



I'm still carrying a load of tryptophan from Thanksgiving so it was hard to figure out where to start this week's update.

I had no help from Greg; he and Glenn Ballard were off in Peru for Thanksgiving, working with a group to set up a LCI Community of Practice in Peru. A dish famous in Peru is Cuy chactado (fried guinea pig) so I wondered whether Thanksgiving would offer that, with mashed potatoes and stuffing. Greg only commented on Pisco Sours (his drink of choice at the First Annual Pioneer Award Banquet) and didn't mention the rest of the menu. No lively story from Peru—we'll have to await Greg's return.

Still looking for a subject, I glanced at the events upcoming over the next few weeks and I was rightly blown away. What opportunities we have in our communities of practice.

In Arizona on Wednesday, you could tour spaces on the Intel campus to see collaborative and non-collaborative spaces. This interests me because I'm working with other LCI members (Mark Konchar, Markku Allison and Rex Miller) on the Case4Space project—a follow-up to the *Commercial Real Estate Revolution* that is looking at whether space helps define culture.

December 4, Dave Umstot of the San Diego Community College District and core group member at the San Diego COP will address Cynthia Tsao's Master's Class at the Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston. Dave is a leading public owner in our community who will discuss how he's encouraged IPD processes in design build, used target value budgeting within his system and fostered development of enterprise solutions using lean tools. Not to be missed!

In Birmingham, home of the indefatigable plumber, Richard Drennen, a panel discussion entitled the "Edge of Chaos" will be held at the Lister Hill Library on the campus of the University of Alabama at Birmingham. I'm hoping they tape that presentation.

In Monterrey Park (Los Angeles area), the LA COP presents Felipe Osorno with UCLA Health System talking about how he created a Performance Excellence Program at UCLA using lean principles and tools. More and more health systems are combining their lean healthcare initiatives with similar initiatives in design and construction and it will be interesting to hear from an owner on that very subject.

In Dallas/Ft. Worth next week, Rebecca Bettler, National Director of Lean Construction for J. E. Dunn, will talk about advanced practices in target value design. The divine Mrs. Bettler is one of the best known lean coaches in the country and her presentation should be fully informed by her experience.

Outside the communities of practice we note that our friends at the St. Louis Council of Construction Consumers, headed by my friend Dennis Lavellee, is offering up a panel this week that includes Michael Johnson—Former race car driver and current team manager at Stevenson Automotive Group, Deborah Kull—A former Toyota lean specialist and current VP of Operational Excellence at University of Chicago Medicine and Kent Schien—Founder of Innoventor, a premiere team of



Lean Construction Institute

Building Knowledge in Design and Construction

designers who provide innovative solutions to projects at the intersection of production, process and product development. Sounds very interesting.

If you thought we fell asleep during Thanksgiving, check out what's available to you around the country and you'll see we've been hard at work. Attend your local Community of Practice—there's lots happening.