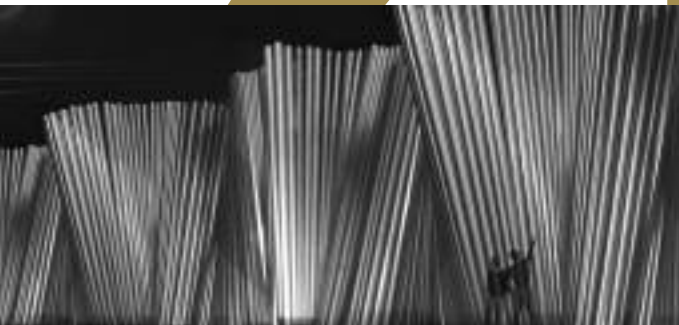


College of Architecture

newsletter

summer/fall 2005



ARCHITECTURE
ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY/MUSIC
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION
CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING
CONTINUING EDUCATION
INDUSTRIAL DESIGN
PH.D. PROGRAM



Letter from the Dean



As we began the fall 2005 semester, we did so with deep concern for our fellow citizens and colleagues who were stranded and then evacuated from New Orleans and the several cities in the Gulf Region because of Hurricane Katrina. Through the leadership of President Clough, Georgia Tech was able to assist 275 Tulane University students who were stranded in Jackson, Mississippi, and then continued this effort by opening the Coliseum as a temporary shelter that provided help to 300 of the hardest-hit evacuees. Approximately 50 Tulane students have enrolled for this semester at Georgia Tech and Emory University, with approximately 10 students enrolled in the College of Architecture. There is more that Georgia Tech and the College will be doing to assist this region and our sister universities in the months and years ahead.

At the same time, however, the semester began on the extraordinary momentum gained by the College last year, as suggested in the many stories in this issue of the newsletter.

These include the addition of outstanding new faculty members recruited through searches begun last fall; the amazing, full-scale installations resulting from the College's initial exploration into design and digital manufacturing, a collaboration involving our Architecture and Industrial Design Programs with the Advanced Wood Products Laboratory (AWPL); the many awards and accomplishments earned by our students; the new initiative of the College's Alumni Committee on student mentoring; and the significant accomplishments of our programs and centers. Moreover, this year begins with the most positive budgetary picture the College has experienced over the last three to four years, years of successive budget reductions. In addition to support for growing enrollments, special allocations were also forthcoming from the Georgia legislature for the operations of the Advanced Wood Products Laboratory, as well as for the City and Regional Planning Program and the work the legislature would like the Program, the Center for Geographic Information Systems, and the Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development to undertake for the northern sector of Fulton County. This past year the College awarded 136 baccalaureate degrees, 115 master's degrees, and seven Ph.D. degrees and maintained its sponsored funding level in excess of \$8 million per year. Finally, our international programs grew significantly: the Architecture Program in Paris is now in its thirty-first year; last year the City and Regional Planning Program participated in the inaugural super cities workshop in Madrid; and we have expanded our summer programs to include the inaugural Building Construction Program in Paris, the Modern Architecture/Modern City Program in Europe, and the Asia Design Forum in Kuala Lumpur.

Yet, there is more to be accomplished in the coming year. In addition to the ongoing programs and operations of the College, we have set as major objectives for the coming year the following initiatives:

- Begin planning for the next Georgia Tech capital campaign, including an effort to raise \$7.5 million for the renovation of the Architecture East and West Buildings and of the Hinman Building, recently added to the facilities of the College;
- The review of the recently developed master's degree in Music Technology;
- The finalization of the updates of the strategic plans for the Architecture, Industrial Design, and Ph.D. Programs;
- The reaccreditation review of the Building Construction Program and the finalization of its new Distance Learning Graduate Program, the first such program in the College; and
- The initiation of the new AEC Integration/Building Information Modeling Laboratory through the collaboration of the Ph.D. Program with the Construction Resources Center.

The interest, advice, and continuing support of the alumni and friends of the College in these initiatives, as well as in our efforts to lend support to the rebuilding efforts in the Gulf Coast, will continue to be absolutely central to our success.

Thomas D. Galloway, Ph.D.
Dean and Professor



annual alumni reception

dean and mrs. thomas d. galloway and
the college of architecture alumni committee

invite you to the annual
alumni homecoming reception on
friday, october 28, 2005

homecoming 2005
reception

time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
location: the heffernan house, 166 fifth street
rsvp by october 21, 2005 404.894.3880

Abir Mullick, New ID Director



The Georgia Tech Industrial Design Program has a new director. Abir Mullick joins the College this fall from State University of New York at Buffalo, where he taught in the department of architecture. Mullick holds master's degrees in industrial design and city and regional planning from The Ohio State University. He received his bachelor's degree from the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad, India.

"We are delighted to have Abir Mullick as our new director of Industrial Design," said College of Architecture Dean Thomas Galloway. "Abir is a perfect fit for the Industrial Design Program. He brings a combination of interdisciplinary collaborations along with his experience in universal design that will enhance both the Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access (CATEA) as well as the academic programs within the College of Architecture."

Mullick says he is excited to be at Georgia Tech and, after consulting with faculty, staff, and students, hopes to create a new vision for the Industrial Design Program.

"I would like to see Industrial Design move in a collaborative way," said Mullick. "I'd like to see us expand the department and create bridges across campus."

Much of Mullick's research has been in the universal design area. One of his more recent projects was the universal bathroom, sponsored by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. During the course of his research, Mullick designed two adjustable bathrooms. In these bathrooms two fixtures, the sink and shower, move around the bathroom wall and adjust. Through fixture movement, the bathrooms reorganize and open up spaces for independent and dependent use, and for care-providing situations. The fixtures also adjust in height to accommodate variations in stature including standing users, sitting users, and children.

"These bathrooms are intended to prolong independence, allow someone to offer care, and assist care providers," said Mullick. "Unlike current bathrooms, which are designed primarily for independent users, these bathrooms consider the needs of the human life cycle and address dependent use and care providing alongside independent use in the bathroom. They are excellent examples of how the universal design philosophy can create a flexible environment and produce innovative designs that are high in usability, convenience, aesthetics, surprise, and fun."

Mullick replaces Lorraine Justice, who left Georgia Tech to become the head of the Design School at Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

New Faculty

The College of Architecture welcomes the following new faculty:



Benjamin Flowers joined the faculty as an assistant professor in the Architecture Program at the beginning of fall semester. He is teaching courses in urban and architectural history and cultural studies. Flowers received his Ph.D. in American Studies with a focus on architectural history from the University of Minnesota in 2003. His research and teaching interests center on the intersections between modern architecture, urbanism, politics, and culture.

Prior to Georgia Tech, Flowers served as a research specialist at the Library of Congress and taught at the University of Minnesota and the State University of New York College at Cortland. He has published entries in the *Encyclopedia of Twentieth Century Architecture* and the *Encyclopedia of American Studies* and is finishing his book, *Constructing the Modern Skyscraper: The Politics and Power of Building New York City in the 20th Century*, which will be published by the University of Pennsylvania Press as part of the series "The Arts and Intellectual Life in America." He currently is conducting research for a project on the architecture of football (soccer) stadiums.



