

February 2015



ACSA NewsDigest

A Publication of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture



WEST CENTRAL

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

DesignIntelligence (DI) Magazine has named Director and Professor and Director **Hans Butzer**, AIA and Assistant Professor and Associate Director of Student Development **Dr. Stephanie Pilat** as two of DesignIntelligence's 30 Most Admired Educators for 2015.

In association with the Bruce Goff Chair of Creative Architecture, Assistant Professor **Dr. Catherine Barrett**, AIA chaired the 2014 Creating_Making Forum, November 5-7. Sessions, keynote speakers, and student workshops built upon discourse introduced at the inaugural 2010 Creating_Making Forum. Featured speakers included E.B. Min, principal at MinIDay, and Kristen Murray, principal at Olson Kundig Architects. Both Min and Murray collaborated with select students in 1-1/2 day workshops that generated ideas for art installations within downtown Norman's Main Street.

Associate Professor **David Boeck**, AIA is leading a 4th year studio class to New Orleans this semester to explore the Claiborne Avenue site related to the 2015 NOMA Student Competition. The project allows Architecture and Interior Design students to collaborate with OU's NOMAS chapter. The 3rd year Interior Design students are designing a restaurant within the complex.

Professor and Director of The Center for Middle Eastern Architecture and Culture **Dr. Khosrow Bozorgi** recently returned from a sabbatical in the Middle East where he visited, surveyed, and documented 27 architectural sites of various historical nature and size

particular to Iranian desert architecture. He is currently working with professional filmmakers in Oklahoma City and New York to assemble and edit hundreds of hours of video into three documentaries focused on courtyard architecture, historical wind catchers, and ancient technology to bring subterranean water to remote locations. For more information about CMEAC, visit: <http://www.ou.edu/content/architecture/centers/CMEAC.html>

Professor and Director **Hans Butzer**, AIA, through his practice Butzer Gardner Architects, recently received an Honor Award from AIA Central States Region and an Honor Award AIA Central Oklahoma chapter for the "SLIVR" Building.

Associate Professor and Associate Director of Student Development **Marjorie P. Callahan**, AIA recently authored *Teaching Leadership Skills: "Practice" Coursework in Architecture Education Program* in the Journal of Social Sciences Collection. Marjorie was also an invited Conference Facilitator on Leadership Issues at the recent State of Oklahoma Women in Higher Education Conference. She also collaborated with Professor Debra Reisweber on the 2014 published book *Sooner State of Mind: Forging Leadership Legacies North of the Red River*.

Associate Professor and Associate Director of Curriculum Development **Anthony Cricchio**, RA and Associate Professor **Lee Fithian**, AIA helped lead OU's 2nd annual C5 Capstone Collaborative Competition. Ten interdisciplinary teams, consisting of senior Architecture, Interior Design, and CNS students partnered with JE Dunn Construction and architectural firm ADG. The

two-week competition focused on an urban infill rehabilitation scenario in Oklahoma City's Bricktown. Through the use of BIM and other collaborative technologies, students presented comprehensive and interior concepts along with cost estimates and schedules for the client group.

Director of Small Town Studios Associate Professor and Director of Small Town Studios **Ron Frantz**, AIA collaborated with the CoA's Division of Regional and City Planning to host the recent American Planning Association (APA) Oklahoma Chapter Conference. Ron was also a guest speaker in OU's recent inaugural *Placemaking Academy*.

Long time DivA supporter and award winning architect **John Ward**, AIA, principal at TAP Architecture in Oklahoma City, recently joined the faculty as a Professor of Practice.

Associate Professor **Jay Yowell**, AIA has been working with Hornbeek Blatt Architects on the 21c Museum Hotel in Oklahoma City. New York-based Deborah Berke & Partners are the design architects. The project is an adaptive reuse project transforming the historic Fred Jones building into a boutique hotel that will showcase permanent and rotating artwork.

Additional news includes: Architecture, Urban Design, and Landscape students are collaborating on a design competition to re-imagine a section of historic Route 66 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Design teams are challenged to change perceptions of the stretch of road by redesigning the streetscape and cultural experience. Teams are also developing new ideas for signage along Route 66 which draw from the legacy of the legendary road's neon

signs. Led by Director of Urban Design **Shawn Schaefer** and Director of Regional and City Planning **Dr. Dawn Jourdan**, the faculty team includes Assistant Professor **Dr. Stephanie Pilat**, Assistant Professor **Scott Williams**, and Associate Professor **Jay Yowell**, AIA. The project has been supported by a \$10,000 grant from the Signage Foundation, Inc. Each student on the winning team will be awarded a travel grant to support a Spring 2015 trip to Chicago.

