



USGBC Announces First Graduates of Emerging Professionals Leadership Academy

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This week, the U.S. Green Building Council celebrated the first graduates of the USGBC [Emerging Professionals Leadership Academy](#). The Academy identifies future leaders in sustainability and fosters their development through educational trainings and special projects completed with the support of the individuals' local USGBC chapters.

The 2011 class comprises a diverse group of 36 outstanding young professionals between the ages of 21 and 30 hailing from five countries, 18 states and the District of Columbia. The program has equipped them with leadership skills to impact organizations and communities across the globe.

The class received premier leadership training through a series of webcasts drawn from USGBC's renowned collection of online educational resources. The class later convened in Atlanta where they engaged with prominent leaders within the USGBC community and in the field of sustainability. In the final phase of the eight-month program, participants employed their new leadership skills as they led sustainability-oriented projects designed to benefit their respective communities and USGBC chapters.

Graduate Jeremy Knoll of the Central Plains USGBC chapter organized three service-learning workshops in the Kansas City area for his special project. Each focused on a specific topic in sustainable technology and green living. Developed through the collaborative effort of residents, community leaders and like-minded organizations, these workshops offered AIA continuing education credit and developed a range of community enhancements, including the construction of bird feeders and planters using recycled material at a community center for impoverished children and the establishment of a community garden with a rainwater-only irrigation system. As a result of the project's success, the Central Plains chapter received USGBC's Chapter Innovation Grant, and Jeremy was nominated to join the chapter's Board of Directors.

The 2011 graduates of the Emerging Professionals Leadership Academy are:

Avkash Patel, *Texas Gulf Coast Chapter*

Komal Kotwal, *Texas Gulf Coast Chapter*

Aaron Roche, *Delaware Valley Green Building Council*

Anna Winn, *Cascadia Regional Green Building Council*

Anupam Jain, *India Green Building Council*

Belle Farish, *North Carolina Triangle Chapter*

Bob Wade, *Illinois Chapter*

Daniel Cazap, *Argentina Green Building Council*

Felipe Faria, *Brasil Green Building Council*

Greg Mohrman, *Northern California Chapter*

Jack Feichtner, *Los Angeles Chapter*

Jenn Whitney, *North Dakota Chapter*

Jennifer Speece, *National Capital Chapter*

Jeremy Knoll, *Central Plains Chapter*

Jim Ratliff, *Cincinnati Regional Chapter*

Jonathan Burgess, *South Florida Chapter*

Kaisa Puhle, *Florida Gulf Coast Chapter*

Katharine Eggleston, *North Carolina Triangle Chapter*

Katie Dahlgren, *Wyoming Chapter*

Katie Flynn, *Green Building Alliance*

Kirsten Adair, *California Central Coast Chapter*

Lili Pan, *PLATINUM - Hong Kong LEED AP Society*

Lisette Cortes, *Florida Gulf Coast Chapter*

Mara Browne, *Hawaii Chapter*

Marc Costa, *Los Angeles Chapter*

Mariah Howard-Porath, *Urban Green*

Mark Schrieber, *South Florida Chapter*

Michael Peel, *Inland Empire chapter*

Mohamed El-Sayed, *Central Ohio Chapter*

Myer Harrell, *Cascadia Regional Green Building Council*

Roshini Das, *New Mexico Chapter*

Ryan Murphy, *Georgia Chapter*

Sarah Newton, *South Carolina Chapter*

Trenaya McCullough, *Colorado Chapter*

Tristan Van Slyke, *Idaho Chapter*

Zach Mathern, *North Dakota Chapter*

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