

# **AIA Nevada**

SILVER MEDAL NOMINEE

**NOVEMBER 08, 2024** 

# Glenn NP Nowak, Ph.D, AIA, NCARB

Associate Professor of Architecture – Hospitality Design (HD) Lab Founder - Architect Licensing Advisor, Nevada – UNLV Sports Innovation Institute Affiliate - University of Nevada Las Vegas – School of Architecture - AIA Las Vegas Board Member – Education Liaison – Chair of the AIA SoA Committee ~ Previous appointments: Graduate Coordinator M.Arch (2014-2018 & 2021-2024), Foundation Studies Coordinator (2010-2013), Interim Director of the UNLV Downtown Design Center (2011-2012), City of Las Vegas Arts Commission (2012-2013), ACSA Faculty Councilor (2008-2016)

#### **Contents**

Nomination Jon Sparer, FAIA Page 2

A biography of the candidate including a brief summary statement, work history, positions, honors, publications and presentations that relate to the purpose of the award, not to exceed two pages. Pages 3-4

A list of the candidate's achievements, not to exceed six pages, including a personal narrative illustrating how the candidate's work has enhanced the profession through active engagement; and benefited the community with volunteer efforts. Pages 5-10

Miscellaneous materials such as clippings, articles, and other documents may be submitted, not to exceed an additional three pages. Pages 11-13

Five to seven examples of the candidate's design work and/or services with three images for each example represented, including a site plan, an exterior, and interior image (up to 3 pages each for a maximum of 21 pages). Pages 14-34

Five to Seven one-page letters of support. Letters should be explicit in their recommendation and should address the criteria for the award. Pages 35-41

Bo Bernhard, Ph.D. Vice President UNLV
Dave Howryla, AIA – President Marnell Architecture
Eric Strain, FAIA – Assemblage Studio
Greg Erny, FAIA – Architects + LLC
Jamie Centeno, UNLV Instructor
Osarodion Victory Igbinobaro, Assoc. AIA – Co-Founder AERO AI
Troy D. Moser, AIA – MOSER architecture studio LLC.

#### JON SPARER, FAIA

October 31, 2024

RE: AIA Nevada Silver Medal Nomination, Glenn NP Nowak, AIA

I am honored to nominate Glenn NP Nowak, AIA, for the AIA Nevada Silver Medal. Glenn's commitment to excellence in education and research and to the future of architecture in our state makes him more than deserving of AIA Nevada's highest honor.

Glenn founded UNLV's School of Architecture's Hospitality Design Concentration in 2010. Now a curriculum capstone, the program flourishes largely thanks to Glenn's gift for bringing together the profession, the AIA, and academia. He has led this triad's conferring of 21 student travel awards and participation in grants totaling over \$1-million that impact students. He has authored or co-authored over 40 publications and conference presentations in regional, national, and international venues. His interactive volume 13 Ways of Looking at Architectural Theory (2014) clarifies theoretical approaches to design through the lens of Las Vegas architecture. Working with UNLV Libraries, he established the Hospitality Design Graduate Student Capstones Digital Scholarship Collection to capture the work of graduate classes. Nearly 60 studio projects have joined the collection and been downloaded over 5,800 times internationally. As an academic leader, Glenn has taught over 2,500 students across his 19 years, mentored over 500 clinical interns as Architect Licensing Advisor (14 years), advised over 200 graduate students as Graduate Coordinator (7 years), and attended the licensure ceremonies of over thirty graduates. Many of his students are now principals, firm owners, faculty, and founders of businesses.

Combining teaching, service, and engagement, Glenn elevates diverse professional expertise, teaching courses in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Interior Design. He is also an educator for the Harrah College of Hospitality's Sands Center for Professional Development, which brings together Historically Black College and University students from across the country with French students from L'Institut Lyfe for hospitality management education, tours, and project work. He has collaborated with AIA LV in summer programs on architecture for high schoolers and is an annual partner in the Vegas STEM Lab for middle school students exploring the intersection of STEM and careers in hospitality industry.

Glenn has led over 100 graduate projects focused on improving our future through the broadest definitions of "hospitality" to elevating a "hospitable" design process. In 2016, he was a contributing author and participant for the HUNDRED Plan report by the UNLV Downtown Design Center focused on a community engagement to promote the positive transformation of the Historic Westside neighborhood. He supports the UNLV Tourism Business Ignitor with community workshops and partnerships with interdisciplinary research teams and Nevada Partners to pursue funded research to support community development.

Glenn has single-handedly elevated the discourse around hospitality design in our state, expanding critical public engagement and recognition. A recognized author and speaker, he brings expert commentary on the architecture of the hospitality industry to a national audience via Nevada PBS, the Associated Press, ARCHITECT magazine, and Fox Business's "American Built."

Honors such as receiving the 2023 AIA NV Service Award Recipient and being a three-time AIA Las Vegas' President's awardee reflect Glenn's valued service to the profession. His over a decade on the board of the AIA Las Vegas Chapter and fourteen-plus years as Clinical Internships Coordinator (initiating alignment with AXP and IDP) and coordinating the Career & Internship Fair illustrate why he is widely regarded as the face of the UNLV School of Architecture.

Glenn Nowak's influence on the theory and practice of architecture in the state of Nevada is both far reaching and enduring. I am certain within these pages you will recognize that he is uniquely deserving of our recognition with AIA Nevada's highest honor.

Sincerely,

Jon Sparer, FAIA

2018 AIA Nevada Silver Medal 2018 WMR Pettigrew Legacy Fellow

2018 President AIA Nevada | 2017 President AIA Las Vegas

#### Biography 2 pages



Glenn NP Nowak grew up in the Midwest. The oldest of four children, his interest in teaching may have started informally by playing the role of mentor to his three little sisters. The example of his mother's commitment to the early morning shift at work instilled a strong work ethic in him, and his father's success in

music sparked creativity for everyone in the family. Recognizing the potential financial burden of going to college, Glenn trusted that hardwork, good grades, and involvement in activities might lead to opportunities to continue with rewarding experiences into adulthood. Being a two-sport varsity captain, drum-major, student council president, and philanthropist giving time to others, he was fortunate to receive two key scholarships (The Daughters of the American Revolution – Good Citizen Award & The Emens Scholarship for Leadership and Cocurricular Achievement), which enabled him to complete his five year Bachelor of Architecture degree virtually debt free.

Heading off to Ball State University, choosing between music and architecture was a difficult decision; Glenn loves the way music makes people feel. He was already an accomplished multi-instrument musician, so he committed to continuing music as an extracurricular with a self-imposed challenge to bring comparable emotive and experiential connections to people through the built environment as he embarked on an architectural journey. The heavy workload in architecture kept him from going beyond one season as an NCAA Division I pole vaulter.

As an undergraduate he earned an AIA Ohio Student Design Citation Award designing a home for people with Alzheimer's Disease, and Glenn was the winner of the 2004 Indiana Architectural Foundation Scholarship. He went on to receive the "Thesis of the Year" award for his B. Arch capstone project, Architectural Timbre: A thesis presenting architecture as a medium of the performing arts. With an interest in teaching and advice from his faculty mentors, Glenn applied to and was accepted at multiple prestigious graduate architecture programs.

Glenn continued his studies at Cornell University for a post-professional M. Arch and minor concentration in cognitive psychology as he was still seeking ways to elicit the same kind of awe-inspiring effects found in music through architectural means. A graduate experiment he titled *Hear* Arch sought to answer the question, "Can architecture manufacture a pre-calculated perception," and his thesis Advancing Cognition in Architecture used music theories as exemplary thought processes for rethinking architecture. While working toward these projects, Glenn served as the founding editor-in-chief of ASSOCIATION, a student-led publication still going strong today. The premise of the publication was to present seemingly disparate works from students, faculty, and alumni from multiple disciplines (art, architecture, and urban planning) in a way that allows readers to find relationships, connections, or associations between them. The countless number of communal discussions that came from volume one of Association reminded Glenn of the infinite opportunities stemming from improvisation in music, and it gave him a blueprint for his future teaching and service: building bridges across disciplines and connecting academia with the profession.

Seeing New York and Las Vegas as top contenders for cities with architecture most closely tied to entertainment, Glenn completed his internship hours at Marnell Architecture, a design-build firm near the south end of The Strip with decades of experience in the hospitality industry. Combining that with the years of apprenticeships in smaller engineering and architecture firms, Glenn gained unique perspectives on everything from very small community-oriented projects in the Midwest to the design of global tourist destinations. At the same time, Glenn was a visiting lecturer and then tenure-track assistant professor at UNLV School of Architecture. The School had a good rapport with the

professional community, and Glenn saw an opportunity to expand the connections between the graduate program and the hospitality industry, and a process of building relationships through the community began.

Glenn's teaching and design research often involve community-integrated projects that focus on social, environmental, and economic sustainability. In 2024, Glenn has served as the Graduate Coordinator, Coordinator of the HD-Lab at UNLV, the Chair of the School of Architecture Committee for The AIA Las Vegas Chapter, and NCARB's AXP Architect Licensing Advisor for Nevada. He previously held the positions of Interim Director of the UNLV Downtown Design Center and Foundation Studies Coordinator. Glenn recently earned his Doctor of Philosophy in Hospitality Administration program at the University of Nevada Las Vegas College of Hospitality. His dissertation, Translating Casino Servicescapes to Improve Architectural Responses Addressing Health and Wellness, is the culmination of years of research and has the potential to impact millions of square feet of integrated resort design around the world.