Jerri Hodges Bonebrake, Bruce Goff's long-time assistant, sadly passed away late 2014. The CoA's Jerri Hodges Bonebrake award will continue to recognize outstanding staff. A newly developed student scholarship in her name is being developed to reward outstanding creative students.

UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE-KNOXVILLE

Renowned landscape architect and planner **Drew Wensley** has been appointed a visiting professor of practice in the University of Tennessee, College of Architecture and Design.

Wensley is chief executive officer of Canada-based **Moriyama & Teshima**, a globally recognized planning and landscape architecture firm. He will visit the College of Architecture and Design numerous times a semester, and work remotely with faculty and students on various projects.

"Drew is a great addition to the **Landscape Architecture Program** for several reasons, not the least of which is his firm's global reach," said **Gale Fulton**, chair of the UT Landscape Architecture program. "His wide range of professional experiences, including large-scale planning projects and exquisitely detailed built works from South America to the Middle East, will add a new dimension to the local and regional work in which our faculty and students are currently engaged."

UT professor of practice positions are set up so faculty can provide detailed hands-on education in specific areas. There are about twelve such positions across various UT colleges. Wensley will relay his experiences and his professional practice activities through topics taught in the Landscape Architecture Program's design studios.

Wensley has contributed to some of the largest and most significant city building and environmental restoration initiatives in the Middle East, Asia, and North America. In 2001, he

started the vision and implementation of the Wadi Hanifah Comprehensive Development Plan in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, a bio-renewal effort producing a 120-kilometer-long oasis with forty-two kilometers of recreational trails, three lakes, six parks, and nearly 40,000 trees.

The project marked a shift in how environmental systems and natural resources are treated and preserved and their importance in building strong sustainable cities in the future. As a result, Wensley presented the plan to the Council for Sustainable Development and Delegates at the United Nations in New York as a leading example of sustainable urban renewal.

Wensley's consulting work with Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill (SOM), a leading urban planning, architecture, and engineering firm, on urban planning initiatives around the world led to his involvement with Philip Enquist, the **UT Governor's Chair for High Performance Energy Practices in Urban Environments**. Wensley is a contributing partner in the Governor's Chair's collaboration between SOM, UT, and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory to research and create solutions for resilient cities.

"Developing more resilient cities requires this highly integrated partnership among numerous disciplines, and I am excited that UT is becoming a hub for this type of research and practice," Fulton said. "Graduates of our program will benefit greatly in their future careers as a result of these opportunities and experiences."

As a leader at Moriyama & Teshima, Wensley has contributed to more than \$1.2 billion of construction internationally. Projects include the new campus plan for Kuwait University, a new home for 40,000 students, and the Comprehensive Environmental Plan for the city of Makkah in Saudi Arabia. In Canada, projects include Calgary's East Village Riverwalk, the Lakehead University Campus Plan, the Haver-gal College Campus Plan, the Canadian War Museum, and ongoing work with His Highness the Aga Khan in Toronto and Ottawa.

Wensley is a graduate of Ryerson University in Canada. His design drawings are housed at the Ontario Archives in Toronto and were recently exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in Copenhagen, Denmark. For more information about Wensley, visit the [faculty profile page](#) of the UT Landscape Architecture Program website.

In the five years since a massive earthquake rocked the island nation of Haiti, UT faculty and students have helped the country's rebuilding efforts by designing a secondary school, housing, and a clinic that are now in various stages of construction.

Next up: the design of preschools to address the education needs of the country's youngest citizens.

"Since 2010, UT's Haiti projects have given students hands-on experience in creating designs for real spaces and real people that bring about change," said Ali Alsaleh, a fifth-year architecture major who took part in a fall 2014 Haiti studio class. Today marks the fifth anniversary of the earthquake.

"In architecture and design studios, our clients are usually hypothetical," said Alsaleh, who helped design one of the preschools that will be built.

He traveled to Haiti in the fall with a UT team to learn more about the country and its needs.

"Our involvement in Haiti has actually had real outcomes. We got to speak to the actual people who will be using our buildings. It made me realize that architecture can help rebuild a community and refocused my passion for architecture as a humanitarian field."

