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# ACHA



# QUARTERLY SPRING 2016

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## Northwestern Memorial Wins Legacy Project Award



ACHA is pleased to announce that the 2016 Legacy Project Award winner is Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Opened in 1999, the \$580 million project was a replacement facility for both inpatient and ambulatory care facilities. The hospital is distinguished by its integration into a dense urban context, incorporating a variety of mixed uses geared to the needs of the surrounding Chicago community and sensitively handling traffic to minimize institutional intrusion to the neighborhood.

One of the first high-rise hospitals, the building is an archetype for their design, featuring an intelligent wayfinding scheme and organization of functions from public to private and most to least acute that made it highly adaptable to change over time. The project is also recognized for its design process reflecting leadership and a relationship between the hospital and School of Medicine, which led to the decision to focus on the patient experience and the development of guiding principles. Other pioneering ideas include larger than standard OR’s for the time, being among the first to use the interventional platform model, use of booms and inclusion of multiple communication systems.

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# President's Message

## "A Podium for the Taking!!"

With rhetoric in full swing for the 2016 Presidential Primary season, my thoughts have been drawn to how our nation's healthcare debate will be in focus once again as a component of the political process. How do ACHA Certificants best express their own opinions on the "State of our Nation's and, more importantly, our World's Healthcare Design Initiatives." A complex subject is never easy to categorize, but I find myself continuously reaching back in my mind to numerous articles, and presentations that have been made by our own ACHA Certificants, and by industry professionals that have been brought forward to speak by ACHA Certificants. The discussion is more often than not, inspirational!

Our collective ACHA efforts to present at numerous national conferences such as ASHE PDC in the spring, the Healthcare Facilities Symposium and Expo in early fall, and Healthcare Design in the late fall demonstrate the willingness we have to share our knowledge with the healthcare design community. I want to ask each of you to think about how we can better share our message to a wider range of audiences moving forward. An example is how Connie McFarland, a Past President, is also looking for opportunities within the AIA National Convention structure to bring healthcare design presentations to the forefront. Convention attendees, who may not specialize in healthcare design, would benefit from our design perspective and how it can contribute to quality in all architectural applications.

Under the guidance of the ACHA's Advanced Educational Network Committee, ACHA has put out calls to all Certificant's to share with us your list of presentations, white papers, and past research efforts, so that we can generate a database by which we can offer you the opportunity to share your knowledge with others. This can be done through many venues above and beyond

the national conferences we are all familiar with. Just as our Summer Leadership Summit, organized jointly with the AIA Academy of Architecture for Health, is structured to have presenters

"other than architects talking to architects" dominate the speaking slate, we hope to identify events where ACHA can extend our knowledge to C-suite clients, government administrators, healthcare specialists and community organizations that may be outside of their normal structure of presentations. Our Development Committee is working to contact organizations such as the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE), the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN) and The Advisory Board Company, among others, to educate them about ACHA, and offer the opportunity for our Certificants to present to them on topics we feel would be of great interest to them. If you know of an organization that would benefit from our expertise, please contact me, and I will share the information with the AENC and Development Committees.

While our mission does not include organizing and generating research, as the AIA AAH Foundation does with great success, we are dedicated to finding ways to allow ACHA Certificants to share their knowledge and "take the podium" as often as possible to demonstrate our commitment to improving healthcare for all. Please look to our website at [www.healtharchitects.org](http://www.healtharchitects.org) to contribute your knowledge. We are all the better for it!!



Mark Nichols, AIA, FACHA



Mark Nichols

## Northwestern Memorial Wins Legacy Project Award

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Since its inception in 2013, the Legacy Project Award represents the highest honor that the ACHA can bestow upon a project—a testament to its lasting impact on how healthcare facilities are designed. This award recognizes healthcare architecture that has and continues to demonstrate superior planning and excellence in design performance over an extended period of time, and remains of enduring significance. In addition to this year's winner, we would also like to acknowledge the finalists for the 2016 award, The Aga Khan University Hospital, Medical College, and School of Nursing and Santa Clara Valley Medical Center.



