

CUDA's Latest Posts

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Cost of universal design in buildings

The cost of implementing universal design in buildings is little, if any, in new buildings. This is not new information for followers of universal design. However, many developers and designers find this difficult to believe. Consequently, this perceived cost becomes a barrier to implementation. New research by Elke lelegems and Jan Vanrie shines a light on the real costs. Yes, ...

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Public open space and gender

The COVID pandemic made us all realise how important urban public open space is for our wellbeing. However, the enjoyment of public open space is not equally shared across genders. A study from Greece found that all genders found the more "easily accessible" the public space, the more safe they felt. The notion of "easily accessible" includes visibility from immediate ...

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Building industry perspectives on universal design

Architects and other design professionals are in a position to educate their clients about universal design. However, their own lack of knowledge is passing up this opportunity. Understanding building industry perspectives on universal design is a good start for unravelling the issues. Zallio and Clarkson's study spans disciplines of behavioural science, ergonomics and the social sciences of architecture. It uncovered ...

Certification for universal design: does it work?

Certification for universal design and accessibility should be tested by different users to be sure it is worthy. An hotel in New York with an isUD certification was the subject of such a assessment. The outcome was that it was not well regarded by wheelchair users. The isUD (innovative solutions for Universal Design) certification was devised by the inclusive design

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Universal design meets green building

Many home designers have argued for improved environmental sustainability while citizens have advocated for universal design. The 2022 edition of the National Construction Code (NCC) has them both covered. At last, universal design meets green building. Sanctuary Magazine is a publication for people looking to build and renovate sustainably. Universal design is the focus of their 61st edition. So I ...

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8-Inclusion needs to prevent discrimination

The 7 Principles and the 8 Goals of universal design have their roots in the built environment and people with disability. We have moved on since their inception to thinking about how other marginalised groups can be included. With this thinking comes intersectionality where an individual can be a member of more than one of those groups. For example, a ...

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Livable Housing Design course

This short course is tailor-made for qualified designers, architects, builders, certifiers, and building surveyors, seeking an understanding of the NCC requirements for Livable Housing Design Standard. This course delves into the technical details of the new standard and also covers the enhanced standard. CUDA presents this course under licence from the Australian Building Codes Board.

Conferences and calls for papers

This page has the latest information on upcoming conferences and calls for papers. Email udaustralia@gmail.com with a link to your event and it will be added to the list. New to the list: IEA2024 Congress (International Ergonomics Association), August 25-29, 2024 Republic of Korea. Call for papers: Submission Round 2: 1 November 2023 - 29 February 2024. Special sessions will ...

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Introduction to Universal Design: free online course

Introduction to Universal Design online course is in visual, audio and text formats and there are quick quizzes at the end of each module. This course is good for newcomers to the concepts and a refresher for others. There's a certificate at the end.

Get started on the Introduction to Universal Design course! It will take less than an hour. And let us know what you think.

Sign Up - it's Free!

Generic Universal Design Position Statement

CUDA has devised a generic document to help organisations develop their own universal design policy or statement. The CUDA Universal Design Position Statement covers all the basics in a straightforward way. At the end of the document, organisations can insert links to their own policy documents that relate to the position statement. There's a one page plain language version too.

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