Guest Editor: Colleen Kelly Starkloff
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Other regular features
Colleen Kelly Starkloff is the Founder and Co-Director of the Starkloff Disability Institute in St. Louis. She is also the Founder of the Universal Design Summit series of conferences focused on home and community design. She remains the Conference Organizer of these summits. These conferences, 5 of them already, have brought best practices in Universal Design together into one national/international conference since 2002. Ms. Starkloff did not want an “academic” focus on Universal Design for these conferences. Rather a focus on what works, what doesn’t, what’s the difference between Universal Design and Accessible Design and how the use of universal features in home and community design best integrates all people in communities and improves housing choice for all.
Guest Editorial

It is a great honor for me to be invited to provide content on Universal Design for this month’s edition of Design For All newsletter. Many thanks to Dr. Sunil Bhatia for this invitation.

I first became involved in Universal Design (UD) promotion when I met Ron Mace in the early 1980’s. Ron had been working on creating building codes that required accessibility for people with disabilities in the United States. However, when we first met he had already begun to work on a new design criteria that better reached our goals of full inclusion of people with disabilities. He called it Universal Design.

When I first heard him speak of this I wondered why he would stray from the terrific work he had been doing, as an architect with a disability (polio) to create design standards that every business, store, restaurant and more had to provide for disabled people. Ron explained to me that by using a set of design standards that stereotyped places as being for disabled people, we were actually segregating ourselves by design from the rest of the nondisabled world. He taught me that what we really needed was design that is1.) equitable, 2.) flexible, 3.) simple and intuitive, 4.) easy to use, 5.) provides perceptible information, 6.) allows tolerance for error, and 7.) requires low physical effort, and provides size and space for approach and use, (all the Principles of Universal Design) so that anyone could use it, including those of us with disabilities. He envisioned the day when those of us born between 1946 and 1964, referred to as “Baby Boomers” in the U.S. would enter our senior years and begin to experience various levels of disability. Those of
us who were not already disabled could begin to lose hearing, sight, mobility, sensation, etc. due to the natural effects of aging.

He made so much sense that I soon began to find ways to implement Universal Design. It was difficult. In the U.S. we had begun to experience more and more success with getting business, colleges, museums, public places to start to include accessible design. Now Ron was starting all over with a new concept. However, he was right with his vision of a time when UD would finally be recognized as an important design opportunity for inclusion of people in all aspects of a society.

You may notice that I don’t reference UD as a design standard. I also discussed that with Ron in those early days. Again, he offered me wise counsel. He said that if we standardized Universal Design, then the creative thinking that is needed to continue to develop new design criteria would end. Indeed, I realized that he was right. I had already begun to realize that architects, designers and code officials would just look in code books to find out how to design a wheelchair accessible restroom. Then they would take the diagram from the book, include it in the design plans they were working on and consider themselves as having successfully included accessible design. Not so. The diagrams in code books are examples of what can be done to include disabled people. However, we can always improve on methods to achieve that same goal without continuing to use the same old diagrams in code books created many years ago. Ron wanted to challenge the creative energy of designers to continue to find new ways to meet the Principles of Universal Design.
So armed with those lessons from Ron, and after having served on an Advisory Council to the Center for Universal Design, along with my late husband, Max J Starkloff, I began to explore what I could do to create more opportunities for designers, builders and developers to understand and utilize Universal Design.

I began by working with affordable housing agencies in the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County and the state of Missouri (USA) that provided funding for affordable housing. As part of a citizens group seeking more funding opportunities to build affordable housing, I was able to convince these agencies that more people with disabilities would be able to find affordable housing if the homes and apartment buildings built using their funds would require designers, builders and developers to incorporate Universal Design features.

Next, I decided that most designers, builders and developers had no idea what Universal Design was and what use to make of it. They associated it with accessible design and thought there was no need for anything different. I began organizing a series of Universal Design Summits aimed at educating designers, builders, contractors, developers, disabled persons, architectural students, Occupational Therapists, product manufacturers and code officials about the use and benefits of Universal Design in home and community design.

In all, the Starkloff Disability Institute has conducted six Universal Design Summits in the U.S. These summits have been very well attended and have included people from all over the U.S., England, Australia, Japan, Newfoundland, Canada, and Norway. We now see more universal features being included in homes, apartments, museums, schools, parks, transportation systems and other public
spaces. You can learn more about our most recent UD Summit by visiting http://udsummit.net/

I am so privileged to have met Ron Mace and been able to help promote this beautiful Universal Design concept that ensures inclusion of people with disabilities who so much desire to live integrated within their own communities. I hope that you enjoy the following articles that I have collected from my colleagues who work hard to promote new ideas that allow the concept of Universal Design to grow and flourish.

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Renovation of
St. Louis Soldiers Memorial Military Museum and Court of Honor

By Jim Konrad

Soldiers Memorial

The Soldiers Memorial in downtown St. Louis is both a memorial and a museum and fills an entire city block within the seven-block Memorial Plaza. It is a place of respectful reflection and education. Completed in 1938, it was constructed to honor the citizens of St. Louis who gave their lives while serving in World War I.
Thoughtfully conceived and skillfully executed, the building is an impressive, neoclassical limestone and granite edifice, and is the museum’s greatest artifact. Within the loggia is the cenotaph, the focal point of the entire memorial. Its black marble walls bear the names of the 1,075 St. Louisans who gave their lives in World War I in service to our country. Within the building on the first floor are two identical exhibit galleries, flanking the loggia. As beautiful and honorific as the building is, accessibility and universal design were not a consideration in the original design, not unlike many buildings of its era.

This proud memorial, owned and operated by the City of St. Louis, is cherished by veterans in the St. Louis region. The City has formed an agreement with the Missouri Historical Society (MHS) for managing the overall renovation process and for long term management of the transformed Memorial. Mackey Mitchell Architects has been working with the MHS, the donor group, the City of St. Louis, and veterans to design the transformation of the Memorial into a place with renewed vitality and historic content that will better honor those who served our country and educate visitors.

Anticipated visitors include veterans, many of whom will have physical and/or cognitive disabilities as a result of their service. Also expected is that many visitors will be advanced in age and have a variety of disabilities. Children will also be frequent visitors and require reach ranges appropriate to their size. Renovation of the site and building will address these needs. Six accessible parking spaces will be provided where there are currently none. Exterior barriers will be removed for multiple accessible routes, and new pavement will be smooth and easy to maneuver with wheelchairs. Although there is an existing ramp up to the Colonnade level on the
NW corner of the site, an additional ramp will be constructed at the SE corner for more convenient access by visitors approaching from the Court of Honor.

The lower level of the building will be reorganized for use as additional exhibition galleries, more than doubling the size of the current gallery space. Toilet rooms will be totally replaced for accessibility, and a family-assist toilet room will be provided. Accessible stalls will have bariatric water closets, and full-height mirrors will be provided.

