



LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

2018 OCTOBER





2018 PILLARS CLASS

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The Corps of Discovery statue of Lewis, Clark, Sacagawea and her infant son, Jean Baptiste, plus the **2018 Pillars 16**

ABOUT PILLARS

The Pillars Leadership Training Program of the American Institute of Architects Kansas City prepares a representative cross section of the chapter's emerging leaders and individuals from the building community for their role in shaping the future of both the architectural profession and the greater Kansas City metropolitan area. The training program includes active participation in programs and exposure to community leaders and issues. Each class spends their time exploring core issues that affect our profession and the region within which we practice. Through discussions with leaders and colleagues, dialogue among themselves, tours and research the group will be able to understand and present to the AIA as a whole how we can make a positive change within our community. The AIA Kansas City Pillars program is a nationally recognized program for its originality and depth and has inspired similar AIA leadership studies in other US cities. The program continues to raise the bar of what young professionals want out of their profession and how we as professionals can make an impact on our built environment.



Arthur Bryant's



Zahner Headquarters

October | Politics

An old Kansas City favorite, Arthur Bryant's BBQ Restaurant, situated in its original 1908 location at 18th and Brooklyn, is where our class's story begins. This October session had a political focus, but instead of featuring local politicians, the Pillars Politics Group decided to focus on the construction industry and how our daily lives have been and will be affected by the Political Tariff War our country is facing.

The day continued to A. Zahner Company to learn about architectural metals. But we learned more than we bargained for. Angela Orsheln, Director of Supply Chain and Contracts, greeted us with a well prepared interactive slideshow presentation that made notable mention that the 10% aluminum tariff increase has sparked a noticeable price increase in architectural aluminum. Raw aluminum ore almost doubled in price much ado to supply and demand as domestic mills are backed up through 2019. She presented charts, diagrams and years of experience and knowledge on the subject of metals and how the industry is discovering new ways to introduce metals such as stainless steel, pre-weathered zinc and copper as cost-conscious replacements for typical aluminum fabrications. We were also joined by Bill Zahner, Tony Birchler and Eric Steele followed by a fabrication tour lead by James Coleman.

Next stop, Hollis + Miller offices for a panel discussion lead by Erika Winter-Downey and Christ Stanton from McCownGordon along with Donny Tennyson and Kelly Jarman from JE Dunn Construction. This round-table panel discussion focused more on the affects of the 25% steel tariff increase. One important fact to remember is that although the tariff hike represented a 25% increase, this equals about an 8-10% increase to the overall construction budget.

The panelists presented slides, but this was a very informal dialogue that was targeted to encourage the Pillars class to have more conversations like these with their respective contractors to be more engaged with the entire construction process. We might not be part of the team looking at the affects politics has on our individual workloads, but there is no harm in being equipped with questions.

The day of learning finished up at Beer Hall of Boulevard Brewing Tours & Recreation Center. We were met by Boulevard's Director of Supply Chain, Justin Deardorff. Justin shared the creative ways company's are reacting to the aluminum tariff increases. With a few adjustments to where their glass bottle caps are fabricated, companies are finding ways to shield consumers from paying too much of an increase.

Wrapping things up, we realized that our industry trade partners and local brewers alike are reacting to the Tariff adjustments. We as architects and engineers need to watch for changes that local and government politics throw our way. As tomorrow's leaders, we need to be ready to have these types of conversations.

Learn | See | Do

We learned about tariffs and our industry's reaction.

We saw amazing metal work at the Zahner shop.

Do - the challenge was given to all Pillars to Get Out and Vote in the November State Primary Elections.

Corrigan Station Roof Deck, Hollis + Miller

