

VICTORIA KIECHEL, ARCHITECT, AIA

LEED AP BD+C, ID+C, O+M, ND, HOMES

PROFESSORIAL LECTURER, GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLITICS PROGRAM
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SUMMARY

Through architecture, research, and teaching, I design and implement solutions to the problems of our built environment.

I serve as architect to institutions in need of affordable sustainable design. For the Washington, DC Capitol Hill School Libraries Project, I designed the library for Maury Elementary School and I am the architect for the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund's Washington, DC offices near 16th and K Streets, NW.

I teach sustainable design and urbanism at American University's (AU) School of International Service in Washington, DC (<http://www.american.edu/profiles/faculty/kiechel.cfm>) and as an adjunct at New York University's Washington, DC campus. I was the inaugural recipient of AU's *Most Innovative Green Teacher of the Year* award. I developed and lead the local-scale sustainable design practicum for AU's graduate students, an alternate to writing the Master of Arts thesis.

In my work for the Cadmus Group, a public good consultancy, I support the creation of high performing new and existing buildings and cities. My clients include the U.S. Green Building Council, U.S. EPA's ENERGY STAR, the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Smithsonian Institution, and the States of Wisconsin and Arkansas.

EDUCATION

- M. Arch. with distinction, Harvard Graduate School of Design, Harvard University.
- M. Phil., Pembroke College, Oxford University, Oxford, England; **Rhodes Scholar**.
- B.A./M.A., Pembroke College, Oxford University, Oxford, England; **Rhodes Scholar**.
- B.A. magna cum laude, Yale College.

AWARDS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- 2010 Recipient of American University's Most Innovative Green Teacher of the Year Award.
- Julia Amory Appleton Traveling Fellowship, the Harvard Graduate School of Design.
- The Paris Prize, National Institute of Architectural Education.
- Chauncey Brewster Tinker Prize, Yale College.
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional, U.S. Green Building Certification Institute, with all five specialties: Building Design + Construction (BD+C), Operations + Maintenance (O+M), Interior Design + Construction (ID+C), Neighborhood Development (ND), Homes.
- LEED Accredited Project Reviewer.
- Registered Architect, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and Washington, DC.
- Member, American Institute of Architects.

EXPERIENCE

Victoria Kiechel, Architect, AIA, 1992 - present

- Residential, commercial, institutional work. Responsible for the design of many different space types, including office and commercial space; arts, academic, and institutional spaces; and residential architecture, both multi- and single-family. Designed modernist and green residences and multi-family housing throughout the Washington metro area. Featured in Washingtonian Magazine and in local exhibitions. List of projects available upon request.
- Knowledge and application of national and international building and green building standards and rating systems like LEED, ENERGY STAR, the International Energy Conservation Code, the International Building Code, the International Green Construction Code, and ASHRAE Standard 189.1.
- Apprenticed with Spanish architect Rafael Moneo, one of the world's most important contemporary architects, for whom she served as the project architect for the Davis Museum and Cultural Center at Wellesley College. Named recipient, 2000 Gold Medal, Boston Society of Architects, for the Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley, MA.
- Recent projects include the offices of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the library for Maury Elementary School, and a science room and science garden for Horace Mann Elementary School, all in Washington, D.C.

American University School of International Service, Global Environmental Politics Faculty, 2009 - present

- Courses taught, graduate-level:
 - *Local-scale Design Practicum*
 - *Sustainable Design and LEED*
 - *Washington Workshop*
- Courses taught, undergraduate-level:
 - *Sustainable Cities*
 - *Environmental Sustainability and Global Health*
 - *Think Like an Architect*
 - *Sustainable Development: The Greensboro Project*
- Practicum developer and leader of a nine-person graduate student team on low-impact development and design for the National Capital Planning Commission's SW Ecodistrict, spring semester, 2013. Final student report available at http://www.american.edu/sis/gep/upload/Sustainable-Design-Practicum-2013_Final-Report.pdf.
- Capstone Honors advisor and Substantial Research Project (SRP) advisor, Global Environmental Politics Program, for more than twelve SRPs to date. Capstones and SRPs supervised have included: *Green Building Policy in Costa Rica*; *Recycling in Detroit, the Motor City*; *New and Existing Ecocities Compared*; *Urban Planning in Bogota*; *Urban Dog Parks*.
- 2010 Recipient of American University's Most Innovative Green Teacher of the Year Award.

New York University, Washington DC Campus Adjunct Faculty, 2012 - present

- Tutorial: *Globalizing Social Activism: Sustainable Development in Urban Areas*.

Senior Associate and Architect, The Cadmus Group, Inc., 2008 - present

- Project lead and co-developer, the TripAdvisor GreenLeaders certification system and global adaptation. Co-inventor of Cadmus' sustainable tourism practice.