Main floor entrance doors will be replaced and automatic door operators will be provided. All exhibit galleries will be totally renovated with new display cases. Careful attention will be given to size of text and contrast in graphic displays for those with vision impairments. Braille pamphlets and transcripts will accompany both permanent and temporary exhibits, and videos will have open captioning.

The renovated second floor meeting spaces areas will provide improved accessibility, greater comfort, and will use current Audio Visual technology as well as assistive listening devices. On the second floor a wheelchair lift will be provided at the existing three foot change of floor level. The building has an existing elevator, which will be automated to meet accessibility requirements. Because of the changes in floor levels across the building, a second elevator will be provided at the other end of the building providing access to all spaces. Existing toilet rooms will be renovated with all new plumbing fixtures for water conservation and accessibility. The historic drinking fountain will be replaced with a new high/low water cooler.
Court of Honor

Within the seven-block Memorial Plaza, across Chestnut St. from the Soldiers Memorial, is the Court of Honor. It honors the citizens of St. Louis who gave their lives while serving in World War II. Surrounded by busy streets, the contemplative plaza is set within the park and is bounded on two sides by stone walls with the names of those who gave their lives in service to our country. The other two sides are formed by raised planters to provide a sense of enclosure and reverence.

The Court of Honor will be renovated simultaneously with the Soldiers Memorial. The small central lawn area within the Court of Honor will be replaced with a quiet pool to reflect the surrounding memorials and sculpture. The north raised planter will be replaced with a spray-jet fountain to draw people into the memorial. Damaged pavement will be totally replaced for easier maneuvering by wheelchairs. A new opening in the surrounding wall will be provided for improved access when approaching from the north. Two accessible parking spaces will be provided where there are currently none.

Unifying the Memorials

An important move in the renovation of the overall renovation project is to more effectively unite the World War I and World War II memorials. Chestnut St. between the two memorials was formerly a foreboding seventy-two feet in width and presented an impediment to pedestrians safely crossing the street. Chestnut St. will be narrowed to be twenty-four feet wide, and the asphalt will be
replaced with concrete pavement with no curbs. Vehicular traffic at this section of Chestnut will be reduced to one lane.

Narrowing Chestnut St. will also provide more program area allowing for creation of a central lawn area between the two memorials. This event space will be available for scheduled ceremonies and celebrations, but also day-to-day respite within the two-block memorial grounds. On the east and west sides of this lawn will be new memorial walls to prominently display the names of those who gave their lives in wars since World War II, and for future conflicts. These memorials will also serve to define the boundary of the expanded, united memorial, and will communicate to visitors that they are entering sacred ground and the expectation for proper respect.

A Duty to Remember

The transformed facilities in Memorial Plaza will better honor all those from the entire St. Louis metropolitan area who have given their lives in service to their country, as well as countless others who have served and returned to share their stories. The unified memorials will be a more respectful space in the heart of St. Louis, and draw visitors from around the world to understand the contribution made by St. Louisans to the freedoms our country enjoys. Stories will be told in greater detail using a variety of media and technology.

Memorial Plaza will be a precious gem in our “string of pearls”, and a place for ALL visitors to have an equally rich and memorable experience.
Jim Konrad
Robert Nichols

An Owner of Nichols Design Associates, Inc., Washington, DC has been extensive experience in Architectural Design and Universal Design for over 35 years. His expertise within this area of specialty includes building surveys and ADA Accessibility checklist for the public and private clients. He is President and Chairman of the Board of World Deaf Architecture, Inc. (WDA), a new knowledge group of American Institute of Architects (AIA), since a non-profit organization was established in 2016. Received B.Arch.& M.Arch.
How Can Universal Design for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Residents Be Applicable to Other Users

Robert Nichols

The residential adaptations will be discussed in categories of separate components such as visual lighting system, noise reduction system, fenestration, material choices, floor plan layouts, and alert systems (fire/ security alarm, telephone ringing, and baby crying). For example, HVAC vibrates and causes ambient noise which could interfere with deaf/ hard of hearing residents who rely on hearing aids or cochlear implants ... it also annoys infants and causes them to cry ... seniors have same problem as deaf/ hard of hearing ... constant noise can affect hearing level of residents. If we utilize anti-vibration construction technology to resolve this problem, it helps all types of residents whether they're deaf or not.

The three steps of its objective are: 1) Learn to create a checklist for a residence in components; windows, doors, floors, layouts, etc. and how Universal Design could be utilized for each component; 2) By analyzing a residence adapted for use by deaf or hard of hearing users, we see how these adaptations benefit everyone. Based on Universal Design principles, this analysis process could be utilized for other types of users (blind, wheelchair, seniors, children, etc.); 3) 'Adaptations' should become a routine part of design phase; not during construction or add-ons (lesser quality). For example, light alert system should be installed by electrician during construction phase before drywall is installed. For existing residences, we had no choice but string wiring throughout the house near the floor base,
crown molding, and/or door trim. Hard wired system is more reliable than Wi-Fi system; especially for fire and security alarm.

In case of fire, what good is a smoke detector if the residents of the house can’t hear its signal? A sophisticated new lighting system created for a nearly 20-year-old home added comfort and essential safety features for its residents (See Fig.1).

In the remodeling of a 3.5-level 4,500 sq. ft. home, located in a suburban area of Washington, DC, as an architect working for my Nichols Design Associates, Inc. I crafted a design solution which incorporated flashing lights into everyday light fixtures. The signals alert the residents with hearing impairments of a telephone or doorbell ringing as well as the activation of the smoke detectors and security alarms. The program for the house shows a safe, comfortable, convenient and communicative accessible light system was clearly the design solution for the project (See Fig. 2 & 3).

The Project included a complete remodeling of the kitchen, as well as installation of an electrical system for new and existing accessible light fixtures throughout the living, breakfast and dining areas, foyer and main staircase.

In addition to new countertops, cabinets, light fixtures and appliances, the new kitchen features accessible signals for both the doorbell and telephone. A Notification Control Center (NCC) interconnects the telephone, doorbell, smoke detectors, home security, with a whole house visual signaling relay. This NCC meets the needs of hearing-impaired residents and enables them to live more comfortably in a safe, accessible, comfortable home.
Approximately 30 percent of the existing lighting fixtures were replaced to provide flashing signals for the doorbell and telephone. For example, when a resident is in the kitchen and a visitor presses the doorbell, the lights beneath the upper cabinets flash twice.

A different set of lights is used for the alarm signals. The alarm lights use a Xenon flash tube with a high intensity strobe lamp. The color of the flashing light is clear white. The rate of flashing is 1-3 flashes per second. The intensity is 75-120 candela-seconds. The duration of flashing is approximately one millisecond (0.001 second) (See Fig. 4 & 5). The visual signals produced by these alarms are bright enough to alert hearing impaired residents nearby and safe enough to be viewed directly in every space of the house.