As a tenured associate professor, Glenn has taught nearly three thousand students enrolled in his classes from their first intro to architecture course to their graduate capstone projects over the past eighteen (18) years. Author of multiple papers, conference presentations and a book, Glenn has participated on panel discussions at local, regional and National levels. He served as foundation studies coordinator 6 years formulating teaching strategies that alleviated challenges from the budget cuts of the Great Recession. He has served as graduate coordinator for 7 years recruiting more international applicants and retaining local talent. His year as interim director of the downtown design center engaged students in community-based work. He participated in the HUNDRED Plan + ongoing implementation strategies for the Historic Westside in partnership with Nevada Partners. Glenn has participated in two successful NAAB accreditation reviews that earned maximum terms. While these may be typical of an exemplary

faculty member, the items below highlight exceptional service to the profession.

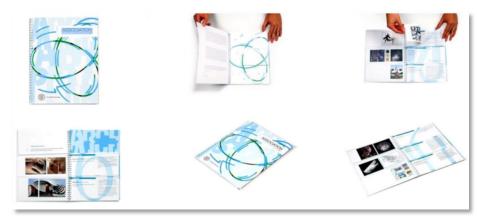
Glenn's book, 13 Ways of Looking at Architectural Theory, is a treatise on design thinking with unique perspectives on the built environments of Nevada. The book has been approved for use in courses at UNLV and serves as an engaging conversation starter for those interested in design disciplines. By incorporating hundreds of examples of student works from his previous classes, Glenn's writing presents an accessible resource for contemplating higher level thought processes associated with architecture, from abstraction and embedded meanings to environmentalism and economic impacts. The interactive nature of the book is a microcosm of Glenn's teaching... participatory and thought provoking.

Professor Nowak was most excited to shepherd the creation of the Hospitality Design Concentration at UNLV in the fall of 2010. Recognizing Las Vegas' unique role in the global fun economy valued at \$13.7 trillion (14% of the global economy), Glenn has spearheaded this one-of-a-kind academic focus for over a decade. With many historical examples of schools taking fleeting interests in the novelty of The Strip, Nowak saw the greater potential of more consistently and fully immersing students in the culture of the hospitality (design) industry. Since then, the entertainment capital of the world has become an extension of the academic studio for collaborative explorations in design research. In the past decade, the vernacular definition of hospitality which often emphasizes opulence of décor and building design as spectacle, has evolved to embrace an arguably equal if not greater meaning by examining the impact of being hospitable through the design process. For nearly twenty years, Glenn NP Nowak has been applying principles of hospitality, a radical openness to others, through his teaching and service. An expansion of the application of hospitality concepts through education and community involvement shows how future generations of architects will continue learning from Las Vegas.

#### List of Achievements & Narrative 6 pages

A theme that runs through the architectural teaching and research achievements of Dr. Glenn NP Nowak is the unifying nature of his efforts. We can point to the vast numbers of students he has taught and those he has mentored to elite levels of national distinction, but the way he has consistently been at the center of bringing students and professionals together through methodic curricular development and synergies afforded by his simultaneous decades-long leadership roles in academia, AIA, and the community is the mark of his lasting influence on architecture in the state of Nevada.

The early career of Dr. Nowak set him on a trajectory to make enduring impacts on the profession through his academic writing, community engagement, and mentorship. At Cornell University (2004), Glenn served as founding editor-in-chief of ASSOCIATION, a publication of the College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, with the goal of strengthening ties between those disciplines and its students, faculty, and alumni. The design of each volume invites readers to examine connections between works made by the editorial board and to create their own associations through the interactive designs of the books. ASSOCIATION is still going strong twenty years later and has included guest publishing by Lars Müller Publishers, volume launch exhibitions in New York City, and a feature of Glenn's UNLV teaching in Volume 5 (2012).



ASSOCIATION Vol. 1 - Glenn NP Nowak, Founding Editor-in-Chief

An open teaching position at UNLV was identified as an ideal opportunity to merge architecture and music. The institution combined those disciplines along with art, film, dance, and theatre in the College of Fine Arts, and Glenn was steadfast in his interest to integrate the qualities of performing arts and experience design with architecture. When he learned of the bi-annual college participation in the international Fringe Festival and the absence of participation from the School of Architecture, Glenn committed to coordinating design student efforts to enhance the performances and guest experiences of those participating in the Adelaide Australia events of 2008-09. Glenn along with Dr. Janet White and a team of students designed a flexible installation that referenced the construction techniques of Charles and Ray Eames' House of Cards and displayed a pictorial timeline of Las Vegas to reinforce the theatrical production. Glenn and students took the work to Australia and reconstructed it in multiple settings including an exhibit and lecture at University of Adelaide. More of these initiatives seen throughout Glenn's CV have brought him and his students closer to colleagues and their counterparts in other disciplines. The work repeatedly demonstrates how the built environment sets the stage for virtually all collegial interactions.



Rebels-in-Fringe – UNLV SoA in the Adelaide Australia Fringe Festival – Glenn Nowak, Faculty Lead Designer – College of Fine Arts

After building meaningful relationships across the College, Glenn turned his gaze to the professional community. While the School of Architecture credits the profession for prompting its founding (first accredited in 1997), its embrace of hospitality was noticeably absent for the first thirteen years. Many people think of the architecture of Las Vegas as kitsch or cliché, but Glenn and others recognized that hospitality design is not only big business but requires critical inquiry and holds big research opportunities. In 2010, Glenn founded the HD Concentration with the help of world-renowned leaders in the profession, and now the SoA has had hospitality as a capstone of the curriculum (14 years) longer than it has not (13 years).



Firm principals in hospitality design for the launch of the HD Concentration at UNLV – (Left to right) Dave Howryla – Marnell Architecture, Glenn Nowak – UNLV, John Klai – Klai Juba Wald Architecture + Interiors, Mike Del Gatto – Carpenter Sellers Del Gatto, Jon Sparer – YWS, Brad Friedmutter – Friedmutter Group, and Joe Rothman – Bergman Walls & Associates

Learning from the professional hospitality community, Glenn noted that what happens in Vegas doesn't stay in Vegas... these firms were doing work across the country and around the world. Their expertise was unique and the integrated resort was an archetype that no other schools anywhere were equipped to address. The curriculum was not about teaching students how to do it but to expose them and invite critiques and explorations of alternative ways to approach the design challenges. So, similar to the architectural phenomenon of the integrated resort spreading across the planet, the dissemination of the HD concentration's academic outputs needed to be exported, too. The first five thesis projects were immediately accepted for presentation at an academic conference in Singapore bringing international prominence to

the program. Just as UNLV's top-ranked College of Hospitality and International Gaming Institute had enjoyed international appeal for years, Glenn and the School of Architecture were growing the graduate concentration in hospitality design's reach from Australia to Singapore, and beyond.



Glenn Nowak with students at UNLV Singapore presenting the first five HD Studio Capstone Projects.

As global recognition was further established, local connections were being reinforced. Community design charrettes, collaborations with city, county, and even corporate sponsors drove opportunities for Dr. Nowak to further engage students in everything from the Historic Westside (historic and cultural tourism perspective) to the NFL Stadium District around the then under-construction, Allegiant Stadium (sports entertainment and sustainable perspective) and MGM Resorts among others (hospitality, integrated resort research). Project-based learning such as these helped Dr. Nowak shape research streams for graduate students and a pedagogical approach for applying hospitality design principals across a wider range of teachings.



Sample of Sponsored Research Projects - Glenn Nowak has served as Principal Investigator or Contributor for the following reports: NFL Stadium District (PI), HUNDRED Plan, Anthem Restaurant Design Study (PI), Delta Boarding Design (PI)

Today, Dr. Nowak is a sought-after educator invited to teach in the Harrah College of Hospitality, the L'Institute Lyfe, The Honors College, and more. Guest speaking engagements in K-12 school, visiting universities, and media contributions provide a platform for sharing information about architecture to the widest audiences.



DDC<sup>2</sup> The Design Day Camp at the Downtown Design Center for high school students was led by Glenn NP Nowak, AIA.

#### **Honors & Awards**

AIA Nevada – Service Award (2023)

Finalist - 2nd Annual UNLV President's Innovation Challenge: WELLSPA Tech, faculty advisor (2023)

Finalist - 3rd Place Winner (\$10,000 seed funding) - Inaugural UNLV President's Innovation Challenge: AERO-AI - team member and faculty advisor (2022) - AERO AI is now a minority and veteran-own small business in Las Vegas engaged in 3D drone scanning to support the AEC industry.

AlA Nevada Service Awards - President's Award Recipient (2017)

AIA Nevada "The Leadership Award" (2015)

AIA Las Vegas President's Award (2013)

Robert Fielden - Outstanding Architecture Faculty Award Recipient (2010)

#### **Grant Funding with Direct Student Impact**

Glenn Nowak served as Principal Investigator (PI) unless otherwise noted. NSF AISL: VEGAS STEM LAB: Cultivating Tomorrow's Engineers through the Entertainment & Hospitality Landscape

(\$882,699 - funded 2021) - Emma Regentova, Ph.D. (PI), Venkatesan Muthukumar, (Co-PI), Si Jung Kim (Co-PI), Jonathan Hilpert (Co-PI), Glenn Nowak (Co-I), Mehmet Erdem (Co-I)

Las Vegas NFL Stadium District Masterplan Study.

Sponsored by RAFI Architects and Clark County Comprehensive Planning (\$5.000) Clark County, Nevada 2018

DELTA Boarding Area and Process Redesign, with S. Shoemaker, Ph.D.

Sponsored by Delta Airlines (\$30,000) Atlanta, Georgia 2018

Hotel Facade/Architectural Branding Study.

Sponsored by MGM Resorts International (\$13,334)

Las Vegas, NV 2016

Westside HUNDRED Plan - Research Contributor (Chapter on Entertainment District) by UNLV DDC.