# Population-Based Design: A Wellness Approach for Designing Healthcare Environments

By: Sharon E. Woodworth, AIA, ACHA

Modern healthcare environments are typically designed with an illness perspective, focusing on spaces that function to support diagnosis and treatment of an ailment rather than a wellness perspective, which identifies environmental factors maximizing wellness for that ailment. Patient-Population Based Design is a framework for understanding the patient's explicit needs related to his or her illness, and in the process, uncovering the hidden potential needs that would improve that particular population's wellbeing. This process begins with a broad understanding of the patient population's clinical diagnosis and clinical presentation, followed by the environmental goals and environmental features that are therapeutic for that illness.

This paper proposes that the designer must understand more than what supports wellness; the designer must first understand the disease and then translate what wellness would look like for the individual with that particular illness. The objective of Patient-Population Based Design is to create a universal process for designing healthcare settings; having a universal process will increase the likelihood that healthcare environments will be designed to foster health rather than emphasize illness. To read the complete report, please visit the Resources page at <http://healtharchitects.org/Pages/White-Papers.aspx>

## ACHA Certificant Spotlight: Ben Policicchio, AIA, ACHA

### **How did you first get involved with healthcare architecture?**

Prior to joining Conemaugh Memorial Medical Center, I was involved in healthcare projects and became very interested in healthcare architecture and how I could contribute to patient well-being. I set goals to become ACHA Certified, a Certified Healthcare Facility manager (ASHE) and a certified interior designer (NCIDQ). I remain the architect for DLP Conemaugh Health System and will celebrate my 34th year in May 2016.

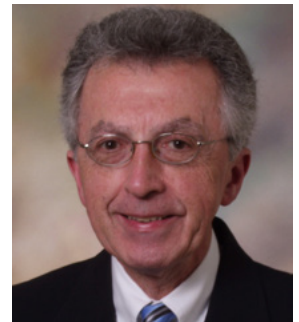
### **What motivates and excites you about healthcare architecture, planning and design?**

Being on the medical center staff has exposed me to service lines and departments, and I contribute to planning and design solutions. I enjoy project research and code investigation and I wear the architect and owner hat which has been extremely satisfying in dealing with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. As a Director, head of the Architectural Planning & Design Department and

the medical center's Safety Officer I am motivated to provide the best possible solution to any project. The excitement continues with my involvement with the Pennsylvania Society of Health Facility Engineers (ASHE state sanctioned board), and this year I became President-Elect.

### **Which of healthcare's "megatrends" will have the greatest impact on your practice, and why?**

As Safety Officer, my practice is responsible for the Environment of Care Committee which manages the following programs: safety, life safety, security, clinical equipment, hazardous materials, emergency preparedness and utilities. Shifting outpatient services to suburban areas has a tremendous impact on older medical center chassis; many of which have outlived their useful life. Patients are becoming sicker and have the challenge of payers dictating treatment and length of stay.



Ben Policicchio



**MAY 15-18, 2016**

Cleveland Clinic Patient Experience Summit  
Cleveland, OH

**JULY 22-24, 2016**

Summer Leadership Summit  
Chicago, IL

**NOVEMBER 12-15, 2016**

Healthcare Design Expo & Conference  
Houston, TX



**INTERESTED IN MENTORING AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE?**

Contact the ACHA Executive Office at 913-895-4604 or [ACHA-Info@goAMP.com](mailto:ACHA-Info@goAMP.com).

**THE ACHA VISION**

- » Transforming healthcare through better built environments

**THE ACHA MISSION**

- » To distinguish healthcare architects through certification, experience, and rigorous standards

**THE ACHA EXISTS**

- » To enhance the performance of the practice of healthcare architecture through its certification, continuing education and other programs

**THE ACHA PROVIDES CERTIFICANTS**

- » The distinguishing credentials of a specialized healthcare architect to clients, prospective clients and other architects as well as advanced continuing education

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