

A photograph of a modern, multi-story building with large glass windows and a prominent 'UTHealth' logo on the facade. The building is set against a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The foreground shows some greenery and a paved area.

2024 COAA-TX SPRING SYMPOSIUM

MAY 14-15

AGENDA

TUESDAY, MAY 14

- 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Registration and Networking
- 10:00 AM - 10:15 AM Welcome and Introductions
COAA Cares Introduction of ACE Mentoring
- 10:15 AM - 11:45 AM **SESSION 1: The Future is Happening Today: AI in AEC - What's Next is Now!**
- 11:45 AM - 12:30 PM Q&A, Break, and Lunch
- 11:45 AM - 12:30 PM COAA Cares: Speed Connections with ACE Students
- 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM **SESSION 2: Digital Quality Assurance: Enabling a New Paradigm in Construction**
- 1:45 PM - 3:45 PM **PROJECT TOURS: TMC Helix Park or Levit Green**
- 4:15 PM - 6:45 PM **Fireside Chat and Networking Reception**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

- 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM Breakfast and Networking
- 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM **SESSION 3: Renovation, Resiliency & Revitalization: Integrating Current Trends to an Active Level 1 Trauma Department for a Modern Brand Update**
- 9:45 AM - 10:45 AM **SESSION 4: Measuring Workforce Impact on Project Success**
- 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM **SESSION 5: Strategic Facilities Assessment and Capital Planning with Software Innovation**
- 12:00 PM - 12:15 PM Break and Lunch
- 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM **SESSION 6: Reshaping TXDot - A Case Study for Their Austin Campus**
- 1:15 PM - 1:30 PM Wrap Up and Closing Remarks

SESSION ONE

The Future is Happening Today: AI in AEC - What's Next is Now!

AI has dropped a bomb on the public lexicon in the past year. Suddenly it is everywhere, and you don't know what you don't know. If you are feeling curious, lost, or even left behind, you are not alone. How do you wade through the technology, keep updated on every advancement happening at light speed, and most importantly, understand how it impacts you, your job, and your business?

Kristin Kautz | JAM Idea Agency

Kristin Lynn Kautz, CPSM is an experienced marketer with over 25 years of expertise in the architecture, engineering, and construction industry. With a passion for innovation and technology, Kristin has become a leading expert in AI for the built environment, helping companies implement and integrate AI into their operations, from small firms to large corporations. AI is revolutionizing our industry. With a deep understanding of the latest AI trends and technologies, Kristin provides strategic guidance and develops customized organizational structures, guidelines, policies, procedures, communications/roll-out, and training to ensure that companies can fully leverage AI to drive growth, improve efficiency and productivity, and enhance both client and employee satisfaction. Her unique blend of marketing expertise, industry knowledge, and technical know-how has made her a sought-after speaker and thought leader in the field of AI for the built environment. Kristin has been the featured AI speaker for SMPS locally, regionally, and nationally in addition to the Society for Design Administration (SDA), Project Mark, Chief Executive Network, Zweig Group, ACEC, Urban Land Institute, and multiple CEO cohorts. Kristin is committed to advancing the use of AI in the AEC industry and helping companies stay at the forefront of innovation.



Brittany Anderson | LJA Engineering

Brittany Anderson is the Director of Real Estate and Facilities at LJA Engineering, Inc., overseeing a team of over 35 professionals and managing more than 60 projects across 50 U.S. offices. With 15 years of experience in corporate development, real estate, and construction management, she has a proven record of reducing operational costs and identifying new revenue streams. Currently pursuing Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) and Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst (CAIA) certifications, Brittany has a proactive leadership style that fosters team development and mentorship. She is also a certified Project Management Professional (PMP®) and trainer in 'The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People'. Brittany holds dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Accounting and Finance from Penn State University. Her analytical skills have been crucial in ensuring fiscal responsibility and positive business outcomes. Her community engagement and internal service have earned her the President's Award for Internal Service, underscoring her dedication to both internal and external stakeholders. As a leader at LJA Engineering, she is focused on sustaining the company's market leadership through strategic operational and financial planning.



SESSION TWO

Digital Quality Assurance: Enabling a New Paradigm in Construction

The construction industry is on the cusp of an enormous transformation. Digital Quality Assurance for construction is a required critical business system. Owners, developers, and GCs are adopting a new quality standard by uniformly scoring every building and every system by aligning trades to quality benchmarks; and unifying standards across portfolios and project pipelines.

