ARCHITECTURE NEWS

The newsletter of the Syracuse University School of Architecture

School News
Alumni News
Faculty/Staff News
Student News
Development News

N.9 Fall 2010
Message from the Dean

A variety of possible missions this year yielded a mesh of global triangulations, from Syracuse to Siem Reap and Seoul, and Punta Cana to London. The inevitable byproduct was a lot of time offline and in the air. After several incomplete passes at watching the remake of "Clash of the Titans" (the original classical mash-up had the camp value of Ursula Andress as Aphrodite), I turned back to my book, *Proust was a Neuroscientist*, by scientist Jonah Lehrer. Lehrer focuses on the work of writers like Proust, George Eliot, and Walt Whitman, visual artists such as Cezanne, and even the directives of the great French chef, Escoffier, analyzed in relation to current thinking about the neurological structure of the brain and consciousness. He makes the seemingly counterintuitive case for the ways in which art prefigures scientific discovery. Creative work of all kinds demands a leap into the unknown and as Lehrer suggests, "every brilliant experiment, like every great work of art, starts with an act of imagination." Speculation and pragmatism are required, and as the derivation of the word speculation suggests, lens and mirror, the act of looking and reflecting. This is where our work as architects begins, in relation to and independent from the limits of place.

A critical part of education is the way that exposure to new geographies and disciplines provides a shift in perspective, also revealing new things in the most familiar settings. This pedagogical range is perhaps most evident in our option studios, in which visiting critics teach and often travel with the class. This term, architect Fred Stehle was paired with Professor Tim Stenson in a studio that proposed the renovation of a series of modest, wood-frame homes on Syracuse’s Near Westside, a companion to the new houses recently completed and sold through the "From the Ground Up" competition. At the outset, the studio spent a long weekend on the north and south forks of Long Island studying the detailing and construction methods of iconic modern houses, exporting this to the context of the studio’s ambitious goal to build their projects affordably upstate. In another studio at a beach, but with palms, Danny Forster brought the class to Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic. Co-sponsored with the Ecological Foundation, students planned and designed homes for a new sector of the resort development, with a critical awareness of the impact of tourism. Robin Oster’s studio briefly translated her urban farming prototype in Los Angeles to a site in Washington D.C., where students met with the city’s deputy mayor. In other interdisciplinary work, this summer Professors Yutaka Sho and Kevin Lair led a group of students from architecture, industrial design, and bio-med to Ghana to frame a project for mobile medical facilities.

Students and faculty returned to campus for "Formerly Urban: Projecting Rust Belt Futures," an international conference organized by Julia Czerwak and UPSTATE: The two-day event focused on regions that have experienced economic and demographic devolution, presented through the lenses of landscape, finance, planning, and practice. Adriana Geuze’s keynote address marked the necessity for radical innovation and beauty in re framing urban centers. Cities such as Cleveland and Detroit figured prominently in the presentations and the second-year graduate faculty chose to structure a follow-up visit with their students to the Midwest, meeting with Detroit Mayor Dave Bing to discuss opportunities for architecture and urbanism in this historically shrinking city.

These initiatives — conferences and studios, field trips, design/build projects and planning—are all forms of speculative inquiry. Design is creative research and the analysis it requires gives new meaning to the work we do in the field and in the academy. It may suggest responses to the realities of the physical and economic environment, implicating new spatial, political, or material properties. Unfamiliar ways of doing things create new pathways, spur questions, and encourage intellectual leaps in the face of difference. It is this difference that may be the genesis of theory, science, and art. Art raises the ante, up-ending assumptions and preconceptions, which is the necessary preparation to learn and create.

Mark Robbins, Dean

Architecture students host Northeast Quad Conference

The American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) at Syracuse hosted "Reclaiming Architecture," the national organization’s fall 2010 Northeast Quad Conference, held at the School October 21-24. More than 200 architecture students from over 20 schools throughout the Northeast U.S. and Canada attended the event. Student leaders and emerging professionals gathered to discuss the changing role of the architect in today’s society and evaluate new ways for architects to engage in political, economic, and social processes, especially in the area of urban revitalization. The conference took advantage of its context by using Syracuse as a specific focus of consideration.

