



November 2011 Issue 2

# ACSA News Digest

A Publication of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture

## SOUTHWEST

### RICE UNIVERSITY

Professor **Neyran Turan** and Wortham Fellow **Neeraj Bhatia** were recent recipients of two separate Graham Foundation Grants. Turan was the founding editor-in-chief of the Harvard-based journal, *New Geographies*, which was awarded its second grant from the Graham Foundation for its upcoming issues next year. Bhatia's grant was awarded for the project, *Housing in the Arctic Petropolis of Tomorrow*, which, "seeks to catalogue the landscape, cultural, material, and construction systems of the indigenous Inuit housing types, and the modern prefabrication construction techniques and materials employed in the Arctic, to forecast new housing typologies that will provide sustainable shelter to the emerging Arctic petropolis."

Dean **Sarah Whiting**, whose essay *Speculating Beyond Iconicity: Bertrand Goldberg's Urban Project* appears in the Art Institute of Chicago exhibition catalog, *Architecture of Invention*, lectured on Goldberg's work in a symposium at the Art Institute on October 29 and will be giving a solo lecture on Goldberg at the Chicago Arts Club on January 11.

The work of **Nonya Grenader**, Professor in the Practice of Architecture and Associate Director of the Rice Building Workshop, was featured on November 9 in the *New York Times* article, *For the Director of the Menil Collection, an Unadorned Home*.

On October 24, Professor **Albert Pope** lectured at the Department of Architecture and Urban Design at UCLA. Professor Pope showed two recent projects: his design for the Kaohsiung Maritime Cultural & Pop Music Center Competition (a collaboration with Schaum/Sheih), and his redevelopment project for the Fifth Ward of Houston funded by the National Endowment for the Arts. The intent of the presentation was to propose a unified design logic capable of spanning from the architectural scale of 10 blocks to the urban scale of 1000 blocks.

Wortham Assistant Professor **Reto Geiser** lectured at the University of Toronto, Canada on November 7 at a conference held on the occasion of Marshall McLuhan's 100th birthday: *McLuhan100 Then/Now/Next International Conference & DEW Line Festival*. His plenary talk was titled *From the Faculty of Inter-Relation to the Explorations Group: Exchanges Between Sigfried Giedion and Marshall McLuhan*. Additionally, Geiser's essay, *In the Realm of Architecture, Some Notes on Ai Weiwei's Spatial Temptations* appears in the exhibition catalog, *Ai Weiwei: Art / Architecture*.

**John J. Casbarian**, Director of External Programs and Harry K. & Albert K. Smith Professor was invited to participate on the panel *Changing Academic Economies* at the annual ACSA Administrators Conference, which was held on November 11 in Los Angeles.

Professor **Carlos Jiménez** lectured in conjunction with the exhibition, *Breaking Borders: New Latin American Architecture*, a joint effort of Latin Pratt and the Pratt

Institute of Architecture. The exhibition highlights contemporary architecture of the past 10 years from 45 firms representing more than 10 countries in Latin America. Jiménez also served as the juror for two distinguished competitions: Houston's internationally acclaimed touring program of short-form media, *Independent Exposure 2011: Visual Architecture* (Oct. 10-11), and the Open Competition for Fundecor Headquarters, Puerto Viejo, in San Jose, Costa Rica (Oct. 20-22). Additionally, Jiménez lectured at the Third International Congress of Architecture and the Environment at UNAM, Mexico City (Oct. 18), and delivered *In-sights on Color and Architecture* at the Rice Gallery (Oct. 25).

**Stephen Fox**, Senior Lecturer in Architecture, led a day-long tour of domestic architecture in the border city of Brownsville, Texas, on September 22 in conjunction with the Building Communities Conference, sponsored annually by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Additionally, on October 15, Fox was the first recipient of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Classical America Texas Chapter's Board of Directors Award as part of the John Staub Awards Celebration.

### TULANE UNIVERSITY

Dr. **Anat Geva**, Associate Professor at the Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University became the President of the Southeast Society of Architectural Historians (SESAH) as of this October. SESAH was founded in 1982 at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta as a nonprofit organization to promote scholarship on architecture and related subjects and to serve as a forum for ideas among architectural historians, architects, preservationists, and others involved in professions related to the built environment. SESAH holds an annual meeting, publishes a newsletter three times a year, an annual scholarly journal, ARRIS, and presents annual publication

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awards and the “Best of the South” Preservation award.

## TULANE UNIVERSITY

**Judith Kinnard**, Harvey-Wadsworth Chair of Landscape Urbanism and Professor of Architecture was named as one of the *DesignIntelligence* 25 Most Admired Educators of 2012. Professor Kinnard’s commitment to architectural education spans 28 years, having taught at Syracuse University, Princeton University, and the University of Virginia. In her studio teaching, she focuses on institutional programs and their creative engagement of physical and cultural context. Her current research and teaching also involves the development of innovative approaches to low-rise/high-density housing for American cities. She maintains an active practice.

Favrot Professor and **Dean Kenneth Schwartz**, FAIA delivered a plenary address at the IBM Smarter Cities Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in November, discussing the strategies and initiatives that Tulane School of Architecture and Tulane University have taken in the recovery of New Orleans. He participated in this event with Ginni Rometty, the new President and CEO of IBM. He also gave a talk at the same conference on the Richardson Memorial Hall Sustainable Strategies project that he has undertaken for the school’s 100 year-old building. The pre-design phase has been completed by FXFOWLE and el dorado architects with a strong team of sustainable engineering and landscape consultants.

Tulane School of Architecture is pleased to be the recipient of the 2011 NCARB Grant. This grant supports the creation and implementation of new methods to integrate practice and education in the academy. The funded proposal authored by adjunct assistant professor **Z Smith** and assistant professor **Kentaro Tsubaki** aims to integrate the post-building performance survey/analysis into pre-building design practice in the educational setting. The funds will be used to equip our students with the latest, most advanced technologies to collect and analyze building performance data in the newly developed technology course slated to be offered in the 2012-13 academic year.

The Sustainable Real Estate program had a booth in the Expo of the Urban Land Institute Fall meeting in Los Angeles in October. Several students joined Director **Alexandra Stroud** to talk to interested students and promote the program. Director Stroud participated on a panel at the ULI Fall Meeting entitled *Post-Catastrophe Reconstruction: Case Studies of Japan, Chile, Haiti, and New Orleans*. She spoke on a panel with representatives of these other disasters about the recovery effort in New Orleans.

Faculty members **Alexandra Stroud, Tatiana Eck, Casius Pealer and Reuben Teague** all participated in the Green Build conference in Toronto in early October. Professor Stroud and Professor Pealer were included in the Greenbuild NEXT VIP interview series. Professor Eck is an integral part of the Green Build conference planning committee. Professor Pealer participated in the Affordable Housing Forum. Professor Teague presented at the conference in a presentation entitled, *100 Sustainable Homes; Lessons Learned in New Orleans’ Project Home Again* with Tulane School of Architecture alumni, **John Williams**.

The *Sustainability and Globalization* lecture series is underway. The September lecturer was Allison Plyer with Greater New Orleans Community Data Center presenting the Index at Six, a report summarizing the progress of New Orleans since Katrina. The October lecture was given by Terry Henry, of Global Perpetual Energy. His company is developing a device that produces enough wind, water and solar power to power a small city post disaster.

## UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

Students from the University of Houston Graduate Design Build Studio constructed a “Solar Shade Tree” for McReynolds Middle School. The project soon will be honored with the Mayor’s Proud Partner Award (presented by Keep Houston Beautiful).

During one of Houston’s hottest summers on record, students from the University of Houston’s Design Build Studio (GDBS) designed and constructed a “Solar Shade Tree” for McReynolds Middle School.

The long days spent under the sweltering sun creating this innovative structure have not gone unnoticed. Since its completion in August, McReynolds students and faculty are using the solar-powered, steel tree as a place for socializing and studying. In addition to the applause from the school’s community, the “Solar Shade Tree” recently earned the Mayor’s Proud Partner Award. Presented annually through Keep Houston Beautiful, the award honors projects that enhance and beautify the city.

