



MAY'S PROGRAM: WHAT IS NEW IN THE ELEVATOR CODES

Within the past 12 months there have been some important changes to the elevator codes, impacting both California and the nation. In May of 2008, the State of California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board amended their regulations governing elevators and other conveyance devices. The added code section, California Code of Regulations Title 8, subchapter 6, Group 4, substantially follows ASME A17.1 2004. Among the code changes reflected in these two codes are the allowance of Machine Room Less (MRL) elevators (previously allowed only by variance), and the requirement for up-ascending control devices on traction elevators. In addition to up-dates to these two codes, the 2007 California Building Code has also been revised with some important changes.

Learning Objectives:

- Code changes in the California Code of Regulations
- Code changes in the ASME A17.1
- Code changes in the 2007 California Building Code
- How the code changes will affect building design

John Sellen, District Manager of Lerch Bates Inc., will review the code changes for all three codes and discuss how these changes affect the construction industry. Since Mr. Sellen joined Lerch Bates in 2006, the local office has been involved in the design of elevator systems for several transit projects and the modernization of elevators throughout the Bay Area. As a consultant, Mr. Sellen is familiar with elevator equipment; has prepared contract documents for new, existing and modernized equipment; provided contract administration services; provided evaluations of both new and existing installations; and provided recommendations on elevator maintenance.

Mr. Sellen has a Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies from the University of Illinois, Urbana and has 28 years of experience in the elevator industry. Lerch Bates is the oldest and largest elevator consulting firm in the world, with offices in all major U.S. cities and many international offices.

WHEN: Thursday, May 7th, 2009

COST: No host bar, dinner is \$32.00 including gratuity and tax.

NEW Biltmore Hotel and Suites

LOCATION: 2151 Laurelwood Road, Santa Clara
(Montague Expressway & 101)

RSVP: Please make your reservations to Krista Nelson with choice of meal by noon on Tuesday, May 5th.
email: krista@aba-arch.com
phone: (408) 535-2935

TIMES: Board Meeting: 5:00 p.m.
Social Hour: 6:00 p.m.
Dinner: 7:00 p.m.
Program: 8:00 p.m.

Guests are welcome • No-shows will be billed

MENU: Tossed salad; tortilla filled with chicken, tomatoes, and onions, topped with cheese and enchilada sauce served with beans and spanish rice; wine; dessert, coffee or tea.

OR

Tossed salad; tortilla filled with vegetables, lettuce, tomato, and crème olive spread with fruit cup; wine; dessert, coffee or tea.

CONTINUING EDUCATION:

This program meets CSI/CEN and AIA/CES criteria. Participants will receive 0.1 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and 1 hour of LUS/HSW (learning units).



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY JIM O'KEEFE, CSI

At our April dinner meeting we had something special. At the suggestion of Joe Cota, an active member and an upcoming Board Member, a group of students from San Jose City College's Construction Technology Program attended our meeting and had a tabletop presentation during the social hour. Each student briefly commented on why they were enrolled in the Construction Technology Program and the opportunities they expect to gain from the program. The Chapter aided in the fund raising efforts for the program by contributing the April meeting's raffle monies. Word had it that the funds would be used to purchase two wheel barrels for use in the practical concrete construction course work.

As many of you may have seen in emails from the Institute, the process of implementing amendments to the Institute Bylaws, approved in 2008, have moved into the "detail" phase. With the major decisions approved at the June 2008 Institute Board meeting, the path to the smaller board has been set. Beginning in July 2009 the Board will consist of 21 members, comprised of the president, the president-elect, three vice presidents, the secretary, the treasurer, the immediate past president and 13 directors. The reduction from 29 members will result from the elimination of one vice president position and 7 directors. The board will function as one body with no executive committee. Further changes, including election of Directors at Large, will not occur until the Board reaches its final composition of 18 members in Fiscal Year 2012. For more details on the progress that the Institute is making in improving its overall governance please consult the Institute's website.