Jason Freeman has joined the College's Music Department as a visiting assistant professor. Freeman's music breaks down conventional barriers between composers, performers, and listeners. He has received commissions from the American

Composers Orchestra, Rhizome, Turbulence, and Speculum Musicae; grants from Meet the Composer, the American Music Center, and ASCAP; and fellowships from Akademie Schloss Solitude and Columbia University. His interactive media art has been exhibited at the Lincoln Center Festival, the Boston CyberArts Festival, the Transmediale Festival (Berlin), and the NTT InterCommunication Center (Tokyo). His works have also been featured in the *New York Times*, *Billboard*, and *USA Today*, and on National Public Radio and SWR German radio.

Freeman received his B.A. in music from Yale University, which also awarded him the Louis Sudler Prize, its highest honor in the arts. He is completing a D.M.A. in composition at Columbia University, where he also received an M.A.



Dan Immergluck has joined the faculty as an associate professor in the City and Regional Planning Program. Immergluck has authored dozens of studies on housing, economic development, and real estate finance issues. He conducts research on community reinvestment and fair lending issues,

changes in mortgage markets and related policies, community development programs and policies, residential segregation and fair housing, and small and minority business development. His research has been published in a wide variety of academic journals and has been covered in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, and numerous other

print and broadcast media. His most recent book is *Credit to the Community: Community Reinvestment and Fair Lending Policy in the U.S.*, which was published by M. E. Sharpe in 2004. Immergluck has testified before the U.S. Congress, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, federal agencies, and state and local legislative bodies.

Immergluck comes to Georgia Tech most recently from Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was previously senior vice president of the Woodstock Institute, a policy research organization based in Chicago that works on community and economic development issues. He has a master's degree in Public Policy from the University of Michigan and received his Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Brian Stone has joined the City and Regional Planning faculty as an assistant professor. He is teaching environmental management and integrated land use as well as transportation planning.

Stone comes to Georgia Tech from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he taught in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. A 2001 graduate of the College's doctoral program, Stone's research and teaching is focused on the influence of land use and transportation planning on urban environmental problems, with an emphasis on air pollution control and climate change management. Most recently, Stone has received funding from the Environmental Protection Agency to explore the potential for "smart growth" planning strategies and hybrid vehicle technologies to mitigate ozone and particulate air pollution throughout the upper Midwestern United States. Other recent work has measured the impact of alternative land development practices on storm water runoff generation and urban heat island formation.

In addition to receiving his doctorate from Georgia Tech, Stone holds a master's degree in Environmental Management and a bachelor's degree in English from Duke University.



Jiawen Yang has joined the faculty as an assistant professor in the City and Regional Planning Program. Yang's focus is transportation planning and economics of planning.

Before joining Georgia Tech, Yang was a doctoral student in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His dissertation research compares urban growth and transportation in Atlanta and Boston. Yang received his bachelor's and master's degrees in economic geography and human geography from Peking University in China. His research interest is in urban transportation and urban growth in both developed and developing countries as well as in urban economic theory, system optimization, and geo-spatial services.

College of Architecture Planning for Expansion into Hinman Building



The College of Architecture plans to raise \$7.5 million for the renovation of the Hinman Building as well as the Architecture East and West Buildings.

For several years now, the College of Architecture has been dealing with a compelling paradox: impressive jumps in student and faculty quality, as well as recognition from external rankings have driven a sizable increase in enrollment, which in turn has led to overcrowding in many courses, particularly studios. While most College of Architecture alumni fondly recall their studio coursework experiences, they would no doubt be quite surprised to learn that the actual studio spaces have changed very little over the past few decades.

As a first step in addressing these concerns, the College of Architecture was given the Hinman Building in 2004 to accommodate its expanding needs for Architecture, Industrial Design, City and Regional Planning, the IMAGINE Laboratory, and other program and center activities. The building, located on Fourth Street directly across from the Architecture East and West Buildings, is available for renaming. The College is seeking \$7.5 million to renovate not only the Hinman Building, but also the Architecture East and West Buildings.

Renovating Hinman and other key instructional spaces is not a luxury that can be deferred indefinitely, but a pressing need in an increasingly competitive marketplace, according to College of Architecture Dean Thomas D. Galloway.

While the Hinman Building will meet the

College’s needs in the near term, long-term space needs will require additional facilities. The Campus Master Plan anticipates relocating the Office of Information Technology from the Rich Building, offering the possibility of further expansion. Hinman, Rich, and Architecture East/West could become part of a network of College of Architecture buildings, providing an entrance to the commons envisaged for the center of campus.

There is also a possibility of constructing a new building on the current Rich Building site. In collaboration with the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts (IAC), a new facility on this site would help meet the needs of academic programs, specifically focusing on Building Construction, the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Center, as well as IAC’s School of Public Policy, a longtime collaborator with the College.

In the longer term, the Campus Master Plan also identifies construction of a new Music Department building near the Ferst Center for the Arts, again in possible collaboration with the IAC and its School of Literature, Communication, and Culture.

To inquire about making a gift to the Hinman and Architecture East/West Building initiative, contact Christine File at 404.894.1371 or chris.file@coa.gatech.edu.

Visionary Gift Benefits Students Studying Abroad

During his thirty-eight-year career at Georgia Tech, the late Paul M. Heffernan literally left his mark on the campus. Professor and head of the former School of Architecture, Heffernan was chief designer for the Old West Stands of Grant Field, the Bradley Building (home of Junior’s), the College of Architecture building, the Price Gilbert Library, the Hinman and Hightower Buildings, and Smith, Glenn, and Towers Residence Halls, among others.

Heffernan also believed in the value of studying abroad for architecture students, having spent considerable time in Paris studying and teaching French architecture. Just prior to retiring from Georgia Tech, he taught at the Grand Palais in Paris as part of Tech’s Study Abroad Program in 1976-77.

To ensure that his commitment to international study continued after his death in 1987, Heffernan established a trust in his will in which the College of Architecture received a remainder interest. The College of Architecture will receive a \$100,000 gift that will support both graduate and undergraduate students to travel abroad as part of their educational experience.

“P. M. Heffernan really is a legendary figure among our students, faculty, and alumni,” said Dean Thomas Galloway. “He was a driving force early on for propelling Tech’s Architecture Program to national and international prominence. A critical element of that prominence is the consistently high national ranking of our academic programs and the high quality of our study abroad programs, especially our Senior Year in Paris Program. P. M. had the extraordinary foresight to realize that for us to have a truly great Architecture Program, we had to have truly great study abroad opportunities in place.”

Funds from the Heffernan bequest will be available to College of Architecture students studying abroad, beginning in fall 2006. The amount of individual stipends has not yet been determined.

Doug Allen Gives Lecture at the Busan International Architecture Culture Festival

Associate Dean Doug Allen participated in a symposium as part of the Busan International Architecture Culture Festival this past June. The theme of the symposium was “Urban Permanence.” Allen’s lecture, “Permanence and Change in Urban Form and Structure,” focused on urban form patterns derived from periods of urban population decline compared to those derived from periods of rapid expansion.

Medieval Rome, Damascus, and Jerusalem were compared to colonial Savannah and Philadelphia as they developed during a period when no planning, zoning, or other regulatory controls were in effect.

Allen was joined by other distinguished architects including Mack Scogin (B Arch 1966) of Mack Scogin/Merrill Elam Architects in Atlanta; Rem Koolhaas of the Office of Metropolitan Architecture in London and Harvard University School of Design; George Hargreaves of Hargreaves and Associates and Harvard University School of Design; Bernhard Franken of Franken Architekten in Germany; and Seung H-Sang of Iroje Architects & Planners of Seoul, South Korea. Scogin spoke about the recent award-winning work of his firm, including the Knowlton School of Architecture at Ohio State University, the Wang Campus Center at Wellesley, and the Herman Miller manufacturing, assembly, and distribution facility.

