



Thursday, April 2, 2020

8:30 am – 10:00 am

How to Pass the ARE 2019

Speaker: Michael Riscica



Description: How to pass the Architect Exam is all about starting your journey toward being a licensed architect, including ways to avoid common pitfalls and take first steps. Since I've helped thousands of ARE Candidates start this process, I'm able to share valuable insights and lessons from my own failures and successes.

This lecture is very different than the ways NCARB and other organizations discuss how to pass the ARE. It's real-world, truth filled presentation that will help you start making progress on the ARE.

Speaker Bio: "Michael Riscica, AIA, is the founder of Young Architect.com which is a multi-facilitated platform to help the NEXT generation of Architects. In addition to helping thousands of ARE candidates find success in passing the exams, he is also an avid public speaker, content creator, published author, and cross country bicyclist."

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Entrepreneurship for Architecture Students

Speaker: Michael Riscica



Description: This lecture is about learning how to take control of your life and career, while leveraging your education and experience as an Architect. You'll learn how to think like an entrepreneur, and gain proven strategies, and examples of successful Entrepreneur Architects.

Please note: This lecture is about solving problems and thinking like an entrepreneur. It is NOT a professional practice class or about the details of setting up an architectural design practice.

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1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Young Professionals Day

Speaker: Cherise Lakeside, CSI, CDT



Description:

Speaker Bio:

Cherise Lakeside, FCSI, CDT

Senior Specification Writer with RDH Building Science, based out of their Portland, OR office, has experience in construction, MEP engineering & primarily architecture in her 30-year career.

Cherise has worked extensively in multiple areas of AEC and is actively involved in education, speaking, blogging, social media and Let's Fix Construction.

Her passions include emerging professional development and LetsFixConstruction.com which she co-founded with Eric Lussier. She is a past president of the Portland Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), Director-At-Large for CSI and as of October 10, 2019, a CSI Fellow, the second highest honor bestowed on a member. You can find Cherise on Twitter [@CheriseLakeside](#) and on [LinkedIn](#)

Friday, April 3, 2020

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Technical Session 1 – TBD

Speaker: Benjamin Meredith



Description: TBD

Speaker Bio: Benjamin Meredith owns Building Knowledge-Professional Inspection Services and has been conducting home inspections and energy audits for 19 years in Virginia. He has been conducting HERS Ratings for building contractors obtaining Energy Star and Earthcraft certifications since 2010.

9:15 am – 10:15 am

Technical Session 2 – Augmented & Virtual Reality

Speaker: James Stuart Barnes



Description: Augmented and virtual reality technologies are advancing rapidly and there is great potential for design and construction as the tech matures. This session will explore the new and emerging solutions hardware solutions (Microsoft Hololens 2, Magic Leap, tablet based AR, Oculus Rift-S, etc.) and their application. We'll also look at software workflows (from Revit models to Unity), and explore a few use cases.

the attendee will be able to:

1. Explain the concept of augmented and virtual reality
2. Understand how to implement the technology to advance design goals
3. Explore emerging solutions and hardware options including Microsoft Hololens 2, Magic Leap, tablet based AR, Oculus Rift-S
4. Evaluate software workflows from revit models to unity

Speaker Bio: James Barnes is a Virtual/Augmented Reality instructor and technologist in the JMU X-Labs, where he works at the intersection of emerging technology, media, and design. He holds a M.S. in resource management from the University of Vermont and a B.S. in neuroscience from N.C. State University.

10:30 am – 11:30 am

Technical Session 3 – Robotics, AI, and the Future of Making (Construction Edition)

Speaker: Aaron Kishbaugh



Description: Join a discussion about emerging technologies and the future of robotics and automation in the construction industry. Come prepared to workshop ideas around your vision (and fears) of a more automated work environment. Figure out where your pain points are and learn how applying some problem centered thinking to your processes can help you be more innovative in the emerging industry landscape.

Speaker Bio: Aaron Kishbaugh is the Lab Manager, instructor, and general futurist at JMU X-Labs at James Madison University. There he helps students faculty and staff create innovative solutions to everyday problems by combining aspect of Design Thinking and the Lean Start-up Methodology with emerging technologies. With over 15 years experience in product creation in the software industry he brings a high level of understanding about customer needs analysis, technological innovation, and rapid prototyping to his students and customers in the lab. Aaron and his wife Tara have 2 boys who are outsmarting their parents at every turn.

