

SENSING THE CITY:

Resolution, Tech and Application of Site-Specific Data

ASLA
PHL2018

#ASLA2018

Annual Meeting
and EXPO

October 19-22
Philadelphia

DESCRIPTION

Data is transforming how we think about, use, and ultimately design our urban landscapes. In this panel, hear from practitioners actively designing with data. Learn how to use both analog and digital tools and methods to measure and track environmental and social phenomena in the urban environment.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Learn analog and digital tools and methods to measure and track environmental and social phenomena.
- Understand how design firms in architecture, urban design and landscape architecture use data to shape practice.
- Understand qualitative, primary source and secondary source data gather strategies and their comparative benefits and challenges.
- Introduce opportunities to translate data collection and analysis methods from social and natural sciences, engineering and technology into design practices.

OUTLINE

Introduction: Site-specific Data

- The use of site-specific data in the design of urban environments, historically and in terms of current trends.
- Data resolution, technology and application in urban design

Case Study 1: Gehl

Relationships between human behavior and the built environment.

- Assess: NE Philadelphia Parks
- Design: Public space sensing toolset
- Types of data:
 - Social surveying
 - Quality and perception of place
 - People activity

Case Study 2: Merritt Chase

Building momentum with proof-of-concept temporary projects, supported with cultural and environmental data.

- Kit of Parks
- Take a Seat!
- Bae Bae's Greenhouse
- Types of data:
 - In-person surveys
 - Geotagged occupant data
 - Environmental sensors

Case Study 3: Kieran Timberlake

Conducting collaborative, multi-disciplinary, applied research on urban landscapes.

- Macroclimate / Microclimate
- Modeling Vegetation
- Types of data:
 - Microclimate
 - Thermal comfort
 - Ecosystem services

MODERATOR

Rebecca Popowsky, ASLA: Research Associate, OLIN/Labs

Rebecca Popowsky is a landscape architect and Research Associate at OLIN. Since joining the studio in 2009, she has contributed to a wide-range of design, planning, and construction projects, including Canal Park in Washington, DC, Dilworth Park in Philadelphia, and the Army Corps of Engineers collaboration to restore the FEMA floodplain on Potomac Park Levee on the National Mall. Currently, Rebecca leads the firm's external research initiatives through OLIN/Labs, including work with academic and scientific institutions and allied professionals. She teaches design studios, and representation courses at PennDesign, where she earned dual master's degrees in Architecture and Landscape Architecture.



PANELISTS

Kate DeSantis: Project Manager, Gehl

Kate DeSantis has worked as a designer on projects ranging in scale from urban master planning to furniture. Her experience teaching design and conducting biological research have heavily influenced her approach designing for the built environment at the human scale. She is constantly evaluating the relationship between spaces and the life that happens within them. Her diverse background, including a Masters in Architecture from University of Pennsylvania, has her working with research, design, and strategy at Gehl. She is curious about the art of storytelling and the messiness of life in cities.



Nina Merritt: Principal, Merritt Chase

Nina Chase is the co-founder and Principal of Merritt Chase, a Pittsburgh-based landscape architecture and urban design firm dedicated to planning and designing meaningful outdoor places. The firm works locally and has been recognized nationally for their public space designs, placemaking initiatives, and research. Formerly of Sasaki in Boston and the non-profit Riverlife in Pittsburgh, Nina is an adjunct faculty member at Carnegie Mellon's School of Architecture and sits on the board of the Landscape Architecture Foundation.



Stephanie Carlisle: Principal, KieranTimberlake

Stephanie Carlisle is a Principal and Environmental Researcher at KieranTimberlake. She investigates topics related to the interaction between the constructed and natural environment, including urban ecology, green infrastructure, and climate change. Combining a background in environmental science and architectural design, Stephanie serves as a bridge between research and practice, bringing data-driven analysis to complex architectural problems. Stephanie is also a lecturer of Urban Ecology at the University of Pennsylvania, School of Design and is the co-editor-in-chief of Scenario Journal, an online publication devoted to showcasing and facilitating interdisciplinary conversations between landscape architecture, urban design, engineering, and ecology.