Independent smoke detectors with visual and audible signals were installed on the same surfaces and close to alarm light devices for the home security system. The smoke detectors have built in transmitters and receivers to communicate with the fire department through either the VRS (Video Relay Service) or TTY (telecommunication device) relay service device in the NCC. Once an alarm is activated, the resident receives a call from the VRS or TTY relay service to investigate the incident. The changes addressed the house-wide safety concerns for the residents and provided a thoroughly updated kitchen.
FIG. 1 - FLASHING LIGHTS ALERT RESIDENT TO THE

FIG. 2 & 3 - PHOTOS OF FOYER AND KITCHEN SHOW THE SMOKE ACTIVATION OF THE DOORBELL. DETECTOR AND SECURITY ALARM SIGNAL.
The original house was a garden-variety ranch (built in 1953) in a residential neighborhood of Washington, DC. A ranch house was added a second floor library and art studio with a bold, angular profile. The existing first floor as four bedrooms, living, dining and kitchen were left but swept out interior partitions to open unobstructed sightlines between the kitchen and the living and dining areas. To permit visual communication between floors, I replaced an existing closed stairway with wide, open-riser stair with an open steel railing. Toward the same end, the second-floor library and a bridge from the library to the art studio enjoy complete visual access to the kitchen and living room. The art studio, though more private, has an interior window – via a pivoting panel – to the kitchen below (see fig. 6 & 7)
Another visual accessibility project in the house is a new custom home for architect and developer with hearing loss. The concept in the house is a plenty of open sight lines in the central core, where the concrete fireplace sits in the middle skyrocketing from first floor to roof. It’s vital that the owner be able to look out from the living area to a number of vantage points. “Visual Communication” is how I design to improve an environmental space (See fig. 8 & 9).

That’s the reasoning behind a second-floor bridge that connects to the library and overlooks both living and kitchen. Above the living, leading into that same library, is a large translucent panel behind a one way stairway that produces a low-glare to allow a visual communication more improvement in between the two levels.
FIG. 8 & 9 – BUILDING SECTION (LEFT) AND 2-STORY OPEN LIVING AND FIREPLACE VIEW (RIGHT).

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Jean Wasko, PhD

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Universal Design: The Power in the Big Picture

Dr. Jean Wasko

On November 13 and 14, I served as a volunteer at Universal Design Summit 6, presented by the Starkloff Disability Institute and held at Saint Louis University. My job at the Summit involved ensuring that people attending various sessions signed in to earn their CEUs (Continuing Education Units). It was a menial job that delivered a rich reward: I came away with a new world view.

I’ve been a volunteer at SDI for ten years, so I knew a little about Universal or Inclusive Design. But as I sat through two-days of presentations by architects, museum exhibition designers, lighting specialists, occupational therapists, and internationally recognized experts in disability rights, I learned that the things I knew were little things without the power of inspire.

Sure, everyone knows that power doors are good for parents pushing strollers, for shoppers grappling with packages, and for people who use wheelchairs; that door levers, rather than knobs, are easier for all of us to operate; that light switches that you can push with an elbow are superior to the ones that must be flicked; that lots of people, not just those in wheel chairs, can’t reach cabinet shelves. Everyone appreciates the hardware that provides accessibility.

It’s that word—hardware—that helps define my profound experience. I knew about the gadgets associated with universal design, but I didn’t know about the “software,” behind it, about, more specifically, the idea of “empathy” in architecture. Hansel Bauman, architect for Gallaudet University, helped me see that what he calls the “Formal Imagination” produces buildings as artifacts,
buildings that are about themselves. In contrast, the “Empathic Imagination” focuses on the community in the building and the space that best serves its needs. Some simple examples clarify: People who are deaf need to look at each other when they speak, and they need space for signing. Picture two individuals who are deaf trying to walk and talk while traveling on a sidewalk. Google says that the average width of a sidewalk is six feet, “which allows two people to walk comfortably side by side.” But if they are deaf, does it give them room to talk? Likewise, a classroom with tables in rows, facing a teacher, precludes conversation. Deaf students need furniture that they can configure to face each other.

Here’s where space really gets important in human terms. Mr. Bauman explained that people who suddenly lose their hearing suffer a profound loss of self because they had come to know themselves by hearing themselves. “I know who I am because I hear what I say.” Identity, for them, is individual. But for the deaf, identity is collective; it is dyadic. Wouldn’t it be wonderful if we all had such a sense of identity.

I was blown away by a new way of thinking about space and culture. Yes, gadgets are great, but universal design really offers a new way of looking at the world, a view that is grounded in empathy and community; it just may offer a better way for all of us.

Jean Wasko, PhD
Letter from the Chairman’s Desk

By Sunil Bhatia PhD

One day I found a tanker with highly inflammable oil was overturned on the highway; oil was spread on the road and created a huge traffic jam. Traffic was almost standstill and it took hours for officials for clearing the non moving struck vehicles for avoids any possible eventualities due to nature of oil. While struck in traffic, I realized concept of spread has played a great role in designing various products in every era and people have designed the products and services either by controlling the spread or allowing the spread to happen. When I thought about my deodorant and to evenly spread designers might have thought of using either anti perspiring with perfume base of paraffin shaped in roll or aerosol compressed in bottle for spray. My washed wet clothes were dried when it was spread under sunlight by hanging on rope. My vehicle metallic body is nothing but rolled iron sheet spread in proper gauze with the rolling mills for converting in desired shape by pressing in dyes. I was carrying water bottle made of plastic design in such a way not to allow the water to spread .I realized most of the containers made of different materials either for storing liquid or gas that has natural inbuilt character of spreading were design not to allow the spread and hold tightly. A packet of dry fruits was placed on my dash board where we allowed moisture of fruits to evaporate by drying and
spreading in clean place under the sunlight. Concept of “spread” was known to our ancestors and they used it for optimum gain for more progress for our developments.

Is spreading a modern phenomena or it exists of its own? The moment we brood over nature it is found to leaves are spreading where sunlight is of low intensity to absorb maximum for photo synthesis but leaves change to sharp or cactus that does not allow spread to retain its food value for long time in desert. Flowers bloom and spread their petals and fragrance for attracting the bees for pollination. Where extreme cold climate exists in those places lakes or sea or rivers experience spread of layer of ice over it and helps in keeping water below ice at 4° c to allow the creatures for survived in water. Birds are flying by spreading their wings. Our body shrinks as we experience cold to control the escape of its heat which is likely to spread when it is under warm weather. Based on this concept our forefathers first designed manual fan and later to carry in bag by folding where ever they used to go and by opening it spread. As technology improved we switched to electric fan that has blades of different sizes for spreading air in room. Nature of dust is spreading over the open space and for removal it our ancestors designed duster and for collection broom made with arranging and tying the similar size of straws. Powder is manmade design by grinding or crushing and selecting the specific size of granules designed using spread concept for various design of mesh started with fine muslin cloth to iron meshes of different sizes. Smoke has nature of spreading and invites chokes in breathing in its high concentration where outlet for vent out is not properly designed. To lower these effects we allow it spread in for diffusing the concentration by designing ventilators and windows. As technology advanced people
designed the stove made with mud in such a way passage of fresh air should not be blocked and smoke should get proper exit for spreading in air. Later it led to design of exhaust fan that channelized the spread smoke for throwing out of the place. Rivers are controlled by bank on both sides and water is not spread when it turns uncontrollable allow the water to spread and create havoc of floods. Walking over slippery ground invites fall and for avoiding our feet spread for proper hold for lowering the possibility of fall.

