Exhibits
Rotating exhibits of Department of Architecture student and faculty work will be taking place throughout the fall semester in Vol Walker Hall. Contact Chuck Rotolo at 479/575-4903 or Pia Sarpeneva at 479/575-6498 for further information.

Save the Date
September 28 – 29
Dean’s Circle Meeting
Contact: Karen Star
479/575-2702
kstair@uark.edu

October 5
ASLA Annual Meeting
Alumni Gathering
San Francisco, Calif.
Contact: Darla Granthan
479/575-4907
dgranthan@uark.edu

October 18 – 19
Advisory Board Meeting
Contact: Karen Star
479/575-2702
kstair@uark.edu

October 24 – 27
AIA State Convention
Rogers, Ark.
Contact: AIA Arkansas
501/441-1111
aiaarkansas@bellsouth.net

October 8
Adam Gross
Ayers Saint Gross, Baltimore

October 15
Michel Rojkind
Rojkind Arquitectos, Mexico City

October 18
Kevin McClurkan, Kate Kulpa, Amy Lin, Kate Mann, Molly McCowan and Megan Miller
Polshek Partnership Architects, New York

October 22
Maryann Thompson
Maryann Thompson Architects, Boston

November 5
Andrea Cochran
Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture, San Francisco

Calendar: All lectures take place at 5:30 p.m. in Ken Shollmier Hall
unless noted otherwise.
*Lecture on Sept. 17th at 7:30 p.m. in Giffels Auditorium; lectures on Sept. 18th & 19th at 12:30 p.m. in Arkansas Union Theater.

Fall Lectures
September 17, 18 & 19
Peter Eisenman*
Eisenman Architects, New York

September 24
E.B. Min & Jeff Day
Min/Day, San Francisco & Omaha

October 1
John Quale
University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Students Greg Stellmon (above, right and below right) and Clint Bailey (below, left and center) created these pieces in a furniture design class taught by Tim LaLourette, research lecturer and woodshop director.

Showcase House, San Francisco, Calif. Courtesy Andrea Cochran Landscape Architecture
Letter from the Bob Bledsoe
Executive Director,
Garvan Woodland Gardens

School News

UACDC

Garvan Woodland Gardens

Pin Up

Development News

Alumni News

Faculty-Staff News

Lecture Notes

Q & A with Peter Eisenman

High Modern, Low Cost
A Tour of Darell Fields’ Showroom/Lab

On the cover:
Student Rebekah Meeks designed a “green” beachfront interpretive center for Randall Stout’s studio (see p. 16).
It was one of those special Arkansas spring days this past March when the sky was a deep azure blue with a slight breeze, a perfect day to be out of doors. It was almost five years to the day since Garvan Woodland Gardens formally opened its doors to the public and I was manager on duty at the Pratt Welcome Center where tours begin. It began around 9:30 that morning and continued until 4:30 in the afternoon. People! Lines backed up to the parking lot for seven hours! That day, the gardens set a one-day record of almost 3,000 visitors. How could this have happened in five short years and how do we prepare for more records in the future? As executive director of Garvan Woodland Gardens in beautiful Hot Springs, Arkansas, these are questions I grapple with daily.

When we opened our doors in April of 2002, none of us knew what to expect nor did we know the level of support we might receive to grow our gardens. We began with a newly finished welcome center from which tours begin, a pavilion designed by Fay Jones and Maurice Jenkins, and a spectacular first garden, the Garden of the Pine Winds, designed by David Sasocon.

That first year we had 54,000 visitors come to enjoy the serenity and beauty of the University of Arkansas’ little piece of heaven. This past year we have doubled our attendance to over 113,000. We have also enhanced our gardens with new venues including the Anthony Chapel and complex (a $5.8 million project funded exclusively with private support), the Evans Children’s Adventure Garden (currently under construction), the Dierks Woodland Preserve and the Ellen Edmondson Great Lawn. The private sector has truly embraced the vision of a Nature Preserve and the Ellen Edmondson Great Lawn. W. and Valerie Klipsch Amphitheatre, the Hixson Family Promenade, the Weyerhaeuser Bonsai Garden, the Paul Garden (currently under construction), the Dierks Bonsai Garden, the Anthony Chapel and Gift Shop, the Anthony Chapel and Gift Shop, consider how to seamlessly put 250,000 visitors through our admissions area and consider our food service options. This invaluable donation is a true blessing to the gardens, allowing us the time and expertise to adequately plan for the future.