GDBS director and architecture professor **Patrick Peters** and GDBS students will receive this award during the 27th Annual Mayor’s Proud Partners Award Luncheon at 11:00 a.m., Oct. 31 at the Houston Post Oak Hilton (2001 Post Oak Blvd.).

“Students receive accolades and criticism from teachers throughout the semester, but it’s wonderful for them to be recognized by a panel of outside professionals,” said Patrick Peters, director of the GDBS. “An award like this helps them understand the relevance of what they’re learning at the Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture. It also allows them to see how their work impacts the community at large.”

Comprised of UH graduate architecture students, the Graduate Design Build Studio focuses on contributing community-enhancing structures for schools, parks and nonprofit organizations. The “Solar Shade Tree” is the studio’s 22nd annual project.

The “tree” offers the McReynolds campus with a shaded area with seating, ceiling fans and lighting. Powering the fans and lights are four solar panels (150 watts each). The steel structure is 13 feet wide, 44 feet long and 12 feet in height.

“I’ve visited the site recently and have been pleased to see McReynolds students and members of the local community using the ‘solar shade tree,’” Peters said. “I’ve seen families gathered there to watch soccer games in the shade and to take cover from a short rain downpour. It’s serving its purpose.”

“131 The Overview Effect” with comments by Assistant Professor **Wendy W. Fok** regarding the artistic and technological role

of Design Fabrication and Digital Tooling was published in the *NEW ART/SCIENCE AFFINITIES* book, published by the Miller Gallery at Carnegie Mellon University + CMU STUDIO for Creative Inquiry.

COA Assistant Professor **Gregory Marinic** organized *Envisioning A Completed East River Greenway*: winners announced for “Close The Gap” Competition.

Transportation Alternatives and d3 are pleased to announce the winners of the “Close The Gap” design competition, which invited architects, landscape architects, urban designers, engineers and students worldwide to envision the completion of the East River Greenway. Submissions from pla.net Architects and the design team of James and Madeline Stokoe were selected by the jurors for their outstanding work. The competition called for proposals that fundamentally transform how people move through Manhattan by filling in a 22-block gap along the East River.

“The competition drew responses from all over the world, from 22 countries, ranging from Canada to Iran,” said Sandy McKee, principal of Yoshihara McKee Architects and competition co-director of d3. “They all assumed that we can redesign New York to make it a better place to live. We started the competition when the goal of closing the East Side Gap seemed like an impossible dream, but we are now one step closer with innovative, thoughtful and exciting ideas to explore.”

“The winning submissions envision a vibrant East Side waterfront that enables the full scope of possibilities for urban transportation,” said Paul Steely White, Executive Director of Transportation Alternatives. “From the pla.net team’s focus on increasing access to open space in Manhattan with an eye to integrating new and old infrastructure to the Stokoe’s design, which challenges us to rediscover the power, potential and history of the East River, these teams took the hopes of countless East Side residents and brought them to life.”

Earlier this month, Mayor Bloomberg approved a land swap agreement that will allow the completion of the East River Greenway. By selling three properties to

the United Nations, the city will have the funds to the fill in a 22-block gap along the East River greenway. Demand for waterfront space has been growing steadily in Manhattan, resulting in a greenway surrounding virtually the entire island--with the exception of Harlem’s East River shoreline above 120th Street and the gap between East 38th and East 60th streets. As a result, the East Side currently has the lowest ratio of open space to residents and workers in the city. Closing this gap in the East River Greenway will finally bring more open space to the East Side waterfront and enable access to active transportation like bicycling and walking.

d3 competition co-directors Sandra McKee and Gregory Marinic assembled a jury of architects, landscape architects, and stakeholders in the East River revitalization effort. The jury included Victoria Marshall, Till Design; Michael Szivos, softLAB; Paul Steely White, Executive Director Transportation Alternatives; Audrey Matlock, Audrey Matlock Architect; Rob Rogers, Rogers Marvell Architects; Hiroki Yoshihara, Yoshihara McKee Architects; Steve Vaccaro, Chair of Transportation Alternatives East Side Committee; Mark Thompson, Chair of Manhattan Community Board Six; and Laurie Beckelman, Beckelman+Capalino.

d3 is an organization committed to advancing innovative positions in art, architecture, and design by providing a collaborative environment for artists, architects, designers, and students from throughout New York City and around the world. Founded in 2008, its program of exhibitions, events, competitions and publications is focused on generating dialogue and collaboration across geographic, ideological and disciplinary boundaries in art and the built environment. <http://www.d3space.org/closethegap/>.

Selected conceptual process works generated through Assistant Professor Gregory Marinic’s practice, Arquipelago, are included in the ‘AxA’ exhibit at the Philadelphia Center for Architecture. The exhibit runs from October 27 through November 18.

Professor Marinic’s Project: Bleunoir from his practice was recently published in ‘Case Study of Remodeling’. by DAMDI Architec-

tural Publishing Ltd., Seoul (Sept. 2011).

Professor Marinic serves as director on d3, a New York-based organization. The competition is, a New York-based organization that I serve as director.

‘Close the Gap’ an international competition, a collaboration between Transportation Alternatives and d3, and co-directed by Marinic and Sandy McKee, AIA was recently juried in New York (October 2011). ‘Close the Gap’ solicited proposals for re-envisioned public access to the East River waterfront in Manhattan [www.d3space.org/](http://www.d3space.org/) [www.closethegap.com](http://closethegap.com)

Gregory Marinic also authored an essay recently published in *Form & Faith: The Interfaith Journal on Religious Art and Architecture*. Volume 44, Issue 3, Out of the Mainstream (theme issue) (Sept. 2011) *Qur’anic Queens: The Temporal Mosques of Astoria’* [www.faithnform.com](http://www.faithnform.com).

Many on-the-job injuries are preventable. That fact stuck in the minds of University of Houston industrial design students as they prepared projects focused on workplace safety.

Recently, three of these projects took top honors during the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health’s (NIOSH) “Prevention Through Design” conference in Washington, D.C. Their mentor, **EunSook Kwon** also was recognized at this conference. Kwon, an associate professor in UH’s Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture, received the conference’s “Excellence in Teaching” award.

“The best part of being an educator is seeing your students receive awards like this,” Kwon said. “It was a great moment. For me, my award was only made possible through their achievements.”

The student grand prize went to “Spinal Cord,” a design for a safer, more efficient extension cord to be used on construction sites. Designed by industrial design students Jennie Macedo, Ya-Han Chen and Juan Jimenez, “Spinal Cord” proposes a safer, durable, easy-to-use extension cord. In creating a practical design, students researched traditional extension cords used

on contemporary work sites. Their findings included statistics from the U.S. Consumer Safety Commission, which indicated that 50 percent of fractures, lacerations or sprains at work sites are caused by tripping over extension cords. They also observed a lack of resilience in traditional cords, which caused breaks, tears or exposed wires. They also observed these cords' tendency to become easily tangled.

Macedo, Chen and Jimenez developed a cord design that is segmented to retain its original structure (avoiding tangling), easily rolls into a circular carrying case and is resistant to damage or strains. Also, users would be able to only extend portions of the cord from the case as opposed to unraveling all of it. The cord would remain flat on the ground without coiling up.

Among the other finalists was "Beehive," a design for a modified beekeeper's uniform. Students Rick Salinas, Meredith Tucker and Anna Ho developed a concept for a jacket that provides beekeepers with enhanced protection against stings. Students learned that the protective gear used by beekeepers is time consuming to put on, cumbersome and hot. Taking cues from zip-up hoodies, the students designed a lightweight, yet protective, jacket with hood and screened mask. The jacket also contains a section for scented (citronella, peppermint) stone to deter bees.

The other runner-up was "Out of Sight" by Kellee Kimbro, Ryan Pursel, Alan Nguyen and Thi Vu. This project was focused the design of a device that provided a safer way of removing glass particles from work sites. By visiting glass industry sites, students learned more about the dangers posed by such particles (cuts, lacerations, lung disease). The design for "Out of Sign, Out of Mind" proposes an aluminum dustpan with a built-in fan from a Dyson vacuum cleaner. When particles are swept into this pan, they would be sucked into it. It would be lightweight and can be used to dispose of large and small glass particles.