In this session, the audience will learn how Digital Quality Assurance significantly enhances today's QA/QC programs across project types and regions. Listeners will learn first-hand from early adopters about how they are already managing and changing behavior in the field and providing actionable business insights to leadership. They will dive deeply into the process needed to take place in order to yield high-performing portfolios.

By informing and elevating field behavior and expectations to achieve new quality assurance standards, what broader and additional initiatives will result from undertaking this transformation? The session will conclude with the panel's perspective on what this new quality paradigm could enable in the industry, including pre construction plan verification, heavier reliance on off-site prefabrication (field tolerance matches factory tolerances), better informed building maintenance and repairs, and other advantageous programs for building owners.

SESSION TWO PRESENTERS

Phil Williams

Director of Design Build Construction

Google

As a member of Google's Real Estate Workplace Service team he is responsible for the successful delivery of design and construction projects (both new and existing office and lab buildings) for stable and optimized operations. Design and construction quality are the foundation used to deliver the "User Experience", "Right Cost Operations" and "Reduced Consumption of Natural Resources" (Carbon and water).



Todd Harper | Austin Commercial

Todd Harper is the Director of Construction Technology at Austin Commercial. His early years were as an architect for esteemed firms like Jacobs, formerly Carter & Burgess, and Good Fulton & Farrell Architects. In 2007, Harper joined JE Dunn to help grow their BIM service initiatives.

In 2010 he assumed the Director of Virtual Construction role at Austin Commercial. Over the past fourteen years, Harper has shaped and refined Austin Commercial's BIM/VDC services and technology stack and built a dynamic team of 'change agents' who share his passion for driving industry-wide transformation. Together, they have propelled AustinEDGE to the forefront of innovation with their forward-thinking approach. A graduate of Louisiana State University, Harper is a Registered Architect in the State of Texas with AIA, NCARB, and LEED certifications.



Mark Cover | Hines

Mark oversees all development, acquisition, and operations activities in Hines' Southwest Region, including Texas, Colorado, Arizona, Mexico, and Central America. He is a member of the firm's Executive Committee.



With a career spanning more than four decades, Mark has played a vital role in expanding the Southwest Region's breadth of development, management, and acquisition experience to include office projects, land development, arts and cultural, mixed-use, multifamily, self-storage, and sports and medical facilities.

Mark earned a Bachelor of Science in Accounting from Bob Jones University and is a retired certified public accountant. Outside of Hines, he enjoys hiking, biking, history and mentoring young entrepreneurs.

Tyler McManaman

Product Owner

Siteaware

Tyler came to Siteaware in early 2022 with a background in Construction where he served as a Senior Project Manager for two ENR top 125 companies. Since arriving to Siteaware Tyler's role has shifted from Customer Success to Product. The ability to apply his construction knowledge to the Product team is an invaluable resource.



PROJECT TOURS

TMC Helix Park or Levit Green

Attendees will have the option to tour TMC Helix Park or Levit Green! Both tours will showcase new and exciting space! Sign up sheets will be available at the Symposium registration desk. Tours will have a limit on the number of people who can attend.



Fireside Chat and Networking Reception

Participants will relocate to the beautiful Blossom Hotel for an opportunity to continue to learn and network with each other.

Khristian House | WSP

Khristian House is a senior vice president and Texas Southwest district business line leader for WSP USA, one of the world's leading engineering, environmental and professional services firms. In this role, Khristian leverages his technical knowledge and industry relationships to support the engineering business operations in Texas and surrounding states. With an adept ability to understand a client's goals and constraints, Khristian is driven to serve a project's vision and performance, while fostering a high-performing team of subject matter experts. Khristian currently serves as a board member of Architecture Center Houston Board of Trustees; vice chair of the Kansas State University Architectural Engineering Advisory Council; and member of the special events committee for the Society of Marketing Professional Services (SMPS) Houston.



Jaco Cronje | WSP

Jaco Cronje is a digital solutions architect and US national lead for WSP's Systems Integration practice. He brings with him a wealth of international experience in diverse engineering fields. He has pioneered numerous technologies in the Smart Cities space as well as an extensive suite of projects in Residential, Retail, Commercial, Manufacturing and Leisure environments. Jaco works on the development of digital system architectures and deployment of enterprise level digital platforms, data collection, analysis techniques, facility cybersecurity and control strategies in the built environment to find business intelligence and operational efficiencies for his clients.



