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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sustainable buildings subject of lecture presented live at MCC

OMAHA, Neb. — Metropolitan Community College's Sustainability Leadership Presentation Series will present "Living Buildings: Socially Just, Cultural Rich & Ecologically Restorative" on Thursday, Oct. 1, 3:30–5 p.m., at MCC's Fort Omaha Campus, 30th and Fort streets, Building 10, Room 116A. Two leading experts in the sustainability field will lead the live stream presentation from Seattle on the Living Building Challenge, a green initiative that calls for the creation of building projects that operate as cleanly, beautifully and efficiently as nature.

The event is free and open to the public. The experts will discuss the Living Building Challenge and how designers, builders, owners, developers, managers or occupants can contribute. The experts, Kathleen Smith, the Living Building Challenge technical director, and Brad Liljequist, Net Zero Energy Buildings and Living Community Challenge technical director, will challenge the audience to think deeply about places and how people can work together to create ecologically and culturally rich environments.

The lecture is part of the 2015–16 Sustainability Leadership Presentation Series, a partnership between MCC, Central Community College, WasteCap Nebraska and Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities. The Sustainability Leadership Presentation Series seeks to bring sustainability-minded perspectives to Nebraska and foster discussion on topics related to sustainability, energy, the environment and their application to our daily lives. Lectures will be offered throughout the academic year on the first Thursday of the month (excluding January).

For more information on MCC sustainability, visit mccneb.edu/cps/green.

About Kathleen Smith

Kathleen Smith, a LEED Fellow in the inaugural class and nationally recognized expert in sustainable design, is the Technical Director of the International Living Future Institute. She is an architect by training with over 25 years of experience in sustainable design, construction and education. Kathleen has worked on dozens of high performance buildings in the commercial, residential, healthcare, and institutional sectors. She has also worked with various institutions to develop policies, programs, and trainings to establish, measure, and document sustainability

goals and performance. She is also the co-author of two books: *Rebuilding Community in America* and *The Northwest Green Home Primer*.

About Brad Liljequist

As director of the Institute's Net Zero Energy and Living Community programs, Brad Liljequist is at the forefront of a global transformation toward a carbon-free future. He directed development of the Petal and Net Zero Energy Certified zHome, the first multifamily zero net energy community in the United States, as well as Issaquah Fire Station 72, the world's most energy efficient fire station and recipient of the international 2012 ASHRAE Technology award. Brad has nearly three decades of experience catalyzing change in the fields of planning, environmental policy, urban design, construction management and sustainable building.

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Metropolitan Community College, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, is a comprehensive, public community college that offers affordable, quality education to all residents of Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. Founded in 1974, MCC has the largest enrollment out of six community colleges in Nebraska and is the second largest postsecondary institution in the state. MCC serves more than 40,000 unique credit and noncredit students.