

Helen J. Kessler, FAIA, LEED Fellow, LEED AP BD+C, WELL AP**AREAS OF SPECIALTY**

- Nationally recognized authority on sustainable design, lighting, energy efficiency and commissioning
- Sustainability consulting, training and facilitation
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED[®]) consulting
- Regenerative Design
- Strategic energy management planning
- Commissioning and Retro-Commissioning consulting

EDUCATION

- M.B.A., The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA (1986)
- Bachelor of Architecture, The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ (1975)

EXPERIENCE

- President, HJKessler Associates, Chicago (2003 - present)
Manage consulting practice specializing in sustainable and regenerative design, LEED, energy efficiency and building commissioning. Assist project teams with development of sustainable design goals and LEED certification. Kessler works with a broad range of clients including architects and building owners representing non-profit, educational and commercial projects. Select projects include Northwestern University's new Kellogg School of Management and Kresge Centennial Hall renovation (LEED Platinum), Exelon's LEED Platinum headquarters, Orland Park's LEED Gold police headquarters, the LEED Platinum Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Northwestern University's LEED Gold Silverman Hall and Harris Hall and many LEED Gold schools for Chicago Public Schools. She has had a key role on over eighty LEED certified projects, including twelve that have been certified Platinum. She is also working on WELL certification for the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign Mechanical Engineering Building.
- Adjunct Professor, Northwestern University, Evanston (2005 - present)
Co-developer and instructor "Sustainability in Construction" and "Systems Thinking for Sustainable Design" courses for the Master of Project Management Program.
- Executive Vice-President, Sieben Energy Associates, Chicago (1991 - 2003)
Designed and implemented sustainable design and LEED, energy efficiency, lighting design, building commissioning, renewable energy and strategic energy management services. Responsibilities included business development, project management, employee supervision and strategic planning. Managed projects for diverse commercial, institutional, industrial and public clients, some of which included the City of Chicago, California Energy Commission, AT&T, Lucent Technologies, University of Chicago, Allstate, McDonald's and many real estate and architecture firms.
- Project Director - Technical Services, Hyatt Hotels Corp. (1989 - 1991)
Supervised design of three new hotels. Responsible for managing renovation projects totaling \$40,000,000 for 14 hotels. Developed capital budgets; determined project design intent; supervised consultants; negotiated contracts; coordinated purchase of furniture,

fixtures, and equipment (FF&E); directed contractors; and coordinated projects with hotel management. Ensured on-time, on-budget delivery of projects.

- Project Manager, Richard I. Rubin & Co., Inc. (1987 - 1989)
Managed all aspects of design, construction, purchasing, budgeting, and contract negotiation relating to the development of 183-room luxury hotel. Managed \$8+ million FF&E budget.
- Project Manager, The Enterprise Development Company (1986)
Coordinated tenant fit-out for specialty retail center in Hartford, CT.
- Project Architect, The University of Arizona, Environmental Research Laboratory (1977-1984) Designed solar homes and U.S. Department of Energy Passive Cooling and Heating Experimental Facility. Performed research on solar and low-energy heating and cooling technologies. Solar energy columnist for *The Arizona Daily Star* (1982 - 1984). Taught solar energy course at The University of Arizona College of Architecture. Trained builders and homeowners in design of passive solar systems.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Licensed Architect, States of Illinois and Arizona
- Fellow, American Institute of Architects (FAIA)
- LEED Fellow and LEED Accredited Professional (BD+C), U.S. Green Building Council
- WELL Accredited Professional
- Corporate Member, U.S. Green Building Council
- Member, American Institute of Architects
- Board Member and Treasurer, Chicago Women in Architecture Foundation
- Member, Lambda Alpha International
- Member, CREW (Commercial Real Estate Executive Women of Chicago)
- US Green Building Council Chicago/Illinois Chapter Board of Directors (2007 - 2012)
- Member, Education Program Strategic committee, US Green Building Council, Illinois Chapter, 2014 - 2016
- Co-Chair, Education/Research Committee, US Green Building Council, Illinois Chapter (2002 - 2014)
- US Green Building Council, Voting Member LEED for Commercial Interiors Core Committee (2006 - 2007); member Heartland Regional Council (2007)
- US Green Building Council, LEED™ New Construction, Existing Buildings and Energy and Atmosphere TAG Corresponding Member
- Chicago Real Estate Executive Women (CREW), Board of Directors (2005), Secretary (2006 - 2007), former member Communications Committee, former member Programs Committee, current member Leadership & Professional Development committee
- Voting Member, ASHRAE Commissioning Guideline Committee (GPC-0) (1999 - 2005)
- Illuminating Engineering Society of North America Commissioning Committee (2010 - 2011)
- Chair, Energy Code Committee, Chicago Buildings Department (1999 - 2003)
- Chicago Chapter AIA, Board of Directors (1995)
- Chicago Chapter AIA, Co-Chair - Committee on the Environment (1993 - 1995)
- Commissioner, Arizona Solar Energy Commission (1979 - 1984)
- Co-chair and board member, Arizona Solar Energy Association (1979 - 1984)
- Commissioner, Tucson-Pima County Metropolitan Energy Commission (1980 - 1984)

