

Speaker Series

10:00 am “Resilience: the New Frontier in Green Design”

Doug Pierce

With nearly 20 years of architectural experience spanning both corporate and institutional arenas, Doug Pierce contributes diverse planning, technical, and compliance expertise as well as innovative sustainable design ideas to every project. He is deeply passionate about preserving our environmental assets and values opportunities to collaborate with clients on conservation strategies, Energy Design Assistance, and related services. A pioneering architect, speaker and writer with a passion for integrating art + science through poetic innovation, Doug has over 30 years of experience in sustainable design beginning with the 1700 acre Meadow Creek Project in 1984 and including Minnesota's first LEED Platinum Certified project, Great River Energy Headquarters, an AIA National COTE Top 10 Green Project. Working closely with an original founder of the US Green Building Council + LEED, Doug is now defining a new integrative framework for sustainable design through development of the RELi Resiliency Action List + National Consensus Standard.

Extreme weather, economic turbulence and cultural stress seem to be a never ending. How can your business better prepare for these shocks and stressors? And even more importantly, how can that preparation bring more vitality, life and sustainability to your organization, neighborhood or home? Doug will offer both guiding theory + tangible solutions in this straight forward and compelling presentation on resilient design + thinking.

11:00 am “What’s in the water? Get to know H_2O ” Panel Discussion

Between the rain that falls and the water we drink, there’s a lot of work that goes into our water in Rochester, and impacts you might be contributing to that you never imagined. Come hear from our panel of experts on the quality of our water, what challenges they face in ensuring it’s safe and sustainable, and how you can be a better consumer and protector of this invaluable resource.

Speakers:

Sarah Duke Middleton, Executive Director of Zumbro Watershed Partnership

Chelsea Wiegand, Environmental Specialist for Rochester Wastewater Treatment

Rochester Public Utilities

Rochester City Stormwater Management

12:00 pm Auditorium – Youth Forum

12:30 pm Auditorium – Keynote Speakers: Ashok Patel, M.D., and John Carmody (DMC Design Guidelines)

“Health and Sustainability”

Dr. Ashok Patel M.D.

Dr. Ashok Patel is the chair of the Environmental Medicine committee of the Zumbro Valley Medical Society and is an active physician practicing in the Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care medicine at the Mayo Clinic. The ZVMS serves over 2500 physicians in a four-county area in SE Minnesota. He was born in Kampala, Uganda and trained at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta (medical school, 1982-1986) as well as Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota (internal medicine residency: 1987-1990 and pulmonary-critical care fellowship: 1990-1993). For over 25 years, his clinical practice at Mayo Clinic has focused around the integrated team-based care of patients with asthma, COPD, and other airway disorders. The ZVMS-EMC team is a broader cross-section of students and experts striving to improve our individual preparedness to respond to all types of hazards and emergencies, including environmental concerns and barriers to sustainable development. His predecessor on ZVMS, Dr. Fred Nobrega and others were influential in passing the legislation on improving air quality in public places. Dr. Patel is also involved in international education exchanges through Rotary International, Sigma Xi, and the American Thoracic Society that are very engaged in creating healthier people and healthier communities and a more sustainable future for all.

John Carmody – Destination Medical Center (DMC) Design Guidelines

John Carmody is a Senior Fellow and Founding Director of the Center for Sustainable Building Research at the University of Minnesota. He holds a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Architecture from the University of Minnesota. He has worked in building-related research for 30 years and is the author of several books on building design and construction. Mr. Carmody was one of the leaders of a team that developed the State of Minnesota Sustainable Building Guidelines required on State-funded buildings. In 2008, the Center received funding to lead the State of Minnesota in its transformation to zero net energy and carbon buildings by the year 2030. His work also includes research on life cycle assessment of materials, affordable housing, post occupancy evaluations, and the development of decision-making tools for designers. He recently developed the Destination Medical Center Design Guidelines for Rochester.

2:00 pm “Med City: How Do We Grow Sustainably?” Panel Discussion

John Carmody (DMC Design Guidelines)

John Helmers (Director of Environmental Resources in Olmsted County)

Kevin Bright (DMC Sustainability Director)

3:00 PM “Living Through the Age of Limits”

Dr. Nathan Hagens – Nathan Hagens is a professor at the U of Minnesota teaching “Reality 101 – A Survey of the Human Predicament”. Nate is a well-known speaker on the big picture facing human society. Until recently he was lead editor of the Oil Drum, one of the most highly respected websites for analysis and discussion of global energy supplies and the future implications of energy decline.

“Living through the Age of Limits” is an integrative systems view of behavior, energy and environment that can give us insights into what the 21st century likely has in store, and how do we engage with it as individuals and as nations. His presentation will address the opportunities and constraints we face after the coming end of economic growth.