



2015 AIA Fellowship

Entry 50762

Nominee Rick L. Benner
Organization Western Washington University
Location Bellingham, WA
Chapter AIA Northwest Washington

Sponsor Gerald (Butch). Reifert FAIA
Organization Mahlum

Category of Nomination
Category Four - Public Service

Summary Statement

Rick Benner advances the quality of public architecture. He promotes excellence in campus planning and design, while elevating the standards for architectural practice; he is a leader who shapes public policy and legislation nation-wide.

Education

University of Washington Seattle, WA 1976 - 1978 Bachelor of Arts in Architecture
Washington State University Pullman, WA 1975 - 1976
Western Washington University Bellingham, WA 1973 - 1975

Licensed in: Washington

Employment

Western Washington University Bellingham, WA 1985-present Jan. 2011-present - Director of Facilities Development & Capital Budget/ University Architect Jul. 2009-Jan. 2011 - Executive Director of Capital Planning & Development/ University Architect Apr. 2008-Jul. 2009 - Executive Director of Facilities Planning & Development/ University Architect Jan. 2001-Apr. 2008 - Assistant Director for Planning, Design, & Construction Administration Feb. 1999-Jan. 2001 - Assistant Director for Planning Jul. 1989-Feb. 1999 - Facilities & Master Planning Manager Mar. 1988-Jul. 1989 - Facilities Planning Manager Apr. 1986-Mar. 1988 - Senior Architect Jul. 1985-Apr. 1986 - Associate Architect
Victor Trodella Architect Bellingham, WA 1985
John Stewart Architect Bellingham, WA 1982-1984
Stradling & Stewart Architects Bellingham, WA 1980-1981
Norman Olsen Architect Bellingham, WA 1978-1980



Northwest Washington Chapter
The American Institute of Architects

February 7, 2014

Rick L. Benner, AIA Director and University Architect
Office of Facilities Development and Capital Budget
Western Washington University
Physical Plant #112A
Bellingham, WA 98225

Re: FAIA Nomination

Dear Rick,

I am pleased to inform you that the Board of Directors of the AIA Northwest Washington Chapter has voted to support your nomination to the AIA College of Fellows. Your contributions to the Chapter, AIA Washington Council, our community, Western Washington University and the State of Washington are worthy achievements and deserving of recognition.

If we may be of any assistance as you proceed with the nomination process, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature of David E. Christensen, consisting of a large, stylized 'D' followed by 'E. Christensen' in a cursive script.

David E. Christensen, AIA
AIA Northwest WA President

A blue ink signature of Michael E. Smith, featuring a large, stylized 'M' followed by 'E. Smith' in a cursive script.

Michael E. Smith, FAIA
AIA Northwest WA Board Member



15 September 2015

Mr. John Castellana FAIA
Chair, 2015 Jury of Fellows
The American Institute of Architects
1735 New York Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20006-5292

RE: 2015 Fellowship Nomination
Rick Benner AIA, Category Four

Dear Mr. Castellana and Members of the Jury:

I have been working with Rick Benner as a client and professional colleague for over a decade. His devotion to shaping the architecture of public institutions as well as his commitment to advancing policies that benefit our profession is unmatched. I cannot think of a more deserving individual to be recognized as Fellow of the American Institute of Architects.

Rick is a national leader in campus planning and design. In his role as University Architect at Western Washington University, he has demonstrated a commitment to the creation of exemplary buildings for learning that reinforce connection with and minimize their impact upon the surrounding natural environment. This award-winning campus planning stands as a reference as the first sustainable major public works master plan in the nation.

Working primarily within the realm of public architecture, Rick advocates for policies within the practice that increase accountability and efficiencies while at the same time work to strengthen communities and enhance the student experience on college and university campuses. As a founding member of the State of Washington's Capital Projects Review Committee, he brings nearly three decades of experience to the evaluation and expansion of project delivery options to publicly-funded projects.

Rick's service at the local, regional and national level in leadership positions has led to changes in architectural practice law, developed new guidelines for comprehensive campus planning and design and created the first architectural scholarship for his local AIA chapter. He frequently lectures at the national level, sharing his knowledge while encouraging peers across the country to look at new ways to think and be inspired.

I trust that you will find that Rick is an extremely worthy candidate. I could not recommend anyone more highly for this honor.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gerald Reifert".

Gerald (Butch) Reifert, FAIA
Managing Partner
breifert@mahlum.com

SECTION 1 SUMMARY
RICK L. BENNER, AIA

Summary
Statement

Rick Benner advances the quality of public architecture. He promotes excellence in campus planning and design, while elevating the standards for architectural practice; he is a leader who shapes public policy and legislation nation-wide.

Summary of
Achievements

PROMOTING EXCELLENCE IN CAMPUS PLANNING & DESIGN

As University Architect at Western Washington University, Rick has expanded the role beyond individual buildings to include regional environmental policy, master planning, community advocacy and financial stewardship. His work now influences everything from campus planning & budgeting to transportation, infrastructure, facility development, and development of the campus character.

In this expanded position, Rick has developed, in-house, **the first fully-integrated master plan and process** involving university personnel, three adjacent residential neighborhoods and the City of Bellingham; the **first campus standards & guidelines**; and **the first award-winning campus character study embracing sustainable design**.

SUPPORTING SUSTAINABLE PUBLIC WORKS

Rick consistently places his experience, personal efforts, and relationships in service to the profession and his passion for the practice of architecture is matched by his commitment to architectural design. In particular, his work at Western Washington University stands as a nation-wide reference for campus planning, sustainable planning and design and project management of major public building projects. He has lectured frequently about this work to organizations such as the Society of College and University Planners (SCUP), Northwest AIA, Association of University Architects (AUA) as well as numerous alumni groups. He has juried for the Council of Education Facility Planners International (CEFPI) and the Washington Association of General Contractors (AGC).

SHAPING PUBLIC POLICY AND LEGISLATION OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE

Rick has served as a **tireless champion of advances in policy and practice** that enhance the quality, efficiency and accountability of architecture. Serving his local AIA Chapter since 1985, he advocated for local projects like [Visioning for the City of Bellingham](#), assisting with consultant selections for the City of Bellingham and Bellingham Public School District. He served on numerous State of Washington committees promoting quality architecture, educating on the business of architectural practice, and modifying legislation for alternative project delivery, working to change legislation to use alternative public works construction delivery methods. Rick is a founding member of the state's Project Review Committee to review and approve Public Body certification and individual project approval applications for utilizing General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM) and Design Build (DB) delivery methods.

In 2010, he was appointed to the Public Transportation Advisory Panel for the Washington State Legislature Joint Transportation Committee, identifying the state's role in public transportation.

While on the NWAIA Board, Rick led the chapter in endowing its **first architecture student scholarship**. Additionally, Rick serves on WCARB and NCARB, extending influence to a regional and national level. He has been actively involved with ARE development subcommittees since 2013 and NAAB visitations starting in 2014.

As the **NWAIA President and AIA WA Council Board** member he advocated for revisions to the architectural practice laws for the State of Washington and in 2011 was appointed by the Governor to be a board member on the State of Washington Board of Registration for Architects.

In conclusion, Rick is, above all, an architect and exemplifies in his character, skill, and leadership, the best of the profession. He is tireless in his determination to use that stature and the enormous respect he has won among all those with whom he works to promote excellence in planning & design, influence policy and legislation, and elevate the standards of architectural education.

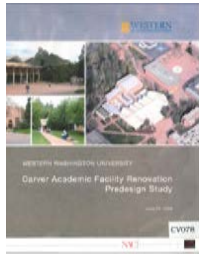
SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

PLANNING ACCOMPLISHMENTS



**Low Impact Development for
Stormwater on Waterfront
Brownfield Sites**



**Carver Academic
Facility Predesign**

When Rick Benner arrived at the university, there was deep concern and angst from local neighborhoods, city officials, and university members regarding campus development and potential encroachment into the three adjacent residential neighborhoods. Rick took a broader, more transparent, and longer lasting approach to planning (master planning, project planning and Capital budget planning). Neighbors, city staff, students, faculty and staff were all given a seat at the table; Planning became a much more bottom-up process.

In addition, Rick has developed an innovative approach to campus planning that is sustainable and long-lasting as opposed to “sitting on a shelf”. The approach consists of a process where planning is done around three documents. First, an institutional master plan is developed that is more of a comprehensive zoning and density of development road-map than a detailed building-by-building footprint. The second document is the campus character study that focuses on positive planning principles or characteristics the campus wishes to maintain and those it chooses to eliminate. And finally, a set of design guidelines and standards for development. These three documents provide consultants with flexibility to create world-class architecture in a setting that is ideal for maintaining a campus character consistent with the university’s vision.

Rick has built a reputation as an outstanding collaborator and team-builder. Whether partnering with other agencies and organizations, teaming with members of the architectural design community or bringing together diverse constituencies and consulting parties, Rick has demonstrated exceptional success in assembling teams, building consensus, and resolving conflict.

Rick Benner, as WWU’s University Architect, plays a key role in planning for Western’s involvement with the redevelopment of 237 acres of contaminated industrial property located along Bellingham’s central waterfront.

From the start, he championed sustainable planning approaches including the property becoming a pilot project for the USGBC LEED Neighborhood program, participated in District utility strategies, and created a character study for the university on the waterfront integrated with adjacent areas.

His leadership, understanding, and creativity blended ideally with our goals to create a unique sense of place that would elevate people’s lives and enrich the community for years to come.

**Michael G. Stoner, Environmental
Director, Port of Bellingham**

2014

:: Space Needs Assessment for Huxley College of the Environment – Ira Fink and Associates, Inc.

2012

:: Gateway Complex Predesign - Opsi Architecture / RMC Architects

2011

:: Physical Plant Expansion and Adjacent Property Rezone - Schreiber Starling & Lane

:: Identifying the State Role in Public Transportation - Parsons Brinckerhoff

2009

:: Waterfront Character Study - Stratus & Christenson Design Management (CDM)

2008

:: Carver Academic Facility Predesign - NAC Architecture

:: Western Washington University’s Presence in the Bellingham Waterfront Phase III
- Stratus & Christenson Design Management (CDM)

:: Low Impact Development for Stormwater on Waterfront Brownfield Sites - Mithun Architects

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

2007

:: Utilities Master Plan - Wilson Surveying / Engineering

2006

:: Student Housing Predesign - Ira Fink and Associates, Inc.

:: Western Washington University's presence in the Bellingham Waterfront Phase II
- Stratus & Christenson Design Management (CDM)

2005

:: Western Washington University's presence in the Bellingham Waterfront Phase I
- Stratus & Christenson Design Management (CDM)

2004

:: Campus Roadway Development Predesign - INCA Engineers, Inc.

:: Whatcom Transportation Authority Six-Year Strategic Business Plan - Nelson/Nygaard

:: Miller Hall Predesign - Mahlum Architects

2002

:: Academic Instructional Center Predesign - NAC / Opsis Architecture

:: Shannon Point Undergraduate Marine Education Center Predesign - MBT Architecture

2001

:: Institutional Master Plan & Addendum to City of Bellingham Western Washington

:: Neighborhood Plan - Western Washington University Facilities Development

:: City of Bellingham Happy Valley Neighborhood Plan Update - City of Bellingham

2000

:: Proposed Parking Garage Study -David Evans & Associates, Inc.

:: Campus Character Study - Western Washington University Facilities Development

1998

:: Communications Facility Predesign - Cardwell / Thomas & Associates / Architects

:: City of Bellingham Western Washington University Neighborhood Plan Update
- City of Bellingham

:: Campus Infrastructure Development Predesign - David Evans & Associates, Inc.

The one thing I have observed about the role you have chosen to play as WWU architect is that you wisely stood astride the interface between Design and Policy. It is a crucial point of design translation for institutional growth policy-makers to 'get it right' before they get lost in too much building detail or broad planning directions without 'on the ground' meaning. You have excelled in that rather delicate place in institutional growth and one can see the excellent results. Not all universities enjoy that important and all too rare professional skill.

William J. Johnson, FASLA
Principal, Johnson, Johnson and Roy

Planning or replanning a 21st century university campus is a very important activity. The buildings, land, and landscape of a campus collectively do more than serve their designated functions. They establish patterns of movement and social encounter. They create opportunities for exchange that have educational and collegial consequences. Identifying locations, configurations and spaces to create appropriate settings for these activities enhances the culture of a campus.

