

# deir in lighting NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the second issue of the DEIR in Lighting newsletter, a quick and easy way to collect and share news, events, and resources among ourselves and with others outside the working group. Help us spread the word via your own networks, newsletters, LinkedIn posts, and other means! Send content to [amy@akoyaonline.com](mailto:amy@akoyaonline.com). View [past issues](#).

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## august meeting recap

**On August 8**, 20 members of the DEIR in Lighting working group met on the topic of **education**, encompassing opportunities for curriculum development, minority-serving institutions, and grants. Four working group members with experience in leading lighting education efforts were asked to kick things off. **Dan Feezell** (Associate Professor, University of New Mexico); **Brienne Musselman** (Director of Education, IES); **Edward Bartholomew** (Principal, Bartholomew Lighting, and Instructor, Morgan State University); and **Bob Davis** (Chief Lighting Researcher, PNNL, and Instructor, Tennessee State University) shared their successes and challenges in implementing lighting education programs.

These experiences together with ensuing discussion among all meeting participants helped identify key factors for success — adequate funding, collaboration, and accessibility of curriculum resources — as well as obstacles — limited faculty time, inadequate funding, geographic constraints, and prior assumptions of student knowledge and ability.

Based on these findings, **top priorities** include:

- 1) Identifying **grants or programs** that allow adequate funding, feedback, and accountability
- 2) Enabling remote accessibility of material in **e-learning environments** accessible anytime and anywhere which give immediate feedback to the user
- 3) Implementing **hands-on opportunities** such as mentorships, research, or class projects that connect real-world experience to classroom knowledge
- 4) Developing a **seminar series and other curricula with diverse groups of speakers** that can be shared between various institutions and organizations

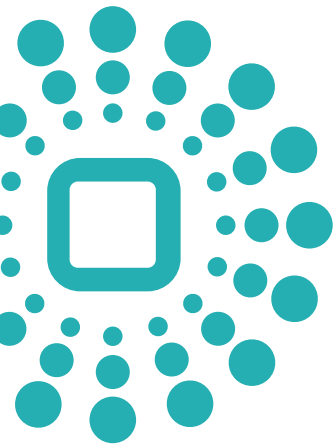
To learn more about the meeting discussion, check out the [Jamboard](#).

## CALLS TO ACTION

**Join the Education subgroup** to take the August meeting discussion further. Contact [Lisa Pattison](#) to volunteer.

**Join the Pipeline subgroup** to take the June discussion on pathways in lighting further. Contact [Bernadette Boudreaux](#) to volunteer.

**Next working group meeting:**  
late September



## how i got into lighting: Peter Hugh



**I never considered a career in lighting.** I grew up in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, with no clue about the design industry much less lighting design. I was good at math and science and my teachers always pushed me to be an engineer or doctor, but my imaginative mind knew I didn't want to pursue those options. I did some acting and thought that I would pursue theater at Marquette University. After one semester, I realized I didn't handle the inner politics well and that my left-brain side wanted to be challenged more.

At Marquette's theater program, if you don't act in a production, you must be on a crew. I started with the electrician/lighting crew and liked it. I spent more time talking to the tech director and he said they could come up with a program for me to specialize in technical theater. That was the start of my lighting direction. I also like psychology and took many classes on that subject. I saw the relationship of lighting and psychology in the impact to audiences and became enamored with the magic it created.

**“The skills and abilities [needed in lighting] are not locked into an upbringing or environment.”**

I graduated with a BA in Theater and History minor and went back to the islands to do performance lighting. Given that no one else did this, I got a lot of hands-on experience via baptism by fire. A couple years later, a friend asked me to light his new home. I thought, “Well, how hard can it be?” (Insert snickering here.) He loved the results, and I loved the permanence of the finished product. I decided to head back to the mainland to pursue this new hybrid profession that I had discovered.

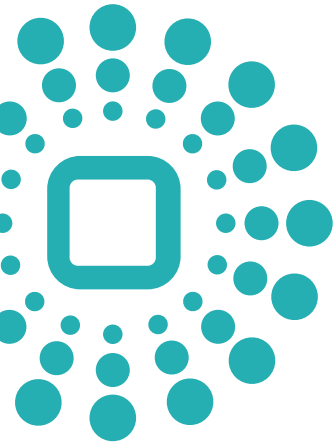
I moved to Washington, DC, and joined CM Kling and Associates, which introduced me to the fact that this was indeed a real profession and that I knew nothing about it. With Candy Kling's extremely patient mentorship, wisdom, wit, and push, I became a senior associate 7 years later. It's only been forward since then.

I believe strongly that there are many younger people like myself who have skills and talent but no knowledge of the opportunities that lighting can bring. The lighting industry, especially in design, is perceived as an opportunity more befitting wealthier upbringings, for pursuing the “hobby” of design. If more role models were marketed to show how anyone can “make it,” it would open more doors. I think if young people are shown how they can impact communities, and our environment, it wakens a sense of responsibility to a larger calling.