Projects were designed and developed in spring 2011 as part of UH's industrial design third year studio. During the "Prevention Through Design" conference, student teams participated in poster sessions and

delivered presentations that were judged by a panel of reviewers.

"It's great to see that the three finalists at the 'Prevention Through Design' conference were teams from our industrial design program," Kwon said. "Everyone was dedicated to their work and utilized excellent time management skills. They raised the bar of excellence and really deserve these awards."

In the Korean culture, a screen divides a room to produce a new space, a new realm.

Visiting professor **Yeon-Jung Kim's** exhibit, "InBetween", located in the Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture's dock, expresses the harmony of East meets West by using the Korean screen to produce modern spaces with a traditional solution.

The exhibit starts off with a traditional screen of books and ornaments on a bookcase. Kim digitally removes these ornaments, producing a modern screen of only books; she explores this empty space within negative space.

Other digital reproductions incorporate Western culture by implementing an iPhone, Apple Inc. logo and Mickey Mouse ears among Korean ornaments.

"The panels introduce the harmony between you and I — Eastern and Western," Kim said.

This also rings true for Kim's color palette for the screens. They are a collaboration of deep tones, inspired by the Rothko Chapel, accented with the lighter tones from Korean wrapping paper.

The harmony continues through the exhibit in such prints as "Rosetta Collection", a print that shows the Korean constellations, which are based on nature and humans, juxtaposed with the Western constellations, which are based on Greek mythology.

"We live under the same sky, but speak different languages; we have different points of view," Kim said, referring back to the meaning of Rosetta — "a same meaning, different words."

The collection is tied together with prints of

Korean influence along with those of Western influence, standing as one or alone, respectively.



*Visiting professor Yeon-Jung Kim*

The third and second-to-last prints are inspired by Native American art, and capture some of the professor's personal experiences.

They are both low opacity images of a map of the Houston area and sheet music, with Native American markings along the sides and in the middle of both prints — a symbol of the royal Korean wedding procession.

The procession symbolizes Kim's journey from the East, Korea, to the West, America, not only bridging the long physical distance, but also the distance between points of view. The more prominent of the two was the sheet music "Konzert" print that Kim holds dear because of its ties to her son's piano studies.

The exhibit concludes with two large wall-paper prints of deep, Rothko tones, with wire-frame stenciling of the traditional bookcase and ornament screens.

The wallpaper is where Kim's purpose is made most clear: to produce a new kind of serenity and harmony of Korean tradition and Western modernism within interior design.

The exhibit remains on display through to-

day. Kim is a visiting professor from Ewha Women's University. Her areas of expertise are digital design methods and interior design.

## UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

Professors **Larry Speck** and **Richard Cleary** will be signing copies of their new book, *The Campus Guide: The University of Texas at Austin*, at a reception on Thursday, November 10, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., in Gabriel's Cafe at the AT&T Executive Education and Conference Center.

The Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail Restroom by Miró Rivera Architects—Professor **Juan Miró**, **Miguel Rivera**, and **Rosa Rivera**, principals—has won national recognition in the 2011 Innovative Design in Engineering and Architecture with Structural Steel awards program (IDEAS2), presented annually by the American Institute of Steel Construction. This is the thirteenth award the restroom has received, and it has been featured in seventeen publications.

Assistant Professor **Matt Fajkus** was selected as a Fellow of the Next Generation Project Texas, as part of the Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law, established to bring fresh ideas to the problems facing the world.

Assistant Professor Fernando Lara presented a lecture, "Vila Viva Favela Redesign, Belo Horizonte, Brazil," at Parsons The New School for Design on November 2. He discussed participatory budgeting and recent projects in the Brazilian favelas. Parsons' Design and Urban Practice Colloquium is a public lecture series on alternative and innovative forms of design and urban practice.

Dean **Fritz Steiner** was a featured guest in Houston Tomorrow's Distinguished Speaker Series on Wednesday, November 3. Steiner discussed his latest book, **Design for a Vulnerable Planet**, and his ideas for a sustainable future based on new regionalism, a theory of design, which holds that structure and landscape should be inspired by the surrounding ecosystem.

**Lois Weinthal**, associate professor and graduate advisor for the Master of Interior

Design Program, is pleased to announce the release of "After Taste: Expanded Practices in Interior Design," co-edited with Kent Kleinman and Joanna Merwood-Salisbury, published by Princeton Architectural Press.

*After Taste* is comprised of texts, interviews, and portfolios that collectively document new theories and emerging critical practices in the field of interior design. The book's central argument is that the field of interior design is inadequately served by its historical reliance on taste-making and taste-makers, and, more recently from a set of theoretical concerns derived from architecture. The volume seeks to set an expanded frame by advancing new voices and perspectives in both the theory and practice of interior design, considered as an independent discipline. *After Taste* offers expansive views of interior studies, highlights emerging areas of research, identifies allied practices, and makes public its under-explored territory.

Professor **David Heymann** presented a lecture called "Landscape Is Our Sex," about the strange rhetoric of landscape used by architects, at the Iowa State University College of Design.

Professor **Larry Speck** lectured on "Teaching Creative Problem Solving," as part of the Discovery Learning Luncheon Seminars series hosted by the Office of the Provost and the Center for Teaching and Learning. Speck explains, "Educating the next generation to maximize creative thinking requires stimulating the whole brain—encouraging both right brain and left brain thinking. [... we must go beyond focused training for specific jobs and help create graduates who can think broadly and solve problems creatively."

BEYOND LEED: REGENERATIVE DESIGN SYMPOSIUM / Friday, January 27 – Saturday, January 28 at Mebane Gallery, Goldsmith Hall.

The "Beyond LEED" Symposium will focus on the themes, issues, and design approaches to sustainability not yet captured by LEED and other existing rating systems.

During the two-day symposium, nationally

and internationally known designers, advocates, and scholars will present their visions of sustainable design and participate in dialogue about the next generation of green building strategies, standards, certification, and performance evaluation.

Invited speakers include:

- Scott Horst, United States Green Building Council
- AIA representative, American Institute of Architects
- Bill Browning, Terrapin
- Bob Berkebile, BNIM
- Werner Lang, Technical University Munich
- David Heymann, University of Texas at Austin
- Danielle Pieranunzi, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
- Leslie Moody, The Partnership for Working Families
- Reid Ewing, University of Utah
- Raymond Cole, University of British Columbia

The panelists will be moderated by Mike Conroy, an internationally recognized expert in certification and standard development, and principal of Colibrí Consulting - Certification for Sustainable Development, and author of *Branded*.

## SOUTHEAST

### UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

The Department of Architecture welcomes Assistant Professor **Jason Ward** to the faculty. Jason joins the faculty following a year as a visiting assistant professor and he will be coordinating the 3rd year Design Studio as well as teaching courses in materials, technology and structures. Jason holds an M.Arch from Harvard University and a B.Arch from the University of Arkansas. In 2004 he was a visiting scholar at the American Academy in Rome. He has practiced architecture in New England, Canada and the southwestern US with such high profile firms as MacKay-Lyons Sweetapple Architects and Marlon Blackwell Architect. He has previously taught at the University of New Mexico and co-taught a design stu-

dio at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia with Brian MacKay-Lyons.

In addition, the Department of Architecture welcomes new visiting faculty members **Joe Collistra, George Newlands, and Faysal Tabbarah**.

**Joe Collistra** joins the faculty as a visiting assistant professor and is teaching in the 4th year Design Studio. He received his M.Arch from the University of Colorado and has a Bachelor of Environmental Design from Miami University in Ohio. He has previously taught at the University of Colorado in Denver where he has been Principal Architect at ISD Architecture since 2002. His firm specializes in environmentally and socially responsible design.

**George Newlands** joins the school as a visiting assistant professor this year. He holds both a BFA and an M.Arch from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque where he has lived and worked for over 25 years. George was a project architect in the office of Antoine Predock Architect, and since 2006 he has maintained his own architectural practice. He has previously taught at the University of New Mexico.