The WWU Campus Character Study highlights these activities and shows they have been and will continue to be as important to WWU as are the changes resulting from shifts in enrollment and advances in information and communication technology.

Ira Fink, Ph.D., FAIA
Principal, Ira Fink & Associates, Inc.

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

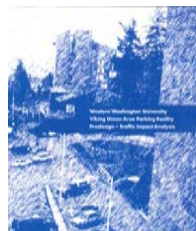
2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK | RICK L. BENNER, AIA



Draft Comprehensive
Campus Master Plan

1997

:: Draft Comprehensive Campus Master Plan - Western Washington University Facilities Department



Viking Union Parking
Structure Predesign

1996

:: Addendum to Master Plan EIS - NBBJ

:: Campus Services Facility Predesign - LMN Architects

1995

:: Draft and Final Campus Master Plan EIS - NBBJ

1994

:: WWU Cogeneration Feasibility Study - University Mechanical



Campus Parking and
Transportation Study

1993

:: South Campus Eatery Predesign Study - Mesher Shing & Associates

:: Viking Union Parking Structure Predesign - LMN Architects

1992

:: Campus Parking and Transportation Study - Chance Management Advisors

:: Wilson Library & Haggard Hall Predesign - Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership

1990

:: Draft Institutional Profile - Western Washington University Facilities Development



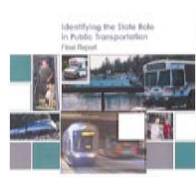
Draft Institutional Proposal

1988

:: Secretary of State Predesign for Archives at WWU/CWU/EWU - Boyle Wagoner Architects

1987

:: South Campus Master Plan - NBBJ



Identifying the State Role in
Public Transportation

Rick's role in planning matters has gone beyond the normal University Architect to include adjacent neighborhood plan updates, waterfront brownfield redevelopment, state and local transportation planning, and redevelopment planning for the Bellingham School District.

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

DESIGN ACCOMPLISHMENTS

As WWU University Architect, Rick's leadership was crucial to creating the physical and people-oriented campus that is Western. His skill, talent, and vision have crafted every element and component needed to create a human-scaled, sustainable, and livable university community. Beginning with shepherding the creation of a comprehensive Campus Master Plan, followed by tirelessly working to secure adequate funding, to being a strong advocate for student-focused sustainable design, WWU would not be one of the most beautiful campuses in the Pacific Northwest without Rick's passion for creating "Place" and his leadership to seeing it done well.

Keith Schreiber, AIA, Principal,
Schreiber Starling & Lane Architects

Over the last twenty-five years, Rick Benner has transformed the Western Washington University campus, worked to change state laws and guidelines, and influenced capital public works projects across the State of Washington and beyond.

Arriving at Western in 1985, Rick found that many of the institution's design and construction practices were outdated and the professionalism of staff was minimal. Tasked with leading the institution into a much higher level of projects and funding, he initiated and led a ground-up effort to modernize policies, contracts, and standards. Additionally, he began an effort to recruit licensed architects and engineers to handle the volume of projects headed their way. The results transformed the university's approach to the business of design and construction and prepared it for the continuous growth in size and value of the capital program over the next two decades. Today, with over half a billion dollars of restoration, renovation, and new construction projects completed, Rick has established an exemplary stewardship model at Western through his leadership on individual award-winning projects and through his skillful guidance of the office responsible for the capital program.

His program invests in design excellence through partnership and contracting with a diverse selection of local, national, and international architecture firms, effectively sharing stewardship responsibility of our state's architecture and landscapes with some of the profession's finest designers and respected firms. Over the years, he has provided and continues to provide executive leadership oversight on:



Buchanan Towers Addition

2015 [future completion]

:: Carver Academic Renovation & Addition - LMN Architects



Higginson Hall Renovation

2013

:: Fraser Hall Renovation - Mahlum Architects

2009

:: Miller Hall Renovation – Mahlum Architects

:: Buchanan Towers Addition – Mithun Architects

:: Academic Instructional Center – NAC Architecture/Opsis Architecture

2006

:: Higginson Hall Renovation – Ambia Architecture

2004

:: Shannon Point Marine Center Undergraduate Marine Education Center – MBT Architecture

2003

:: Communications Facility – Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership



Communications Facility

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK | RICK L. BENNER, AIA



Campus Services Facility



Science, Math + Technology



Haggard Hall



Edens Hall



Biology Building

2002

:: Wade King Student Recreation Center – BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture

2001

:: Campus Services Facility – Zervas Architects/KPS Group

1999

:: Viking Union Addition & Renovation - LMN Architects

1997

:: Science Math & Technology Education Facility - Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership

1996

:: Haggard Hall Renovation - Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership

:: Viking Commons Addition & Renovation – LMN Architects

1995

:: Edens Hall Restoration/ Renovation – Duarte Bryant Architecture

:: Hannagen Road Environmental Research & Education Center – Osborn Pacific Group, Inc.

1994

:: Shannon Point Marine Center Housing – The Miller Hull Partnership

1993

:: Biology Building - Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership

1991

:: Morris Hall – LMN Architects

:: Washington State Regional Archives – Boyle Wagoner Architects

Rick's knowledge and influence in delivering quality public works projects throughout the years has spread across the state initially with various design and construction committees, to working with the AIA in changing the state's practice law, to working with CPARB to change state law allowing its four regional higher education institutions to use alternative delivery methods, to being appointed as a founding member of the state's Project Review Committee that oversees various agency approvals for alternative delivery of projects.

His insights in much of this work, has also resulted in his appointment by the governor to sit on the State Board for Architects.

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

As a University Architect and member of the College of Fellows of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, I very much appreciate Rick Benner's willingness to share his competence and understanding of institutional design. Through his membership in several organizations that serve both American and Canadian audiences, he has been generous with his time and his knowledge. His influence in the Pacific Northwest is evident and well recognized.

Lee Gavel, FRAIC
Principal, Lee Erin Gavel / Architect

I have had the good fortune to work with Rick not only on the Washington State Board for Architects, but also in ARE committee work as NCARB member board members developing, evaluating, and refining examination questions. Rick and I were paired on exam item review work teaming as Subject Matter Experts reviewing items covering Planning, Programming, and Practice. This process involved each of us reviewing the same subject material to the level of being assigned to the same specific exam items. Over the course of reviewing, discussing, and debating hundreds of examination questions in tandem with Rick, I have gained a deep respect and appreciation for his leadership, clarity of thinking, his depth of knowledge, and his powerful personal dedication to the profession of architecture.

Roch Manley, AIA
Principal, Manley Architects

NATIONAL LEVEL

AIA member since 1985

AUA (Association of University Architects) member 1988-1996, 2001-present

- :: AUA Nominating Committee 1992
- :: AUA Technologies Committee 1992 – 1995
- :: AUA Financial Task Force 2008
- :: AUA Professional Practice Committee 2012 – present, Chair 2014-present

SCUP (Society of College and University Planners) member 1989-present

- :: SCUP 26 - Seattle 1991 - Served on Program Committee for this national conference

NCARB (National Council of Architectural Registration Boards) member 1992

- :: 2012-13 NCARB ARE Multiple-Choice Subcommittee: Programming, Planning and Practice
- :: 2013-14 NCARB ARE Programming, Planning & Practice
- :: 2014-15 NCARB ARE 4.0 Item Development Subcommittee: Programming, Planning & Practice Group
- :: 2014 NAAB Accreditation Visiting Team for University of Detroit – Mercy School of Architecture

APPA (Association of Higher Education Facility Officers) member 1989-2003

STATE LEVEL

AIA Washington Council Board of Directors member 2009-2011

- :: Local Representative 2009-2010
- :: Political Representative 2011

Washington State Board of Architects 2011-present

- :: Chair 2014-2015
- :: Vice Chair 2013-2014
- :: Guidelines for Building Officials Task Force
- :: Law & Ethics Task Force

CPARB (State of Washington Capital Projects Advisory Review Board) Task Force on IPD and Best Value member

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.1 SIGNIFICANT WORK | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

I have had the pleasure to work with Rick both in his role as University Architect at WWU and as a fellow member of the Project Review Committee of the Washington State Capital Projects Advisory Review Board. It is clear to me that the success of the PRC and certainly the quality of the built environment at WWU is largely due to the strength of his leadership.

Keith Schreiber, AIA, Principal,
Schreiber Starling & Lane Architects

PRC (State of Washington Projects Review Committee) Charter member 2007 - present

:: Chair 2011-2012

:: Vice Chair 2011-2012

Public Transportation Advisory Panel member for State of Washington Joint Transportation

Committee on State's Role in Public Transportation 2010

State of Washington's Public Owners Group – Charter member 2013 – present

AEA (State of Washington's Architects Engineers & Agencies) Committee, Charter member 1991 – present

LOCAL LEVEL

AIA Northwest Washington Chapter member 1985-present

:: NWAIA Board Member 2007-11

:: NWAIA Chapter President 2010

:: NWAIA Chapter Vice President 2009

:: NWAIA Chapter Secretary 2008

:: Scholarship Committee 2007-2011

:: Fundraising Committee 2007-2011

Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) Interagency Advisory Committee member 2004

Bellingham Public Schools Repurposing Larrabee Elementary School Think Tank member 2013-2014

Selection Committee member for City of Bellingham Director of Public Works

Selection Committee member for GCCM Team on City of Bellingham Post Point Sewage Treatment Plant

Western Washington University Outdoor Sculpture Advisory Board member (previously titled Art Acquisition Committee)

Chair of numerous WWU committees including all major and intermediate size public works projects, 2015-2025 Capital Plan Development Working Group, Parking & Transportation Capital Implementation Advisory Committee

Member on numerous other WWU committees related to physical development

Found Member of WWU Green Energy Fee Committee, establishing procedures and guidelines for awarding student projects on sustainability

Rick was an invaluable member of the AIA Northwest Washington Board. With his background as a public architect, he brought a very unique perspective to our discussions. As a member and chair of the Washington State Board for Architects, he has been an effective voice for the small and sole practitioner, which is the predominant makeup of the AIA Northwest Washington membership.

Michael E. Smith, FAIA

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.2 SIGNIFICANT AWARDS | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

RECOGNITION



AIA

- :: 2011 AIA Washington Council Certificate of Appreciation as the AIA Northwest Political Representative
- :: 2011 NWAIA Certificate of Appreciation for service as a NWAIA Board member
- :: 2010 AIA Washington Council Certificate of Appreciation as the AIA Northwest Local Board Representative
- :: 2010 NWAIA Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding leadership as President of the Chapter in 2010



NCARB

- :: 2013-2014 NCARB Certificate of Appreciation for serving as a member of the ARE Programming, Planning & Practice Committee
- :: 2012-2013 NCARB Certificate of Appreciation for serving as a member of the ARE Multiple-Choice Subcommittee: Programming, Planning and Practice

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

- :: 2013 Western Washington University Team Recognition Award for the Multi-Purpose Field Team
- :: 2011 Western Washington University Service Award
- :: 2010 Western Washington University Board of Trustees Congratulations on Exemplary Contributions to the Success of the Academic Instructional Center
- :: 2010 Western Washington University Nomination for President's Exceptional Effort Award
- :: 2001 Western Washington University Service Award
- :: 1998 Honorary Coach for the Western Washington University Vikings Basketball Team



OTHER

- :: 2010 Polished Apple Plaque in appreciation for serving as a juror for the Washington Chapter 2010 CEFPI Architectural Exhibit

AWARDS FOR PROJECTS LED BY NOMINEE

AIA

- :: 2012 NWAIA Merit Design Award for the Western Washington University Waterfront Character Study – Stratus & Christenson Design Management (CDM)
- :: 2009 Washington Council AIA Civic Design Honor Award for the Academic Instructional Center – NAC Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 2009 AIA Portland Merit Design Award for the Academic Instructional Center - NAC Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 2004 AIA Portland Citation Award for the Wade King Student Recreation Center - BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 1997 AIA Advanced Technology Facilities Design Review for the Biology Building - Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership (ZGF)

SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.2 SIGNIFICANT AWARDS | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

