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Discovery | Research

Professional Awards and Honors

The Virginia Tech LumenHAUS was selected by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) as one of nine recipients of the 2012 AIA Institute Honor Awards for Architecture. To our knowledge, this is the first time a university team has been given this national honor. The LumenHAUS team, led by A+D faculty members Robert Dunay, FAIA, Joe Wheeler, AIA, Robert Schubert, and Chip Clark, add this award to a long list of accolades, including winning first place in the Solar Decathlon Europe competition in the summer of 2010.

The LumenHAUS Team also received an Honor Award from the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects in Richmond, VA, Nov. 2011.

design/buildLAB, a 17-member team of third-year architecture students led by faculty members Keith and Marie Zawistowski, won a Merit Award from the Virginia Society of the American Institute of Architects for the design and construction of the new Farmers Market in Covington, Va.

Prof. Laurel McSherry has been named one of five Research Award winners in the 2011-12 William Turnbull Competition, sponsored by the California Architectural Foundation. The five projects submitted for the competition, dealing with “Drylands Design,” have been awarded research grants of $10,000 each from the Arid Lands Institute (ALI) at Woodbury University.

“Designing Empowerment,” led by Prof. Akshay Sharma, developed several projects that received international recognition: “IMMUNE,” a cell phone based vaccination solution, was named the winner of the 2012 Design for All Foundation Award; “laXmi,” a financial literacy system for illiterate women, was named a finalist in the 2012 World Design Impact Prize, sponsored by ICSID; both projects were recently selected as Bronze Award winners in the prestigious International Design Excellence Awards (IDEA) program from the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA).

Design Competitions

Clark, Chip and Tim Frank. First Prize. A Tensegrity Aviary. Modern Atlanta 10UP International Competition, Young Architects Forum, Atlanta AIA, Atlanta Beltline Inc.

Bork, Dean, David McGill, David Sample, Jordan Thomas, Joowon Im, Trent Mathais, and Julia Kim. Finalist, 2012 Virginia Low Impact Development Competition sponsored by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.


Zellner-Bassett, Paola. 1st Place Winner of the Charles Steger Design Competition for the design of “Time Stands Still,” an art/technology/innovation piece designed in collaboration with Professor Tom Martin, for the New Virginia Tech Research Center, in Arlington, VA.

University, College, and School Awards for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Achievement

Industrial Design Profs. Ron Kemnitzer and Ed Dorsa were part of an interdisciplinary team that received the University’s 2012 XCaliber Award for excellence as a group.
involved with technology-assisted teaching. Kemnitzer and Dorsa, along with Eloise Coupey, associate professor of marketing, Pamlin College of Business, Thomas Martin, associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, College of Engineering, and Lisa McNair, associate professor of engineering education, College of Engineering, received a grant from the National Science Foundation to establish the Interdisciplinary Product Development Studio, a team-based experience in pervasive computing, where smart devices blend seamlessly, both physically and cognitively, with the user’s environment.

Ron Kemnitzer received the 2012 College of Architecture & Urban Studies Career Achievement Award.

The College of Architecture and Urban Studies Creative Achievement Award went to Akshay Sharma.

The School of Architecture + Design Excellence in Scholarship Award went to Mehdi Setareh.

Helene Renard received the 2012 School of Architecture + Design Creative Achievement Award.

Terry Clements, Mintai Kim, and Akshay Sharma received Faculty Research Grants from the School of Architecture + Design in Fall 2011.

Hilary Bryon, Elizabeth Grant, and Frank Weiner received Faculty Research Grants from the School of Architecture + Design in Spring 2012.

Sponsored Research

In 2011-12, faculty members from the School of Architecture + Design authored grant proposals totaling $2,386,926 and were awarded $117,075 in new sponsored research funding. School of Architecture + Design faculty members were involved in the following sponsored research projects over the past year:

New Projects:


Ellis, Mike, Joe Wheeler, Robert Dunay and Larry Fenske. “Development of a Self-Sustainable Living Module for Small Expeditionary Forces (SLiM)” – Phase 1, U.S. Army, $199,389, 08/01/12 - 04/30/13 (Phase 2: $2,000,000 pending approval of Phase 1).


1 July 2012
Frank, Tim. BeltLine Aviary, AIA Atlanta, $6000

Frank, Tim. Adaptive Skin Prototyping, 3Form, $1000

Ishida, Aki. Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership Education Grant for design and installation of outdoor screen for the 2012 AIA Blue Ridge Award Ceremony, $2,000.


Weiner, Frank, with Profs. Koichiro Aitani and Hoshiko Hori, Kyushu University, Japan, to develop exchange program between Kyushu and VT, approx. $75,000.


Continuing Projects:


Jones, Jim and Elizabeth Grant. Center for High Performance Environments (CHPLE) Partnership Program, $42,850.00.

Katen, Brian, Mintai Kim, and Patrick Miller. “Cultural Landscape Analysis Hite-Whitman Farm, Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park,” National Park Service, $69,925.00, 10/1/10 – 3/30/12.

Miller, Patrick. “The Urban Land Institute/McNamara Internship Program,” The Urban Land Institute Foundation, $14,977.00.

Setareh, Mehdi, Nicholas Polys, Brett Jones, and Michael Ermann. “Integrating web-based visualization with structural system understanding to improve the technical education of architects,” National Science Foundation, $499,833.00, 8/15/08 – 8/31/13.

Tucker, Lisa. “Lesley Wheel Introductory Lighting Grant,” Nuckolls Lighting Fund, $20,000.00, 6/1/08 – 11/30/12.

Cennamo, Katherine, Mitzi Vernon, Carol Beth Brandt, and Margarita McGrath. “Investigating and refining the studio experience as a method for teaching human computer interaction,” National Science Foundation, $494,818.00, 8/1/07 – 7/31/12.

Other Design Research:

Setareh, Mehdi. Phase Two of Vibration Testing and Analysis of Virginia Tech campus buildings: Infectious Disease Research Facility, Visitors and Undergraduate Admissions Center, and Academic and Student Affairs Building.

