

# Austin Section IES Newsletter

9/25/08 Issue: 1-0

## Section Officers & Board of Managers

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Membership Chair: Julia Brack-512-837-8848  
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## SCIENTIFIC CONSENSUS: GLOBAL WARMING IS A FACT

As the implications of this reality begin to affect the consciousness of main-stream America, organizations, both private and governmental have begun to make public statements concerning how they intend to deal with this issue. Wal-Mart, representing corporate America, and the GSA, representing governmental America, have both recently announced Carbon Neutral buildings as their goal for 2030.

Any survey of recent energy legislation indicates that our perceived need to limit energy consumption has begun to impact and impinge upon the design process. To what extent is it wise to have codes dictate design? More to the point, why has the design community seemingly abdicated its leadership role and subjugated itself to codes? Finally, should anything be done about this situation?

This presentation will look at the inter-relationship of design and codes, comment on the role of design, and make recommendations about a more holistic approach that combines the best of design and research to create environments that exceed code requirements while also providing high quality for the inhabitants.

## This Month: Communicating Lighting Quality-A Holistic Approach

Speaker: Fred Oberkircher, FIESNA,  
Educational IALD, IDA, LC

When: Wednesday, October 22nd

Where: Joe's Crabshack, Riverside Dr.,  
Austin

Time: 11:30- 1:00

Cost: \$23/non-members, \$18/members

Pay online at [www.tcsiesna.org](http://www.tcsiesna.org)

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:



Happy fall to the newly renamed Austin Section of IESNA! After a false start last month, we're ready to begin another year of what should be a full slate of informative meetings that will hopefully help us all to create and encourage better, more efficient lighting throughout the Central Texas area.

Last year was another successful year for our section. We continued to offer well-attended and well-presented lighting courses for people who would like to improve their lighting designs, and we had some very good meetings and topics to present to our members. I would like to thank all of our section's officers, as well as our chairpersons and the Board of Managers, for their hard work in making all of this possible. Your efforts are most appreciated.

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**Fred Oberkircher** is an Associate Professor within the Department of Design, Merchandising and Textiles at Texas Christian University. He received both a Bachelor of Architecture and a Masters of Science in Architecture from The Pennsylvania State University. Following professional architectural experiences with the Army Air Force Exchange and teaching interior design at the State University of New York at Plattsburg, Fred devoted the past 34 years to teaching interior design at Texas Christian University.

For the past 15 years, Fred has expanded his expertise into the field of lighting. He currently serves as the Vice President of the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES), a position that next year will rotate into the position of President of the Society. Additionally, Fred is a board member of the International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD) Education Trust, and the Nuckolls Fund for Lighting Education as well as serving as a member of the editorial board of Architectural Lighting magazine.

A member of the International Dark Sky Association (IDA), Fred has also earned his Lighting Certified (LC) credential, the only national certification for lighting practitioners administered through the national Council for Qualifying the Lighting Professions (NCQLP).

**Letter: contd.**

In the coming year, we will be discussing several things that have consistently generated quite a bit of interest for our members, such as our annual LEED update, LED lighting, and lamping. In addition, as has been said previously, we would like to discuss the new City of Austin Design Standards, which, as anyone who has submitted an exterior lighting project to the city for permitting in the last nine months knows, are very stringent. All our meetings will continue to be held at Joe's Crab Shack, at 600 E. Riverside. Also, we will once again offer the ED-150 course early in 2009. We will also be adding much more information to our website, [www.iesna.org](http://www.iesna.org), so be sure to check the site out. We will also be posting our newsletters on the website for your reference. Of course, the website is still the place to go to get a discount on our meetings by prepaying, so I encourage everyone reading this to make a point of visiting the site.

As many of you know, the IES is going through a major reorganization at present in order to improve operations, efficiency, and communications. I would advise everyone to check out the redesigned IES website for more information, or you are welcome to address your questions to us. Part of this restructuring is the change in section hierarchy, with us now belonging to the South Region (District 4). Jerry Cassel, whom many of you will remember from the several meetings he has presented to our section, is now serving as our District Chair, and he, like us, welcomes your feedback on the direction of our organization. To that end, for those of you interested in being an officer or chairperson of our section, you might want to check out the District Executive Conference, which, this fall, will be held in November in Oklahoma City.



**DON'T FORGET  
THE  
UPCOMING 2008  
IES ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE  
NOVEMBER 9-11  
IN SAVANNAH,  
GA.  
MORE INFO AT  
[WWW.IES.ORG](http://WWW.IES.ORG)!**

With all that said, if you are a member and reading this, thanks for your continued membership! Please do not hesitate to let us know how we can make your membership more valuable to you. If you are not a member, why not consider becoming one this year? You will have access to lots of good reference material through the IES website, and, of course, you will be able to pay less to attend our meetings. Please contact our Membership Chair, Julia Brack, if you are interested.

So, I hope to see all of you at Joe's on October 22nd to hear from Fred Oberkircher, who will have a very good presentation for us. Please feel free to invite your co-workers, clients, or anyone else interested in lighting to attend this and all of our meetings. As energy costs and energy savings become even more important in our design, what with the increasing cost of everything and the continued governmental efforts to rid us of incandescent lamps and other light fixtures and sources, it is crucial for all of us to stay informed on all these issues, and our meetings will be a great (and tasty) way of doing that.

Thanks again to all of you for a great year. Let's make 2008-2009 even better!

David Rigsby