- :: 1996 AIA/Daily Journal of Commerce, March 1996 Project of the Month, Seattle Chapter for the Biology Building - Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership (ZGF)
- :: 1996 AIA Architecture + Energy: Building Excellence in the Northwest Award of Merit, Portland Chapter for the Biology Building - Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership

OTHER

- :: 2009 Honorable Mention from Environmental Design + Construction magazine for demonstrating outstanding sustainable design on the Academic Instructional Center -NAC Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 2005 Washington Recreation & Parks Association, Award of Excellence on the Wade King Student Recreation Center
- BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 2004 National Intramural Recreational Sports Association's Outstanding Indoor Facility Award on the Wade King Student Recreation Center
- BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 2004 Athletic Business Magazine Facility of Merit Award on the Wade King Student Recreation Center - BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 2004 Washington Aggregates and Concrete Association, Building with Concrete, Grand Award Winner, Cast-in-Place Structures on the Wade King Student Recreation Center - BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: Northwest Construction Magazine, Best of 2003, Award of Excellence: Architectural Design on the Wade King Student Recreation Center
- BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 1995 Award of Excellence in Concrete on the Biology Building
- Zimmer Gunsel Frasca Partnership (ZGF)

CERTIFICATION

USGBC LEED CERTIFICATION

- :: 2009 LEED Gold Certification on the Miller Hall Renovation – Mahlum Architects
- :: 2009 Designed as LEED Gold on the Buchanan Towers Addition – Mithun Architects (Contractor was terminated and paperwork was lost to complete certification)
- :: 2004 LEED Certification on the Academic Instructional Center
- NAC Architecture/Opsis Architecture
- :: 2002 LEED Certification on the Wade King Student Recreation Center
- BJSS Duarte Bryant Architecture/Opsis Architecture (first LEED certification of a recreation center that included a pool)

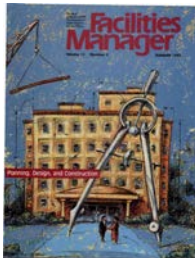
SECTION 2 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2.3 SIGNIFICANT PUBLICATIONS | RICK L. BENNER, AIA

PUBLICATIONS ABOUT NOMINEE

- :: Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, July 13, 2011, "Rick Benner added to architect's board"
- :: Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, Jan. 5, 2011, "AIA Washington Council's new executive board"
- :: Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, Jan. 5, 2011 "New Board for AIA NW Washington"
- :: Western Today, 7/6/11 "WWU's Rick Benner named to Washington State Board for Architects"

PUBLICATIONS ABOUT NOMINEE'S PROJECTS



- :: Learning Spaces Collaboratory, "Communications Building"
- :: Facilities Manager, Summer 1995 issue, "Maximizing Value and Function for Campus Facilities" by John L. Robinson, PE, CVS, article on Western Washington University's Science, Math and Technology Education facility (SMATE or Science Facility 3)
- :: edc, May 2010, "2010 Excellence in Design Awards", announcement of Western Washington University's Academic Instructional Center receiving Honorable Mention in the Educational Category
- :: Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, June 11, 2013, "WWU Classroom renovation"
- :: Western Today article, 7/27/12 "Miller Hall gains gold LEED certification"
- :: Western Today article, 12/22/09 "WWU's Academic Instructional Center awarded LEED certification for environmental design"
- :: Western Today article, 9/14/11 "Western opens 105-bed addition to Buchanan Towers residence hall"
- :: Western Today article, 11/1/12 "Western recognizes campus sustainability efforts"
- :: Western Washington University Centennial Oral History Project, 4/1/99
- :: Northwest Construction, September 2003, "Western Washington University's Communications Facility; Challenges Tackled by Teamwork" by Sheila Bacon



PUBLICATIONS BY NOMINEE

- :: NWAIA Newsletters – July 2010, April 2009, April 2010, Feb. 2010, Mar. 2009, Dec. 2010, Aug. 2007, "Hints for Responding to a Request for Qualifications (RFQ)"

JUROR

- :: AGC Build Washington Awards, 2011
- :: Architectural Exhibit Committee of the 2010 Council for Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI) Washington Chapter Conference

PRESENTATIONS

REGIONAL

- :: AGC of Washington, 6/1/09 "WWU Capital Programs"
- :: AGC/AIA Roundtable, 12/16/10 "Implementing BIM One Step at a Time"
- :: SCUP 2008 Pacific Regional Symposium, "The Unique Pacific Northwest Campus" Attendees as far as Colorado and Southern California.
- :: AGC/AIA Roundtable, 4/7/10 "GC/CM: Understanding New Roles and Relationships"
- :: Training Sessions for New Members of PRC, July 2013, 2012 & 2011
- :: NWAIA June 21, 2007, "The Bellingham Waterfront..What's UP?", Information regarding Bellingham waterfront development



Through my association with Rick Benner as a member of the Association of University Architects, my awareness of handling internal office management issues has been positively affected. Rick has shared with me many of his job situations that required creative solutions. I was able to use these solutions in my position as Staff Architect on my campus. Rick also has the ability to communicate his ideas clearly and concisely, while using his humor.

Hugh W. KilPatrick III
Retired Staff Architect of the University
of Alabama, Tuscaloosa

Rick has been an inspiration for those of us concerned with the patient development of American college campuses that respond sensitively to their sites and their constituent communities. He has both insightfully used every incremental capital project to coherently advance the sense of place provided by the Western Washington University campus while simultaneously being a leader in the necessary political skill of keeping the on and off campus constituents not merely informed but engaged in his vision for the campus. By bringing an architect's unique perceptions to the full range of the capital development process, from needs assessment through project definition and design to construction and operation, thus shepherding and enhancing the very special place that is Western Washington, he has set an example for the power of comprehensive architectural planning and design for a national audience.

Charles Warner Oakley, FAIA
Retired University Architect of the
University of California, Los Angeles

I have known Rick for the past 23 years through the Association of University Architects. He is a solid contributor and collaborator who provides leadership and direction to the organization. While his record of accomplishments speak for themselves, I can say that my experiences with him have been totally professional, enjoyable and positive in every respect.

Steven C. Thweatt, FAUA
Vice Chancellor for Administration
University of Colorado, Boulder

- :: AIA Seattle, Dec. 7, 2006, "Higher Education Forum, The Vision of Educational Architecture, Capital Funding: Controlling Costs; Risk Mitigation"
- :: July 25, 2014 Presentation and tour of campus for State Board for Architects
- :: Several presentations to WWU's Huxley College of the Environment Urban Transitions Studio and Sustainable Design Studio
- :: Presentation to WWU's Department of Economics class on the Economics of Sustainable Design

NATIONAL

- :: SCUP 26 – Seattle 1991 – Hosted an after conference tour and presentation of WWU
- :: AUA 2003 – Hosted post conference tour and presentation of WWU
- :: AUA 1988 at The Ohio State University – Presentation of campus & campus planning
- :: AUA 2001 at the University of Kansas – Presentation of campus & campus planning
- :: AUA 2014 at the University of Notre Dame – Presentation and panel discussion on organization, fee structures, services, and how WWU handled the reductions in State funding

SECTION 3 EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT LIST



1. WWU Campus Master Plan | 1997 + 2001

Bellingham, Washington

Role: Led the development of the plan

Renderings: Opsis Architecture



2. Campus Character Study | 2000

Bellingham, Washington

Role: Led the development of the first university standards and guidelines, and first campus character study

Graphics: Gail Kuromiya



3. Waterfront Character Study | 2009

Bellingham, Washington

Role: Leader of the process, Executive Director of Facilities Planning + Development

Drawings: Rick Benner, William J. Johnson, David Christenson, Douglas Graham, and CollinsWoerman

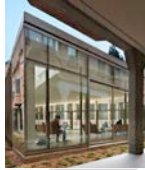


4. AIC Student Rec Center South Campus | 2009

Bellingham, Washington

Role: Led the development of the south campus planning, created original concept

Photographer: Benjamin Benschneider (AIC), Michael Mathers (SRC)



5. Miller Hall Renovation + Fraser Hall | 2011 + 2013

Western Washington University

Role: Leader of Owner's team, supporter of collaborative courtyard, keeper on WWU character

Photographer: Benjamin Benschneider Other Images: Mahlum Architects



6. Carver Academic Renovation | Construction starting 2015

Bellingham, Washington

Role: Leader of Owner's team, Steering Committee Chair

Renderings: LMN Architects



7. AIA Northwest Washington Board + AIA Washington Council | 1985-present

Washington State

Role: Member, NWAIA Chapter Board Member, Chapter President 2010, AIA WA Council Board Member 2009-2011, set up student scholarship



8. CPARB + PRC | 2005-2013

Washington State

Role: involved with CPARB, Founding member of PRC, current member, Committee Vice-Chair 2012, Committee Chair 2013



9. State Board of Registration for Architects | 2013-2017

Washington State

Role: Board Member, Chair 2014-15, Vice Chair 2013-14



10. National Organizations | 1988-present

SCUP, AUA, NCARB & AAB

Role: See page 2-6

WESTERN WASHINGTON CAMPUS MASTER PLAN

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
To develop a sustainable campus master plan that has broad campus and community support, integrated with growth management concepts, maintains and enhances the university's positive characteristics, provides flexibility for architects to create quality public architecture that enhances the educational experience of its students.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
As a University Architect, Rick led the in-house team of architects, planners, and engineers.

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
Rick's leadership advanced the quality of public architecture by promoting campus planning & design excellence.

OUTDOOR SCULPTURE ADVISORY BOARD
 As a member of the WWU Outdoor Sculpture Advisory Board, Rick Benner is able to work directly with the curator Sarah Clark-Langager. Involvement includes helping to select, locate, install, relocate, and preserve/restore the works. The program began in 1957 and with new construction, Western Washington University has also seen new art – giving Western Washington University a reputation for its ability to bring art into its community. The sculpture collection helps to convey the goal of the school to encourage students to embrace an environment of discovery. The collection includes pieces that help to address nature and culture, human scale, narration, personal perceptions and spatial dynamics.

As the University Architect and planner, Rick Benner led an in-house team of architects, planners, and engineers through development of the institution's Institutional Profile, 1997 Draft Comprehensive Campus Master Plan and 2001 WWU Institutional Master Plan (an Addendum to the Western Washington University Neighborhood Plan) jointly adopted by the City of Bellingham and Western Washington University.

Rick Benner continually elevates the level of discourse about design, sustainability, teaching and learning, and the community context of our educational facilities. His leadership and design direction on significant

projects have had profound impact on the local and regional community and serve as a model for the profession. For example, with Western Washington Campus Master Plan he promoted plans and designs that ensure the integration of structures of disparate age, character, and quality in unified harmonious composition; and, with consistent and notable success, he championed the cause of design excellence with the cost-conscious and pragmatic leaders of university and state funding agencies.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

☒ Project under direction of nominee

Ev Ruffcorn, FAIA
 Design Principal, NBBJ





Phase 1



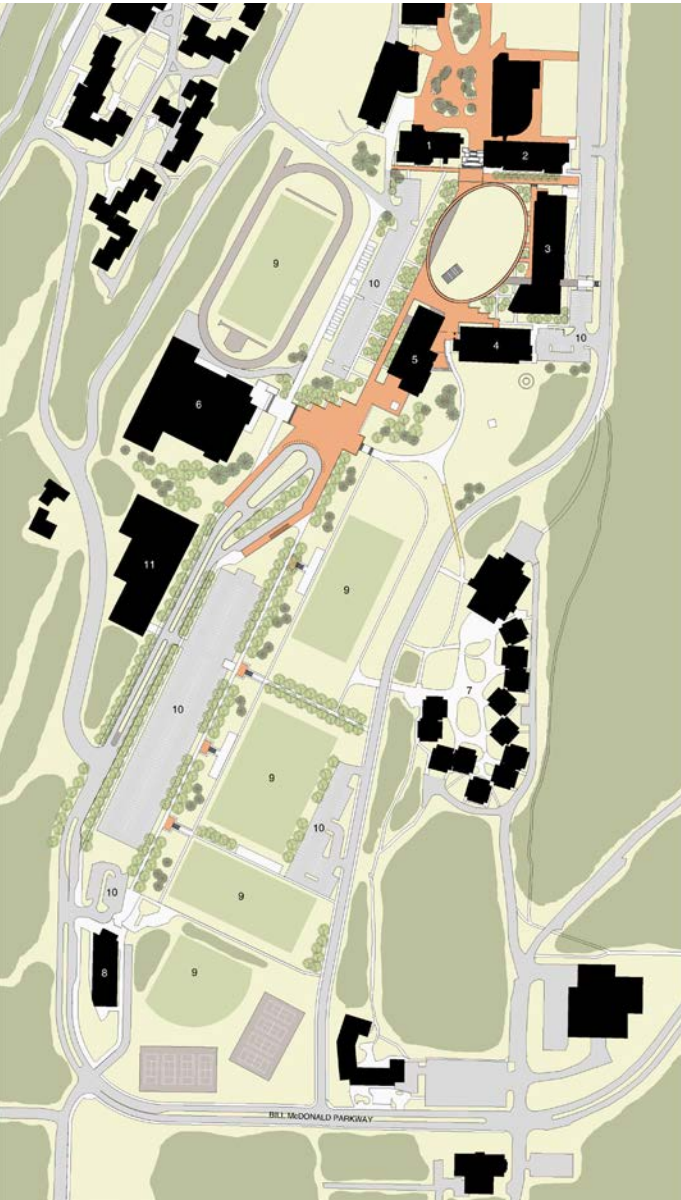
Phase 2



Phase 3

It is not often that the public's and the architectural profession's perception of good campus planning and design coincide. It is even rarer when the individual responsible for directing that planning process also guides the ensuing campus architecture. I am describing the abilities of Rick Benner, Western Washington University Campus Architect. As a result of Rick's passion and unwavering vision, Western is a gem among university campuses. It displays an intimate human scale and a consistency in architectural expression unseen on most campuses of similar size. It is honest, genuine and respectful of its beautiful natural setting. Accomplishing this with limited financial support makes Rick's achievements even more rarefied.

