



July 1, 2013

Take-aways from our recent Design Forum in Co. Springs: We had a great set of discussions over the course of the June 13-14 program. For those who attended, we thought it would be helpful to provide you with a list of take-aways recorded in the course of the program. For those who missed it, perhaps these will be of interest as well. Here are some highlights by speaker, plus a link to the agenda and the broader range of comments we captured. **John Duvivier, Gensler:** long-term value focus; start with a well-defined strategy; selected team provided aspirational value **Frank Becker, Cornell University:** even fast academic research takes 3 years; evidence is all around, but you have to go and see; to rely on how people SAY they behave is folly **Ari Pennanen, Haahtela:** activities in spaces pull designs; cost variance from design should not be measured, but managed; cost is not an indicator of quality **Markku Allison, Scan:** avoid using the design process to uncover requirements; make decisions at the last responsible moment; ask lots of questions to define value. For the complete list of take aways, click here [READ MORE](#).

We also held a very successful, day-long LCI board meeting during our week in CO. One of the take-aways from that session is also worth highlighting: In our continuing discussion on how best to condense and focus a long list of goals and related actions, the **board agreed to adopt a concise set of five objectives or “value indicators”** against which our ongoing actions can be planned and measured. Those include: **Grow and sustain members - Develop knowledge - Create industry capacity - Develop collaboration & distribution channels - Create industry demand.** These five areas will help us organize for action and create sustained value for members and other stakeholders; we have added them to the *Mission* section of the LCI website.

Register NOW for the 2013 LCI Congress! Don't miss the 15th Annual LCI Congress, October 22-25, 2013 in Dallas, TX, where teams will explore strategies to promote Lean thinking and practices earlier in the project performance cycle. Be part of a great movement to transform design and construction – [register today!](#) [Click here to register now.](#) [Click here for sponsorship opportunities.](#)

A note from Anne O'Donnell, our director of membership services and key Communities of Practice staff support: **Calling all Community of Practice resources!** LCI is building a Community of Practice “Resource” section on the LCI Website. This resource section will serve as a platform to share and learn. Please help by submitting your CoP resources: annual budget, marketing flyers, e-newsletter samples, bylaws, core-group vetting process, etc. By sharing, we are building stronger communities and furthering the practice of Lean. And as always, if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please let me know – I'm here to help! anne@leanconstruction.org.

Speaking of our CoPs, I had the opportunity last week of **meeting with the core group for the Carolinas CoP as they planned their work program** for the coming 12 months. Aply led by David Craft (Rodgers Builders), this talented and motivated group has great representation from contractor, design, owner and academic organizations. Goals identified by the group include: • LCI needs to be a source of education for all (Designers, Contractors, Owners, University--Value propositions are being developed for each of these subsets • Highlight success stories • Build Publicity through State Construction Conference, PENC, ABC, AGC, NCHEA, etc. • Double company participation from 15 to 30 (reach out to other regional companies doing Lean). **Suggested 2013-14 program topics include:** Target Value Design, Reliable Promises, Intermediate Last Planner, Executive Last Planner, and Lean in Design/Pull Planning. As you can see, Lean education and advocacy is alive and well in the Carolinas region. We look forward to continuing to hear great things from them!



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More good news: a recent **ENR article detailed the results of the Construction Industry Confidence Index (CICI)** survey of over 300 execs of large design and construction firms. Findings indicated that the vast majority believe the market has stabilized, with 46% indicating it is growing again. The highest-rated markets included multi-unit residential, petroleum, power and hospital/healthcare. A couple of clouds remain on the horizon: most felt the recovery remains fragile, and the public sector market continues to struggle. But in a similar survey cited in the same article, design, GC and trades firms all indicated that the present market was stable or improving by averages of around 90%. **Based on a completely non-scientific and anecdotal method of calculation**, I would agree: We are finding volunteers are often much more pressed for time than they were last fall when many agreed to help with various LCI committee-related assignments. More recently, they have had to extend deadlines or drop out altogether due to the press of current project work. In the grand scheme of things, however, I think we must agree it's a good problem to have.

I was very gratified and appreciative of an invitation earlier this month to attend an **award gala for LCI member company Turner Construction at the National Building Museum here in DC**. The Museum's Honor Award annually recognizes: "leaders that have shaped our heritage, defined our culture, developed our communities, and crafted our built world." I had the opportunity of sitting at the head table and chatting with **Turner's president and CEO Peter Davoren**. By all accounts, Peter does a remarkable job, not just of leading the company, but of upholding Henry Turner's founding motto of "Teamwork, Integrity, and Commitment." This would have been a great event regardless, but the icing on the cake for me came in the course of the company video that is standard fare at such events. In this case, Turner took the opportunity to emphasize strongly their commitment to Lean project delivery in the course of the video. It was great to see, and a proud moment for me as LCI's executive director to see Lean touted in this way before a large audience of leaders in the design and construction world. To view the 5-minute YouTube video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I5z0_V-OTCM.

We welcome our new corporate members:



Whenever I travel the country to visit our CoPs or other active members, I am always impressed with the dedication and commitment of the Lean community. Thanks for being a part of it, and helping LCI **Transform Design and Construction** through Lean project delivery.

Sincerely,

Dan C. Heinemeier, CAE
Executive Director