

**WEXNER CENTER**

**Not a Minor Problem**

To the Editor:

Peter Eisenman, the architect of the Wexner Center for the Arts, cops out when he says, "There's not an architect I know that doesn't have problems with important buildings" ["Extreme Makeover: Museum Edition" by Robin Pogrebin, last Sunday]. Can you imagine any other professional (say an engineer or doctor) making that claim about his colleagues? The \$15.8 million dollar retrofit — one-third of the original cost of the building — less than 16 years after opening does not represent a minor problem. And it only addressed some of the building's faults.

Mark Robbins, the center's first curator of architecture, excuses this with the triviality that "putting a building together is more complex than most people understand." Most people may not understand what it takes to put a building together, but they expect design professionals to know. States license these professionals for a reason. If they want to practice art and disregard what it takes to make a building work, perhaps the state should pull their licenses and turn the work over to people who will take responsibility for their work.

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