In a public world challenged by obesity, diabetes and other health issues, landscape architects are increasingly challenged to incorporate strategies for making public spaces that promote activity. This session examines the science behind, innovative design visions for, and successful recent work that aligns aspiration for public health with concepts of public space.

**Learning Objectives**
1. Learn how landscape architects and other designers are innovating design strategies that promote health.
2. Understand the challenges of working with communities to realize their visions for more active public spaces.
3. Gain knowledge on how to create diverse multidisciplinary teams to examine and solve issues of public health.
4. Examine the relationship between public health and landscape strategies as they relate to various scales and scopes of work in the profession.

**Outline**

I. **Introduction: aligning public space and public health**  
   Presenter: Julia Czerniak (5 minutes)  
   A. Historical context within the landscape discipline.  
      Public health ambitions of:  
      1. Urban Parks  
      2. Community Gardens  
      3. Walkable and Bikeable environments  
   B. Overview of panel and panelists

II. **Science: linking the landscape to public health**  
   Presenter: Angie Cradock (15 minutes)  
   A. How can public space influence public health: what does the science say?  
      1. Conceptualizing the relationship between design and health
a. What is public health?
b. Historical perspectives on public health and disease and the role of the environments in health promotion
c. Modern movement to link environment to health
   1. How do some public health researchers conceptualize and measure the “environment” and “exposure”? 
      a. Geographic Scale
      b. Methods
      c. Relevant behaviors or health-related outcomes
   2. Impacts on health and health-related behaviors including some examples from different contexts: schools, streets and community places
      a. Schools- school buildings, campuses and “play space”
         1. Physical activity- play
      b. Streets- Features, connection and safety
         1. Transportation related physical activity
         2. Injury Prevention and Traffic Safety
      c. Other community spaces- playgrounds, green space, settings
         1. Mental and physical health
         2. Health-related behaviors

III. Design: promoting health through innovative strategies & practices

A. Competitions to promote advanced design thinking.
Presenter: Julia Czerniak (10 minutes)
Movement on Main: Designing the Healthy Main Street
(funded by the Education Foundation of America)
1. Competition ambitions. From healthy environments to healthy bodies
2. What we can learn from the five finalists entries: strategies for action
3. Winning entry. Why it stood out
4. Building community. How to make a good idea real

B. Practices: Building landscapes that promote public health
Presenter: Scott Bishop (15 minutes)
1. Examples of different types of landscapes that promote public health at different scales
2. Discuss the approach for the winning design for Movement on Main (streetscape)
   a. Play is exercise!
   b. Streetscapes are part of an existing health infrastructure that can be expanded and used to create district identity
   c. Streetscapes allow for public interface to adjacent spaces that offer unique experiences
   d. Community health is a concept larger that an individuals physical fitness
3. Discuss the role of the landscape architect in promoting public health
health as a development process in Atlanta (neighborhood)
   a. The development of a market based development contribute to community health
   b. Landscape architects provide a unique perspective as it relates to a site, a neighborhood, and key understanding of how that fits into a larger context
   c. Clients that require more than just market results can have a huge impact on the outcome of a development project
   d. The neighborhood can be integrated into the re-imagining process of place, which creates result sooner rather than later.

4. Discuss how landscape infrastructure supports a larger role in the support of public health (city)
   a. Environmental health is about quality of life; quality of life drives economic success
   b. Blue and Green infrastructure can create large scale impact on the health of the city and its citizens
   c. New infrastructural frameworks serve multiple benefits at multiple scales which results in positive diversified (healthy) responses to the system.

IV. Collaboration:
   A. How do landscape architects utilize the expertise of a specialist in the design of landscapes that promote public health?
   B. How can we promote better collaboration between disciplines to provide “healthy spaces’’?
   C. Public health researchers like to measure things- How can Landscape Architects help to inform the development of measures and methods for research?
   D. What types of needs to Landscape Architects have that can be met by researchers? (kind of related to the discussion points you have already)
   E. How to develop opportunities within training programs that provide cross-disciplinary instruction and opportunity for interaction.

IV. Discussion / Q&A
**Presenters**

**Scott Bishop, ASLA,** is a Principal at Stoss Landscape Urbanism. He is registered landscape architect and a human ecologist. He currently leads projects around the world with a variety of environments and ecologies. Scott was the 2013 Cejas Eminent Scholar at Florida International University and is a visiting critic at the University of Puerto Rico he has also taught at Penn Design as a studio critic for the Department of Landscape Architecture. Bishop holds a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania and a BA in Human Ecology from the College of the Atlantic.

**Angie Cradock, ScD, MPE** is a Senior Research Scientist and Deputy Director of the Harvard Prevention Research Center (HPRC) in the Department of Society, Human Development, and Health at the Harvard School of Public Health. Dr. Cradock’s research primarily focuses on the social, policy and environmental factors associated with physical activity and nutrition behaviors among youth. Specific areas of interest include school and neighborhood environments, community-based intervention research, and policy research. She holds a Doctor of Science degree from the Harvard School of Public Health.

**Julia Czerniak, ASLA,** is Associate Dean and Professor of Architecture at Syracuse University. She is a registered landscape architect and founder of CLEAR, an interdisciplinary design practice that focuses on urban landscapes in weak market cities. Her design work is complemented by a body of writing including three books – Large Parks (Princeton Architectural Press, 2007); Case: Downsview Park Toronto (Prestel and Harvard Design School, 2001), and Formerly Urban: Projecting Rust Belt Futures (Princeton Architectural Press, 2013).