In last month's President's message, I mentioned that the Construction Specification Institute and its local chapters have avenues available during these difficult economic times to aid in exploring alternative career opportunities. Besides the networking opportunities that have always existed at monthly Chapter meetings, the Institute's website (www.csinet.org) has a Career Center. The Career Center page is divided between Job Seekers and Employers/Recruiters. The Job Seeker section allows one to post ones resume anonymously, view job opportunities, and create a job alert so that a matching job opportunity never passes you by.

Besides the resources of CSI, there are a variety of other resources available such as Job Seekers Weekly which is a website that brings together a broad range of other websites and sources to explore for employment opportunities. On the Job Seekers website (www.jobseekerweekly.com) other websites are linked including www.myjobhunter.com, www.moster.com, and www.job.com as well as other sources such as Career Builders and Hot Jobs.

From Vivian Volz, CSI San Francisco Chapter, I have learned of LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com) a networking site that is becoming a gathering place for our industry. On this site, you maintain a profile that serves as an extended resume and you link to people you know by inviting them to join your network. There is a CSI group on the site, which lets you proudly display your affiliation. LinkedIn is an excellent way to stay in touch with colleagues as they change jobs, because your connection to

PRESIDENT • cont'd on pg 8

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CSI ONLINE

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www.csiscv.org

Region
www.westregioncsi.org

Institute
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Log in to www.csinet.org with your name and password, as described on the website. Then you have access to update your new address, new employment, or new email address... all at your fingertips. This way you will be sure to receive everything from Institute and our Chapter.

Joe Cota, CSI and his students: Lokendra Kumar, Mike Dean, Raul Lopez, Carmen Santoa, and Ajith at the April Dinner Meeting



MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING

CSI, Santa Clara Valley
(Draft, Board Approval Pending)
Place: Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara
Date: April 2, 2009

Opening

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Jim O'Keefe at 5:00 p.m.

Attendees

Board Members

Jim O'Keefe, CSI, President; Albert Wege, AIA, CSI, CCCA, LEED, Treasurer; Maia Gendreau, AIA, CSI, CDT, Secretary; Krista Nelson, RA, CSI, CDT, LEED, Immediate Past President; Barbara Brosh, CSI, Industry Director; Rose Garrison, CSI, Industry Director; Rietta McCain, CSI, CCCA, AIA, Professional Director; Kevin Norman, CSI, AIA, LEED, Professional Director

Region Director

Dave Ingram, CSI

Committee Chairs

Julie Brown, CSI, CCS, SCIP

Members

Joe Cota, CSI

Minutes

The minutes of the March meeting were reviewed by those present. The minutes are approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report

CD and bank accounts are continuing. Income exceeded expenses for March. Raffle draw is currently at \$1,350. Report is filed for audit.

Region Director's Report

Jim O'Keefe, Julie Brown and Hannah Moyer were present at the West Region Mid-Year Speak-Out.

There were many motions at the West Region Board meeting, but Brown was not prepared to provide a report on behalf of Ingram. Our chapter's Region Director will still need to get money from the chapter to reimburse expenses to attend the Region meetings. Monies from Institute to the Regions will not be coming until August. Brown can provide a report next month, if requested and needed.

President's Report

West Region Conference: At the San Francisco Chapter Board meeting last month, they expressed interest in doing a joint conference with Santa Clara, as was done in 2001. San Francisco and Santa Clara are currently scheduled sequentially to host the West Region Conference. O'Keefe will make it a priority to get a Task Team formed to work on the West Region Conference.

Unfinished Business

The Chapter Bylaws need to be updated in accordance with the governance changes. Krista Nelson is prepared to review the bylaws and make a recommendation to the Operations Guide Task Team.

New Business

July meeting date: The first Thursday of July is the 2nd, and the 3rd is the official holiday. The Board thinks attendance on the second could be poor, and a motion is made to move the July Chapter meeting to the 9th. The motion is unanimously approved, the July Chapter meeting will be July 9th.

