



AIA

Middle Pennsylvania

April / May 2007

Middle Chapter Visits Penn College of Technology

Madigan Library Presentation Enlightening

Outside of the speaking to the client, an architect is not given many opportunities to explain his or her accepted constructed design to a diverse and attentive audience. However, this was the case on the evening of March 23, 2007, in the Thompson Professional Development Center. The Center is located on the impressive campus of Penn College in Williamsport. Mr. Benedict Dubbs, AIA, of Murray Associates Architects had just such an opportunity and explained his design and the subtle features of the \$13 million Madigan Library located a few buildings away on the Campus.

Mr. Dubbs utilized a unique power point display that started with the overall colored graphic plan and then minimized this graphic. Then a photo of the finished area under discussion ballooned on the screen from the plan. This method provided a striking visual to the audience and assisted immensely in understanding the design concepts.

The presentation explained how the overall goal of making the library a space that the students *wanted* to stay in all day in order to take advantage of all the features. Ease of circulation to the building and within the building reduced the need for a number of signs. The placement of bookshelves and spaces were features that helped in sound reduction which in turn negated the need for whispering, but still insuring a quiet space in which to study.

Natural lighting topped with a three-story atrium in the center circulation space also presents the students with an inviting element. All furniture was locally designed and installed and continued the comfort of the space with warm wood tones. To complete the space the library also includes wireless technology used by the students and a space that houses a coffee shop.

The building's third floor features an art gallery and archive space which where both sorely needed on the campus to house and protect the College's growing collections.

The AIA Middle Chapter would like to thank Mr. Benedict Dubbs, AIA for his insightful presentation and also one of our own members,

ASHRAE / AIA Joint Meeting Held at Marzoni's Restaurant

MOLD — THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY — SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION

Dave Reasinger welcomed members from both ASHRAE and AIA Middle Chapter to the fourth joint meeting of the two organizations. The program for the evening was a discussion and presentation on "mold awareness". Mr. Daniel Yaffe of ALC Environmental, Inc., New York, New York is an environmental consultant with a great deal of experience and expertise in this field. Mr. Yaffe's firm offers classes covering radon, asbestos, as well as mold that qualify for continuing education credit.

The discussion began with why we seem to be hearing more about mold, people's increased awareness of the potential of mold occurring in buildings and fear of how that presence could effect our health. "There is no such thing as 'killer mold'," stated Mr. Yaffe, "but if it's inside your walls and you can't see it, it could cost tens of thousand of dollars to get rid of it." Mold was described as a fungus whose purpose is to break down dead material. Mold is spread by spores. To determine if mold is present in a building, technicians test whether spores are present in the air in a given indoor space.

If mold is present, persons who are sensitive may have problems. Those problems may range from nasal and sinus infections, eye irritation, hacking cough, nose or throat irritation, and if a person has asthma, the effects could be very harmful. Those at greatest risk are people with compromised immune systems. An important point to remember is that even if the mold is dead, the spores that spread the mold are still alive. Therefore, any effort to remove the dead mold with taking extensive precautions can spread the spores and cause additional problems.

(Continued . . . See "Mold", Page 3)



Daniel Yaffe, ALC Environmental, discusses mold problems in construction



*View of the Madigan Library
Pa. College of Technology*



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From the President's Desk

The two events held in March were a success thanks to the people who generously volunteered their time, talent, and treasure. The Bedford Springs Hotel tour was lead by Jim Paschke, Senior Project Manager for Reynolds Construction Management. With a completion date set for June 15, 2007, everyone but Jim doubted that the looming hotel construction project would be done on time. Jim said he never missed a deadline. He was so confident that he spent three hours of his time with us explaining the unique, multi-faceted building. Thanks again, Jim.

Benedict Dubbs, AIA of Murray Associates Architects, P.C. presented the design of the Madigan Library on the campus of Penn College in Williamsport to students and professionals. The Chapter extends a sincere thank you for all the insights he shared for our benefit.

Fredrick Fernsler Architecture, Robert A. Lack Architecture and Design, and Larson Design Group paid for the meals of Penn College students who attended the March 23, 2007 AIA program at Penn College. Thanks to them, thirty students showed up and outnumbered the professionals. As we anticipated, there is great interest there and our Chapter would like to return to Penn College again next year.