Recently a visitor to the gardens said to me, ‘Garvan Woodland Gardens will soon be known as the Central Park of Arkansas.’ The comment not only pleased me, but it also gave me serious pause. It has caused us to do some serious soul searching to prepare for the number of people who will inevitably visit the gardens. As with any nonprofit, donations are key to what we strive to do. Through memberships, facility rentals, admissions and gift shop revenue we seek to cover our operational needs. However, to grow and fulfill the mission and vision of these glorious gardens, private support is still necessary. Please come and visit Garvan Woodland Gardens and personally tour the gardens, the gift shop, and the educational center.

Many new water features. We can all be proud of the many new water features. We are creating a legacy for the future that includes some of the very best things this state has to offer.

Honing the Past & Celebrating Cy

Preserving the past – post-war landscapes and buildings – emerged as a theme at ‘The Architecture and Landscapes of Arkansas: A Heritage of Distinction,’ the March 2 conference cosponsored by the School of Architecture and the special collections department of the University of Arkansas Libraries.

Keynote speaker Richard Longstreth, a historic preservationist and architectural historian at George Washington University, argued for the importance of saving “modern marvels” – the department stores, gas stations and suburban and retail landscapes that are especially threatened as popular tastes swing toward traditional forms. ‘Historical significance has got to be the bedrock for prioritizing what must be saved,’ he said. ‘There are wonderful stories behind buildings and landscapes in every community and that is what’s important; that’s what resonates.’

In addition to inspiring a new generation of preservationists, the conference celebrated the riches in special collections, including Fay Jones’ papers and materials related to Arkansas’ landscape history: nineteenth-century newspaper advertisements for exotic plant sales, early plant lists, journals and letters.

Other session topics addressed the history of preservation in Arkansas, the need to preserve historical architecture and landscape architecture documents, and Arkansas’ native son architects Edward Durrell Stone and Fay Jones. The conference was capped by an evening banquet focused around a tribute to Cyrus A. Sutherland, professor emeritus of architecture. Sutherland joined the School of Architecture faculty in 1968 and was instrumental in saving and preserving some 40 historically significant buildings in Arkansas, including such Fayetteville landmarks as Headquarters House, the Walker Stone House, the Old Post Office and Old Main.
Rebuilding New Orleans, One Breakfast at a Time

Last spring, 13 architecture students led by professors Greg Herman and Ethel Goodstein-Murphree worked to get Miss Gloria’s Kitchen back in business. Renowned throughout New Orleans for serving up grits, eggs, smoked sausage and a biscuit for $1, the restaurant has been gutted and shuttered since Hurricane Katrina flooded the city two years ago. The students produced plans, elevations and a phased construction plan that will assist proprietor Gloria Caulfield in securing rebuilding funds.

Currently providing home care for elderly clients, Caulfield is eager to reopen her restaurant: “I just want to get back to work where I can settle my mind,” she said, adding, “I miss all my customers!”

The University of Arkansas team hopes that the project will serve as a catalyst for the rebirth of Gert Town, an African American enclave located in the heart of New Orleans: “Since Katrina, there’s little in the neighborhood to entice folks to come back home – no school, no market. It’s bereft of those things that make it a viable place to live,” Herman said. The students’ design work was informed by a co-requisite seminar on the architecture and cultural history of New Orleans led by Professor Ethel Goodstein-Murphree, who lived and taught in southern Louisiana history of New Orleans led by Professor Ethel Goodstein-Murphree.

There is a real strategic intelligence to the encapsulating way you slide your intervention into existing architecture,” said Scott Bernhard, an associate professor of architecture at Tulane who attended the final review. “You chose a project that goes to the heart of what New Orleans is about.”

A University of Arkansas Baum Teaching Grant brought assistant professor Dana Vickerson and student Jared Hueter to New Orleans last spring, where he helped trouble shoot on city code issues, coordinated demolition and sought support for the project. He also kept a blog illustrated with terrific photos of a city struggling to get back on its feet. Here is an excerpt . . .

“Student Jared Hueter lived and worked in New Orleans last spring, where he helped trouble shoot on city code issues, coordinated demolition and courted support for the project. He also kept a blog illustrated with terrific photos of a city struggling to get back on its feet. Here is an excerpt . . .