Kemnitzer, Ron. Researched and compiled a study of visual trends research in the United States, and produced an illustrated, annotated report and audio/visual presentation for subscribers of the report, including: Sony/Japan, Pioneer Electronics, NEC Design, JVC Japan, Panasonic, Mitsubishi Electric, and Moen, Inc.

Faculty and PhD Student Publications

Books


Books Edited


Dayer, Carolina (PhD student, WAAC). Collaborative editor and Spanish translator of Alberto Pérez-Gómez’s book El Sueño de Polyfilo (The Dark Forest) (Forthcoming 2012).


Book Chapters


Magazine Articles


Research Papers in Refereed Journals


Setareh, M., Bacim, F., Jones, B. D., Polys, N. F., Geng, T., and Orsa, B. “Integrating Web-Based Visualization with Structural System Understanding to Improve the Technical Education of Architects”, *Computers in Education Journal*, accepted.


**Papers in Refereed Conference Proceedings**


Peer-reviewed Papers Presented at Conferences


Bassett, James, “The Contextual Mean” ACS Architecture, Culture, Spirituality Conference. Chichen Itza, Yucatan, Mexico. April 2012

Bryon, Hilary, "The Constructs of Parallel Projection in the 18th and 19th Centuries" Session: Drawing in the Design Professions, 1500 to 1900, Society of Architectural Historians 65th Annual Conference, Detroit, Michigan, April 18-22, 2012


Jaramillo, A (PhD student) and M. Ermann. “Linking HVAC type and student achievement,” Presented at the Acoustical Society of America meeting, Hong Kong, May 2012.


Mihalache, Andreea (PhD student, WAAC). “Is Architecture Space? On the Making of Rachel Whiteread’s Ghost,” SupraSpace: On the Concept of Space and Place in Art and Visual Culture, conference organized at The Yolanda and David Katz Faculty of Art, Art History Department, Tel Aviv University (Forthcoming: June 3-4, 2012).


Miller, P.A. “A City is a Tree: or at least tree like,” invited lecture Landscape Architecture Department, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea. October 22, 2011.


A+D Faculty Invited to Deliver Lectures Elsewhere


Bryon, Hilary, ”Projecting through Drawings: Parallel Projections in the 19th and 20th Centuries,” Department of Architecture, Izmir University of Economics, Izmir, Turkey, May 16, 2012.
Bryon, Hilary, "Projecting through Drawings: Parallel Projections in the 19th and 20th Centuries." Department of Architecture, Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey, May 17, 2012.

Dunay, Donna. “For the Future – What is an Archive?” International Union of Architects – University Innovations Center, Tokyo, Japan.


Frank, Tim. “Techniques toward a Time-Based Architecture,” Penn State University. Presenting beginning design techniques that lead to effective modes of performance modeling.


Piedmont-Palladino, Susan. Invited Lecture, “Cities, the Global and the Local,” TE2 Symposium, Catholic University

Renard, Helene. Closing Remarks at the exhibit "For the Future: Pioneering Women in Architecture from Japan and Beyond, UIFA (Int'l Union of Women Architects) Conference, Tokyo, Japan.


A+D Faculty Invited to Serve as Panelists/Moderators


Clements, Terry. Invited panel participant, Distressed Cities, Ridenour Faculty Fellowship Conference 2012. Organized by Prof. Joe Shilling, MURP.


Katen, Brian. Panel Member, “Perspectives on Representation as Generative Design Catalyst, the 2012 CELA Conference, March 2011 in Urbana Champaign, Illinois.


Rodríguez-Camilloni, Humberto. VCU’s 19th Annual Symposium on Architectural History and the Decorative Arts, “Traditions—III,” Department of Art History, The School of the Arts, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA, November 18, 2011.


Exhibitions

Cortes, Mario. “Watercolors,” XYZ gallery, Blacksburg, VA.

Dunay, Robert, Joe Wheeler, Chip Clark, Tim Frank, and Matt Wagner (Center for Design Research). 2012 International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF), The Urban Garden. “Innovative Building Skins, Industrialized Processes, and Responsive Architecture.” Virginia Tech was one of six international design schools selected to exhibit their work at the international design show at the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York City. The Virginia Tech exhibit was featured by ICFF, Wired Magazine, and Metropolis Magazine as one of the best exhibits at ICFF 2012.

Dunay, R., J. Wheeler, R. Schubert, and C. Clark. Lumenhaus exhibited on the grounds of the Farnsworth House, Plano, IL.


Frank, Tim. “Re-Pairing Terrain”: Art on the BeltLine, Atlanta BeltLine: Atlanta, Georgia. Exhibition of solar access installation commissioned by the BeltLine Partnership.

Frank, Tim. “Site Unseen,” Spruill Gallery: Atlanta, Georgia. Exhibition of recent work with Mack Scogin Merrill Elam Architects & BLDGS.

Frank, Tim. “Bottle-Play”: Dogwood Festival’s Eco-Village, Piedmont Park: Atlanta, Georgia. Exhibition of recycled bottle installation.


Vernon, Mitzi, Akshay Sharma, and Martha Sullivan. “inFORM: a language for form,” an exhibition designed and produced by the second-year industrial design studio, at the Virginia Tech Research Center - Arlington. The exhibition was also presented in the Lobby of Cowgill Hall, March 22-23, 2012.


Poster Presentations

Teaching | Learning

Program Rankings

Programs within the School of Architecture + Design have again been highly ranked in the 2012 DesignIntelligence rankings, the only survey of design education in the United States. Rankings are based on survey responses from 277 private practice organizations that were asked, “In your firm’s hiring experience in the past five years, which of the following schools are best preparing students for success in the profession?” In addition to the school rankings by professionals, deans and chairs from 111 academic programs participated in surveys, the data from which is presented separately from the practitioner rankings.

For 2012, Virginia Tech’s undergraduate Architecture program is ranked #3 in the nation, moving up from #4. The deans ranked the program #2, citing the program’s “design quality, preparation for professional practice, and collaboration with other majors.”

The undergraduate program in Interior Design is tied for #8 nationally. The deans ranked the program #3, citing its “faculty, comprehensive education, and collaborative teaching approach.”