Seung-Koo Jo (PhD Arch 1996), professor of Architecture at Tongmyong University of Information in Busan, South Korea, organized the symposium.

College hosts Twelfth Annual Awards Day Ceremony



The College of Architecture hosted its Twelfth Annual Awards Day Ceremony in April. During the event, Dean Galloway and the College’s Awards Committee recognized faculty, staff, and students for their outstanding achievements in teaching, research, scholarship, and creative activities. Attendees previewed two of the five installations on display from Monica Ponce de Leon’s studio, where students designed, fabricated, and installed their pieces. See more on the installations on page 6.



From left: Thomas Galloway, dean of the College of Architecture, with Thomas Ventulett (B Arch 1957, 1958), Steve Withers (B Arch 1967), and Dean Mamalakis (BC 1981, M Arch 1984) at the Georgia Tech alumni party hosted by Dean Galloway during the AIA Conference in Las Vegas last May.

College Invites Alumni to Help Mentor Students

Because there is a wealth of experience among our alumni, the College of Architecture’s Alumni Committee invites alumni from all programs to be part of a network of people willing to mentor and advise students.

“We have a need for alumni of all disciplines within the College to participate in this project to mentor students,” said Rick Hunt (EE 1992, representing the Music Program), president of the College’s Alumni Committee.

“A wealth of diverse types of experiences exists among our alumni,” said Rick Standard (B Arch 1977, M Arch 1979), with the firm of Leo A. Daly Company and Alumni Committee member. “For an investment of little time and no money, our alumni can have a positive and lasting impact on the life of Tech students.”

The mentor sign-up process is easy.

- Visit www.coa.gatech.edu (the site has been recently revised).
- Select “Alumni, the COA alumni network.”
- Select “add your information.” Enter your personal profile, which includes name, degree(s), discipline, graduation year, firm type and size, types of projects worked on, etc.

This profile will be included in a database of alumni mentor volunteers. Students will be allowed to scroll through the database in order to ask questions to those who seem best suited to address their areas of interest. It will be up to the students to select the alumni they wish to contact and to initiate the contact. Mentoring sessions may be personal meetings, meals, e-mails, letters, or phone calls.

Please consider becoming involved in this nationwide network designed to ensure that students have the benefit of your expertise.

Lacrosse Receives J. Neel Reid Prize



From left: Ray Christman, chairman of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation; Jonathan Lacrosse; Tony Aeck, principal with Lord Aeck & Sargent Architecture and J. Neel Reid Committee member; and Greg Paxton, president and CEO of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation. Lacrosse was presented with a copy of the J. Neel Reid book, *Architect*, at the Preservation Awards last April.

Jonathan Wills Lacrosse (B Arch 1998) has won this year’s J. Neel Reid Prize. The Reid Prize is given by the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation to an architecture student, an architect intern, or a recently registered architect for study travel that honors the legacy of Neel Reid.

Lacrosse plans to use the Reid Prize to travel to Italy and England, where he will study and compare the design principles of the Italian villa and smaller English manor houses with estates in the American South, especially in Georgia. Lacrosse also plans to examine how the buildings and gardens relate to each other to produce successful works of architecture, and how similar concepts and characteristics were used by the Georgia School of Classicists in their own architectural work

After graduating from Georgia Tech with a bachelor’s in architecture in 1998, LaCrosse received his master’s in architecture from the University of Notre Dame in 2003. He is currently an intern architect with Atlanta-based Nichols, Carter and Grant Architects.

Recently, some of Lacrosse’s thesis drawings were included in Professor Elizabeth Dowling’s book, *New Classicism: The Rebirth of Traditional Architecture*, published in 2004, which explains the history of the decline and revival of Classical design.

Catching Up with Susan Kennedy



After graduating from Georgia Tech, Susan Kennedy (B Arch 2001, M Arch 2003) worked with The Boudreaux Group in



Columbia, South Carolina, before moving to her current position with Blue Chair Design in Washington, D.C.

Blue Chair, now known as WDG Interior Architecture, is a division of WDG Architecture. “I had worked in base building before, but wanted to strengthen my skills with detailing while still working toward licensure,” said Kennedy. “That’s why I switched to interior architecture. I wanted to understand making and designing on paper all the way through 3-D and actual construction.”

Kennedy is the lead designer on a 150,000-square-foot interior renovation for an office building for the U.S. Department of Justice.

In the midst of her work, she became interested in learning more about sustainability, wanting to take a more “green” approach to her design. With this in mind, Kennedy was the first in her interiors group to become LEED accredited. Since passing the exam, she has agreed to lead study groups within her office to help other professionals prepare for the LEED as well as to keep her knowledge up to date.

Outside of work, Kennedy teaches two outreach programs with the National Building Museum. Both programs offer under-served urban youth of middle and high school age in-depth opportunities to learn about the design process.

When she is not in the office or working with her volunteer programs, she spends her time creating large-scale abstract charcoal drawings, pen and ink drawings, and working with black and white photography.

Alumni At a Glance

Julian Adams (M Arch 1998), president of the New Jersey/New York GT Club, wrote, produced, and played the lead in his new film “Strike the Tent,” a true story about his great great grandfather, Capt. Robert Adams, in the waning days of the American Civil War. The film includes Mickey Rooney, Tippi Hedren, and Bob Doran, as well as Amy Redford and singer/songwriter Edwin McCain. “Strike the Tent” was selected for screening at the opening night of the Long Island International Film Expo (LIIFE) this summer. For more information, visit www.strongbowpictures.com.

Freddie C. Fuller II (MS CE/MCP 1996) announced the formation of his new public transportation consulting firm, PT Consulting LLC, located in Burke, Virginia. The firm provides consulting services to public providers.

Frank Osgood (MCP 1960) recently published *Region Aroused*, a fictional book on regional planning for Los Angeles. Osgood’s book offers practical solutions to inadequate housing, poor education, and health care and environmental problems in Los Angeles. *Region Aroused* encourages planners and citizens to think regionally when working to solve local issues.

Carrie Riordan (MCP 2001) appeared on ABC’s “Extreme Makeover: Wedding Edition,” which featured her April wedding to Kyle Garlett. Riordan met Garlett when she was training for a charity run for the Leukemia-Lymphoma Society in 2002. Garlett has survived four episodes of cancer and is now awaiting a heart transplant. The wedding ceremony took place in Duarte, California, where Garlett receives treatment. The theme of the wedding was “Christmas in New York” and included a re-created New York City skyline and decorated storefronts. The show premiered on ABC on May 9.

Students Use Digital Manufacturing to Create Installations



Digital Manufacturing: Concrete under construction



Digital Manufacturing: Metal

Last spring semester, Professor Monica Ponce de Leon, Thomas Ventullett III Endowed Chair, and students in her special topics design studio explored the tensions and contradictions between advancing manufacturing techniques in the field of architecture and the standards of the construction industry.

“Today architects are in charge of the design of the building, while the contractor is accountable for the construction,” said Ponce de Leon. “This separation has led to the misunderstanding of architecture as a profession, as one that coordinates systems and subsystems guided exclusively by style or aesthetics, in theory, relinquishing tectonic assembly to the construction industry.”

According to Ponce de Leon, with the advent of digital manufacturing, the designer—not the builder—becomes responsible for the creation of digital drawings that guide the manufacture of components for the assembly of buildings.

