

Years ago, I was fortunate to be invited to share dinner with my former WSU architecture classmates, Grace and Mike, at their then-recently completed urban infill cohousing community on Seattle's Capitol Hill. In addition to enjoying a delicious communal meal, I was able to tour a number of units. All boasted great light, views into the courtyard, and even some additional exterior open space.

Cohousing, which has its origins in Denmark, is a shared real estate development venture, led by future tenants, that prioritizes building social cohesion among residents during the design and construction process.

The intention behind the Capitol Hill Urban Cohousing (CHUC) was to develop a housing project that nurtured both the individual and the family.

CHUC is a five-story, mixed-used building that includes nine 2-3 self-contained bedroom homes, a second-floor commons area with an outdoor courtyard, a 30-person kitchen/dining room, shared laundry facilities, and a sitting room that can be used as a guest suite. CHUC also boasts a rooftop terrace and gardening plot. The ground floor houses the offices of Schemata Workshop, Grace and Mike's thriving architectural design studio.

With community as the focus of CHUC's design, emphasis was placed on how the architecture could encourage social interaction among residents. That interaction was supremely felt as I watched professionals, single parents, retired folks, teens, and young children interact, converse, and share a lively meal around a table in an outdoor courtyard in the center of a dense urban neighborhood.

Since that memorable night at CHUC, it's thrilling to be reminded that Spokane boasts its own successful and vibrant cohousing community Haystack Heights.

If you would like to hear more about cohousing please join us on Saturday, March 4, as the Innovative Urbanism Symposium welcomes



Grace Kim and Mike Mariano from Schemata Workshop to lead a community workshop around urban cohousing. We also encourage you to listen to Grace's Ted Talk: "[How Cohousing can make us happier \(and live longer\)!](#)"

*Juliet Sinisterra, CEO*



*Dinnertime at the Capitol Hill Urban Cohousing village.*



## **Board Member Focus**

We are pleased to announce that UDDA Board Member, Dr. Daryll DeWald, executive vice president for WSU Health Sciences Spokane and chancellor of the WSU Spokane campus, has been elected to serve on the executive committee of Life Sciences Washington beginning in January 2023.

Life Sciences Washington is a membership and advocacy organization representing over 500 life sciences organizations across the state. "We are pleased to welcome Dr. DeWald to the Life Science Washington Board and Executive Committee," says Marc Cummings, President and CEO, Life Science Washington. "WSU Health Sciences Spokane is a foundational pillar of Washington's life science infrastructure. Dr. DeWald's deep knowledge of scientific research, education partnerships, and university leadership will be invaluable to our mission of continuing to build one of the strongest statewide life science ecosystems in the county."

## Noteworthy Community Events

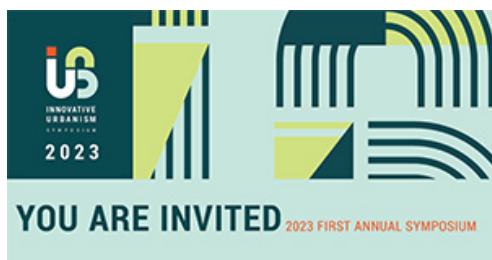


**South Logan TOD Survey**  
Ongoing



**WSU Women's Leadership Summit (online)**  
February 24

Take advantage of this opportunity to provide feedback on the South Logan Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Project that aims to increase connectivity and livability in the South Logan community.



## First Annual Innovative Urbanism Symposium (IUS)

March 2-4

The University District Development Association (UDDA) and the Spokane Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) are pleased to announce the first annual symposium on March 2-4, 2023, at the Central Spokane Public Library. This year, IUS brings regionally- and nationally-recognized experts in urban housing design and economics to Spokane.



## Saranac Art Projects: Dan McCann “Seen and Unseen” and Dustin M. Regul “Penumbra”

March 3 – April 1

Regul’s recent work explores the in

This event provides Cougs with an opportunity to celebrate successes and learn from the experiences of WSU women. This year’s Summit will highlight WSU alumnae from across the OneWSU system and showcase how WSU played an integral role in their professional journeys.



## Gonzaga Center for Climate, Society and the Environment

March 9

Gonzaga welcomes Cardinal Michael Czerny, S.J., to speak on “Caring for our Common Home, in *This World* and with *This Climate*.” Cardinal Czerny is Pope Francis’ choice to lead the Catholic Church’s efforts to become a better caretaker of the planet and all its creatures.