2007 is rapidly progressing. Remember to check out these things:

- The AIA National Convention has come and gone. Look to *www.aia.org* for all the information generated by this event.
- Our next AIA function is the annual picnic on July 13, 2007.
- PAC contributions must be received by June 1, 2007 to be recognized on the PAC Honor Roll in the Pennsylvania Annual Magazine.
- All members will soon be invited to submit to the PA Builds 2007 publication.
- Please see the 2007 Symposium information on our website homepage.
- We are beginning to look ahead to next year. Please consider volunteering for a leadership position with our Chapter or provide suggestions for future events. If we do the same things with the same people it will be "like deja-vu, all over again" as Yogi Berra would say.

Brian W. Hayes, AIA
President, AIA Middle PA Chapter



2006 Award Presented by AIA Pennsylvania

PSU's Spanier Recognized for Contribution to the Professional by a Non-Architect

Each year, AIA members submit to AIA Pennsylvania nominations of a non-architectural professional individual whose work has directly impacted the profession of Architecture. The members of the Middle Chapter submitted the name of Dr. Graham B. Spanier, President, The Pennsylvania State University, for this distinguished award.

On April 6, 2007, Caroline Boyce, Executive Director, AIA PA; John R. Hill, AIA, President, AIA PA; Dallas L. Miller, AIA, Board Representative, AIA PA; and David E. Reasinger, Associate AIA, M. P.C. AIA, were present in the Gilpin Room at the Nittany Lion Inn as University President Spanier was presented with a plaque commemorating his 2006 Award for Contribution to the Profession by a Non-Architect.

Dr. Spanier was recognized in part for his "keen interest in the design of the campus buildings and outdoor spaces . . . devotion of time to understand the issues that drive each project and provide input to push the design team to attain superior results."

Congratulations to Dr. Graham Spanier and continued success in the total development of The Pennsylvania State University.



MOLD (Continued from Page 1)

The conditions that mold must have to survive are food, water, and air. Because it would be virtually impossible to totally eliminate mold's food source or air, the only avenue is to eliminate water from the equation. Moisture in a building can be traced to poor design or poor construction and/or construction practices. More tightly built buildings decrease air circulation and can trap moisture inside the structure. Uneven heating can also lead to moisture. Another source of moisture in a building is poor operation and maintenance permitting water to overflow in drain gutters and enter the building.

What should we look for? If you see mold, you have mold. Staining from water, a musty odor, swelling of wall board or other finishes, crumbling of materials — all of these are signs of the presence of mold. In order to remove mold in a safe and proper manner, be sure to employ contractors who have a proven track record for removal. All material removed from the building should be sealed in plastic. However, no special disposition of the material is required.

Steps for resolution of mold presence is to determine the cause of the moisture and correct it; dry the area for 24 to 48 hours; clean all non-porous surfaces; remove all porous material and replace; remove and replace any wet fiberglass insulation; and, finally, don't run HVAC systems to prevent the spread of spores throughout the building.

We like to thank ASHRAE and Mr. Yaffe for a highly informative and enjoyable evening. See you at next year's joint meeting!

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER

The recent change in distributing our newsletter to the internet via the aiamiddlepennsylvania.com web page is an opportunity to review the content and design of this chapter activity. A committee will be meeting on May 22 to review the newsletter and to consider how we can make it more entertaining, educational and useful to you our readers. Your ideas on where to take the newsletter are most welcome. Please let us know how we can better meet your expectations for this publication.

Also, we are always in need of content and in need of 'reporters'. Let us know, if you are interested in being on our team. Contact either Dee Columbus at tta2000@comcast.net or Dick Fruth at jrfruth2@msn.com

The Chapter Newsletter Committee



Symposium — SAVE THE DATE !!!



Mark your calendars for *Investing in Green - Challenges and Opportunities for Practitioners and Clients*, scheduled for **Thursday, October 25** in downtown Johnstown. While you're there, you can:

- earn up to five CES unites
- network with colleagues from across the region
- check out the latest products and services at the vendor exhibition
- enjoy dinner and a special presentation by Penn State architectural students at the City View Bar & Grill, atop the Johnstown Inclined Plane

For more information, contact Anne McGrath at annefmcgrath@verizon.net or 814.539.1317. Vendor exhibition information is also available at www.aiamiddlepa.org.

See you there!

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

Remember — Brian L. Mayko, Associate AIA, is the Continuing Education Registrar for the Middle Chapter. Don't forget to get your information to Brian to make sure that all of your credits are counted.

