focused work, and rest.
4. Evaluate design approaches for a range of theatrical spaces that vary in size, scope, and budget, and discuss how these factors influence planning and technical decisions.

M08. Honor Award Jurors Show Their Work

1. Compare and contrast the work of three award-winning firms with national and international influence.
2. Identify the design details that make their projects unique.
3. Assess how the design processes and practice philosophies are similar or different from your own.
4. Compare the ways in which the three represented firms have been able to address/integrate AIA Framework for Design Excellence measures across their projects.

M09. Restitching, Reconnecting, and Revitalizing Downtown Moorhead

1. Explore how the City's vision for community connectivity, health and wellness was supported by the design team through months of community engagement, master planning, resulting in minimizing red list materials, removal of all major PVCs, and supporting an emphasis on natural materials.
2. Describe the impact of product selection on the health and well-being of people and the environment through all stages of a product's life, from extraction and manufacturing to installation, operations, and end-of-life.

3. Describe how ongoing master planning engagement fosters a connection with the community, and the importance of understanding a community's historical context of the land and built environment.
4. Examine how LEED criteria align with the AIA Framework for Design Excellence, and how these alignments elevate design and ensure health, safety, welfare outcomes.
5. Examine how “All Under One Roof” design concepts and thoughtful library programming can impact a community's access to resources.

M10. Applying Air Leakage Testing Requirements in Minnesota’s Commercial Energy Code

1. Interpret and apply air leakage testing and building envelope performance verification requirements in the Minnesota commercial energy code.
2. Ensure construction documents are compliant with applicable air leakage testing and building envelope performance verification requirements in the commercial energy code.
3. Effectively communicate the energy and non-energy benefits of air leakage testing and verification to project team members and building owners.
4. Identify best practices to coordinate air leakage testing and verification activities among project team members to ensure requirements are implemented effectively and projects remain on schedule.

M11. Leading from the Middle: Collaboration Across the Design Team

1. Develop strategies for leading or contributing to interdisciplinary teams, fostering a more cohesive and collaborative project environment.
2. Apply effective interdisciplinary coordination strategies to improve communication, reduce conflicts, and align project goals across architectural and engineering teams.
3. Recognize the impact of early collaboration on project quality, timeline, and team alignment.
4. Analyze common coordination challenges between disciplines and propose practical solutions to mitigate conflicts early in the design process.

M12. Glare and Architectural Intent: Metrics, Analysis, and Impact on Early Design

1. Convey the current state of glare analysis metrics – including the experiments and history that inform these metrics.
2. Evaluate how current daylight analysis software can be used to analyze daylight and glare early in the design process.

3. Identify and describe design variables implicated in glare, such as, viewing direction, daylight access/penetration, program, furniture layout, user autonomy, and daylight control strategies.
4. Assess the alignment between program, architectural conditions, and lighting performance in ways that support or challenge intended use.

M16. Mississippi Gateway Regional Park: Integrating interpretive plan goals in site, building, and exhibit design

1. Define an interpretation plan and summarize its importance in establishing design success factors.
2. Describe the strategies used to create a welcoming, inclusive, and accessible indoor and site environment that encourages activity, social connection, and connection to nature.
3. Identify the design results of intensive community engagement and describe where community and student input led to an increased sense of inclusion for users.
4. Assess the design strategies used to meet the requirements of the Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines (B3), including energy efficiency, site and water, and biophilic design elements.

M17. COTE Top Ten 2026 - Marion Fire Station No. 1 and Marlboro Music Reich Hall

1. Review biophilic design principles and the positive impacts on human health and well-being.
2. Explain how to reduce exposure to toxic and carcinogenic chemicals through HVAC system, envelope, and material selection.
3. Describe how connecting with the local community can reduce carbon footprint, improve ecology, and enrich inclusivity and equality of those within the community.
4. Explain how to reduce energy consumption through massing, passive design, systems, and renewable energy.

