



Issue 1  
October 2011

# IBPSA-USA Newsletter



*Madison State Capitol, with venue of SimBuild 2012 in the foreground on the right.*

## Upcoming Events

BEMBook Workshop, Chicago, IL, October 11, 2011  
Building Simulation 2011 in Sydney, Australia, November 14-16, 2011  
BEMBook Workshop, Washington DC, December 8, 2011  
BEMBook Workshop, St. Louis, MO, January 11, 2012  
SimBuild 2012 Conference in Madison, WI, August 1-3, 2012

## About this Newsletter

The IBPSA-USA Newsletter will be published every 3 months to inform its membership about current and emerging events in building simulation. To submit articles, send email to [newsletter@ibpsa.us](mailto:newsletter@ibpsa.us)

## SimBuild 2012 Conference in Madison, Wisconsin, USA

IBPSA-USA's SimBuild 2012 Conference will be held August 1-3, 2012 at The Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison, Wisconsin. This is the fifth biennial conference held by IBPSA-USA to improve the design and operation of buildings through advances in the modeling and simulation of building performance. Abstracts will be due on December 1, 2011.

As with the previous conferences, there will be both double-blind, peer-reviewed technical papers and invited seminar speakers on a variety of topics in the building performance simulation area. There will be some technical areas stressed in the program such as the future of BEM software; modeling controls in BEM software; use of simulation in real-time to support building operation; dealing with uncertainty in building performance simulation; validation, calibration and verification of simulation using real time data; model predictive control in buildings; use of BEM to support fault detection and diagnostics, appropriate modeling for the different phases of a building design; and others.

We will continue our previous efforts of high student involvement in the conference with poster sessions and job fairs. Pre-conference workshops on the use of specific simulation programs as well as on more general building simulation topics will be offered.

The conference is chaired by Timothy McDowell of Thermal Energy System Specialists, LLC. The scientific committee is chaired by D. Michael Utzinger of the School of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The conference is hosted in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Department of Engineering Professional Development.

For further information, visit <http://www.ibpsa.us>. For previous conferences and their publications, visit <http://www.ibpsa.us/publications.shtml>

## BEMBook Workshops

IBPSA-USA organized several additional workshops about Building Energy Modeling. These workshops cover modeling fundamentals, ASHRAE 90.1 performance rating, modeling best practices, modeling to inform design and measurement & verifications. Slides can be downloaded from <http://www.bembook.ibpsa.us/index.php?title=Downloads>

The next workshops will be held at the following locations (see [http://www.bembook.ibpsa.us/index.php?title=Plan\\_and\\_Status](http://www.bembook.ibpsa.us/index.php?title=Plan_and_Status) for an updated list and links to registration):

October 11, 2011 – Chicago, Illinois  
Sponsored by AEE at the World Energy Engineering Congress  
Instructors: Liam Buckley, David Eldridge

December 8, 2011 – Washington, DC  
Sponsored by ASHRAE at the EcoBuild Conference  
Instructors: Chris Balbach, Joe Deringer

January 11, 2012 – St. Louis, Missouri  
Sponsored by the St. Louis ASHRAE Chapter

January 24, 2012 – Chicago, Illinois  
ASHRAE Winter Conference  
Instructors: Erik Kolderup, Ellen Franconi



## IBPSA-USA Regional Chapters

IBPSA-USA has provisionally approved six regional chapters throughout the United States. If you are a group interested in forming a local chapter in your area within the United States, please contact Michael Wetter at [mwetter@ibl.gov](mailto:mwetter@ibl.gov).

Approved Provisional Chapters include Boston, Houston, New York City, Raleigh-Durham, San Francisco and Washington DC. For contact and link to these chapters, visit <http://www.ibpsa.us/chapters.shtml>

The regional chapters provide an opportunity for local people to meet and discuss issues that arise in building simulation. For example, the Boston Chapter, formed in February 2011, held a series of symposia on "The Big Uglies," or major unknowns in design-phase energy modeling, including Occupancy & Plug-Loads, Weather, and Infiltration. These events featured expert speakers from across the US and Canada as well as lively group discussions joined by online participants around the world. The Boston chapter records and archives their events, available at <http://ibpsa-boston.com/Events.html>.

Future events will be announced on the Bldg-Sim list at <http://lists.onebuilding.org>, and interested people can join the emailing list by emailing [ibpsa.boston@gmail.com](mailto:ibpsa.boston@gmail.com).

## IBPSA-USA Travel Grants for Building Simulation 2011

IBPSA-USA conducted a student scholarship competition to award \$2,000 each to attend the Building Simulation 2011 conference in Sydney, Australia. Participants had to contribute at least three pages to the Building Energy Modeling Body of Knowledge wiki <http://bembook.ibpsa.us/>. Submissions included articles about energy modeling, computational fluid dynamics, daylight simulation, model calibration and measurement and verification.

IBPSA-USA congratulates the following awardees to their travel grant:

Holly Wasilowski Samuelson  
Harvard Graduate School of Design  
J. Alstan Jakubiec  
Harvard Graduate School of Design  
Fei Zhao  
College of Architecture, Georgia Tech  
Yuming Sun  
College of Architecture, Georgia Tech  
Dana Etherington  
University of Massachusetts, Lowell  
Sang Hoon Lee  
College of Architecture, Georgia Tech  
Yeonsook Heo  
College of Architecture, Georgia Tech  
Brian Coffey  
School of Architecture, UC Berkeley



Photo: Adam Taylor. Courtesy Tourism New South Wales