Appointment of a new Region Director: Dave Ingram's term as Region Director will be complete in June. In the past, this position has been included on the ballot, but that is not a requirement of the bylaws. With that in mind, O'Keefe is seeking a candidate to take over the Region Director. The term will be either a two or three year term depending on governance amendments to bylaws.

CSI Institute Award: Continuing Publication Commendation: O'Keefe commends Rietta McCain for winning this Institute award for our chapter's newsletter, Summary. More

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information on this
under Committee reports: Awards

Election results: 41 ballots were
received, 38 are signed. Maia
Gendreau will file the FY2010 officer
and chair form with Institute. The new
board will be inaugurated in June.

Committee Reports

Special Events: No Report

Membership

Current membership is at 94, with
3 new members. Rose Garrison will
follow up on late renewals.

Educational Seminar: No report

Programs/Technical

See written report.
Julie Brown notes that the June
program, the awards and installation
dinner, has traditionally been a wine
paired event that requires sponsors.
It is possible that in this economy
this idea should be revisited, since
sponsors have been required in the
past to cover the cost of this event.

Continuing Education

See written report.

Greeter/Raffle

Tonight's raffle benefits San Jose City
College's Construction Technology
Program. The full amount of the raffle
will go to the students. The marble
draw will not be part of the prizes
because half the money from the

raffle traditionally goes to the marble
prize money, and this would reduce
the amount of the raffle.

Annual Roster: No Report

Editor

Deadline for May issue is next Friday,
April 10th.

Deadline for the June issue is Friday,
May 8th. This is one day after the
monthly meeting. There is no leeway
on the deadline.

Historian

Julie Brown has just received the
archive videos on DVD's. A special
thanks to Jim Balboni is forthcoming.
These videos includes the previous
education programs.

Awards

Julie Brown needs the attendees list
for the June program as it develops.
The process for awards is ongoing.

The Chapter will receive an award
at the Convention this year in
Indianapolis in June.

The Outstanding Chapter
Commendation award information
has been circulated to the Board
and Board Members need to assess
whether they want to proceed with the
award. Next month Board members
are asked to review the award
requirements and be ready to discuss.

Website

The Institute had the location of

**PLANNING
CALENDAR****CHAPTER MEETINGS**

MAY 7 ELEVATOR CODES

JUNE 4 AWARDS DINNER

JULY 9 TBD
**Second Thursday
of the Month!**

PLAN AHEAD**CSI Convention:**

"Construct 2009"
June 16-19, 2009
Indianapolis, IN

West Region Conference:

"At the Crossroads"
Sept 24 - 27, 2009
Berkeley, CA

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www.casarch.com



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WEST REGION CORNER



WEST REGION VICE PRESIDENT

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First, congratulations to both new Institute Secretary, Sheryl Dodd-Hansen, FCSI, and Dave Willis, CSI our new Region Vice President. We continue the West Region tradition of having top quality leaders step forward to serve. Our Region should also be very proud that the efforts by our Region President, Janet Piccola, CSI, will be recognized with a Fellowship to be awarded in Indianapolis (get in line for those party tickets).

I have just returned from the Institute Board-Elect orientation session back east. I am pleased to report that even in these difficult times, we

discussed a number of positive items.

The one I am most happy to report is that membership has finally started to climb upward. We are also seeing an increase in the retention rate to 84%. I believe there are a variety of reasons for this, the least of which is basic hard work by a wider group of our members. For some great in-depth discussion on this, I want to ask all of you to read this month's MEMCOMMunications. It has a excellent piece by our own Bryan Varner, Redwood Empire Chapter, on how to get it done down in the trenches. Kudos to the Redwood Empire Chapter for adding 22 new members (and still counting). Also in this month's publication are the results to date of all Chapters in the country. Of special note, in addition to Redwood Empire, Fresno, San Diego, Monterey Bay, Santa Clara Valley, Sacramento, and Los Angeles chapters all have increased membership since the start of FY09, last July. In case you are not receiving this excellent piece electronically each month by the Institute Membership Committee, chaired by our own Dennis Hall from San Diego, you can download a copy from the Institute website on the membership page.