M18. Integrating Specifying Best Practices

1. Discover specifying best practices and strategies for firm-wide adoption that benefit emerging and seasoned professionals alike, and learn how to develop an in-house practice guide.
2. Examine current and emerging specifications production tools and resources, including AI, to evaluate options and prepare for emerging conditions.
3. Recognize how specifying best practices influence design and construction quality, and be able to apply principles of quality management, including methods that maintain design quality from concept and preliminary design phases, through code-compliance, and into construction.

4. Apply a systems framework for specifying practice toward interdisciplinary collaboration, service innovation, and improved sustainability outcomes.

M19. Designing with Hemp and Straw in Climate Zone 6: Codes, Details, and Performance

1. Explain the Minnesota amendments to Appendix BL Hemp-Lime and how to apply them in design and construction in order to maintain its cohesive integrity in the wall, ensuring the use for insulation in a safe and tested manner.
2. Explain the Minnesota amendments to Appendix BJ Strawbale and examine how design professionals, builders, and code officials will have a minimum construction standard by which to design, construct, plan check and inspect strawbale buildings that ensures their durability and safe use.
3. Examine the multiple construction methods for both hemp-lime and strawbale, how these impact the sequence of construction, and the thermal and moisture performance expected with these assemblies.
4. Review case studies of existing strawbale and hemp-lime projects and considerations for project delivery in the Midwest.

M20. The FAIA Legacy Project: New Documentaries

1. Describe the goals of the FAIA Legacy Project.
2. Explain how documenting women's stories helps advance the next generation of women in the profession.
3. Recognize the past and current state of women within the architecture profession and options for pursuing different career pathways within the field of architecture.
4. Apply lessons learned from the FAIA Legacy Project to support more sharing of stories from under-represented populations.

T24. Minnesota Accessibility Code Upcoming Changes

1. Identify changes to the Minnesota Accessibility Code requirements and assess how they may impact current and future projects.
2. Explain how these changes impact a broad range of accessibility needs including adult changing stations, EV charging stations, Group R-3 care facilities, turning space and clear floor space sizes, power-operated doors, toilet compartment size, exam rooms, changing bench clearance, and the 20% Rule.
3. Analyze these changes in order to develop accessible design solutions in compliance with the Minnesota State Code Rules.
4. Implement design solutions for greater accessibility that are in compliance with Minnesota State Code Rules.

T25. Façade Detailing Workshop

1. Identify Vulnerable Points in Facade Design: Recognize critical areas where vulnerabilities often occur in building facades, including system intersections, penetrations, projections, and geometry transitions.
2. Identify Detailing Challenges: Gain an in-depth understanding of the intricate detailing challenges that can compromise the resilience and functionality of facades and enclosures.
3. Develop collaborative problem-solving skills by actively participating in a design charrette with panelists and industry experts, fostering innovative solutions to facade design challenges.
4. Sustainability and Resilience: Explore methods to make facades more sustainable, efficient, and resilient, aligning architectural practices with contemporary standards for environmentally responsible construction.

T26. Flying Solo: Build A One-Page Architecture Business Plan

1. Develop a one-page business plan that aligns firm structure, target market, and professional practice goals.
2. Evaluate how the Five Pillars of Practice—Purpose, People, Projects, Profit, and Process—shape resilient and sustainable architecture firms.
3. Identify operational systems and business processes that improve project delivery, communication, and long-term practice management.
4. Create actionable strategies for defining project types, client relationships, and financial goals that support effective professional service and practice sustainability.

T27. Carbon Per Experience: Designing Buildings Worth Sustaining

1. Evaluate the strengths and limitations of common building-carbon metrics, including carbon per square foot, and identify how use intensity, occupancy, lifespan, and adaptability affect the environmental health and welfare impacts of design decisions.
2. Describe how embodied carbon, operational performance, material selection, and high-performance assemblies influence human and ecological health, with relevance to sustainable design decisions in a Midwest climate.
3. Apply a “carbon per experience” framework to assess how buildings can support occupant welfare, equitable access, social interaction, long-term usability, and public value while reducing environmental impact.
4. Use an early-design evaluation matrix to guide project teams toward lower-carbon, more adaptable, and more enduring buildings that align with relevant measures of the AIA Framework for Design Excellence.