“The use of digitally guided manufacturing is already giving us a sense of how buildings may change in the future,” said Ponce de Leon. “For example, digital manufacturing technology is a definite shift away from knowledge-based traditional construction methods, and as such the imagery of a building will no longer be limited to the traditional forms of construction available in a particular locale. Along the same lines, digital manufacturing represents a substantial change from conventional methods of mass production where repetition was the basis of economy. With Computer-Aided Manufacturing, variation and customization no longer require an increase in costs due to specialized labor, exceptional manufacturing techniques, or extra set-up charges.”

With this in mind, Ponce de Leon’s students tested a variety of digital manufacturing techniques as a means of researching new possibilities for building design. Five teams of students used digitally guided fabrication equipment to discover how different material could be used in unique ways for the construction of building components.

“We are constantly creating things, or the ‘impression’ of things, but we rarely have the resources to realize those things full scale,” said Tristan Al-haddad, graduate student. “Full scale mock-ups are the only way to test your ideas. These projects pushed the boundaries and helped us explore new territories, and just like a chemist in his lab, we made and remade until we got it right.”



Digital Manufacturing: Fiberglass



Digital Manufacturing: Wood



Digital Manufacturing: Plastic

Power Wrap: Artistic Barrier Designed to Enclose Electrical Substation

Last spring semester, Georgia Tech Vice President for Administration and Finance Bob Thompson posed a significant design challenge to students in the Architecture Program. Tech and Georgia Power are building a new electrical sub-station with 400 feet of frontage on Northside Drive, a location that is central to Tech’s North Avenue Research Area. While it serves as a strong barrier from access to the sub-station, how could this enclosure contribute to the image of this new southern edge of the campus? Should the barrier conceal the station or enhance it? What other civic “work” could this barrier do for the campus and the Northside Drive neighborhood?

Instructor Amy Landenberg taught the project workshop, and the students agreed that sculptural presences and interactive visual effect would transform this derelict industrial area.

Solutions to this design challenge included a system of wind turbines to generate power for illuminating the wrap, a system of cantilevered aluminum pipes undulating in light and shadow, a grid of variably angled louvers, and a glass surface for LED graphic projection.



Design of electrical substation

Architecture Symposium Examines Memory and Design



Michael Arad

The winning of the World Trade Center Memorial competition by Michael Arad (M Arch 1999) prompted Professor Harris Dimitropoulos and Associate Dean Doug Allen to organize a sold-out symposium on Architecture and Memory, held at the College last February.

“The Alumni Committee of the College of Architecture wanted to honor Michael as an alumnus of the College, but we also wanted this to reside within a larger discussion of the issues he faced and still faces as the architect of one of the most significant memorials of our time. We are obviously quite proud of him,” said Allen.

To that end, Julian Bonder, associate professor at Roger Williams University, presented information about several memorial projects his firm has designed with artist Krzysztof Wodiczko, and the Library of Holocaust Studies at Clark University. His question to the audience—“how do we house uninhabitable memories?”—resonated throughout the day.

Dimitropoulos further elaborated on issues of repression in his talk on the Ego-Ideal and how the design of memorials mirrors our self-image to us. John Dixon Hunt, professor of History and Theory of Landscape at the University of Pennsylvania, discussed the ways gardens from the Renaissance through the present have deliberately evoked meaningful memories to deepen visitors’ experiences. The last presentation of the morning was by James E. Young, professor and chair of the Department of Judaic and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He gave several examples of recent German counter-monuments, works that recognize the pain of confronting shameful or repressed truths. Former director of the Architecture Program and current dean at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Alan Balfour, led a panel discussion with participants Ken Knoespel, professor and chair, School of Literature, Communication, and Culture at Georgia Tech; and Yves Abrioux, professor of Médiation Culturelle at the Université Paris 3.

During the afternoon, the Dean’s Symposium on the Changing Nature of Practice focused on the World Trade Center Memorial competition and design. Young returned to the podium to give his reflections, as a juror in the competition, on the process that selected Arad’s design from more than 5,000 entries. Arad then described the genesis and development of his design, “Reflecting Absence.” His winning design features a pair of reflecting pools in a park at ground level and cascading waterfalls surrounding the names of the dead at the below-ground memorial. Ever eloquent about the memorial’s focus on serving others, he thanked his professors at Tech for instilling in him the conviction to pursue his vision.

Architecture News continued

Jonathan Henry Receives Miller’s Spirit of the Studio Award

Thanks to the generosity of alumna Katherine Molyson Miller (B Arch 2001), undergraduate students have something new to cheer about. In order to reward and encourage the kind of camaraderie and respect that makes time in studio something to look forward to, Miller established the Spirit of the Studio Award.

Students in the spring junior studio were asked to vote for the student who best represented the “Spirit of the Studio.” They selected Jonathan Henry, who is Paris bound for his senior year. After meeting Henry, Miller agreed wholeheartedly that he exemplified the new award. “Jonathan seemed to know nearly every student and teacher,” said Miller. “He seems acutely aware of the successes happening in the school and hopes to contribute to them. He is even taking twenty-one credit hours because he can’t decide between so many fantastic course choices.”

Miller was herself the recipient of the Andrew

Jarrett Memorial Scholarship as well as a Regents Study Abroad Scholarship while she was a student and was inspired to give back. She feels her Tech diploma has opened more doors than she could have imagined. In addition, she has recently started her own company, called Miller Home Plans.

Richard Sammons Named Harrison Design Associates Visiting Scholar

This fall, Richard Franklin Sammons will be the 2005-2006 Harrison Visiting Scholar in historic preservation and adaptive re-use. As this year’s visiting scholar, Sammons will co-teach a class with Professor Elizabeth Dowling on proportional systems.

Harrison Design Associates endowed the visiting scholar program to broaden students’ exposure to traditional design and buildings. Under Sammons’ guidance, students will examine the numerous and often seemingly contradictory systems of proportion

put forth through the ages, from ancient Egypt to modern times. The course will consist of descriptive drawings: constructions, analyses, designs, and the reworking of notable examples so as to produce idealized models.

Sammons is a partner of Fairfax & Sammons Architects, P.C., an international practice that specializes in traditional residential design. He is a board member of the Historic House Trust and the Merchants House Museum. Sammons also serves on the Board of Directors of the Institute of Classical Architecture and Classical America (where he was a founding associate director), the Royal Oak Foundation, and the Sir John Soane’s Museum Foundation. His firm is a member of the Prince of Wales Institute College of Traditional Practitioners.

Sammons received a bachelor’s degree in 1983 from Denison University and a Master of Architecture with a concentration in Architectural Preservation in 1986 from the University of Virginia. He is in the process of writing a book on *How Architects See: A Guide For Contemporary Designers*.

Music News

Creating Machine Musicianship: Robotic Percussionist



Professor Weinberg jams with Haile, a robotic percussionist.

Music may not be the first thing you think about when you think of Georgia Tech, but technology may very well come to mind. Researchers in the Music Department are developing a robot that plays the drums. The robotic percussionist, developed by Director of Music Technology Gil Weinberg, is the result of research that crosses several disciplines and combines Weinberg’s passions for music and technology to produce new and innovative music.

The research has created a harmony of sorts for Weinberg, who started the research about a year ago.

“I was very interested in creating machine musicianship,” said Weinberg. “What we’re trying to do is bring together technological innovations and artistic creativity and create new music. Haile, the robot, allows us to create music that has never been played before. It can play differently from the way a human plays because the robot doesn’t have the same physical limitations.”

Haile can play faster than a human and can potentially create different sounds from those a human player is able to create. In addition, the precise nature of how the robot can play numerical calculations or algorithms allows the machine to play faster and slower rhythms than a human normally would.