**Faysal Tabbarah** holds a B.Arch from the American University of Sharjah and an M.Arch from the Architectural Association in London. He is the first alum of AUS to return to the school as a full-time faculty member and thus marks a new milestone for the Department. While in London Faysal worked in the Design Research Laboratory, a collaborative and research based program that focuses on exploring analogue and digital forms of computation to generate scenario and time-based systemic design applications.

#### AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Students in the College of Architecture, Design and Construction's chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA) took first place in this year's student design competition. Held in conjunction with NOMA's annual conference in Atlanta, GA, October 20-22, 2011, the student design competition challenged teams to balance the historic character of Atlanta's Washington Park/Vine City com-

munities while developing a new MARTA Transit Village that preserved and enhanced the existing corridor. Competing against 15 teams from across the country, the Auburn team's design of The Vine City Village won the first place prize of \$1,500. Auburn University's student team was Damian Bolden, Phillip Ewing, Sarahgrace Godwin, Kyle Johnson, Weng Lon Lao, Tanner Backman, Jordan Cox, Andrew Dolder, Yesufu O'ladijo, and Laura Taylor.

#### CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

**Keith Evan Green**, RA, PhD, Professor of Architecture and Electrical & Computer Engineering, co-hosted the Graduate Student Symposium at the ACM Creativity & Cognition 2011 conference, hosted by Georgia Tech. At the same conference, he presented a demonstration of his developing, architectural-robotic "ART" project that is supported by the National Science Foundation in the cross-cutting, "Smart Health & Wellbeing" Program (NSF award #IIS-1116075, \$271k). ART is one component in a suite of intelligent components collectively called home+. home+ aims to increase the quality of life of both healthy individuals, as well as persons with impaired mobility, by intelligently supporting the physical organization of their immediate environment. Green presented developments of the ART project also in San Francisco at the Assistive Robotics workshop of IROS 2011, the International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems.

#### FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Assistant Professor **Malik Benjamin** has been named a Miami Fellow by The Miami Foundation, which seeks to build a Greater Miami through leadership and philanthropy initiatives that invest in creating more informed, thoughtful and effective leaders in the community. Benjamin is one of eighteen members of the Miami Fellows Class VI, and was cited for his innovative leadership in the community. Fellows develop a deeper understanding of Greater Miami and its critical community issues. They will learn from established leaders, develop their own abilities and engage in efforts to increase their community impact individually and as a class. Miami Fellows Class VI builds on the legacy of the program that began in 1999.

Associate Professors **Shahin Vassigh** and **Jason Chandler** published the outcome of their collaboration in a book entitled Building Systems Integration for Enhanced Environmental Performance. The book examines work of architectural practices that produce exemplary models of integrated design that engage climate and context. There are a total of twenty-one buildings discussed and analyzed with graphical detail.

#### UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

University of Miami, part time faculty **Sebastian Eilert**, AIA, principal of Sebastian Eilert Architecture was awarded the 2011 AIA Miami "Sustainable Design Architect of the Year" award. The company was also recognized by the South Florida Business Journal as one of the "Top 25 Green Architecture Firms".

#### UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE-KNOXVILLE

Living Light, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville's state-of-the-art, zero-energy house, will open its doors to the public this week, marking the beginning of the tennessee tour, an educational exhibition that will travel across the state.

Living Light will be open from noon to 4:00 p.M. On Saturdays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays in November and December at the UT Gardens, 2431 Joe Johnson Drive, Knoxville.

Living Light is a functioning energy-efficient, solar-powered house that competed in late September at the US Department of Energy Solar Decathlon on the Mall in Washington, DC. The house placed eighth overall in the competition, and earned commendable, high-standing marks in the fields of architecture, energy-efficient appliances, and engineering.

It also tied for first place in the energy balance contest, garnering perfect marks for achieving a net-zero energy balance throughout the competition.

With the house's return from DC, the Tennessee tour launches as a teaching tool for children, industry professionals, and homeowners to learn about cutting-edge sustainable science, technology, and design.

Starting in Knoxville and continuing to cities in Tennessee, including Nashville, Memphis, Oak Ridge, and Chattanooga, the home will be open for public tours and learning events throughout the year.

“The house incorporates the historical design of the cantilever barn of Appalachia, while showcasing modern home technologies,” said **Diane Bossart**, research associate and project manager of the Tennessee tour. “We are very excited to share this home with people in Tennessee, so they may consider implementing energy-saving techniques and more sustainable materials in their homes and businesses.”

The Tennessee tour is a joint effort of the UT College of Architecture and Design and the UT Institute of Agriculture Office of Extension. It showcases the work of more than 200 students and nine academic programs from the university, as well as the sponsorship and involvement of alumni, business and industry partners of the living light project.

For more information about the Tennessee tour and Living Light visit <http://livinglight-tutk.com/>.

During Summer 2012, **Thomas K. Davis** FAIA will, again, serve as the Nashville Summer Urban Design Program Director for the College of Architecture and Design at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Davis will teach nine credit hours during the first two curriculum components of the program (nine weeks).

This past Summer 2011, the UT School of Architecture offered this inaugural urban design program based at the Nashville Civic Design Center (NCDC), to the mutual benefit and synergy of the College and the Center, as a natural extension of the decade long partnership between the two entities.

A three-course sequence— theory, design and a practicum-- over a 15-week period from May 9 through August 7 involved 14 students. Students from the University of Tennessee were encouraged to enroll in all three sequential courses, and were prioritized for enrollment, but they could elect to take one or two of the courses alone.

Nashville's Metro Arts Commission released a study in 2010 touting the city as a powerhouse for the creative class. Using data from 2007-2008, the Western States Arts Federation ranked Nashville 4th in the country in overall “cultural vitality”—behind New York City, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles. Vitality was gauged by looking at the number of creative professionals (actors, writers, designers and architects among them), as well as total spending on “creative life” (support for not only the symphony and concerts, but small businesses like guitar stores). More than 38,000 creative professionals worked in the region during the study period, and nearly \$1 billion a year was spent on creative life, according to the report.

UT lecturers **Gary Gaston and Stephanie McCullough** will have primary faculty roles during the final component of a proposed three-part curriculum structure (six weeks) this summer. During this final segment, **T. K. Davis** will provide oversight and will be at the NCDC assisting in teaching a total of four two-day visits (eight days total, including the beginning, conclusion, and two intermediate points during the six weeks).

Students may choose to live with family, friends or make their own living arrangements during the program. Alternatively, excellent housing is available at the Scarritt-Bennett Center in the West End, at a rate of \$62 per night (or less, based on duration of stay), including free parking and buffet meals by reservation on a per meal cost basis.

Students are responsible for arranging and paying for all housing, meals, travel, parking and entry fees during the program. The mini-term course will include an overnight field trip to Columbus, Indiana, with students responsible for their personal costs to participate. Columbus, a four hour drive from Nashville, is one of the nation's most concentrated centers for distinguished modern architecture and landscape design.

University of Tennessee students enrolled in the Interior Design or Landscape Architecture Programs also may apply for enrollment, subject to the advanced approval of their program's faculty leadership.

Students enrolled in architecture programs at other universities are also welcome and encouraged to apply for enrollment.

Inquire of the College of Architecture and Design for more information. Costs and additional information is available for viewing or download here.

## WEST

### CAL POLY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

**R. Thomas Jones**, dean of Cal Poly's College of Architecture and Environmental Design, will step down as dean and return to the Architecture Department to teach and to expand the college's Learn by Doing programs.

Jones, who has led the college since 2003, will remain dean until a successor is named – a task expected to be completed by mid-summer 2012. The 65-year-old said he has been eager to return to teaching but waited until the university could complete its recent search for a new provost, who oversees the college deans.

“My tenure as dean has been incredibly fulfilling and satisfying, but now it's time for a new person with a fresh perspective to guide the college to an even higher level,” Jones said. “I have enjoyed working closely with our talented faculty to create unique learning opportunities for our students.

“I'm grateful to our faculty for their efforts through these tough financial challenges to enhance the college's excellent reputation while attracting interest from students throughout the world.”