Dennis' committee is also in charge of the President and President-elect

training session that has been added to this year's convention in Indianapolis. It is on Tuesday afternoon, June 16th from 1:30 until 4:30 pm. Your chapters should have all received multiple reminders to this event. This is the day before the Convention starts so it does not conflict with anything (and it includes a perk of admission to the invitation only CSI President's Reception following the seminar). I strongly urge every Chapter to send their FY10 officers for this focused presentation so they can understand the tools and techniques available to help develop their chapters into a high performance leader in their construction community.

Another positive note is the long awaited GreenFormat program is out and growing steadily and generating revenue. Programs are being put together for presentation at Chapter meetings and Region Conferences, more information on timing of those programs will be coming soon.

We will also be seeing a change and expansion in the old 'Spec Competition' that many of us looked forward to reviewing on the Convention floor. CSI and SCIP are joining forces to replace this competition with an award for 'Excellence in Written

WEST REGION • cont'd on pg 7

Jim Balboni
 Project Executive
 New Equipment
 Western Region



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Documentation.' This broader category will better align with the documentation needed in the BIM world among others.

Finally, once again our Region is working with McGraw Hill to produce a Region Directory. There are two keys to making this a well received accurate resource produced with a minimum of stress. Last year did not go that smoothly, with verification happening during the Institute Convention and many out of date individual entries. So let me ask a greater degree of cooperation from all members. We will be delaying the availability date by about 1 month, to approximately August 1, to avoid the Convention and give Institute staff more time to get updates into the database. So please do the following by the end of April:

1. Each individual member should go onto the Institute website and verify your personal information. There is a direct link on the right side of the homepage. The information you have listed with Insitute will go into the Region Directory as it uses the Institute furnished database.
2. Each Chapter needs to plan on getting their FY10 Officers and Committee Chairs to the Institute electronically by using the link provided through the

Institute website. Do not type and mail to any Region officer, send it directly to the Institute. This minimizes mistakes in re-inputting at the Institute and makes it much easier to update.

With these two simple steps we can avoid potential delays with cost impacts to the Region budget.

Finally, the selection of members for Institute committees and Task Teams is just about done and letters should go out before Easter. Thank you to all that submitted their names, I still treasure many memories and friendships developed while getting the work done in that fun 'CSI' way. ♥

NOTE
FROM THE
EDITOR

Several emailed versions of the *Summary* have been returned to the Webmaster due to incorrect addresses or a blocked account.

Please review your email and physical address online at www.csinet.org.

Please notify Rietta McCain at rietta@aba-arch.com of any changes, as soon as possible, to ensure uninterrupted delivery of your newsletter and other SCV CSI mailings.

"Success will never be
a big step in the future,
success is a small step
taken just now."

Jonatan Mårtensson



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CURMUDGEN'S CORNER

WHAT IF YOU GAVE A PARTY...

BY SHELDON WOLFE, RA, FCSI, CCS. CCCA

honor: a tangible symbol signifying approval or distinction; to confer honor or distinction; to regard or treat with honor or respect

Acknowledgement of effort and contribution is always important, perhaps more so in a volunteer organization. In the business world, success and achievement are rewarded by increased salary, bonuses, or other perquisites; the common measure of one's value is the paycheck. Honors and recognition may be important, but rarely do they take precedence over money.

In the world of professional organizations, there is an occasional cash reward, but in most cases outstanding work is recognized by an award, usually a plaque or other object of little actual value, presented at a ceremony attended by the recipient's peers.

The value of an award depends on a number of things: the importance of the organization making the award, the uniqueness of the award, the total number of awards presented, and so on. Even though a plaque has little intrinsic value, what it represents can mean a great deal to the recipient, the organization, or a larger community.

We need to recognize contributions, but we also need to have balance. Awards are not equal, and there is no reason they should be treated as if they were. With a plaque, or perhaps a statuette or other objet d'art as the top end, there is not much room to work, but it still is possible to establish a range of ways to show appreciation.

