

PRESSRELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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NICHOLAS PECKHAM ELEVATED TO COLLEGE OF FELLOWS

Washington, D.C., February 26, 2010--The American Institute of Architects (AIA) elevated 134 architects to its prestigious College of Fellows, an honor awarded to members who have made contributions of national significance to the profession.

Out of a membership of more than 84,000, there are fewer than 2,600 AIA members distinguished with the honor of fellowship. It is conferred on architects with at least 10 years of membership in the AIA who have made significant contributions in the following areas: the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession; the standards of architectural education, training, and practice; the building industry through leadership in the AIA and other related professional organizations; advancement of living standards of people through an improved environment; and to society through significant public service.

Nicholas Peckham of Peckham & Wright Architects, Inc. was elected to receive this honor because of his contributions as a trailblazer in the sustainability field, a leader of the Architectural profession, a national voice in the Sustainability Movement and for the impact he has made on academia, government and the community. (See attached list of accomplishments).

The new Fellows, who are entitled to use the designation "FAIA" following their names, will be invested in the College of Fellows at the 2010 AIA National Convention and Design Exposition in Miami on June 11.

The 2010 Jury of Fellows was chaired by Allan Kehrt, FAIA, KSS Architects LLP, Princeton, N.J. Other jury members were Henry C. Alexander Jr., FAIA, Rizo, Carreno & Partners, Coral Gables, Fla.; Jeffrey A. Huberman, FAIA, Gantt Huberman Architects, PLLC, Charlotte; Paula J. Loomis, FAIA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk, Va.; Robert D. Loversidge, FAIA, Schooley Caldwell Associates, Columbus, Ohio; Gregory S. Palermo, FAIA, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa; and Jim W. Sealy, FAIA, Jim Sealy Architect/Consultant, Dallas.

For more information on the AIA College of Fellows, contact Terri Stewart, 202-626-7464.



Nicholas Peckham, AIA

The sustainable design, planning, and inventions of Nick Peckham, AIA have made a tremendous impact on the architectural profession and our world, and his dedicated volunteer contributions have enriched our communities, government, and academia.

A Trailblazer in the Sustainability Field

Nick's career can be characterized by two themes: sustainability and giving. He has made a profound impact on his community and the nation as a leader in the field of sustainable design and construction. He has held lifelong, deeply rooted beliefs in ecology and environmental protection. With his characteristic zeal for action and leadership, he organized professional and student chapters of the US Green Building Council, and launched one of the country's most successful regional annual green building conferences, "Greening the Heartland." As an original delegate of the Design Futures Council, he helped focus the notable group's initial vision on the issue of sustainability. He is a dedicated partner in his community, sharing freely of himself and galvanizing others to do so as well, as evidenced by the gift of the Eco School House project to the Columbia Public School System; his leadership in the rebuilding of tornado-ravaged Greensburg, Kansas as a green city; and his service as an advisor to University of Missouri students working on the Solar Decathlon. Finally, his innovations have reduced the use of carbon-based energy: He invented a patented hydro-electric power device as well as a passive solar furnace, which has been used in several projects designed by his firm.

A Leader of the Architectural Profession

Nick has been a passionate leader of the AIA in Missouri. He served as president of his all volunteer AIA chapter and twice served as a trusted and articulate leader of the state Board of Directors. As his AIA chapter leader, he focused his efforts on expanding public awareness efforts on behalf of the profession, creating public relations programs that would enhance society's understanding and appreciation of design and architecture. He was one of 20 architects selected for a national AIA leadership training program, where he honed his skills as a community leader. He created his chapter's design magazine and served as editor for two years, and founded his chapter's Committee on the Environment, which he currently chairs.

A National Voice in the Sustainability Movement

Nick has embraced the value of sustainability for his entire professional career, long before the advent of LEED® and the current popularity of green practice. Under his leadership, PWA has grown steadily, broadened its influence, and cemented its role as a national voice in the sustainability movement in architecture. Nick originally studied at the US Merchant Marine Academy where he became an engineer, and then traveled as marine engineer to Europe, Asia, Africa, and South America. He then attended UC Berkeley, and transferred to Penn for his BArch, interned with Charles Moore, FAIA, William Turnbull, FAIA, Lawrence Halprin, FASLA, and Judy Edelman, FAIA. He concluded his graduate studies at Penn with Louis Kahn for his MArch and R. Buckminster Fuller for his PhD (ABD), learning "Architecture is more than style, it is 'comprehensive, anticipatory, design science.'"

Impact on Academia, Government, and Community

Volunteer service has been a foundation of Nick's way of life. He has been an inspirational and integral part of his community, leading a wide variety of organizations that connect the fabric of academia, government, and the community. Leading by example, Nick has been a model for involvement and commitment, demonstrating the ideal of the true citizen architect. He has held academic appointments and served as a mentor to students at several universities, he has been a leader of City boards that have shaped solutions to improve communities, and he has participated in and led many nonprofit organizations, from music to dance to art and archeology museums.