11:30 am – 1:30 pm

Keynote Luncheon 1 - Specifications 2020: Hindsight, Foresight, and Insight.

Speaker: Phil Kabza, FCSI, CCS, AIA



Description: The written specifications are part of a larger communication process in the design and construction of facilities. We will look at specifications through history, emphasizing the predictions in a 1967 research study performed for CSI by Stanford Research Institute. How accurate were the predictions? Where are we now? What can we learn by looking at specifications from this perspective?

Participants will be better able to:

View construction specifications in a broad practice context

Incorporate developments in specifications automation

Integrate specification process with BIM process

Improve professional services with specification integration

Speaker Bio: Phil Kabza, FCSI CCS AIA is a principal of SpecGuy, providing specifications and technical consulting to AEs, facility owners, and building product manufacturers. SpecGuy served as consultants on a LEED Gold High School for the New Orleans RSD, an AIA COTE Top 10 elementary school project, MasterSpec's Division 00 and 01, and VA building envelope specifications. They maintain master specifications for several large school systems. SpecGuy publishes the CSI award-winning certification study program “CDT One Day at a Time!”

Phil is a graduate of the University of Michigan College of Architecture and Western Michigan University, and holds certifications as a construction specifier, contract administrator, and LEED professional. He has over 35 years of industry experience. Phil is a Past Chair of the AIA MasterSpec Architectural Review Committee, a contributor to The Construction Specifier magazine, and founding Chair of the Charlotte BEC. He is a Fellow of the CSI and a SCIP member.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Let's Fix Construction Part 1

WHAT is Let's Fix Construction?

[Let's Fix Construction](#) is an avenue to offer creative solutions, separate myths from facts and erase misconceptions about the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry.

LetsFixConstruction.com was founded on August 15, 2016 by two opposing coast AEC professionals. Eric D. Lussier of [Precision Athletic Surfaces](#), hailing from the East, just outside of Burlington, Vermont and Cherise Lakeside, Senior Specification Writer for RDH Building Science based out of their Portland, OR office and representing the West. Having met through the [Construction Specifications Institute](#) and keeping in touch through social media, Eric and Cherise decided to do more than just gripe about issues plaguing the industry.

To date, over almost fifty contributors from all types of disciplines in the AEC industry have been published on the Let's Fix Construction blog.

In July of 2017, Let's Fix Construction starting hosting live workshops and educational offerings for industry associations, firms, companies and manufacturers.

The Let's Fix Construction podcast was launched on November 7, 2017. It can be found at LFCpodcast.com or on any of your favorite players, including Apple Podcasts.

Speaker: Cherise Lakeside, CSI CDT & Eric D. Lussier, CSI, CDT

Description:

This program is centered around common conflicts, issues and solutions in the AEC industry. This workshop is facilitated by Eric Lussier and Cherise Lakeside. Their diverse backgrounds offer unique perspectives in addition to a dynamic presentation style. To date, workshops have been conducted at CSI Region Conferences, Chapter meetings, at CONSTRUCT and within firms or offices.

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You can find Cherise on Twitter [@CheriseLakeside](#) and on [LinkedIn](#)

Eric D. Lussier, CSI, CDT



Indoor sports flooring trusted advisor for Precision Athletic Surfaces with experience in estimating, project management, sales and maintenance acting as a flooring subcontractor based out of Vermont. He is active in the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI), and is currently president of the Vermont Chapter.

Eric is a construction industry blogger whose work is featured on Let's Fix Construction, which he co-founded with Cherise Lakeside. Cherise and Eric also host the Let's Fix Construction podcast which you can find on any of your favorite players or on their website.

You can find Eric on Twitter [@EricDLussier](#) and on [LinkedIn](#)

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm

Let's Fix Construction Part 2

WHAT is Let's Fix Construction?