Victoria Kiechel, Architect, LEED AP⁺

- Principal author, technical lead, and manager for the Appalachian Regional Commission's study on *Planning and Financing Energy Efficient Infrastructure in Appalachia* (December, 2011), resulting in an energy-efficiency implementation toolkit and voluntary efficiency improvement framework for local governments, cost benefit analyses of eight key best management practices, and a discussion of financing alternatives (see summary under Publications, below). Conference presenter.
- Project manager and technical lead for 2012-13 redevelopment of training resources for the ENERGY STAR Commercial and Industrial program. Sector lead for ENERGY STAR, supporting clients on issues including energy efficiency, benchmarking, and curriculum development and workforce training in energy efficiency. National webinar presenter.
- Manager and technical lead for integrated sustainability planning in support of the Smithsonian Institution on behalf of Adams Communication. Development of the Strategic Sustainability Performance Plan and the Sustainable Buildings Implementation Plan to meet internal Smithsonian LEED mandates and Federal sustainability goals in President Obama's Executive Order 13514. Author of LEED and Federal requirements analyses and crosswalks. Presenter to Institution staff and contractors.
- Co-manager and technical lead for support and further development of the State of Wisconsin's Travel Green Wisconsin green tourism rating system.
- Green building design and LEED consulting manager. Projects at various scales, including: a rain garden design for an office complex in Fairfax County, Virginia; LEED for New Construction consulting services for Parsons Infrastructure at NASA's Goddard campus; LEED for Existing Buildings: Operations & Maintenance consulting services for 1101 K Street NW, Washington, DC for JBG Properties and the Rockefeller Group.
- Training lead and content developer for energy manager's training, State of Arkansas, a curriculum that combines classroom learning, recorded sessions, and field training. The 18-module curriculum includes sessions on building codes, utility fundamentals, O&M principles, performance contracting, and water conservation, as well as systems-specific content on renewables, heat pumps, commercial cooling and heating, domestic hot water, and more. Sample links to sessions recorded live by Arkansas Education Television available upon request.
- Technical Lead in support of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Responsible for delivering talks and webinars on its various aspects for Cadmus clients, including the Southeast Rebuild Collaborative and the Public Technology Institute. Assisted local and State governments, including Des Moines, Iowa and Phoenix, Arizona, in developing Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategies, a requirement of ARRA funding from the Department of Energy. Technical advisor on diverse "eligible activities" including: energy efficiency retrofits; the establishment of revolving loan funds for energy efficiency initiatives; mortgage buy-down programs for energy efficient homes; renewable energy initiatives; LED traffic and street light initiatives; energy benchmarking; and building commissioning.
- Manager of the behind-the-scenes team of contractors supporting the US Green Building Council in the creation of version 3 of the LEED Rating Systems.
- Co-principal Investigator, EPRI and the Water Research Environment Foundation study and final report, *Sustainable Water Resources Management, Volume 2: Case Studies* (January, 2010), evaluating the relationship among green building practices, green building rating systems, and water resource sustainability (see summary under Publications, below).

Georgetown University, Adjunct Instructor, 2003 - 2008

- Courses taught: *The American City; Architecture and Spatial Literacy; Contemporary American Architecture.*

- Master of Arts thesis advisor; American Studies senior thesis advisor.

Catholic University of America School of Architecture, Adjunct Instructor, 1998 - 2001

- Courses taught: 300 and 400 level undergraduate design studios; elective, *Washington, DC: An Urban History*.

PUBLICATIONS

- I. Appalachian Regional Commission study, *Planning and Financing Energy Efficient Infrastructure in Appalachia* (December 31, 2011), available at http://www.arc.gov/research/researchreportdetails.asp?REPORT_ID=97

Description: The cost savings that can be realized from energy-efficiency improvements can be a significant source of wealth for local communities. This study describes the benefits of capturing energy efficiency in public infrastructure, including municipal buildings and water and wastewater treatment systems. The study identifies best practices in resource conservation that are being implemented by communities in or near the Appalachian Region, and documents costs and financial returns. It evaluates practical tools for resource efficiency according to four criteria: longevity (established track record and adequate future funding); credible content evolving in response to user needs; customer assistance and partnership potential; and low- or no-cost status. The study outlines a self-assessment system that can be used by county or municipal governments to assist them in identifying, implementing, and assessing progress towards energy-efficiency goals. Case studies are provided of Appalachian counties that promoted a culture of energy efficiency and sustainability and pursued the development of energy-efficient infrastructure. The study concludes by describing partnership and financing opportunities and providing recommendations for ways communities can plan their own steps toward greater energy efficiency.

- II. Electric Power Research Institute and the Water Research Environment Foundation Final Report, *Sustainable Water Resources Management, Volume 2: Case Studies* (January, 2010), *Evaluation of Sustainable Water Management and Green Building Approaches*, available at <http://www.decentralizedwater.org/documents/DEC6SG06b/Green%20Building%20Case%20Studies.pdf>

Description: A major societal challenge is to meet the growing demand for water – driven by development and affected by climate variability and land-use change – while protecting the environment and human health. The green building movement is changing the way construction is implemented in the United States. Green building rating systems, however, may not adequately incorporate important principles of sustainable water cycles. For the Electric Power Research Institute, this study examines the issue of how well green building rating systems assess and reward good practices in sustainable water management. Beginning with descriptions of three examples of buildings with recognized good water management practices -- including stormwater control, water conservation, and decentralized wastewater treatment -- this report quantifies their water-related impacts in a wider, watershed context. Alongside this measure, the study then looks at how three green building rating systems would rate these case studies, making note of the strengths and weaknesses of these rating systems with respect to water management. Finally, the report considers the barriers and challenges to good water management practices from a variety of sources: zoning codes, universal standards, human expectations and behavior, and the green building rating systems themselves.

