

# Assoc. Prof. Alfie Vick named a LEED Fellow + UGA Teaching Academy Member



November 21, 2013



## College of Environment + Design UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

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Founded in 1999, the UGA Teaching Academy is a faculty-driven organization dedicated to promoting excellence in teaching and learning. The mission of the Academy is to promote faculty leadership in teaching and learning, advocate for effective educational environments and foster a community of scholars. Each fall, a select group of dedicated teachers is inducted into the Academy.

Vick's goal as a professor is to cultivate students' curiosity to ask why or how, and to provide the tools and confidence needed to explore solutions. He believes that his students will be most effective at solving complex landscape problems if they have a clear understanding of the environmental, social, and economic systems that influence and interact with specific sites. Vick's personal recognition of the value of "doing" has led him to heavily incorporate service-learning into his courses at CED.

"I see in many of my students a familiar restlessness and detachment when forced to consider new subjects from only a distant and abstract perspective. When I do have the opportunity to take students out of the classroom and actually engage them in real places and activities their eyes light up and their questions are more insightful. I am convinced that field experiences and service-learning opportunities are critical components of higher education," said Vick.

Vick has also been instrumental in the development of an outstanding sustainability curriculum within the CED. He developed a course titled Issues and Practices in Sustainable Design which teaches essential knowledge about sustainability, green building, and the LEED rating system to students each spring. So far, over 250 of his students have passed the LEED AP and/or Green Associate Exam (recognized credentials in green building) before graduating. In 2013, he received the Sustainable UGA Outstanding Faculty Award from the UGA Office of Sustainability. A student nominator wrote, "Professor Vick's dedication to sustainable solutions and community engagement totally inspires and encourages us."

For these reasons and many others, Vick was among 51 of the world's most distinguished green building professionals selected to the 2013 class of LEED Fellows. The LEED Fellow Program is the green building industry's most prestigious professional designation, and recognizes exceptional contributions to green building and significant professional achievement within the rapidly growing community of LEED Professionals. The LEED Fellows program is based upon peer nomination and a portfolio review process.

"We are thrilled to present these highly accomplished individuals with the LEED Fellow designation," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, USGBC. "The Fellows are some of the leading innovators and vanguards of the green building movement, and their bodies of work strongly underscore their commitment to LEED and a sustainable built environment."

Professor Vick will be recognized with the rest of the 2013 LEED Fellow class at the Greenbuild International Conference and Expo in Philadelphia – November 20 through 22. For more information on the LEED Fellow program, please visit [US Green Building Council website](#).