It may not be politically correct, but if awards are to have value, they

must reflect the degree of effort they represent. Is sitting at the registration table really equivalent to creating a new education program? Both deserve recognition, but should it be the same?

Work of short duration should be acknowledged immediately. At the basic level, a simple 'thank you' is often enough. Most people do not expect a plaque for doing small jobs, but they do expect and deserve an expression of thanks. Oral expression of thanks at a chapter meeting is appropriate for the people at the registration table, and certainly for those who organized the current chapter meeting. A short written thank-you is always appropriate; some of my most treasured compliments are thank you cards and e-mails.

Formal letters of acknowledgement are good for greater contribution. These can be a bit tricky; if they come across as a form letter the impact is greatly diminished. If the work recognized in the letter is related to the recipient's job, a copy should be sent to the recipient's employer, on the organization letterhead. This will tell the employer that the employee has value in the construction industry, and promote CSI at the same time.

At some point, plaques become appropriate, but they should be reserved for more important awards. I am sure the person at the registration table would agree that a stack of plaques is not really necessary. Presenting too many awards reduces their value.

Each year, at the annual convention, CSI honors those who have made

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them remains even if their email address or telephone numbers change. A job search on LinkedIn identifies people in your network who can help you get your foot in the door or learn more about your interviewer. The LinkedIn blog also has a 'Tips and Tricks' category to help you get the most out of your use of LinkedIn.

So let's all remember that we are all in this economic slowdown together and it is imperative that we work together to help assist fellow CSI members find employment opportunities. ♥

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the SCV CSI Chapter meeting listed incorrectly, and that is now corrected.

Operating/House

33 total coming tonight. 5 or 6 are coming just for the program.

Toys-for-Tots: No report

Marketing Committee

No Report

Operating Guide Task Team

Comments need to be received by June or July.

50th Anniversary Task Team

The Task Team is developing a sponsor list.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned by Chapter President Jim O'Keefe at 5:58 p.m. ♥

CURMUDGEON • cont'd on pg 10

CSI ELECTS DENNIS J. HALL AS PRESIDENT-ELECT

The Construction Specifications Institute announced that Dennis J. Hall, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, FAIA, SCIP has been elected to the office of President-elect of the Institute. Hall is managing principal of Hall Architects, Inc. and chairman of Hall Building Information Group, LLC, with offices in Charlotte, North Carolina and Dallas, Texas.

Hall will officially become President-elect on July 1, 2009, which will place him in line to assume the CSI presidency on July 1, 2010.

“CSI began as an organization of construction specifiers developing standards for written construction documents and has grown into a multi-disciplined organization creating standards, formats and practice guides for organizing building information for the life of a facility,” said Hall. “CSI is establishing the information structures to enable the design and operation of high performing, sustainable buildings and other facilities.”

Hall joined CSI in 1984. He has served in numerous CSI leadership positions at the local, regional and national levels. Currently, he is chair of the Project Resource Manual Update Task Team, the CSI forum moderator for Building Information Modeling (BIM) in Construction Documents, and a member of both the UniFormat Task Team and the Integrated Practice Body of Knowledge Analysis Task Team. He is also well known for his leadership in the development of MasterFormat™ 2004 Edition, which expanded the standard to a 6-digit, 50-division structure.

“We are pleased that Mr. Hall will be serving as CSI’s next President-elect,” said CSI Executive Director and CEO Walter Marlowe, CSI, P.E., CAE. “He brings 25 years of CSI leadership to the office, as well as a visionary mind that will assist in keeping the Institute’s products and initiatives relevant to the changing ways we generate, share and maintain construction knowledge.”

Hall has earned chapter, regional

CSI TO ELEVATE NINE MEMBERS TO FELLOWSHIP

CSI announced that the organization will elevate nine members to Fellows of the Institute during the Honors and Awards Gala at the CSI Annual Convention in Indianapolis, on Friday, June 19.