Noting that Jones also helped expand Cal Poly's connections to major industry and civic leaders, Provost **Robert Koob** said, “Tom Jones has brought great energy and wonderfully creative ideas to the university, and he will continue to make valuable contributions to Cal Poly. We're particularly interested in expanding opportunities for our students to have more hands-on experiences, and Tom's efforts in his new role will be critical to that part of our strategy.”

In addition to teaching, Jones will work to expand the college's Metro Programs, which he initiated during his tenure as dean. The Metro Programs are in place in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Orange County and San Diego; they connect practicing professionals with faculty to teach Cal Poly students as well as help provide internships for students. The programs are an important part of Cal Poly's renowned hands-on, Learn by Doing approach to teaching.

"These opportunities benefit students and faculty by involving them in world-class cities and premier professional practices," Jones said. "Expansion of these programs has been a longtime goal of the faculty and the university."

Since arriving at Cal Poly, Jones has helped achieve top-tier national rankings for all five programs in the College of Architecture and Environmental Design and helped position the college as a recognized leader in sustainable community design, interdisciplinary courses and practitioner-educational partnerships. Independent publications and surveys show that Cal Poly's alumni in these fields rank among the most desirable young professionals by major employers in the West and other parts of the country.

Jones worked with then-President Warren J. Baker and others to establish Cal Poly's Sustainability Advisory Committee. He continues to serve as its chairman. Jones also implemented the college's first interdisciplinary studio lab and helped found Architecture + Construction Alliance, comprised of deans and department heads from across the nation committed to expanding interdisciplinary education and research. He created the university's first interdisciplinary research institute – the Planning, Design and Construction Institute, which provides summer grants to younger faculty. Also while Jones was dean, two significant buildings were funded and built: The Construction Innovations Center and the Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab.

"All accomplishments are a team effort," Jones said. "As dean, my role was to connect talented faculty to innovative practitioners and civic leaders and to foster rich teaching and research.

"Working together, we also bolstered broader engagement with industry partners and increased donor support. If we did not have outstanding students and terrific faculty, none of the college's accomplishments the past decade would have been possible."

#### UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Dean **Janice Cervelli** joined the Executive Advisory Committee for U of A's "The Next 125" at the invitation of President Eugene G. Sander. The University is celebrating 125 years since Arizona's 13th Territorial Legislature authorized its establishment in 1885. Dean Cervelli will be involved in high-level decision making and long-term strategic planning related to the next major strategic plan for the UA.

Associate Professor **Martin Despang** of Despang Architekten was featured in The Chengdu 7788 Culture, the September issue of *Ingenuity* magazine. The article, "High-Class Arcology," features an interview with Despang and highlights four Despang Architekten projects as case studies in its review of highly efficient buildings and the firm's approach in designing diverse building typologies to foster a sustainable, bioclimatic lifestyle.

#### UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Associate Professor **Mark Anderson's** firm Anderson Anderson received a 2011 North American Holcim Acknowledgement Award (including \$18,750!) for their portable classroom in Hawaii. Anderson and his brother Peter spoke at the Oregon College of Art and Craft's inaugural lecture series in early October.

*Architectural Record* published the interior that Associate Professor **Lisa Iwamoto's** firm IwamotoScott designed for *Obscura* Digital and *FRAME* magazine's on-line edition. Autodesk, Architizer & Inc magazine named the space one of 2011 World's Coolest Offices. IwamotoScott shares the space.

Iwamoto will be giving two lectures in October, at Acadia in Calgary/Banff, and at the School of Architecture of Anáhuac University in México where IwamotoScott's work will also be on exhibit. IWAMOTO will

also be a juror for the Portland AIA annual awards.

Assistant Professor **Ronald Rael** is a featured speaker at the Monterey Design Conference, in early October. Rael's firm, Rael San Fratello Architects, was also selected as one of ten on the rise in California by CA Home+Design Magazine.

Rael's "Seat Slug" was promoted by *evolo* as "a demonstration project of the potential of the material and 3d printing process to make sophisticated large pieces using low cost, non repetitive objects." Seat Slug is also being recognized in other on-line news sources.

In addition, Rael San Fratello Architects built a straw-bale installation, "The Straw Gallery," for HEDGE Gallery's use at the 4th annual sf20/21 San Francisco Art and Design Show held at the Festival Pavilion, Fort Mason Center in mid-September. It was featured in *FRAME* magazine's on-line arm.

Professor **Dana Buntrock** was a moderator at the UIA, held in Tokyo in late September.

Professor **Paul Groth** will join San Francisco *Chronicle* critic John King in a conversation regarding commemoration of the 1991 Oakland Fire on December 4.

#### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

**John Dutton** is editing GRIDS-blog: Speculations on Urbanism and the Built Environment. It can be found at [www.GRIDS-blog.com](http://www.GRIDS-blog.com)

**Mia Lehrer**, FASLA, was a featured speaker at the ASLA 2011 Annual Meeting and Expo in San Diego. She covered topics from Women in Landscape Architecture to Urban Agriculture, and hosted a field session at the Orange County Great Park. This month Mia appears in *Latina Magazine's* Making Us Proud spotlight on influential women.

**Rachel Berney**, PhD, Interim Director of the MLA Program and assistant professor, gave a talk at Iowa State University on 11/10/2011 titled, "Visible Competency:

Building Capital through Public Space in Latin America.”

Lecturer **Mina M. Chow**, AIA, NCARB has joined as Director of Development for the US Pavilion at the 2012 Venice Biennale for the Institute for Urban Design (IFUD). The Institute for Urban Design won the U.S. Department of State RFP for their exhibition “Spontaneous Interventions: Design Actions for the Common Good,” which documents projects initiated by American architects and designers aimed at bringing positive change to the public realm. The U.S. Pavilion team includes Commissioner and Curators Cathy Lang Ho and Ned Cramer, and the Curatorial Advisory Team of MOMA NYC Senior Curator Paola Antonelli, IFUD Executive Director Anne Guiney, Chief Curator of the Art Institute of Chicago Zoe Ryan, and IFUD Chair Professor Michael Sorkin. For additional information, please visit: <http://spontaneousinterventions.org> or <http://ifud.org>.

The ARCC 2010 James Haecker Award was presented to Professor **Ralph Knowles** on November 12, 2011. The James Haecker Distinguished Leadership Award for Architectural Research is presented by the ARCC (Architectural Research Centers Consortium) for outstanding contributions to the growth of the research culture of architecture and related fields. Knowles, who has taught at USC for 40 years, is the author of seven books and more than 50 articles. He is a recipient of the American Institute of Architects’ Medal for Research. He has conducted research in Bratislava, Slovakia with the support of a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship. The National Endowment for the Arts honored him for his design research and his work on solar access was supported by the Endowment. He received the USC Associates Award for Teaching Excellence and his book, *Sun Rhythm Form*, won the Phi Kappa Phi Scholarly Book Award. He has most recently received the USC Distinguished Emeritus Award and the Passive Solar Pioneer Award from the American Solar Energy Society. The main body of his work has focused on design with nature for energy conservation and life quality. He is the creator of the Solar Envelope, a zoning strategy for urban solar access. In his latest book, *Ritual House: Drawing on Nature’s Rhythms for Architecture and Urban*

*Design*, Knowles explores theories relating nature’s rhythms to life’s rituals as a basis for a new architectural aesthetic. <http://www.rcf.usc.edu/~rknowles>

**Victor Regnier**, professor of architecture and gerontology traveled to Japan to consult with a group of experts on the Toto company’s approach to research in universal design. Later that month he delivered the Hong Kong Housing Society Distinguished Lecture on Sustainable Housing Development—Innovative Ideas from the Design of Housing for the Elderly in Northern Europe at the University of Hong Kong. This month he presented a symposium at the American Association of Housing and Services for the Aging in Los Angeles on Danish housing models, and made a presentation at the New Aging Conference at the University of Pennsylvania about Dutch apartment for life projects. Finally, he debated colleague Jon Pynoos Ph.D at the UCLA Technology and Aging conference on strategies for maintaining independence in the community. In the Spring he will be presenting a symposium at the Madrid International Congress on Long Term Care and Quality of Life as well as making a presentation at the University of Virginia on Age-friendly communities.

