

### **Mike Davis, FAIA- Team Leader**

Michael R. Davis, FAIA, LEED AP, a Principal and Vice President at Bergmeyer Associates, Inc., is a practicing architect, an educator, and an advocate for sustainable public policy. Mr. Davis advises the Boston Redevelopment Authority as Chair of the Boston Civic Design Commission and served on Boston Mayor Thomas Menino's Green Building Task Force and Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick's Net Zero Energy Building Task Force. He was 2013 President of the Boston Society of Architects and is a former Co-Chair of the AIA Massachusetts Government Affairs Committee. For the American Institute of Architects, Mike has led AIA Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT) charrettes in Ithaca, NY, DeKalb County, GA, Augusta, GA, Tremonton, UT, and St. Helens, OR, and currently serves on a national AIA Material Transparency working group.

Mike's recent projects include a new LEED-Registered facility for Hostelling International Boston in an adaptively-reused historic building and a deep-energy retrofit of public housing units for the Boston Housing Authority at the Cathedral Family Development, which achieved LEED Platinum certification. He blogs about his firm's work as signatory to the AIA 2030 Commitment at <http://mikedavisfaia.wordpress.com>.

Mike is a Trustee of the Boston Foundation for Architecture and an Overseer of the Boston Architectural College. He holds a Bachelor Degree in Architecture from the Pennsylvania State University and a Master of Architecture from Yale University.

### **Steve Benz, PE, Hon. ALSA, LEED Fellow**

As Partner and Director of Green Infrastructure, Steve Benz advances OLIN's research and implementation of sustainable design strategies. A licensed civil engineer, Steve has contributed to several award winning green infrastructure design commissions including the LEED® Platinum-certified Kroon Hall at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Ray and Maria Stata Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts. More recently, Steve drove many of the environmental strategies for Washington Canal Park, a pilot project for the Sustainable Sites Initiative (SITES™).

In his pursuit of continually evolving research, practice and policy, Steve co-led two competitions with other OLIN partners exploring ways to approach implementing scalable green infrastructure strategies within urban environments. OLIN's winning entries in both the Infill Soak it Up! Design Competition and the Living City Design Competition demonstrated targeted, achievable solutions that show how various stakeholders can come together to realize change—developers, city governments utility companies, designers and residents alike.

Steve was recently named an honorary member of the American Society of Landscape Architects and a LEED Fellow by the U.S. Green Building Council in recognition of his contribution of performative landscapes. He is the immediate past Chair of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) National Sustainable Sites Technical Advisory Group (TAG) where he led the development of sustainability criteria for site development within the LEED program. He was also two-term and founding Chair of the Massachusetts Chapter of the USGBC, and currently serves on the USGBC's LEED Water Efficiency TAG and the Sustainable Sites Initiative's Technical Core Committees.

### **Thomas Laging, FAIA, NCARB**

Professor Laging has recently served as the director of the Architecture Program at the University of Nebraska and as the Killinger Distinguished Professor of Urban Design and Architecture. His teaching specialties include urban design and architectural representation. He has taught or been an invited critic at numerous universities both nationally and internationally—including the Isthmus School in Panama in 2013 and Tianjin University in 2008. He was a Fullbright Scholar at Simon Bolivar University in Caracas.

As a skilled environmental visualizer Professor Laging has informed his teaching through an urban design consulting practice. He has been involved with numerous mixed-use urban retail projects, town center planning developments and campus-planning efforts.

Laging was the 2013 Chairman of Nebraska State Board of Engineers and Architects where he has served for over twelve years and was a member of the NCARB education committee.

He is a charter member of the Nebraska Capitol Environs Commission a member the Centennial Mall design team. He was elevated to fellow in the AIA for his service to communities. He holds a Masters Degree from The Harvard Graduate School of Design.

### **Michael Latham, PhD**

Michael Latham is a Senior Economist and Project Manager with Catalyst Commercial. He received a Master's Degree in Applied Economics and a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Political Economy from the University of Texas at Dallas. Dr. Latham is experienced in utilizing statistical analysis and Geographic Information Systems to identify beneficial insights for both commercial and residential markets. His research interests include the economic development initiatives, urban planning, and neighborhood impacts on the economy.

As an Economist with Catalyst Commercial, he has conducted numerous economic impact analysis, feasibility studies, and market analysis for both private and public. Prior to working with Catalyst, Dr. Latham worked as a Research Scientist with the University of Texas at Dallas where he worked on numerous state and federal projects including the Financial Allocation Study for the State of Texas (FAST) for the Texas State Comptroller, and a National Science Foundation Study that examined the impact of executive level leadership on Fortune 500 Companies.

### **Astrid Sykes, ASLA**

Astrid Sykes is a project manager and designer at ML+A who has been responsible for project design through construction administration on a wide range of projects. Astrid Sykes has led project teams on various urban river projects, civic master plan, urban park design and K12 and higher education projects and mixed-use developments. Ms. Sykes is committed to social justice issues and her approach to placemaking combines innovative strategies, community engagement, and sustainable practices to enhance environments and create meaningful connections.

Ms. Sykes's work focuses on advancing best management practices in projects and brings an international perspective to the design process.

Ms. Sykes holds two masters degrees, one in Architecture and the other in Landscape Architecture from School of Architecture Paris Belleville and University of California Berkeley respectively.

Astrid has been the Caltech Tolman-Bacher facility, 6<sup>th</sup> street bridge international competition, the Sustainable Schoolyard Guideline for LAUSD, the Ventura Botanical Garden Master Plan and was involved with the LA river master plan and feasibility study. She is currently working on the Exposition

Buffer Park for the city of Santa Monica, and the plan for Ivar Park for the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

Ms. Sykes is also committed to utilize her expertise through other venue and is sitting on the Board of the Elysian Valley Neighborhood Council and the ASLA Southern California chapter.

### **Nathan A. West, AICP**

Nathan has over 18 years of community development experience. He is presently the Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Port Angeles. In this position, he oversees the Building, Economic Development, Planning, and Cultural Resource divisions of the City. Prior to coming to the Port Angeles Area, Nathan managed the Policy Development Section of the Cayman Islands Government Planning Department.

Nathan has a demonstrated history of policy development and regulatory reinvention by implementing incentive based municipal codes and policy documents. Throughout his planning career he has been responsible for the development of local, regional, and national long range plans in the U.S. and abroad. In Washington State he has worked creatively to address regulatory requirements and land use barriers. In the Caymans, Nathan was part of the Governor's Vision 2008 Round Table developing a strategy for the sustainable development of all three Cayman Islands.

In recent years, Nathan has participated in multiple community assessments including American Institute of Architects Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT) and Your Town Design Workshops. He has prioritized the implementation of assessment related recommendations. Presently he is overseeing the implementation of a \$17 million waterfront improvement project for the City of Port Angeles. During his career Nathan has focused on action oriented planning that produces on the ground changes and results.

Nathan has a Bachelors degree in Environmental Science from Willamette University and a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Tennessee. Nathan is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.