

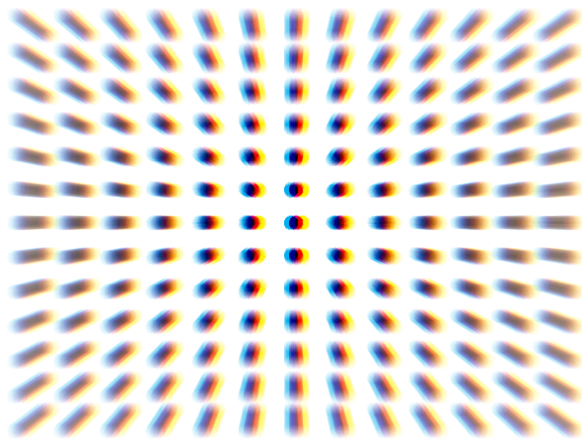
# Crown Jewel

Lighting Planners Associates illuminate  
Singapore's stunning Jewel Changi Airport

# Light Symposium

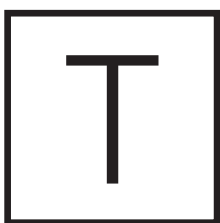
## Connecting health research with lighting practice

Asst. Prof. Dr. Karolina M. Zielinska-Dabkowska IALD, IES, CIE, MSLL, RIBA, looks at the interdisciplinary initiative Light Symposium Wismar 2020 and its historical development.



## LIGHTSYMPOSIUM WISMAR 2020

Figure 1 The Future of Daylight and Artificial Lighting in Healthy Built Environments will be discussed at the 2020 Light Symposium Wismar (LSW 2020) held from 14-16 October 2020 in Wismar, Germany. © LSW



Thanks to state-of-the-art medical and environmental research, our current understanding about the impact of light and lighting is improving at a rapid rate\*. While the evolution of lighting technologies offers promising design possibilities, it also poses new challenges to planners and the general public. This is further complicated by the fact that today's modern indoor lifestyle means we can be completely disconnected from nature and natural light. Instead, we live under artificial skies in man-made environments\*.

To answer the need for cross-disciplinary talks and in order to bridge the knowledge gaps in the field of architectural lighting design, in 2007, the concept of a Light Symposium emerged at the Professional Lighting Designers Convention (PLDC) in London. Michael F. Rohde, a German lighting designer and professor at the Hochschule Wismar (HSW) in Wismar, was inspired to create an interdisciplinary event where light and health could be holistically addressed and connected with research and practice.

In 2008, the first event, called the Light Symposium Wismar (LSW), was held in Germany, in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the HSW, University of Applied Sciences: Technology, Business and Design. Soon after, Professor Jan Ejhed, a Swedish lighting designer, professor and head of the Lighting Laboratory at Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm, joined forces and a new partnership

was formed. It was proposed that the event should take place every two years on a rolling basis in Wismar and Stockholm. Since that first event in 2008, another five symposia have taken place in 2010, 2012, 2015, 2016, and 2018, where well known architects, interior designers, lighting practitioners, physicians, biologists, colour psychologists, ergonomists and other experts from Europe and overseas presented their experiences in lectures and workshops, and together with the numerous participants, created a lively discussion forum. Associations, universities, media partners and the lighting industry now regard this event as the benchmark for international education on the impact of lighting on health.

Due to the enormous interest in the fifth LSW in 2016, presentations were directly streamed online for the first time, allowing those who couldn't physically attend, to participate in the event. All of these talks can still be watched free of charge at: <http://bit.ly/2GUfcKU>. Another element that was introduced was a follow-up book called: *New Perspectives on the Future of Healthy Light and Lighting in Daily Life*, which features best lighting design practice, lighting research and related aspects, as well as potential issues connected to medical science and lighting in man-made and natural settings. This publication includes contributions and research originally presented at LSW 2016. It is a valuable and vital reference source for students, researchers, academics, the lighting industry, lighting planners and policy makers. This book can be downloaded free of charge at the symposium website.

