

**Distinguished Bonser Lecture  
Keynote Speaker: Jesse Devitte**



**Co-founder and General Partner, Building Ventures**

**Jesse Devitte** is Co-Founder and Managing Director at Building Ventures, a company that provides capital, mentorship and industry connections to entrepreneurs working on innovative solutions to design a more sustainable built environment. He works closely with the teams at [Assemble Systems](#) (acquired by Autodesk), [Blokable](#), [Co-Urbanize](#), [Dandelion Energy](#), [Honest Buildings](#), [Measurabl](#) and [SmartVid](#): technologies for a better built world.

He previously co-founded Borealis Ventures, a venture capital firm specializing in seed and early stage companies. He began his career at Softdesk where he helped the company grow from a small start-up to a multinational public company, directed a successful initial public offering and played an integral role in the sale of the business to Autodesk. He subsequently led the integration of the two companies and served on the Autodesk executive staff as the Vice President and General Manager.

Devitte partnered with the New Hampshire Business Finance Authority in creating the Granite Fund. Managed by Borealis Ventures, The Granite Fund represents a new kind of public/private collaboration for the state that puts local capital in the hands of New Hampshire startups.

Devitte is a mentor in MIT's entrepreneurship accelerator program, [DesignX](#), as well as at [Urban-X](#) which is the technology accelerator re-imagining city life. He is also a founding member of the [Urban Land Institute's Technology for Real Estate Council](#). He recently concluded his service as a member of the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and has served on numerous other non-profit boards. **He graduated with Distinction from the**

**Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs** and completed his military service as a member of the White House Communications Agency.