Weinberg was inspired to bring robotics and music together because he noticed that

computerized music is usually played through speakers. He says that the speakers leave the music flat, meaning that an audience or member of the music ensemble can’t feel it.

The College of Architecture has facilitated some unique partnerships that have allowed the robot to grow. Weinberg teamed up with students in mechanical engineering as well as industrial design to help create a new look for Haile that they continue to refine.

“Scott Driscoll and Clint Cope have done a tremendous job at helping me design a robot that is quite unique,” said Weinberg. “Our being part of the College of Architecture has allowed us to create this robot in a way that we wouldn’t be able to do without their help. We were able to use the Advanced Wood Products Lab to create a robot with a wooden exterior. We wouldn’t have been able to do that at another university.”

Weinberg has been working on the robot for a little over a year, and Haile’s new look will include a rotating head at the end of each arm that will have different surfaces to strike the drum. It will also have a second arm that will be able to alter the surface of the drum as the first arm strikes.

Weinberg is in the process of preparing his robotic percussionist for appearances at several upcoming conferences around the world.

Music Department Hosts Guthman Keyboard Competition

In February, the Music Department hosted the Seventh Annual Guthman Keyboard Competition where sixty-one young pianists from thirteen states were evaluated by five internationally acclaimed judges. Participants competed in four divisions: High School Classical, College Classical, High School Jazz/Contemporary, and College Jazz Contemporary.

All the performance and warm-up instruments were concert-quality grands and Disklaviers provided by Yamaha.

In the High School Classical category, winners were:

- First Place: Denise Yen, Atlanta, Georgia

- Second Place: Keru Cai, Marietta, Georgia
- Third Place: Junwen Pan, Atlanta, Georgia
- In the College Classical category, winners were:
- First Place: Jie Hong, Athens, Georgia
- Second Place: Joseph Irrera, Rochester, New York
- Artistic Achievement: Laura Chandler, Greenville, South Carolina

- In the High School Jazz category, winners were:
- First Place: Julian Bransby, Bloomington, Indiana
- Second Place: Sylvester Sands, Orange, Connecticut and Charles Watson, Lithonia, Georgia

- In the College Jazz category, winners were:
- First Place: Eben Lichtman, Oberlin, Ohio
- Second Place: Christopher Moten, Atlanta, Georgia
- Third Place: Paul Kim, Athens, Georgia

The judging panel, an outstanding group of internationally recognized artists and teachers, were:

- Karen Shaw, Professor of Piano, Indiana University School of Music;
- Steven Spooner, Assistant Professor of Piano, University of Idaho;
- Yong Hi Moon, piano faculty member, Peabody Conservatory of Music;
- Dan Wall, Jazz Piano faculty, Oberlin Conservatory of Music; and
- Luke Gillespie, Assistant Professor of Music, Indiana University School of Music.

In addition to the competition, each judge provided a master class focusing on literature, interpretation, and technique.

The Guthman Competition was established in 1998 by alumnus Richard Guthman to honor his wife, Margaret A. Guthman, and her love of music. Mrs. Guthman is an accomplished pianist.



City and Regional Planning Program News

Supercities: CRP Students, Faculty, and Staff Attend International Planning Charrette in Madrid



The entire Penn and Tech teams, including faculty, advisors, and students.

Eleven graduate students from Cheryl Contant’s and Catherine Ross’ Sustainable Urban Development class took their learning process across the Atlantic to Madrid, Spain, last spring through financial support from the College of Architecture. The class spent the semester learning about supercities, a new term coined to capture the mega-cities likely to exist in the United States and Europe in the middle of the twenty-first century. During their week in Madrid, students learned about European supercities and heard lectures from European leaders about issues that may develop in areas with fast-growing populations.

Karen Leone de Nie (MCRP 2005) said her fellow students impressed her. “It was a week of sharing what we knew, learning about what we didn’t know, digesting this new information, and then merging everything into a cohesive presentation to be given before an international audience,” she said. “But in the end, I think the pressure and stress brought out the best in our team.”

Prior to the trip, the class had studied an area in the Southeast ranging from Raleigh-Durham down Interstate 85 through Atlanta to Birmingham and south to the Gulf Coast. The class evaluated seven factors in their analysis of the area: demographic changes, natural resources, transportation, economics, governance, education, and regional identity. A group of students from the University of Pennsylvania’s City and Regional Planning Program also went to Madrid to study supercities. They studied the Northeast corridor encompassing Boston, New York, and Washington, D.C.

“The problems in these two regions are fundamentally different,” said Contant. “The Northeast has one of the best public transportation systems in the United States, where the Southeast struggles in comparison.”

“We gained a more holistic and spatial view of supercity analysis from the exchange with the University of Pennsylvania students and the European practitioners,” said Makaya “Kaya” Royal (MCRP 2005).

The group heard Alfonzo Vegara, director of the Fundacion Metropolis, speak about European planning issues. Karl Smith-Davids (MCRP 2005), a graduate student in the class, says Vegara “was basically the guru of Madrid.” The group also heard planner Andreas Faludi speak about the European Spatial Development Perspective and various issues in European planning, including high-speed rail and other large-scale infrastructure programs.

Ross helped coordinate and develop the class after attending a conference on supercities. “We plan to take our findings from this class and write a paper on the results,” explained Ross. “There will be further studies on different areas of the country, and we’ll present our findings once we’ve completed the studies. We will then take our findings to local government officials and policy makers to let



The Georgia Tech team



Student Julie McQueen (MCRP 2005) presenting the Southeast Supercity Region Project findings.

them know what our concerns are about the future.”

The conference was officially titled “Supercities: Transforming Megalopolis International Planning Charrette.” City and Regional Planning students attending were: Jason Barringer, Carolina Blengini, Karen Leone de Nie, Jared Lombard, Kayah Royal, Julie McQueen, Karl Smith-Davids and Leigh Valletti, all 2005 graduates of the CRP Program. In addition, doctoral students Elizabeth Keysar and Eric Sundquist, and first-year student Lee Lyman, were members of the course and traveled to Europe. Traveling with the students was a small group of technical advisors including Tom Weyandt of the Atlanta Regional Commission, Karen Mumford from Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health, and Mine Hashas from the College of Architecture’s Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development and the Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access.

Student comments:

“While working with the EU planners, I got to see a much more regional focus to planning than what we are introduced to in the United States. Also, during the very hectic tasks, one planner in particular, Vincent Goodstadt of Glasgow, Scotland, taught us the importance of remaining focused on the core issues.”
Jason Barringer, MCRP 2005

“I especially enjoyed a conversation I had with Andreas Faludi. I came to know this professor of planning theory through his written work in theory classes here at Tech, and was thrilled to meet him in person. For someone with such extensive academic credentials, he was very approachable and had a great sense of humor.”
Elizabeth Keysar, Ph.D. student in the City and Regional Planning Program

“My favorite professional experience from the Madrid trip was the opportunity to present our project. Doing presentations in class and to guests in class is helpful, but the experience of giving a high-quality formal presentation to a large group of peers, strangers, and professionals was extremely valuable.”
Julie McQueen, MCRP 2005

“The Madrid trip dealt with planning at regional, national, and continental scales, with real examples. This is in contrast to our local/metropolitan orientation, based on the powers vested in localities and MPOs.”
Eric Sundquist, Ph.D. student in the City and Regional Planning Program



Students working late at night on their presentation



Tech student Carolina Blengini (MCRP 2005) provided opening comments in Spanish.