The **UT Haiti Project**, led by the College of Architecture and Design and a collaboration between various UT programs, has made students more sensitive to cross-cultural differences, how to respond to the needs of others, and how to work well across disciplines, said Architecture Professor **John McRae**, who helped launch the project.

"That's important in their overall professional development," he said.

UT has partnered with the Haiti Development Fund and its executive director, Jean Thomas, on all its projects. The organization pays for the construction of the buildings, and members of the UT Haiti Project provide some oversight, McRae said.

Knoxville nonprofit HaitiServe helped defray the cost of travel for UT faculty and students. A look at the UT-designed Haiti projects and their status:

L'Exode Secondary School: UT faculty and students in spring 2011 designed a three-phase school master plan, which will serve students in grades seven to twelve. The first phase of construction— five first-story classrooms, restrooms, and the cafeteria-meeting hall—was completed in 2012, and the school welcomed its first students that fall. The school is in Fond-des-Blancs, seventy miles outside the Haitian capital Port-au-Prince.

This month, construction begins on the second phase of the school—an outdoor athletic stadium. The school will eventually include more classrooms, a library and dormitories. It currently has 100 students and will eventually serve up to 500 children.

Housing: In spring 2012, the UT Haiti Project designed fourteen houses for the Fond-des-Blancs community. So far, one has been constructed. The home currently houses participants of the Caleb Fellows Program, which trains young men and then sends them out into the community to provide leadership and be catalysts for change.

Medical clinic: In spring 2013, the College of Architecture and Design, in partnership with the College of Nursing, US organization Friends of Fort Liberte, and Knoxville architect Chris King, designed an addition and the complete overhaul of a medical clinic in Fort Liberte, a community about eleven miles from the Dominican Republic border. Funds are currently being raised for the work.

New gate: In spring 2014, the Haiti Project designed a new steel gate for the L'Exode Secondary School. Local artist Preston Farabow built it, and he and McRae will go to Haiti in May to install it.

LIFEHouse guidebook: UT created the book to address the urgent need for adequate building standards in the country and emphasize the lesser-known relationship between housing design and disease prevention. The book

will be translated into French, English, and Creole, and will showcase how Haitians can build secure and healthy homes using local materials and methods.

Preschools: In fall 2014, the Haiti studio designed a preschool for Fond-des-Blancs that will serve up to 450 youngsters. A group of architecture students and faculty, along with Robyn Brookshire, director of the UT Early Learning Center, traveled to Haiti to learn more about the country's early childhood education system to help them come up with the design. Based on the work done in the fall 2014 studio, students in a fall 2015 studio course will design more preschools for rural Haitian communities.

Haiti disaster response master's thesis: A master's thesis project by Mallory Barga proposed new direction for rebuilding and transitional housing in the country. Barga's project, which won the College of Architecture and Design's top award in spring 2014, provided input for the work done in the Haiti studio in fall 2014. A copy was sent to the Haiti Development Fund. "We've tried to capture the vision of what everyone hopes is a new Haiti," McRae said.

Learn more about the Haiti Project on its [website](#).

WEST

NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

March 26-27, 2015

Fargo Moorhead Community Theatre, Fargo, North Dakota

March 26th, 1pm to 5:30pm

Greg Lynn, FORM, UCLA School of Architecture and Urban Design

Garth Rockcastle, MSR Design

Alice Twemlow, D-Crit and co-founder SVA MFA Design Criticism program

March 27th, 7:30am to 12pm

Mahesh Daas, chair of the Department of Architecture and ACSA Distinguished Professor, Ball State University, College of Architecture and Planning

Tom Fisher, Professor and Dean of the College of Design, University of Minnesota

Kristine Jensen, Landscape Architect, Arkitekt Kristine Jensen, Denmark

To expand critical dialogue on design education, engaging the public, academia, and practice, the NDSU Department of Architecture and Landscape Architecture will host a symposium addressing "the future of design education," featuring panel discussions and open forums between diverse participants of strong national, regional, and local reputation in design fields.

The symposium is proposed to coincide with the 100-year anniversary of the founding of the Department, and in this context, will provide an opportunity for participants to critically reflect on the trajectory of design education over a considerable time period, even as they speculate about future directions.

Through the venue of panel discussions and open forums scheduled over a two-day period, invited speakers will address aspirations, challenges, and anticipated goals for design education from their unique perspectives. By bringing a diverse roster of speakers together, the symposium also seeks to build collaboration and catalyze future inquiry.

Admission is free and open to the public.

For more information, please go to the [website](#).

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