AWARDS

- AIA Illinois R. Buckminster Fuller Award for Social Good, 2016
- U.S. Green Building Council Illinois Chapter Leader Award, 2012
- Inaugural class of LEED Fellows, 2011
- U.S. Green Building Council Illinois Chapter Green Mind Award, 2011
- U.S. Green Building Council Illinois Chapter Natural Leader Award - Intent to Matter, 2010
- Alumnus of the Year, University of Arizona Honors College, 2008

- Illinois Real Estate Journal Women in Real Estate Impact Award, 2008
- Fellow, American Institute of Architects, 2006

PUBLICATIONS (partial list)

- “WELL Certification Provides Financial and Occupant Benefits,” *fnPrime*, July 2020.
- “How Healthy Buildings Create Healthy Communities,” *Facilities Net and Building Operating Management Magazine*, January 2019
- “Regenerative Design,” a feature story about Helen J. Kessler, FAIA and Michelle Halle Stern, AIA, *Chicago Architect*, July/August 2017
- “Interconnected World: How Green Building Relates to Sharing of ‘Common’ Resources,” *Facilities Net and Building Operating Management magazine*, December 2015
- “Q&A with Helen Kessler,” *USGBC+*, May/June 2015
- “Natural LEEDer,” *ChicagoArchitect*, September/October 2014 (article about Helen Kessler and her projects)
- “Understanding Energy Benchmarking Ordinances,” *Facilities Net and Building Operating Management magazine*, September 2014
- “A Measured Approach to M&V,” *Facilities Net and Building Operating Management magazine*, July 2013
- “Shifting Mindsets and Awakening Possibility,” *Environmental Design and Construction*, April 2013
- “Integrated Design is Essential for LEED for Schools,” *Facilities Net and Building Operating Management magazine*, April 2012
- “Charrettes: Not Just for New Construction,” *Facilities Net and Building Operating Management magazine*, April 2011
- “Green Goddess,” an interview with Zurich Esposito, *Chicago Architect*, September/October 2010
- “Using Post-Occupancy Evaluations to Fine Tune Green Design,” *Facilities Net*, January, 2010
- “Follow the LEEDers,” *Chicago Architect*, September/October, 2008
- “Is LEED Leading the Way to Sustainable Design?” *Interior Construction*, Fall 2008
- “Being Green: It’s Easy (and Profitable) After All,” *Real Estate Construction Advisor*, Summer 2007.
- “White Roofs - Are They Sustainable?” *AIA Chicago Focus*, April 2007
- “Sustainable Design - A Call to All Architects,” *AIA Chicago Focus*, February 2007
- “Commercial Interiors - New Opportunities for Sustainable Design,” *AIA Chicago Focus*, June 2005
- “An Integrated Approach to Designing High Performance Buildings,” *AIA Chicago Focus*, May 2005
- “Prototype LEED™ Libraries for Chicago,” *Greenbuild*, a Conference of the U.S. Green Building Council, November 2003
- “Creating A Strategic Energy Management Plan to Reduce Costs At The University Of Chicago,” *Greening of the Campus*, September 2003
- “Retro-Commissioning the Headquarters Building of Information Resources, Incorporated,” *Tenth National Conference on Building Commissioning*, May 2002.
- “Selected Best Practices for Successful City Energy Initiatives,” *Prepared for the U.S. Conference of Mayors*, May 2001.
- Chicago Section IESNA 2000 EPRI Award for Lighting Design Excellence, South Shore Bank, 35th Street Branch
- “Increasing Property Value Through Efficient Energy,” *Environmental Design & Construction*, May/June 1999.
- “Maintenance, Operation and Repairs (MORES) - A Utility Re-Commissioning Program,” *Seventh National Conference on Building Commissioning*, May 1999.
- “Efficient Use and Smart Purchasing of Energy,” *NEOCON 98*.
- “In the Right Light,” *Journal of Property Management*, September/October 1998.

- “Using an Integrated Approach to Achieve Superior Energy-Efficient Buildings,” *Energy User News*, October 1997.
- “Commissioning the Air Handling System in an Existing Office Facility,” *Fourth National Conference on Building Commissioning*, May 1996.
- “Saving Energy through Design Assistance Review of New Educational Building,” *Greening of the Campus*, April 1996.
- “Improve Productivity and Reduce Operating Costs by Using an Integrated Approach to Achieve Superior Energy-Efficient Building,” *NEOCON 95, Conference Proceedings Vol. II*, June 1995.
- “Re-Commissioning an Existing Large Facility for Energy-Efficiency,” *Third National Conference on Building Commissioning*, May 1995.
- “ROI Considerations Go Beyond Simple Payback,” *Energy User News*, August 1994.
- “Light Perceptions,” *The Construction Specifier*, March 1994.
- “Valmeyer, Illinois: The Potential for a Sustainable Community,” *Inland Architect*, Spring 1994.
- “Recommendations on a Tool Kit for Community Sustainable Development,” Results of the Wingspread Conference, published by U.S. Department of Energy, January 1994.
- “Lighting the Way to Lower Operating Cost and Increased Productivity,” *NEOCON 93, The World Exposition on Facilities Planning, Design and Management*, June 1993.
- Over 20 publications on solar energy for journals, national and international conference proceedings (1978 - 1984), column on energy efficiency and solar design for *The Arizona Daily Star* (1982 - 1984) and invited presenter to over 75 local, national and international seminars, workshops and conferences.
- “Living an Impossible Promise - Enjoying The Journey,” *Conference for Global Transformation*, San Francisco, CA, May 2004
- “Discourses for a World of Abundance,” *Conference for Global Transformation*, August 2003.
- “Resources for Sustaining Healthy, Productive and Abundant Lives,” *Conference for Global Transformation*, September 2002.