Our ancestors were aware about spread and used that in making of bread by rolling pin and learnt later by applying the oil over it to keep the bread fresh for long time by retaining the moisture. In agriculture, seeds are spread either manually or by machines for optimum germination or spraying of pesticides for covering every possible area of plants where exposure is high for damage from diseases. They designed cutting of the vegetables for fast cooking it spreads and increasing the surface area of the vegetables and devised possible means of boiling or roasting or frying. Jam spread over bread or marinating of meat for proper taste is nothing but spreading. We believe eating silver or gold enhances vitality and we apply on sweet dishes with our traditional way of designing the thin foil of silver or gold that has come into the existence by continuously striking with hammer by keeping tiny amount of metal over under leather bag for spreading. Spreading of color with bushes over canvass gives us painting. Hanging curtain can be compressed with pulling string attached to it or spreads to block the visibility or in theatre curtain falls by spreading. Our forefathers understood that moisture in the eatables was responsible retained the freshness and they were using wax over outer surface by spreading for controlling the escape of natural moisture spoiling
and lower the shelf life and devised design of art of drying by spreading under sunlight for not to invite fungus attack. Even people tied their head hairs after applying hair oil not to allow spreading because of striking airs. They learnt from their observations that stale water leads to breeding of mosquitoes and to control it they spread oil over the surface.

Room fresheners are designed with aerosol or camphor for spreading of gradual but slow perfume. Incense sticks spread the smoke and that carries scents for long time. Most of the firecrackers were designed when these go and burst in air with illumination by spreading beautiful patterns. Dairy products except butter that is in emulsion were solid and could not be spread and modern people designed the spread of cheese and other items for spreading over bread into emulsion. Design of removable bed cover that is easily washable for controlling the spread of the dust over bed sheet.

Electric plug pin has cut for allowing for adjustment with socket at the time of overheating when proper contact is missing and that accommodates expansion. If pins are not in proper touch with socket we can expand manually by spreading the gap for uninterrupted power supply or facing difficulty in inserting in socket by compressing the gap for proper contact. Even in automobile engines the burning of petrol passes through nozzle for proper spreading to eliminate carbon or smoke because of unburnt fuel. Diseases spread in other organs of the body. Design of cycle valve is best use of spread visible at the time a person filled the air in tube by pressing the pump. That compressed air allow the covering rubber hole of metallic valve that is designed for blocking for exit of air from the tube by spreading as long pressure maintained and air passes into tube.
The moment this exercise is over rubber covering the hole again comes back in for blocking not to allow to escape the air of tube. Invention of glass had revolutionized the scientific thought process and by designing the concave and convex mirrors and lenses. It allowed the light rays to either focus at one point or allow spreading. Both phenomena helped the scientist to use for further researches and designing various instruments. James Watt understood that if steam that has natural character of spreading and succeed in design the mechanism where it should not allow or spread freely in control manner and result was design of locomotive engines. In modern times instant of steam we are designing with petroleum products but concept remain the same of burning either the petrol or diesel or compressed natural gas with spark plugs for creating gases and its spreading nature for movement of vehicle.

Medical sciences used this concept of spreading where difficult to or insertion of tube fitted with camera for inspection for area of diseases designed the barium test for identifying the problem areas where barium spreads where ever it moves inside the digestion system and by filming we locate the bulge area as problem area. In constipation they insert petroleum jelly in cone shaped from the anus hole the and it moves inside by absorbing moisture from the inner of intestine and keep spreading and expands the intestine that helps in easy passage for blocked stools. Doctor wears mask not to allow the germs affect humans spread air to enter in their bodies through nose and mouth.

Solar panels are designed by spreading in such a manner where optimum sunlight should fall till sunsets. I found brushes are designed by arranging number of nails by spreading in systematic order on one surface for cleaning and it is nothing but extension of
our fingers. Similarly comb has spread nails for help in combing. We can blow air from the mouth and use for spreading as well for collection of light items like dust and extension is vacuum cleaners.

In social concept we welcome or greet the near and dear by gesture of spreading our arms. Another character is inbuilt in us and we wish to dominate others either by physical strength or mental power for this we designed language for expressing as well spreading our ideas on others and later its natural progress for devilish character it turned to gossips or rumors that spread like wild fire. Design of assembling the people in a place for mass and quick spreading was another step. Later on technologies played significant role and designed of drums for attracting attentions or loudspeakers or radios or latest is internet for fastest spreading their ideas.

We have witnessed in history that religions spread in many ways but it establishes mainly when ruler had faith in that particular religion and that compelled others to follow or visit of saints as preachers or trader’s visit for commercial gains bring along his faith in what he believes. Similarly technologies more a less adopt the same path for spreading and imagine about the design of comb or knife or mirror or hand held fan, it might have started in one locality to other through passage of time it spread everywhere and it is almost now difficult to pin point how it had originated. Best part was that helped in spreading was easier for everyone to use and designed with local available materials and it was idea of improvement that confused the origin. It was a great example of what became known as universal design. Creating firewall at the time of fire broke in jungle is universal design by spreading fire from other end of the jungle to create envelope by smoke for blocking supply of fresh air. In ancient times use of the design was easy to
understand, regardless of the user’s experience, knowledge, language skills or current concentration level. In modern times, we are focusing on specialized people who are supposed to be experts in their respective areas and we call them mass media and their job is to spread the information in effective and efficient manner among masses but their malafide intentions of proving superiority on others force them to adopt unethical route for short successes. They forget that best channel for spreading the long lasting information among masses is through common person’s heart and the basic rule reaching to that is convey with honesty, sincerity it will spread and percolate to lowest levels. That is the reason three books of the world The Bible, The Koran, The Dham have transformed the orientation of common people and it would remain in their hearts as long they live. In modern times I find Whatsapp technology that has simplest and easy to use and even it has reached and spread to poorest of poor who are illiterate using and aware about it and buys the mobile phone that has this features.

I am thankful to Colleen Starkloff for accepting our invitation of Guest Editor.

With regards

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Christian Guellerin has been the Executive Director of L’École de design Nantes Atlantique since 1997, an institution of higher education in design, which has campuses in Nantes (France), Shanghai (China), São Paulo (Brazil) and (Dehli) India. The institution has developed significantly, striving towards the professionalization of design studies and establishing relationships with businesses. He was President of Cumulus, the International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design & Media from 2007 and 2013 (250 members from 46 countries). He is also President of the France Design Education and Honorary Consul of the Republic of Estonia for the West of France since 2009.