The undergraduate Landscape Architecture program is ranked #13 in the nation, and the graduate program is tied for #12. The deans ranked the undergraduate program #4, citing its “excellent resources, good design program, and diversity of students.”

The deans’ survey ranked the undergraduate program in Industrial Design #2 in the nation, citing its “emphasis on human factors, comprehensive program, and quality of students.”

In addition, the 2012 Leadership Index of industry leaders in award-winning firms, two Virginia Tech alumni are featured: Jane Cady Wright (B.Arch., 1980) and Nicholas E. Vlattas (B.Arch., 1976), both of Hanbury Evans Wright Vlattas + Company.

For further information regarding the rankings, please see the DesignIntelligence website at http://www.di.net.

Program Accreditation

The Interior Design Program (BS.ITDS) was reviewed by a visiting team from the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) during the Fall semester, 2011. The program’s accreditation was renewed with a full accreditation term.

The Architecture Programs (B.Arch., M.Arch.) were reviewed by a visiting team from the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), March 9-14, 2012. The term(s) of continued accreditation will be decided at the July Board meeting of the NAAB.

National and International Faculty Awards

DesignIntelligence has listed the 25 “most admired” design educators from across the U.S., and included in this prestigious group are Prof. Robert Dunay, Director of the Center for Design Research and the T. A. Carter Professor of Architecture, and Prof. Scott Poole, Professor Emeritus and former Director of the School of Architecture + Design and now Dean of the College of Architecture and Design at the University of Tennessee.
University, College, and School Teaching Awards

Industrial Design Professor Mitzi Vernon has received the university’s highest teaching honor, the 2012 William E. Wine Award. The William E. Wine Achievement Awards were established in 1957 by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association in memory of William E. Wine, Class of 1904, who was a former rector of the board of visitors and alumni association president, to honor faculty with "a history of university teaching excellence."

Mitzi Vernon was also selected as VT’s Teacher of the Week in Sept. 2011 by the Center for Instructional Development and Educational Research.

Heinrich Schnoedt was awarded the University Certificate of Teaching Excellence for the College of Architecture and Urban Studies.

Greg Tew received a College of Architecture & Urban Studies Award for Excellence in Teaching.

The School of Architecture + Design J. Stoeckel Studio Teaching Excellence Award went to Prof. Mitzi Vernon.

School of Architecture + Design Lecture/Seminar Course Teaching Excellence Awards went to both Dean Bork and Scott Gartner.

The ITDS Award for Outstanding Faculty Contribution went to Lindy Balls-Huling.

Visiting Lecturers

Fall 2011:
"Architecture in Switzerland," Symposium, Oct. 11 & 12, 2011, organized by Prof. Markus Breitschmid:
   Emanuel Christ, Co-founding Principal of Christ & Gantenbein and Professor of Architecture, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Zürich
   Valentin Bearth, Co-founding Principal of Bearth & Deplazes and Professor and Dean, Academia di Architettura, Universita della Svizzera Italiana

Kirsten Ring Murray, Principal, Olson Kundig Architects, Oct. 13, 2011
Matthias Kam, Assistant Professor, Human-Computer Interaction Institute, Carnegie-Mellon University, Oct. 26, 2011
Cathi and Steven House, VT Architecture Alumni, Nov. 15, 2011

Spring 2012:
Ufuk Ersoy, Feb. 2, 2012
Juhani Pallasmaa, Architect, Teacher, and Author, Feb. 7-8, 2012
Peter Gluck, Architect, Feb. 15, 2012
Marc Gee (VT B.Arch. ’97), Principal, Peter Gluck and Partners, Feb. 16, 2012
Charles "Chuck" Harrison, Industrial Designer, Chicago, IL, Feb. 22, 2012
Omar Bailey, Designer, Feb. 29, 2012
Dr. David Leatherbarrow, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Mar. 28, 2012
Ted Landsmark, President, Boston Architectural College, Apr. 3, 2012
Kai-Uwe Bergmann, Bjarke Ingels Group (BIG), Apr. 4, 2012 (Blue Ridge AIA Lecture)
Fran Silvestre, Architect, Valencia, Spain, Apr. 5, 2012
Blaine Merker, Rebar Art & Design Studio, Apr. 11, 2012
Jon Taylor, KEM Studio, Apr. 12, 2012
Student Enrollment - Fall 2011

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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Graduate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
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<td>167</td>
<td>701</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interior Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscape Architecture, undergraduate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landscape Architecture, graduate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total, School of Architecture + Design</td>
<td>31</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Awards in International, National, and Regional Competitions

Two Interior Design students received top honors in the annual student design competition sponsored by the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). Hannah Chessman was awarded first place in the 2012 ASID Student Design Competition, and Jennifer Boyd received an honorable mention. This is the third year in a row that a Virginia Tech Interior Design student has won one of the two national competitions for students of interior design.

Keith Stricker (B.Arch. ‘11) has received an Undergraduate Award for Excellence in Design from the Maryland Society of the American Institute of Architects (AIAMD) in the fifth annual 2011 AIA Maryland Student Design Awards Competition. Strickler’s entry, “A Community Composed of Urban Spaces,” was judged by distinguished members of AIA Louisiana: Steve Dumez, FAIA, Judith Kinnard, FAIA, Kevin Morris, AI.A, and Trula Remson, AIA. Strickler’s faculty sponsor was Prof. Michael Ermann.

Industrial Design student Patrick Bowers was named a finalist in the 2012 iF (International Forum) Design Awards competition. His “Pushup Center” design placed in the top 368 designs out of 15,000 entries.

Sandra Nam, MLA ‘11, was selected as a 2012 University Olmsted Scholar by the Landscape Architecture Foundation, based on her thesis work. Sandra studied in the Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) program at the Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center (WAAC).

In the Virginia Educational Facility Planners competition, 3rd year architecture student José Laso was awarded first place and Jacob Combee was awarded second place. Dean Asplundh and Margaret Osial received honorable mentions. Profs. Mario Cortes and Elizabeth Grant were the faculty advisors for these students.

Reid Schlegel (IDS, 2012) has been selected as the Student Merit Award winner for the Southern District of the Industrial Designers Society of America (IDSA). As a result, he will now go to the National IDSA Conference to present his work.

