

Committee on the Environment

an **AIA** Knowledge Community



The Georgia Tech Engineering Biosystems Building, a 2018 Top Ten winner by Lake | Flato and Cooper Cary, demonstrated impressive attention to building and site water systems and conservation. Image: Carry Cooper.



Letter from the chair

By Julie Hiromoto, AIA

In February, I testified before the U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Commerce committee, advocating for education and support for a zero-carbon future through the reduction of fossil fuel dependency. You can see the written testimony and video of the verbal brief.

[Read more >](#)

Toolkit tales

By Mark Maddalina, AIA, and Kristin Purdy, AIA

We've been hearing from many firms about how they use the Framework for Design Excellence (formerly the COTE Top Ten Toolkit) in their practices—in

project work, client conversations, training, awards submittals, and storytelling. We asked Mark Maddalina, AIA, and Kristin Purdy, AIA, to share their story about SWBR, a firm of 101 people with offices in Rochester and Syracuse, New York.

[Read more >](#)



Advocacy update

By Mike Davis, FAIA

In January, the House Energy & Commerce Committee released a draft legislative proposal titled the “Climate Leadership and Environmental Action for our Nation’s Future Act” or the “CLEAN Future Act.” This climate bill charts a path to carbon neutrality by 2050!

[Read more >](#)



New COTE AG member: Julie Snow, FAIA

This month, we share the voice of the second of four new COTE Advisory Group members, Julie Snow, FAIA. Snow leads Snow Kreilich Architects, a studio-based practice in Minneapolis.

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Will we see you at Living Future this spring?

Living Future '20 is scheduled for May 5-8 in Seattle. We encourage COTE members near and far to consider attending this valuable event. If you've been before, you know that the IFLI annual gathering and learning event has tremendous programming and great networking. Learn about this year's exciting keynotes, educational sessions, and how to register.

[Read more >](#)

Stanford's Building Energy Efficiency Course

Building energy efficiency (BEE) is a rapidly expanding global industry critical to developing affordable, reliable, and low-carbon energy systems. Stanford University has developed a new online course (6.5 LU | HSW) that explores the fundamentals of BEE expansion through an integrated approach, focusing on the interplay of technology, policy and finance and the barriers that often hinder its uptake.

[Read more >](#)



Defining design excellence: Design for water

Last year, AIA adopted the COTE measures as the AIA Framework for Design Excellence. Through this series of posts, we've explored Design for Integration, Design for Equitable Community, and Design for Ecology). This month, we asked Julie Hiromoto, AIA, of HKS, to share her thoughts about Design for Water.

[Read more >](#)

Presidential candidates: Where they stand

The AIA Government Advocacy team has had its hands full lately, as you have probably heard, but in the midst of many active items on the Hill, they have been capturing the positions of the Presidential Candidates in the context of the AIA positions on numerous issues such as infrastructure, energy, resilience, and more

[Read more >](#)

Carbon Positive '20

Are you ready to plan, design, build, and manufacture the Carbon Positive Future? Join Architecture 2030 and Architect magazine for Carbon Positive '20 in March—with a special COTE discount.

[Read more >](#)

Sustainability Tools Up: Three promising tech innovations to help architects reduce their carbon impact

By Audrey Gray | Metropolis

A recent slew of open-source and open-access tools equip practitioners with the data they need to make more informed material and design choices.

[Read more >](#)

Calendar

Want more information on sustainability events? [Explore the COTE calendar >](#)

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