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Dean's Message

Christopher Silver, Ph.D., FAICP



What a week this has been!

On Thursday, the Faculty Senate gave its blessing to our new School of Landscape Architecture and Planning, bringing to a close more than a year's effort to achieve the much desired merging of these two programs in a common venture. **Paul Zwick** has agreed to serve as its first director, working with chairs **Tina Gurucharri** and **Zhong-Ren Peng**, to create the well-oiled academic and professional machine we envision. A great job by all involved to prepare and present an impressive new vision for these programs.

That same evening, we had the chance to hear from two great professionals, **Heinz Tesar**, architect and professor from Vienna, Austria, and **David Lathrop**, representing the globally-engaged design firm, Steelcase. Lathrop wowed a packed house in the Harn with his company's vision of creating new work spaces. This capped a weeklong hands-on studio training project involving the third-year interior design students and managed by other Steelcase professionals.

Also, this week, Professor of Urban Planning, **Dr. Robert Freestone**, University of New South Wales, was presenting several lectures on planning, heritage conservation and urban design in Australia, under the sponsorship of the College, the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the Historic Preservation Program.

Events

URP Research Seminar Series Nov. 6

City manager
Russ Blackburn will be
the main speaker.
ARCH 411

Submit your upcoming
events to the [DCP
News](#) calendar.

It's "One Less Car" day on campus!



Thanks to everyone who participated!

The College of DCP is **29th out of 101** teams.

[It's not too late to sign up.](#)

The competition will last for the entire fall semester.

Announcements

Professor Gary W. Siebein was appointed as a technical expert to the **International Organization for Standardization (ISO) TC-43 Working Group**. Siebein will be the U.S. Representative to SC1 - Building Acoustics and SC2 at the ISO meeting in Seoul, Korea November 16 - 20, 2009.

Siebein also was appointed as a technical expert to develop revisions to ANSI S 12.60 **Classroom Acoustics Working Group**. The focus of the group is to provide recommendations to revise the standard on classroom

All week long, the third-year landscape architecture students were on field excursion, led by **Glenn Acomb** and **Kevin Thompson**, visiting firms and viewing projects in the Seattle and Portland, Ore., areas. Meanwhile, the BCN faculty put together final preparations for the site visit of the accreditation team that arrived on Saturday for a three-day, intensive assessment of that program.

Finally, on Monday morning in downtown Orlando, years of work that aimed at establishing a College presence in one of Florida's most dynamic cities, and where so many of our alums and friends practice, will come to an exciting conclusion. [Citylab-Orlando](#) officially [will open its door](#) with the University of Central Florida's [Center for Emerging Media](#), a stunning facility in downtown Orlando, with not only Mayor **Buddy Dyer** (a UF alum) and UCF Provost **Terry Hickey** recognizing our new partnership, but also **President Machen** joining in the celebration to endorse our endeavor.

To undertake and accomplish so much has drawn upon the talents and dedication of so many. I cannot stress enough how much I appreciate those qualities of our faculty, staff and students.

As one of the Steelcase executives mentioned when talking about their studio work with us, they regard our design programs as representing the cutting edge in the field. The vision that he shared for his internationally recognized firm offers the perfect template for us to use. Like Steelcase, we are moving all of our programs in the direction that will keep us out front, including expansion of the opportunities for our students to gain global experiences within their disciplines, reaching new audiences through application of new teaching technologies (especially web-based instruction) and continuing to strengthen our work in support of sustainability (another area where we remain out front). And even as we reinvent our teaching and work spaces, it is not unlike the processes that Steelcase shares with its clients.

Weeks like this are as uplifting as they are exhausting, and it is probably a good idea for us to catch our breath, kick back a bit. But there are other exciting and substantial efforts in the works that will, I hope, give us additional reasons to celebrate in the months ahead. But for now, what a week!!

acoustical design methods
and objectives.

Door/Window/Stair project: a rite of passage

Reminders

Oct. 23

UF Community Campaign
ends.

Oct. 30

[Deadline for
nominations](#) for the 2010
Superior Accomplishment
Awards.

Nov. 20

Deadline for nominations
for the DCP Teacher/
Advisor of the Year Award.



For over a decade, Design 3 students have taken their models that look something like miniature houses and stood in the atrium of the Architecture building, displaying their own projects and examining the work that had been their classmates' lives for the past week or two.

This annual congregation which has attained near mythic status is known as the Door/Window/Stair project; a chance for students to design parts of a structure without dealing with the complexity of designing a full building. It is a challenging project which often becomes a part of the student's pin-up or graduate school application.

