"Making the invisible visible"

Illustrating transition strategies for sustainable cities is a critical challenge of our time, and to do so means that we need to end the crisis of imagination.

Stephen Goldsmith
Department of City + Metropolitan Planning

Tuesday, August 26, 2014
4:00 to 5:00 p.m.
295 FASB (Sutton Bldg.)
Abstract
Utilizing several case studies to illustrate transition strategies being implemented in the Salt Lake Metropolitan area, Professor Goldsmith will offer his observations on a key element of ecoliteracy: making the invisible visible. While a vast effort to harvest and create data that reflects the breadth and depth of challenges affecting the economic, social and environmental health of our places is an active part of the research being conducted at the University of Utah, less attention is paid to the creative interventions being developed that make tangible change visible. His presentation aims to reverse this trend and provide the audience with examples that focus less on best practices in restorative urbanism but rather on best possibilities.

Bio
Stephen Goldsmith is Associate Professor in the Department of City and Metropolitan Planning at the University of Utah. In 2010, with support from the Rockefeller Foundation and Graham Foundation, he produced an award-winning book about Jacobs’ ideas titled *What We See; Advancing the Observations of Jane Jacobs*. In March of 2014, a new book titled, *Contemporary Perspectives on Jane Jacobs: Reassessing the Impacts of an Urban Visionary* was published in London, including his chapter titled, *Urban Ecology as the New Planning Paradigm*. As part of his research supporting urban ecology as the emerging planning paradigm, he steered the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning’s (CMP) successful effort to shift the undergraduate degree program from a degree in Urban Planning to a degree in Urban Ecology. This change is the first among Research One institutions in the U.S. Stephen’s work at the university includes teaching courses in Urban Ecology, Green Communities, Ethics in Shaping Communities, and Empathic Sustainability. Other roles at the university include Undergraduate Curriculum Coordinator for the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning, University Professor for Campus Sustainability, Environmental Sciences Track Director for Professional Masters of Science and Technology Program, and Honors Scholars Professor in Sustainability and Urban Ecology. In 2010 he was given a Teaching Award by the Associated Students of the University of Utah, and in 2014 he was named Professor of the Year in the College of Architecture + Planning. Stephen’s career as an affordable housing developer as the founder of Artspace, and his work as a sculptor including his collaboration as a designer of Seven Canyons Fountain in Liberty Park, and the design of City Creek Park demonstrate his commitment to our community.