PRESENTATIONS (partial list)

- “Climate Change Adaptation and Resiliency,” Panelist, Chicago Women in Architecture, February 11, 2020.
- “Systems Thinking for Regenerative Development,” Chicago Build, with Michelle Halle Stern, September 19, 2019.
- “Experiencing a Regenerative Design Process,” Neocon, June 13, 2017.
- “A Holistic Approach to Sustainability Through Regenerative Design,” AIA Continental Europe, Cyprus, September 30, 2016.
- “Chicago Thrives: Envisioning a Resilient and Sustainable Water Infrastructure,” session co-organizer and moderator, USGBC-Illinois, June 7, 2016.
- “The Evolution of a School Campus,” 2016 Illinois Healthy and High-Performing Schools Symposium, April 8, 2016.
- “Regenerative Design and Development: Case Studies and Practice,” USGBC-Illinois LEED Fellows Blitz, March 18, 2016.
- “LEEDv4 - Materials for New Construction,” CSI North Central Region conference, May 8, 2015.
- “Tackling Climate Change Through Systems Thinking,” USGBC-Illinois LEED Fellows Blitz, March 24, 2015.
- One Earth Film Festival introductory panel discussion, panelist, Chicago, February 27, 2015.
- “Creating Extraordinary Environmental Results at a STEM School Through Integrative Design,” *Greening the Heartland*, October 1, 2014.
- “Higher Education: Making Old New (and Green) - a Case Study,” *Greening the Heartland*, September 29, 2014.
- “Materials Credits for LEEDv4,” *Greening the Heartland*, September 29, 2014.

- “Changing Mindset and Creating Extraordinary Results Through an Integrative Design Process,” AIA National Convention, Chicago, June 28, 2014.
- “Building Better Buildings Green Lease Forum,” Moderator, Roosevelt University, June 5, 2013.
- “Sarah Goode High School - A Case Study in Using Integrated Design Process to Create a High Performing Green School,” USGBC Illinois Spring Credential Maintenance Blitz, May 7, 2013.
- “The Green Codes Landscape in a World of Standards & Rating Systems,” USGBC Illinois, Hoffman Estates, IL, April 3, 2013.
- “Using Energy Tax Credits and Government Incentives in Real Estate Development Financing,” panelist, Taxation on Real Estate Conference, June 7, 2012.
- “Implementing LEED in K-12 Schools,” USGBC Illinois, December 1, 2011.
- “Higher Education: Making the Old New (and Green),” AIA Illinois 2011 conference, November 4, 2011.
- “Designing High Performance Buildings: Using an Integrative Design Process,” ComEd Smart Ideas and Energy Center of Wisconsin, April 14, 2011, December 7, 2010, April 14, 2010.
- “Commissioning - Making Your (Innovative) Sustainable Investment Pay,” AIA Conference on Whole Building Commissioning, Washington, DC, October 21, 2010.
- “Commissioning: An American Perspective,” Methodes Industrielles Applicables au Batiment, Nantes, France, via Skype, October 19, 2010.
- “Lessons Learned and Post Occupancy Evaluation of a LEED Platinum Building,” AIA National Convention, June 10, 2010.
- “LEED is Here to Stay - What’s in it for Me?” CISCA Convention, March 26, 2010.
- “Collaboration for Building Green: A Partnership Among Contractors, Design Professionals, Colleges and USGBC Chicago,” Greenbuild 2009.
- “Commissioning: What an Architect Needs to Know,” Keynote presentation for Building Commissioning Association Annual Expo, Columbus, OH, October 19, 2009.
- “Using LEED to Maximize the Benefits of Sustainability,” AIA National Convention, May 1, 2009.
- “Making Money by Going Green: Opportunities and Managing Expectations,” Construction Law Conference, Chicago, July 10, 2008.
- “Building Commissioning - A Primer for Architects,” AIA National Convention, May 17, 2008.
- “Sustainable Building in Chicago - A Score Card,” Illinois Humanities Festival, October 30, 2007.
- “Building Commissioning - What Architects Need to Know,” AIA National Convention, May 3, 2007.
- “Beyond Green Building - Valuing Resources in Support of a Sustainable World Future,” Greening the Heartland, June 2, 2005.
- “An Integrated Approach to Creating High Performance Buildings,” Greening the Heartland, June 1, 2005.