In Memory

Jack Alhadeff

Jack Alhadeff, a water resource scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey, died last March. Alhadeff was a GIS expert and had been co-located with the Georgia Tech GIS Center since 1990. In that role he worked on a number of innovative projects including a digital Environmental Atlas of Georgia and a 3-D flood model for Albany, Georgia. Alhadeff also served as an instructor in the Environmental GIS course in City and Regional Planning for more than a decade and worked with numerous students on master’s theses and independent studies. Alhadeff was a beloved member of the Georgia Tech community and will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife Joyce and son Daniel, a sophomore in the Architecture Program.

Jeann Greenway

Jeann Greenway, City and Regional Planning administrative secretary for nineteen years, died last May. She had been fighting a three-year battle with breast cancer. Greenway formally retired in August 2004, but she still came into the office several days a week just “to help out.”

“I know I speak for the entire faculty when I say that her loyalty and dedication to our Program was remarkable,” said Cheryl Contant, director of the CRP Program. “She was the quintessential administrative professional and our dear friend. We will miss her very much.”

Jeann began working in the then City Planning Program in 1985 after working at Emory University in the Office of the Dean of Men. She was recruited to Georgia Tech by former City Planning Program Director David Sawicki. The family has requested memorial donations be sent to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation (www.komen.org).

Building Construction News

BC Graduate Distance Learning Program Receives Regents Approval

The Building Construction (BC) Program will expand its global network of students when it begins offering its graduate programs online and via videotape starting next fall. The Board of Regents approved a proposal in April to allow BC to offer its Master of Science degree via distance learning, the first of its kind in the College of Architecture. The Distance Learning Program, which mirrors the traditional on-campus curriculum, allows students to “attend” classes via live Web-based classes and recorded videotaped sessions in order to accommodate international students within all time zones. Interaction with faculty and other students will be primarily via Internet chat rooms, electronic messaging, and teleconferencing.

“This initiative is the most significant development in our graduate program since its start in 2000,” said Felix Uhlik, associate professor and graduate coordinator in Building Construction. “The Distance Learning Program literally extends our potential graduate student base to a global level and allows us the flexibility to offer our curriculum via a state-of-the-art delivery system through a partnership with Distance Learning and Professional Education (DLPE).”

Admissions standards and degree requirements for distance learning students are the same as for traditional, on-campus graduate students. Georgia Tech’s Distance Learning Program provides a way for qualified individuals from around the state and the world who are working full time in industry or government to pursue their master’s degree, said Uhlik.

The Building Construction Program currently offers an M.S. degree in two tracks, Facility Management or Project Delivery.

Solis Receives Award for Most Innovative Idea in the Built and Human Environment

Building Construction Ph.D. student Jose L. Fernandez-Solis (B Arch 1972) was recognized for outstanding scholarship at the Fifth Annual International Postgraduate Research Conference in the Built and Human Environment in April. Fernandez-Solis was awarded the Salford Centre for Research and Innovation Award for his paper, “Building Construction Challenges and Capacity for Change.” The award recognizes the paper that demonstrates the “Most Innovative Idea in the Built and Human Environment.”

Graduate research students from five continents attended the annual conference at the University of Salford in the United Kingdom, which included an address from Patrice Godonou, assistant secretary general of CIB (International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction). The conference provided a forum for postgraduate researchers to debate and exchange ideas and experiences on a broad range of issues related to research on the built and human environment. About ninety diverse industry papers were presented during the weeklong conference, held in conjunction with International Built and Human Environment Research Week in April. Fernandez-Solis was among only seven postgraduate students who received a juried award.

“I am very proud to share this award with



From left: Professor Ghassan Aouad, director of the Salford Centre for Research and Innovation and Head of School of Construction and Property Management at the University of Salford; Dilanthi Amaratunga, Postgraduate Research Studies, University of Salford, United Kingdom; and Jose Solis.

Georgia Tech and especially the people that made it possible to present ‘Building Construction Challenges and Capacity for Change,’” said Solis. “I’d like to thank my advisors, Linda Thomas-Mobley and Godfried Augenbroe, as well as Dean Thomas Galloway, for their guidance.”

BC Program’s Sixth Annual Jim Dreger Golf Classic a Success



Alumnus Derik Keel (BC 1986) gives Buzz instructions for the Hole in One contest.

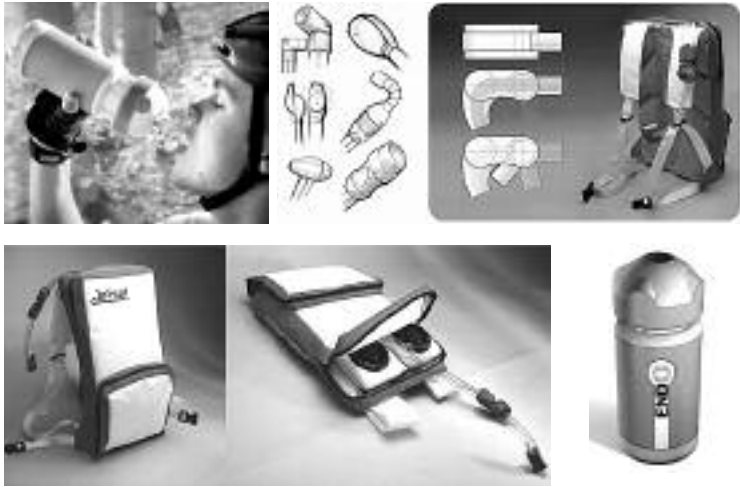
The Building Construction Program hosted another successful golf tournament last April. This year, golfers were treated to a beautiful sunny day at the Sixth Annual Jim Dreger Golf Classic, held at the Horseshoe Bend Country Club in Roswell, Georgia.

The Jim Dreger Golf Classic, named for the program’s former director, gathers together general contractors, subcontractors, and other construction and development industry leaders from around the Atlanta area in support of the Building Construction Program. The scramble-style event, which included an awards ceremony and reception, gave participants an opportunity to meet with BC students and faculty, who volunteered throughout the day.

The Building Construction Program thanks Yates Construction, this year’s presenting sponsor, for their support of the tournament. The Program also thanks Founding Sponsors B&W Mechanical, Hardin Construction, Hitt Contracting, Holder Construction, John Wieland Homes and Neighborhoods, Juneau Construction, Ryland Homes, Skanska, Turner Construction, and Winter Construction for their continued support of the event.

Industrial Design News

Rampton Chosen One of Nation’s Top Five



Kurt Rampton’s design for the JetSet Waterpack won the IDSA’s Merit Award at the 2005 Southern District Conference in Memphis, Tennessee.

Through a juried selection, Kurt Rampton (ID 2005) won the number one spot in the Southeast in the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA) merit award contest. Rampton competed with students from Auburn, North Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana for this prestigious award. The jury for the award was made up of practicing designers throughout the Southeast.

Rampton moves on to the upcoming IDSA National Conference, where he will compete with four other outstanding students who were selected from their U.S. districts. Professionals from national and international design companies and corporations will view and judge the student presentations.

“Having Kurt as a student and seeing him excel has been very exciting,” said Wayne Chung, professor and acting director of the ID Program. “He has always been the consummate professional while constantly refining his visual and verbal presentations to new levels of excellence. He’s successful because he knows industrial design is about effective communication on all levels while satisfying a range of variables. He’s constantly learning the business of design while inspiring others around him. Kurt is definitely one of the best graduates in the profession because of his love of doing what is natural to him. We’re really lucky to have played a part in his education and future success.”