Sponsored by the City of Las Vegas PI- Steven Clarke (\$100,000),

Las Vegas, Historic Westside Neighborhood 2015

Boulder City Hospital Transition Feasibility Study

Sponsored by Building Hope Nevada (\$16,000)

Boulder City, NV 2013-14

Ecotourism-based Interpretive Center Study

Sponsored by Building Hope Nevada and USDA (\$12,000) Boulder City, NV 2011-12

10th Annual Asia Pacific Forum for Graduate Research in Tourism - Travel Award (\$3.000) Five graduate student works were presented in Singapore 2010

#### 99th ACSA Annual Meeting

UFTC Travel Award (\$2,000) Graduate students and Prof. Nowak traveled to Montreal to present two works together.

#### 2011 Adelaide Fringe Festival

Travel Grant (\$9,000) Team of three students traveled to Australia to construct architectural installations at the Fringe as part of a college-wide production.

#### 2011 International Conference on Arts and Humanities

Travel Award (\$1,200) Graduate Student and Prof Nowak traveled to Hawaii to present two papers; one architectural research paper and one theatrical design process paper

#### 2011 USITT Ideal Theatre Student Design Competition Finalist

Travel Stipend (\$1,200) Two graduate students and Prof. Nowak traveled to the international conference and expo in Charlotte, NC to present their work to the USITT Architectural Commission

#### 2010 USITT Ideal Theatre Student Design Competition Finalist

Travel Stipend (\$1,000) An undergraduate student and Prof Nowak traveled to Kansas City to present winning proposal in the international competition

#### 2009 Adelaide Fringe Festival

Travel Grant (\$12,000) Three undergraduate students and Prof Nowak traveled to Australia to contribute to our College of Fine Arts' presence in the festival, and they presented their work at the U. of Adelaide

TOTAL = \$1,000,000+ in grants and award monies having direct impact on students and recent graduates (others omitted for brevity)

#### **Presentations and Publications (Abridged)**

Nowak, G. Hotels and Resorts, Building Types Online Birkhaüser and De Gruyter, (In-progress)

Nowak, G. (2025, May). Achieving Hospitality Design: The Artistry of a More Hospitable Process, Twentieth International Conference on Arts in Society, The Art of Hospitality, Pittsburgh PA

Centeno, J., & Nowak, G. (2025, May). A Study on Informed Hospitality Design: Sharing experiences with restaurant staff through architecture and interiors, Twentieth International Conference on Arts in Society, The Art of Hospitality, Pittsburgh PA

Deilami, G., & Nowak, G. (2025, May). Future Campus Master Planning: Showcasing a history of hospitality, Twentieth International Conference on Arts in Society, The Art of Hospitality, Pittsburgh PA

Mirsadraei, A., & Nowak, G. (2025, May). An Analysis of Architectural Projects Driven by Hospitality Design Thinking: A detailed examination,

Twentieth International Conference on Arts in Society, The Art of Hospitality, Pittsburgh PA

Nowak, G. N., & Erdem, M. (2023, May). From Guest Surveys to Architect Interviews: How problem gambling research can improve casino designs' response to community concerns In International Conference on Gambling & Risk Taking. UNLV IGI.

Nowak, G., Denig, D., Igbinobaro, V., Fernandez, G., & Hardy, J. (2022, May). Keynote Panel Discussion - UNLV: Lessons from the lab. In HD Expo. HD Expo, Las Vegas, NV

Nowak, G. (2022, April). Architectural Collage: Making everyday built environments more hospitable with hospitality design. In National Conference on Beginning Design Students (NCBDS). Ball State University

Mirsadraei, A., Moon, J., Nowak, G. N., & Erdem, M. (2023, February). How Interior Layout Could be Changed in Robot-Supported Quick Service Restaurants. West Federation CHRIE Regional Conference. I-CHRIE.

Nowak, G. N., & Erdem, M. (2023, January). Wellness Design in Casinos: Sentiments toward mental health guidelines in casino architecture. 28th Annual Graduate Education and Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism.

Sigala, C., & Nowak, G. N. (2023, Spring). Hidden Portals: A Re-evaluation of Employee Entrance Design. 28th Annual Graduate Education and Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism. UNLV School of Architecture.

Nowak, G. N., & Igbinobaro, V. (2022, November). AERO-AI. CFA Creative Collaborations. UNLV College of Fine Arts.

Dey, R., & Nowak, G. N. (2022, November). Stockbook. CFA Creative Collaborations Symposium. UNLV College of Fine Arts.

Nowak, G. The Biggest and Best Design Trends in Hospitality + Entertainment, ARCHITECT Live, Keynote Panel Moderator. December, 2021

Nowak, G. Erdem, M. PPE and the Impact of Hospitality Design: A survey of guest perceptions of architectural alternatives. The 26th Annual Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism (Poster), January 2021\*

Jiang, J. Navaretto, D. Nowak, G. New Age Arenas: Constructing a Standard Framework for Esports Arenas. The 26th Annual Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism (Poster), January 2021\*

Denig, D. Kua, M. and Nowak, G. Let There Be Light: The Lack of Daylighting in Casino Design & Its Adverse Effects on the Hospitality Industry. The 26th Annual Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism (Poster), January 2021\*

Cho, R. Nowak, G. Suess Rasenaviche, C. Research Design & Design Research: Extending hospitality studies into architectural analyses. West Federation CHRIE Conference (Presentation) 2020\*

Nowak, G. 40th Anniversary MGM Fire Panel Discussion, AIA National CE (Panel Moderator and Organizer) November, 2020

Nowak, G. A case for increasing regulations on the design features of integrated resorts as a means of addressing broader community concerns. 5th World Research Summit for Tourism and Hospitality. (Presentation), 2019\*

Nowak, G. and Shoemaker, S. Redesigning Airport Gates and Boarding Processes: An explanatory study illustrating evidence-based design, The 25th Annual Graduate Education & Graduate Student Research Conference in Hospitality and Tourism (Presentation), 2019\*

Panelist "Owners' Roundtable", NEWH Hospy's Breakfast 2018

Session Speaker "Green Voice" HD Expo 2018

Nowak, Glenn NP "Meta-signage and Mega-resorts: A sign of the times" What's your Sign Symposium: Retail architecture and the history of signage, September 2017\*

#### **Architecture - Hospitality & Entertainment Design**

The 2010 start of the hospitality design concentration with collaboration from leading hospitality design firm principals and project architects within the local/global profession (Marnell, Howryla, Bergmam, Klai, Sparer, DelGatto, Friedmutter, Rothman, and more) has culminated in the launch of UNLV Libraries' Digital Collection focused on Graduate HD Studio Capstones (over 50 papers with over 3000 downloads and many citations). Glenn has advised graduate research in HD for the past 14 years, preparing M. Arch students to excel in the hospitality-driven design industry of Nevada, and even elevated the student work to the point where it is informing professional discourse. UNLV Libraries Special Collections also invited Glenn to consult on the digitization of the historical architectural documents collection: Dreaming the Skyline consisting of construction documents of bygone resorts on the Las Vegas Strip.

In an effort to elevate the critical discourse around hospitality design within higher education Glenn has nominated and advocated for hospitality design leaders to be inducted to UNLV Artist Hall of Fame (Tony Marnell, Paul Steelman, John Klai, Denise Scott Brown, and more) and UNLV College of Fine Arts Alumnus of the Years (Mike Del Gato, Dwayne Eshenbaugh, Dave Howryla) and numerous AIA Firm of the Year recipients (e.g. BUNNYFish led by duo of UNLV alumni: Tina Wichmann and Craig Palacios).

At a national/international level, Glenn serves as an Advisory Board Member (2015 to present) for Radical, an International Innovations in Hospitality Design Competition, which has resulted in UNLV M. Arch as an educational partner of this professional and academic design program. Glenn and UNLV were the first to join this advisory board, and U of Illinois and NYU have since joined to support hospitality design education.

A frequent voice offering "academic perspective" on Strip Architecture, Glenn's ideas have been shared in such venues as the Review Journal, KNPR, Las Vegas Weekly, The Las Vegas Sun, etc. Glenn was a featured critic in 2022 Nationally televised "American Built" on FOX Business focused on Las Vegas Architecture along with fellow

commentators David Schwartz -UNLV History and Tony Marnell - Marnell Companies.

#### **NCARB Architect licensing Advisor**

Since 2010 to present, Glenn has worked to align UNLV Clinical Internships with IDP and more recent AXP experience areas. The NV ARE candidates rose to the top 10% of Nation's pass rate in 2016. Recent changes to the ARE have resulted in struggles for some candidates in the state, but new testing accommodations for candidates that are not English first-language speakers will hopefully see a return to leading testing status. UNLV is among the most diverse campuses in the country, and it is believed that these accommodations will better support the growth of our local design profession.

Glenn coordinated with the Nevada State Board (NSBAIDRD) to initiate an amendment to the Nevada Revised Statutes to allow for candidates for architecture licensure to begin taking the ARE prior to completing their AXP in preparation for IPAL at UNLV... an initiative he is still work toward with growing support from the professional community.

To further support students' paths to licensure and connect the profession to leading emerging design talent, Glenn established the annual Career and Internship Fair fourteen years ago, bringing firms and school together to foster career development for emerging professionals. Beyond standard teaching load, Glenn has taught a 0-credit internship course every fall, spring, and summer for 14 years.

#### Service to the Profession

Glenn has been one of the longest serving AIA LV board members through roles as the Education Liaison (non-voting member) since 2013 with brief period of interrupted service during the pandemic and colleague replacement. He has received the AIA Las Vegas Chapter President's Award Winner three times. His service has included a decade of reviewing hundreds of AIA Las Vegas Scholarship applications, chairing committees such as the AIA SoA Committee, and co-chairing the Education Outreach Committee. The annual

commitments have led Glenn to multiple high school's Career/College Day visits to distribute information about UNLV and AIA.

