

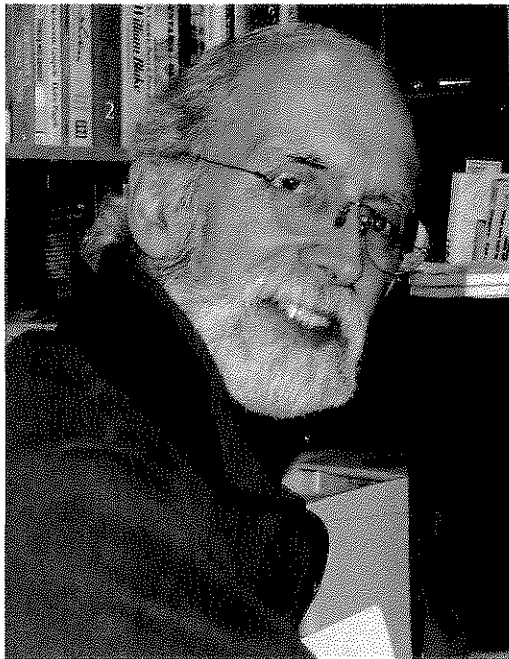
Bob Scarfo, Ph.D.

Short biographic statement

Over the past 33 years Bob taught and practiced landscape architecture in Canada and the United States. Currently an associate professor at Washington State University Spokane's Interdisciplinary Design Institute, he is a registered landscape architect in Washington and Massachusetts. His PhD is in Social Geography.

Bob co-founded the Washington, D. C. office of Land Ethics and now practices under the name of Aging in Place Design Solutions in Spokane, Washington. He and artist Ken Spiering designed the Healing Garden at Spokane's Sacred Heart Hospital. More recently, Bob, with three friends, co-edited *Re-creating Neighborhoods for Successful Aging*. The book merges landscape planning and gerontology. Beyond that, Bob has applied a blend of productive aging and smart growth to urban and rural neighborhood redevelopment projects in the Spokane, WA area. His work is influenced by discussions surrounding global oil depletion, climate change, water scarcity, obesity, and aging.

He uses the emerging global trends to join diverse groups of professionals, local community leaders, and university students. Together, in community-university partnerships, they work to build healthier, more socially vibrant, and economically vital living environments in an era of dramatic change.



Talk Title: Aging Futures: investing in stronger communities

Planning for and investing in Aging Readiness is an exercise in building stronger communities, counties and regions. Getting there is helped by first, understanding aging as one of five emerging, and converging, global trends. The other trends are climate change, energy and water scarcity, and obesity. Second, by recognizing how to use the trends to facilitate the building of a diverse workforce made up of professionals, community and business leaders, college and university students, and local residents of all ages. Third, by using an engineering approach to short-term payback on investment, not for individual buildings, but as a strategy driving the Aging Readiness process as applied to communities, counties, and the region.

"The trouble with our times is that the future is not what it used to be."
French Poet, Paul Valery