T28. Hybrid Mass Timber Design for High-Performance Labs

1. Identify the structural performance requirements of laboratory buildings — including vibration isolation, rigidity, lateral stability, and seismic performance — and distinguish how concrete and steel systems address these demands while recognizing where mass timber can contribute within a hybrid approach.
2. Describe how hybrid structural systems can be detailed at the transitions between dissimilar materials, including connections between mass timber and concrete or steel, and facade attachments that span across both systems.
3. Evaluate code and life safety requirements for mass timber construction in complex building types, and formulate strategies for pursuing alternative-means-and-methods compliance where established code paths do not exist.
4. Compare the embodied carbon implications of conventional and hybrid structural systems and assess how strategic deployment of mass timber can reduce the carbon footprint of technically demanding building types.

T29. The Room After Yours

1. Distinguish engagement questions that collect preferences from questions that surface lived experience, and use root-cause questioning to reach the underlying need behind a stated request.
2. Explain how unclosed feedback loops produce engagement fatigue and erode community trust in the design process over time, and identify practical ways to report back to participants after a project's engagement period ends.
3. Identify points in the design process where decision-making could be shared with community members, and describe how that ownership affects whether a project is supported, funded, and used.
4. Recognize which decisions they personally control on a project, and name at least one change they will make in their next community engagement.

T30. Lifting the Floor, Tightening the Envelope

1. Identify 2024 Minnesota Commercial Energy Code compliance pathways.
2. Describe significant changes between the 2020 and 2024 Minnesota Commercial Energy Codes, including new airtightness and commissioning requirements.
3. Explore design process implications and lessons learned as the industry adapts to the evolving code landscape.
4. Explain the relationship between evolving energy codes, ASHRAE 90.1 development, and broader building performance goals.

T31. From Mission to Roadmap: Regenerative Design in Rural Minnesota

1. Evaluate rural and edge-of-city sites for HSW considerations related to access, stormwater, utilities, food systems, seasonal use, adaptive reuse, and public gathering.
2. Identify adaptive reuse, barn stabilization, accessibility, public occupancy, and phasing strategies that improve safety, resilience, and long-term feasibility.
3. Compare water, sanitation, stormwater, energy, and cold-climate infrastructure decisions that affect public health, site resilience, and community welfare.
4. Apply a pre-design roadmap process that helps architects align mission, land context, code/zoning questions, infrastructure constraints, and HSW priorities before formal design begins.

T32. Solving the Complexity of Simplicity: A Case Study on Tectonic Synergy

1. Interdisciplinary Design: Examine how small ideas like "seamless connection to the landscape" and "large overhangs with no gutters" require integration of thoughtful technical solutions and interdisciplinary design collaboration.
2. Structural Integrity and Constructional Efficiency: Describe structural strategies and solutions required to achieve significant cantilevers and thin-profile roof edges that balance structural integrity and finish material precision with construction / budget efficiencies and long-term performance.
3. Building Envelope and Water Management: Analyze the technical resolution of a "gutter-less" roof edge to ensure effective management of rainwater flow, building envelope integrity, and continuity of the experience between interior and exterior.
4. Landscape Design and Subsurface Drainage: Examine site-specific landscape strategies for managing high-volume storm water runoff through subsurface drainage and native plantings, ensuring building protection, interior and exterior continuity, and aging-in-place accessibility.

T33. Ethics in War & Displacement: Church of St. Charalambos in Kontea, Cyprus

1. Identify meanings associated with architectural heritage in war and displacement.
2. Dissect whether and how particular ethics codes can be applicable to cases of war and displacement.
3. Explore the ethical implications of navigating contested political waters in heritage preservation during war.
4. Examine the role of architects at a time when the world is in a constant state of war.

T36. Ethical Considerations from Public Service Architects

1. Examine actual design and construction competing issues that could be ethical violations.

2. Evaluate scenarios of ethical violations from the perspective of the client, professional, or the environmental component.
3. Dissect nuances of grey areas where actual schedule or cost issues impact potential ethical violations.
4. Explore options for discussing conflicting priorities with cost, schedule, program and ethics both internally in the office as well as with clients, contractors and others.