Gloria’s Designers Arrive

On the evening of Wednesday January 31st a group of fourth- and fifth-year architecture students from the University of Arkansas arrived here in New Orleans: Miss Gloria’s design team . . . It was so enjoyable to sit down and have discussion with a real client that we are going to build a real project for. I was actually concerned that Miss Gloria might feel a little overwhelmed by all of us asking her questions, but she simply glowed with excitement the entire time that everyone was talking with her. She told me later that when she saw all of us there that it was then that she knew that something was actually going to happen, and that is saying a lot with the epidemic of broken promises in the town.

I think that for me and I would dare say for the studio as a whole that this project, more than any other that we have done, deals with the human side of architecture. This project will not be designed for a photo shoot. It will not be designed tailored to win a specific predetermined award. Most of all, it will not be designed for an architect. Miss Gloria’s Kitchen will be designed for Miss Gloria, and that means that we as designers have to get to know her.

To read more visit http://architecture.uark.edu/3.htm.

Gloria Caulfield’s $1 breakfasts were free for homeless patrons. “I couldn’t stand for anyone to be hungry,” she said.
Saving Green Space

Thanks to a thriving economy and booming population growth, Fayetteville’s farms and wooded areas are giving way to strip malls and subdivisions. Landscape architecture professor John Crone and professor emeritus Karen Rollet-Crocker are working to identify and preserve the best remaining green space – and introduce students to conservation planning on the regional scale.

“It’s a bigger chunk of real estate than students usually deal with,” Crone said.

In 2005, the Fayetteville Natural Heritage Association, which Rollet-Crocker cofounded to help preserve 100 acres on the east side of Mount Sequoyah, initiated a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) study of Fayetteville and surrounding areas (approximately 312 square miles). A mapping system that integrates data ranging from property boundaries to soils, the GIS study allows city planners to identify the top 100 green sites at a glance.

“This GIS study introduced students to regional conservation planning. Left to right: Channon Toland, Melissa Bell, Billy Kribbs, Professor John Crone and Sean Shrum work with Nature Conservancy staffers to document Frank Sharp’s property on Kes- sel Mountain.

“The GIS study introduced students to regional conservation planning, before they sell their land for development,” Crone said.

“We've been talking since the start about other areas to preserve in and around Fayetteville,” Rollet-Crocker said. “We need to be ahead of the curve in terms of talking to owners, before they sell their land for development.”

The Natural Heritage Association partnered with the Nature Conservancy to carry out the GIS study, which was funded by a $20,000 grant from the Arkansas Forestry Commission’s Urban Forestry Program and the U.S. Forest Service. A science advisory committee that included planners, geologists, biologists, an environmental lawyer, Rollet-Crocker and Crone established the criteria for the study, ranking land by proximity to roads and existing recreational areas and the presence of water bodies, bluffs, and other wildlife habitat. The landscape architects brought both ecological and aesthetic considerations to the table, seeking sites with diverse vegetation, clarity of structure and good visual penetration.

Once the mapping was concluded, Crone and Rollet-Crocker began visiting every site in Fayetteville identified as desirable, taking fourth-year students along to document several of them. “Models are only good up to a point; you always have to ‘ground truth’ it,” Crone said. “It's great when you can take the existing environment and use it as an outdoor learning laboratory,” he added.

The GIS Study won an Arkansas Environmental Stewardship Award (ENVY award) and is already generating preservation efforts. The Natural Heritage Association raised $170,000 towards the $490,000 Hummel-Brooks property, which was subsequently purchased by the city of Fayetteville for development as a park. A 14-acre farm nestled between two ridges in the heart of Fayetteville, the property is traversed by a meandering creek and populated by fox and deer. “This site is a gem. We’re excited about preserving it,” Rollet-Crocker said.

Leadership by Design

Snickers bars and cigarette breaks. All nighters. Exercise? What’s that? While the 24/7 studio culture traditionally embraced by architecture schools may produce good design work, it doesn’t necessarily prepare students for life-long health and well being. In addition, nothing in the current curriculum specifically prepares students to lead in their chosen profession. A new program, developed by Dean Jeff Shannon, licensed counselor and educational consultant Barbara Dillon, and a faculty committee will help students identify their learning strengths, develop leadership skills, and practice self-care.