Swiss toy maker Naef Spiele AG hosted its third toy design competition in conjunction with the School of Architecture + Design, Jan. 18 – March 20, 2012. The competition jury, comprised of Hans-Peter Engeler, CEO of Naef Spiele AG, Heiko Hillig, Naef Toy Designer, Jeffrey Ryan, Project Manager and Sales, Naef USA, and A+D faculty members Robert Dunay, Dave Dugas, and Erin Putilak, selected the following winners from approx. 200 entries:

- First Place - Chelsey Pon and Bailey Tarren
- Second Place - Negar Kalantar
- Third Place - Julia Vasquez
- Honorable Mentions - Bryce Beckwith, Andrew Cridlin, Kelsey McLean, Josh Schiemann, James Wood
In the 2012 statewide Virginia Society AIA Prize Student Design Competition, Virginia Tech students received the following awards:

Best of School, Blacksburg, John Jennings
Best of School, WAAC, Ningning Shang
Honorable Mention, Creativity, Zack Saunders, Blacksburg
Notable, “Stanley Kubrick Award”, Chris Yetka, Blacksburg

Sponsored Studios 2011-2012

SFCS Sponsored Studio on Senior Living: Sherertz Franklin Crawford Shaffner (SFCS) is a full-service architectural, engineering, planning and interior design firm with offices in Roanoke, VA and Charlotte, NC with specialized experience in Senior Living, Higher Education and Civic and Public Buildings. In the Spring of 2012, in honor of VT alumnus and former SFCS Partner Rudy Jennings, SFCS partnered with thirty-three, 3rd-year Industrial Design students (IDS 3016 Industrial Design Studio) under the direction of Profs. Ed Dorsa and Ron Kemnitzer. Eleven teams of students presented their research work at the ‘By Design’ Conference hosted by SFCS at the Hotel Roanoke. Staff and principals from SFCS visited VT on three occasions to participate in project reviews. One team was selected to receive the SFCS Senior Living Studio Award ($1000 for the team: Patrick Bowers, Daniel Colby, and Mary Kathryn Suttle) and one team was selected as Honorable Mention ($400 for the team: Issac Kim, Hanna Tsuhara, and Daniel Wainless).

Interior Design sponsored studios included the Mark Boone Sponsored Studio, in which students designed apartments in a high-rise building in New York City; the Joe Rogers and Associates Sponsored Studio, in which students designed a spa in Montana; the Kimball Office Sponsored Studio, where the goal was to create a contemporary workplace for a media arts group demonstrating innovative applications for Kimball Office furniture; the Haworth Sponsored Studio, in which the intent was to incorporate Haworth’s furniture systems into a design for a charity of the student’s choice; the Inscape Sponsored Studio, where, with additional sponsorship from Healthways, Inc., students designed a healthy office environment; the Intec Group Sponsored Studio for 2nd year students; and the DIRTT Sponsored Studio, in which students employed innovative wall and floor solutions in their projects. The Steelcase Prize was awarded to graduating seniors Hannah Chessman and Denise Pendleton for design excellence, service, and leadership.

Concept Planning for the Columbia Pike Center and Site: Arlington County, by successful negotiation with Washington Headquarters Service on a land swap relating to the Navy Annex would result in Arlington gaining a 4.5 acre site along Columbia Pike west of the Air Force Memorial. Arlington Economic Development AED pursued a concept plan for the redevelopment of the Navy Annex site that would include a visitor center and interpretation space for the Pentagon Memorial Foundation, an interpretation space for the Arlington Heritage Center, and meeting space and parking facilities to serve all three user groups. This would create a transit-served visitor attraction while allowing additional functionality of the existing sites of the Air Force Memorial and the Pentagon Memorial. Arlington Economic Development proposed to engage the Virginia Tech’s Washington Alexandria Architecture Center (WAAC) in a studio project to investigate design options for the integrated visitor attraction described above. The students were given some summary program information and interacted with a "client" groups that included a representative of each of the interested parties. AED's previous experience with a similar project with the architecture students yielded some exciting design options that may lead to further development as the project proceeds. A group of upper-level Architecture and Landscape Architecture students proposed and presented to Arlington County and its "client group" hypothetical and academic solutions for the visitor center and interpretation center. Project outreach grant amount: $19,720. A publication of the work is in process.
Special Studio Opportunities

**design/build LAB:** Over the 2011-12 academic year, Keith and Marie Zawistowski led a 3rd-year undergraduate architecture studio in a design/build project to develop a schematic design for an amphitheater structure and park for Clifton Forge, VA, produce construction drawings, pre-fabricate the building components for the structure, and assemble them on the site. The project was funded by in-kind material donations and a grant from the Alleghany Foundation.

**KEM Studio:** The KEM collaborative studio took place during spring break, March 4-10, 2012. Architecture, Industrial Design, Interior Design, Graphic Design, and Landscape Architecture students all worked together in Kansas City, MO, on collaborative projects.

Off-Campus Educational Opportunities

The 2011 College of Architecture and Urban Studies Interdisciplinary Education Abroad Summer Program occurred from May 16 through June 22, 2011, led by A+D faculty members Terry Clements and Mintai Kim. 15 students participated.

The 2011 ITDS/IDS Summer Travel Abroad Program occurred from May 19 through June 8, 2011, led by Profs. Greg Tew and Ron Kemnitzer. 26 students participated.

The 2011 Europe Study Abroad Fall Travel Program was organized in four segments: Munich, Salzburg, Vienna, Prague, Sept. 1 - 10, directed by Profs. Hans Rott and Elizabeth Grant; Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Paris, Sept. 11 - 25, directed by Profs. Heinrich Schneodt and Jim Jones; Independent Travel, Sept. 26 – Oct. 6; Seville, Granada, Valencia, Barcelona, Avignon, Oct. 7 - 20, directed by Profs. Sal Choudhury and Steve Thompson; Como, Verona, Venice, Florence, Siena, Rome, Oct. 21 – Nov. 9, directed by Profs. Gene Egger and Mario Cortes. In addition to a major exhibition of their findings, students were required to construct a 6 pages with an essay on a selected topic supported by their own on-site sketches and photographs.

