

The story of a veteran

Anne Grete Hestnes

Professor emerita
Faculty of Architecture and Design/Centre for Zero
Emission Buildings
Norwegian University of Science and Technology



My career in solar

- 1977: Hired at a Norwegian research institute (SINTEF) to design Norway's first solar house
- 1982 (?): Served as chairman of the Norwegian Solar Energy Association (four terms)
Attended my first ISES Board meetings (as observer, representing the Norwegian association)
- 1985: Awarded a full professorship in architecture at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (specialization – energy use in buildings)
- 1998-2000: President of ISES Europe
- 2001-2003: President of ISES
- 2011: Received the Farrington Daniels Award (for “contribution to the advancement and knowledge of energy conservation and solar energy in the built environment”)

Other relevant activities:

- Chairman of the conference North Sun'92
- International chairman of Eurosun 2000
- Scientific chairman of Eurosun 2002
- Associate and guest editor of Solar Energy (1996-2006)
- Project leader (Operating Agent) for IEA's Solar Heating and Cooling Programme's Task 13 and Task 23 (1988-2002)

My professional story –

in line with the story of solar in Norway

- from systems based on air to systems based on water to photovoltaics
- from passive solar to active solar to hybrid systems to solar buildings
- from single technologies to whole building design
- from solar buildings to solar architecture
- from passive solar to zero emission buildings and neighborhoods

and Solar Cities?



At the start:

Sunspaces and atria

Amenity value more important than energy savings



My own sunspace, 35 years old and still a delight.
(At 63°N - Trondheim)



Dwelling at 63°N - Malvik
IEA SHC Task 8 case study)



University campus at 63°N - NTNU
(IEA SHC Task 11 case study)

The trends I see:

- Continuing reductions in energy use per m² (as a result of stricter building codes and ..)
- Higher ambient temperatures (as a result of climate change?)

Several consequences:

- Less need for space heating (and concentrated to the relatively darker winter months)
- More need for space cooling
- Relatively greater need for heating of DHW
- Much more focus on electricity

I.e.:

- Passive solar heating systems partly out except windows/direct gain
- Passive solar cooling systems in primarily ventilation
- Active solar heating of DHW most important
- PV always useful

= Solar buildings

Solar thermal:



At the same time:

Towards building integration

Better potential for cost effectiveness
Both for solar thermal systems and for PV systems

PV:



Building integration/architectural integration

an issue for architects



Brynseng school, Oslo

Retrofit,
Bergen



Cultural Center, Os



The focus now is on environmental issues rather than on solar as such. Therefore:

Zero emission buildings



a challenge also for architects

«Form follows energy» ?



Zero emission - Architectural consequences

"Zero Energy Buildings are designed to perform well, be comfortable, require only standard maintenance, and look no different than ordinary buildings".

Quote: NREL/U.S.DOE

Nonsense!

Zero emission buildings will have many different architectural expressions and provide many architectural possibilities!

Architect: Coop Himmelblau
Source: Klaudia Farkas, NTNU



A Norwegian example:

Powerhouse Brattørkaia

Office building planned as “plus energy house”

- Alliance: Entra, Skanska, Snøhetta, Hydro, ZERO
- Location: Trondheim
- Size: 7 stories, ~ 7000 m² TFA

Illustrates two trends:

- The trendsetting architects now like to use solar systems (especially PV).
- The design of such buildings require so-called integrated design processes – where all the actors cooperate from the start.

“The integrated design process has been crucial in the development of this project.”

Quote: T.Hegli, Snøhetta



Source illustrations: Skanska

And women in solar?

Continually increasing number of female students!

Women especially interested in environmental issues.

The future looks bright!!



Students at a seminar in our international MSc- program on Zero Emission Buildings