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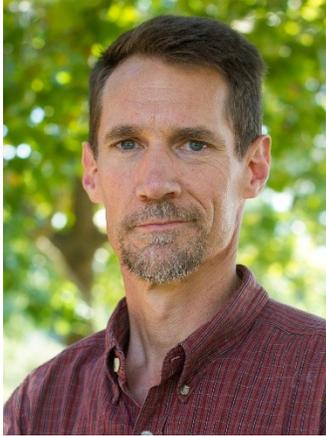
You can find Eric on Twitter [@EricDLussier](#) and on [LinkedIn](#)

Saturday, April 4, 2020

8:30 am – 9:30 am

Technical Session 4 – *Solar Energy Explored*

Speaker: Jim Leaman



Description: This seminar will explore solar energy in its various forms and discuss its suitability for residential, commercial, and nonprofit applications. Trends in solar technology and costs will be shown in updated financial and ecological models, illustrating economic return on investment and net environmental impact. Solar investment is often misunderstood, and this session aims to demystify and simplify payback models; it will also suggest new ways to frame the product and choices. Further encouragement is offered to users, developers, and policy makers to speed the transition toward a more sustainable future.

Speaker Bio: Jim Leaman, Ph.D., teaches economics and finance at Eastern Mennonite University and chairs the Department of Business and Leadership. His current research stretches across energy economics and sustainable housing, in which he teams with several industry professionals to ground it in practical realities. Leaman has been an advocate for solar energy in the region where he has consulted with businesses, nonprofits, and homeowners on numerous successful installations. He lives in a climate-neutral home optimized for, and powered by, both passive and active solar systems. Leaman's industry experience includes both private business and nonprofit administration, including 12 years of service with an international non-governmental organization (INGO) in Kenya. Academic preparation includes a Ph.D. in Public and International Affairs, a master's degree in Public Administration, and a bachelor's degree in business administration and computer science. The perspective Jim adds to his field is analyzing and teaching about the role and impact of business and organizations within ecological limits and dynamic social systems, resulting in an integrated lens of sustainability, stewardship and justice.

9:30 am – 9:45 am **FUN BREAK**

9:45 am – 10:45 am

Technical Session 5 – Off-Site Modular Constructions Trends and Specification Pathways

Speaker: Paul Bertram, FCSI, CDT, LEED AP, GGP



Description: Off-Site Modular Construction's has grown to be a significant consideration in design, schematic design, specification, fabrication and construction of projects from housing, hotels, restaurants, schools and many other scalable repeatable structures. This also includes mechanical Systems and Prefabricated assemblies for recladding.

This changing environment will require specifiers and firms to understand the Off-Site Modular processes and how the relationship with the developer, fabricator and material suppliers are impacted.

The McKinley Group reported that benefits driving this surge in Off-Site Modular Construction demonstrates 50% greater build speed, and cost savings of 20%, in the right environment. They further articulate that all industry partners will need to make BIG CHANGES.

Modular construction's broad set approaches will be reviewed from complexity and scale and comparative approaches.

This presentation will guide you through defining various types of Off- Site Modular Constructions with examples that include an RFQ, scope of work checklist, sample specifications including "Sheet Specifications, shop drawings and BIM.

Specifications, scheduling along with Means and Methods will also be discussed from a case study perspective.

Quality Assurance/Quality Control is also discussed from a legal perspective from AGC and work from the newly formed ICC Off-Site and Modular Construction Committee and their focus on codes.

Speaker Bio: Paul is a Distinguished Member and Fellow of the Construction Specifications Institute and a Former Institute President with a focus on building product evaluation, resilient functional performance, environmental impacts, and low carbon envelope first energy efficiency strategies.

He is a Board member of the National Institute of Building Sciences and liaison for BETEC (Building Enclosure Technology and Environment Council) as well as a member of the Off-Site Construction Council. He is also a past member of the US General Services GSA High Performance Green Advisory Committee and the GSA Buildings to Grid Committee.

He is also a contributor to the newly formed **ICC OFF-SITE AND MODULAR CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE (IS-OSMC)** 1200 Planning and Design and the 1250 Plan Approval, Compliance Assurance, Certification, Third Party Inspection, CAA Requirements, Inspections section of the code development.

In his retirement, Paul is a voluntary Owners Representative for the Guardian Angels Medical Service Dogs with kennel projects in Florida and Pittsburgh, PA.

He was president of his architectural graphic design firm in Orlando for 28 years designing information and specification programs for manufacturers.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Technical Session 6 – Powering Up with Power Apps

Speaker: Razan Altiraifi, Assoc. AIA, Perkins & Will



Description: Creating Web Apps for the Non-Developer using Microsoft PowerApps

Those in the AEC industry are increasingly managing larger and larger data sets. We are moving beyond spreadsheets to analyze, visualize and modify large amounts of data.

