

HOW TO ENGAGE WITH LANDSCAPE, DESIGN, AND THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

FREDERICK R. STEINER

The Art of Plan Making

Community and regional planning involve thinking ahead and formally envisioning the future for ourselves and others. Improved plans can lead to healthier, safer, and more beautiful places to live for us and other species. We can also plan for places that are more just and more profitable. Plans can help us not only to sustain what we value but also to transcend sustainability by creating truly regenerative communities, that is, landscapes with the capacity to restore, renew, and revitalize their own sources of energy and materials. In The Art of Plan Making, Steiner will offer a primer on the planning process through a firsthand account of developing plans for the city of Austin and the University of Texas campus. As Dean of the UT School of Architecture, Steiner served on planning committees that addressed the future growth of the city and the university, growth that inevitably overlapped because of UT's central location in Austin. As he will walk the audience through the planning processes. Steiner will illustrate how large-scale planning requires setting goals and objectives, reading landscapes, determining best uses, designing options, selecting courses for moving forward, taking actions, and adjusting to changes. He will also demonstrate that planning is an inherently political, sometimes messy, act, requiring the intelligence and ownership of the affected communities.



Dean Steiner helped establish the Sustainable SITES Initiative, the first program of its kind to offer a systematic, comprehensive rating system designed to define sustainable land development and management, and holds the SITES Professional (SITES AP) credential.

Dean Steiner was a presidential appointee to the national board of the American Institute of Architects and is on the Urban Committee of the National Park System Advisory Board. Previously, he served as president of the Hill Country Conservancy (an Austin land trust) as well as in various capacities on the boards of Envision Central Texas and the Landscape Architecture Foundation. He worked on the Austin Comprehensive Plan (Imagine Austin) and on the campus plan for The University of Texas at Austin.





Speaker Bio

Frederick Steiner is dean and Paley Professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Design (PennDesign) and co-director of its Ian L. McHarg Center for Urbanism and Ecology. Most recently, he served for 15 years as dean of the School of Architecture and Henry M. Rockwell Chair in Architecture at The University of Texas at Austin. He previously taught at Penn and the following institutions: Arizona State University, Washington State University, and the University of Colorado at Denver. He was a visiting professor of landscape architecture at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China. Dean Steiner was a Fulbright-Hays scholar at Wageningen University, The Netherlands and a Rome Prize Fellow in Historic Preservation at the American Academy in Rome. During 2013 - 2014, he was the William A. Bernoudy Architect in Residence at the American Academy in Rome. A fellow of both the American Society of Landscape Architects and the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture, and faculty fellow at the Penn Institute for Urban Research, he has written, edited, or co-edited 18 books.

MARCH 01 2018 HARLYN THOMPSON LECTURE SERIES 6PM | CENTRE SPACE | JOHN A. RUSSELL BUILDING

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Dean Steiner earned a Master of Community Planning and a B.S. in Design from the University of Cincinnati, and his Ph.D. and M.A. in city and regional planning and a Master of Regional Planning from PennDesign. Dean Steiner also received an honorary M.Phil. in Human Ecology from the College of the Atlantic.

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