HEY!! LET'S STAY CONNECTED

Please remember to make sure that Dave Reasinger receives any changes and/or additions in your mailing address and contact information including email addresses. Also, please make sure that Dave receives information for new members in the Middle Chapter. **Thanks!**



FORENSIC ARCHITECTURE

BEYOND SMACNA WITH ROOFING SHEET METAL

We Architects rarely fall asleep with the latest, SMACNA Architectural Sheet Metal Manual on our pillows.

Recommend you look at the 6th Edition, Sept. 2003, Page 2.9, and Figure 2-5, Formed Gravel-Stop-Fascia – Joint Systems after purchasing the Manual at www.smacna.org.

We aren't really thinking out in the field about how roofing sheet metal pieces should go together. We're usually relying on the specified phrase, "install per manufacturer's installation instructions".

At a three year old metal roof installation the Owner complained of leaking, stained ceiling tiles, and rust stains visible most of the way down the interior corridor walls. As soon as each rain arrived wiped clean walls showed rust again.

Up on the roof we observed that the standing seam roof panels have rusted completely through several areas of a small portion of the building's metal roofing.

A piece of coat hanger wire was gently poked into a ridge cap lap joint above the rusted roof panels unopposed.

The ridge cap was manufactured by a nationally known metal building manufacturer.

Neither SMACNA or the manufacturer's installation instructions were followed.

During installation two beads of sealant were not installed between the roof cap laps. The sealant would have prevented wind driven rain from getting through the ridge cap lapped joint and running down slope where it was trapped under the metal.

The entire roof will have to be replaced as the seams were field machine seamed. Replacement will begin at the edge of the roof beginning with the first unseamed metal roof panel edge (the eave).

The following important SMACNA guidelines were ignored:

1. Acknowledge that the metal will expand and contract; accommodate that movement.
 - a. Where there will be sheet metal movement make sure there is a backed-up concealed sealant dam protecting sliding metal mating surfaces. Most manufacturers prefer two beads of sealant. Do not use cheap paint grade caulking. Silicone sealant has a 30-year minimum life expectancy.
 - b. The cap was screwed in place; do not use exposed screws as they do not allow expansion and contraction of the sheet metal and will eventually work loose causing leaking and, eventually sheet metal blow-off. Use continuous concealed 18 gauge galvanized sheet metal cleats in lieu of screws. The cleats let the metal that is exposed to the weather expand and contract freely. The cap edge with only one hemmed edge and a partially hemmed edge should engage the cleat on one side and be field hemmed over the opposite side cleat.
 - c. Provide a SMACNA cap (similar to Figure 2-5A) that allows the gapped metal cap below to freely slide.
 - d. Also note that the bottom cap edges are notched for a snug top cap sealant compressing joint.

In addition to knowing SMACNA it is crucial that you see that their recommendations are drawn, specified, and observed in the field. Doing so will save you a bunch of fuss later on that you're probably not going to get paid for.

Respectfully Submitted.

Albert S. "Toby" Roberts, Jr. AIA CCS

The Middle Pa. Chapter AIA welcomes comments and questions regarding this and future "Forensic Architecture" articles. Please direct your thoughts to Toby at L. Robert Kimball and Associates, Ph. 814 472-7700 Ext. 342. Better yet, email Toby at toby-roberts@lrkimball.com.

2007 Tentative Calendar

May

3-5 AIA National Convention: San Antonio, TX;
Growing Beyond Green

22 Web Site and/or Newsletter Committee

July

13 Annual Picnic: Loretto, PA,
Klein Immergrun

Sept

TBA Chapter Meeting: Flight 93 Memorial,
Somerset, PA (Seven Springs)
or Carpenters Union, Gallitzin, PA
Insulated Concrete Structures

Oct

25 2007 Symposium: Green Building Alliance,
Pasquerilla Conference Center, Johnstown,
PA

TBA PA Builds: Project Submissions

Nov

13-14 AIA PA: Leadership Conference &
Architect's Day, Harrisburg, PA

Nov/Dec

TBA PSU/AIAS – Lecture & Election of
Officers, Penn State University, SALA
Building

Dec

TBA Retreat: 2008 Planning Session

AIA Associates Corner

Here are your links in 2006

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Deadline for articles for the next
newsletter is June 22, 2007

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