Glenn directed the AIA-UNLV High School Design Camp at the Downtown Design Center for two years. A community and campus partnership that is no longer offered but whose DNA can be seen in subsequent youth-oriented camps that Glenn continues to serve: The YES Mentoring Program, Battleborn Girls, Vegas STEM Lab, and AIA High School Design Awards among others. With the AIA High School Design Awards, Glenn has been involved in project planning, mentoring, and/or coordinating the award's ceremony at the UNLV School of Architecture to support high school students, families, and teachers with Q&A sessions about majoring in architecture or general college application questions. Glenn is also the go-to host for high school and middle school field trips to the UNLV SoA or BlackFire Innovation at the UNLV Harry Reid Research Park – organizing tours, charrettes, and Q&A sessions with students interested in studying design in college.

Through his involvement on the AIA National Convention Steering Committee in 2019, Glenn also supervised the student design of the AIA Las Vegas Hospitality Booth for AIA National held in Las Vegas. The lounge space was developed in consultation with Panasonic featuring a digital display of hundreds of UNLV Architecture student projects. It became one of the most photographed booths of the conference with an installation of a large stage-like prop for people to sit, stand, or lean on with the letters "#AIALV".

## **Elevated mentorship**

From a world record setting recycled cardboard construction devised as part of his introduction to architecture course for 1st year students, to mentoring award-winning graduate students, Glenn consistently provides students with experiences in the classroom that lead to real world opportunities and regional, national, and global recognition.

#### Miscellaneous 3\* pages



Featured critic on FOX Business "American Built" episode on The Strip – Nationally televised



Featured design critic on Vegas PBS



News 8 Now – Commentary on the Tropicana Hotel and Casino

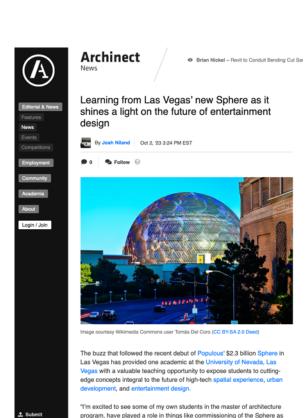


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part of their internships, looking at the building system performance,"

## President's Innovation Challenge At UNLV



Clenn Nowak, with the Aero Al team, helps give a presentation during the President's Innovation Challenge at UNLV Wednesday, April 6, 2022. Nine student teams competed for 525,000 as they submitted solutions to Southern Newadas biggest challenges.



Gallery exhibition by students in Glenn's class bringing attention to a local community design challenge



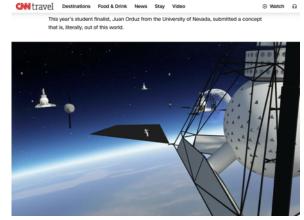
Hyperloop Hotel. Image: Courtesy John Hardy Group.

 Hyperloop Hotel, by Brandon Siebrecht, a student at UNLV, uses customizable shipping containers that double as suites, where guests can travel and dock at one of 13 locations in the U.S. The experience would be managed by an app.

^Hospitality design from UNLV featured in Building Design + Construction <Faculty mentorship led to students creating an award-winning small business and winning an international grant



UNLV students surpassing record set by Harvard University



Glenn's student's work featured on CNN Travel



Students in Glenn's AIA/SoA Design Day Camp at the Downtown Design Center (DDC²) with Paul Goldberger – Architectural Critic for The New Yorker meeting for breakfast at the James Wines-designed Denny's.



HD Studio with design research sponsors Bill Hornbuckle and Joyen Vakil, MGM Resorts and Dave Howryla, Marnell Architecture



Faculty mentor and consultant to Well Spa Tech, a minority woman-owned small business focused on autonomous spa rooms with state-of-the-art equipment integrated into brand aesthetics (partnership with Hospitality Administration student and interior design graduates).



For years, Glenn has been attending bi-monthly meetings of the State Board of Architecture (NSBAIDRD) to congratulate all of the UNLV alums when they get sworn-in.



The #AIALV Installation designed by UNLV students with Glenn's guidance at AIA National



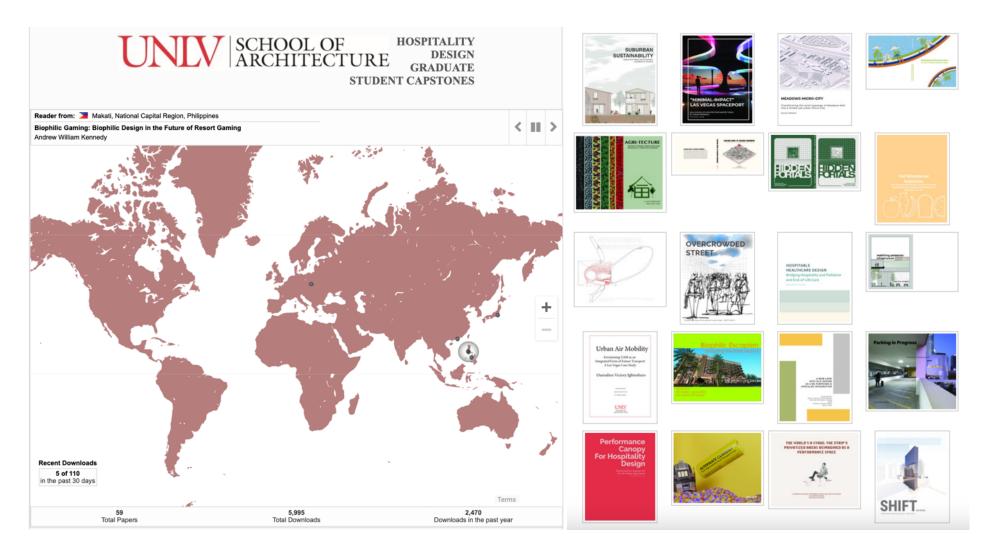
Glenn coordinates construction site visits for students, here he is with a group of summer interns at the F1 building designed by one of his former students.

## Candidate's Design Work or Service

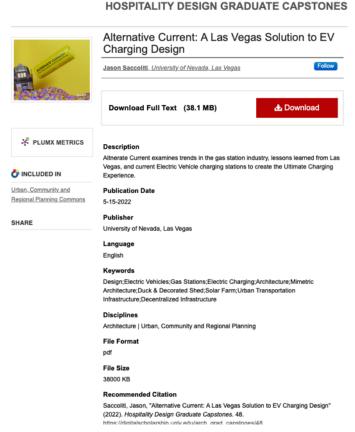
Hospitality Design Graduate Student Capstones - UNLV Libraries - Architecture Studies Library & Digital Collection



Every year, each emerging professional in the HD studio produces a design thesis book chronicling their research, design processes, and architectural outcomes. The works are developed under the guidance of Associate Professor Glenn NP Nowak, AIA, and they are informed by the constructive criticisms of numerous faculty and countless industry professionals to whom the School of Architecture is sincerely grateful.



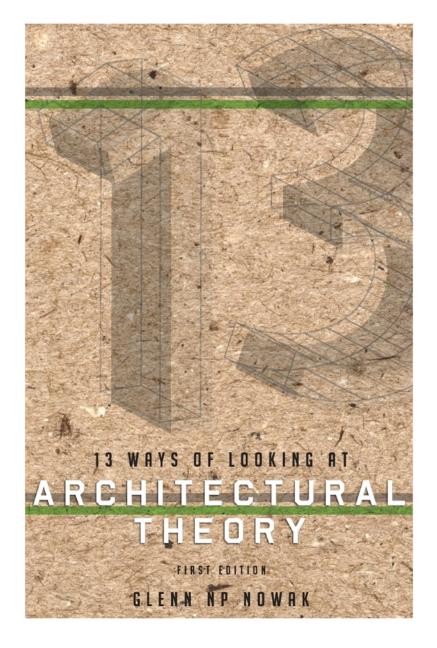
Las Vegas has attracted architectural researchers for over half a century, and the continued strength of academic inquiry within the field is credited, in large part, to the graduates of the Hospitality Design Concentration. The beginnings of this collection showcase the benefits of studying hospitality design while embedded in the entertainment capital of the world. The opportunities provided by learning from Las Vegas are compounded when the city becomes an extension of the classroom and design research questions truly become an extension of the city. While not all the theses have been added to the repository yet, the first fifty have been downloaded nearly 6,000 times since the time of this AIA NV Silver Medal Nomination. Dr. Nowak's curating of the capstone experience and collaboration with the UNLV Libraries has broadened the reach of the program on a global level.



The HD Graduate Capstones Collection presents a grid view (bookshelf-like) presentation of clickable thesis covers or a slideshow view of students' books. Upon clicking on past projects, library patrons are presented with a brief description and the option to download the full text document. Recommended citations are included as some of these works have been referenced in other scholars' research.



Within each book, a forward by Associate Professor Nowak serves to orient the reader to the context in which the study was conducted. As the studio critic, Glenn plays a uniquely supportive role to every student. Through conversations with individual M. Arch Candidates, Glenn gives tailored guidance to each student but also spends time cultivating a larger network of experts to advise his students. Here, a customized panel of critics was assembled from local architects and automotive industry leaders to elected officials and international designers for the work by Jason Saccoliti (M. Arch 2022), now an architect in Nevada.





Front and back covers of Dr. Nowak's book, 13 Ways of Looking at Architectural History, a textbook featuring student work and Nevada architecture.

# TRACES OF SCULPTURE

A RCHITECTURE IS AN integrative discipline that lies somewhere along a continuum between pure engineering on one extreme and pure sculpture at the other. Too close to engineering, and the critics cry out about it not being sensitive to the art of spatial relationships. Too close to sculpture, and a critique about ignoring efficiencies and usage emerges. Throughout this chapter (and the entire book), we may find that the more a design engages engineering and sculpture (and environment, emotion, economics, and the list goes on ...), the more it is truly architectural.