The Fall 2011 Europe Study Abroad Residency Program at the Center for European Studies and Architecture (CESA) in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, was led by Prof. Frank Weiner. 18 students participated in the semester-long program, which included lecture classes, design studio, and travel segments.

The Spring 2012 Europe Study Abroad Residency Program at the Center for European Studies and Architecture (CESA) in Riva San Vitale, Switzerland, was led by Prof. Paola Zellner-Bassett. 17 students participated in the semester-long program, which included lecture classes, design studio, and travel segments.

The reformulated Chicago Studio was again offered in 2011-12 as semester-long programs over the full academic year under the direction of Visiting Instructor Andrew Balster. Under the new format, each semester will be comprised of a 10-week studio project followed by a 5-week internship in a professional architecture office. Sixteen students participated in the program during the fall semester (2011), and sixteen students participated in the spring (2012). Participating firms included Skidmore Owings and Merrill (SOM), Perkins + Will, GREC, Von Weise Associates, and Cannon Design.

"The Majesty and Mystery of Peru," Study Tour for Virginia Tech CAUS Alumni, Faculty, Students and Friends in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Machu Picchu by Hiram Bingham, held between July 18-July 31, 2011, organized and led by Prof. Humberto Rodríguez-Camilloni. Tour included major cities of Lima, Arequipa, and Cuzco and Inca archaeological sites Sacsahuamán, Tambo Machay, Tipón, Pisac, Ollantaytambo, Machu Picchu, and others.
**Exchange Programs:** During the fall semester of 2011 nine undergraduate Architecture students participated in bi-lateral and other exchange programs. During the spring semester of 2012 seven undergraduate Architecture students participated in bi-lateral and other exchange programs. Study locations included Denmark, Finland, Great Britain, and Switzerland.

**Field Trips**

**Charlotte, NC** – On April 4, 2012, all first-year students in the School (approx. 175) traveled to Charlotte and, led by the Foundation program faculty, toured various parts of the city and visited three museums: the Gantt Center for African American Arts and Culture, the Mint Museum, and the Bechtler Museum. The trip was organized by Prof. **Kathryn Albright**, Chair, Foundation Program.

**Bryson City, NC** – Third-year students in **Jim Bassett**’s design lab (ARCH 3015) traveled to Bryson City and the surrounding landscape to study the relationship between architecture and the artificial/recreational landscape developing around and upholding the ostensibly natural (Fall 2011).

**Cincinnati, OH** – Third-year students in **Jim Bassett**’s design lab (ARCH 3016) traveled to Cincinnati to explore architecture at the scale of city, campus, and urban site (Spring 2012).

**New York, NY** – Fourth-year students in the design lab (ARCH 4015) co-taught by **Margarita McGrath** and **Wendy Jacobson** visited New York, Sept. 15-17, 2011.

**Washington, DC** – Students in Prof. **Bert Rodriguez**’s seminar (ARCH 4214/5134) traveled to Washington, DC to visit the Textile Museum and Dumbarton Oaks to view the Pre-Columbian collection, Sept. 16-17, 2011.

**Charlottesville** and **Forest, VA** – Students in Prof. **Bert Rodriguez**’s seminar (ARCH 4214/5134) traveled to Charlottesville and Forest to visit Thomas Jefferson’s residences at Monticello and Poplar Forest, Nov. 5, 2011.

**Philadelphia, PA** – Students in Prof. **Bert Rodriguez**’s seminar (ARCH 4214/5134) traveled to Pennsylvania to visit Louis Kahn’s Alfred Newton Richards Medical Center in Philadelphia, the Eleanor Donnelly Erdman Dormitory at Bryn Mawr College, and the Fisher House in Hatboro, March 22-23, 2012.

**Bear Run, PA** – Students in Prof. **Bert Rodriguez**’s seminar (ARCH 4214/5134) traveled to Mill Run, PA to visit Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater House and to Chalk Hill to visit Kentuck Knob, April 5-6, 2012.

**Washington, DC** and **Richmond, VA** – Students in **Lindy Balls-Huling**’s Contemporary ITDS Practice course (ITDS 4554) traveled to Washington, DC and Richmond to engage with design professionals and to visit built projects (Spring 2012).

**New York, NY** – Students in **Paul Kelsch**’s Landscape Architecture History course (LAR 5334) traveled to New York to visit Central Park and Prospect Park, April 2012.

**Pre-Professional Educational Experiences**

The professional **Extern Program** offers the opportunity for 4th-year undergraduate architecture students to receive 12 credits of academic credit while employed in an
architectural office for one semester. Three students participated in the program during the 2011-12 academic year. The Extern program is directed by Prof. Heiner Schnoedt.

**inside Architecture + Design** is a week-long summer experience for high school students who are curious about the world of design. The School of Architecture + Design offered its eleventh summer workshop for high school students, June 27 through July 1, 2011. Professors Robert and Donna Dunay led a group of 100 high school students through an in-depth experience regarding architectural education, the world of design, and campus life. The quality of the program is validated by demand, as applications have significantly increased. This year, inside Architecture + Design will be held from July 9 through July 13, 2012.

**Grants to Support Educational Mission**

Albright, Kathryn. Virginia Tech Quality Enhancement Program **First Year Experience Grant**, $12,500.

Albright, Kathryn. Virginia Tech **Summer Academy Grant**, $15,000.

Vernon, Mitzi, Akshay Sharma, and Martha Sullivan. CIDER Instructional Enhancement Grant, "Exhibit, Catalog, and Essay: A Scholarship of Form." $1,000.

**Events Organized to Provide Employment Opportunities for Students**

On Feb. 27, 2012, the School of Architecture + Design hosted its sixth **Career Day**, held at The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center on the Virginia Tech main campus in Blacksburg, VA. Thirty-two firms participated in the one-day event, interviewing students for internships as well as permanent employment.
Engagement | Outreach | Service

University, College, and School Awards for Outreach and Service

Industrial Design Assistant Professor Akshay Sharma received the 2012 Alumni Award for Excellence in International Outreach. Sponsored by the Virginia Tech Alumni Association, the Alumni Award for Excellence in International Outreach is presented annually to a faculty or staff member who has had a significant impact on international outreach at Virginia Tech. Sharma’s international outreach work, Designing Empowerment, employs design as a powerful way to creatively address some of the most critical issues being faced by societies around the world, especially for those below the poverty level.

