

DCP News

Newsletter for Faculty and Staff of the College of Design, Construction & Planning

December 2004

Message from the Dean



The Fall 2004 semester has been a very active period for our college. Despite the setbacks caused by the most devastating hurricane season of the past quarter century, we have moved forward with several important new initiatives.

I am pleased to inform you of the creation of a new research center within the college - The Center for Health and the Built Environment. The center has received generous initial funding from the M.E. Rinker, Sr. Foundation and will begin operations in Spring 2005. The center will be housed in the dean's office and I will serve as its first director. The mission of the center is to engage in research, teaching and service on the relationship between health and the built environment. It will focus on topic areas such as walkable communities, architecture and the built environment, defensible space, security and environmental safety, and sustainability. It will build on existing resources within the college, especially our research centers, but provide new opportunities for faculty to engage in interdisciplinary research. I believe that the creation of the center will provide us with an institutional mechanism to focus our research and to leverage our resources with outside funding agencies and foundations, especially in the area of Active Living research.

The college also is in the review process for a

proposed new Interdisciplinary Concentration and Certificate in Sustainable Design. Professor Ira Winarsky of the School of Architecture has provided considerable leadership and invested much effort in developing the concept. Its goal is to integrate existing sustainable design resources within the college to create a program that is similar in structure to our very successful program in historic preservation. I urge you to review the proposal and to provide feedback to your administrative leaders and your college curriculum committee representatives.

I also am very proud to note that the historic preservation program under the leadership of Professor Roy Graham just hosted a very successful UNESCO World Heritage Center conference in Coral Gables and Miami Beach in November 2004. Sponsors of the event included the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the National Park Service, Heritage Canada, US/ICOMOS, the Villages, and the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation. The conference focused on the heritage of architecture, town planning and landscape design of the 20th century. Dr. David Colburn, former Provost of the University of Florida, and Professor Martha Kohen, among others, attended the event. Dr. Colburn also has agreed to serve on our PI:N Board. DCP is clearly emerging as a leader in the area of historic preservation, just as proposed new AIA guidelines for the accreditation of architecture schools and the standards of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) require that the teaching of historic preservation be integrated throughout the curriculum.

In closing, I want to wish you and your families a happy holiday season and much success in the New Year.

News Bulletin

- ◆ **IND Creates Historic Campus Map** – IND professor Susan Tate recently finished The University of Florida Historic Campus Map which gives a history of the historic buildings on campus and outlines their locations. The map also gives a history of the university's three campus architects and their contributions to the development of the built environment. The map is part of a larger project to create a master preservation plan that fits with the university's master plan.
- ◆ **ARC Professors Write Florida Code Book** – ARC professors Michael Kuenstle and Nancy Clark have been awarded a grant from the Florida Department of Education to write a Florida Building Code Handbook for new educational facilities

construction. The new handbook will incorporate material from the International Building Code which the State of Florida will adopt as its new building code beginning in June 2005.

- ◆ **ARC Alumni Win AIA Awards** – Two ARC alumni and a recent graduate received awards at the 50th anniversary gala of the Miami AIA chapter. Ben McGuirl, who graduated in Spring 2004, received two student awards. Alumnus Willy Bermello, AIA, received Architect of the Year, and Cricket Snow, AIA, received the Young Architect of the Year.

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- ◆ **Book Publishing** – BCN professor Charles Kibert has written a book, due out in January, on the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings. “Sustainable Construction: Green Building Design and Delivery” uses the LEED suite of standards to explain the best practices in building procurement and delivery systems. Wiley Publishers calls the book the definitive guide to the green building process – it encourages readers to realize the ecological and economic benefits of green building.
- ◆ **IND Students Awarded Scholarships** – On Dec. 7, interior design students Charlotte Gangi, Cori Robertson and Joy Shaw were each awarded scholarships in the amount of \$2,500 at the Network of Executive Women in Hospitality holiday reception in Orlando. The award criteria included financial need, grade point average and character and students needed to have completed at least 50 percent of their required coursework. NEWH is a national organization dedicated to promoting education and scholarship for women.
- ◆ **Paper Submission** – ARC professor Hui Zou’s new article “Chinesische Kosmologie und christliche Metaphysik—Das Jing des Xianfa: Ein jesuitischer Garten in Beijing” (Chinese cosmology and Christian metaphysics—The Jing of Xianfa: a Jesuit garden in Beijing) is published in the academic journal *Stad + Grün* (Dec. 2004) in Germany. The article was developed from his invited presentation at the international conference “Garden History and Religion” in Hanover University in 2002. He has published other articles in English on this 18th-century Jesuit garden in China in the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany.
- ◆ **ARC Receives Donation** – The Gainesville Chapter of the American Institute of Architects presented a check for \$4,000 to the School of Architecture on Nov. 16 at the AIA Gainesville’s annual meeting. Raised during the chapter’s golf tournament, the gift will support the AIA Gainesville Student Scholarship Fund.

Design Programs Top Ranked by DI

Congratulations to the Department of Interior Design, School of Architecture and Department of Landscape Architecture. Each was listed in this year’s rankings of America’s Best Architecture and Design Schools by DesignIntelligence.

IND was listed as 7th in the nation on the Top 40 Editor’s List and as 10th on the America’s Best Interior Design Schools list. The latter ranking is an increase from last year’s placement of 15th, and this is the fifth consecutive year the program has ranked in the top 15 interior design programs in the nation.

ARC’s master’s program was listed at 4th in the South, which includes a 14-state region. The survey does not rank the Bachelor of Design. In the survey’s first time ranking Landscape Architecture programs, LAE was listed as 4th in the South.

- ◆ **Visiting Author** – Marine biologist, toxicologist and author Dr. Riki Ott is coming to Gainesville’s Goerings Book Store in January for a book signing of her recently published book, “Sound Truth and Corporate Myth\$: The Legacy of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.” The Alaska resident will speak to several classes and during lunch seminars during her visit Jan. 17-19.
- ◆ **Historic Preservation in Miami** – Beinecke-Reeves Distinguished Professor Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA, was part of a panel of experts who spoke at the Bass Museum of Art in Miami Beach on Nov. 6, on “The Roots of Modernism in Miami.” The panel was part of a NEH Grant that will culminate in a major exhibition and publication on “The Promise of Paradise: Mid-century Architecture & Urbanism in the Tropics,” on which Graham is an advisor. Graham also chaired the advisory board of the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training fall meeting held at Ellis Island and Federal Hall (NYC) in October and participated in the October Projects Directors’ Meeting of the Consortium for Urban Conservation in North America held in Quebec and Montreal.
- ◆ **Alachua Habitat for Humanity** – The student chapter of Associated General Contractors presented the Alachua Habitat for Humanity with a \$500 gift at their last meeting. AGC advisor, BCN professor Michael Cook, said this was the first time they had given to the Alachua Habitat for Humanity, but it was a natural extension of the club’s service mission.

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