



## Environmental and Energy Study Institute

### SPEAKER BIOS

#### **Robert F. Fox, Jr., AIA - Partner, Cook+Fox Architects**

In 2003, Robert F. Fox, Jr. joined with Richard Cook to form Cook + Fox Architects, a firm devoted to creating beautiful, environmentally responsible high-performance buildings. Winner of the prestigious Urban Visionary Award from The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art (2002), Bob's work has been featured in exhibitions and publications internationally.

A founding partner of Fox & Fowle Architects, Bob guided that firm to a prominent position of national leadership in the design of sustainable high-rise buildings and urban design. Bob led the team that created the original "Green Guidelines" for the Battery Park City Authority in Lower Manhattan; in addition, he is a founding member and former Chair of the U.S. Green Building Council/NY Chapter, a member of the President's Council at The Cooper Union, and a member of the "Green Team" for Interface Corporation. Bob serves on the Advisory Board of the Center for Health and the Global Environment at Harvard Medical School, is the Co-Chair of the Sustainable Design Committee of the Real Estate Board of New York, and serves on numerous other advisory committees.

Bob received a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Cornell University and a Master of Architecture from Harvard University.

#### **Helen English – Executive Director, Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC)**

Helen English joined Steven Winter Associates, Inc. in 1987 and is the principal-in-charge of the Washington, D.C., office. Helen has over 27 years of experience in information dissemination, policy development, training and technical assistance specifically focused on buildings.

For the past 16 years, Helen has served as the executive director for the Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC). SBIC, a twenty five year old, industry-based trade association, is a membership organization committed to education, outreach, and advocacy using a wholistic approach to buildings..

Helen has participated in the development and implementation of numerous technical assistance and educational/outreach programs related to housing and building technology. She oversees national training programs, large conferences and technical meetings and has helped create various public relations, promotional and marketing campaigns.

In 1997 Helen worked closely with the early development team to conceptualize the Whole Building Design Guide" web site ([www.wbdg.org](http://www.wbdg.org)). which is one of the primary federal information portals related to buildings in use today. The site receives upwards of five million hits per month.

#### **Claire L. Barnett - MBA, Executive Director, Healthy Schools Network, Inc.**

Mrs. Barnett is founder and executive director of the Healthy Schools Network, Inc. (HSN), a national environmental health not-for-profit research, education, and advocacy organization, and the coordinator of the national Coalition for Healthier Schools, a project of HSN. She convened the Network in 1995 as a New York coalition; it has since shaped and won new funds and multiple laws on school environment in the nation's fourth largest educational system (NYS) and the nation's single largest school district (NYC). Mrs. Barnett also shaped and won enactment of federal *Healthy and High Performance Schools Act* in 2002 that codified key school design criteria for the first time and established a National Priority Study on children's health. Since then

she has chaired two US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Schools Work Groups; moderated the Schools Policy Panel for the prestigious 9th triennial International Conference on Indoor Air in 2002; coordinated testimony for the first-ever US Senate hearing on school environments; and in 2003-2004 led two White House briefings on children's health and school environments. In 2005, HSN received a first-ever US EPA Award for Children's Health Protections.

Barnett is advisor to the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks, the Children's Environmental Health Network, and several state health committees. She has a federal appointment to advise the US EPA Office of Children's Health. Prior to founding the Network, Mrs. Barnett was an appointed member of several New York State task forces and a New York Board of Regents' Committee on school environments from which the Network emerged.

Barnett was named a National Leader by Parenting Magazine in 1998. She was also honored as Citizen Activist of the Year at the 1997 New York State Earth Day Lobby Day. She received her BA from Mount Holyoke College (1965) and her MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (health finance, 1984).