On its own, sculpture is a concept that contains several, more specific conceptual categories in the art world. Sculpture in architecture can be conceived through a number of different conceptual categories, as well. The architectural concept would explain what specific element of sculpture relates to which defined component of architecture; along with how and why the two ideas are connected. Descriptive concepts allow for specialized modes of thinking. Architecture can be seen as concretizing fleeting moments or emotions (like those cast in bronze or carved in stone statues, working in a manner similar to concrete formation and stucco application). An architect molds, assembles, or subtracts with light, space, form, and mass (going beyond notions of floor, wall, and ceiling). When architecture breaks the logic of a structural grid, it can be said to enter the realm of art for art's sake ... or form for form's sake.

TRACES OF SCULPTURE 5

6 THIRTEEN WAYS

#### FORM FOR FORM'S SAKE

Whenever architectural form exerts itself into a shape that is not inherent in its materiality, it may be considered sculptural. Antonio Gaudi's Casa Mila explores the aesthetics of curves on nearly every surface of the building. Interestingly, the sculptural treatment is not always divorced of function. Some of the elaborately shaped rooftop creatures (these could easily place this architecture in The Body in Perspective chapter) execute a basic engineering function of circulating/breathing air throughout the building.

The Everything Coca-Cola Store on Las Vegas Boulevard violates the principle of rectangularity in architecture. Instead of analysis of circulation patterns, programmatic needs, or building envelope performance criteria informing the architectural form, sculptural mandate imposed itself on these decisions. The multistory space is shaped to look like a giant glass soda bottle. The implications of starting with a form and trying to infuse it with function are often a series of nondescript alignments between the two. And while this example fits nicely into Traces of Sculpture, it could have easily been reserved for examination in the Modeling Models chapter.

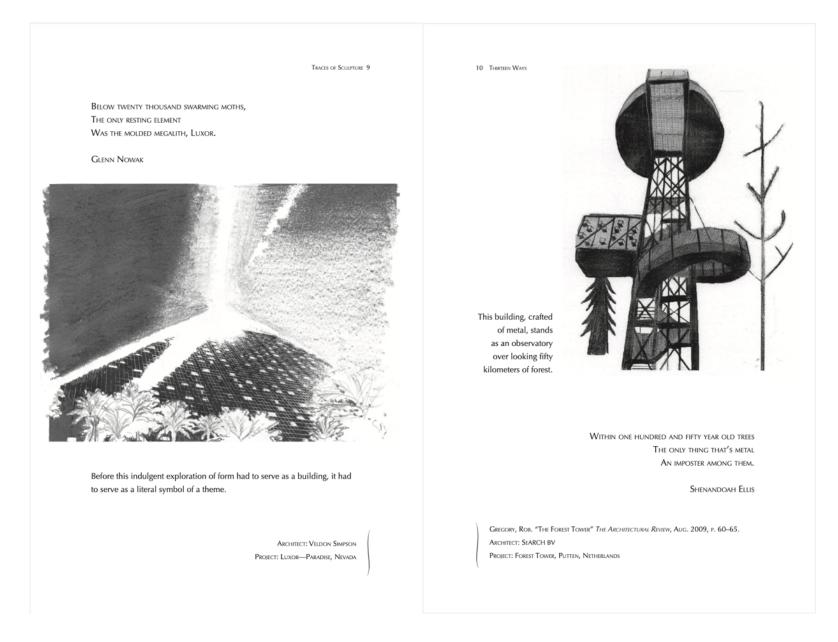
#### ARCHITECTURAL CARVING

Besides Erich Mendelsohn's Einstein Tower taking formal cues from tools of observation (a sculptural representation of a telescope), the key idea here is that the construction processes were refined to give the sense that this architecture was not built but rather carved. We do not see clues of masonry work or finish carpentry. The surface suggests that the entire structure was carved out of a sizable block. The process and the product support multiple concepts of sculpture in architecture.

The Springs Preserve Desert Living Center by Lucchesi Galati similarly presents the handcrafted-ness of construction processes. By reintroducing an age-old practice of creating rammed-earth walls to insulate from the desert heat, one can see the subtle characteristics in horizontal strata from successive layers of compacted earth. The wall sculpts with the surrounding landscape as its medium. The architecture goes another

Excerpt from 13 Ways of Looking at Architectural Theory with examples of architecture found in Nevada described in the text.

## 13 Ways of Looking at Architectural Theory



Excerpt from 13 Ways with traces of sculptural architecture and students' poetic stanzas that reference Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird.



# Architectural Collage: Making everyday built environments more hospitable with hospitality design

Glenn NP Nowak, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

A first and only design course many college students will ever take provides a unique opportunity to examine the potential for beginning design students to interrogate architectural assumptions and grapple with complex abstractions. In a classroom filled with non-design majors from such diverse disciplines as biology, education, and political science, the students were seen as professional users of space and lay-designers. Each student entered with life experiences and emerging expertise that informed their understanding and assessment of the built environments they inhabit on a daily basis. With merely a couple weeks of analyzing mundane built spaces and brainstorming how to affect change, beginning design students may not have the technical competencies to actualize their architectural dreams, but through collage they were equipped with the capacity to glue the familiar and the fantastical.

Students were able to connect lessons learned from hospitality design to non-hospitality environments. More hospitable versions of neighborhood spaces become more accessible versions of the original. The integration of a hospitality mindset in sustainable housing brought ideas of affordability and even agriculture into the design conversation. Key characteristics of desirable tourist destinations were synthesized into an alternative to suburban sprawl. More hedonic-focused elements made otherwise utilitarian programs more efficient through heightened levels of engagement. With each iteration of collages, the perception of hospitality design shifted further from a force of consumption toward a fuel for creation. Understanding the contributions non-designers can make to the conception of the built environment is among the most exciting outcomes of this endeavor. Continuing this line of inquiry with emerging design students hopefully leads to space for interdisciplinary visioning of how to combine hospitality design thinking in less-hospitable places.

Among several peer-reviewed papers and presentations, this conference session is highlighted for three reasons. First, it served as a kind of homecoming as the host institution was Glenn's alma mater, Ball State University, and the subject matter (teaching beginning design students) echoed his experience and many others'... that of having an interest in architectural design but also being passionate about other subjects. This course was designed for Honors College students that were not architecture majors but had an interest in design. Second, the series of exercises developed for this seminar emphasizes principals of hospitality as drivers of design thinking. By challenging students to envision more welcoming/hospitable environments in the everyday lives and sharing those ideas with others, they were engaging in the beginnings of a design process. And third, two years after the completion of this course, a senior political science major that had taken the class contacted Professor Nowak to let him know that because of this course, he had changed his career goals to urban planning and had gotten accepted to Harvard's GSD summer program with a portfolio of projects from Glenn's HON 420 class.



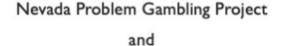


Collage of early childhood development classroom – by non-design major, N. Zhao

Welcome! We will begin at 11:30am. Thank you for joining us!

# WELLNESS DESIGN IN CASINOS: SENTIMENTS TOWARD MENTAL HEALTH GUIDELINES IN CASINO ARCHITECTURE

Special thanks to...



The UNLV International Gaming Institute





In a first for the UNLV School of Architecture, Associate Professor Nowak served as an AIA Continuing Education Provider through the first half of his doctoral studies. In addition to a HSW CEU course on the MGM Fire of 1980, this Wellness Design in Casinos course shared survey results and analysis of casino guests' attitudes toward design guidelines aimed at improving overall health and wellbeing within casino spaces.

# TRANSITION TO DESIGN THINKING

- Layout
- Circulation
- Visual connectivity
- Social clusters
- Proximity to other forms of entertainment

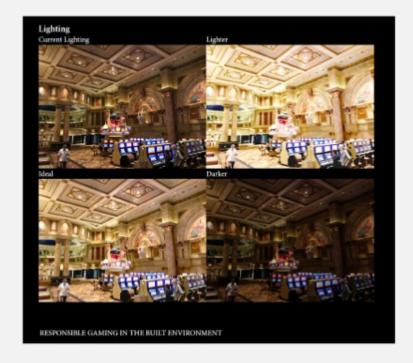




Image study developed by Kristin Levin in the UNLV Hospitality Design (HD) Lab under the supervision of Glenn NP Nowak, Associate Professor

Excerpt from the CEU course, which presented different applications of the WELL Building Standard in casinos and integrated resort guests' attitudes toward the designs.

# DISCUSSION

11.19.10

# A Building That Will Earn \$1 Billion a Year, Built in Just Five

There's a lot to be said for an economy where pesky barriers like democracy don't block the way for major real estate deals. Want to launch a job-creating, tourism-enhancing, revenue-generating multibillion dollar development in record time? If you're Singapore, you can pull off a mega-resort, with hotels, shopping, convention center, casino, museum and theater in oh, say, four and a half years, start to finish.

BUSINESS 03/18/2010 05:12 am ET Updated May 25, 2011

Las Vegas' CityCenter And Aria Casino: \$8.5B Project Is Sin City's Biggest Bet Ever (PHOTOS)

By Ryan McCarthy

# **Wynn Resorts' Big Bet in Boston**

Wynn Resorts is building one of the world's most expensive casinos in an untested gaming market.

Todd Shriber - October 24, 2019

# Las Vegas Sands President Goldstein Says \$10 Billion Could be The Floor For Japanese Integrated Resort

38

One of the learning objectives of this course was that attendees would be able to explain how design can impact social and emotional wellbeing through such things as seating arrangements and acoustical and lighting levels in casinos. Cluster analysis of survey data yielded two importantly different groups of casino guests: an extremely large group in support of WELL Standards informing casino design and a very small group opposed to design regulations addressing mental health concerns. In the discussion, participants considered what fraction of the design budget or effort could go into integrating health and wellness design principles in integrated resorts.