Programming included a two-day symposium featuring speakers from across disciplines, a workshop series, tours of the new Syracuse Center of Excellence and Near Westside green housing sites, and culminated with the construction of a series of temporary parks in downtown Syracuse. On Friday evening, acclaimed NYC architect and Syracuse Architecture NYC visiting critic Joshua Prince-Ramus delivered the keynote address.

"Over the past years, we’ve seen the architecture profession become more marginalized from other disciplines," says fifth-year Syracuse Architecture student and AIAS Conference Chair, Stephen Klimek. "Through this conference we raised questions about the status and direction of our profession and, more importantly, offered insight and experience for finding the answers and solutions. We began to ‘reclaim architecture’ by designing and manifesting 'architecture of agency' throughout the city of Syracuse as a means of demonstrating our ability to effect positive change."
Upstate: Conference explores Rust Belt cities

Twenty-one international experts in architecture, landscape architecture, and urban design, as well as planning, policy, finance, economics, and real estate development gathered at the School on October 13 and 14 to share strategies and discuss the benefits of creating urbanity in weak-market cities.

Adriaan Geuze, renowned Dutch landscape architect and co-founder of West 8 Urban Design & Landscape Architecture, delivered the keynote lecture. "Formerly Urban: Projecting Rust Belt Futures" was organized by UPSTATE: A Center for Design, Research, and Real Estate, led by the center's director, Julia Czerniak, also an associate professor at Syracuse Architecture.

"Although many metropolitan centers are growing rapidly," says Czerniak, "rust belt cities suffer from the loss of city fabric, diminishing social welfare networks and basic services, eroding public school systems, the loss of industry, increasing amounts of tax delinquent and vacant land, crumbling infrastructure, and declining population. We were fortunate to be able to explore these issues with such an impressive group of panelists."


from top:

Students toured sites in downtown Syracuse, including the Syracuse Center of Excellence.

Keynote lecturer Joshua Prince-Ramus, right, with Assistant Professor Jon Lott, center, and Elizabeth Gratton G'09 at the REX gallery reception.

from top:

Roger Sherman (left) exchanges ideas with fellow panelists McLain Clutter and Darren Petrucci.

Syracuse Mayor Stephanie Miner and UPSTATE: Director Julia Czerniak deliver opening remarks.

"Formerly Urban" was supported by The Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts and The Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, with additional funding provided by the CNY Community Foundation.
Four new faculty members joined Syracuse Architecture this past fall, bringing with them a diverse and impressive range of research interests, work, and teaching experience.

Ramona Albert (B.Arch, Drury University; M.Arch, Harvard University Graduate School of Design) is a founding partner of albert.johnson, a multi-disciplinary design and research collaborative. Albert’s work draws from the convergence of mathematics, biology, economy, history, and contemporary culture toward the design of architecture, objects, and subjects. Through design — the orchestration of function, systems, space, time, and material — albert.johnson strives to express the inherent beauty in all things.

Albert has worked as a façade consultant and has been involved in the design and fabrication of complex façade systems in New York City. This work has reinforced her approach to the building process where innovative construction and fabrication techniques drive and influence the design concepts. Albert was born and raised in Romania. She has lectured on her own work and has been an invited juror at Harvard, Cornell, Drury, Columbia, MIT, BAC, NYIT, and Pratt. She has taught studios at Harvard, BAC, and NYIT.

Larry Bowne (B.A. in Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles; M.Arch, Harvard University Graduate School of Design) is the principal of Larry Bowne Architects with offices in Manhattan, KS and New York, NY. Bowne’s career merges teaching, design and research and in all three fields attempts to unearth content embedded within the facts of our daily life.