Design Workshop Encourages Interdisciplinary Collaboration

Earlier this spring, Industrial Design Associate Professor and Acting Director of the ID Program Wayne Chung organized and conducted a two-day workshop for Georgia Tech’s design students.

Industry representatives Sudhakar Lahade of PolyVision in Suwanee, Georgia, and Joyce Bromberg of Steelcase Research in Grand Rapids, Michigan, spoke to students about the collaborative relationships of architecture, furniture, and tools. Those in attendance included graduate and undergraduate students from Industrial Design, as well as students from Computer Science; Literature, Communication and Culture; and one graduate student from the Savannah College of Art and Design.

“Students were given an inside perspective of how teaching and collaboration tools are perceived by industry,” said Chung. “They also were given the chance to provide input on future research and design for building better spaces and tools for student interaction.”

As a result of the workshop, Steelcase Research has hired Caroline Kelly, MID graduate, and PolyVision is in the process of interviewing students. Chung hopes to continue this type of collaborative activity in the future.

Industrial Design news continued

ID Hosts 2005 End-of-Year Show

The Industrial Design Program’s End-of-Year Show featured sophomore to graduate student work in two and three dimensions. David Van Arsdale, president of the Georgia Tech chapter of the Industrial Design Society of America (IDSA), and officers Gray Gunther, Megan Cahill, and Julia Page, along with the incoming IDSA officers Fredo Aponte, Matt Lancaster, Jessica Cole, and Donna Leung, organized the show. Industry representatives from Formation Design, Philips Design, and Coca-Cola attended this year’s show.



The End-of-Year Show featured a variety of student work at all levels from the past year. The exhibit was open to students from sophomore year to graduate level.



The GT IDSA chapter constructed the display piece that held the students’ work during the exhibit.

Ph.D. News

Ph.D. Program Examines Physical Activity and Design

The United States is facing an epidemic of diseases related to obesity and physical activity. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 200,000 Americans die each year because they do not complete at least thirty minutes of moderate exercise most days of the week.

Faculty and students in the Ph.D. Program have recently initiated several research programs exploring how the design of building sites, buildings, and building elements can encourage physical activity, all of which are funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF).

Professor Craig Zimring and Ph.D. students Anjali Joseph, Gayle Nicoll, and Sharon Tsepas co-authored a paper in a February 2005 supplement to the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* titled “Influences of Building Design and Site Design on Physical Activity: Research and Intervention Opportunities.” The authors found that most active living research has focused on how city and urban design impacts physical activity, while relatively little has focused on how the design of buildings and sites impacts physical activity. This is an important area for future research.

Zimring and Tsepas recently completed a white paper for RWJF exploring how public buildings can increase physical activity and are proposing further research and policy intervention. Their review of the literature concluded that public agencies could impact physical activity by such measures as choosing walkable sites and providing comfortable and useable stairs within buildings. Zimring and Tsepas surveyed several high-level state and federal officials and found considerable interest in active living and a desire for case studies and best practice examples.

The importance of encouraging physical activity through design has also resulted in four additional research projects to the Ph.D. Program from RWJF. Ruth Dalton (now a faculty member at the University College London), Zimring, and Anjali Joseph completed a research project last spring focusing on the role of design and layout in encouraging physical activity for older adults. Working with Lauren Harris-Kojetin and Kristen

Kiefer of the American Association of Housing and Services for the Aged’s Institute for the Future of Aging Services, the researchers surveyed 800 continuing care retirement communities in 42 states. They found that having covered sidewalks and providing attractive walking destinations could help encourage older residents to be active. Joseph is following up on this work with an RWJF dissertation grant in which she will conduct case studies of retirement communities.

Stairs in buildings provide a good opportunity for everyday physical activity. Nicoll is conducting her own RWJF dissertation grant in which she is exploring what design features of stairs, and features of building design and layout, affect users’ willingness to use stairs voluntarily. Zimring and Ph.D. student Keith Jundanian are working with Centers for Disease Control Epidemiologist Bill Kohl and California building planner and programmer Cheryl Fuller to conduct a case study of an innovative state office building in Los Angeles. The building, designed by noted architect Thom Mayne of Morphsis, is the first major office building in the United States to use “skip stop” elevators, where the main elevators only stop at floors 1, 4, 8, and 12. Able-bodied users are expected to walk up or down to their offices on an innovative stair that allows views into the building and encounters with others. The research team will do post-occupancy evaluations on use of the stairs, as well as how this new and innovative design of stairs is received by staff and management.

Verheij Awarded Outstanding Doctoral Research Paper

Ph.D. student Hans Verheij was recognized by the Building Futures Council (BFC) for his presentation and paper titled “Collaborative Project Planning in Ownership-Architect Partnerships.” The paper was named one of three of the most outstanding scholarly papers at the Future of the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) Industry’s “Engaging the New Generation of Doctoral Students in U.S. Universities” conference in Las Vegas last March. The winners were honored for the prospective vision, rigorous foundation, and sufficiently

defined critical challenges and opportunities they exhibited in addressing the future of AEC.

In his paper, Verheij and his colleagues introduced a new project planning method that treats project planning as the execution of a series of structured dialogues between prospective project partners. The prototype system was implemented as part of the European e-HUBs project using a neutral process definition language XPDL.

The “Engaging the New Generation of Doctoral Students in U.S. Universities” conference, held in conjunction with the Associated General Contractor’s 86th Annual Convention, is the first conference on the future of the AEC industry and represents a new initiative of the BFC to strengthen the connection of industry with U.S. doctoral education programs concerned with the built environment. Its purposes are to explore new ideas, opportunities, directions, and innovations in the field and to create a forum for the exchange of ideas between the next generation of scholars and industry professionals. The conference was organized by Dean Galloway with the assistance of Professors Chuck Eastman, Roozbeh Kangari, and Linda Thomas-Mobley and doctoral students Ghang Lee and Tarang Taunk. Other doctoral students from the College presenting papers were Debajyoti Pati, Cheol-Soo Park, Elif S. Yagmur, and Shariar Makarechi.

The BFC is an independent, non-profit corporation composed of senior executives and organizations engaged in all aspects of the building and construction process. For more information, visit www.thebfc.com.



From left: Dean Thomas Galloway; Shih Chung Kang; Hans Verheij; Felichism Kabo; Derish Wolff, vice chair, BFC Board of Directors; and Jack Chiaverini, chair, BFC Board of Directors.

Research Center News

Advanced Wood Products Laboratory

Students Assist With Furniture Survey

Eight Industrial Design students from Alan Harp's Furniture Design courses traveled to the High Point Furniture Market in North Carolina to assist *Appalachian Hardwood News* in conducting a survey of more than 3,000 furniture vendors in April. The students interviewed the furniture vendors at the Market to identify species of solid wood currently used in furniture and to find out where pieces are manufactured. The results of the survey will be published in a variety of wood/furniture publications so that designers, growers, and manufacturers can identify trends in the industry.



From left: Katie Stanchak, Jason Quick, Rachel Winderweedle, Alan Harp, Wade Burch, Arthur Wu, Holly Huff, Josh Schwab, and Andres Oyaga.