Assistant Professor **Gail Peter Borden’s** installation “Light Frames: a material prophecy” opened at Materials and Applications and will be up through mid-March. It consists of a two storey EMT double dome and a vinyl pneumatic chapel. Simultaneously opening, a show entitled “Shallow Spaces” at Galleri Urbane in Dallas, Texas curated a series of resin paintings. In October he lectured at the Houston Museum of Fine Arts as a speaker in the Rice Design Alliance lecture series “A Material World.” He is currently attending a Residency at the MacDowell Colony, the oldest residency program in the U.S. His second book *Matter: Material Processes of Architectural Production* is at press with Routledge and will be available spring 2011.

Professor **Marc Schiler** was a participant in the Xi Xi Li She (XXLS) sustainable design charrette, from August 25 through September 1, with a team of architects, engineers, faculty, and students from the U.S. who met on the site of a proposed

sustainable development in the Yuhang district of Hangzhou, China. The program includes a 25,000 square foot video production studio/main hall and a research and educational annex. The resultant design utilizes environmentally responsive passive principles, a ground source heat pump, photovoltaics, a biogas reactor, and on site collection, storage and processing of rainwater, gray water and black water. The provincial government and Sally Wu of Phoenix TV sponsored the design charrette and a special province forum where the XXLS design proposal was presented to 300 party officials, business representatives, developers, and investors from China and Hong Kong. Yung Ho Chang (MIT and Atelier FCJZ) delivered a keynote speech on sustainability in Architecture.

## NORTHEAST

### BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL COLLEGE

The Boston Architectural College announces the appointment of three new department Heads:

**Maria Bellalta** has been named Head of the BAC’s Landscape Architecture program. Her professional credentials include practice with Sasaki Associates, Copley Wolff Design, and Martha Swartz Partners. She has worked on planning and landscape projects throughout the United States and Western Europe, with an emphasis on urban sustainability. She graduated from the University of Notre Dame, and from the Landscape Architecture program at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. She has taught at Harvard, at the Pontificia Universidad Catolica de Chile, and at the Boston Architectural College. “Understanding the principles of urban ecology and landscape design is essential for designing and maintaining sustainable communities,” she has said. “I am very excited about joining forward-thinking design peers in enabling future designers to address the issues of building environmentally sustainable cities.”

**Crandon Gustafson** has been named Head of the BAC’s Interior Design program. He

previously headed the Interior Design program at Harrington College of Design in Chicago, where he initiated their masters program. Trained as an architect at the University of Colorado, he worked for a number of years at the Chicago offices of Gensler, and Perkins + Will, and was managing architect for Chicago Public Schools. He is an ASID member, and was elected President of the Illinois chapter of the International Interior Design Association. He holds NCIDQ certification, and is LEED accredited. "Interior Designers have special expertise in space planning, lighting, ergonomics, health and wellness planning, addressing issues of aging, and evidence-based design. These skills contribute to our understanding of sustainability, and to the human factors engineering that is increasingly shaping our design decisions. It will be very stimulating to bring these specific perspectives to the education of architects and Landscape Architecture professionals, as well as to our emerging professional interior designers."

**Karen Nelson** has been named Acting Head of the BAC's Architecture program. Educated at M.I.T. and Columbia, she has taught at RISD and at the BAC for over a decade where she has directed advanced studio education. A much revered teacher and mentor, she oversaw the College's Solar Decathlon studios, is managing the BAC's spring 2012 architecture re-accreditation process, and continues to recruit and manage adjunct architecture faculty. She has brought to the BAC many noted outside speakers including Snohetta, Steven Benisch, Hollwich Kushner, and Howeler Yoon to assist students in understanding the work of the most innovative designers working today. "We have enjoyed working across our disciplines in the past," she reports, "and the need for interdisciplinary research and practice is greater than ever before. Our graduates will create career paths unthought-of just a few years ago. As educators we will need to be increasingly creative in preparing students to enter fields that require open-mindedness and professional agility."

"These accomplished educators bring a wealth of experience to the BAC's programs of practice-based design education," according to President Ted Landmark. "As

we diversify our programs to better anticipate the requirements of professional design practice, the need has grown for program leaders who collaborate across the disciplines of architecture, interior design, and landscape architecture. Integrated design practice, virtual modeling of work over great distances, increased management expectations, and new career opportunities are transforming the design professions toward greater collaboration among clearly defined bodies of knowledge. These new program Heads have demonstrated leadership in their respective fields, and have shown the ability to grow student expertise through multidisciplinary work. They bring professional skills and foresight to the BAC and to the design professions globally."

BAC Provost **Julia Halevy** adds, "We're thrilled to have assembled this group of thoughtful and collaborative designers. We are developing a new Foundation curriculum with their input, and we anticipate that our graduates will not only understand their responsibilities within the traditional design disciplines, but will also be highly innovative in shaping design practices into the future." For further information contact Janet Oberto, Director of External and Government Relations, at 617-585-0266, or [Janet.oberto@the-bac.edu](mailto:Janet.oberto@the-bac.edu).

#### NEW YORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Professors **Jason Van Nest and Farzana Gandhi** presented their research on the Soda Bottle Interface Bracket ("SodaBIB") roofing project at a lecture featuring research with NYIT students on Thursday, Sept. 22 at NYIT Gallery 61. Their invention, which NYIT has begun to patent, is an idea to reuse water bottles as roofing materials in support of an architectural role in environmentalism, and sustainability. They aim to propose new ways architects can help society, like by giving common materials a second lifecycle before recycling. (Find out more at [SodaBIB.org](http://SodaBIB.org)) They also recently placed as finalists in the recent ACADIA/FLATCUT Competition – their design was for a table supported by a reversible tensegrity structure made from 4mm diameter rubber tendons and matching 4mm diameter steel rods. (Find out more [doubledeployable.com](http://doubledeployable.com))

#### PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Two undergraduate students from Penn State's H. Campbell and Eleanor R. Stuckeman School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture are meeting with legislators in Harrisburg as part of the Undergraduate Research at the Capitol event.

Undergraduate Research at the Capitol (URC) brings together college students, faculty, and Pennsylvania legislators to share the experiences of students engaged in research or scholarship at their colleges and universities. The October 18 URC-PA gives students an opportunity to present posters about their work at the Capitol Building, and for students and faculty mentors to meet with legislators and their staffs.

An entry submitted by Bryan Heritage, a fifth-year Architecture student, and Abigail Thomas, a fifth-year Landscape Architecture student, was one of four posters selected to represent Penn State.

The students' poster, *The River Town Assessment Tool: A Process to Revitalize River Towns in the Susquehanna Valley*, showcases their work on the River Town Assessment process, a joint program of the Hamer Center for Community Design at Penn State; the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership; and SEDA-Council of Governments (SEDA-COG), a public development organization serving 11 central Pennsylvania counties. Their faculty advisor was Malika Bose, director of the Hamer Center.

As Hamer Center interns this past summer Heritage and Thomas worked with the River Town Project's partners to finalize the assessment process, which provides direction for communities' long-term sustainable development as river towns. They then worked with stakeholder groups in Shickshinny and Montgomery to pilot test the tool, using it to create designs that reflected the community members' visions.

This involved participation in community meetings and mapping—leading to the creation of town inventories of strengths and weaknesses, and group assessments regarding assets of each town. Preliminary reports were shared with each community

and presentations are planned for the fall semester. Feedback from reviews and presentations will be incorporated into final reports that will be shared with each community.

The students' work provided a solid foundation for the continuation of the River Town Project and its potential replication throughout the Susquehanna river valley, helping other river towns achieve their potential. Ultimately, these communities will receive ongoing assistance from the River Towns Project, enabling the development of programs for recreational, environmental, and economic enhancement.

The students' research is focused specifically on Susquehanna river towns, but its relevance extends to the revitalization of former industrial towns throughout the state, Heritage said. While the history of these towns may be rooted in industry, their future prosperity demands new thinking—and, often, a focus on tourism. "It's not about creating Disneyland," he said. "It's creating a place that's interesting to visit and also live as a permanent resident."

