

***Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life Welcomes New National Advisory Board Member***  
**October 7, 2008**

Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life is a Syracuse University-based consortium of colleges and universities committed to public scholarship in the arts, humanities, and design. Imagining America's National Advisory Board welcomes a new member:

**Dan Etheridge**, Tulane City Center, Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

**Dan Etheridge** is Associate Director of the Tulane City Center and Adjunct Professor at the Tulane School of Architecture and a fellow of the Institute for Environmental Communication at Loyola University New Orleans. Dan has a degree in Applied Environmental Management from Southern Cross University in New South Wales, Australia and has worked for the last five years at the intersection of regional environmental management issues, progressive and equitable design and development strategies, and urban policy. Through the work of the Tulane City Center, Dan has partnered with numerous grassroots community based organizations in New Orleans as the city and its people recover and rebuild after Hurricane Katrina. This work has included the design and construction of new affordable housing prototypes, design and planning technical assistance on regional food systems projects, and supporting community led initiatives to establish and achieve sustainability goals in the built environment. Dan is also one of the founders of the CITYbuild Consortium of over a dozen schools, developed in the fall of 2005 to address the unprecedented design and rebuilding needs in New Orleans. From 2006 – 2008, CITYbuild involved 30 national and international design based programs (representing 60 faculty and more than 600 students) and partnered with 20 local community based organizations, resulting in approximately 16 structures (from urban furniture to housing) built or rehabilitated and more than 200 design and project proposals.

Now that CITYbuild is no longer continuing as a self-standing consortium, Jan Cohen-Cruz, Director of Imagining America, and Dan Etheridge are working to bring other CITYbuild schools into the Imagining America consortium and to create opportunities for more critical discourse about design in response to public needs. At the October 2008 national conference, a session on "Architecture, Design, and Planning Campus-Community Partnerships in a Post-Disaster Context" was led by Dan Etheridge, with participation from Derek Hoeflerlin, College of Architecture, Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Design, Washington University of St. Louis; Rob Corser, University of Washington, Seattle; and Mark Robbins, Dean of Architecture, Syracuse University. "CITYbuild has done exemplary work in post-catastrophe New Orleans," says Cohen-Cruz, "but the fact is the needs in many of our communities are also acute. We are pleased at this opportunity to bring some of the best thinking about design, city planning, and architecture in campus-community partnerships to Imagining America and in the process, strengthen our consortium's own commitment to this area."

Imagining America members wishing to be in direct contact with Dan Etheridge about CITYbuild's work are invited to contact the national office at [imaginingamerica@syr.edu](mailto:imaginingamerica@syr.edu).