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civic academy

Welcome 2026 members!

Civic Academy: Week 4
October 20, 2026

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COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **DENVER**

Agenda

6:00 p.m.	Greetings and dinner served
6:15 p.m.	Turning the Key: Scaling the Will to Build presentation
7:30 p.m.	5-minute break
7:35 p.m.	Systems thinking activity
8:15 p.m.	Next steps
8:30 p.m.	Adjourn

A black and white photograph of four people in a professional setting, likely a workshop or meeting. Three women are visible in the foreground, looking towards the right. One woman in the center has a name tag that reads "Emily Jane Zahradnik". They are holding papers and looking at each other, suggesting a collaborative activity.

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5 minutes

Break

A black and white photograph of a group of people sitting at a long table in a workshop or classroom setting. In the foreground, a woman with long blonde hair and glasses is looking towards the right. Behind her, a man is also looking in the same direction. To the left, another woman is partially visible. On the table, there is a laptop and a can of water. The background is slightly blurred, showing more people and what appears to be a presentation screen.

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Systems Thinking

Systems Thinking Activity



- What do we know about icebergs?
- **The metaphor of an iceberg can...**
 - Help us uncover what lies beneath
 - Assist us in seeing the interrelationships that exist
 - Encourage us to look at the root cause

Systems Thinking Iceberg



Michael Goodman,
The Iceberg Model,
2002

Systems Thinking Activity

- Think about a challenge with your action plan and ask yourself a series of questions.
 1. What are your observations?
 2. What are the patterns that contribute to the observations?
 3. Why might they be happening?
 4. After identifying what seems to be a reason, ask yourself why again and up to five times?
 5. Make note of the answers that arise as you ask why.

A black and white photograph of three men in conversation. The man on the left is a white man with a beard, wearing a dark button-down shirt and a name tag that says "Justin". The man in the middle is a Black man wearing a patterned shirt and a tie. The man on the right is an older white man wearing a light-colored polo shirt. They are all looking towards the right. In the background, other people are visible, including a woman with long dark hair and a man with dreadlocks. The setting appears to be an indoor event space.

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Next steps and adjourn