Terry Clements, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, was featured as VT’s Engaged Scholar for January 2012 for her work with local community projects, organizing study abroad programs, professional and university service.

Akshay Sharma received the University Award for Excellence in Outreach from the College of Architecture & Urban Studies.

The College of Architecture & Urban Studies Excellence in Outreach Award went to Keith and Marie Zawistowski.

The School of Architecture + Design Excellence in Outreach Award went to Kathryn Albright.

The Leonard and Virginia Currie Faculty Professional Development Award went to Chip Clark.

The Ut Prosim Exemplary Service Award went to James Ritter, FAIA.

The School of Architecture + Design Excellence in Staff Service Award went to Teresa Phipps.

The following faculty and staff members were honored for their length of service to Virginia Tech:

25 years of service: Patrick Miller and Dave Dugas

20 years of service: Wendy Jacobson, Susan Piedmont-Palladino, Mark Schneider, Heinrich Schnoedt, and Steven Thompson

15 years of service: Marcia Feuerstein, Lenora Stover

10 years of service: Kay Edge, Michael Ermann, and Margarita McGrath

National and Regional Outreach/Service Awards

Bork, Dean. President’s Volunteer Service Award from the President’s Council of Service and Civic Participation, based on annual hours of community service, Fall 2011.

Emmons, Paul. Outstanding Citizen Service Award, City of Falls Church, Virginia.

Tucker, Lisa. 2012 Recognition of Service Award for contribution to the Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC).
Tucker, Lisa. 2011 Recognition of Service Award for Contributions to ASID as the Virginia Chapter Past President, Nominating Chair and Student Task Force Chair.

International Engagement

Designing Empowerment (www.id4learning.com), led by Assistant Professor of Industrial Design Akshay Sharma, is an international outreach project directed toward economic development in India, focused on opportunities where design can play a more substantial role in improving the lives of those living at bottom of the pyramid.

Ermann, Michael. Ugandan Schools, Pro-bono Acoustics Consulting. Wrote a classroom acoustics report for Building Tomorrow, an organization that builds African schools. Acoustics was identified as the most common complaint in their existing schools, July 2011.

Fenske, Larry. Bottom of the Pyramid – Laos Edition: School project in the village of Nong Sai, Laos. Visit to Laos with fifth-year Architecture student Tray Strawhorn during the semester break (December 22 – January 16) to meet with residents of rural villages, and students and school officials Luang Prabang Province regarding possibilities for a collaborative project to design new school, furniture and surrounding area for the village of Nong Sai, investigating the proposed school site, local construction methods and available resources.

Rebuilding Haiti: Prof. Hans Rott and Prof. Christine Fiori (Building Construction), along with an interdisciplinary team of students from architecture, construction, civil engineering, business, and biological systems engineering, traveled to Haiti over Spring Break (March 4-10, 2012) to work on construction of a primary school in Pignon, Haiti.

In the summer of 2011, International Architecture and Design (IAD) was offered for the 15th year. Principals and senior level architects from HEWV in Norfolk, as well as four principals from two other firms, traveled with A+D faculty to Helsinki, Finland for an in-depth look at the work of Alvar Aalto. The role of design and its place in Finnish culture was explored through site visits and meetings with architects and design corporations. Participants received 34 AIA learning units. Prof. Robert Dunay, FAIA, and Prof. and Dean Jack Davis, FAIA, conceived, organized, and led the program.

National and Regional Service to the Professions

Bork, Dean. Chair, LAAB Visiting Team, BLA, Ball State University, March 2012.

Bork, Dean. Member, Virginia Stormwater Best Management Practices Clearinghouse Committee

Bork, Dean and Brian Katen. Accreditation Report Review and Team visit preparation, MLA Program, University of Tennessee, spring 2012.

Clements, Terry. President. Council of Educators of Landscape Architecture (CELA), Spring 2011 - Spring 2012. Member of the Council of Presidents: organization including five landscape architecture organizations in North America; Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Advisory Committee; Annual Conference Track Chair, Design Education and Pedagogy, responsible for coordinating peer review of abstracts and session design for 2012 conference held at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Clements, Terry. ASLA representative to the International Federation of Landscape Architects World Council and to the Americas Region Meeting.
Clements, Terry. Accreditation Review Team, chair and academic member. Review of graduate program at the University of Minnesota, spring 2012

Dorsa, Ed. Chaired an Accreditation visit to the Industrial Design Program at Purdue University, March 17 – 20, 2012.

Dunay, Donna. National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB) Focused Review and Report, Woodbury University, CA


Emmons, Paul. McGill University PhD Program, sole external reviewer invited by Alberto Pérez-Gómez (Montreal, Canada), Fall, 2012.

Fenske, Larry. Faculty Advisor for Virginia Tech Design for America Chapter - Assisted in establishing a Virginia Tech chapter of *Design for America*, a student led campus group involving collaboration across campus to creatively address local issues.


Kelsch, Paul. Member, Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS) Subcommittee, American Society of Landscape Architects.

Kelsch, Paul. Member-at-large and Liaison to the Historic American Landscape Survey (HALS), Potomac Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects.


Kemnitzer, Ron. Served as Co-Master of Ceremonies at the 11th Brunel Awards Competition Ceremony, March, 2012, Washington, DC.

Kim, Mintai. CELA Awards Committee, Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture.


Piedmont-Palladino, Susan. At-large Member, National Academy of Environmental Design (NAED).

Setareh, Mehdi. “Structural Technology for Interns and Practicing Architects,” a series of seminars delivered during October 2011 at Virginia Tech’s Washington-Alexandria Architecture Center. These seminars provide continuing education for the practicing architects in addition to helping intern architects to prepare for the Architecture Registration Exam.