Looking back at my own path, the advice that I would pass on is this: The lighting profession is real. It makes money. The skills and abilities are not locked into an upbringing or environment. The profession is a rewarding mix of creativeness and implementation, and that mix is entirely up to your skill levels at either one. It is one of the few professions that I can think of that allows a person to be their whole self in interests, skills, and empathic passion.

*We'd like to develop stories from all of you, to be collected and shared by all of us – via emails, newsletters, LinkedIn, and other means. Sharing your stories may alert others to existing opportunities, or spur ideas for future pathways we can create.*

*Ready to share your story? Contact [amy@akoyaonline.com](mailto:amy@akoyaonline.com).*



## events

### [L-Prize Webinar: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Requirements and Opportunities](#)

On August 17 at 1:00 p.m. ET, DOE will host a webinar to dive into the details on [L-Prize](#) DEI requirements and opportunities, as well as how you can collaborate with an L-Prize team to ensure winning products are developed and installed with DEI in mind. The L-Prize is a three-phase, \$12.2 million competition rewarding innovations that move rapidly to improve lighting performance, resulting in energy, emissions, and cost savings for American businesses and consumers. [Register now.](#)

### [Justice40 Kickoff Webinar](#)

On August 17 at 2:00 p.m. ET, DOE's Office of Economic Impact and Diversity will host a kickoff webinar on DOE's implementation of the [Justice40 Initiative](#), featuring Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm, Director Shalanda Baker, and representatives from offices across DOE. Justice40 programs represent the Biden administration's commitment to address environmental justice and direct benefits of Federal clean energy investments toward disadvantaged communities. [Register now.](#)

### [IES Annual Conference](#)

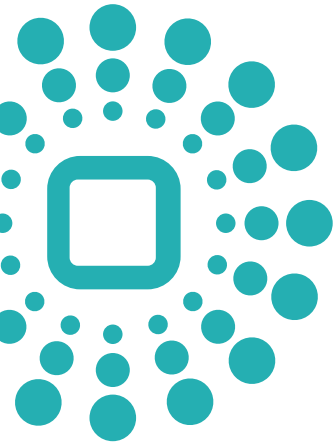
If you are heading to New Orleans August 18–20, check out these sessions:

- [Light Privilege: A Practical Framework for Holistic Lighting in Underserved Communities](#)  
Nick Albert and Lauren Dandridge, Chromatic  
Friday, August 19, 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. Central
- [Beyond Diversity: Making an Honest Effort Toward Equity and Inclusion](#)  
Alana Shepherd, Intangible Light/North American Coalition of Lighting Industry Queers  
Saturday, August 20, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Central

### [ArchLIGHT Summit](#)

If you are heading to Dallas September 14–16, check out these sessions:

- [WILD Welcome Party](#)  
Wednesday, September 14, 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Central
- [Diversity and Inclusion: Uncovering Bias and Microaggression in the Lighting Industry and Workplace](#)  
Kevin M. Coleman, KMC Empowerment, LLC  
Thursday, September 15, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Central
- [Foster a Safe, Inclusive Environment for LGBTQIA+ People](#)  
Alana Shepherd, Intangible Light/North American Coalition of Lighting Industry Queers  
Thursday, September 15, 3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Central
- [Networking Breakfast: Women in Lighting + Design](#)  
Friday, September 16, 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Central
- [Putting Allyship into Practice](#)  
Nick Albert and Lauren Dandridge, Chromatic  
Friday, September 16, 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Central



## resources

### New to List

#### [North American Coalition of Lighting Industry Queers \(NACLIQ\)](#)

NACLIQ is a hub to discuss important LGBTQIA+ issues and lighting-centered topics from a queer perspective. Check out founder Alana Shepherd's LEDs Magazine article, "[Industry needs to light the way to equity.](#)" and LD+A article, "[Diversity: Redefining Good.](#)"

#### [Women in Lighting Design \(WILD\)](#)

WILD's mission is to provide the lighting community an inclusive and open environment for professional and personal growth by offering networking, mentorship, and knowledge sharing.

### From Previous Issues

[ACE Mentor Program](#)

[DOE Better Buildings Workforce Accelerator](#)

[LightJustice.org](#)



## opportunities

### [August: JUMP into STEM Challenges](#)

JUMP into STEM is a university and college student competition that inspires the next generation of building scientists and encourages diversity in the field. Supported by DOE's Building Technologies Office and its national laboratories, new challenges for the 2022-2023 cycle will be released this month.

### [Professors Wanted!](#)

Join the JUMP into STEM Professor Team and help cultivate the next generation of building scientists. Members of the Professor Team are a critical link connecting students with the competition. They help shape the challenges to best fit with their curriculum requirements and are invited to monthly meetings to receive competition updates and discuss best practices with the Professor Team network.

### [The Nuckolls Fund for Lighting Education](#)

The Nuckolls Fund supports college-level lighting programs across North America that enable and inspire students in lighting and lighting design. To date, over \$1.7 million in grants and awards have been given to recipients ranging from students and educators to university programs and unique lighting endeavors.