Allison Muth | JLL

Allison possesses over 27 years of design and construction experience with 20 years focused on healthcare project management as a representative of the Owner for successful project outcomes. She joined JLL to support the growth of Healthcare projects in the South Central / Texas Region. She continues to be involved in multiple industry related organizations such as Construction Owner's Association of America (COAA), American Institute of Architects, Women in Healthcare (WIH), I-LincP, ASHE PDC and Texas Association of Healthcare Facilities Managers (TAHFM).



Randi Schieber | Turner Construction

Randi Schieber serves as the VDC Manager for Turner Construction's Houston business unit. Randi has spent the last decade in on-site management roles building projects across various sectors, including healthcare, mission critical, K-12, and office interiors. In her current role, she facilitates the adoption of innovative and streamlined construction technologies among diverse project teams across the broader Houston region. Randi is committed to guiding teams in leveraging Building Information Modeling (BIM) beyond mere coordination, integrating it as a valuable tool throughout the entire project lifecycle.



SESSION THREE

Renovation, Resiliency & Revitalization: Integrating Current Trends to an Active Level 1 Trauma Emergency Department for a Modern Brand Update

How do you upgrade a Level 1 Trauma Emergency Department and keep it operational when it serves a significant region of the Texas Gulf Coast and the greater Houston area? The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston's trauma center is one of the busiest in the state, offering 24/7 trauma, surgical, and specialty care with a full range of specialists, surgeons, and equipment. In addition, all service access is processed through an emergency department where the public and patient care zones had not been renovated for many years. UTMB desired its emergency department to improve its staff workflow, better reflect its brand, elevate the patient experience within the critical public and patient care spaces, and enhance the pedestrian transit pathways into the department. The team will discuss how they used contemporary design and furnishing trends to incorporate a modern feel to a historic facility. Recognizing the importance of minimizing the disruption to an active ER and understanding the ongoing supply chain challenges post-pandemic, our team embedded the latest trends of design and material selections to provide a seamless construction process. We will further explore how distinctive artwork, kinetic art installation, and finish material selections aid in enhancing the typically loud, hectic, and stressful emergency department environment into a soft calming experience. Adding to this already challenging environment, the city of Galveston, Texas, is a significant tourism-based cruise ship port and event destination. During the life span of this case study, events included Mardi Gras, Spring Break, and the summer season kick-off. All these contribute to a year-round potential demand for emergency and trauma services. In addition to the public demands, the UTMB Galveston campus remains active as a teaching, research, and clinical space with a highly aggressive schedule. The team leaders will explore how they used an integrated team approach to achieve the new workflow patterns, patient spaces, and wayfinding within the limited time frame for the institutional board approval process and complete construction within five months and your business?

SESSION THREE PRESENTERS

Leonard LaComb | UTMB Health

I have spent 35 years within the healthcare construction and facilities industry, having worked for Memorial Hermann, MD Anderson Cancer Center and UTMB Health. I am passionate about patient-centric projects that provide healthcare space solutions that improve the overall patient experience. Over my career, I have had the opportunity to work for three wonderful hospital systems. The knowledge I have gained throughout my career allows me to create current projects that meet the dynamic and technological needs of today's hospitals, clinics, labs, and staff spaces.



Rebecca Lasowski | UTMB Health

I am a registered interior designer with 20+ years of experience designing environments for higher education and clinical care, planning and specifying furniture solutions, and consultancy for artwork. Before joining UTMB in 2015, I worked at several leading architectural firms in Houston, delivering thoughtful design solutions for clients like UT Health Science Center, UTSA, UTRGV, Stamford Health, St. Lukes, and Memorial Hermann. I'm excited to add value to our organization by shaping broader design initiatives and augmenting the UTMB brand with thoughtful placemaking.



Chad Connally | UTMB Health

Mr. Connally is a Registered Nurse and healthcare trainer who is the Biocontainment and Emergency Management Program Manager for the new Biocontainment Critical Care Unit (BCU) and the Emergency Department at the UTMB Health facilities in Galveston. He is an active participant both regionally and nationally in emergency response and preparedness planning, representing UTMB and the region on committees where local, state, regional and national biosecurity planning efforts are established and coordinated.