Work began two years ago with a faculty workshop led by Dillon on the wide range of emotional and psychological development found in School of Architecture students. “The college student is a work in progress,” she said. Although students look and act like adults, the brain between ages 18 and 23 is undergoing a last, crucial stage of maturation. Physical activity, traditionally not emphasized in studio culture, is a key component in brain development during this time.

From studying the nuts and bolts of young adults’ brain chemistry, faculty members have moved to identify five clusters of social and leadership skills and how best to nurture them within the curriculum. “Our goal is to graduate leaders out of the program, and to make the School of Architecture truly ‘student centered,’” said Dean Shannon.

This fall, beginning with first-year students in both departments, the school will implement a new program, “Leadership by Design,” which will help students develop skills critical to professional success and personal happiness. The school will offer workshops on time management, personal finance, stress management and self-care to first-year students, using resources already in place on campus. Student participation will be required for the first two years in the program, and will likely become optional later on. Mentoring and community service opportunities also will be offered to students.

Leadership by Design: An Architecture of Trust, a book penned by Ambassador Richard Swett, the school’s 2007 commencement speaker, will be used as a textbook in the program. Swett’s career, which has encompassed architectural design, corporate management, finance, real estate and public service, provides an interesting case study in design leadership. “I think we have a chance to provide national leadership with this initiative,” Shannon said.
American Dream/American Realities

Last spring honors students dreamed up prototypes for a low-cost emergency shelter, modular porches for mobile homes, and a cardboard spin on Mies’s Barcelona chair, among other ideas. Now in its third year, the School of Architecture Honors Program continues to inspire original work from exceptional students. “We believe undergraduates can produce authentic research – but they need to begin with authentic problems,” said professor Kim Sexton, who led the program last year. “The work that goes into a thesis can be valuable in any kind of career,” she added. Among the research highlights this year:

Katie Kummer gave a nuanced reading of domesticity and home design in her paper titled “Moving to the Suburbs: 50 Years of Women Living the American Dream.” To explore how domestic space has been gendered in the postwar suburbs, she compared the 1955 Better Homes and Gardens Idea Home (see plan, right) with three 2005 Idea Houses from Southern Living. Her findings suggest that shelter magazines continue to present the domestic realm as women’s responsibility even though many women have entered the workforce. Kummer’s case studies evidenced a regressive trend in the American dream as represented by shelter magazines: the 1955 home presented an open plan and clean lines, while the 2005 houses focused on neo-traditional styles with more square feet to clean and maintain.

While a snug house rooted in the suburbs constitutes the American Dream for many, a full 14 percent of Arkansans live in a more transient form of housing – manufactured homes. Typically lacking a porch or other entry form that eases transition from public to private space, the manufactured home “sits on the site like a crouton on a plate,” said Cari Paulus. In her thesis, “Trailer Treasure: Mitigating Between Public and Private in Manufactured Homes of Arkansas,” Paulus proposed a system of prefabricated units that could be combined in numerous ways to generate thresholds ranging from a simple platform to a wraparound roofed porch with attached carport. The units could be bought at a local farm supply store, transported by pickup truck and assembled with basic tools; flexibility would be built in so that consumers could add to the system over time.

Amy McCarty’s research addressed another ubiquitous element in the American landscape: the cardboard box. Earlier in her university career, with design partners Hatti Terrell and Samantha Smith, she put in long hours soaking, gluing, stretching and cutting corrugated fiberboard, ultimately developing two chairs that won awards in the Chair Affair competition sponsored by AIAS and the International Corrugated Packaging Foundation. For her thesis “Thinking Outside the Box: The Future of Corrugated Fiberboard in Design,” McCarty researched the history, properties and production of cardboard and its many manifestations, from packaging to houses, boats and high-end furniture. Long hours in the library were followed by hands-on research that resulted in an elegant, durable chair.

Cari Paulus’ modular system would create a threshold space for manufactured homes.

Amy McCarty experimented with the size and orientation of interior flutes to achieve the optimum combination of strength and flexibility in her cardboard chair.
Community Design Center Promotes Active Aging

Community Design Center students and staff envision a new housing model for the nation’s aging boomers, one that supports active aging within a vibrant community setting. Their master plan for Little Rock’s Good Shepherd Ecumenical Retirement Community, which unites traditional neighborhood amenities with strikingly contemporary, “green” design, has won a 2007 Progressive Architecture Design Citation.