Ev Ruffcorn, FAIA



Phase 4



- All Phases Key**
- 1 Parks Hall
 - 2 Environmental Studies
 - 3 Communications
 - 4 AIC East
 - 5 AIC West
 - 6 Recreation Center
 - 7 Fairhaven College
 - 8 Campus Services
 - 9 Playfield
 - 10 Parking Lot
 - 11 Parking Structure



CAMPUS CHARACTER STUDY

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
As a second document in the trilogy guiding the planning of the Western Washington University campus, create a character study that preserves and enhances the culture and values of the university and extends its longevity and quality of architecture.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
In creating the University's master plan, Rick created an innovative approach to extending master plan's shelf-life and allow architects significant freedom to design inspiring architecture.

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
This document, in combination with the Institution Master Plan (IMP) & Campus Standards & Guidelines is a unique approach to campus planning that has stood the test of time and is as valid today as it was when developed over thirteen years ago.

The purpose of the Campus Character Study was to identify and depict the key ingredients that compose the physical character of the Western Washington University campus.

Rick Benner led a series of meetings and charrettes with WWU administrators and staff developing impressions of character, performing a character analysis, examining environmental influences, documenting places & activities, development patterns, major organizing lines & spaces, gateways & edges, circulation & access, developing primary character principles, character patterns to be reinforced, and character patterns to be avoided.

The Campus Character Study answered the following questions:

What are the major character ingredients that compose the campus?

What specific aspects are strengths and what are weaknesses?

What actions are recommended to sustain and improve campus character?

Today the campus evolution story does much to lend identity, purpose, continuity and delight to overall campus patterns. The story was noted in the initial diagrams of the first campus character study.

The lesson well learned here is that every area/region/district has a natural and cultural history (though

not always as dramatic and clear as WWU). When pointed out and broadly recognized, it starts an engine of ownership and creative support that usually flourishes in other things as well.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

☒ Project under direction of nominee

Ed Simpson, AIA
Asst. Director for Facilities Development

"The intrigue is its unfolding evolution over time - a beautiful time capsule of demonstrating changing attitudes and practices about institutional form since the first bricks were laid. It might have not been so clear had it not been for the unique site constraints it faced...at first perched high on an in-town promontory, flowing southward down the slopes in a series of shelves."

William J. Johnson, FASLA
Principal, Johnson, Johnson and Roy



Multiple front doors



Pedestrian focused



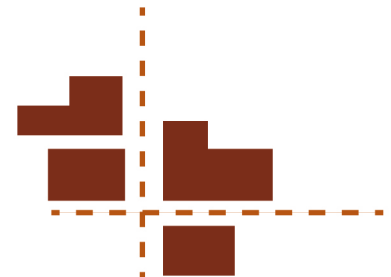
Sense of village



Capture the sun



Juxtaposition of buildings next to nature



Buildings aligned along key organizing lines

WATERFRONT CHARACTER STUDY

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
Create development guiding principles for University growth into brownfield properties at the Bellingham waterfront that integrate into the new mixed-use development fabric yet maintain the core characteristics that define Western Washington University mission and values.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
Leader of joint process for the University, Port of Bellingham and the City of Bellingham to develop a consensus approved character study that could be used by all participants for the overall redevelopment of brownfield acreage vacated by the Georgia-Pacific pulp and paper mill.

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
Development of a waterfront character study that carried forward the culture of the university into a redeveloping brownfield mixed-use project and influenced the entire redevelopment and promoting that the development be done as a LEED-Neighborhood Development pilot project.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION
2012
NWAIA Design Award

"This is a study that moves towards creating a special sense of place without defining the architecture... The study offers easily understood guidelines – expressed graphically and with words – to create a unique sense of place... Connecting urban form with the landscape beyond, connecting history with the future. It highlights ways to work with place as a learning experience; it engages the user with the surrounding environment they are a part of"

Norman Strong, FAIA
Partner, The Miller Hull Partnership
Juror, 2012 NWAIA Design Awards

Rick set standards for a methodology that integrates design review, and developed the master plan, campus standards & guidelines, and the campus character study, a seminal group of documents in establishing goals for the campus. Rick's commitment to sustainability, transportation planning, passion for architecture and the public realm elevate the role of the architect as a civic servant and serve as a standard for others to follow. As the University began to plan the expansion of the south campus in 2000, a character study was conducted that provided a consistency of vision about the entire campus and guided the new construction. The discussions included the point of view that facilities on

the waterfront may share elements of the existing physical character of the university.

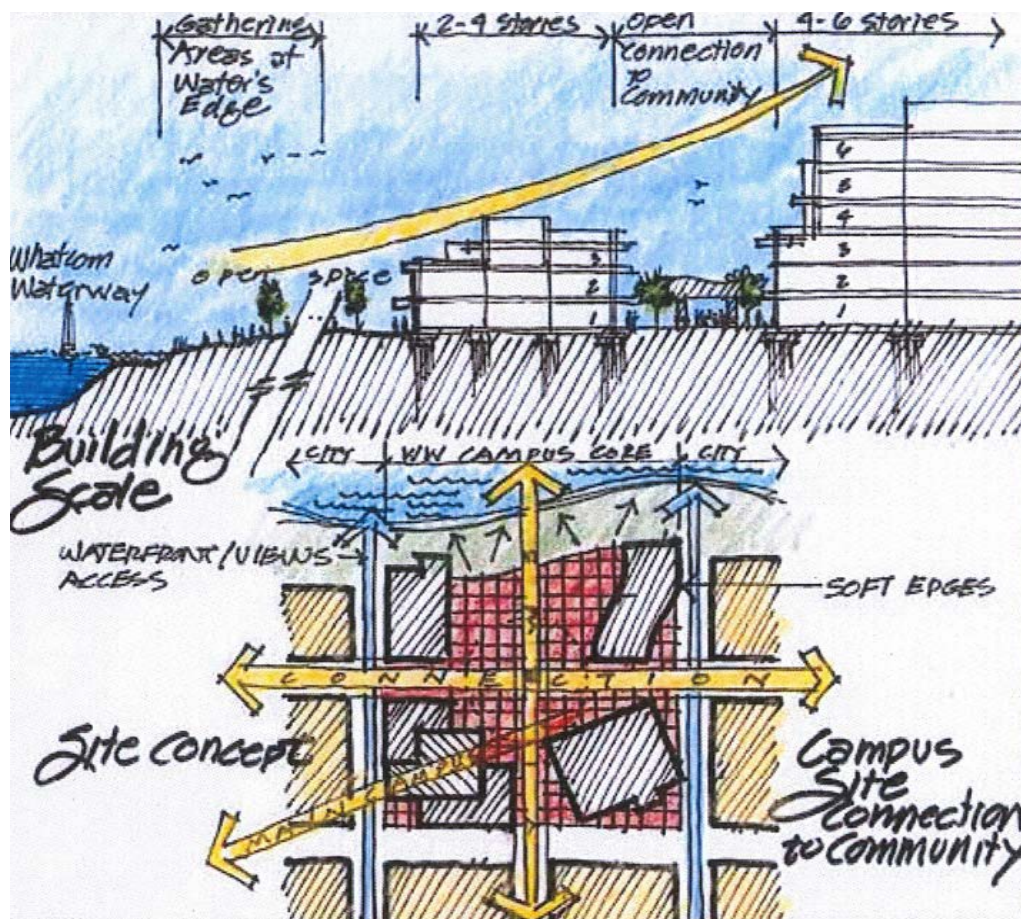
Through a facilitated process of discovery, discussion, and documentation, the WWU Waterfront Character Study identified the key physical characteristics necessary to make the Waterfront project a connected part of Western Washington University; created development criteria for the Waterfront District Master Plan and Zoning Plan as it relates to the University and its adjacent neighborhoods; provided criteria for the selection of future architects, designers, and developers; and created a basis for design for future projects.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above. That responsibility included:

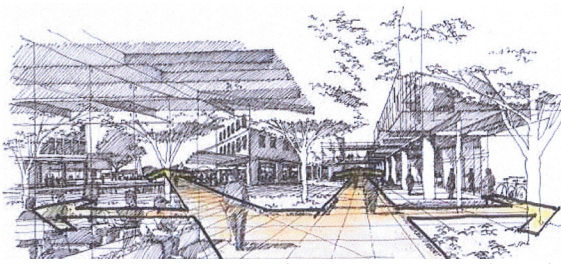
☒ Project under direction of nominee

William J. Johnson, FASLA
Principal, Johnson, Johnson and Roy

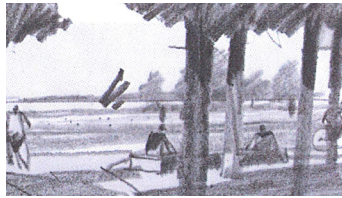


Breakdown of Scale

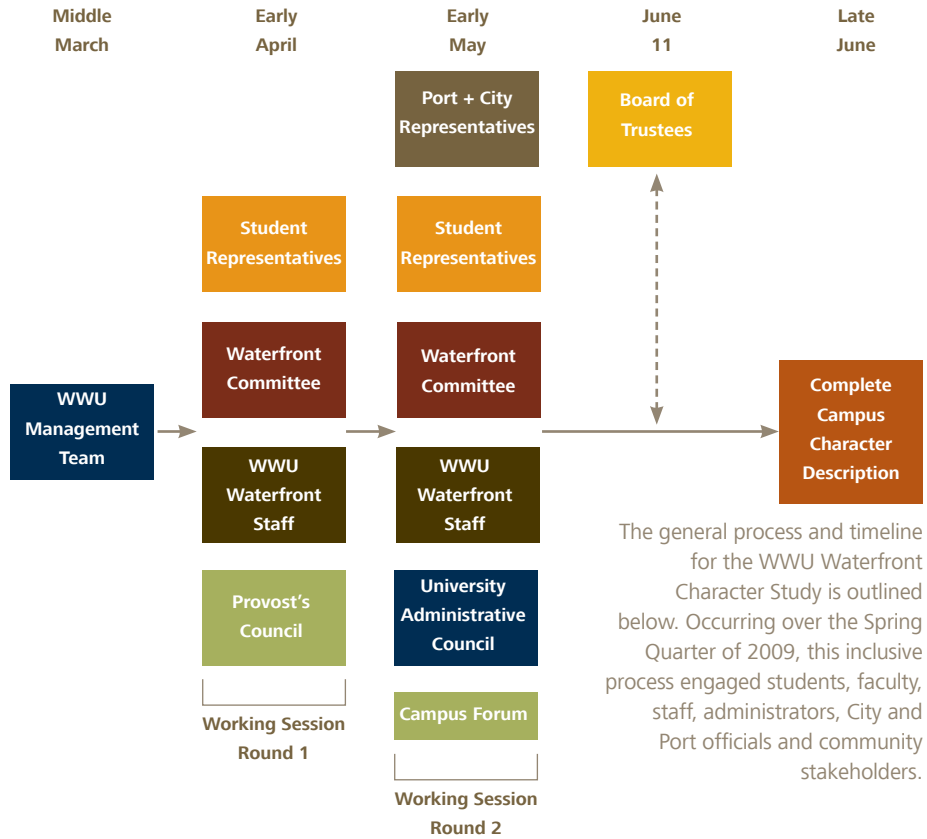
The water theme can be expressed in many ways, including ways that break down scale and provide places of reflection and contemplation. Building scale should vary from low at the Waterfront to higher further inland.