Setareh, Mehdi. Member of the American Institute of Steel Construction, Education Committee of Architectural Engineering Institute, American Society of Engineering Education, American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Society of the Experimental Mechanics.
Setareh, Mehdi. Member of the advisory committee for the 2012 International Conference on Civil, Offshore, and Environmental Engineering (ICCOEE2012)

Sharma, Akshay. Chair, Design for the Majority Section, IDSA

Sharma, Akshay. Member, Organizing Committee, IDSA International Conference


Tucker, Lisa. Member, National Practicum Design Committee, Student Task Force Chair, and leadership group for STEP Program, American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). STEP is a preparatory program to assist people in the US and Canada in preparing for the NCDIQ examination.

Tucker, Lisa. Site Visitor Training; Evaluation Committee Member, Team Chair and Site Visitor, Mount Royal College, Fall 2011; Evaluation Team Member for Program Reviews: California State University (Feb 2012) and Mississippi College (Feb 2012). Council for Interior Design Education (CIDA).

Tucker, Lisa. Interior Design Program Consultant for accreditation preparation to the New York School of Interior Design, NY, NY (January 2012), MFA and BFA programs, the University of New Haven, New Haven, CT (May 2011), and the College of Mount Saint Joseph, Cincinnati, OH (November 2009).

Wheeler, Joe. Board Member of the Blue Ridge Chapter, AIA

Vernon, Mitzi. Panel Member, National Science Foundation Panel Review, Arlington, Virginia.

A+D Faculty Invited as Studio Reviewers Elsewhere


Bassett, James. December 2011 Invited Reviewer, University of Virginia, Undergraduate Final Reviews.

Bryon, Hilary, University of Colorado-Denver, May 3-4, 2012. Invited by Department of Architecture Chair, Taisto Mäkelä, for the second year in a row to participate as a Visiting Critic in their graduate and undergraduate studio juries.

Bryon, Hilary. University of Maryland, April 30, 2012. Invited by Hooman Koliji, assistant professor, to participate in the review graduate student work.

Bryon, Hilary. Cornell University, December 6, 2012. Invited by Shayne O'Neil, associate visiting professor and Erik Stenberg, head of architecture at KTH, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, to review the work of their graduate Stockholm Studio.

Bryon, Hilary and Heinrich Schnoedt. Mediating Drawing Workshop for third and fourth year architecture students, Department of Architecture, Izmir Institute of Technology, Izmir, Turkey, May 18, 2012.
Clark, Chip. *Ceramics 2.0* - Smartgeometries 2012 Cluster Champion, Troy, NY.

Emmons, Paul. Invited critic, Juhani Pallasmaa Studio, Catholic University, Fall 2011.

Emmons, Paul. Invited critic, Marywood University.

Emmons, Paul. Invited critic, University of Maryland.

Wheeler, Joe and Clark, Chip. Reviewer for Universities participating in future Solar Decathlon Competitions: Catholic University, New Mexico University, University of Southern California, Norwich University.


Zellner-Bassett, Paola. Invited guest reviewer of student exhibition “The Order of Things” by MA students in Museum Studies and MA students in Art Museum and Gallery Studies, School of Museum Studies, University of Leicester, UK, March 2012.

Zellner-Bassett, Paola. Invited guest reviewer, North Carolina State University, Graduate Final Reviews, December 2011.

Zellner-Bassett, Paola. Invited guest reviewer, University of Michigan, Undergraduate Final Reviews, December 2011.

A+D Faculty Invited to Serve as Competition Jurors


Dorsa, Ed. Served as a juror for the Industrial Design Excellence Awards, sponsored by IDSA, Target Stores and Fast Company Magazine. (This is the premier ID award in the United States and one of the major awards internationally, with entries from the North and South America, Europe and Asia.)


Kemnitzer, Ron. Served as jury chair for the 11th Brunel International Awards Competition, an international competition recognizing excellence in design of rail transportation projects, October, 2011.

Piedmont-Palladino, Susan. Juror, Annual AIA Design Awards, Dallas Chapter, AIA.
Membership on Local and Regional Boards and Advisory Committees

Kathryn Albright served as Treasurer and Board member of the Friends of the Farmers’ Market, Blacksburg, VA.

Clements, Terry. Member, Capital Square Preservation Council, appointed to three-year term by the Governor.

Clements, Terry. Member, Virginia Outdoor Plan 2012 Technical Advisory Committee, appointed by the Secretary of Natural Resources to assist in review and development of resources sections.

Dunay, Donna. Arts and Cultural District Committee, Town of Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dunay, Donna. Townscape Committee, Town of Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dunay, Donna. Sixteen Squares ad hoc Study Committee, Town of Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dunay, Donna. Downtown Revitalization Committee, Town of Blacksburg, Virginia.

Feuerstein, Marcia. Member, Board of Directors, Laba-Bartinieff Institute of Movement Studies.

Miller, Patrick. Board Member, Friends of the Farmer’s Market, Blacksburg, VA.

Miller, Patrick. Townscape Committee, Town of Blacksburg, Virginia.

Miller, Patrick. Member, Viewshed Committee, Scenic Virginia.

Miller, Patrick. Member, Advisory Committee, Roanoke Regional Preservation Office.


Piedmont-Palladino, Susan. Board member, Green Hive Foundation, Los Angeles, CA.

Piedmont-Palladino, Susan. Member, Sheridan-Kalorama Historic Association.

Schubert, Robert (chair) and Bert Rodriguez. Served on the Advisory Committee for the restoration of Richard Neutra’s Rice House in Richmond, VA.

Sullivan, Martha. Member of the Education Committee for the Jacksonville Center for the Arts, a non-profit community arts organization in Floyd, Virginia.

Tew, Greg. Environmental Quality and Land Use Committee Member, Town of Blacksburg, Virginia.


Regional Community Service/Engagement

Hilary Bryon. Blacksburg Bikeway Master Plan, January 2012 - Working with rising fifth year student Kelly Penick to provide renderings of proposed bikeway improvements for Priscilla Cygielnik, Assistant Director of Management for the Public Works Department of Blacksburg.

Clements, Terry. Faculty Coordinator, Three Community Workshops for development of Conceptual Site Design plans for Norris Garden, a contemplative garden in support of the Hokie Spirit Trail and April 16th Memorial.