He has regularly taught courses and given academic lectures on design and innovation. He was a consultant for various institutions and worked on a frequent basis as an expert to set up design centers. In 2015 and 2016, he was elected by L'Usine Nouvelle magazine in the "50 people who made innovation in France".

Chevalier de l'Ordre National du Merite since 2016.
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Dr. Lee Christopher is the Director of eLearning at Arapahoe Community College and also an ACC instructor. Lee has a BA in Philosophy, an M.Ed, and a M.F.A in Writing and Poetics. Dr. Lee is currently in the dissertation phase pursuing a Doctorate in Education from Capella University. Her dissertation title is Universal Design for Learning: Implementation and Challenges of Community Colleges. Lee’s publications include: “Digital Storytelling” in Handbook of Research on Transformative Online Education and Liberation: Models for Social Equality, Kurubacak and Yuzer, Eds., IGI Global, 2011, “Hype versus Reality on Campus: Why eLearning Isn’t Likely to Replace a Professor Any Time Soon” with Brent Wilson, The E-Learning Handbook, Carliner and Shank, eds. Pfeiffer, 2008, and “What video games have to teach us about learning and literacy,” located at http://edrev.asu.edu/reviews/rev591.htm, Lee is on the Colorado Community College System Task Force for Web-IT Accessibility. She has a passion for Universal Design for Learning.

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Dr. Antika Sawadsri, She is an Assistant Professor and the Director of Inclusive Designed Environment and Research (IDEaR Unit) at School of Architecture, KMITL, Thailand. As both professional and academic interested in Inclusive City, her contribution ranges from home modification to urban public space development for users with all life's spectrum."
June 2018 Vol-13 No-6 (150th milestone issue)

Prof Ricardo Gomes will be the Guest Editor for our 150th special issue. Professor Ricardo Gomes has been a faculty member in the School of Design (formerly the Design and Industry (DAI) Department) at San Francisco State University for nearly 25 years. He was the Chair of the DAI Department from 2002-2012. Prof. Gomes coordinates the Design Center for Global Needs and the Shapira Design Archive Project in the School of Design (DES). This non-profit international research and development center is dedicated to promoting responsive design solutions to local, regional and global issues such as: inclusive/universal design, health care, the aging, community development, social innovation and sustainability of the built environment.

Prof. Gomes is on the Board of Directors of the Institute for Human Centered Design in Boston. He is also a member of the Industrial Designers Society of America; and Epsilon Pi Tau International Honor Society for Technology.

Prof. Gomes received his MFA in Industrial Design for Low-Income Economies from the University of California, Los Angeles (Design of a Container System for Mobile Health Care Delivery in East Africa).
Professor Maria Luisa Rossi, Chair of MFA Integrated Design Program at CCS, has agreed to be the guest editor for the issue. Students in her program as well as other programs at CCS have developed a number of socially responsible design projects.

She is the Chair and Professor of MFA Integrated Design at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit where she brings an entrepreneurial culture, globally-focused and cultural empathetic approaches to the growing of the next generation of designers. Her works focus on the seamless capacity to deal with tangible and intangible aspects of user experiences, preparing “facilitators” capable to address global-glocal grand challenges. Strongly centered on the design process, the program prepare students for the practice of designing omni-channel journeys [products-strategy-services] focused to the quality of the users experience with a special eye to socially relevant solutions. As an undergraduate in Florence, Italy, her wearable computer project work was featured in the prestigious Domus magazine, earning her a scholarship to attend the premiere master’s program in industrial design at the Domus Academy in Milan were she got her Master of Industrial Design.
Sameera Chukkapalli (1992) is currently a fellow at the FabCity Research Laboratory, Barcelona, Spain. She founded needlab, a non-profit organization to create a model of optimized practice to deliver maximum impact with the objective of making a difference to the communities. She was the project director and tutor for the Needlab_Kuwait Matters, India Matters, Vietnam Matters. She is working as Space Designer with CARPE LA Augmented Reality project in Los Angeles, USA, funded by the LA2050 program, to eliminate gray zones in public parks and to make them user-friendly. She has represented needlab and lectured in five countries on three continents, actively initiating a conversation about Human Centered design with Policymakers.

Sameera graduated, with MAArch in Digital Matter and Construction, and completed Open Thesis Fabrication, on Large-Scale Natural additive construction using robots, from IAAC, Barcelona, Spain. Obtained B.Arch degree from BMSCE, Bengaluru, India, and the University of Berkeley, USA; Worked with External Reference Architects in Spain; Worked with VTN Architects in Vietnam, on the Tokyo pavilion “Bamboo Forest” for Japan and "S House"(low-cost housing prototype) for Vietnam.
Dr. Bijaya K. Shrestha received Doctoral in Urban Engineering from the University of Tokyo, Japan (1995-‘98) and Master in Urban Design from the University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong (1993-‘95). Having professional experiences for almost three decades he had served to numerous organisations – Government of Nepal, educational institutions, private sector and United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD): Disaster Management Hyogo Office, Kobe, Japan, besides consulting works for ADB, UNICEF and UN-Habitat. His contribution in establishing Post Graduate Department of Urban Design and Conservation at Khwopa Engineering College in 2007 is noteworthy, where he served as Head of Department for two years. At present, he is engaged in ADB supported projects and research works in different Architectural Schools, besides editing international journals and conference papers. He is the recipient of numerous gold medals and prizes for his excellent academic performance. He was decorated by ‘Calcutta Convention National Award 2006’ by Indian Society for Technical Education for his best paper at the 35th ISTE Annual convention and National Seminar on Disaster – Prediction, Prevention and Management. He has already contributed more than ten dozen of papers, published in various forms: book chapter, international journals, conference proceedings, local magazines and journals including in local newspapers. He is regular writer for
Robert Nichols, an Owner of Nichols Design Associates, Inc., Washington, DC has been extensive experience in Architectural Design and Universal Design for over 35 years. His expertise within this area of specialty includes building surveys and ADA Accessibility checklist for the public and private clients. He is President and Chairman of the Board of World Deaf Architecture, Inc. (WDA), a new knowledge group of American Institute of Architects (AIA), since a non-profit organization was established in 2016. Received B.Arch. & M.Arch. degrees in Urban Design under the leadership of Prof. Colin Rowe from Cornell University will be our Guest Editor.
“Fresh, comprehensive, and engaging, Universal Design in Higher Education is expertly written, thoughtfully crafted, and a ‘must-add’ to your resource collection.”

—STEFAN P. SPRE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSOCIATION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND DISABILITY

UNIVERSAL DESIGN IN HIGHER EDUCATION
From Principles to Practice, Second Edition
EDITED BY SHERYL E. BURGSTHALEER
FOREWORD BY MICHAEL K. YOUNG

This second edition of the classic Universal Design in Higher Education is a comprehensive, up-to-the-minute guide for creating fully accessible college and university programs. The second edition has been thoroughly revised and expanded, and it addresses major recent changes in universities and colleges, the law, and technology.