In addition to meeting with legislators, the students will have an opportunity to see how their peers react to their findings. "Obviously we see the relevance in our research," Thomas said. "But I'm looking forward to seeing how the general public connects to it."

## CANADA

### MCGILL UNIVERSITY

The School of Architecture is delighted to host **Michael Wen-Sen Su** as the Sheff Visiting Professor for Fall 2011. Professor Su is teaching in our professional Masters studio and the seminar course Contemporary Theory 1.

**Robert Mellin's** book, *Newfoundland Modern: Architecture in the Smallwood Years, 1949-1972* (McGill-Queen's University Press), will be launched in November 2011.

William C. Macdonald Professor **Annamarie Adams** has been appointed the Director of the School of Architecture for a three-year term.

**Aaron Sprecher** has organized the fall lecture series, Critical Practice. Chicago architect Jeanne Gang kicked off the series and Thom Mayne was the David J. Azrieli lecturer.

Recent MArch graduate Dorothy Stern was awarded the Martin Eli Weil prize by the Society for the Study of Architecture in Canada for her essay "The View from Winnipeg: Thoughts on the Evolution of Canadian Interior Design Education."

The School's annual Sketching School returned to Gloucester, Massachusetts, for one week in late August 2011 with **David Covo and Robert Mellin**. This was the 90th anniversary of this unique course.

## EAST CENTRAL

### LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

Adjunct Instructor **Ralph Nunez**, RLA, CLARB, ASLA, GRP, received the distinguished PASHA (Panel Advisory Service Honorary Association) silver pin from the Urban Land Institute last month in Tampa, Florida. This recognition is given to ULI members who have participated in ten advisory service panels as an expert in landscape architecture, design, or land planning. The ULI advisory services panels provide strategic advice to sponsors on various land use and real estate development issues.

Renovations by the architectural firm of Adjunct Instructor **Michael Wolk** to a 1968 house in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, originally designed by Gunnar Birkerts, were featured as part of the recent Detroit AIA House Tour.

### OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Professor **Michael Cadwell's** Small Buildings was republished in Pamphlet Architecture 11-20, the second volume of col-

lected work in the acclaimed Pamphlet Architecture series.

Ohio State Knowlton School of Architecture faculty are joint researchers on the \$865,000 HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) Community Challenge grant received by MOPRC (Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission) for an urban agriculture overlay and food-based economic development in the Weinland Park neighborhood of Columbus. Associate Professor **Kay Bea Jones** (architecture) is the lead PI with Assistant Professors **Jacob Boswell and Katherine Bennett** (Landscape Architecture) and Assistant Professor **Charisma Acey** (City & Regional Planning). The design team will advise on schematic proposals for the 3.5 acre site through March 2013. Jones has leveraged a second year of the \$50,000 grant from the International Poverty Solutions Collaborative to support research activities, faculty, and students. The design team recently published *Urban Farmscapes: for Communities Markets and New Ecologies*, that documents 72 urban agriculture case studies.

Associate Professor **Kay Bea Jones** curated the symposium asking, "What does Design have to do with Poverty," at the Knowlton School of Architecture on October 28, 2010, moderated by Jones and funded by the International Poverty Solutions Collaborative. Presentations included **Susan Melsop**, Assistant Professor of Design/OSU, E.J. Thomas, Habitat for Humanity, **Charisma Acey**, Assistant Professor of City & Regional Planning/OSU, and Matt Persinger, Yale University, Design/Build Program.

Professor **Jeffrey Kipnis** gave the Dean's Lecture at Staedelschule, Frankfurt Germany, and was the Distinguished Visiting Lecturer at Calgary University. Kipnis participated in panel discussions at IIT, Tokyo University, The Architectural Association of London, TU-Berlin, Círculo de Bellas Artes Madrid, Hammer Museum in Los Angeles, the Venice Biennale, Harvard GSD, and the University of Michigan. He also organized the conference "A Better Future through Architecture" at Georgia Tech where he gave the keynote address.

Assistant Professor **Karen Lewis** and students were recognized in the Van Alen

Institute's "Life at the Speed of Rail" competition. "Switch Space," by Emma Cucurrean-Zapan and Christine Yankel, was developed as part of her winter studio on Ohio's high speed rail system, was recognized as a winning project. Professor Lewis's own project, "Health Corridor," was awarded an Honorable Mention. Karen Lewis's collaborative project "Harbor Port" was noted with an honorable mention in the One Prize Competition. Harborport was

Professor **Jose Oubrierie's** diagrams and photographs of Firminy Church were published in "Les 20 ans de Nemausus" December 2010 by Edition de l'Esperou and School of Architecture of Montpellier France. He was selected as the Baird Distinguished Professor at Cornell University for 2011. He was also a panelist at a symposium at the Pratt Institute School of Architecture and gave public lectures at City College of New York, Bowling Green

Joshua Bolchover (UK: Phaidon Press). Tilder gave the keynote address, "Media Ecologies" at the University Bauhaus Weimar. Tilder served as a juror for the ACSA ARCHIVE "Being Resourceful" competition. Associate Professor **Stephen Turk** published "Tables of Weights and Measures: Architecture and the Synchronous Objects Project" in *Emerging Bodies: The Performance of Worldmaking in Dance and Choreography*, edited by Gabriele Klein and Sandra Noeth, (Bielefeld: Transcript Verlag). This publication stems from his lecture presented at the Tanzkongress 2009 at the Kampnagel Hamburg, Germany. Associate Professor Turk's exhibition design/installation in collaboration with Norah Zuniga Shaw, "Synchronous Objects, Reproduced" for the 16th International Symposium on Electronic Art, was published in ISEA2010 RUHR Exhibition Catalogue, edited by Stefan Riekes and Andreas Broeckmann (Kehrer Verlag: Heidelberg - Berlin).

**If you would like to submit your school news to ACSA News please Submit to ACSA News at [acsa-arch.org](http://acsa-arch.org). Items on scholastic news from ACSA member schools as well as announcements of upcoming ACSA programs are welcome. In addition, ACSA's website is the primary vehicle for schools to advertise faculty positions. Visit ACSA Careers to view all job opportunities.**

developed with Jason Kentner, Sean Burkholder, and Matthew Banton. Lewis is currently writing a book, "Graphic Design for Architects" that will be published by Routledge Press February 2013.

Professor **Robert S. Livesey**, who co-taught with the late Architect James Stirling at Yale University, was cited in the exhibition "An Architect's Legacy: James Stirling's Students at Yale" and interviewed for the accompanying James Stirling documentary. Livesey authored a review of the exhibition for *Constructs*, the bi-annual news magazine highlighting activities and events at the Yale School of Architecture. Associate Professor Jane Murphy's and Michael Cadwell's work, produced as students of Stirling and Livesey, was included in the exhibition. Murphy was also interviewed for the Stirling documentary.

University, University of Kentucky School of Architecture and Design, and AIA Kentucky. Professor Oubrierie also presented the lecture, "Architecture in a Time of Uncertainty," at Southern California Institute of Architecture.

Associate Professors **Lisa Tilder and Stephen Turk** were awarded the 2010-2011 ACSA/AIA Housing Design Education Award and ACSA Collaborative Practice Honorable Mention. Tilder and Turk's "Pod Home" was published in *NANO HOUSE: Innovations for Small Dwellings*, ed. Phyllis Richardson (UK: Thames & Hudson) and was featured in *NANO HOUSE* reviews by the Los Angeles Times, Irish Times and others. Associate Professor **Lisa Tilder** published "The Lost Decade?" in *field journal*: issue 4, Ecology (Sheffield, UK) and was a contributing author to *Vitamin Green*, ed.

Professor **Ann Pendleton-Jullian** completed her term as Director of the Knowlton School of Architecture and has returned to the full-time faculty to pursue research. Professor and Section Head of Architecture Mike Cadwell has been appointed Interim-Director of the KSA. Associate Professor S. Beth Blostein has assumed the role of Architecture Section Head. Professor Robert S. Livesey has been appointed Head of the KSA's Landscape Architecture Section, with an international search for Landscape Architecture Section Head underway.

