



# ENGAGING WITH AI OR NOT YET? ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING @ THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Stephanie Beene, ARLIS/NA CDMX, 2023

A photograph of a modern building at night. The building has a large, illuminated circular projection on its side, showing a blue-toned image of a person. The building's facade is composed of large, rectangular panels. A large window with a grid pattern is visible. In the foreground, there is a street with blurred cars, a traffic light, and a street lamp. The word "BACKGROUND" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font in the center of the image.

# BACKGROUND



# SCENARIO 1

**No engagement**

"I have not dabbled in AI, nor am I considering anything like this in the future!"

(Planning Professor & Practitioner)

# SCENARIO 2

## Trepidation

“Students are already using it. We should be prepared to assess their work... It’s coming for us!”

(Architecture Instructor)

# SCENARIO 3

## Moderate Interest

"It seems like a lot of hype at this point. I'm most excited about its potential for urban and city planning. I'm waiting and seeing."

(Design professor)





# SCENARIO 4

## High interest

“In my emergent technology class,  
we generated designs using Midjourney. I’m  
excited to use AI for 3D models.”

(Architecture Professor & Practitioner)

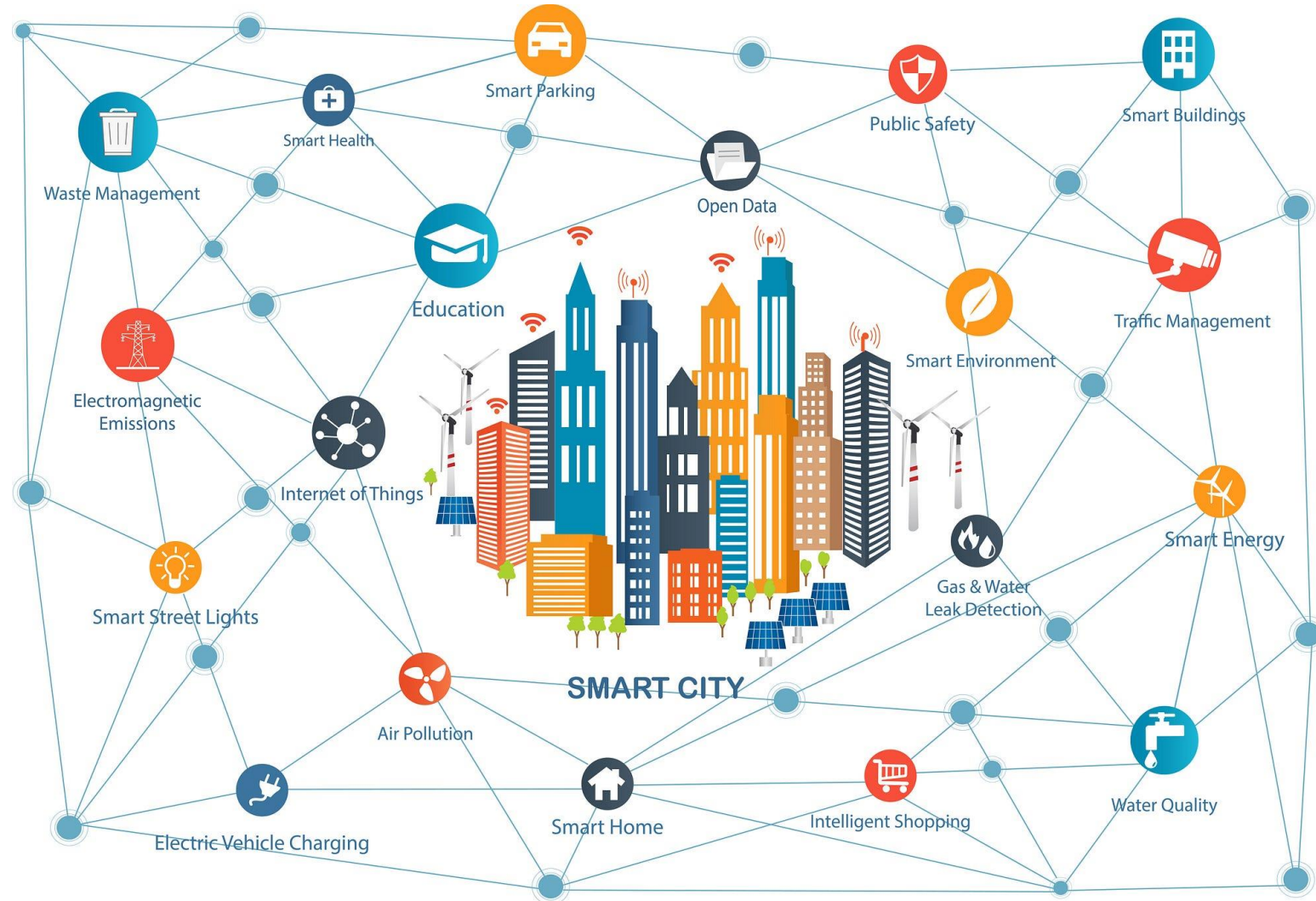


**OPPORTUNITIES**

# NEW TECHNOLOGIES

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- Smart cities
- Smart buildings
- Smart devices
- Internet of Things