“‘What we’re hoping to do is attract empty nesters in their 50s and 60s by providing a level of vitality that you don’t usually find in a conventional retirement community,” said Steve Luoni, director of the UACDC.

Their plan for the 165-acre campus calls for a range of housing types and lifestyle options, from independent living in freestanding “garden homes” to assisted living community setting. Their master plan for Little Rock’s Good Shepherd Ecumenical Retirement Community, which unites traditional neighborhood amenities with strikingly contemporary, “green” design, has won a 2007 Progressive Architecture Design Citation.

“The design center and Marty Matlock are currently collaborating on a sustainable neighborhood for the Washington County chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The project has been awarded a $23,000 grant by the University of Arkansas Women’s Giving Circle and a $464,000 grant by the Arkansas Natural Resources Commission that is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency.

The Charter Awards program is different from most architecture awards, which typically focus on buildings and plans apart from their surroundings. “These projects . . . make a difference in the world,” said jury chair Stefanos Polyzoides, a principal of Moule Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists in Pasadena, Calif.

Currently under construction, Habitat Trails features bioremediating gardens and wetlands to treat storm water on site and “skinny” streets that decrease run-off and calm traffic. The subdivision’s green infrastructure, which replaces conventional gutters, pipes, and retention ponds, reduces street costs by more than a third. Students updated traditional cottages and farmhouses in Habitat homes that cost a mere $55 per square foot.

... and Affordable, ‘Green’ Housing

A “green” neighborhood for the Benton County chapter of Habitat for Humanity that was designed by an interdisciplinary team of University of Arkansas planners and engineers has been awarded the 2007 Charter Design Award from the Congress of New Urbanism. This is the seventh award given to the project, which was developed last year by the UACDC, Marty Matlock in the department of biological and agricultural engineering, Mark Bover in the department of landscape architecture and 12 architecture and engineering students.

Habitat Trails was one of 20 professional projects selected from around the world by the Congress for New Urbanism, which is the leading organization to promote walkable, neighborhood-based development as an alternative to sprawl. With its focus on urban design, the Charter Awards program is different from most architecture awards, which typically focus on buildings and plans apart from their surroundings. “These projects . . . make a difference in the world,” said jury chair Stefanos Polyzoides, a principal of Moule Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists in Pasadena, Calif.

Currently under construction, Habitat Trails features bioremediating gardens and wetlands to treat storm water on site and “skinny” streets that decrease run-off and calm traffic. The subdivision’s green infrastructure, which replaces conventional gutters, pipes, and retention ponds, reduces street costs by more than a third. Students updated traditional cottages and farmhouses in Habitat homes that cost a mere $55 per square foot.

Habitat Trails was one of 20 professional projects selected from around the world by the Congress for New Urbanism, which is the leading organization to promote walkable, neighborhood-based development as an alternative to sprawl. With its focus on urban design, the Charter Awards program is different from most architecture awards, which typically focus on buildings and plans apart from their surroundings. “These projects . . . make a difference in the world,” said jury chair Stefanos Polyzoides, a principal of Moule Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists in Pasadena, Calif.

Currently under construction, Habitat Trails features bioremediating gardens and wetlands to treat storm water on site and “skinny” streets that decrease run-off and calm traffic. The subdivision’s green infrastructure, which replaces conventional gutters, pipes, and retention ponds, reduces street costs by more than a third. Students updated traditional cottages and farmhouses in Habitat homes that cost a mere $55 per square foot.
Chapel Complex Dedicated

Over 230 guests gathered in Garvan Woodland Gardens on a crystalline day last fall to dedicate the new Anthony Chapel. Designed by school alumni Maurice Jennings and David McKee, the glass, stone and wood chapel soars an impressive 57 feet into a canopy of trees overlooking the scenic shoreline of Lake Hamilton.

"From the first, we set this area aside for something special," said Bob Byers, Garvan Gardens’ resident landscape architect and garden director. Special indeed: in addition to the Anthony Chapel, the area houses the 1,560-square-foot Millsap Bride’s Hall, the 1,000-square-foot Evans Groom’s Quarters and the Anthony Carillon, a 59-foot octagonal bell tower comprising sixteen copper-clad columns. The complex is anchored by a serene garden designed by Byers with the assistance of Shannon Wallace, a landscape architecture student and former Gardens intern. Renowned Japanese garden designer David Slawson created the water feature, a tumble of native stone that looks like it has been there forever (though it was constructed in 10 weeks by a small army of interns and staff). At the dedication Slawson was on hand to discuss his work with visitors.