Center for Assistive Technology and Environmental Access

GRADE Project Recognized in Campus Best Practices Challenge

The Georgia Tech Research on Accessible Distance Education (GRADE) project was recognized during the "Georgia Tech Best Practices Challenge" and showcase held last February. The GRADE project and its administrators received a recognition of honor in the Information Technology category for their project titled "Access E Learning: Enhancing Distance Education through Innovative Leadership." "We're honored to receive this recognition," said GRADE Project Director Robert Todd. "Though our project reaches out to the entire country, we recognized from the start that 'change begins at home.' We've worked to provide tools and support to improve the quality of online education here at Georgia Tech, and with the help of partners on campus, we look forward to the next steps." The primary foci of the GRADE project are the creation, evaluation, and dissemination of a ten-module online tutorial on accessibility issues in distance education, titled "Access E Learning," and the establishment of Georgia Tech as a model institute on accessibility for distance education. Although its



particular focus is on the needs of faculty and students with disabilities at Georgia Tech, Access E Learning is a powerful tool for all institutes of higher learning nationwide. Currently the design of many online learning courses erects barriers to full participation of students and instructors with some types of disabilities. Assistive technology alone does not remove all access to barriers in online education. While assistive technology can help provide increased access

to computers, online learning offerings must be designed to work with assistive technology devices – such as screen readers, alternative keyboards, and switches – to be fully accessible to students with disabilities. For more information on the GRADE project, visit www.catea.org/grade. To learn more about Access E Learning and to view a complete listing of the ten-module tutorial, visit www.accesselearning.net.



Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development

CQGRD Helps Define Quality Growth in Coastal Georgia

Camden County, Georgia, may be on the threshold of great change. As Georgia's southernmost coastal county, Camden is located between the port cities of Brunswick and Jacksonville, Florida. This relatively rural county has several quaint cities and tourist destinations. It is also home to the Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base, a 16,000-acre complex with more than 8,100 military personnel, and provides access to Cumberland Island National Seashore. Today, Camden appears to be evolving into a "bedroom," retirement, and second-home community. The trend is evident in the number of new communities being started or proposed throughout the county. While such development brings new opportunities, it also puts pressure on infrastructure and services and threatens the "small town" charm that residents hold dear. Moreover, this surge in residential development has made county leaders ask, "Where are the jobs?" Recently, Express Scripts (a prescription processing company) announced the opening of a call center in the county. This move brings 650 new jobs to the area, but that only partially offsets the loss of 900 jobs in 2002 when the Durango-Georgia Paper Company closed its

Camden plant. And even though current reports from the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure process bode well—with the possible addition of more than 3,300 military and civilian jobs at the Base—the county recognizes the need to diversify its economic base. The Camden Partnership Inc. and the County Public Service Authority have contracted with Georgia Tech's Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development (CQGRD) and the Economic Development Institute to help plan for the future. CQGRD is striving to help county leaders and residents define what quality growth means for them, given their unique location and specific opportunities and challenges. The final report will be completed in October 2005.

Upcoming Events

Governments and Growth Workshop
Atlanta, GA - Oct. 5-6, 2005
This workshop is designed for Georgia's local government officials and key staff members. The event includes a planning demonstration involving two Georgia communities and panel discussions covering public engagement, legal and revenue issues, transportation, and innovative

planning methods. This year's keynote speaker is Robert J. Grow, founding chair of Envision Utah, an award-winning private/public quality growth partnership. The workshop is hosted by ULI-Atlanta District Council, ACCG, GMA, DCA, and CQGRD; and it is sponsored by Georgia Power and the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia.

Transportation Design for Communities
Atlanta, GA - Oct. 20-21, 2005
This two-day course presents principles to create more livable places. Experts will share their tools for designing transportation facilities where pedestrians, bicyclists, transit customers, and motorists are all partners in mobility. Developed in cooperation with Glatting Jackson Kercher Anglin Lopez Rinehart, the program will focus on community and street design alternatives, economic and land development implications, the land use/transportation connection, and the community involvement process.

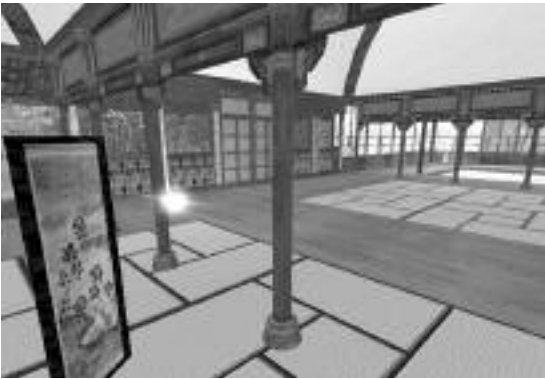
Learn more about these and other events at www.coa.gatech.edu/cqgrd or call the Center for Quality Growth and Regional Development at 404.385.5133.

New Course Allows Students to Publish Designs, Collaborate with Designers across Disciplines

Over the years designers have become more and more proficient with computer-aided design tools and techniques. Now the ability to collaboratively share, evaluate, and critique these computer-aided designs in an immersive online environment is possible. Through Jonathan Shaw’s course on “Online Visualization of Environments,” students are learning the technologies and tools to publish and present designs within their respective disciplines and collaborate with designers across other disciplines. “The immersive nature of Web-based real-time rendering engines that support dynamic lighting, 3-D audio, physics simulation, and multiple users in locations around the world brings designers across many disciplines together for more collaborative evaluations of designs.” said Shaw, IMAGINE Lab research scientist and instructor. “For example, a city planner can use terrain and land use data sets from existing GIS and USGS databases. These datasets can be imported and are easily edited within the engine’s editor. A landscape architect can take this terrain and easily place design iterations on the terrain model with realistic instances of plantings. Architects can place building designs on the terrain starting from mass models and moving toward finished detailed designs. An industrial designer can place furnishings and details within the building design. All of this design work can be evaluated from the perspectives of construction



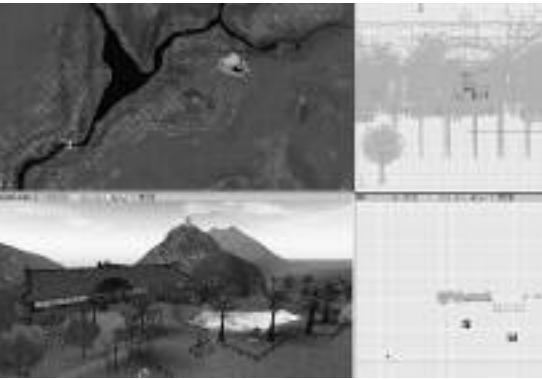
View of the exterior of the environment.



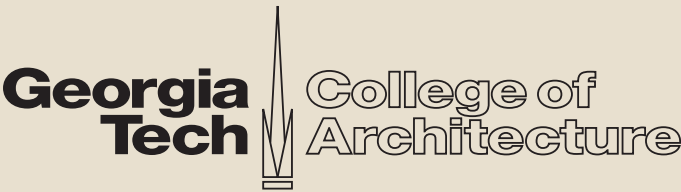
View of the interior of the building.

management, acoustics, and environmental access.” Essentially, all involved can be communicating within the same Web-based environment simultaneously while being physically spread across the world.

Student Tea House Project Description:
The Tea House, designed by students Jeff Weese and Grace Ou, is an example of modular construction inspired by Japanese design. The toolset allows multiple designers in remote locations to collaboratively design and create their own buildings in a real-time, 3-D environment. The Tea House library consists of more than eighty objects including roofing, walls, floors, ceilings, railings, columns, steps, and other architectural elements. Some interior furniture such as lamps, tables, and screens are also included. Garden-related items such as plants, fences, walkways, stones, lanterns, and ornaments allow users to design their own garden as well.



Screenshot of the authoring tool used to create the environment.



Georgia Institute of Technology
Office of the Dean
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0155

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