In 2014, UTMB in Galveston was selected by the US Department of Health and Human Services as a recipient of federal funds for the construction and operation of a Biocontainment Critical Care Unit, designed to handle patients with highly infectious diseases



from the five state (Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, New Mexico). Mr. Connally has been an active participant in all planning activities, and is responsible for training, staffing, retention, budget and readiness of the unit, scheduled for completion in late 2018.

Under his leadership, healthcare and emergency response professionals at UTMB and throughout the County have received quarterly simulation drills and other training exercises. Mr. Connally also participates with the National Ebola Training Education Center (NETEC) to conduct site visits at other regional treatment facilities in the United States. In 2016, Mr. Connally was part of an expert panel regarding hospital preparedness for high consequence disease for the Texas State Department of Health Services. Mr. Connally received his Nursing degree from Alvin Community College and his Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from UTMB.

Greg Johnson | PhiloWilke Partnership

As a client-oriented, healthcare-focused architect, Greg utilizes his years of experience in the industry to create environments that reflect the latest knowledge in delivery, technology, and design. Greg has a holistic approach to teaching the process of architecture. He believes each person should be nimble in their role and able to deliver a consistently high level of service. A hands-on manager and a people person, Greg is approachable, flexible, and dedicated to his projects. He strives to complete projects most efficiently and effectively while ensuring the client is pleased with the outcome. Sparked by a passion for helping others, Greg enjoys creating spaces that exceed the needs of the patients and the Owner's goals. Recently, Greg presented "Don't Get Bugged: Designing for Modern Infectious Diseases" at the University of Texas Medical Branch Biocontainment Unit at the Healthcare Design Conference and for The Center for Health Design. He has also spoken on multiple Bisnow healthcare panels.



Craig Glenn | Hoar Construction

Craig Glenn is the Healthcare Project Executive at Hoar Construction in Houston, TX, with over a billion dollars of experience on various projects ranging from controlled demolition to interior renovations within existing healthcare facilities to greenfield state-of-the-art high-rise research facilities. Craig is also noted as proudly having 37 years of experience in the construction industry. Craig oversees construction projects, emphasizing helping our Healthcare clients achieve their vision by managing each assignment from design and preconstruction to delivering a fully functioning project. Craig leverages his lifelong construction experience to successfully guide and navigate teams through budgeting, design, constructability, safety, scheduling, quality, and client activation. Craig's ultimate responsibility is to hold Hoar Construction and its team members accountable to meet our commitment to our Healthcare clients.



SESSION FOUR

Measuring Workforce Impact on Project Success

With growing concerns about aging workforce and lack of incoming trade professionals, owners can build better buildings by demanding that workforce programs be installed and followed by all contractors. Working collaboratively with everyone involved with the build, owners ensure a commitment to safety and skill while producing buildings that meet the needs of their business, drive economic impact through job creation and service delivery, and beautify the landscape for all living in their community.

Jill Pearsall | Texas Children's Hospital
Jill S.M. Pearsall, RA, NCARB is the Senior Vice President of Facilities Planning and Development and Real Estate Services for Texas Children's Hospital. An architectural graduate of the University of Southern California, Jill spent the majority of her career in healthcare facility planning, the last 20 years at Texas Children's Hospital guiding the development of over \$2B of work and adding over 5M square feet. Jill is a licensed architect in Texas and California and holds a certificate from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB).



Angela Taylor | Construction Career Collaborative

Angela is currently the Executive Director at Construction Career Collaborative (C3). Supporting the mission of C3 to strengthen the safe, skilled, and sustainable craft workforce pipeline, she leads staff that provides contractors with services and programs to successfully manage talent and offer career paths for their craft professionals. Her role includes working with various businesses, community leaders, and educational programs to build the best talent pipeline for Houston's commercial construction sector.



John Barnes | Tellepsen

John Barnes is the Client Executive for Tellepsen in Houston. Born in Tennessee, raised in Kansas he is a graduate of Kansas State University with a BS in Architectural Engineering. John has 40 years of Construction industry experience primarily in the healthcare market using the CM at Risk and Design Build delivery methods. Currently John serves as Client Executive for Tellepsen in Houston and has been involved with construction workforce solutions for the past 15 years. John currently serves on the executive board of the Construction Career Collaborative.



Angela Taylor graduated with a bachelor's degree in Speech Communication & Secondary Education. She spent nine years teaching middle and high school and career and technical education. 2000 Angela joined the corporate world in adult learning with Hewlett Packard. Over her 13-year tenure with HP, Angela earned her Master of Arts in Human Resources and led award-winning teams across the globe. From 2014 to 2017, Angela shifted to a new industry, learning offshore drilling. Here, she created performance-based competencies and assessments for the skilled positions offshore.