PROGRAMME

Please register at:  
lightsymposium.de

**Wednesday, 14 October 2020**

- 14:00 Registration
- 18:00 Welcome Party

**Thursday, 15 October 2020**

- 08:00 Registration
- 09:00 Opening - Welcome  
**Prof. Michael F. Rohde**  
Rector of the HSW  
Dean of the HSW, Faculty of Architecture

**DAYLIGHT DESIGN PRACTICE**

- 09:45 **Dr. George C. Brainard [Keynote Speaker]**  
Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University/US
- 10:45 Coffee Break
- 11:15 **Giovanni Traverso**  
Traverso-Vighy architetti/IT
- 11:45 **LSPC20 Speaker: TBD**  
...
- 12:15 **Assoc. Prof. Marie-Claude Dubois**  
Department of Architecture and Built Environment,  
Lundt University/SE
- 12:45 Lunch Break

**DAYLIGHT RESEARCH & RELATED ASPECTS**

- 14:15 **Prof. Dr. John Mardaljevic**  
School of Architecture, Building & Civil Engineering  
Loughborough University/UK
- 14:45 **Dr. Ahmet Çakir**  
ERGONOMIC Institute/DE
- 15:15 **LSPC20 Speaker: TBD**  
...
- 15:45 Coffee Break
- 16:15 **Prof. Dr. Marilyne Anderson**  
Laboratory of Integrated Performance in Design,  
Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)/CH
- 16:45 **Dr. Jan de Boer**  
Fraunhofer-Institut für Bauphysik/DE
- 17:15 **Panel discussion**

**Friday, 16 October 2020**

- 08:00 Registration
- 09:00 Opening - Welcome  
**Prof. Michael F. Rohde**  
**Asst. Prof. Dr. Karolina M. Zielinska-Dabkowska**

**ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING DESIGN PRACTICE**

- 09:15 **Mark Major [Keynote Speaker]**  
Speir + Major/UK
- 10:15 Coffee Break
- 10:45 **Anne Bureau**  
Wonderfulight/FR
- 11:15 **LSPC20 Speaker: TBD**  
...
- 11:45 **Prof. Michael F. Rohde & Asst. Prof. Dr. Karolina M. Zielinska-Dabkowska**  
Hochschule Wismar University of Applied Sciences Technology,  
Business and Design/DE, Light4Health Erasmus+ grant
- 12:15 Lunch Break

**ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING RESEARCH & RELATED ASPECTS**

- 13:45 **Catherine Pérez Vega**  
The Free University of Berlin & Leibniz Institute of Freshwater  
Ecology and Inland Fisheries/DE
- 14:15 **LSPC20 Speaker: TBD**  
...
- 14:45 **Prof. Dr. Eva Schernhammer, MD**  
Medical University of Vienna, Center for Public Health/AT
- 15:15 Coffee Break
- 15:45 **LSPC20 Speaker: TBD**  
...
- 16:15 **Dr. John Barentine**  
International Dark-Sky Association (IDA)/US
- 16:45 **LSPC20 Speaker: TBD**  
...
- 17:15 **Panel discussion**

**Friday, 16 October 2020**

- 19:00 Drinks Reception
- 19:45 LSPC20 Awards Ceremony

LSW 2020 will also be hosting the final of the young designers' and researchers' speaker competition: The Light Symposium Paper Competition (LSPC20). Six young talents will be competing for the first prize on 15th and 16th October in the final stage. The winner will have the opportunity to present her/his paper at the 12th edition of LEDforum in São Paulo, Brazil in 2020.

- 20:00 Party



**LSW Special Event  
Saturday, 17 October 2020**

- 10:00 Early Career Researchers' meeting

This meeting will provide current master degree students and doctoral candidates the unique opportunity to present their work and receive feedback from, and engage in a stimulating open discussion with well-established researchers from LSW 2020 partner universities.

FUTURE OF DAYLIGHT & ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING IN HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS

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Figure 2 LSW 2020 Programme, with international speakers from various fields including: architecture, lighting design, engineering, biology, environmental and medical sciences. © LSW

**Light Symposium Wismar 2020**

The approaching Light Symposium Wismar 2020 (LSW 2020) is a three-day forum that will bring together the latest insights into the future of daylight and artificial lighting in healthy built environments with respect to research, theory, technologies, design and applications.