The existing campus bounds in portals and memorial pathways.



Connectivity
Western at the Waterfront should have a close, natural, and transparent connection to its natural environment.



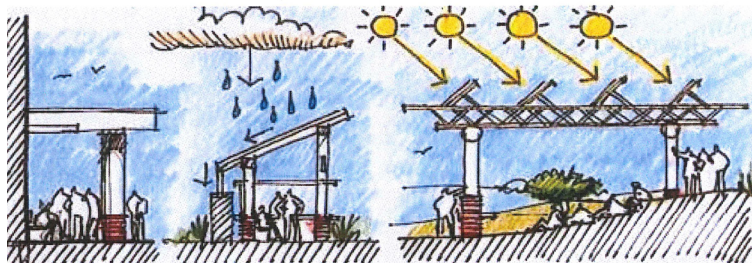
The general process and timeline for the WWU Waterfront Character Study is outlined below. Occurring over the Spring Quarter of 2009, this inclusive process engaged students, faculty, staff, administrators, City and Port officials and community stakeholders.

Priorities

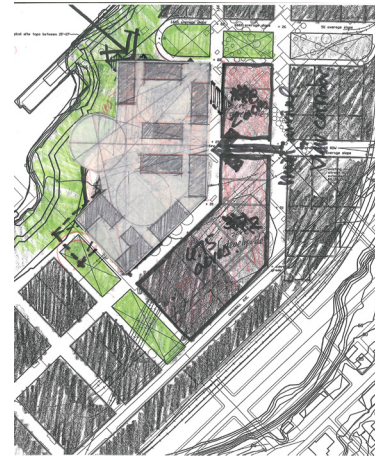
- 1 Identity
- Continuity / Creativity
- Convergence
- Water Connection
- Intimacy of Scale
- Orientation
- 7 Referencing History



Commercial and academic users should be compatible at the edges and blended to provide opportunities for future expansions.



Clusters of sheltered seating areas should be developed within and adjacent to Western at the Waterfront.



A Story of Convergence

Western Washington University at the Waterfront should recognize the existing campus characteristics and continue their cascade down the hill to the Waterfront. The Waterfront District and Western's proposed place within it should be a place of convergence – of water, art, community, vitality, education, economic development, culture, healthy living, and sustainability. The Waterfront Academic Center is envisioned as Western's sustainable learning experience.

"How should the Western Washington University Waterfront Academic Center embody physical characteristics that are consistent with and complimentary to the existing campus?"

"What characteristics could also make the Waterfront Academic Center unique and distinctive while maintaining the Western Washington University character and identity?"

"What should be the character and guiding principles for the development of the zone surrounding the core academic center in the Viking Development Area?"

AIC | Rec Center | South Campus

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
To create projects that elevate the quality of public architecture and advance the educational experience.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
Led the development of the south campus planning (actually created the original sketches and concepts) and the implementation of the numerous projects that created it including the campus infrastructure development, the Communications Facility, the Wade King Student Recreation Facility, and the Academic Instructional Center. Advanced the educational experience by championing learning both inside and outside the classroom, promoting collaborative areas and integrating food services.

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
Under Rick's leadership, the projects recently completed and those underway reflect the University's pursuit of excellence while promoting openness and interaction with the public.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION
2009
AIA Washington Council Civic Design Honor Award

2009
AIA Portland Merit Design Award

"From a planning point of view, [the AIC] really completed the south part of campus. We liked the transparency; we liked the use of a variety of materials, such as wood and concrete in even the small details. It was very thoughtfully done."

Rick Sundberg, Sundberg Kennedy Ly-Au Architects,
Juror, 2009 AIA Washington Council Civic Design Awards

Rick continually elevates the level of discourse about design, sustainability, teaching and learning, and the community context of our educational facilities and directs an award-winning building program. He has advocated for design excellence and has actively changed the way the university works; through his design and project management expertise he has facilitated a comprehensive strategy.

Through the efficient use of student and State Legislative funds, Western Washington University has been able to achieve their goal to enrich the student life experience and address the growing academic needs of the campus. The new south

campus development includes a combination of buildings, plazas, and open spaces that work together to create high quality architecture and an environment that represents the values of the University. The development of the south campus area implements a portion of the Institutional Master Plan where the density of development is nearly double that of the City of Bellingham's Central Business district, yet presents a campus character that is more aligned to the values of a sustainable nature/built relationship. The development creates significant new civic open spaces and preserves the forested hillside of Sehome Hill.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above.
That responsibility included:

☒ Project under direction of nominee

Jim Kalvelage AIA, LEED AP BD+C
Partner, Opsis Architecture



Academic Instructional Center

AWARDS / RECOGNITION

2009

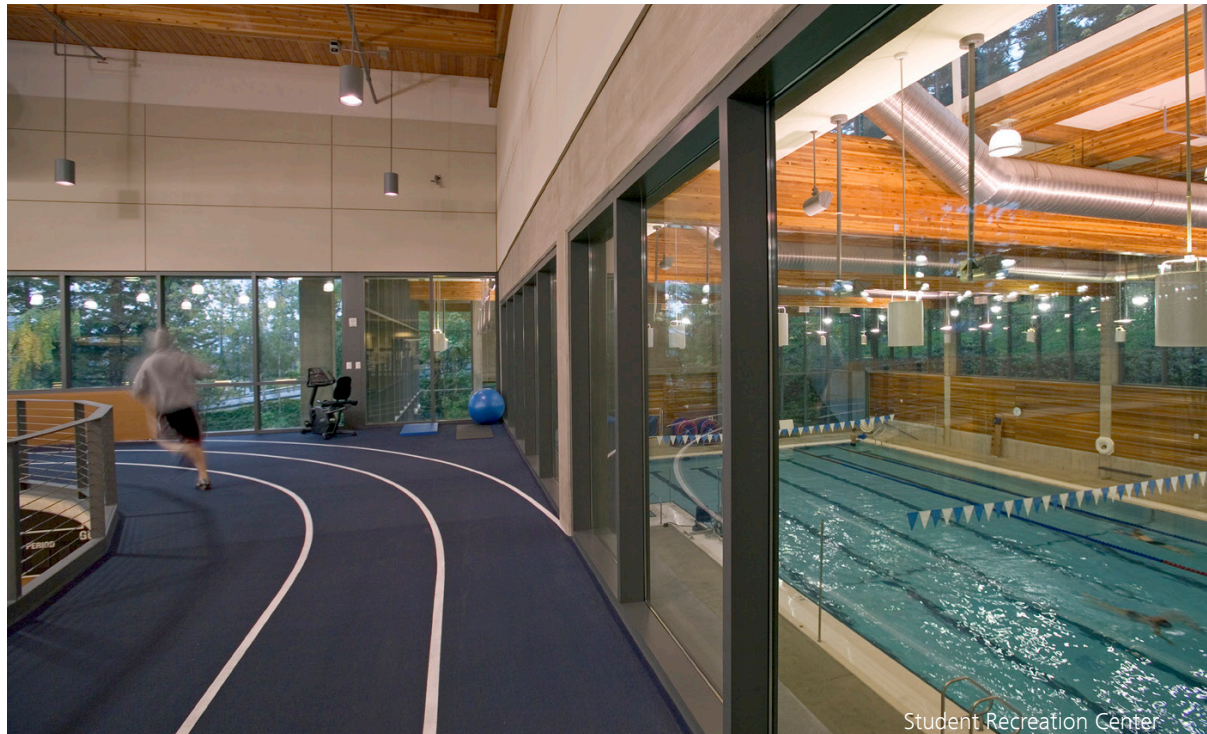
WA AIA Council Civic Design

2002

LEED (Student Recreation Center)

"Takes advantage of available views. Great use of natural light."

Ken Ballard



Student Recreation Center

The Wade King SRC, acknowledged as a national flagship for a new generation of open student recreation center design, effectively harmonizes into the academic context as a campus gateway and one of the first LEED certified student recreation centers in the country.

The Academic Instructional Center demonstrates integrated natural ventilation strategies that we have successfully implemented into higher education projects throughout the country and presented at national AASHE Sustainable Design Conferences. Rick Benner's progressive thinking and support of design excellence at Western have led to many firsts with broad reaching influence on the evolution of campus architecture design in the 21st Century.

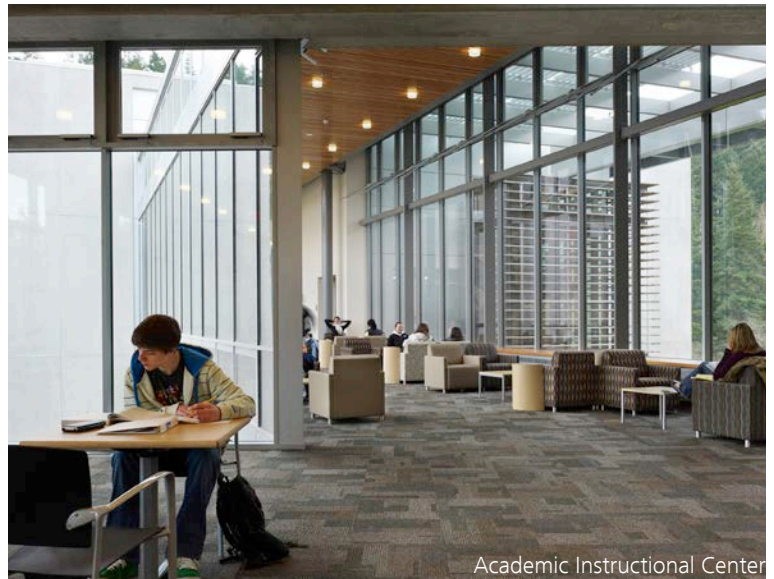
Jim Kavelage, AIA
Partner, Opsis Architecture



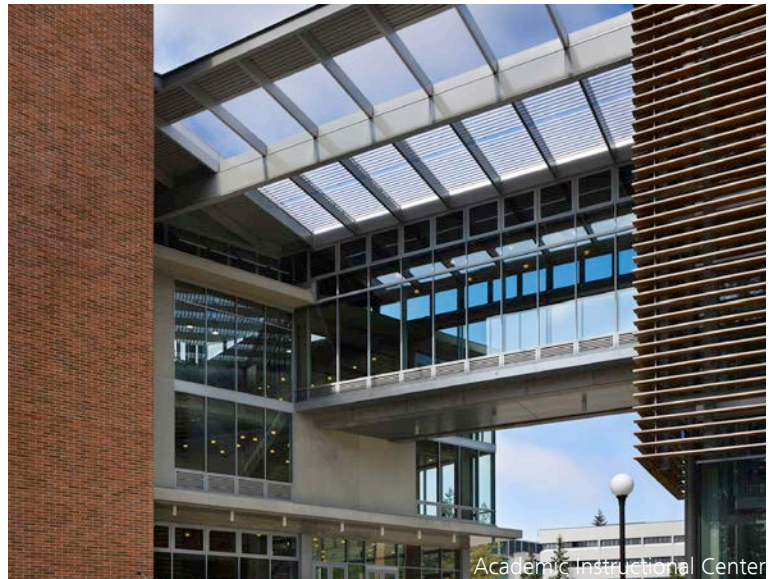
Student Recreation Center



Student Recreation Center



Academic Instructional Center



Academic Instructional Center

The scope of this submission includes the Wade King **Student Recreation Center** and the **Academic Instructional Center**.