Bowne has designed dozens of projects, including commissions in New York City, Austin, TX, Zurich, Switzerland, and Buenos Aires, Argentina. His work has been featured in multiple venues, including appearances in 2007 on the HGTV program “Small Space, Big Style”; exhibitions at the Marianne Boesky Gallery in New York City, the University of Kansas and Kansas State; and articles in Interiors, Dwell and The Village Voice. While teaching at Kansas State University, Bowne collaborated with colleagues and students on several design/build projects, including projects in New Orleans, Washington, D.C., and Greensburg, KS. These projects have been featured on “Extreme Makeover: Home Edition,” National Public Radio, and the Voice of America; exhibitions at the 10th Venice Biennale (fall 2006), the Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum (spring and summer 2007), and at the Ontario College of Art and Design (fall 2008). In summer 2008 Bowne was as a fellow at the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, NH in summer 2008.

Strata House, Zurich, Switzerland / Larry Bowne Architects

Madaras, Harghita chapel interior, Romania / albert.johnson
Sekou Cooke (B.Arch, Cornell University) is a Jamaican-born practitioner and educator driven to translate conceptual ideas into the physical realm. During his time in New York City, Cooke independently completed built works such as the Clarke-Woods Loft and Fanny Restaurant, both in Brooklyn, NY, and Skin brand store in Piermont, NY. His practice, sekou cooke STUDIO, furthers these ambitions by creating execution strategies for large conceptual designs and completing smaller design/build projects. Conceptual works include Ferdie Neita Park, a sports complex in Jamaica, Yilme Academy, a school and boarding campus in Liberia, and Re:module a competition project being privately developed for the open market. Design/build works include Sol-y-mar, a day spa in Oakland, CA, Sessions Training Center and Live Fit Gym in San Francisco, CA. Each project reflects a fundamental commitment to progressive, sustainable practices. Cooke has taught architectural studios and seminars at New York City College of Technology, California College of the Arts and Academy of Art University. He is a licensed architect in the states of New York and California.

Brett Snyder (BFA/Graphic Design, Carnegie Mellon University; M.Arch, Columbia University) is a principal of Cheng+Snyder, a multi-disciplinary design studio based in New York. Cheng+Snyder engages in architectural, environmental, and graphic design. Snyder’s research and work lies at the intersection of architecture and graphic design. Recent projects include “Museum of the Phantom City,” an interactive iPhone App, a “Space for Living,” an exhibition of housing designs for the organization Common Ground, and “Sight Lines: A Mall to Prison Inversion,” a polemical proposal for the reuse of abandoned shopping centers. Prior to founding his design firm, Snyder designed internationally at a wide range of scales. His experience spans disciplines from working on large commercial architecture projects at Steven Holl Architects, to collaborating on watch designs at Swatch Watch, to working on exhibition, signage, print, and web matter at the Cooper Union Center for Design and Typography. Snyder’s work has been featured in Architectural Record, The Architect’s Newspaper, BLDGBLOG, Fast Company, Metropolis, and The New York Times. He is a recipient of the New York Foundation for the Arts Award in Architecture and is a Van Alen New York prize fellow.
FRED STELLE '70

Stelle Architects

Frederick Stelle's Bridgehampton, Long Island firm is known for its low-key, non-invasive approach to design and construction, inspired by indigenous forms and materials, and is highly acclaimed for its ability to create environments that respect the beauty and fragility of the natural landscape. In 2005, Stelle received an AIA Architectural Achievement Award, presented to an architect who has produced distinguished architecture consistently for a period of at least ten years.

Studio: Framework of Practice

Co-taught with Syracuse Architecture Associate Professor Timothy Stenson

Students are learning first-hand how rigorous design projects share attributes that contribute to the process, such as budget, client needs, and regulatory limits, as well as the ways in which typical challenges worked through "beyond the paper" often define a project. Divided into small "offices" within a quasi-practice framework, students are creating detailed schematic designs for three residential projects on Syracuse's Near Westside: a renovation and addition to a detached single-family house, a 'gut' renovation of a two-family house, and a new detached single family house. Local housing nonprofit Home HeadQuarters, Inc. is the client group for these houses.
DANNY FORSTER

Danny Forster Design Studio (DFDS)

Architect Danny Forster specializes in sustainable, economical design and development. He is a national outreach consultant for Discovery Education, lecturing internationally on architecture and sustainability. In 2005, he became the on-air host of what would become Build It Bigger, an award-winning global architecture and engineering documentary series, now in its fourth season. He is the creator and executive producer, alongside Steven Spielberg, of The Rising, a long-form documentary series chronicling the rebuilding of Ground Zero.