It aims to deliver state-of-the-art discoveries and breakthroughs that explore how daylight and artificial light affect the mental and physical health of humans in natural and built environments. The symposium is an occasion for researchers, students, and practitioners who wish to keep up-to-date with recent findings. The interdisciplinary structure of LSW 2020 promotes future-oriented discussions on the importance of light and the lighting design profession. There are fourteen renowned speakers from fields such as: architecture, lighting design, engineering, biology, as well as

environmental and medical science. Experts from Germany, US, Canada, Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Sweden, and UK will present their talks in four different thematic tracks: Daylight Design Practice, Daylight Research and Related Aspects, Artificial Lighting Design Practice, Artificial Lighting Research and Related Aspects. This year, confirmed keynote speakers include neuroscientist Dr. George C. Brainard from Philadelphia University and Thomas Jefferson University, and Speirs + Major principal Mark Major. (Figure 2). LSW 2020 is already financially backed by ten lighting manufacturers including: Bega, ADO Lights/TTC Timmler Technology, eldoLED, LED Linear, Lucifer Lighting, Osram, Siteco, Technolight Leuchten, We-ef and XAL. But organisers of the event welcome other lighting manufacturers who want to present and discuss their lighting products to the conference participants via a display booth (Figure 3).

**“LED is rapidly changing the world of lighting and lighting design. The dynamics of the technology ask for masters to control light for the best use in our habitat. Therefore, education in the form of the Light Symposium and the interdisciplinary collaboration of industry and lighting designers is the basis for all future developments. For us, it is important to make a significant contribution to this advancement.”**

*Dr. Michael Kramer, CEO of LED Linear*

**“I had been curious about Light Symposium Wismar due to its content and the difficulty finding useful information on the presented aspects. I was very much impressed with the presentations and the quality of the speakers, and congratulate the organisers for this wonderful opportunity to gain knowledge.”**

*Birgit Walter, Founder and Creative Director of BMLD, Co-Founder of APDI*

### Light Symposium Paper Competition 2020 (LSPC20)

LSW 2020 will also host the final of the young designers and researchers speaker competition. There are four topics: Fundamentals, Architecture, Health and Design. Six young talents (three Master’s students and three PhD students) will compete at the final stage for the prize on 15 and 16 October. The speakers will be judged on the quality of the content of their papers and the professional quality of the presentation itself. The jury, supported by independent experts, will decide on an overall winner, which will be announced on Friday 16 October during the LSPC20 Awards Ceremony. The call for papers will be released next month. The symposium’s comprehensive supporting programme is also designed to stimulate discussion and debate – and the following activities all contribute to enhancing LSW 2020’s reputation as a quality lighting event: a guided tour to visit the UNESCO heritage old town of Wismar, a Welcome Party, and the LSPC20 Awards Ceremony.

### The Future is Bright

Modern lighting technologies and design should address and, if possible, be based on evidence gathered by scientific studies. The implementation of new technologies such as LEDs is already changing the future of lighting design and will continue to do so. The impact of this, and the opportunities that exist are hard to define right now, which is why they are the subject of discussion. No wonder human health and wellbeing are areas of increasing interest and concern. Furthermore, today and in the future, architectural lighting design needs to better acknowledge the need for interdisciplinary collaboration between scientists, medical researchers, the lighting industry and lighting designers. This is why the Light Symposium plays a unique and integral role in continuing education, building on its foundation to enable developments in the field of lighting design as a discipline and profession. ■

*\* Academic references are available in the online version of this article on [www.arc-magazine.com](http://www.arc-magazine.com) and in the digital version of *arc* 114*



Figure 3 Impression of the LSW 2016. In this year’s event sponsors will have a chance to present and discuss their innovative lighting products to conference participants. © G. Hundt



Asst. Prof. Dr. Karolina M. Zielinska-Dabkowska is a chartered RIBA architect and an award winning practicing lighting designer. She is also an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Architecture, Gdansk University of Technology, Poland, and co-founder of GUT LightLab, where she conducts research on various aspects of light and lighting in the built environment. She is actively engaged in the work of international organisations such as the International Association of Lighting Designers (IALD), the Illuminating Engineering Society (IES), and International Dark-Sky Association (IDA), providing guidelines and sharing best practice for nighttime illumination in the built and natural environment. She has participated in a number of international conferences, and has written articles for national and international publications. Karolina joined Women in Lighting (WiL) in March 2018 as an Ambassador for Poland.