As larger numbers of people with disabilities attend postsecondary educational institutions, there have been increased efforts to make the full array of classes, services, and programs accessible to all students. This revised edition provides both a full survey of these measures and practical guidance for schools as they work to meet the goal of universal accessibility into a reality. As such, it makes an indispensable contribution to the growing body of literature on inclusive education and universal design. This book will be of particular value to university and college administrators, and to special education researchers, teachers, and activists.

SHEERYL E. BURGSTHALEER is an affiliate professor in the College of Education at the University of Washington in Seattle, and founder and director of the University’s Disabilities, Opportunities, Integration, and Networking (DO-IT) and Access Technology Centers.

“Sheryl Burgstahler has assembled a great set of chapters and authors on universal design in higher education... It’s a must-have book for all universities, as it covers universal design of instruction, physical spaces, student services, technology, and provides examples of best practices.”

—JONATHAN LAZAR, PROFESSOR OF COMPUTER AND INFORMATION SCIENCES, TUCKER HANSON UNIVERSITY, AND CO-AUTHOR OF AN BANA COASTAL ACCESSIBILITY THROUGH PROJECTS AND POLICY

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February 2018 Vol-13 No-2
Disability, Rights Monitoring and Social Change:
Product Design
A course in first principles

Elvio Bonollo

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Product Description

In this book, Elvio Bonollo takes us on a ‘learning journey’ about design. Including a scholarly explanation of the characteristics and power of the design process, it provides valuable insights into the attitudes, knowledge and skills that underpin the design discipline at an introductory level of expertise, and has been developed to meet the needs of aspiring designers in many areas including industrial design, design and technology, art and design and architecture. Elvio uses an observational model of the design process - along with related educational strategies, learning outcomes and an ordered set of design briefs – to develop a systematic, problem based method for learning design from a first principles viewpoint. The beauty of this approach is that it brings structured learning to aspiring designers whilst being mindful of diverse cultures and backgrounds. Each part of this book encourages self-expression, self-confidence and exploration: it is has been carefully designed to take the reader on a highly motivating journey of design thinking and creativity, supported by excellent sample solutions to design problems, lucid discussions and extensive references. These solutions, developed by design students, serve as novel examples of how to solve real problems through innovative design without restricting creative freedom and individual personality. The design learning method and strategies in this book will greatly assist design and technology teachers, students of design, aspiring designers and any individual with an interest in professional design practice.

I cannot recommend this book highly enough, it was a complete lifesaver throughout my undergraduate studies and honours degree and now continues to serve me well as I move into industry practice. The content is easy to understand and follow, providing a practical guide to understanding design principles and every aspect of the design process. It includes great project examples and reflects the wealth of knowledge and experience possessed by this accomplished educator. I have purchased multiple copies of this book for peers and would suggest any student who is studying a design discipline to pick up their own copy as this has quickly become the most useful book in my design collection.

Comment: Was this review helpful to you? Yes No Report abuse

4 stars

A 'Must Have'.

By Amazon Customer on 7 April 2016

As a Design Education professional of many years standing, I endorse this book without reservation. It is comprehensive, lucid and above all, useful in a very accessible level at the coalface. Professor Bonollo has an enormous cache of experience as an engineer, designer and design educator and his experience is well demonstrated in this book. A 'must have' for anyone in the business of educating or being educated in the product design arena.
TAPPING INTO HIDDEN HUMAN CAPITAL
How Leading Global Companies Improve their Bottom Line by Employing Persons with Disabilities

Debra Ruh
In light of the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (HABITAT III) and the imminent launch of the New Urban Agenda, DESA in collaboration with the Essl Foundation (Zero Project) and others have prepared a new publication entitled: “Good practices of accessible urban development”.

The publication provides case studies of innovative practices and policies in housing and built environments, as well as transportation, public spaces and public services, including information and communication technology (ICT) based services.

The publication concludes with strategies and innovations for promoting accessible urban development.

The advance unedited text is available at: http://www.un.org/disabilities/documents/desa/good_practices_urban_dev.pdf
Dr Chih-Chun Chen and Dr Nathan Crilly of the Cambridge University Engineering Design Centre Design Practice Group have released a free, downloadable book, _A Primer on the Design and Science of Complex Systems_.

This project is funded by the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EP/K008196/1).

The book is available at URL:

http://complexityprimer.eng.cam.ac.uk
New iBook / ebook: HOW TO DO ECODESIGN

Practical Guide for Ecodesign – Including a Toolbox
Author: Ursula Tischner
Humantific’s new book: Innovation Methods Mapping has just been published and is now available on Amazon.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/1540788849/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1482329576&sr=8-1&keywords=Humantific

You can see the preview here:

TRANSFORMATIONS
7 Roles to Drive Change by Design

Joyce Yee / Emma Jefferies / Kamil Michlewski
Pre-book form

Thank you for your interest in the book, ‘The Design Journey of Prof. Sudhakar Nadkarni’. Few limited copies will be available for purchase on the day of IDC Alumni Meet, on June 11th, Sunday, 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Rest of the book orders will start shipping June 25th, 2017 onward.

* Required

How many copies of the book do you wish to buy? *
“Universal Design: The HUMBLES Method for User-Centred Business”, written by Francesc Aragall and Jordi Montaña and published by Gower, provides an innovative method to support businesses wishing to increase the number of satisfied users and clients and enhance their reputation by adapting their products and services to the diversity of their actual and potential customers, taking into account their needs, wishes and expectations.

The HUMBLES method (© Aragall) consists of a progressive, seven-phase approach for implementing Design for All within a business. By incorporating the user’s point of view, it enables companies to evaluate their business strategies in order to improve, provide an improved, more customer-oriented experience, and thereby gain a competitive advantage in the marketplace. As well as a comprehensive guide to the method, the book provides case studies of multinational business which have successfully incorporated Design for All into their working practices.

According to Sandro Rossell, President of FC Barcelona, who in company with other leading business professionals endorsed the publication, it is “required reading for those who wish to understand how universal design is the only way to connect a brand to the widest possible public, increasing client loyalty and enhancing company prestige”.

To purchase the book, visit either the Design for All Foundation website.
I have a new book that presents fundamental engineering concepts to industrial designers that might be of interest to you. This is the link:
https://www.amazon.com/Engineering-Industrial-Designers-Inventors-Fundamentals/dp/1491932619/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1506958137&sr=8-1&keywords=engineering+for+industrial+designers+and+inventors
SESSION – Work, Consumption and Social Relations: Processual Approaches to the Platform Society

organised by Chiara Bassetti (University of Trento), Annalisa Murgia (University of Leeds), Maurizio Teli (Madeira Interactive Technologies Institute)

In the last decades, the widespread adoption of digital technologies has been characterised by the increasingly intense use of “platforms” that burst into our everyday professional and personal lives (Huws, 2014; Kalleberg, Dunn, 2016; Srnicek, 2016), from consumption to working activities, from intimate relationships to new forms of organising as both workers and citizens (Scholz, 2016; Schor, 2016; Armano et al., 2017). Governments, companies, unions, and the academic community alike seem to converge on the idea that digital platforms represent a game-changer for economic, political and social activities and relationships. This is what we refer to as the “platform society”, in which such platforms are supposed to change, when not to innovate, almost every aspect of social life.

