• Belogolovsky's Q&A with BIG's Bjarke Ingels: "It is not for nothing that this young architect is referred to as the "Yes Man" with a willingness - and ability - to please just about everyone."

• Glaiser makes a powerful (and lengthy) case for building up, not out, but "some urban planners and preservationists seem to have a misplaced fear of heights."

• In Caracas, an unfinished skyscraper "stands as a parable of hope for some and of dread for others" (and houses more than 2,500 squatters).

• A landscape architect and an urban designer explore how the defunct mines in Johannesburg might be rehabilitated to create socially and environmentally responsible urban landscapes (great slide show).

• A lengthy look at Venice's fight for survival is a cautionary tale for "Fortress Europe" that "offers the chance to study what could eventually happen in other cities."

• China’s environment minister issues "an unusually stark warning about the dangers of unbridled development": "We must not any longer sacrifice the environment for the sake of rapid growth and reckless roll-out."

• An in-depth look at what could be considered a comedy of errors (if it weren’t so pathetically not funny) in Los Angeles community colleges’ building program: "We are opening buildings that do not work at the most fundamental level."

• Chaban enlightens us about how the over-budget PATH Station at Ground Zero helps explain a missing church.

• Crosbie explains what came out of EPA's "Greening America's Capitals” planning session in Hartford, CT: "As sound as the ideas explored are, collectively they're timid" (but could mean they might actually be realized).

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Bruner Award Finalists Ignite Urban Transformations From Brooklyn To Phoenix: Biennial national award honors well-designed architecture, landscape and urban design projects. -- Overland Partners/Camargo Copeland; Michael Van Valkenburgh Associates; AECOM; John Ronan Architects; Ken Smith Landscape Architect/Frederic Schwartz Architects/Surroundings Studio/Mary Miss [links] - Bruner Foundation

Call for entries: Small Hospital, Big Idea Competition: 2-stage competition to conceptualize a new approach to delivering inpatient care in new or underserved communities; cash prizes; registration deadline: March 21 - Kaiser Permanente

Call for entries: 2011 YAF/COD Ideas Competition (international): Universal Design: sketch a master plan for the Olympic Village and a design for a representative mixed-use building that includes athlete housing with values of social and environmental sustainability; cash prizes; deadline: March 14 - AIA Young Architects Forum (YAF) / AIA Committee on Design (COD)

Call for applications: Design Management Institute/DMI President Search: Thomas Lockwood is stepping down...application deadline: March 20 - Design Management Institute

Zaha Hadid Architects: Guangzhou Opera House, Guangzhou, China

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