UIA Year of Design for Health

Healthy Cities and Public Spaces

Live webinar
Monday 25 April 2022 | 14:00 Paris time

George J. Mann founded and today chairs both George J. Mann & Associates, Planners & Architects and the RPD (Resource Planning and Development) Group. In 1966, he founded the unique, internationally recognised "Architecture for Health" Programme at Texas A&M University. Together with Ronald L. Skaggs, and Joseph G. Sprague, he pioneered the concept of a practice-based research and design studios, producing over 100 actual "Architecture for Health" projects around the world. He has taught over 4000 students many of whom are now leaders in the field of "Architecture for Health". He has been a member of the UIA – PHG continuously since 1970 and served as Director from 2012 to 2013.

Ray Pentecost, Director of the UIA Public Health Group, is also the Director of the Center for Health Systems & Design (CHSD) at Texas A&M University (TAMU), College of Architecture and holds the Ronald L. Skaggs and Joseph G. Sprague Chair of Health Facilities Design. He is a Fellow in both the American Institute of Architects and the American College of Healthcare Architects, a former Licensed Long Term Care Administrator and a LEED Accredited Professional. He is a Past President of the American College of Healthcare Architects, a two-time Past President of the AIA Academy of Architecture for Health, and a Past Co-Chair of the AIA's America’s Design & Health Initiative.

Konstantinos Moraitis is currently a member of Arsis Architects. He has taught at National Technical University of Athens since 1983, and leads the postgraduate seminars, “History and Theory of Landscape Design” and “Environment and Development”. He has published widely including architectural projects, scientific articles, tutorial books and monographs and earned numerous distinctions in architectural competitions in Greece, Cyprus and abroad. He is a member of the Hellenic Society of Aesthetics, the Greek Philosophical Society, the Hellenic Section of ICOMOS and the Hellenic Section of the UIA.

Thomas Schinko is the principle architect of VASCONI ARCHITECTS, a Paris-based architecture firm with offices in Luxembourg and Hong Kong. He is a member of the UIA-Public Healthcare Group. His main areas of interest include designing healthcare facilities, green architecture and master planning. The Masterplan project in Gandja was developed in close collaboration with French urban designer Gilles Sabarros and has been recognised with several international urban design awards. Director (2000-2012) of VP-Cité, the urban design branch of the French architecture firm, Valode & Pistre, he joined Vasconi in 2014 and won the masterplan project for expo-2017 in Astana in 2015. The Gandja 2040 Masterplan started in 2020, right before the pandemic and the 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war.

José Chong currently the Global Public Space Programme at the Planning, Finance and Economy Section of UN-Habitat. He guides the development of new tools for public space assessments and city-wide strategies and applies innovative methodologies for community participation as well as collaborative urban design. He is the Section focal point for Latin American countries and Arab States. He has over twenty years of experience working with the private sector, non-profit organizations and local and national governments. He has lectured on Architecture & Urban Design, Human Settlements and Bioclimatic Urbanism. A trained urban planner and licenced architect, he specializes in Renewable Energies, Sustainable Architecture and Urbanism.

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