T37. White Oaks Savanna: Designing an Architecture-Driven Development

1. Discover how to expand and grow their architecture practice by collaborating with developers to create architecture-driven residential communities.
2. Examine the process of master planning an architecture-driven community, creating design guidelines and bringing homeowners, architects and custom builders to the community.
3. Describe the potential challenges and opportunities of collaborating with developers to create an architecture-driven community.
4. Explain how to take an active role in partnering with developers to create new opportunities to advance the architecture profession and highlight the value that architects can bring to a development.

T38. Future-Ready Care: Designing Resilient Models in Healthcare

1. Identify design strategies within the onstage/offstage model that support resilient and adaptable healthcare environments and provider safe and secure spaces for all.
2. Evaluate how onstage/offstage care models respond to evolving clinical practices, staffing and patient needs and expectations over time, improving patient outcomes.
3. Recognize key lessons learned from real-world projects that inform future-ready decision-making and long-term operational flexibility.
4. Apply insights from facility leaders to design healthcare spaces that anticipate change, integrate technology, and strengthen system-wide resilience.

T39. Historic Tax Credits "101"

1. Evaluate design options against the Secretary of the Interiors Standards for the Rehabilitation of historic properties.
2. Knowledgeably discuss the process for applying for state and federal historic tax credits.
3. Estimate the approximate financial benefit and impact of state and federal historic tax credits for a project.
4. Review and interpret building designations and histories in the National Register of Historic Places.

T40. ARE 101: Personal Experiences from Start to Finish

1. Review and interpret building designations and histories in the National Register of Historic Places.
2. Discover study materials available.
3. Identify ways in which studying can be integrated into personal and professional obligations.
4. Apply lessons learned to personally taking the AREs.

T33. What Were They Thinking

1. Examine the unseen circumstances that lead to a design resolution.
2. Examine the architects' role in dealing with strong individual clients or committees, and other team dynamics involving budget, zoning or codes.
3. Examine risk assessment when dealing with establishment design vs. emergent styles and evolving technologies.
4. Examine the process of maturing as an architect through the practice of architecture including learning how to deal with uncertainties and alternatives.

W45. How to Use the Minnesota Conservation Code

1. Recognize how the Conservation Code offers alternatives and incentives to building owners to maintain their buildings and to continue to initiate upgrades towards compliance with more contemporary editions of the codes.
2. Identify the three different compliance methods in the Conservation Code.
3. Explain the difference between a repair and an alteration and apply the code accordingly.
4. Gain confidence and a greater understanding of how to DETERMINE which pathway is best to achieve the desired design outcomes for their project based on the level of work and existing building conditions.

W46. The Changing Landscape of Green Building Guidelines

1. Identify how evolving B3, LEED, Phius, and PHI requirements improve public health outcomes by addressing energy performance, indoor air quality, thermal comfort, and occupant well-being.
2. Evaluate how changes in green building frameworks advance safety and resilience, including reduced climate risk, improved building durability, and readiness for extreme weather.
3. Apply green building systems to design projects that more effectively protect public welfare through decarbonization, resource efficiency, and reduced environmental impact.

4. Integrate adaptive sustainability guidelines into design decision-making to deliver healthier, safer, and more equitable built environments for communities.

W47. Park Design & Climate Action Frameworks for Improved Environmental and Community Resilience

1. Recognize site opportunities for pollution prevention practices.
2. Identify and use native vegetation to improve climate resiliency of public spaces.
3. Design for increased biodiversity with multi-functional site uses.
4. Plan for diverse programming/use and community engagement.

W48. Let's Decarbonize! A Hands-on Building Decarbonization Workshop

1. Explain the role of emissions scope, business-as-usual emissions and trigger events in strategic decarbonization planning.
2. Analyze existing building conditions relevant to decarbonization planning and identify potential retrofit trigger events.
3. Compare retrofit measures to reduce or eliminate building GHG emissions given technical, economic, and policy factors.
4. Select relevant retrofit measures and develop a timeline for implementation.

W49. Post-Renovation Evaluation: 15 Years of Neighborhood & Spiritual Influence

1. Explain the nature and impact of resilience in renovation of a historic building including code changes, environmental changes, and urban changes.
2. Assess the impact of a changing society on a building renovation from 15 years ago including physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual.
3. Evaluate the current programmatic needs of a church's ministry against the programmatic needs 15 years ago.
4. Assess historic preservation regulations with respect to the needs of an active urban church congregation.