Ermann, Michael. Southwest Virginia Visitors’ Center. Working with CDAC, LEED consulting, design for recreation rest stop.

Frank, Tim. Montessori Outreach Project, Tall Oaks Montessori School. Recycling program with installation comprised of post-consumer content.

Grant, Elizabeth. Luther Memorial Lutheran Church in Blacksburg. Comprehensive health, safety, and energy audit of the church’s two buildings. The audit was conducted pro bono by the New River Center for Energy Research and Training, and initial findings were presented at a meeting at the church on April 29, 2012.


Jones, Jim. Design research for a new Sustainability Center in cooperation with Hanover County Schools, VA, assistance in the design of a new “Sustainability Center” as a resource to their curriculum and development of curricula that directly interact with the proposed center


Miller, Patrick, Wendy Jacobson, James Bassett, Erin Putalik, and Elizabeth Gilboy, Community Design Assistance Center (CDAC), Charrette for Marion, Virginia 9/11 Twin Tower Beam Memorial, 6 inter-disciplinary teams of 3 undergraduate students each (one each 2nd and 3rd year Architecture, and one 3rd year Landscape Architecture) in a design charrette and presentation to the town of Marion, Virginia of six proposals for the incorporation of a beam fragment from the World Trade Center towers destroyed on September, 11th, 2001 in a memorial to be constructed in Marion, VA.

Pittman, Hunter. “Winston-Salem Studio,” Spring semester 2012. Architecture & Urbanism Lab designed projects and studied the proposed Theater District in downtown Winston-Salem, NC in cooperation with the Winston Salem Arts Council and Walter Robbs Callahan, Pierce Architects with sponsorship also provided by the Winston-Salem Downtown Partnership, AIA Winston-Salem, and the VT Alumni Association, Triad NC.

Outreach Publications


**Ermann, Michael.** *Chesapeake Bay Foundation Design Competition.* Published book of competition winners' work.

**Reports for Professional Groups**

**Clements, Terry** et al. CELA Executive Committee white paper “Response to the ASLA Task Force on Accreditation and Reciprocity Report” (BOT 2011 Annual Meeting Agenda Item #12). October 25, 2011.

**Clements, Terry** et al. CELA Executive Committee white paper, CELA does not support the ASLA recommendation to change the charge of the LAAB, spring 2012.


**Outreach Presentations**

**Grant, Elizabeth.** Presentation: “Green Roofs are Growing in Blacksburg,” Blacksburg Sustainability Week, September 24, 2011.

**Rott, Hans.** Lecture to Honors Program at Radford University: “Commonalities and Diversities of Western European Culinaria.”


**Outreach Exhibitions**

**Dunay, Donna, Helene Renard, and Kay Edge.** *For the Future: Pioneering Women in Architecture from Japan and Beyond In Celebration of 25 years of the IAWA.* Exhibition in conjunction with UIFA Japan, at the Architectural Institute of Japan (AIJ), Tokyo. The exhibition was then mounted at the 24th World Congress of Architecture, 2011 UIA (International Union of Architects) at the Tokyo Forum. *For the Future* was mounted at two additional Tokyo galleries. *For the Future* is projected to be a worldwide traveling exhibition. Future venues: Seoul, Korea, Mongolia, Moscow, Yale University.

Contributions to Diversity

The School of Architecture + Design continues to participate in the Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP), during the summer, as well as during the academic year.

Marcia Feuerstein served as a faculty advisor for the McNair Scholars program.

The School continued to provide support for the Virginia Tech Chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS).

The International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA) is a center within the School of Architecture + Design. The mission of the IAWA is to document the history of women’s involvement in architecture, interior and industrial design, landscape architecture, urban design and planning, architectural history and criticism, and the records of women’s professional organizations. Prof. Donna Dunay, serves as Chair of the IAWA Board of Directors and Director of the IAWA Center; Prof. Helene Renard serves as Secretary and Editor of the IAWA Newsletter, and Prof. Kay Edge serves as Treasurer. Other Board of Advisors members: Kathryn Anthony, University of Illinios-Champaign Urbana; KC Arceneaux, Research Consultant, Blacksburg, VA; Solange D’Herbez de la Tour, Paris, France; Jack Davis, Virginia Tech; Kristine Fallon, Chicago, Il; Ellen Fisher, New York School of Interior Design, NYC; William Galloway, Virginia Tech; Lois Gottlieb, San Francisco, CA; Yael Kinsky, Israel; Junko Matsukawa-Tsuchida, Tokyo, Japan; Barbara Nadel, NY, NY; O. Sarantsatrul, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; Lisa Tucker, Virginia Tech; Tyler Walters, Virginia Tech. The First Milka Bliznakov Research Prize was offered this year by the IAWA. Lindsay Nencheck was selected as the prize recipient. She researched material in the IAWA and offered “Organizing Voices: Examining the 1974 Women in Architecture Symposium, Washington University.”

Ed Dorsa, Chair, Industrial Design Program, organized a Black History Month mini-seminar, with lectures and studio discussion by Chuck Harrison (Feb. 22) and Omar Bailey (Feb. 29) with support from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at Virginia Tech, the CAUS Diversity Committee, and the College of Engineering Diversity Committee.

Jim Bassett served as a faculty mentor for Mykayla Fernandes for the Class of 1954 University Honors Scholarship.

Jim Bassett served as an Honors Program mentor for Angela Serna-Geitz for the Austin Michelle Cloyd Honors Scholarship to Promote Social Justice. Helene Renard served as an Honors Program Mentor for Barbara Dior Kane, Honors first-year Architecture student, to assist in preparation of the dossier required to apply for the Cloyd Scholarship.

Diversity-related Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activities:

Jaan Holt managed the international design competition for the Martin Luther King Memorial in Washington, DC.

Katen, Brian. Research on African American landscapes and recreation sites throughout the State. Planning with the Special Collections staff of the Newman Library to establish an online searchable database of African American landscape sites in Virginia.

McGrath, Margarita. feminist practices. Traveling exhibit that resulted in a published book.