These two buildings not only complete the ellipse quadrangle, a prominent new campus open space, but also define several major pedestrian walkways and create a series of plaza open spaces. Together, these two projects define a new front door identity for Western Washington University: establishing a new level of architectural quality and commitment to the integration of sustainable design at Western.

(SRC) draws from the materials and character of existing campus buildings such as the brick of Old Main, the concrete loggias and brick walls/plaza of Red Square, and the concrete structures surrounding Haskell Plaza. Utilizing brick as a backdrop, the SRC frames a two-story concrete loggia to create an inviting entry and elevated plaza overlooking the track and field. The loggia collects a cross-section of activities including: a lobby and café, gymnasium, running track, fitness/weight training, and multi-purpose rooms. Cedar infill walls, fir decking, and composite wood beams are utilized throughout the SRC to reinforce a retreat from academic life

and provide a material that belongs to the forested setting and Northwest region. The SRC is the first LEED certified project at Western and was one of the first student recreation centers in the country to achieve LEED certification. Green strategies employed in the design included: the preservation of existing tree stands; the recovery of trees with root balls to enhance salmon stream habitat; an integration of natural ventilation with operable windows and sun screening; providing daylighting in over 75% of the occupied spaces; exceeding energy code requirements by over 20%; diverting over 75% of the construction waste from landfills;

utilizing glue-lam beams reinforcing to reduce wood use by 20%; over 25% of the building materials incorporate post-consumer/industrial recycled content; and non-toxic/chemically inert carpets, paints, and adhesives were selected to ensure excellent indoor air quality.

"The building looks like it grew on the site."

Juror, Athletic Business

"A clear, functional floor plan combines with a high level of craftsmanship and use of wood."

John Diedorf

"Very responsive to its environment, this is an honest building with a very unique image."

Reed Voorhees

The AIC, in tandem with the Wade King Student Recreation Center, anchors the south campus expansion and creates a new campus front door identity for Western. In addition, the AIC project completes the development of the ellipse quadrangle, provides two significant pedestrian walkways and creates a series of plazas for gathering. The west wing's three-story massing creates a pedestrian scale and precedent for future development along the north-south walkway. Fronting the new quadrangle in the west wing are three-levels of interconnected collaborative spaces which include: student lounges, study and meeting spaces and a glass enclosed bridge that provides a convenient link to the east wing and study/lounge space with commanding views of the quad and Sehome Hill.



Student Recreation Center



Student Recreation Center

MILLER HALL + FRASER HALL

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
 BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
 To create projects that elevate the quality of public architecture and advance the educational experience.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
 Led the planning, budgeting, development and execution of projects in the core of campus. Championed the Collaborative Courtyard infill of Miller Hall to enhance the broader student experience and was keeper of the university's guiding principles and character.

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
 For both Miller and Fraser Halls, there was strong focus in the advancement of the learning environment through solutions that enhance learning, sustainability and sense of community.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION
 2012
 LEED® Gold Certification
 (Miller Hall)

Miller and Fraser Hall are two examples of Rick's ability to continually elevate the level of discourse about the community context of our educational facilities. The renovation of Miller Hall combines targeted alterations with a thorough reorganization of two existing wings to reinvigorate a historic campus building and the surrounding campus. Miller Hall's original 1943 wing was designed as an on-campus elementary school serving WWU's original charter as a teacher's college. Its second wing, added in 1969, created an enclosed courtyard and reoriented the building to Red Square. Decades of piecemeal remodeling had divided Miller Hall

into inhumane spaces without light and air. Users were disoriented by the building's three stairs, nine floor levels, and two wings, and much of the building was inaccessible to mobility-impaired students. This renovation began by reorganizing program spaces around the original architectural fabric, whereby the project team slyly won back space wherever it could be found. Constructed in 1962, Fraser Hall had not undergone a major renovation in 50 years and no longer met standards. Upgrades included mechanical, electrical and life-safety systems; building envelope upgrades; ADA accessibility; new technology to better support modern learning modalities; and replacement of fixed

seating and finishes. This project provided a tremendous opportunity to accommodate new modes of teaching and learning.

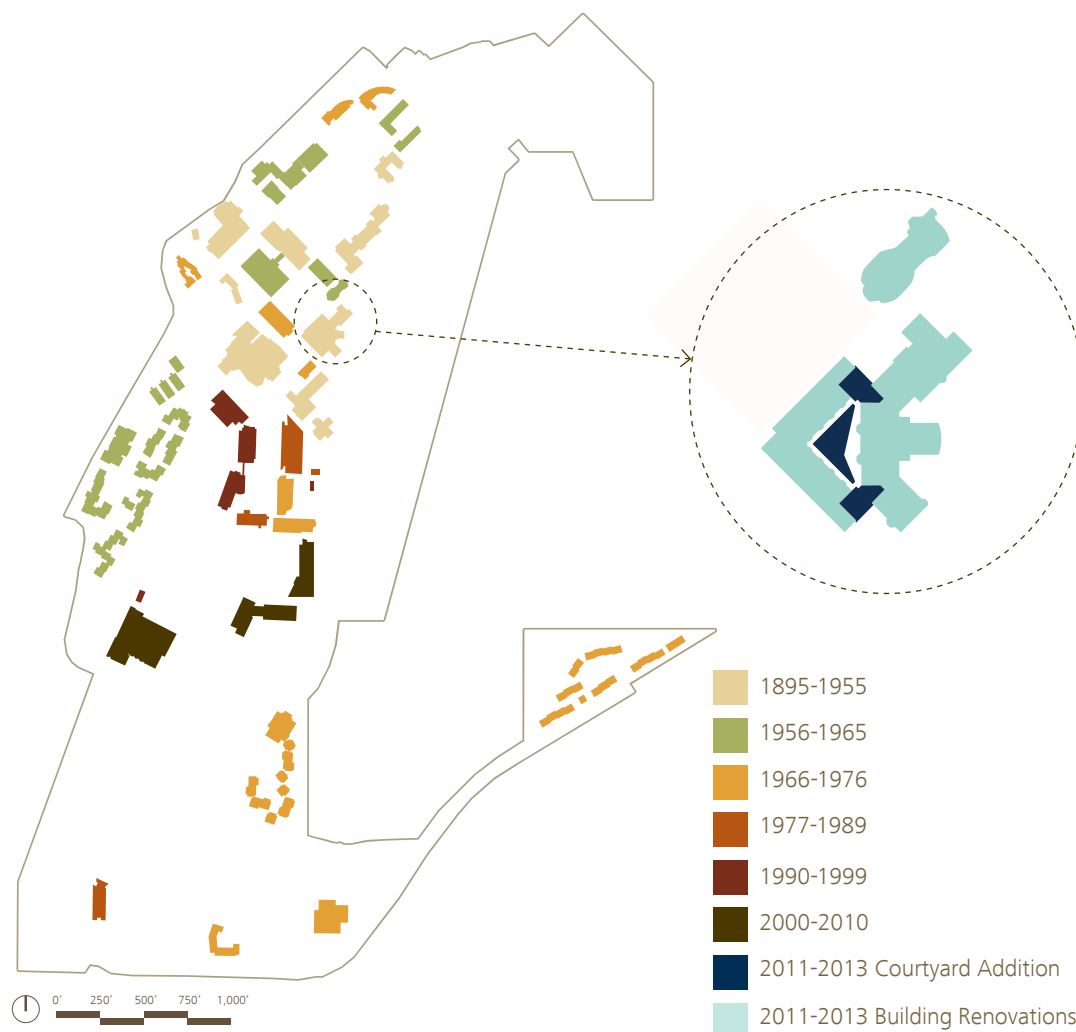
DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above.

That responsibility included:

☒ Project under direction of nominee

Gerald (Butch) Reifert, FAIA
 Partner, Mahlum



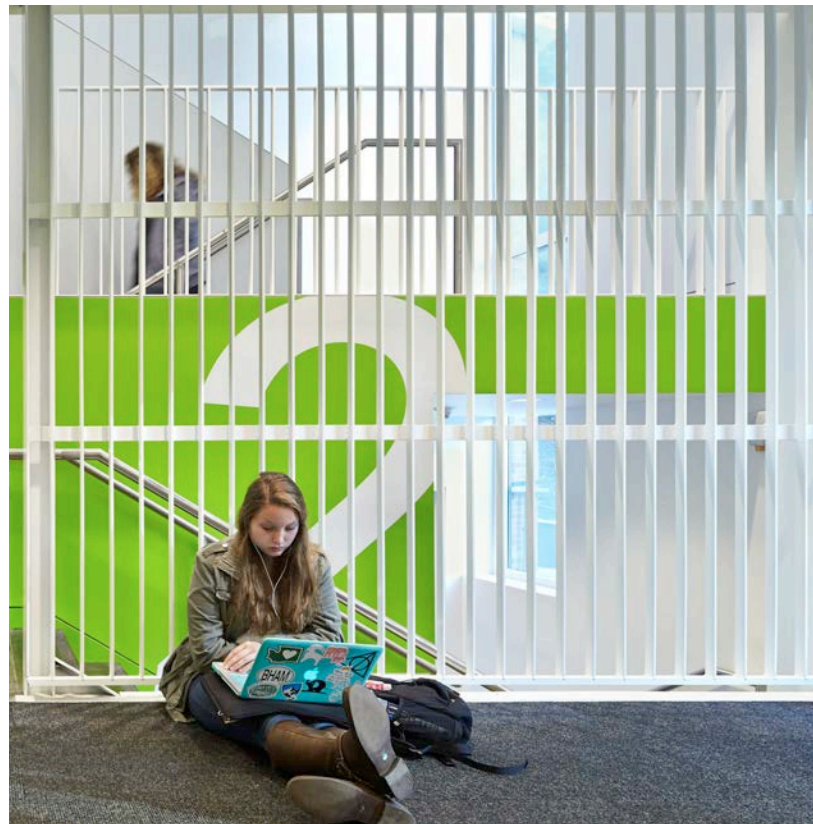
The project team slyly won back space wherever it could be found.



↑ The renovation of **Miller Hall** combines targeted alterations with a thorough reorganization of two existing wings (1943 and 1969) to reinvigorate a historic campus building and the surrounding campus. Insiders, circulation and way finding are significantly improved.



The new **Fraser Hall Building** —→ Renovation included upgrades to better support modern learning modalities.





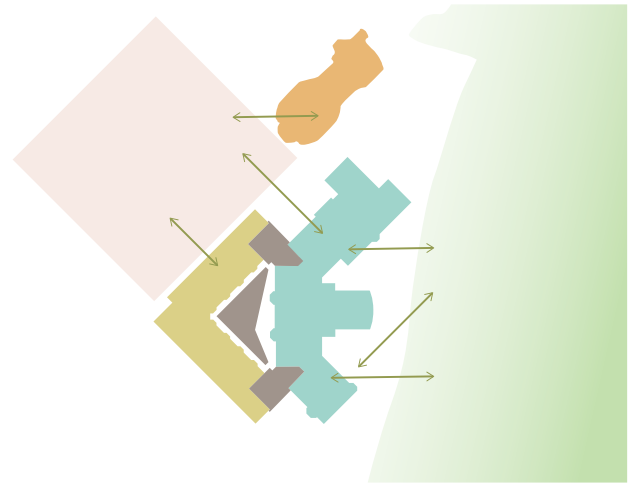
Restoring Light + Air
 Miller Hall's 1943 wing has the windows and high ceilings of an historic elementary school, its original function. Working with the building's original grain creates dignified spaces full of light and air.



Targeted incisions into the existing building restore wayfinding.



New Miller Hall Circulation



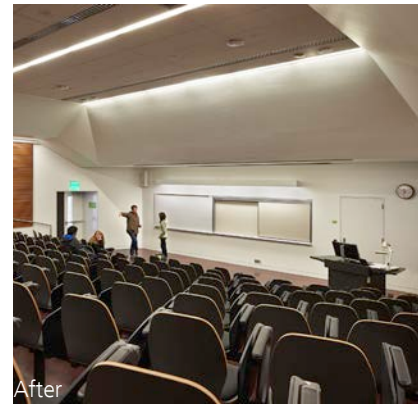
Site + Building Links

This renovation strengthens connections between Miller + Fraser Hall and the surrounding campus, as well as enhancing the experience within both buildings.