W51. Energy Code Compliance: What Might be Missing in Your Contract Documents

1. Review and confirm understanding of Air Barrier requirements in the MN Commercial Energy Code.
2. Accurately define what the Air Barrier is, and what it is not, as part of wall and roof systems.
3. Examine what is required to be in the Contract Documents related to the requirements of the Energy Code.
4. Explore and discuss best practices for communicating the Design Intent through Drawings and Specifications.

W52. Negotiating Access: Value Judgments About Disability in Historic Buildings

1. Examine Historic Preservation Brief #32 related to making historic buildings accessible.
2. Identify dignity & programmatic experiences related to the entering and arrival sequence to historic buildings.
3. Explain accessible entries and path of travel related to historic buildings.
4. Review and determine success or failures of multiple case studies.

W53. 2+2 Design for Equitable Communities

1. Explain how the design process can promote a long-term relationship between designers, users, and operators to ensure design intent is achieved while also improving building performance over time.
2. Describe how Design for Equitable Communities serves as a catalyst step toward addressing the greater Framework for Design Excellence.
3. Utilize lessons learned and knowledge sharing to improve the next generation of work through mentorship.
4. Identify strategies that help promote a sense of discovery and delight in projects.

W54. Aligning Care, Brand, and the Built Environment at Children's Minnesota

1. Explore how healthcare organizations, brand leaders, and design teams can translate pediatric care values into empathetic, family-centered healthcare environments.
2. Examine approaches for aligning brand experience, operational priorities, and the patient journey across multiple healthcare environments.
3. Identify how arrival experience, environmental graphics, and spatial planning can support emotional reassurance, clarity, and continuity throughout the patient and family journey.
4. Evaluate strategies for creating consistency across healthcare spaces while responding to unit-specific needs, operational flexibility, and evolving identity over time.

W55. Building a Future for a More Equitable Profession

1. Explore the need for culture change in the professional of architecture.
2. Explain the fundamental differences between different types of ownership models as they relate to architecture firms and describe how they impact leadership transitions.

3. Discover effective frameworks, language, and skills that can positively impact your own personal career growth.
4. Examine how the tools and perspectives presented are essential to building a more sustainable and equitable industry.

W58. McKnight Foundation Tour

1. Identify strategies for integrating decarbonization goals into interior renovation projects, using the reuse of a historic urban building as a model for reducing environmental impact and increasing its lifespan.
2. Evaluate strategies for adapting historic buildings to contemporary workplace needs, including how existing structural, spatial, and infrastructure constraints can inform programming, design decisions, and opportunities for repair and reuse rather than replacement.
3. Apply material selection strategies that advance human health, resource conservation, and equity, including dematerialization, healthier material alternatives, local and natural products and materials, and consideration of diversity and equity within the product supply chain.
4. Recognize how integrated client and design-team goals can drive sustainable design outcomes, balancing climate action, diversity and equity, occupant experience, and a strong connection to Minnesota's people, materials, and place.

W59. Ethics and the Uses of AI as an Ordinary Architect

1. Gain a foundational understanding of contemporary artificial intelligence systems, including large language models and generative AI, in order to better evaluate their capabilities, limitations, and implications within architectural practice. This understanding equips architects to recognize when AI-generated output, such as code summaries, technical research, or specification language, may be inaccurate or fabricated, and to verify it before it informs decisions affecting occupant health and life safety.
2. Construct and ask ethical questions surrounding artificial intelligence, including authorship, intellectual labor, environmental cost, cognitive dependence, and the erosion of human creative agency within professional practice.
3. Identify practical ways artificial intelligence can responsibly augment architectural workflows, including research, organization, analysis, communication, and project management, without displacing essential human oversight. Apply review and verification practices that keep the licensed architect accountable for the accuracy of AI-assisted research, code analysis, and documentation, reducing the risk that errors reach construction documents and endanger building occupants.
4. Develop a personal ethical framework for determining where AI should be strategically incorporated into practice and where architects may choose to

deliberately preserve human creativity, critical thinking, and moral responsibility. Participants will identify the life-safety, accessibility, and code-related decisions that must remain under direct professional judgment, upholding the architect's legal and ethical obligation to protect public health, safety, and welfare.