#### Architecture Licensing Advisor & Career Fair Coordinator



Professor Nowak has served as the NCARB Architect Licensing Advisor since 2010. His first objective was to bring students and professionals together for an Internship & Career Fair. The annual event has been going strong every year (including a virtual career fair during the pandemic). Glenn has coordinated the Clinical Internship courses for fourteen years. After inheriting the role from Professor Michael Alcorn, Glenn worked to align the course expectations with the IDP and later AXP Guidelines. Glenn has taught AAD 400 and AAD 600 every fall, spring, and summer for over a decade. These 0-credit classes are uncompensated and do not count toward teaching load or offset University service expectations. Glenn was fortunate to receive advice on how and why to organize these events from his mentor from Ball State University, Dan Woodfin. In the most recent NCARB Licensing Advisors Summit, Glenn passed on some of the lessons learned with other Architecture Licensing Advisors from the Mountain West Region including Truckee Meadows' Architecture Licensing Advisor, Kreg Mebust, in Northern Nevada.

## Architecture Licensing Advisor & Career Fair Coordinator









Between one and two dozen leading local firms attend the annual career fair. The event provides the opportunity for prospective interns to share resumes & portfolios and learn about the work being done in the community. Professionals hear about key updates to AXP, ARE, and the SoA in general.

## Architecture Licensing Advisor & Career Fair Coordinator





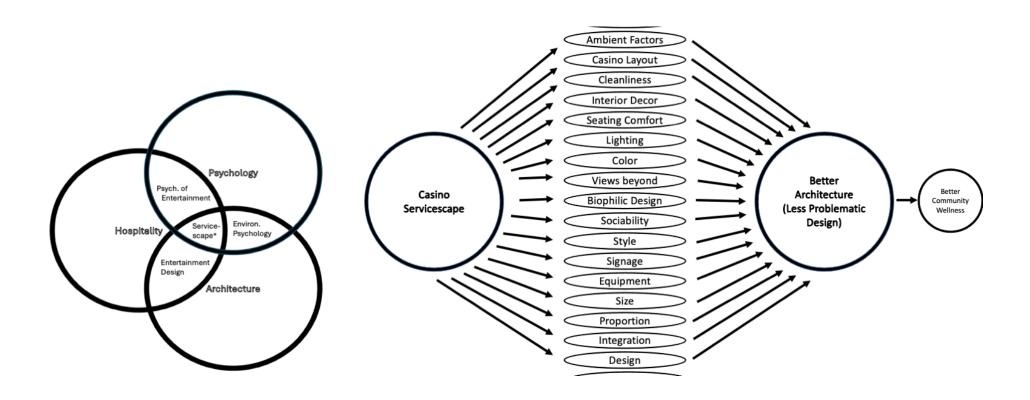




Nearly fifteen years since the start of the School of Architecture's Career & Internship Fair, almost all firms' tables are now managed by UNLV alumni that are licensed architects, project managers, principals, or firm owners. Roughly half (or more) have gone through the Hospitality Design Concentration.

Dissertation - Translating Casino Servicescapes to Improve Architectural Responses Addressing Health and Wellness (Completed 2024)

Excerpt from Abstract: The synthesis of research and practice across two interrelated disciplines (hospitality administration & hospitality design) in the context of integrated resorts (IR) finds increased importance as legalized gambling expands into new markets and the architecture of tourism and entertainment is increasingly among the most expensive, iconic, and visited places on Earth. Among the most challenging aspects of IR is the management of societal concerns surrounding casino development. Through this mixed methods study, five phases of research lead to greater understanding of how to not only address concerns but mitigate the problem and enhance guests' overall experience through architectural strategies. The design revelations leverage lessons inherent in hospitality research and illustrate how to apply hospitality theory to the practice of architecture.



Review of extant literature suggested that servicescapes in general are filled with variables that are largely uncontrollable (according to researchers from outside the field of architecture).

Dissertation - Translating Casino Servicescapes to Improve Architectural Responses Addressing Health and Wellness (Completed 2024)

What ensued was a translation of the elements of casino servicescapes using key word terms extracted from discipline-specific research (e.g. hospitality administration vs. architectural design vs. public health) to generate Al image prompts for comparative analysis and focus group studies.



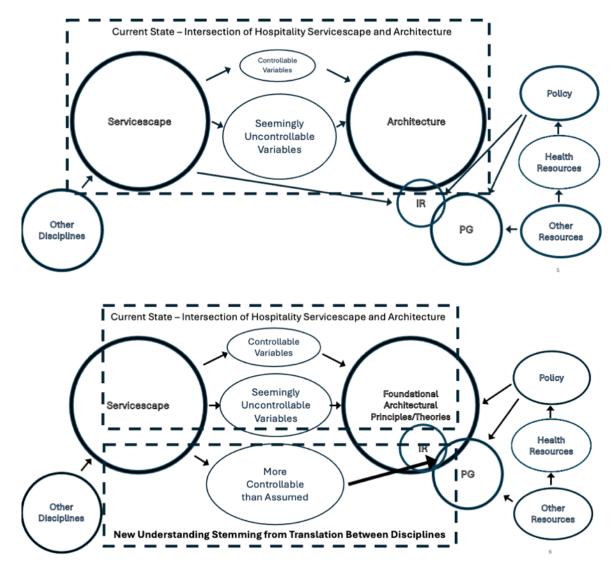




MidJourney images were used in a Stimulus-Organism-Response (S-O-R) study to better understand how the words used by one group of researchers to describe a complex concept could be lost in translation when communicating with another group that uses a different vocabulary.

Dissertation - Translating Casino Servicescapes to Improve Architectural Responses Addressing Health and Wellness (Completed 2024)

Analysis suggests that the uncontrollable variables of servicescapes are more controllable than assumed, and concerns surrounding health and wellness related to integrated resort development can be addressed in part through design elements of the built environment.



The findings describe theoretical and practical implications of casino servicescape design aimed at improving physical health and mental wellbeing.

## Elevated Mentoring - Engagement Beyond the Classroom





In the inaugural UNLV President's Innovation Challenge, interdisciplinary teams from across campus competed to diversify the Southern Nevada Economy through entrepreneurial proposals. Glenn served as faculty mentor and team member with AERO AI, a 3D drone scanning company developing a digital twin of Las Vegas. The CEO, Osarodion Victory Igbinobaro, is an M. Arch graduate from the HD Studio. Victory is now an award-winning small business owner.



The inspiration for this entrepreneurship started in the Hospitality Design Studio with a question of how to combine drone deliveries and transit with integrated resorts and simulating the design of a vertiport at Mandalay Bay.



# Would you book these?

Updated 4:39 AM EDT, Thu August 20, 2015





Yasmin Soloman, M. Arch 2019, came to the US from Saudi Arabia to study Hospitality Design. Her awardwinning Radical Innovation was featured on CNN Style. Glenn serves on the Advisory Board of Radical and recruited Yasmin to the UNLV graduate program. He helped Yasmin through the student visa process and welcomed her to UNLV a couple years after her winning entry. This project and the publicity gained through Radical was life-changing for the student. Through the Master of Architecture Program, Yasmin presented her thesis work (not pictured) to the President of the University and had it accepted for presentation at a conference for airport development through their double-blind peer review process. Yasmin now works for an architecture firm in Atlanta. GA, and she keeps in touch with the HD Studio.

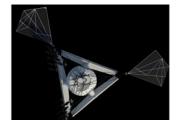
1 of 8

Adaptive Balloons — This concept won the Student Winner category of the 2015 Radical Innovation in Hospitality Award. Adaptive Balloons, conceived by Yasmin Abdelfattah Soliman of Effat University, offers refuge for people affected by natural disasters or crises. The inflatable vinyl balloons act as living spaces and are suitable to land or water. Vertical wind turbines would generate energy through the main body of the tree.

METROPOLIS Sustainability Projects Products Profiles Venepairels Climate

Space View

Radical Innovation also named a student winner, Juan Orduz, University of Nevada Las Vegas, whose Space View Inn concept proposed the idea of a private space development. Addressing the design and operational obstacles of space travel, Orduz used current space architecture standards to design an expanded truss system that enables leisure and hospitality activities for up to 64 guests. To offset the significant costs involved with such an ambitious project, the designer proposed the idea of a "Space Lottery" that would help secure additional funding and make space travel a



Juan Orduz, M. Arch 2017, developed his HD thesis focusing on architecture in space featured in Metropolis. The seemingly sci-fi proposal is now becoming mainstream as developers are looking to build a spaceport just outside of Las Vegas. Juan served as a graduate assistant in the program and obtained an internship through the Career Fair organized by Glenn. This work has inspired continued studies in space-related architecture by other students in the HD Concentration. Including Joshua Bombala's 2024 award-winning Spaceport.

#### Elevated Mentoring - Engagement Beyond the Classroom

Three of Dr. Nowak's students have received the National AIAS Design Excellence Honor Award, the highest honor given by the American Institute of Architecture Students. Two of the design research projects were conducted under his supervision in the Hospitality Design (HD) Studio and a third with his mentorship in the UNLV Honors College. No other educator or institution has supported more AIAS Design Excellence Honor Award Winners in the last decade.