CSI members joining this distinguished group in 2009 are:

Lane J. Beougher, CSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA, LEED AP
Raymond E. Gaines, CSI, CCS, AIA, ALA
Edward (Ted) Healy, RA, CSI Emeritus, CDT
Richard L. Levin, CSI, CCS, LEED AP
Dennis A. Linscheid, RA, CSI
Robert H. Mallory, CSI, CCS, CCPR, CCCA, LEED AP
Janet Piccola, CSI
John S. Rickert, CSI, CCS, AIA
Robert W. Simmons, BS, CSI, CCPR, CEO ♡

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Bill Buchholz, CSI, CCS, AIA, LEED AP and Barbara Brosh, CSI at the April Dinner Meeting



CURMUDGEON • from pg 8

significant contributions to the organization. This acknowledges the importance of their work and allows members to attend the presentations. The highest of these awards and honors are Distinguished or Honorary Membership, the Distinguished Service Award, and the 'name' awards - Andrew J. Drozda, Ben John Small, Dale C. Moll, J. Norman Hunter, Robert P. Brosseau, and Hans William Meier. I will not go into the requirements - you can read them on the Institute website - except to say that only one of each may be awarded each year.

The honor of Fellowship is second only to that of Distinguished Membership. Although there is no limit to the number of Fellowships that may be conferred in a single year, few are elected as it is an honor reserved for those who perform beyond the call of office, and who have made extraordinary contributions to CSI.

This year, we will honor nine new Fellows, and recipients of only three of the other top awards: Distinguished Membership, the Hans William Meier Award, and the Andrew J. Drozda Commendation. I encourage you to learn more about each of the awards, and to congratulate recipients in person if possible.

But, what if you gave a party... and no one came?

It seems reasonable that the more significant the honor, the more dignified the attendant ceremonies would be, the more publicity it would receive, and the more members who would want to attend the presentation. Unfortunately, it is increasingly difficult to attend the convention's premier event, the President's Gala (Honors and Awards Dinner).

In 1999, the first year I attended the Gala, the cost was \$60 per person. I recall giving that quite a bit of thought as \$60 is not a trivial amount, even today. In 2002, the Gala cost \$65, an amount that accurately reflects the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from 1999 to 2002. I do not remember all the steps in between, but last year a ticket to the Gala was \$100. According to the CPI, the \$60 I paid in 1999 would have grown to only \$80.

This year, the price has risen to \$125, a 25% increase in one year - even though, according to the Consumer Price Index, this year's ticket should be four dollars less than last year!

This runaway inflation threatens to kill what should be the highlight of the convention. This year I will probably miss the Gala for the first time since 1999. I am sure my wife and I can find an excellent dinner for less than the cost of a single Gala ticket, and with luck, get back in time to see the investiture of Fellows. Or maybe we will just order a pizza and sit in the hall. ♡

**"Volunteers don't
get paid, not
because they're
worthless, but
because they're
priceless."**

Sherry Anderson

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and Institute level awards from CSI. He is a two-time recipient of the Southeast Region's Frederick W. Bucky Memorial Award and a three-time recipient of the Institute's President's Plaque. He also earned five national specification competition awards, including three Honor Awards.

Engineering News-Record named Hall one of its "Top 25 Newsmakers of 2005" for his leadership in updating MasterFormat. He has also been recognized by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Institute of Architects with the 2007 William Dietrick Medal for Services and was the recipient of the National Institute of Building Sciences's 2004 Institute Honor Award for exceptional contributions to the nation and the building community.

Hall has written, co-authored, edited or supervised the preparation of several books. He is the co-author (with Charles Rick Green, FCSI, CCS, CCCA, AIA, LEED, SCIP) of The Architect's Guide to the U.S. National CAD Standard. He also served as the senior executive editor of Architectural Graphic Standards, 11th edition and contributed to several sections in the Appendix. He is currently the editor-in-chief of Architectural Graphic Standards for Residential Construction, 2nd edition, which will be published in 2010.

Hall earned a Bachelor of Arts in architecture/geography from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Master of Architecture from Washington University in St. Louis. ♡