Angela and her husband have four children. They love playing golf but aren't all that good. They can also be found around the firepit or in the pool if they aren't working or golfing.

SESSION FIVE

Strategic Facilities Assessment and Capital Planning with Software Innovation

Facility management teams are becoming increasingly responsible about their approach to long-term capital planning and managing their ongoing investment in capital improvements. Successful capital plans, and their effective execution, enable these teams to reduce risk and cost, provide less expensive facilities to operate, promote a better working environment, and better serve the overall organizational goals and objectives. We will discuss how organizations can use innovation in software tools, processes, and data effectively to align organization facilities requirements and develop a strategic facilities capital plan. We will focus on the Galena Park ISD Facilities Condition Assessment Project as a project spotlight. From the Owner's perspective, we'll provide the audience with insights into the benefits of innovation in software technology for facility condition assessment and capital planning.

SESSION FIVE PRESENTERS

Sonny Fletcher | Galena Park ISD
Sonny Fletcher is a Senior Director Facility Planning & Construction at Galena Park ISD, an A-rated school district in Texas. He leads the Program/Project Management Team to deliver exceptional value in project management, facilities, design management, real estate planning, and construction management.



Patricia DeHaro | MOCA Systems, Inc.
As the dedicated Owner's Representative for the Alamo Colleges District's \$500M, 2017 CIP Bond, Patricia De Haro proactively worked closely with the District to provide solutions for mitigating project challenges, ensuring that the alignment of their project delivery method, goals, and objectives was achieved.



Chiti Ho | MOCA Systems, Inc.
Chiti Ho designed and managed the MOCAPlan facility and planning management software, which enables facility managers to keep track of facility conditions and develop a master plan for effective budgeting. The software includes a mobile component that allows assessors to collect information from smartphones or tablets in the field. What-if scenario planning, using the Analytical Hierarchy Process, has been developed for executives to determine the most cost-effective and beneficial path toward reducing the Facility Condition Index (FCI).



SESSION SIX

Reshaping TXDOT - A Case Study for a New Vision for Their Austin Campus

How successful planning, change management, design and construction led to achieving success for Texas' largest state agency embracing collaboration, flexible technology, and wellness. The new 49-acre Stassney Campus has achieved organizational goals for a new, hybrid workforce. The new TxDOT Campus in Southeast Austin consolidates 36 divisions of the Headquarters Administration from multiple locations across the Austin metropolitan area. Encompassing over 425,000 sf and supporting almost 1,600 employees, the building design responds to the needs of the workplace by providing a highly flexible open floor plate design that maximizes opportunity for team collaboration and alternate workspace environment. Confronting challenges with employee recruitment and retention, TxDOT leadership challenged the project team to design a building that honors and respects the contribution of the TxDOT workforce to the people of Texas through the planning, execution, and management of transportation systems across the State.

Brian Sweat | Texas Department of Transportation
Brian Sweat serves as Texas Department of Transportation Director of Support Services. He oversees the statewide program support and services in asset management, materials management, facilities, document production, contract management and budget management. Brian began his career at TxDOT in September 2015 as an architect responsible for designing and providing project management for vertical construction projects throughout the state. In 2019 he became the Lead Architect and Project Manager for the Stassney Campus Consolidation Project, completed in 2022. The Stassney Campus Project consolidated about 2,000 employees from five campuses throughout the Austin area. Brian received his master's degree in architecture in 1990 from the University of Texas at Austin and completed undergraduate studies in industrial design and graphic design.



Mary Bartlett | Marmom Mok Architecture
Mary Bartlett is an architect and interior designer with both LEED and WELL accreditation. She is a Partner at Marmon Mok Architecture working throughout Texas and draws from her extensive experience to help redefine the perception and functions of design each time she leads a project. Her work is powerfully transformative as it makes occupants the driving design factor in design, focusing on the project's potential to promote the well-being of its users. With more than 30 years of experience, Bartlett's expertise encompasses new construction, renovation, and adaptive re-use, with specific attention paid to redefining the impact of workplace strategy. She is known for her ability to lead collaborative teams, supporting her clients and guiding them in making modern, sustainable choices for future spaces. In 2023 Mary was selected as a recipient of the Outstanding Alumni Award from Texas A&M University School of Architecture.



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