#### AIA COMPONENT HONOR AWARD

- · Winner AIA Las Vegas | AIA Nevada
  - Notes from the Jury: We were very impressed with the longevity of involvement this component has demonstrated. One of our jurors remarked how [he] "would be very honored to be attending UNLV." The mentorship program is OUTSTANDING. The impact of this component is incredible and their reach is far stemming from k-12 through college and into the emerging professional environment. Their willingness to have students involved with committees and college and into the emerging professional environment. Their willingness to have students involved with committees and college in vital the board is invigorating. Other components can learn from their level of engagement, empowerment, and mentorship on an individual level. Their impact is noted from students, professors, and AIAS National leadership. Glenn Nowak an AIA Nevada Las Vegas member and University of Nevada Las Vegas graduate coordinator divulges just how deeply the component and its work are in their community and education. "As the UNLV School of Architecture has evolved into an academic leader in such areas as design-build, desert sustainability, and hospitality design, the AIA Chapter recently hosted the regional Mountain West Conference and looks forward to playing host to the AIA National Convention, next year. The strengths of the School and the AIAS chapter are in large part shaped by the local profession and specifically by the countless engaged members of AIA Las Vegas. In turn, the graduates of the School shape the local profession... many former students participate in AIA Las Vegas activities that ultimately give back to the next generation of design professionals and the community." One of the most recurring notes in their letters of recommendation was how the AIAS Chapter President sits on the component Board of Directors as a voting member. Thank you for your willingness to see potential in the next generation and for empowering us to be leaders. Their student engagement was not done at the detriment of professional programming for their component

Please join us in congratulating the following the 2020 winners:



AIAS Chapter Honor Award: The University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)

Jury Comments: The AIAS is nothing if not resilient! It was encouraging to see that despite COVID-19, this chapter was able to adapt and use the hard work and energy from the Fall Semester to help their members with struggles in the Spring Semester. The Jury encourages all AIAS Chapters to look at the UNLV Chapter as an example of how to serve members at the local level if they need new ideas to keep members engaged during virtual schooling.

Glenn also served as faculty advisor to the award-winning AIAS Chapter Honor Award in 2020 and as a key contributor to the AIA Component Honor Award. He is once again serving as advisor for the 2024-2025 academic year...





Date: November 6, 2024

Re: Glenn Nowak letter of support AIA Nevada Silver Medal Award

#### Members of the committee:

I am writing this letter to contribute some enthusiastic perspectives on the academic and real-world brilliance of Dr. Glenn Nowak, a once-in-a-career professor, in my view. In fact, he has emerged as a very rare star in a field I have been studying for a quarter century – the development of hospitality- and tourism-oriented buildings that have largely been "invented" in our beautiful state, but have since been "exported" to six continents, as North and South America, Asia, Australia, Europe, and Africa all have these enormous edifices in their backyards. Talk about a global and local impact! Today, these megaresorts are some of the most expensive buildings in the history of the world, and there is nobody who knows more (and then *teaches* more, hence positively influencing the future of this entire profession) than Dr. Nowak. These megaresorts are now constructed in Seoul as well as Singapore, along the river in "river cities" like Melbourne as well as St. Louis, as entertainment superstores in Santiago, Chile and all over South Africa (where they play host to tourists who shop during the morning, go on safari in the afternoon, and then sleep all night, all in luxury hotel-casino-resorts. In each of these places, they stand on the shoulders of Glenn (and his students), as we export our Nevada brilliance to the world.

In this vital and global growing architecture-and-design sub-industry, here's what makes Glenn a unicorn: he came to Las Vegas, which stands as the "global intellectual capital" of megaresorts, and all he did was launch an entire UNLV graduate Hospitality Design (HD) Concentration that focuses on these dynamics, creating future leaders alongside industry leaders he invites to serve as "celebrity" mentors, faculty, and judges of final projects. In the years since, the concentration and the students that graduate from it have experienced some great successes that track the exact "impact criteria" for this Silver Medal award. Dr. Nowak has taught over 500 clinical interns as the Architect Licensing Advisor, he has served as the mentor for an entire program of over 200 graduate students as the Graduate Coordinator, he has attended the licensure/swearing in ceremony of over thirty (30), graduates at the NSBAIDRD, and he boasts hundreds of former students who are now principals, firm owners, faculty, and founders of businesses in architecture.

He does this by teaching courses that are completely immersive and project-based in a way that I had never before seen. While many of us use guest lectures, industry mentors, and "celebrity judges" for final projects, I have been lucky to get invited to observe each of these moments in Glenn's teaching process, and I have never seen *anyone* as good as he is at *each* of these distinct teaching stages (in what is now my 30th year on an academic campus). Best of all, these teaching strategies immediately evolve into the very best "research and development" strategies I have seen in a classroom, as the students' projects address key industry problems (environmental challenges, space challenges, challenges with keeping entertainment amenities fresh, and virtually every other problem we hear about in our college) in ways that are first grounded in a very strong literature review and analysis, and then addressed via design. Put simply, this is an individual who has positively influenced the future (while celebrating the past) of this field, in a way that this award celebrates. To cite just three of my favorite examples, he and his classes have solved transportation problems for Encore Boston Harbor (where "getting there" is going to be half the battle in the old streets of Boston), they solve sustainability problems with food through gardens in the most creative resort spaces, and they design Las Vegas-style resorts in Japan and South Korea.

I could go on, but I believe I have conveyed my enthusiasm here. Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me directly on my cell phone (702 340 2508), as I am always thrilled to talk about a true academic superstar.

Very truly yours,

Bo J. Bernhard, Ph.D. UNLV Vice President

Professor, Harrah College of Hospitality and Department of Sociology



29 October 2024

AlA Nevada 1131 S. Casino Center Blvd Las Vegas, NV 89104

Reference: AIA Nevada Silver Medal Award

Dear AIA Nevada Service Awards Jury,

It is my pleasure to support Glenn Nowak, AIA for the Nevada Silver Medal. As President of Marnell Architecture (a world leader in the Entertainment and Hospitality industries), I met Glenn in 2007 when he joined our team. It was understood that his full-time commitment was to teaching architecture at UNLV which is my alma mater. With that, I embraced the opportunity to help further develop his understanding of our industry so that he could in turn, better educate my team for tomorrow. In 2010, I was one of many firm leaders that supported Glenn's initiative to bridge the gap between academia and the profession when he started the graduate Hospitality Design Concentration at the School of Architecture. Thus, I can speak to some of the impacts Glenn has made over time to the profession in our state.

Prior to 2010, there were no architecture programs with a critical focus on hospitality design in the world let alone the state. The complexities of integrated resorts would leave graduates from top-ranked programs struggling to scale their thinking to meet the challenges of this unique archetype. Glenn, however, has been fostering connections between architecture students and the ever-growing hospitality industry to the point where UNLV graduates are among the best-equipped to transition into the profession. My colleagues and I have been guest speakers or critics for many of Glenn's past studios/seminars. The library database of HD capstone projects and the academic work authored by Glenn or co-authored with his students elevates discourse around hospitality design. Even his speaking engagements with the press (including a 2022 special on Fox Business, "American Built" with the founder of my company, Anthony Marnell II) helped to shine the spotlight on architecture in Nevada.

Beyond the impactful work in the classroom, Glenn has also dedicated over a decade to consistently delivering the Career & Internship Fair for the countless clinical interns he mentors. The event is a staple the school did not have when I was a student there and a key avenue for local professionals to build their teams. Several of the firms that regularly attend the event with us send former students of Glenn to recruit the next best graduates.

Glenn has dedicated his entire professional career in Nevada to fostering the next generation of architects, and he does so by building relationships with the previous generations. He brings the spirit of hospitality to everything he does. His involvement extends across the state from major school initiatives (including supporting his colleagues at TMCC's new architecture program) to AIA service/events to NCARB Architect Licensing Advisor role, and more. The kind of work Glenn does year-in and year-out truly builds our profession in Nevada from the core. I have the highest level of respect for Glenn and I support his nomination for the AIA NV Silver Medal without hesitation!

Dath.

David G. Howryla President

Sincerely.

MARNELL CONSULTING MARNELL MARNELL PROPERTIES TRANSPORTATION

# architects & LLC

35 Martin Street • Reno, Nevada 89509 • (775) 329-8001



November 2, 2024

Mr. John Sparer AIA Nevada 1131 S. Casino Center Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89104

Re: AIA Nevada Silver Medal Nomination for Dr. Glenn NP Nowak AIA NCARB

Dear Mr. Sparer,

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit this letter of reference on behalf of Dr. Glenn NP Nowak in support of his nomination to receive the AIA Nevada Silver Medal.

Dr. Nowak is undoubtedly deserving to be a recipient of the AIA Nevada Silver Medal. His credentials in each of the qualifying criteria for the Silver Medal are both extensive and impressive. His distinguished dedication to the profession of architecture, particularly in the area of architectural education, has undoubtedly had a lasting influence on both the current theory and practice of architecture in the hospitality industry in Nevada, and more importantly, for decades to come.

His impressive resume speaks for itself, but I believe a few of his accomplishments warrant special recognition:

- Dr. Nowak has been dynamic participant in service to his community and state through his active involvement in AIA Las Vegas and AIA Nevada since becoming licensed in Nevada in 2013.
- Dr. Nowak has been widely recognized as an accomplished and dedicated architectural teacher and researcher
  who has positively impacted over 2500 students, advised over 200 graduate students, and mentored over 500
  clinical interns over the last 19 years. In 2010, he realized one of his most significant achievements in the
  founding of the nationally recognized Hospitality Design program as a capstone curriculum in the School of
  Architecture at the University of Nevada Las Vegas.
- During the last 14 years, Dr. Nowak has served as the NCARB IDP Coordinator and Architecture Licensing
  Advisor, diligently supporting UNLV architectural students during their journey to professional registration. The
  Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design has particularly appreciated his
  dependable commitment to the recognition of UNLV alumni during our Nevada State Board of Architecture,
  Interior Design, and Residential Design at our swearing-in ceremonies for newly licensed architects and
  registered interior designers.
- Dr. Nowak has been a prolific author/co-author, writing 13 Ways of Looking at Architectural Theory and
  producing over 40 publications and conference presentations for regional, national, and international events.
  Many of his publications and conference presentations have demonstrated the integration of practice into the
  UNLV Hospitality Design program course content through the illustration of lessons learned from the unique built
  environment of Las Vegas.