PRESENTATIONS

- January 10, 2014. Presentation, Ann Ferren Conference, American University, “Using the American University Campus as a Sustainability Teaching Tool.” Washington, DC.
- October 23, 2013. Moderator of panel, “Food Deserts and Food Policy: A Case Study of Washington, DC.” NYU-DC, Washington, DC and live-streamed to NYU - Washington Square, New York City.
- October 8, 2013. Panelist, Urban Land Institute, “Case Study: 1307 L Street NW.” Washington, DC.
- March 23, 2013. Juror, Howard University Honors Program, competition. Washington, DC.
- March 16, 2013. Presentation, NYU-Tisch Dean’s Scholars, “Art, Architecture, Activism.” Washington, DC.
- September 28, 2012. Presentation, Howard University Honors Program, “Promoting Environmental Activism through ENERGY STAR.” Washington, DC.
- October 12, 2012: Presentation, Howard University. “Benchmarking, Auditing, and More: High School Students as Change Agents for Energy Efficiency.” Washington, DC.
- October 10 -11, 2011. Two presentations, AASHE National Conference 2011, “Bridging the Information Gap in Campus Energy Management: Sub-metering Buildings for Energy Use Reduction,” and “Energy Management in the Curriculum: The ENERGY STAR Course for Colleges and Universities.” Pittsburgh, PA.
- September 21, 2011 Panel, “Building Sustainability: Frontiers of Architecture and Policy,” The Embassy of Switzerland and American University, Washington, DC.
- July 29, 2011. Presentation, The National Council on Science and the Environment Conference on the Green Energy Economy, “The Pivotal Role of Green Buildings in Advancing a Clean Energy Economy.” Arlington, VA.
- June 21, 2011. Presentation, Design DC annual regional AIA convention, “Responding to the Climate Change Imperative.” Washington, DC.
- March 29 through April 1, 2011, International Water Association Efficient 2011 Conference. Three presentations: “A United States Approach to Energy and Water Infrastructure,” “Real World Lessons from Ten Years of Integrated Water and Energy Management,” and “ Water Management and Green Building Rating Systems.” Ishtar, Jordan.
- October 15, 2010. Presentation, New York State American Institute of Architects Convention, “Responding to the Climate Change Imperative.” Buffalo, NY.
- August 26, 2010. Presentation, Baltimore-Washington Chapter, International Association of Museum Facility Administrators, “Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED TM): An Introduction.” Baltimore, MD.
- April 23, 2010. Panel, “The Branding of Sustainability,” Harvard University School of Design, Zofnass Program for Sustainable Infrastructure. Cambridge, MA.
- April 8, 2010. Panel, “Sustainable Urbanization and Community Resilience: A Panel Discussion on the Social, Economic, and Environmental Strategies contributing to Urban Resilience,” American University, Washington, DC.

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- March 26, 2010. Presentation, “Planning and Financing Energy-Efficient Infrastructure: Tools for the Appalachian Region,” Southern Scientific Research Association Conference. Arlington, VA.
- March 1, 2010. Presentation and progress report, “Planning and Financing Energy-Efficient Infrastructure: Tools for the Appalachian Region,” Local Development Districts of Appalachia Conference. Arlington, VA.
- June 2009 presentations to Workshop 2, EPRI stakeholder panel review of three case studies on green building and water management, as outlined in pp. B-5 through B-10 and following in <http://www.decentralizedwater.org/documents/DEC6SG06/Executive%20Summary.pdf>. Washington, DC.

EXHIBITIONS AND PUBLISHED WORK

- 2009. *Washingtonian* Magazine (May, 2009): the Gurian-Anderson House.
- 2004. Invited exhibition, “4 WALLS,” Washington, DC (curated by the DC AIA): recent work.
- 2003. Invited exhibition, “21 : 4 : 21: Twenty-one Architects Building for the 21st Century,” Washington, DC (curated by the DC AIA): recent work.
- 2003. In *Architecture DC* (summer, 2003 issue, page 26): “Bathrooms Exposed!”
- 2003. In *Architecture DC* (spring, 2003 “Architecture Ahead” issue, page 21): “7th and Q Streets, NW.”
- 2003. In *Architecture DC* (spring, 2003 “Architecture in Progress” issue, page 19): “Woodridge Public Library.”
- 1988-90. USIA exhibition of American architecture, touring the Russian Republics between St. Petersburg and Vladivostok: two mobile home prototypes.
- 1989. *An American House*: the National Institute for Architectural Education, the Paris Prize catalogue.
- 1989. Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial Competition, Milford, MA: honorable mention.
- 1988. *Boston Visions*, the Boston Society of Architects (catalog 1989): second place.

LANGUAGES

- Reading and speaking knowledge: French, Spanish, and some Italian.