



AIA Western Massachusetts - Architects as Leaders: Inquiry into the Skills of Architects

AIA Western Massachusetts
Springfield, MA

Lorin Starr
Executive Director

director@wmaia.org
413.253.9744

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The intent of the course is to promote civic engagement and leadership in architecture. The course is a unique approach to leadership education. Participants practice strategies for leading positive change, such as forming organizations, planning events, volunteering, fundraising, and creating awareness campaigns. The course was taught primarily to young architects who also registered as graduate students at the University of Massachusetts, Springfield.

PROGRAM DETAILS:

Type of Program:	Wkly College class	Number of Program Graduates:	14
Duration, Number of Sessions:	13 sessions	Tuition:	UMass
Program Audience:	Regional	Program Expenses/Cost:	8000
Session Locations	Local	How Created:	Volunteers
Admission:	AIA, UMASS Adm	How Run:	Prof. Educator
Selection:	Course registration	Length of Sessions:	3 hours
Year Started:	2012	Mentor- or Participant-Driven:	Mentor-Driven
Number in each Session:	14	Project Included:	No
Number of Years Conducted:	1	Community Service Included:	No

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Weekly reading assignments but no project.

PROGRAM IMPACT:

Graduates are more aware of leadership skills needed to lead positive change.

PROGRAM FEATURES: (Sessions, Speakers, Topics, etc.)

The program is a 13-session class taught by architects to graduate students at UMass and area architects. The curriculum of guest speakers combined practical theories and opportunities for participants to study characteristics of authority, leadership, social and role dynamics, political processes and the values that orient their careers. The course focused on personal, group, and global dimensions of leadership. Participants read and discuss: The Art of Possibility, Getting to Yes, Leadership By Design: Creating an Architecture of Trust, and Why All Leaders Should Have Gone to Design School.