Studio: The Modern, the Vernacular, the Sustainable

Forster challenges his students to veer away from viewing sustainability in the traditional sense — as a series of design tactics — and instead consider it as a disciplinary process from the onset. Students are learning the oxymoronic state of “eco-tourism,” considering its infringement on natural resources and local culture, all for the benefit of pleasure. They are exploring formal solutions for the buildings of Punta Cana, Dominican Republic that will grow out of the local environment and culture, and learning a “new architectural language, inextricably tied to culture, climate, and place,” says Forster.

continued on p. 8

Omena Residence / DFDS
ROBIN OSLER

Elmslie Osler Architect (EOA)

Robin Osler has distinguished herself by creating an award-winning studio with a diverse portfolio of elegant built work. She is deeply engaged in the urban agricultural movement having designed the Los Angeles-based pilot program for The Urban Farming Food Chain,™ a vertical farming project that includes "edible" food-producing wall panels mounted on buildings, and kitchen and education hubs that serve as community centers.

Studio: Urban Agri-Center

Students are designing an urban agri-center in a low-income Washington, D.C. neighborhood situated on the edge of the area’s “New Communities Initiative.” The program includes indoor and outdoor growing facilities to distribute locally-grown produce to the area, food related educational and training centers, and program facilities that support healthy diets and lifestyles. A site visit included meeting with a representative from the USDA at the farm on the Mall, the director of the farm at The National Arboretum, the Common Good City Farm, and visiting the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development, where students will present their projects at the end of the semester.
JARED DELLA VALLE AND A.J. PIRES

Della Valle Bernheimer (DVB)

Alloy Development

Della Valle, co-partner of DVB, Brooklyn, NY, and co-owner of Alloy Development, has been designing award-winning projects throughout the U.S. for over a decade. As a result, he has been able to broaden his experience to include successful real estate development. AJ Pires's expertise in deal structure and finance, coupled with his background in architecture, allows Alloy to negotiate and oversee complex projects from acquisition through construction and disposition within the dynamic New York real estate market.

Studio: Development Realities

Students are gaining a new perspective as they balance project design goals with the realities of development values. Within the context of two urban project types — ranging in scale from single-family homes to a large, mixed-use building — they weigh indicators such as market demand, project cost, constructability, finance and property valuation, and continue to refine their design efforts throughout the semester. Students are learning new Excel skills that cover financial concepts and modeling and sharing information with students enrolled in the Real Estate Development & Design course (see below).

Real Estate Development and Design Course

The class was taught this fall at the School by Jared Della Valle and AJ Pires, assisted by UPSTATE: fellow Peggy Tully. Students learned to critically analyze development projects from the unique perspective of architecture. They learned to identify basic aspects of real estate design and development and explore some of the key relationships of its many layered components. They tackled diverse projects including Syracuse’s Case Supply building and a public/private waterfront opportunity. The final review, which was attended by Syracuse faculty as well as Ian Klein, New York City Economic Development Corporation, Alphonse Lembo, principal at Monadnock Construction, and Matt Nowaczyn, of SHoP, included thoughtful projects that ranged from a luxury hotel for people traveling with their dogs to low-cost artists' live/work spaces subsidized by a high-end hotel.
Global Campus Travel Programs

Beyond study opportunities in our Florence program — now in its thirtieth year — and our recently established London and New York City centers, we continue to expand opportunities for students through shorter programs across the globe that expose students to the great diversity of approaches in theory and practice on the world stage.