- 1943 Miller Hall
- 1969 Addition
- New Courtyard
- Fraser Hall
- Red Square



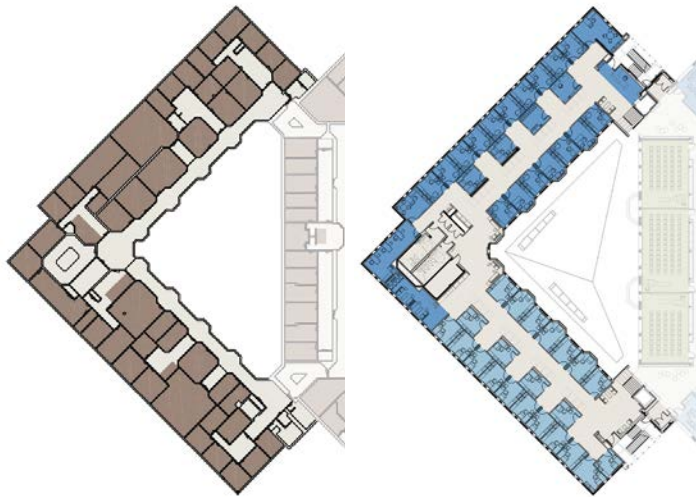
Before



After

Spatial Enhancement

Fraser Hall's circulation core links the lecture halls and houses ADA compliant elevator, stairs, and expanded restroom facilities with puzzle-like precision and without expanding the existing footprint. This preserves the historic integrity of this highly sculptural building.

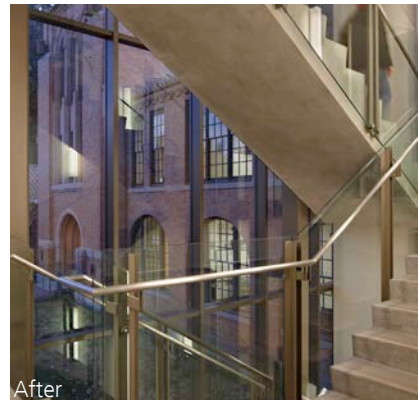


1969 Wing: Before

After



Before



After

Order and Wayfinding

The 1969 addition was claustrophobic and disorienting after numerous remodels. Newly-introduced light and a reordered floor plan has created an inviting and accessible space for students and faculty.

Elegant Circulation

Glazing in Miller Hall's rebuilt stairways creates glassy beacons to Red Square beyond, encourages use of the stairs and provides orientation as users move through the building.

CARVER ACADEMIC RENOVATION

WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
 BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
 To renovate and infill an existing campus core facility while coalescing priorities of programs among disparate groups of users.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
 Leader of Owner's Team, Steering Committee chair, Keeper of WWU character, Champion of Learning/Interaction spaces for students and faculty beyond the classroom and Facilitator to build consensus and support for the project among disparate users.

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
 Along with coalescing the disparate user groups and program needs, Rick engaged the University's Board of Trustees to define guiding project principles in support of the overall institutional mission. His expansive understanding of campus architecture and development issues was instrumental to resolving the complex historic preservation requirements and campus relationships. The design unifies program functions within the clearly delineated framework of new and existing construction—celebrating historic architecture while creating a new, forward-looking expression that strongly engages the life of the campus for the unique mix of academic, recreation and event programs.

WWU's Carver Hall complex, located in the heart of campus, serves a wide range of physical education, athletics, recreation and health-related academic programs. The existing facility includes two historic gym buildings, originally constructed in 1936 and 1960, and several infill additions, totaling 110,000 square feet. The 1960 gym, with approximately 2,200 seats, accommodates a diversity of public assembly events, such as intercollegiate basketball games and university commencement ceremonies.

To address the highly complex conditions of existing facilities and wide disparity of priorities between academic and athletic department

users, Rick Benner (University Architect) established an integrated process of programming, existing building analysis, concept exploration and cost/benefit analysis. All user groups were engaged through a series of interactive workshops. Initially focused on programming, the sessions evolved to extensive review and assessment of concept alternatives—building consensus and “buy-in” as an important outgrowth of the process.

The selected design concept preserves the original buildings with addition of new program and circulation spaces to unite the historic campus core to the north with the larger, evolving campus precinct to the south. Program functions and departmental

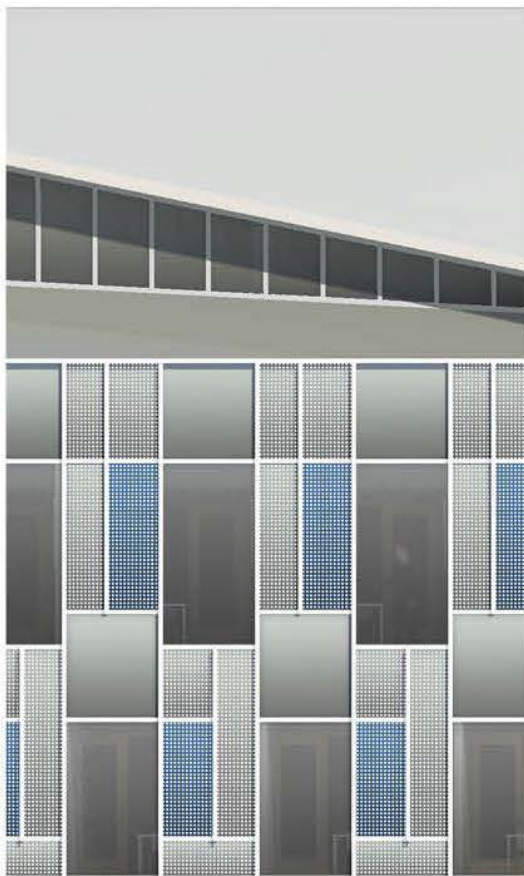
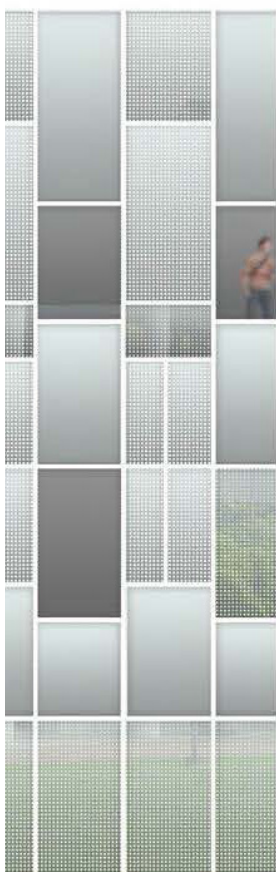
identities are organized around a central pedestrian link, so that athletic and academic departments can function independently while providing a cohesive architectural experience for the unique mix of programs.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

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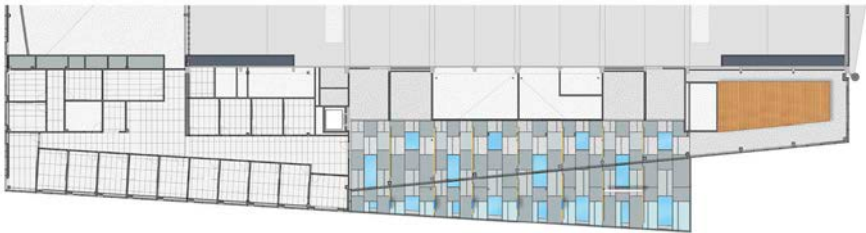
☒ Project under direction of nominee

George Shaw, FAIA
 Partner, LMN Architects

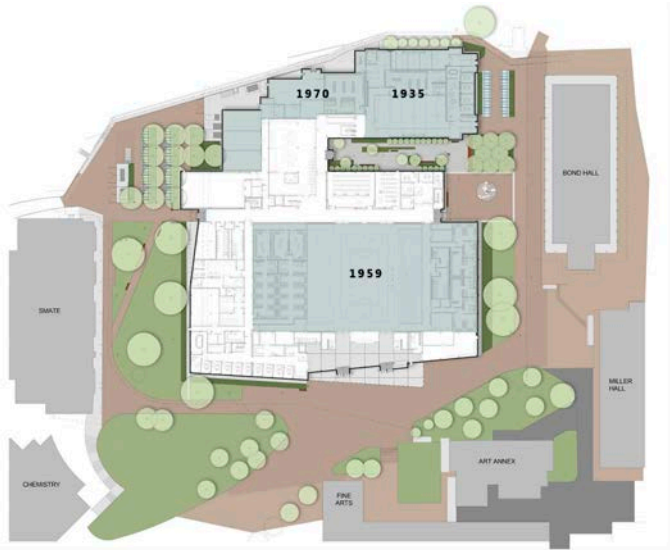


In his extended tenure as University Architect at Western, Benner has been very effective in preserving and elevating the artistic and functional cohesiveness of the campus environment. Working as design provocateur, author of building standards, artistic conservator and construction administrator he has left a positive and lasting mark for the benefit for Washington State and generations of students and faculty.

Colin R. Jones, AIA
Consulting Principal, NAC
Architecture



DAY TO DAY



LOCAL AIA BOARD + AIA WA COUNCIL

BELLINGHAM + STATE OF WASHINGTON

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
To enhance the profession and thereby advance the living standards of people through their improved environment.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
AIA Member since 1985

NWAIA Chapter Board
Member 2007-2011

- Secretary 2008
- Vice President 2009
- President 2010

AIA WA Council Board
Member 2009-2011 (Local + Political rep.)

Worked on setting up student scholarship

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
Rick is, above all, an architect and exemplifies in his character, skill and leadership, the best of the profession. He is tireless in his determination to use that stature and the respect he has won among all those with whom he works to enhance, in perception and reality, the architect's value and credibility in society.

Throughout his career, Rick has consistently placed his experience, personal efforts, and relationships in service to the profession.

Rick's active participation in the AIA, the professional association for architects, gives him a support network upon which to draw when faced with critical decisions. He has contacts within the profession and access to experts in licensing and legal issues. This network of support will help Rick to be an effective member of the Board of Architects.
AIA Washington Council



Rick has been actively involved with his local chapter since 1985 and has worked on several projects during his early years including the Visioning for the City of Bellingham. As a Board member and Board officer, Rick worked to establish the chapter's first scholarship program, to expand the chapter's continuing education program to support the regions architects as the State law was revised to include continuing education units as a requirement of licensing, and to establish collaborations with the State's Associated General Contractors (AGC) and the local program for sustainability called Sustainable Connections.

Rick established the first NWAIA/AGC Roundtables to share information and

best practices related to BIM, GCCM, Design Build and other common interests.

As an AIA Washington Council Board of Directors member, Rick was actively involved with meeting with legislators to discuss legislation that would affect architects throughout the state. Most notably, the update to the State's architecture law in 2010. Work related to this law would be carried on when appointed by Governor Gregoire to the State Board for Architects in 2011.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above.
That responsibility included:

- ☒ Project under direction of nominee

Stan Bowman
Former Executive Director,
Hon. AIA Washington Council

The American Institute of Architects Washington Council (AIA|WA) is a professional society comprised of registered architects in the State of Washington. There are several different divisions within the American Institute of Architects (AIA): national, regional, state, and local. The AIA|WA is a State arm of the AIA and is focused primarily on policy and politics. The AIA|WA works for architects by representing them on a broad spectrum of issues including but not limited to: sustainability, liability, licensing, taxes, employment and more. The AIA|WA was formed on the belief that the profession needed to advocate with one clear, consistent voice to government and industry.

Today, the AIA|WA is Washington architect's voice on state government affairs. Governed by mid-size Board of Directors (composed of architects from a variety of backgrounds, firm sizes, locations, and political views), the AIA|WA is part of a network that includes more than 2000 architects and related professions in-state.

Mission:

:: To serve its members through influencing state government with regard to issues that impact the practice of architecture.

Vision:

:: AIA Washington Council will be an effective proponent of the balance between the natural built and economic environments.

Our Guiding Principles:

:: Architects serve the public health, safety and welfare by designing places for a broad range of human activities, creating environments where individuals and groups may thrive.

:: The practice of architecture requires special skills and training; a lifelong commitment to learning, professional ethics and service; and a favorable business climate within which to practice.

:: The process of design achieves a positive balance of natural, social and economic forces, respecting the environment and shaping civilized places.

:: Architects express their professional concerns and commitments by engaging in public affairs with a range of professional and public allies, with the goal of helping to share livable communities.