I hope you will give Dr. Glenn NP Nowak's nomination for the AIA Nevada Silver Medal your utmost consideration. If there are any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully

Gregory L. Erry FAIA, NCARB, Hon. FCARM

AIA Nevada Silver Medalist NCARB President's Medalist

Past President National Council of Architectural Registration Boards Chairman of the Nevada State Board of Architecture, Interior Design, and Residential Design

Gregory L. Erny, FAIA . Paul D. Walsh, AIA

6 November 2024

AIA Nevada Honors & Awards Committee Re: 2024 AIA Nevada Silver Medal for Glenn Nowak assemblage STUDIO 817 s. main ste 200 las vegas, nevada 89101

las vegas, nevada 89101 7 0 2 . 7 5 6 . 9 4 2 8 p www.assemblagestudio.com

It is with great pleasure that I support the consideration of Glenn Nowak for the 2024 AIA Nevada Silver Medal. I have had the pleasure of knowing Glenn for the past fifteen years while he has been a professor at UNLV, teaching alongside him over the past eight years.

As a Professor with the UNLV's School of Architecture, Glenn has continually given to the students and the school. He has single handily restructured a lost commitment of the school to examine the World of Hospitality as a generator of form and ideas for the profession and his students. His dedication to the Hospitality concentration within the school has not only benefitted his students, but also the profession the has encouraged and welcomed the profession onto the school to sit on his students reviews and final thesis presentations, providing an enriched opportunity for the students to engage with the profession and discuss how their research can be applied to everyday activities of the profession.

His contributions to UNLV extend beyond the architecture program. Over the years, Glenn has lead Hospitality studios and electives within the Interior Architecture Program as well. He is the only professor at UNLV that is crossing over disciplines in his studios and his reach to students. To increase his students understanding of the impact of Hospitality, Glenn has made professional connection into the College of Hospitality at UNLV. These contacts have enabled Glenn to bring into his classes and reviews faculty and administration from the College of Hospitality to provide outside input for his students.

Glenn has also been active within the local professions as the voice of the school and students on the boards of the AIA and NEWH. These positions enable him to unite the school and profession on issues facing the students as they prepare to enter into the various professional disciplines. In these roles, Glenn has lead the annual employment fair at UNLV bringing architectural and Interior Design firms into the school to hire students. In addition, Glenn has been involved nationally as an Advisory Board Member to Radical Innovations. This nonprofit organization holds a yearly design competition for students and professionals involved in Hospitality Design.

From the Hospitality Studios he leads, research into hospitality, and the guidance of students through serving as the school's AIAS Faculty Advisor, Glenn is making a huge impact on students lives and setting them up for success within the profession. His passion for continuing to develop students and improve the academic experience at UNLV is deserving of recognition. I fully support and endorse your review and consideration and ultimate awarding of the 2024 AIA Nevada Silver Medal to Glenn Nowak.

Sincerely,

Principal, assemblageSTUDIO

Eric Strain, FAIA



November 3, 2024

RE: AIA Nevada Service Awards

Dear Members of the Jury:

It gives me great pleasure to write a letter of recommendation in support of Glenn Nowak's nomination for the AIA Nevada Silver Medal. I first met Glenn in 2018 when I was a first-year architecture student. Glenn taught the introductory course that year, and our semester-long project was to read the poem "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird" and reinterpret it architecturally. I remember naively thinking to myself, "When are we going to start doing actual architecture?" as I continued sketching away week after week. By the end of the semester, I had a collection of 13 sets of drawings brimming with poetic stanzas likening buildings to a machine, to the body, to the mind. At the time, it seemed like the simple conclusion of a project. Today, those very sketches are the ones I continue having pinned up above my desk as a reminder of where my architectural journey began.

As I progressed into my second year, Glenn continued to be an integral part of my education, both in and outside of school. Every year, Glenn takes the time to organize internship fairs where students can connect with local firms. It was at one of these fairs that I got my first internship. As I navigated through the ins and outs of my new office job, Glenn was there as a mentor, helping me open my NCARB record, and providing feedback and encouragement with every weekly report.

My third and fourth year of school took place during the pandemic. Many of the opportunities I would have had as a student to travel, experience studio culture, and perform site visits were no longer possible. Despite these challenges, Glenn continued making every effort to organize events for students to participate safely. My classmates and I would always be excited to hear from Glenn about upcoming site visits and tours he had planned for us. Although they couldn't make up for all the lost time, these events made our world feel a little bigger and helped us to continue feeling inspired to create more architecture.

During my graduate studies, I participated in an interdisciplinary community outreach project with Glenn. The project consisted of partnering up with a local firm to conduct preliminary research and provide design options for the remodeling of a hospitality project. Understanding the importance of more collaboration and cross-fertilization across disciplines, Glenn composed a team diverse in ages and disciplines. Under his guidance, we completed the project and presented it to a board where it was positively received and used as a reference for the firm to begin a schematic proposal. We recently submitted the project for the International Conference on the Arts in Society and were accepted to present it in Pittsburgh this May.

In my thesis year, Glenn became my advisor for the HD (Hospitality Design) studio. I have always been interested in how architecture could improve student lives in an educational setting. Glenn helped me devise a proposal that focused on how increasing the hospitality of educational spaces could help students improve their socio-emotional skillsets as they progressed through school (K-12). Although I felt passionate about my project, there were also times when I felt lost, and Glenn was there week after week to reassure my classmates and me and inspire us to keep pushing the boundaries of our research. I completed my thesis and even after graduating, Glenn continued helping me disseminate it. I am happy to share that as of last week, it was awarded the AIAS Honor Award for best in graduate projects at the national level, becoming the third of Glenn's students to win this prestigious award.

Today, I am teaching History of Architecture at the UNLV School of Architecture. When I first received the news that I would be teaching, I knew the first person I had to share the news with was Glenn. He reassured me that I was ready for the position and gave me his insight as an academic and practitioner on navigating the world of academia and balancing it with my career as an aspiring architect.

These are just a few of countless instances in which Glenn has proven to be a mentor, a colleague, and a friend to his students. A Silver Medal recipient should be someone that has undoubtedly shaped the future of our profession for the better, and I belie ve that there is no greater way to do that than through mentorship and education. A great building has the power to change its inhabitants' lives, but a great educator has the power to create a ripple effect that will continue to echo as generations of students continue to pass through their mentorship. Across the state, I know there are hundreds of students who, like me, have been influenced by Glenn and today, are amongst the greatest architects, artists, and leaders in our community. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jamie Centeno

UNLV School of Architecture Jamie.centeno@unlv.edu



8400 W Sunset Road, Suite 300 Las Vegas, NV, 89113 702-608-5172

AIA NV Service Awards Jury

TO:

01 November 2024

DATE:

#### **Dear AIA NV Service Awards Jury**

I am honored to support Dr. Glenn N.P. Nowak, AIA, for the Nevada Silver Medal. As a former student (B.S. Arch, 2019; M. Arch, 2022) and a small business owner with a global perspective, I can attest to Dr. Nowak's profound impact on the architecture community at UNLV and beyond since 2006.

Born and raised in Southern Nigeria, I moved to Asia to begin my architecture studies in Macau before transferring to UNLV, where I was thrilled to focus on Hospitality Design under Dr. Nowak's mentorship. His influence has extended well beyond the classroom, fostering my growth as the co-founder of Aero AI, a technology company that streamlines AEC industry workflows. Dr. Nowak's guidance bridges theory and practice in ways that consistently transform his students' professional journeys.

Dr. Nowak frequently speaks at the HD Expo, the world's largest hospitality design event at Mandalay Bay, where in 2022 he invited me and three other students to present our ideas on stage. His dedication to showcasing academic work extends through the NEWH Green Voice speaking engagements and the Mentors/Mentees Program, linking UNLV to a global network of hospitality design leaders. His efforts have helped position Las Vegas as a recognized hub for hospitality design education.

In addition to his role at UNLV, Dr. Nowak serves on the advisory board for Radical Innovation, an international hospitality competition. Under his encouragement, I submitted my capstone project and received an honorable mention, joining other UNLV students who have achieved media recognition from outlets such as CNN, Forbes, and Architectural Digest. This recognition reflects Glenn's commitment to elevating student talent on a global stage. Dr. Nowak also championed my participation in UNLV's inaugural President's Innovation Challenge (PIC), an initiative supporting Nevada's post-COVID economic diversification. Our team won third place, and we were the only group to establish an actual business. In subsequent years, he continued to mentor PIC finalists, including Sherrie Tennessee, whose innovative spa concept later won a national competition.

Today, I collaborate with Dr. Nowak on grant proposals and academic papers, a testament to his commitment to mentoring students even beyond graduation. His nearly two decades of dedication to advancing architectural and hospitality education are evident at every AIA Las Vegas event, where his positive influence on the next generation of architects shines. I wholeheartedly support Dr. Glenn Nowak's nomination for the AIA Nevada Silver Medal.

Sincerely,

Osarodion Victory Igbinobaro, Assoc. AIA, NOMA

Co-founder, CEO

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November 7, 2024

TO: AIA Nevada 2004 Service Award Committee

Re: Glenn Nowak Recommendation for AIA NV Silver Medal Award

To Whom it May Concern,

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this recommendation of support for Glenn Nowak for the AIA Nevada 2024 Silver Medal. I have come to know Glenn through our work together on the AIA Las Vegas Board of Directors and while collaborating on an academic project with some of his students.

Glenn's dedication to AIA Las Vegas and AIA Nevada is evidenced through his consistent participation and support of the communication between the UNLV School of Architecture and our Boards of Directors. His commitment to bridging the gap between academia and the profession fills a critical role in preparing the future architects of our community as they evolve through their experience under Glenn's guidance.

An example of this commitment is the annual UNLV SoA job fair that Glann has championed and grown. Through this gathering of students and local firm leaders, the student gain valuable insight to the internship opportunities available locally. They also have an opportunity to refine their presentation and interviewing skills through this unique opportunity to communicate with firm leaders.

In summary, I am proud to serve with Glenn and I appreciate his commitment to the future of our profession through the UNLV School of Architecture. I sincerely encourage you to consider him for the honor of the 2024 Silver Medal.

Regards,

MOSER architecture studio, LLC

Troy D. Moser, AlA