Students study health care in Ghana

A group of twelve architecture, industrial design, journalism, and bio-med students traveled to Ghana in summer 2010 with architecture professors Yutaka Sho and Kevin Lair, Syracuse biomedical engineering professor Andrew Darling, and Dr. Rebecca Bollin from St. Joseph’s Hospital in Syracuse to research and evaluate the country’s health care delivery systems and explore how western medical programs can provide better health care in resource constrained locations. Throughout the five-week experience students shared disciplinary approaches influencing and informing one another and also gained insights from health professionals and local residents from diverse regions.

In the course of their travels they visited hospitals, a free clinic/HIV hospice in Tamale, attended lectures by researchers at the national medical center in Navrongo on progressive outreach programs, and visited architectural sites in cities, small villages, and nature reserves. “The Ghanaian people are great teachers,” says fourth-year student, Christopher DePalma. “The trip profoundly changed the way I now approach design, both with a newfound appreciation for collaboration among different disciplines as well as the need for cultural awareness.”

At the conclusion of the course, students presented their research to Dr. Benjamin Kunbuor, Ghana’s Minister of Health. They introduced new strategies for health care delivery and highlighted the ways in which Ghana and the U.S. could learn from each other in refining their health care systems. “Meeting with a high-ranking official was an outstanding opportunity for the students,” says Assistant Professor Yutaka Sho. “The Minister was very interested in their research and advice for future development, and he encouraged us to visit again. We felt this was a sure sign of success.”
A new tale of two cities in Spain
Under the leadership of Assistant Professor Daniel de Riva — a native of Spain — fifteen students visited Madrid and Barcelona over spring break in March 2010 to study the various relationships between the architecture and urban fabric of the two sister cities. Madrid and Barcelona have traditionally had parallel growth, resulting in a notable antagonism between them that has profoundly influenced and enriched the arts and architecture. Students had the opportunity to visit and study several key architectural and urban sites and explore some of the local unique craft, tectonic, and construction methods applied. They explored a variety of urban design strategies such as Cerda’s Eixample for Barcelona or Madrid’s Rio Project along the Manzanares River by West 8 Architects and visited the offices of the Barcelona Enric Miralles and Benedetta Tagliabue (EMBT), and the emerging Madrid architecture firm Ensamble Studio, led by Anton García Abril. Students who participated in this travel program were also enrolled in a professional seminar course de Riva taught on campus during the spring semester.

The architecture of revolutions
In May, six students spent ten days in Paris with Assistant Professor Jean-François Bédard touring buildings they studied as part of their spring semester history elective, The Architecture of Revolutions: European Architecture from the Scientific to the Industrial Revolution. Students were able to experience firsthand how architecture was transformed as a result of these historical developments by examining style, functionalism, historicism, and rationalism. Daily walking tours and museum visits to sites including Claude Perrault’s East Façade of the Louvre, Jacques-Germain Soufflot’s Church of Sainte-Geneviève, and Eugène-Emmanuel Viollet-le-Duc’s “restauration” of the Château de Pierrefonds, contributed to discussion and analysis as students focused on some of the most significant players and important debates in European architectural theory between 1650 and 1850.

Upcoming travel programs

Mexico City, March 2011
Myth, Mechanics & Modernity
Professors Daniel de Riva and Sinéad Mac Namara
Architectural, cultural, and engineering issues

Paris and the Loire Valley, May 2011
French Châteaux: Kings and Courtiers in the French Countryside
Professor Jean François Bédard
French Architecture of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries

Japan, Summer 2011
Japan-ness in Architecture
Professors Anne Mulry and Michael Carroll
Kyoto, Osaka, and Tokyo

India, Summer 2011
A Path to Water: Rethinking the potential of step wells and step ponds of India
Professor Victor Tzen
Water scarcity and traditional systems of water management

Marshal Yong sketching at Barcelona Pavilion
Student field trip to social housing in Carabanchel, near Madrid, Spain
Supporting the School

The 2009-2010 fiscal year was another record year for giving at the School of Architecture, with roughly $2.5 million in new gifts and commitments received. This represents an almost $1 million increase over the previous year. We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who began and continued their support of the School, especially given how the current economy has impacted the profession in recent years. It remains critical, however, as the School continues to increase its academic and professional standing that we grow the School’s endowment and levels of annual unrestricted support.