[>>Read more](#)



[UF College of Design,
Construction and Planning](#)

Marty Hylton featured
on Herald Tribune
Web site



[>>Watch video](#)

Students participate in international research



Dr. Esther Obonyo of the Rinker School of Building Construction hosted a National Science Foundation U.S.-Tanzania workshop in collaboration with **Dr. Derreck Tate** of Texas Tech University and **Dr. Lakshmi Reddi** of the University of Central Florida.

A total of 45 delegates participated in this two-day event held at the Peacock Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on July 21-22.

View the workshop presentations [here](#).

Check out
the latest post
at the
College's blog



[Columns](#)



Dr. Esther Obonyo and **Dr. Robert Ries** mentored a group of five U.S. students in another National Science Foundation-supported program during the summer of 2009.

Among these were UF students **Ryan Clark** and **Jeff Depree**

New Faculty Breakfast



On Oct. 13, the college hosted a new faculty breakfast.

Dean Christopher Silver welcomed everyone to DCP. "We're bringing in new faculty who have been performing at the highest possible level," Silver said. "You are part of continuing to make us even better."

Associate Dean Margaret Carr echoed Dean Silver's sentiment: "The door is open for all of you to shape the future."

Building construction assistant professor **Jim Sullivan** shared with the group how in his work with the UF Solar Decathlon Team, he has seen the benefit to the students involved as they are exposed to other disciplines. "The education that they leave with is not only of personal value but of competitive value."

The students worked closely with **Dr. Zablon Oonge** and professors **Patts Odira** and **Gilbert Munga**, from the Civil and Construction Engineering Department of the University of Nairobi, to investigate the feasibility of using sand dams to address the water shortages in selected parts of East Africa.

The overarching theme of the program is "Engineering Sustainable Building Systems" and it is supported by NSF's Office of International Science and Engineering. To date, 11 students have participated in the program.

BCN students visit construction site



On Sept. 25, members of the Construction Management Association of America UF Student Chapter took a field trip to the Amway Orlando Events Center construction site, the future home of the Orlando Magic.

The BCN students were able to tour the site, view the architectural plans (which were two inches thick) and ask questions of the Hunt Construction personnel on hand.

Safety was one of the main concerns of the crew. Safety director **Bill Shooter** inspected every area before the student tour entered, ensuring that the area was free of potential hazards.

He explained to the students that he must lead by example and, as future project managers, they also must remember to follow that principle.

Student **Ashley Little** learned about the unique features that the arena will offer.

"Three different sports - hockey, basketball and football - will be able to be played here, and a chilled water system will be installed underneath the court to accommodate the ice hockey rink," Little said.

Michael Cook is the group's faculty adviser, and **Brando Fetzek**, president of the CMAA UF Chapter, helped organize the event.

UF's Shimberg Center releases new Web site

The Shimberg Center for Housing Studies recently announced the release of the updated [Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse Web site](#).

New information on the site includes:

- Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data regarding home purchase, home improvement and refinancing lending in Florida cities and counties.
- Data on manufactured housing parks and condominiums by county, including locations, number of units and information about condo conversions.
- Historical data on Florida's Assisted Housing Inventory through the Assisted Housing Inventory - Historical Information, 2004-2009 tool.
- Preliminary Construction and Sales property appraiser data for 2008 on units by age, type and valuation, plus full 2007 data on properties and sales prices.
- Updated housing supply and demand data for Florida cities and counties in the Profiles, Comparisons, GeoPortal, Population Projections, Household Demographic Data and Wages and Housing Costs tools.

Established at the University of Florida in 1988, the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies promotes safe, decent and affordable housing and related community development throughout Florida. The center conducts research, provides technical assistance and supplies information at all levels of Florida's affordable housing delivery system. The Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse, located within the Shimberg Center, provides public access to data on Florida's housing needs and supply, subsidized rental housing and

You are newsworthy!

Planned an exciting event? Been published? [Let us know](#) and we will feature you in an upcoming issue of **DCP News!**

The next issue will be distributed on Nov. 6. Submissions are due by **Oct. 30.**

household demographics.

For more information about the Clearinghouse data, e-mail fhdc-comments@shimberg.ufl.edu or phone 352-273-1192 or 800-259-5705.

News Tips

Please send news tips for the next issue to [Julie Frey](#) or [Allie Layos](#) by Oct. 30.

DCP News is published by the University of Florida College of Design, Construction and Planning. News and announcements contained in **DCP News** were submitted by DCP faculty and staff.

To make a submission, please contact [Allie Layos](#) or [Julie Frey](#).

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