W60. Rezoning, Reuse, and Affordability: Building Sanctuary Lofts

1. Describe how comprehensive plans such as Minneapolis 2040 can be deployed as advocacy tools to advance a more equitable rezoning plan for multi-family housing in single-family residential zones.
2. Identify design strategies for exploiting existing building geometry to maximize unit diversity and minimize circulation waste in adaptive reuse housing projects.
3. Examine how in-situ low-rise, high-density design, and access to light improvement positively impacted the emotional and social well-being of occupants.
4. Describe the construction coordination strategies used at Sanctuary Lofts to resolve structural and code challenges within an existing religious building.
5. Examine budget-driven design innovation techniques to achieve project feasibility without public subsidy in small-scale multi-family developments.

W61. Canopy to Concept: Protect and Integrate Existing Trees into Site Design

1. Implement design strategies for preserving existing trees and other vegetation.
2. Specify best practices for maintaining the health of existing trees and vegetation before, during, and after construction.
3. Explain the purpose and importance of a tree inventory and condition assessments proposed for development.
4. Identify key evaluation criteria for existing tree health.

W62. Market Smarter, Not Louder: Authentic Marketing Lessons from Small Firms

1. Identify relationship-building strategies that support sustainable practice growth and long-term client trust.
2. Compare different marketing and communication approaches used across varying architectural practice models.
3. Assess how personal strengths and communication styles influence business development and professional visibility.
4. Apply authentic practice-management strategies that align with firm values, community engagement, and ideal clients.

W63. Equitable Skyways Tour

1. Examine and become more attuned to their own experience of the skyways and how it relates to various aspects of self.
2. Recognize the influence of ownership on skyway design and access.
3. Analyze the skyway experience in the context of accessibility and safety for people of various identities and experiences.
4. Explore the disparate impacts of skyways based on income, immigration or resident status, housing vulnerability, etc.

W64. From Emerging to Enduring

1. Identify leadership behaviors that strengthen trust, continuity, and collaboration across project teams and organizations.
2. Explore how mentorship and cross-generational exchange can support professional resilience and retention.
3. Explain how architects can translate service, advocacy, and volunteer leadership into stronger practice leadership.
4. Apply a people-centered leadership framework to project delivery, client relationships, and professional development.

W65. Beyond Code: Designing Buildings for a Changing Climate

1. Identify limitations of code-minimum design approaches in the context of climate change, natural hazards, and infrastructure disruption.
2. Explore practical strategies for integrating resilience and regenerative design principles into new and existing buildings.
3. Recognize how hazard-informed design, passive survivability, and high-performance enclosures can improve long-term building performance and occupant safety.
4. Explain how emerging frameworks, including LEED v5 and the AIA's resilience and regenerative design initiatives, are influencing architectural practice and client expectations.

W66. The Future of Predictive Compliance in Healthcare Facilities

1. Identify how occupancy classification, operational models, and regulatory pathways interact to influence long-term healthcare compliance and life safety outcomes.
2. Evaluate how early design and renovation decisions can create downstream survey, operational, emergency preparedness, and physical environment risks within healthcare facilities.
3. Analyze how healthcare survey processes assess life safety systems, fire protection strategies, and operational compliance in real-world facility environments.

4. Apply predictive compliance and “code path” thinking to improve interdisciplinary coordination, reduce regulatory uncertainty, and strengthen long-term healthcare facility resilience.

W67. Leveraging Architecture: Design Professionals Who Became Real Estate Developers

1. Identify the critical skills that architects can leverage into a real estate development career.
2. Discern the risks and rewards of a transition from architecture to real estate development.
3. Discuss a project with private real estate development clients within the greater context of the overall development process.
4. Differentiate between the architecture and real estate development career paths, including the personal realities of changing from salaried design work to an outcomes-focused business model, like personal funding, time commitments, and risk mitigation.