In this talk, I will show the power of Microsoft PowerApps to create simple web apps with a SharePoint list as the backend database. Microsoft PowerApps is a platform that provides rapid application development (RAD). It is simple enough to be used by end-users without writing any code but powerful enough to allow software developers to extend its capabilities to develop custom business apps.

In this talk, I will show how two SharePoint Lists (tables) served as the backend for a web app I developed allowing users to checkout and back in office resources such as cameras, projectors, VR equipment, laser measures and more. This app connects to Office 365 for employee information. The web app also sends a confirmation email when a resource is checked out. This talk will demonstrate the strength of the Microsoft PowerApps platform in creating quick web apps.

Learning Objectives:

After attending this program, participants will be able to:

1. Identify situations in their office or projects where a web app might be an appropriate solution.
2. Identify data sets appropriate for visualization and manipulation in a web application.
3. Organize their data in preparation for use in a web app using database management principles
4. Plan out a framework for a web application, keeping in mind basic UI principles.
5. Develop a web application using rapid development principles in the Microsoft PowerApps platform.

Speaker Bio:

Razan Altiraifi, Assoc. AIA, holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology and a Master of Science in Information Systems from George Mason University. After 7 years in the technology industry as a Technology and Management Consultant and a Software Licensing Analyst, Ms. Altiraifi pursued and graduated with a Master of Architecture from Georgia Tech. Ms. Altiraifi is currently a Design Applications Technician at the DC office of Perkins and Will where she is pursuing her passion for all things tech and design.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Keynote Luncheon 2 – Personal Branding as a Designer in the Connected Economy: Translating your reputation and connections into the digital environment.

Speaker: Brent Williams



Description: In today's ever accelerating digital environment, knowing how both your personal and business reputations translate onto the social platforms is more critical than ever. This discussion by Brent Williams, CSI, CDT, will teach you what a Personal Brand is, how to define your personal brand, how building a personal brand will increase your value to your employer and how moving your reputation into the digital is going to be critical as the economy continues to move increasingly into the digital domain.

Speaker Bio: Brent began his involvement in CSI in 2004, quickly rising to leadership as President of the Knoxville Chapter in 2006-2007 and then moving on to service at the Region and Institute levels. During his service at the National level, Brent began teaching about deploying Social Media for the design community in 2009 and spoke as a Social Media Educator on behalf of the Construction Specifications Institute from 2009-2014. Speaking engagements have included CSI Chapters across the country, Region Seminars and speaking at Construct itself. As an entrepreneur with over 38 years of business experience who has built multiple companies in the construction marketplace, Brent is qualified as speaker on the digital marketplace, brand and direct marketing, social media integration and business strategy. A longtime CSI member, Brent has won awards on communication in the construction environment at the Chapter, Region and National levels. Based in Knoxville, Tennessee, Brent has made a career of design, representation, fabrication and creative problem solving, all while helping empower teams to be successful in the built environment. His consulting company, Archteva, focuses on optimizing electronic communication, promoting excellence in practice marketing, understanding your client lifecycle and branding within the connection economy.

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Technical Session 7 – Technology Integrated – Virtual Reality

Speaker: Tom Retnauer, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Retnauer Baynes Associates



Description:

Learning Objectives:

After attending this program, participants will be able to:

1. Develop fluency in virtual reality and understand what it means
2. Learn how virtual reality is achieved in the design industry
3. Examine how to use virtual reality and the benefits within the design industry
4. Evaluate the different approaches to virtual reality in the design industry

Speaker Bio: Thomas Retnauer serves as RBA's President. His primary duty is quality control. He has over 20 years of experience in the architectural field and is registered in multiple states along the East Coast. Mr. Retnauer uses this experience to ensure that plan details/instructions are distinctly noted for contractors. His secondary duty is to serve as Lead Designer for RBA. In this capacity, he does something uncommon in this day and age - he listens. He goes to great lengths to fully understand our clients' vision and to turn that vision into reality. Mr. Retnauer also provides computer visualization services for RBA.

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Technical Session 8 – Panel Discussion – Connecting the Dots into the Future

Speakers: Tom Retnauer, Brent Williams, and Razan Altiraifi

Description: A final gathering to bring questions, comments, and ideas together in the form of a panel discussion. This session will help us all connect and understand how these technology innovations will impact our normal processes and show how important communication will be moving forward.