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AAI Survey Shows Strong Gains in Compensation for Architects: Architecture staff position salary increases have outpaced the broader economy in recent years...Prior to the recent downturn in construction activity that is adversely affecting some architecture firms... -- American Institute of Architects (AAI)

How much of your design do you really own? The AIA and AGC suggest that the project team should establish procedures for sharing drawings and plans to control access to the documents...The exclamation "You're fired!"...may have serious consequences...The reason is design ownership. - Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce

A building with an energy all its own: New design frontier aims to make structures more than zero users of energy but power plants in their own right...While some of this may seem exotic building design, there's still a case to be made for old-fashioned tried and true energy saving techniques. -- Diamond and Schmitt; Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill; HOK Canada; Solar Building Research Network- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Nature's healing properties to be incorporated by architectural firm to hospital design: In a bid to discover more about this phenomenon, HVC Architects has teamed up with neuropsychologists from UCSD and will use the information to improve the design of caring facilities. - The Tech Herald

Re-imagining Cities: The Way Forward: Part of the agenda at the conference was to create a manifesto for urban design curriculum moving forward. -- Sudeshna Chatterjee/Kaimal Chatterjee & Associates; Douglas Kelbaugh; David Orr; John Todd; Robert Socolow- Metropolis Magazine

Re-imagining Cities: Updates by Lloyd Alter (TreeHugger and Planet Green), Ryan Avent (Grist), Nate Berg (Planetizen), Andrew Blum (Metropolis and Wired), Randy Crane (UCLA School of Public Affairs) and Elizabeth Etvits Dickinson (New York Times Magazine, Architect, and Metropolis)- Next American City

S.F.'s party spot? Not Justin Herman Plaza: The way a city celebrates, like the way that it votes, shines a light on the values its residents share...if you wanted an urban-scale happening a la Grant Park in Chicago...Don't blame urban designers...When a city defines itself by intimate neighborhoods and small-scale scenes, common ground isn't in demand. The emphasis is on the parts, not the whole. By John King- San Francisco Chronicle

Utzon's clash over Opera House refurb: The son and grandson of Sydney Opera House architect Jørn Utzon have clashed over plans to renovate the iconic building...according to Jan's own son Jeppe, this work risks "messing up" Jam's original design — a claim rubbished by Jan. -- Richard Johnson- BD/Building Design (UK)

Quack architects hamper industry: A great number of architecture graduates in Uganda lack practical skills...This has resulted into numerous collapsing buildings that have claimed several lives. - Daily Monitor (Kampala, Uganda)

European Support for Bicycles Promotes Sharing of the Wheels : Bicycle-sharing programs have sprung up and taken off across Europe, on a scale no one had thought possible and in places where bicycling had never been popular. - New York Times

NYC proposes bike parking rules in new buildings: ...the latest step in a plan to make New York one of the most bike-friendly places in the nation...rules would not burden developers unduly. - AP

Hooked on Biking: Forum for Urban Design...first-ever competition...Entitled Reimage Red Hook, the competition sought to make the growing, cobblestone rowty neighborhood the premier cycling spot in the city... -- Jonathan Rule; HOK Sport; Heather Utzon Design; Route Peddlers; H3 Hardy Collaborative + EWT, Jordan Parnass Digital Architecture [links to images, videos]- The Architect's Newspaper

Tear Downs: Credit crunch crushes MoMA's houses of the future..."Home Delivery"...architects were allowed to sell their dream houses after the show closed...Only Horden Cherry Lee Architects' microcompact home has found a buyer -- Douglas Gauthier/Jeremy Edmiston; Lawrence Sass; KieranTimberlake- New York Magazine

Project Virtually Rebuilds Lost Architecture Of The Shakers: ...rebuilding lost structures and interiors using advanced visualization technology. -- Jose Kozan; Center for the Electronic Reconstruction of Historical and Archaeological Sites (CERHAS) at University of Cincinnati- ScienceDaily

Extreme Makeover: Nuclear Power Plant Edition: ...some people in the industry are backing a makeover for nuclear power stations in an effort to transform the industry from an industrial pariah to an environmental savior. -- Aleš Buršič [image, links]- New York Times

No. 14: The chair that has seated millions: Thonet wanted to produce the first mass-manufactured chair, which would be sold at an affordable price...launched in 1859, it was the first piece of furniture to be both attractive and inexpensive enough to appeal to everyone from aristocrats to schoolteachers. By Alice Rawsthorn [slide show]- International Herald Tribune