# CREATIVITY

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Idea generation

Remix

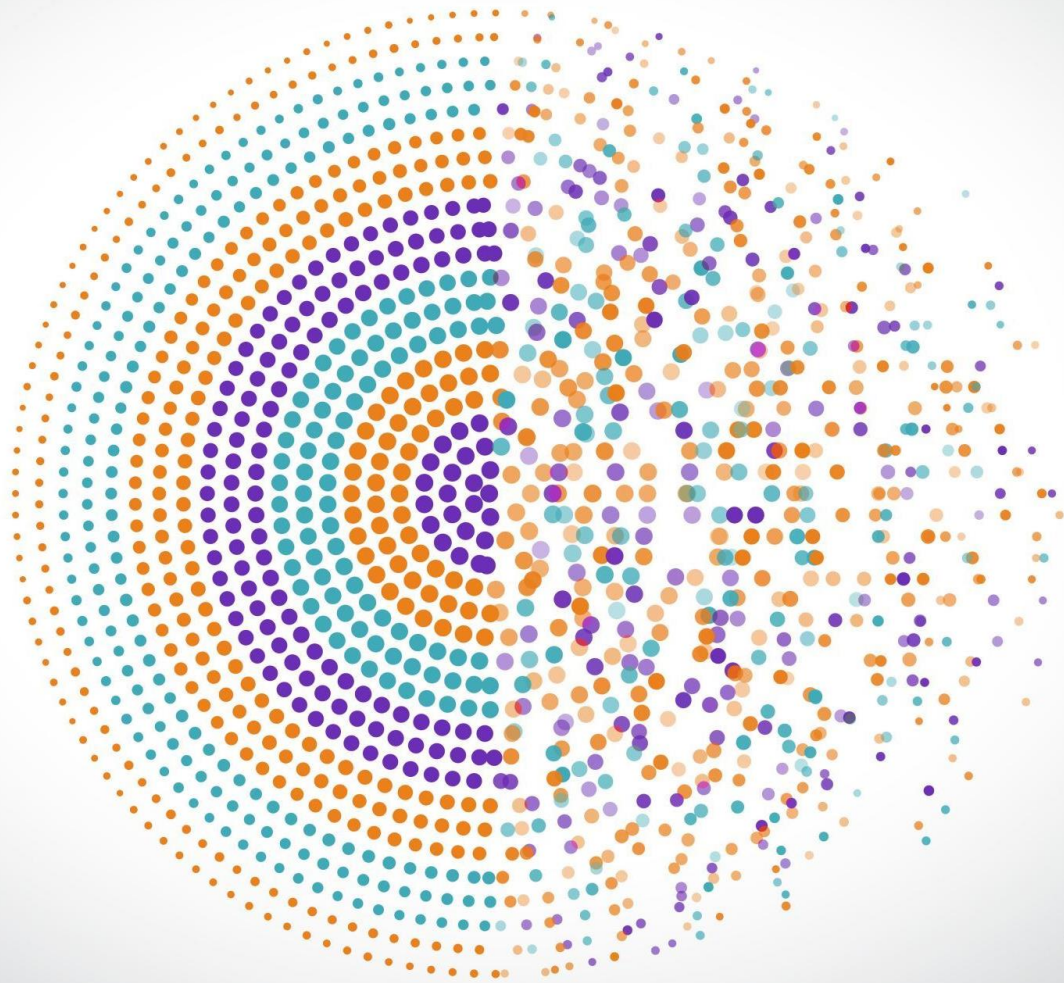
Solutions

Planning





# CHALLENGES



# INEQUITABLE

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Potential to perpetuate biases

Invisible labor

Surveillance capitalism

Climate Consumption

# NEW FORMATS



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Discernment and Critical Pedagogy  
Cataloging, Archiving, and Preserving  
Attribution  
Big Tech (proprietary code)

# THANK YOU!

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# IMAGE CREDITS

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- Slide 2: "George Pearl Hall at Night," (a.k.a, the Architecture and Planning Building at the University of New Mexico, lit up at night), taken from across the street, by Photographer and UNM Libraries employee, Gregory Peterson, 2013-01-10, used with [permission](#).
- Slide 8: "Figure 1 – Smart City Applications," in Golubovic, E. (2020, June 12). Improved Smart Waste Management for Smart City. *Inovatink*. <https://medium.com/inovatink/improved-smart-waste-management-for-smart-city-7387a11f6204>
- Slide 9: "Screenshot 2023-03-15 at 2.23.25 PM," designed using the open access AI tool MidJourney, from from the University of New Mexico Spring 2023 Architecture Studio Seminar mixed undergraduate and graduate course, "Emergent Technology for Designers," taught by Professor Tim Castillo, used with [permission](#).
- Slide 12: Microsoft stock image of an angled building façade.

# REFERENCES

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- Kai Alexis Smith & Stephanie Beene, "[New Routes for Architecture & Design Librarians: Planning for AI Futures](#)", March 2023 presentation for the Association for Architecture School Librarians, Albuquerque, New Mexico. **In particular, please see the bibliography on slides 21-32.**