One area where we did see a decrease in support for the 2009-2010 year was in unrestricted giving, also referred to as the Friends of the School of Architecture Fund. While gifts to endowment provide for the long-term viability of the School, unrestricted giving is critical to the School’s short-term funding model and its ability to respond to unexpected opportunities during the year. Whether it is in response to a solicitation sent directly by the School, saying yes to a student phphonation caller, or checking off the Architecture box on a Syracuse University reply card, gifts to the Friends of the School of Architecture Fund at any level have a tremendous impact on students, faculty, and programming at the School.

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ENDOWED LECTURE IN SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

To be funded through an estate gift of $150,000 by Bruce S. Fowle, founding principal of FXFowle Architects in New York, NY, the endowment will provide funding for an annual lecture and additional programming to further the School’s efforts in sustainable design and environmental education.

continued on p.14
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Students from Assistant Professor Daniel de Riva's summer travel program at the Forum building in Barcelona, Spain
Endowed Funds

The School of Architecture currently maintains a series of endowed funds that have been established by donors over the years. These funds are held and invested in the larger Syracuse University general endowment. The funds benefit a number of areas within the School, including financial aid for both graduates and undergraduates, student travel, thesis and design prizes, lecture funds, technology, purchases and maintenance, and visiting critic studios. Donors have an opportunity to support these existing funds or to establish new endowment funds of their own designation. The minimum gift to create a new named endowed fund is $50,000, which can be paid through a variety of means over a maximum five year period.


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Notes: This listing is based on giving to the School of Architecture only. Class year (e.g. ’75) denotes all Syracuse University degrees. The utmost care and attention was given in the preparation of this listing. We apologize for any possible omissions or errors. Please contact Sylvie Prendergast at 315.443.0271 or sprender@syr.edu with questions or comments.

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Anna Z. Hack ’95
Daniel G. Halikynd
Suzanne M. Halkyard
Steven K. Hayner
Teresa S. Hayner
Charles W. Higgenboth ’74
William E. Jack
George Steve Jaramillo G ’03
Carole A. Johnson, I, SCHOOL G ’72
Robert E. Johnson G ’74
Darlene Joliboas, A&S ’95
Robert L. Kelly G ’88
James F. Kennedy
Sheryl J. Kennedy
Koree K. Knight, A&S ’95
Vladimir W. Kovaly G ’97
Jerry A. Kruland ’57
Tamara G. Lang, A&S ’94
Helen C. Langone
Joseph W. Lapicki ’73
Jane Laurent
Heidi Segall Levy G ’89
Joshua S. Levy G ’89
Jose A. Lim ‘91
Mary Ann Lock
Paul W. Lock, ESF ’72
Bradley A. Macomber ’79
Roy K. Madison
Sandra L. Madison
Carolyn E. McBean
Elizabeth M. McClure G ’87
Kathryn C. McVeen, A&S ’68
Mark S. McVay ’88
Niles A. Miller ’79
Mark E. Minelli
Tal S. Minelli
Harry A. Mink
Molly P. Mink
Courtney Leigh Moore ’03
Deborah J. Morgan ’80
Randy Mosenthal
Michael L. Munson ’71
Heather Murtough ’09
V. Elriz Nelson, VPA ’96
Meaghan K. O’Reilly ’07
Arthur E. Paris
Lawrence R. Paugh, A&S ’77
Benjamin Perelman, ENG ’75
Ariel B. Perelmuter
Maria Pirraglia Cerini ’99
Ricardo L. Quiterio ’82
Elizabeth L. Reed ’52
Edward D. Rice ’70
Lisa K. Roberts, A&S ’51
Richard A. Ross
Sidney Sarf
Alton H. Schaller
Nadine P. Schaller
Renee Schwarzberg
Nan D. Shearer
Judene A. Shelley
Robert Jay Sherman G ’03
Arnold J. Sholier
Johanna L. Sholier
Kim Smith
Michelle R. Spanos
Neil A. Stempel ’83
Conchita M. Suarez-Igarula
Joseph W. Tabeling
Linda M. Tabeling
Gerald T. Takeo ’71
Michael F. Tamara G ’95
Lawrence S. Therisult ’75
Charles B. Tonetti ’76
Chi Kwong Tong
Linda W. Tong
Robert C. Trocchio ’80
Elizabeth M. Warner, ESF ’75
Ross D. Weiner ’81
Janice M. Williams
Debra C. Williams
Roger H. Williams
Ellen Doull Winter
John Todd Winter
Raymond J. Wysinski ’51
Sally S. Yasawiski, CHD ’49
Jerry D. Young G ’84
Reuben K. S. Zane ’56
Marie L. Zodda

