

OSKAR VON MILLER FORUM

Press Release

Daylighting and Health

A lecture by Mohamed Boubekri, School of Architecture, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA on 23 April 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Oskar von Miller Forum

Health issues related to the presence or absence of daylight in building will be the subject of this lecture.

Daylighting already appeared in the 70s as a key element of sustainable architecture as result of the energy crisis. But most of the buildings in the last two decades have not adopted any strategy for the active use of daylighting and regulations in favor of making its use compulsory are rare if none-existent. However obvious as it may seem, the relationship between daylighting, or lack thereof, and health is becoming a central focus of researchers and the professional community.

The active use of daylight in a controlled way allows defined design objective to be achieved which aims at both energy savings and an improvement in health. In this context appropriate strategies must be applied for daylighting which take account of the geographical location, the climate and the type of building construction. Furthermore it is essential to combine architecture, sustainable technologies and the energy / environmental performance of the building.

About Mohamed Boubekri

Professor Boubekri's research focuses on sustainable architecture and the intersection of the built environment and human health and well-being. He has published more than 70 journal articles and conferences papers. His first book, published in 2008 with the Architectural Press-Elsevier, explores the impact of daylighting of buildings on people's health and overall well-being. His second book published in September 2014 with Birkhäuser-Verlag explores the subject of daylighting and the health and well-being of building occupants as well as design strategies and best practice solutions.

Dr. Mohamed Boubekri is a professor of architecture at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is a William Wayne Caudill Research Fellow, and twice a Fulbright Fellow. He received his first professional degree in architecture from the Université des Sciences et de Technologie d'Oran, Algeria; a second professional master's degree from the University of Colorado and a PhD from Texas A&M University. His teaching has encompassed such areas as architectural design, building illumination, architectural acoustics, building economics, daylighting design, energy and building performance assessments. He has taught in several institutions around the world including Canada, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and the United States.