The aim of this session is to critically engage with such an assumption, by focusing on platforms not only as techno-economic objects, but as processes of agencement (Deleuze and Guattari, 1980; Gherardi, 2016), in which subjects, artefacts, regulations, geographical contexts, technologies, knowledge, politics and economics may connect in different ways, in a mixture of continuity with previous experiences and emerging practices. What
is new, in the platform society, and what is a rearrangement of well-known economic and social processes – as the polarization of economic resources – is a crucial question which is not satisfactorily answered yet. Adopting a processual approach to the study of digital platforms allows challenging monolithic views of their nature and to understand the domination or emancipatory effects they may produce.

How are digital platforms designed, developed and implemented? Is it possible, and how, to re-appropriate their use and to challenge the current neoliberal economic model (Bassetti et al., 2017)? To answer these questions, a pluralistic and interdisciplinary analysis is necessary, in order to understand how digital platforms can be regulated, how computable algorithms are applied to several social activities – from consumption to employment relations – and how new forms of organising, involving both trade unions and social movements, can defend the rights of platform-workers at the global level. Finally, if we want to engage in a critical debate of the uses and effects of platforms, we should also interrogate our practices in using platforms both as individuals and in studying/designing them as a research community. An ethnographic approach able to look into the details of everyday practices of use, design, research and interaction, and the discourses surrounding and shaping such practices, represents a powerful tool to tackle the questions above by avoiding rhetoric and unilateral answers.

In this session, we solicit ethnographic and qualitative contributions, including comparative ones, that explore how digital platforms are enacted through different technologies, territories, timings and practices. Contributions may examine any of the following or related aspects:

- Ethical registers beyond digital platforms;
- The regulation of online platforms and the protection of workers’ rights;
- Workers and clients in the gig- and sharing economy;
- The introduction of HR information platforms;
- The design and development of mainstream and alternative
platforms;
· Platform cooperativism and the counter-use of digital technologies;
· Emerging forms of organising of trade unions and social movements in the platform economy;
· The use of platforms for political actions.

In this session, we invite an interdisciplinary conversation, and we welcome participation by academics, activists and unionists. Young scholars with “work in progress” papers are welcomed. We are interested in empirical contributions as well as empirically grounded theoretical explorations.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 15th January 2018: Abstract submission deadline
- 12th March 2018: Notification of acceptance
- 16th April 2018: Registrations deadline
- 06th-09th June 2018: Conference dates

2.

CIIC - Centro Innovación

Centro Internacional en Innovación Continua

Partners Search: Work Programme 2018-20

Dear potential partners,

On 27 October 2017, the European Commission presented the final Work Programme for Horizon 2020, covering the budgetary years
2018, 2019 and 2020 and representing an investment of around €30 billion. Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU research and innovation funding programme ever.

The vast majority of this funding is allocated on the basis of competitive calls which are open to applications from researchers, businesses and other interested organisations located in any of the EU Member States or countries associated to Horizon 2020.

We are preparing applications for the following Projects:

- TRANSFORMATIONS-05-2018: Cities as a platform for citizen-driven innovation.
- TRANSFORMATIONS-14-2018: Supply and demand-oriented economic policies to boost robust growth in Europe – Addressing the social and economic challenges in Europe.

Eligible partners:
- a non-profit organization, association, NGO;
- a public or private, enterprise;
- a public body at local, regional or national level;
- a higher education institution

If you want to cooperate with us, please contact us: info@ciic.eu
3.

**Starkloff Disability Institute**

**Starkloff Career Academy**

This Spring, the SDI Capstone Course will be filled with important information for people with disabilities to successfully start or advance their professional life. One of the highlights in the course will be a storytelling session that provides incredible tips on effectively telling candidate's disability story during an interview.

**Effectively tell your disability story in an interview.**

COURSE SIGN UP AVAILABLE NOW

This course will be mostly online, and it combines the best aspects of the traditional on-site SCA Capstone Course with the new e-Learning technology. This hybrid approach has never been offered to professional with disabilities in St. Louis. The course includes:

- A four-hour, in-person introductory class
- 10 two-hour webinars
- Self-guided learning sessions, including topics on:
  - Telling Your Disability Story with Strength
  - Making Amazing First Impressions
  - Advanced Resume Writing to Stand Out
  - Preparing for Any Interview Question
  - Negotiating Pay, Benefits and Accommodations

The course will also include two full-day boot camps that enable candidates to practice their interviewing skills with real recruiters from Starkloff Disability Institute’s Partner Companies.

SIGN UP TO LEARN MORE

About Starkloff Disability Institute

Founded in 2003 by Max and Colleen Starkloff and David Newburger, The Starkloff Disability Institute is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in St. Louis that is dedicated to helping people with disabilities participate fully and equally in all aspects of society. The Starkloff Disability Institute works on changing societal attitudes and perceptions about people with disabilities through providing educational programs, training and advocacy initiatives that create a world that welcomes disabled people. Organization programs include The Starkloff Career Academy to prepare candidates for competitive employment and Starkloff Consulting Services to help companies successfully welcome them.
1. UCLG Meets 2018

BARCELONA, SPAIN: The United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) held the fourth edition of their Annual Retreat and Campus, in Barcelona, from the 22nd to the 26th of January 2018. The retreat was focused on the UCLG Network’s collaborations and achievements, and how to increase the impact of their work towards the implementation of the New Urban Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The Retreat included the representation and active engagement of mayors, local government and civil society organizations from around the world. Emilia Saiz, Secretary General of UCLG, formally invited GAATES and World Enabled to join the Retreat as partners of the UCLG and to bring accessibility and inclusion into the objectives of the UCLG’s internal and external activities. The discussions over the four days of the Retreat highlighted the internal objectives and
global work plan of the organization, challenges towards realization of the commitments within the 2030 Agenda, and the importance of partnerships for the implementation and localization of internationally recognized development agreements.

Opportunities for All discussion at UCLG

On the fourth day of the retreat, GAATES was invited to speak during the round-table discussion entitled “Opportunities for All”. The round-table was attended by over 150 participants and speakers included Eric Beaume of the European Commission, Célestin Ketcha Courtès Mayor of Bangangté, Berry Vrbanovic Mayor of Kitchener, Rosa Pavanelli of Public Service International, Carlos Martínez Minguez Mayor of Soria and Federico Batista Poitier of GAATES. The round-table table looked at the engagement of marginalized groups in municipal decision making, towards inclusive policies that ensure that services meet the needs of and recognize the diversity of all persons.