Partnership Properties
Payette Associates
Rockwell Architecture Planning & Design
Rugo/Raff Architects Ltd.
Studio D’Arc Architects
Tate and Burns Architects LLC
The Fredericks V Singerland Family Foundation
The Merck Company Foundation
The Rubin Family Foundation
The Samuel R. & Ethel LeFrak Charitable Trust
VIP Structures
Waters Corporation
Zak Architecture

Admissions Update
The Syracuse Architecture undergraduate program has been ranked #2 in the nation by DesignIntelligence in the 2011 edition of “America’s Best Architecture & Design Schools” for the second consecutive year.

Application Statistics
130 students entered in fall 2010
Selected from a pool of 1,140, up from 1,029 in 2009
Admit rate 26%, down from 32% in 2009
Students from 17 countries make up 20% of the class
Median GPA 3.9
Award-winning Projects

Alumni

Margaret Griffin '86 and John Enright '86 of Griffin Enright Architects received a 2010 Los Angeles Architectural Award, recognizing the city's very best architecture, for the renovation of the existing St. Thomas the Apostle Elementary School building and the creation of a new playground, gym, library, and pedestrian entry for students. By infilling the site at grade with a new parking structure, encircled by a new driveway at the site's perimeter, an elevated plinth was created to hold the school's new addition aloft. Completed in June 2010, this design allows for maximum efficiency and flexibility for the school which serves the students and community on a continual basis. griffinenrightarchitects.com

Amanda Levete Architects, based in London, with project architect Bruce Davison G'08 recently received a 2010 D&AD Award in the Environmental Design/Retail and Services category for their Corian® Lounge project at the Milan Furniture Fair. The annual D&AD Awards recognize excellence in the creative industries worldwide. Completed in 2009, the lounge is a loosely defined architectural concept about space that is animated by the movement of people in transit. Advanced digital technology was used as part of the process for generating the design as well as for the fabrication of the installation. The lighting is designed to emphasize both the voids and the visual movement of the piece. amandalavetearchitects.com

Katherine Hogan '05 was a member of the design team for the “Art as Shelter” pavilion at the North Carolina Museum of Art Park in Raleigh that received a 2010 AIA Small Project Award. Completed in 2009, the structure offers a sheltered place to view the sculpture park and public greenway. Clear interior spans promote its use as an open-air classroom. Docent-led student groups use the space as a studio where folding tables and stools and art materials are stored in frosted acrylic-clad boxes that double as benches and night-time illumination. The metallic skin of the pavilion reflects its natural surroundings by taking on the colors of the grass and sky, or at times completely disappearing into a moiré pattern of light and shadow. tonic-design.com
Student

Five groups of Syracuse Architecture second-year grad students received awards and honorable mentions in the afh: Charleston HUB Design Competition, the first open design competition held by Architecture for Humanity; Charleston, SC. Entrants to the competition were challenged to design the two major components of a new transit system connecting the city's downtown peninsula and its surrounding communities. Left, HUB third place winner: Engage the Alley. Nicole Biasetti, Irini Zhupa, Thomas Foore, Nathan Aleskovsky.

