

DESIGN AS DEMOCRACY: TECHNIQUES FOR COLLECTIVE CREATIVITY BOOK TALK



On Thursday, March 1st, editors David de la Pena, Randolph T. Hester, Marcia J. McNally

and contributor Patsy Owens gave a talk to UC Davis on their recently released book, *Design as Democracy: Techniques For Collective Creativity*.

"Edited by six leading practitioners and academics in the field of participatory design, with nearly 50 contributors from around the world, *Design as Democracy* shows how to design with communities in empowering and effective ways. The flow of the book's nine chapters reflects the general progression of community design process, while also encouraging readers to search for ways that best serve their distinct needs and the culture and geography of diverse places. Each chapter presents a series of techniques around a theme, from approaching the initial stages of a project, to getting to know a community, to provoking political change through strategic thinking. Readers may approach the book as they would a cookbook, with recipes open to improvisation, adaptation, and being created anew.

Design as Democracy offers fresh insights for creating meaningful dialogue between designers and communities and for transforming places with justice and democracy in mind." *(book description from Island Press)*

For a copy of the book, please see here.



Image credit: Scape Studios

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS & FACULTY WORK TO UNLOCK ALAMEDA CREEK

Written by Claire Napawan

Landscape Architecture + Environmental Design faculty Brett Milligan and Claire Napawan (alongside their colleagues Brett Snyder and Beth Ferguson in the Design Department) continue to progress their work with <u>Resilient by</u> <u>Design</u> as part of the selected team <u>Public Sediment</u>, focusing on the watershed surrounding Alameda Creek in the cities of Fremont, Union City, and Newark. The effort includes designing to improve flows of sediment, fish, and people to effectively <u>Unlock Alameda Creek</u>. They held a series of public events on Wednesday, February 21st on UC Davis campus to share the work of the design team and senior LDA students in the Making Bay studio, led by Brett Milligan. The evening concluded with a panel discussion of the various dimensions of the competition, in defining resilience, and perspectives from various design teams engaged in the competition.



Image credit: Ramon Estrada

On Saturday, February 24th, the team held their first public engagement event at the Niles Canyon Staging Area in Fremont, CA. The <u>Alameda Creek</u> <u>Crawl</u> brought local experts on fish (Ralph Boniello from the Alameda Creek Alliance), people (Sandra Hamlat from East Bay Regional Parks District), and water/sediment (Paul Sethy from the Alameda County Water District) and included activities for youth of all ages. The Creek Crawl was attended by over 100 community members from throughout the San Francisco Bay Area.



Image credit: Ramon Estrada

Mid-progress reviews for the project were held on Wednesday, March 28th and more community events are planned for Earth Day weekend in Fremont. Follow our <u>progress</u> or learn about upcoming <u>events</u> by checking out <u>http://www.resilientbayarea.org/</u>.



SUSTAINABLE LEARNING AND LIVING COMMUNITIES (SLLC)

The UC Davis Sustainable Learning and Living Communities (SLLC) is a

grassroots educational initiative that explores a broad range of principles and practices related to agricultural, environmental, and social sustainability. The SLLC is composed of several organizations that are related both through their shared values and their physical proximity within a relatively undeveloped area in the heart of West-Campus. Within this space, the Student Farm, Project Compost, Domes and TriCoop Cooperatives, EC Garden, and D-Lab provide students with opportunities to gather hands-on experience related to farming/gardening, composting, design-build projects, democratic decision making, cooperative living, and an array of related topics.

The SLLC stakeholders do not intend for this campus land and these organizations to remain static and unevolved. As UC Davis grows, the SLLC will grow with it. These future aspirations can only be achieved by a well-organized and concerted effort between campus administration and the students, staff and faculty who are and will be champions of the SLLC initiative.

In February, the SLLC held a workshop to gain community input for the design proposal. On May 1st, the SLLC will be presenting their design proposal for public feedback. Come participate at the Student Community Center meeting room D from 12-2:30.



STUDENT MORGAN DAILY FEATURED IN BETTER HOMES & GARDEN MAGAZINE

Sustainable Environmental Design student Morgan Daily and her fiancé, Kyle Hagerty, have recently been featured in a handful of national magazines for their bountiful home backyard garden lab. While the featured spread in Better Homes & Gardens (pictured above) is not electronically accessible, Morgan gives us a glimpse into her urban space:

Two years prior to starting the Sustainable Environmental Design program at UC Davis, my fiancé and I bought an older house in Sacramento. It had an empty backyard and tons of potential. Since moving to the Central Valley, we have become involved in urban agriculture, even opening up a farm stand of our own and raising chickens on our city lot. We designed, built, and planted a water-conscious and mostly edible organic garden that we call East Sac Farms. Our backyard farm is 2,000 square feet of water-permeable patio, edible and drought-tolerant landscaping and 500 square feet of designated vegetable garden space. By taking advantage of vertical space with trellises and keeping trees pruned to a manageable size, it allows us to grow more food than we ever thought possible and have 13 fruit-bearing trees. Our urban farm demonstrates that it is possible to grow food as well as have entertaining space in the city.

After the Urban Agriculture Ordinance passed, we decided to open up a farm stand with our extra produce and vegetable starts, which could also act as a trading post for neighbors who have excess fruit. Our farm stand is more of a community event than a source of income, so we give everything away for free and accept donations that go toward the cost of running the farm. We welcome visitors into the yard for a tour and offer them design and gardening advice. The goal of the farm stand is to teach and inspire others to grow their own food, support local farmers, and eat seasonally. We had no idea what we were doing would gain the attention of local, regional, and national publications. Being featured in Sunset Magazine and Better Homes and Gardens has been a very exciting and surreal experience, one that we are beyond grateful for.

Upon graduating UC Davis this Spring, I am interested in urban space-making, the diversion of waste from landfills through compost and waste to energy production, and food equity especially as it relates to local school districts.

For more information, please visit our website and Instagram pages: <u>Eastsacfarms.com</u> | Morgan Daily @dailyflourish | Kyle Hagerty @urbanfarmstead

JOIN US FOR SCASLA'S PROFESSIONALS

DINNER ON THURSDAY, APRIL 19TH

The UC Davis Student Chapter of ASLA is excited to invite you to the 2018 Professional's Dinner! The event will be on Thursday, April 19th at the Walter A. Buehler Alumni Center on the UC Davis campus. This annual reception is the student chapter's biggest fundraiser and social function of the year. It aims to bring professionals, faculty, staff, students, and alumni together to celebrate landscape architecture.

This year's event will feature Keynote Speaker Shawn T. Kelly, PLA, FASLA, and 2017-2018 ASLA President-Elect. We will be recognizing World Landscape Architecture Month and showcasing student work over dinner and drinks.

The event begins at 6:00pm and will end at 10:00pm. We hope to see you there!

Tickets can be purchased here.