



CUDA's Newsletter of latest posts

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Being along for the real experience

The disabling reality of the existing built environment is difficult to understand from a distance. That is the distance of being without disability. Architect Mary Ann Jackson relates several short stories of 'being along' for the real experience of disability. She writes about assessments of the built environment using the 'being along' method as a powerful educator. Jackson and colleagues ...

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Universal design is about diversity

Universal design is about diversity, equity and inclusion, and whether you use this term or "inclusive design" is of little importance. Indeed there are many ways to explain designs that include, support, and enable. Everyone appreciates designs that create a sense of belonging, comfort and convenience - that's universal appreciation. The underpinning principle of universal design is inclusiveness and to ...

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Universal design and BIM

Universal design concepts in their pure form are about creativity rather than set standards. However, building practitioners want more guidance than "make it inclusive and accessible for all". Two researchers in Canada have attempted to solve this dilemma by connecting universal design and BIM (Building Information Modelling). BIM is a process that uses tools and technologies to form digital representations ...

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Inclusive tourism with universal design

Research on the business opportunities in accessible and inclusive tourism is extensive. However, the intent of this research is largely staying on the shelf. Four items in this post, the first on a research project, and then an overview of three books: "The Disabled Tourist", "Breaking Barriers: Designing Inclusive Tourist Destinations", and "Tourism and Disability". A mix of attitudes towards people with disability and a sense of "not knowing where to start" are likely reasons the status quo remains. But you can get inclusive tourism with universal design by co-designing with tourism operators. ...

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Inclusive - Universal design debate

The academic debate about nuanced differences between universal design and inclusive design continue. But to what purpose? Nevertheless, it is useful to know where this began and why it continues. Some terms come from human rights legislation (accessibility), some from policy (ageing in place), and some from an individual perspective (person-environment fit). But are they rivals, and if so, rivals of or for what? ...

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Books on inclusive design

This post features five books on the topic of inclusive design, accessibility and social justice. "Disability at heart of design The Architecture of Disability: Buildings, cities and landscapes beyond access". An architectural perspective that places disability at the heart of the built environment, on the edge. "Living Disability: Building Accessible Futures for Everybody" is a series of essays by Canadians with lived experience. ...

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Introduction to Universal Design - free online course

CUDA's online course is free and a certificate of completion will be sent once all sections of the course are completed. That includes the final questionnaire. It covers different definitions, diversity, stereotypes and the application of universal design.

Sign up here and get started in the free Introduction to Universal Design course. It will take less than an hour.

Sign Up!

Model Universal Design Position Statement

Has your organisation has been wanting to draft a universal design position statement and not sure where to start? Well, CUDA has devised a model document to get you going. 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 ...

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