Faculty

Clare Olsen and Lena Vassilev, both Syracuse Architecture assistant professors, have received a runner-up award in the International TEX-FAB Digital Fabrication Competition in Houston. Their collaboration, TExtile project, is one of four runners-up selected by jury members Patrik Schumacher, Marc Fornes, Lisa Iwamoto, Chris Lasch, and Blair Satterfield from entries submitted across the globe representing 18 countries on 5 continents. TEX-FAB will fabricate a scale model of the project for exhibition in February 2011.

"Self-Sustaining Street Lighting" innovation receives patent

Assistant Professor and Center of Excellence Fellow Michael Pelken and Syracuse engineering professor Dr. Thong Dang have been awarded a U.S. patent, supported by SU's Technology and Industrial Development Office, for an efficiency principle developed for their "Self-Sustaining Street Lighting" project. The street light captures wind power and solar energy during the day and releases the electricity for LED illumination at night. Vertical axis wind turbine components have been integrated into the device so that their capacity is increased to an estimated 300%.

Currently in development with Impact Technologies of Syracuse, prototypes will be tested over the next year in various locations around campus.
Events at Syracuse Architecture
1 Robin Osler “ideas + Action” lecture; Slocum Auditorium, September 21, 2010

2 Richard Barnes “Animal Logic and Recent Projects” lecture, co-sponsored by Syracuse University Light Work; Slocum Auditorium, November 2, 2010

3 Dolores Hayden “Building Suburbia” lecture; Slocum Auditorium, April 8, 2010

4 Dean Mark Robbins, center, with Los Angeles-based alumni at “Syracuse: Remaking the American City” lecture, MAK Center for Art and Architecture, October 27, 2010


6 Dean Mark Robbins, Fred Stelle ’70: Outstanding Alumni Award presentation; Homecoming, October 16, 2010

7 Ana Dzokic and Marc Neelen keynote lecture “Shared Space”; SMAD symposium, Slocum Auditorium, March 30, 2010

8 Evan Douglass “Moon Jelly” lecture; Slocum Auditorium, March 2, 2010

9 Thesis Awards Show; Slocum Gallery, May 17-August 20, 2010


PRESS CLIPS

Dean Mark Robbins and UPSTATE: were featured in the November 2010 issue of Metropolis in an article about the Syracuse Center of Excellence and urban revitalization.

The Patchwork Collective, a sustainable deconstruction enterprise started by grad students Jimmy Brunner, Paulina Kernacova, and Cameron Lassiter—students of Assistant Professor Kevin Lair—was the focus of a Syracuse Post-Standard article, November 3, 2010.

In August, 2010, New Yorker Currents featured a video interview with Rick Cook ’83 on sustainability.

Robert Siegel ’86 was featured in the June 2010 issue of Architecture for his firm’s design of the U.S. Land Port of Entry in Calais, Maine.
More than a ramp
A local resident, home-bound and confined to a wheelchair, enjoys newfound freedom and mobility thanks to a ramp/outdoor space designed and built by the School's AIAS "Freedom by Design" group.

A team of eight students, under the mentorship of VIP Structures and Syracuse Architecture faculty, completed the project in July. The ramp is wrapped in plywood panels milled by students. The primary rail system follows the wrapper around the ramp and has an integrated LED lighting system to provide outdoor lighting to the entire area. The project also features a unique water-draining design, integrated steps, and bench. The success of this project has led to others and the group has been recognized at a national level for their success and ingenuity, serving as a model for other AIAS chapters across the U.S.

Graduate urban design studio explores Detroit and Chicago
Second-year grad students, along with professors Brett Snyder, Lori Brown, and Anne Munly, traveled to Detroit and Chicago in October for an in-depth look at various scales of architecture as well as comparative analysis of the two cities. As part of an on-going studio project to design a light rail, the group was particularly interested in Detroit's Woodward Avenue Light Rail Project and had the opportunity to meet with Mayor Dave Bing '66 and other public officials (top left). Visits to a range of sites including Chicago's Millennium Park, the Graham Foundation, and the IIT campus (bottom left), as well as Detroit's Bloomtown Projects, Design 99, and the Detroit Community Design Center, allowed the group opportunity to explore urban projects and their relationship to transportation and the city.