## **WEST CENTRAL**

### **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA**

**Blaine Brownell**, Assistant Professor. This year, Princeton Architectural Press published Brownell's fourth book, entitled *Matter in the Floating World: Conversations with Leading Japanese Architects and Designers*. The book considers Japan's sophisticated design and material culture, and is organized along four primary themes—lightness, atmosphere, flow, and emergence. The book includes interviews with twenty individuals including Hitoshi

Abe, Tadao Ando, Toyo Ito, Kengo Kuma, and Kazuyo Sejima. Brownell continues to write a monthly one-page column entitled "Mind & Matter" in *Architect* magazine, in addition to a blog that appears twice a week on *Architect's* website. In July, Brownell wrote "An Uncertain Future" about Japanese architects' perspectives on rebuilding Japan in a supplement to the *London Times*. His article "Peering into the Floating World" about Japanese designers' approaches to light and materials appeared in the June issue of *Architectural Lighting*. Christopher Kanal interviewed Brownell for his article "Houses of the Rising Sun" in the November issue of *Sublime* magazine. Brownell also gave lectures entitled "Material Evolution: Assessing Disruptive Change in Technology and Nature" at Harvard University on September 16 and "Material Resilience: Innovative Technologies for Adaptable Buildings and Cities" at the University of Southern California on September 13. Brownell continues to co-direct the Master of Science in Architecture--Sustainable Design program with Jim Lutz at the University of Minnesota.

**Marc Swackhamer**, Associate Professor of Architecture. The Weisman Art Museum (WAM) at the University of Minnesota announced in October that a team led by School of Architecture Adjunct Professors Jennifer Yoos and Vincent James of VJAA, working with Associate Professor Marc Swackhamer and Blair Satterfield of Houminn Practice and artist Diane Willow, Associate Professor in the University of Minnesota School of Fine Art, was announced the winner of the Weisman Art Museum's Plaza Design Competition. The competition focused on the plaza at the east end of Washington Avenue Bridge, spanning the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis. This is a busy thoroughfare for bikers and pedestrians. Students, staff, faculty and visitors to the Twin Cities Campus, over 20,000 people per day, use this important public space. The next phase of the project will be to hold meetings with the winning team, and the campus community, in the Target Studio for Creative Collaboration to refine the design and implement the plan.

**John Comazzi**, Assistant Professor of Architecture. John Comazzi (Assistant Professor of Architecture and Adjunct Assistant

Professor of Landscape Architecture), was an invited presenter and moderator at the annual conference of the Association of Architecture Organizations in Philadelphia, PA. Comazzi is a co-chair of the organizations Architecture and Design Education Network (A+DEN). He has also been invited to join the planning committee for the upcoming Midwest regional conference for the Council of Educational Facility Planners International (CEFPI) to be held in Minneapolis in April 2012.

Professor **Julia W. Robinson**. Julia Robinson is teaching an undergraduate design studio that is working with the Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood of the city of St Paul, exploring how to design dense housing acceptable to the neighborhood on a 2 1/2 acre site.

#### UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MILWAUKEE

**Diebedo Francis Kere**, founder of Kere Architecture (<http://www.kere-architecture.com>) based in Berlin, Germany has been chosen as the 2011 recipient of the Marcus Prize for Architecture.

The Marcus Prize is a \$100,000 award funded by the Marcus Corporation Foundation and administered through the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Architecture and Urban Planning to recognize emerging talent in architecture worldwide. The Marcus Prize provides a \$50,000 award to the winner and a further \$50,000 to the School to run the competition and bring Kere to Milwaukee to lead a design studio.

During the spring 2012 semester, Mr. Kere will make scheduled visits to the School. He will co-direct a graduate studio project on specific challenges in architecture that inspire enduring benefits to the physical environment, and will be invited to participate in public workshops and lectures.

Diebedo Francis Kere was born in Burkina Faso in 1965, the first-born son of the chief of the village of Gando. He was awarded a scholarship to complete his secondary education in Berlin and, upon completion, enrolled in the School of Architecture at the Technical University of Berlin. In 2004 he completed his degree.

In 1998, Kere founded the organization Bricks for the Gando Schools, through which he raised the funds to build a new primary school in his home village. Here, he adapted construction techniques to take advantage of passive ventilation strategies, local resources and technical skills. The results illustrate the power of architecture to change a community.

On May 19, 2011, a six-person jury convened in Milwaukee to select among the 30 international nominees drawn from 13 countries, all practicing architects who were nominated by one or more of a select international committee of nominators. The Jurors: Toshiko Mori, FAIA, the Robert P. Hubbard Professor in the Practice of Architecture at Harvard University Graduate School of Design and principal of Toshiko Mori Architect, (New York City); Carlos Jimenez, Principal of Carlos Jimenez Studio, Professor at Rice University and a jury member of the Pritzker Architectural Prize, (Houston); Sarah Herda, director of The Graham Foundation for the Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, (Chicago); Robert Greenstreet, Dean, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Architecture and Urban Planning (Milwaukee), Steve Marcus, CEO, The Marcus Corporation Foundation (Milwaukee) and Chris Cornelius, Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee School of Architecture and Urban Planning (who will coteach the studio with Kere) reviewed the portfolios, CVs and work statements of each nominee before selecting Kere to receive the Marcus Prize.

According to juror Toshiko Mori, "Kere is...able to translate western architectural traditions into indigenous processes and values. His desire to make sophisticated and uncompromised buildings with so few resources is an empowering and optimistic lesson to share with students."

The Marcus Prize has been awarded to MVRDV, Rotterdam (2005), Barkow + Leibinger Architects, Berlin (2007) and Alejandro Aravena, Elemental, Chile (2009). Work from the Marcus Prize studios has been published on countless websites and international journals, and in several books, including *Skycar City* (Aktar) and *Architecture Now! 7* (Taschen). The student work

has been displayed at the 2008 Venice Biennale and has won a design award. The Marcus Prize has been described as “the most lucrative prize for young designers in the world matched only by the Pritzker.”

The Marcus Corporation Foundation is the philanthropic arm of The Marcus Corporation, a lodging and entertainment company with headquarters in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Marcus Prize is part of the Marcus family’s ongoing commitment to support the growth and development of the practice of architecture in Milwaukee.

Prof. **Bill Huxhold** is to be inducted into the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (URISA)’s GIS Hall of Fame later this year. URISA established the Hall of Fame in 2005 “to recognize and honor the most esteemed leaders of the geospatial community. To be considered for the GIS Hall of Fame, an individual’s or an organization’s record of contribution to the advancement of the industry demonstrates creative thinking and actions, vision and innovation, inspiring leadership, perseverance, and community mindedness. In addition, nominees must serve as a role model for those who follow. URISA Hall of Fame Laureates are individuals or organizations whose pioneering work has moved the geospatial industry in a better, stronger direction.”

The Association of Architecture Organizations honored [www.NEXT.cc](http://www.NEXT.cc) at its Philadelphia conference October as the sole U.S Nominee and Award winner at the United International Architects Competition in Japan. Prof. Mark Keane, UWM, president, and Prof. Linda Keane, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, director of [NEXT.cc](http://www.NEXT.cc) welcome all ACSA members to engage in this free K-12 design education website <[www.NEXT.cc](http://www.NEXT.cc)>.

## MEMORIALS

### LAWRENCE TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

**Rochelle Martin**, Ph.D., passed away on October 8, 2011. Dr. Martin had been with Lawrence Tech since 1986 and was a Professor in the College of Architecture and Design at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Professor Martin received a Doctor of Architecture from the University of Michigan, a Bachelor of Architecture from Lawrence Tech, a Master of Arts in History and Bachelor of Science in Education from Wayne State University. Prior to working at Lawrence Tech, Rochelle was an Assistant Professor at Kansas State University, a Visiting Professor at the University of Nebraska, and an Adjunct Professor at the University of Michigan.

In her years at Lawrence Tech, she served on numerous university and college committees, along with founding the university’s Tau Sigma Delta chapter. A published author, she served on many thesis juries and enjoyed researching the impact of film media on architecture.

Rochelle was highly respected and will be greatly missed. She is survived by her daughter Marilee.