Capital Projects Advisory Board (CPARB) + Project Review Committee (PRC)

WASHINGTON STATE

CHALLENGE PRESENTED

To ensure the quality of the architecture profession through improved legislation, enhanced project delivery methods for public agencies, and expanded oversight of public agency delivery methods by industry professionals.

ROLE OF NOMINEE

Actively involved with CPARB and crafting new legislation in 2005 & 2006

Founding member of PRC in 2007

Still a member with current term ending in 2016

Committee Vice-Chair in 2012

Committee Chair in 2013

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME

Rick championed and worked to craft legislation for all public agencies to have the ability to bring Owners, Architects, and Contractors together in partnership to enhance the quality, efficiency and accountability in public works projects.

After new legislation was passed allowing all agencies to participate if they met relevant criteria, Rick was appointed as a charter member to the Project Review Committee responsible for assuring agencies met the legislative criteria.

Rick was initially involved with creating the committee by-laws, forms, and developing the applications process. His leadership brought him the vice-chair and chairship, and he has provided training sessions for new committee members for the last three years.

Rick Benner was appointed as a charter member to the Project Review Committee as the sole representative of the State of Washington regional institutions of higher education. Since his appointment in 2007 (and two reappointments), he has worked tirelessly with the other committee members representing other State agencies, architects, engineers, contractors and industry leaders to assure that the legislation is met and that projects and agencies understand the nuances and complexity of the alternative delivery methods of design build (DB) and general contractor-construction manager (GCCM).

The multi-disciplinary work of the PRC brings Owner, Contractor and the Design professionals together to assure that delivery methods are understood by agencies, the projects are appropriate to the delivery method, and that they have established teams with the appropriate level of experience to execute them successfully.

They also assure by public body certification, that an agency has the knowledge and ability to carry out multiple alternative public works projects on their own without further involvement of the committee.

The PRC also makes recommendations to CPARB for additional modifications to legislation to continually improve and refine the processes.

With Rick's involvement the PRC has approved nine public agencies across the state for certification and rejected two applications.

The committee has also approved 85 projects for alternative delivery (GCCM or Design/Build) and rejected 10.

I have worked with Rick Benner for almost a decade in design and construction legislative matters. He has been an engaged and able partner in confronting and resolving issues around higher education capital projects and construction procurement for public owners in the state of Washington. In doing so he has raised awareness of the issues around the practice of architecture for public owners, and to elevate the standard of practice.

I support his elevation to Fellow status as an AIA membership is recognition of his service and contribution to the profession.

Olivia Yang
 Washington State University
 Associate Vice President for Facilities Services, Co-founding Member of CPARB

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above.

That responsibility included:

☒ Project under direction of nominee

Gerald (Butch) Reifert FAIA
 Partner, Mahlum

The 2005 Legislature created the Capital Projects Advisory Review Board (CPARB) under ESHB 1830 (RCW 39.10) to review alternative public works contracting procedures and provide guidance to state policymakers on ways to further enhance the quality, efficiency and accountability of public works contracting methods. CPARB and many stakeholders contributed to significant changes to RCW 39.10 that the 2007 Legislature enacted.

About the Project Review Committee:

::The 2007 Legislative Session created the Public Review Committee (PRC) through HB 1506 (RCW 39.10) to work under CPARB. The PRC is responsible to review and approve Public Body certification and project approval applications for the utilization of General Contractor/Construction Manager (GC/CM) and Design/Built (DB) delivery methods of construction.



STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR ARCHITECTS

WASHINGTON STATE + NATIONAL

CHALLENGE PRESENTED
To ensure the quality of the architectural profession through improved regulation and oversight.

ROLE OF NOMINEE
Board Member,
Chair 2014-15
Vice Chair 2013-14

Guidelines for Building Officials Task Force

Law & Ethics Task Force

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME
Rick's vision, dedication and ability to balance the role of University Architect and public servant have provided him the expertise to be appointed, as the sole public practitioner, to the State Board for Architects. Rick is the first University Architect, first architect from the Northwest Washington AIA chapter, and only the second public architect to serve. His understanding of the laws (having participated in updating the architectural practice act in 2010), government operations, and his tireless desire for advances in policy and practice to ensure the quality and accountability of the architectural practice, above all, exemplify, in his character, skill, and leadership, the best of the profession. Rick is currently leading the Board through development of its first strategic plan.

Having been appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire to the Washington State Board for Architects in 2011, Rick has been actively involved with all areas of Board activities. The updated architectural practice act adopted in 2010 required significant changes to rules and policies to administer and understand the intent of the new law. Rick worked on several task forces including the Law and Ethics Exam Task Force and the Guidelines for Building Officials Task Force. The Law and Ethics Task Force was established to modify the previous law's requirement for a license candidate to recite back to the State, in their own words, the laws pertaining to architecture in the State

of Washington. To make the law more effective, the task force developed a list of over sixty true/false questions that could be posed to candidates to test their knowledge of the laws and their intent.

The Guidelines for Building Officials Task Force created a new on-line series of FAQ's to assist building officials with interpretations of the new laws as needed in the field. Rick worked with the other task force members and representation from the AIAWA Council to refine the FAQ's.

Rick has served as a case manager on numerous cases related to charges of unlicensed practice, unprofessional conduct by a licensee

and incompetence in the profession by a licensee. In addition, he has sat on the board, in its adjudicative body, on hearings regarding appeals to charges.

From Rick's perspective, one of the most satisfying things being on the Board has provided is the opportunity to meet with architecture students from the University of Washington and Washington State University to hear about their education, their potential futures, their views on how well IDP is working, and their thoughts on the ARE. Those topics all feed into his involvement with the ARE exam writing and his participation on visiting teams to universities for NAAB accreditation.

This regulatory board's primary function is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public through the regulation of the practice of architecture. As a board member, you are responsible not only to the profession but also to the consumers of the State of Washington. You will help ensure our government remains accessible and accountable to its citizens.

Responsibilities:

::Attend board meetings; prepare as needed and actively participate

::Participation in board committees for specific projects: e.g. outreach, newsletter articles, rule making, cross-over issues with other professions

::Act as a case manager or as part of the judicial panel in disciplinary cases

::Responsibly represent the board to the profession and public

As needed:

::Attend national council meetings

::Review applications

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above.

That responsibility included:

☒ Project under direction of nominee

Colin R. Jones AIA, LEED AP
Consulting Principal, NAC Architecture

Rick possesses a refined understanding of how to work among groups of professionals, effectively advancing a common goal when joining a committee effort and displaying insightful skills when the situation requires proactive leadership. The citizens of Washington State, both Architect professionals and those they serve, benefit from the laws and rules that he has helped craft and attentively administers through his dedication to the work of the Board for Architects.

Colin R. Jones, AIA
Consulting Principal, NAC Architecture

"The AIAWA encourages you to approve Rick Benner's application for the Washington State Board for Architects. He is a leader in the profession who will bring wisdom and experience to the position."
AIA Washington Council



NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

SCUP, AUA, NCARB & NAAB

CHALLENGE PRESENTED

To ensure the quality of the architectural profession through improved education, streamlined examination and regulated practice.

ROLE OF NOMINEE

See page 2-6

Washington Member since June 2011 appointment to Washington State Board for Architects

ARE 4.0 Item Development Subcommittee: Programming, Planning + Practice Group

ARE Item Writing Development Subcommittee FY14

ARE Multi-choice subcommittee FY13

NAAB Visiting Team NCARB Rep. 2014-18

RESOLUTION / OUTCOME

Through the AIA, SCUP, AUA, APPA, PRC, State Board for Architects, NCARB and NAAB, Rick has generously shared his insight and expertise with fellow architects and planners across the US. His passion for the practice of architecture is matched by his commitment to architectural education. He was instrumental in establishing a scholarship program with his local chapter, as mentioned in Exhibit 7. He has been involved with ARE for several years developing test questions and improving exams and he has been the NCARB representative on NAAB accreditation team visits to assure the quality of architecture programs.

Throughout this submittal Rick Benner has shown his involvement and influence on the national scene. From his involvement on two national conference Program committees (SCUP 26 and AUA 2003) and in both cases, arranging & leading post conference tours to Western Washington University, Simon Fraser University, and the University of British Columbia. The stop at Western included a presentation of the campus including its history, campus planning and touring our newest projects explaining processes used and lessons learned about campus planning, project management, and architecture.

In addition, Rick presented at AUA 1988 and 2001. These presentations again focused on his works in campus planning, project management, best business practices and lessons learned to fellow AUA members from across the United States and Canada.

Rick has been a member of the AUA since 1988 and has served on its Nominating Committee for officers, as well as, its Financial Task Force, providing an in-depth examination of its financial situation and making recommendations regarding future dues and conference fees.

More recently, Rick has served on the national AUA Professional Practice Committee where he is currently Chair. Last year he and members of his committee created a membership wide survey on how each institution is organized, how the institution funded there organization, and what services they provided. The results of that survey led to a presentation at the annual national meeting and a discussion of lessons learned about maintaining staff moral over the last recession and suggested improvements going forward. This year his leadership on

the committee is having them focus on university project management software systems culminating with a presentation at the annual national meeting on the variety of systems and how institutions can improve their staff efficiency and auditability.

In addition to his work with the national SCUP and AUA, Rick is actively involved with NCARB both as the voting member to its annual meeting in Philadelphia representing the State of Washington in the latest dialogue and debate about changes with the IDP program, the moving to the ARE 5.0, and on committees developing the ARE 4.0 exams.

Rick's passion for the profession and his involvement at the national level also extends to the education of the profession. He is a member of the committee for NAAB that visits campuses to evaluate and recommend architectural program accreditation. Having recently participated in an accreditation for the University of Detroit - Mercy, he was able to share his perspective as a public architect and influence the visitation committee's recommendations.

DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

I have personal knowledge of the nominee's responsibility for the project listed above.

That responsibility included:

- ☒ Project under direction of nominee

Paul G. May AIA, LEED AP
Associate Principal, Miller Dunwiddie
Architecture

As a fellow member of the Association of University Architects, Rick Benner has been an instrumental leader in the organization and has provided extraordinary contributions that have been of great value to the association and to the individual members. He is a professional in every sense of the word and he has worked hard to share his knowledge and success as a university architect with his colleagues. I can honestly say his contributions have been of immense professional value to me in my role as a university architect.

**M. Boone Hellmann, FAIA, FAUA
(Fellow in the Association of University Architects)
LEED AP BD+C
Retired University Architect of the University of California, San Diego**

Rick and I both joined the Association of University Architects in 1988. Rick has been a leader in the organization, serving on numerous committees and providing valuable insights through presentations and general discussions among the membership. I have personally benefitted over the years, borrowing several ideas related to master planning or specific Western Washington University projects for example and applying them on my campus.

**Eric King, FAUA
Director of Facilities Planning,
Wichita State University**

SECTION 4 REFERENCES

RICK L. BENNER AIA | membership #30055361

1. William J. Johnson, FASLA

Founding Principal, Johnson, Johnson and Roy
60 E. 8th Street, Holland, Michigan, 49423

Professional Colleague

2. George Shaw, FAIA

Partner, LMN Architects
801 Second Avenue, Suite 501, Seattle, Washington, 98104

Professional Colleague

3. Norman Strong, FAIA

Partner, The Miller Hull Partnership, LLP
71 Columbia Street, Sixth Floor, Seattle, Washington, 98104

Professional colleague and fellow member / chair of CPARB (State of Washington Capitol Projects Advisory Review Board) Task Force on IPD and Best Value

4. Lee Gavel, FRAIC

University Emeritus for Simon Fraser University
Principal, Lee Erin Gavel / Architect
2410 Lauralynn Drive, North Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V7J2Y5

Professional colleague and fellow member of the Association of University Architects

5. Michael E. Smith, FAIA

President, Michael E. Smith, FAIA, PS
218 Highland Drive, Bellingham, Washington, 98225

Professional colleague and fellow member of the AIA Northwest Washington Board

6. Paul G. May, AIA

Associate Principal, Miller Dunwiddle Architecture
123 N 3rd Street, Suite 104, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 55401

Professional colleague and former chair of NCARB ARE 4.0 Programming, Planning & Practice Committee

7. Ira Fink, Ph.D., FAIA

Principal, Ira Fink and Associates, Inc.
One Columbia Circle, Berkeley, California, 94708

Professional Colleague