Federico Batista Poitier of GAATES speaking at UCLG
Federico’s intervention summarized the topics discussed during the previous days of the retreat, such as migration, disaster risk reduction and urban resilience. Following the summary, he highlighted the importance of Universal Accessibility and the ‘Nothing About Us, Without Us’ principle towards achieving inclusive and sustainable development. Federico stated that by designing for all persons from the start – we are designing for resiliency, and concluded his intervention with the two calls to action listed below:

- A call for local and regional governments, city leaders, organizations and agencies to mainstream disability strategies internally to ensure the perspectives of all persons are included in developing solutions
- For all present at the Retreat to formally commit to a Compact on Inclusive and Accessible Cities, at the World Urban Forum 9

The discussions and recommendations from the retreat will guide UCLG’s objectives for 2018 and form part of their engagements at the World Urban Forum 9 (WUF9) and the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.

GAATES will be actively engaged in the WUF9 and invite all those present at the Forum (both physically and virtually) to commit to the Global Compact on Inclusive and Accessible Cities, to ensure that the 2030 Agenda leaves no one behind.

(Source GAATES)

3.

**HPM launched ‘Accessible Dictionary’ for all**

‘Accessible Dictionary’ ([http://accessibledictionary.gov.bd/](http://accessibledictionary.gov.bd/)) is Bangladesh’s first dictionary specially developed for the persons with visual, print and learning disability and information disadvantaged groups; yet, beneficial for over 5 million students with/out disabilities.
At the inauguration of the Accessibility Dictionary

On the 1st February, at this year’s Amar Ekushey Book Fair, the Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated a2i’s newly developed ‘Accessible Dictionary’. At the inauguration program, Director General (admin) of Prime Minister’s Office and Project Director of a2i Programme, Kabir Bin Anwar; Policy Advisor of Access to Information (a2i) Programme’s under the Prime Minister’s Office, Mr. Anir Chowdhury; World Literature Center’s Additional Director, Mesbah Uddin Ahmed; a2i’s Policy Specialist (Educational Innovation) Md. Afzal Hossain Sarwar; a2i’s HDM production Manager Purabi Matin; a2i’s Technology Expert Md. Rafiqul Islam; a2i’s accessibility consultant and GAATES 2nd Vice President Vashkar Bhattacharjee were present, among others.

The Accessible Dictionary is based on the creative and innovative idea which utilizes existing technological prospects and open sourced technology to raise awareness and reduce the exclusion and discrimination that currently exists. It is available for all, cost effective, requires less time and is universally designed so that all can have an easy full-access experience.

Bangladesh became a signatory and a ratifying party to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in 2007 declaring non-discrimination, full and effective participation and inclusion in society, and accessibility, among others. It is a milestone for the journey to universal accessibility that Bangladesh understands and recognizes as a precondition to achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): the core agenda “leaving no one behind”, and inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong
learning opportunities for all (SDG 4). This is an indicator of child, disability and gender sensitive education facilities; and safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all (Target 4.a).

The dictionary has been developed by a social development organization, YPSA, with overall support from a2i’s Service Innovation Fund. a2i believes that such innovations are vital in improving language proficiency of students and help achieve the government’s vision of making education accessible for all.

'Accessible Dictionary' is available for all online and offline, in both web and mobile app formats; also in Bangla-to-Bangla, Bangla-to-English, English-to-Bangla, English-to-English versions. They can be read by any screen-reading software and Digital Braille Text allows for easy reproduction of Braille printed versions.

(Source: GAATES News)
The 2018 NKBA Design Competition Is Open
The 2018 NKBA Design Competition is open and accepting submissions. The annual competition provides the opportunity to recognize the association’s designer members for their outstanding kitchen and bath projects completed between Jan. 1, 2016, and Aug. 4, 2017.

Typoday 2018

International Conference, workshop, exhibition:

Typography Day 2018

1st to 3rd March 2018 at Sir J J Institute of Applied Arts, Mumbai, India

http://www.typoday.in
Global Conference on Integrated Care 2018

ADVANCE! Accelerating the Integration of Care

1 - 3 FEB

Resorts World Convention Centre
Resorts World at Sentosa, Singapore
8 Sentosa Gateway, Singapore 098269

REGISTER NOW

Early bird rates end on 30 September 2017

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The Global Conference on Integrated Care (GCIC) 2018 is an international conference that will bring together clinicians, health and social care professionals and practitioners, and policymakers from around the world to share knowledge, experiences, ideas and innovations.

Voices of Good Design - What is Good Design?

Australia’s only international design award program is open for entries, across 10 design disciplines and over 25 sub-categories.
Join us for the 2018 EDRA49 Annual Conference in the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma! Walk along the streets of Oklahoma City, home to an attractive variety of historic buildings. Eye-catching religious buildings, and magnificent structures of great architectural and historic significance. Stay tuned for registration to open in late Fall. Check out what OKC has to offer, click here.
The 21st ASEF Summer University (ASEFSU21) will take place on 27 January – 10 February 2018 in Melbourne (Australia) and Christchurch (New Zealand) exploring the topic of Youth with Disabilities.
1. Job Opening

Reliance Jio (JioMoney Merchant Product) is looking for a UX designer at Reliance Corporate Park, Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai.

Responsibilities

- Translate concepts into user flows, wireframes, mockups and prototypes that lead to intuitive user experiences.
- Facilitate the product vision by researching, conceiving, sketching, prototyping and user-testing experiences for digital products.
- Design and deliver wireframes, user stories, user journeys, and mockups optimized for a wide range of devices and interfaces.
- Identify design problems and devise elegant solutions.
- Make strategic design and user-experience decisions related to core, and new, functions and features.
- Take a user-centred design approach and rapidly test and iterate your designs.
- Collaborate with other team members and stakeholders.

Requirements

- Preferably a graduate or post-graduate in product design, communication design, interaction design or HCI from a reputed institution, but not a must. Have a portfolio of work containing examples of more than just UI design.
- Worked as a UI/UX designer for at least 4-5 years.
- Expertise in standard UX softwares such as Sketch, InVision & Adobe Creative Suite is a must. Basic HTML5, CSS3, and JavaScript Knowledge are a plus.
- Ability to work with product managers to understand detailed requirements and design complete user experiences that meet their needs and vision.
- Experience in using UX design best practices to design solutions, and a deep understanding of Mobile Apps, HTML5 Apps, mobile-first responsive design.
- Ability to clearly and effectively communicate design processes, ideas, and solutions to teams.
- Have worked on a project independently, with minimal supervision.
- Be passionate about resolving user pain points through aesthetic design.
- Be open to receiving feedback and constructive criticism.
- Have a good enough understanding of technologies to understand their potential and limitations with respect to User Interfaces

Please write to Raghavendra.Khadilkar@ril.com with your resume+Portfolio link.
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Dear Friends,

We need your feedback on our publication and your support for popularizing the concept of our social movement of Design For All/ Universal/ Barrier Free/ Inclusive Design. It is our further request kindly submit your latest articles, research findings, news and events with us for publication in our newsletter.

With regards

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