"We started with that boulder," he said, pointing to a massive slab of sandstone laced with quartz, "and went from there. It's a design puzzle."

Tours of the complex were followed by a formal dedication in the chapel, which was filled to capacity. John Ed Anthony, who along with wife Isabel launched fund raising for the complex with a $1 million gift, received a standing ovation from the crowd, which included 71 Anthony family members.

"This chapel is truly a treasure," he said. "I know it will bring joy to those in celebration and solace and peace to those in pain for many generations to come."

The dedication was marked by the sonorous tones of the carillon bells. At the luncheon following the ceremony Chancellor John White and UA System President Alan Sugg presented medallions to the donors whose major gifts made the chapel complex a reality. Those honored included Isabel and John Ed Anthony, Sunny and Bob Evans, Betty and Leon Millhap, Gwen and Cecil Cupp Jr. and Carol and Dick Pratt, all of Hot Springs; Avalene Anthony Reynolds representing the Garland and Flora Autrey Anthony Family Trust, and the family of Robert Hixson.

Following the luncheon 21 couples renewed their vows in the Celebration Garden as a string quartet played nearby. Bob and Sunny Evans, David and Alice McKee and Maurice and Sissy Jennings were among the celebrants, as were Jeannette and Aaron Morgan of El Dorado, who honeymooned in Hot Springs 67 years ago. Director Bob Bledsoe, also an ordained Baptist minister, officiated, noting "This is the first of many joyful ceremonies in this garden." A concert in the Anthony Chapel by soprano Deleen Davidson concluded the festivities.

Garvan Woodland Gardens

DIG THIS

Did you know that all University of Arkansas faculty, staff and alumni receive a discounted membership to Garvan Woodland Gardens? Members of Garvan Gardens enjoy free admission, special events, previews and reciprocal admission to 197 other botanical gardens. Classes, workshops, lectures, concerts and facility rentals also are offered at reduced price to members. A quarterly newsletter and monthly e-newsletter keep members up to date on what’s in bloom and what’s going on in the gardens. For more information visit http://www.garvangardens.org or call Shana Thomason at 501-262-5607.
Currently it’s a no man’s land choked with rubble and bordered by a row of struggling tulip trees planted too close together. But Dr. Carl Smith, who was the Garvan Chair Visiting Professor last spring, saw opportunities in the one-acre site. Located on the northwest edge of campus and ringed by new dormitories and the John W. Tyson Poultry Science Building, the site was a perfect testing ground for sustainable residential design within an urban context.

“It’s important to me that students have as real a project as possible, with realistic constraints,” Smith said. “I wanted them to think about infill in the urban fabric; how to increase density and conserve land.”

Twenty-six architecture and landscape architecture students took on the challenge of developing a range of housing types for students, young professionals, families and the elderly on a tight site. Working in interdisciplinary teams, they conducted a thorough site inventory and analysis, considering factors from soils and seasonal variations in wind, sun and shadow to views and traffic circulation. The process was a revelation for many of the architecture students, who relied on landscape architecture students’ expertise in grading, storm water management and plants. “This is fairly foreign to me,” said fourth-year architecture student Craig Peacock. “To me, a tree is a tree; I’m not used to thinking about height and root structure.” The landscape architecture students also benefited from the collaboration: “They were really helpful in sharing their ideas and knowledge about the structural aspects of buildings – how to position a building for solar gain, the use of recyclable materials like denim for insulation,” said Ryan Hollingsworth, a third-year landscape architecture student.

The students developed a broad range of strategies for the site: one group arranged housing along a promenade graced by rain gardens and two courtyards, while another group experimented with a “tree house” approach, raising the buildings above a central wetlands area. All of the groups worked to balance semipublic outdoor space with communal areas enlivened by shared gardens, playgrounds, study nooks and other amenities. Green roofs, green walls, solar panels and other sustainable technologies figured prominently in the student designs.

A native of Sheffield, England, Carl Smith earned a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from the University of Lancaster and a master’s degree in landscape design and a doctorate in sustainable housing design from the University of Sheffield. He is a Royal Chartered Landscape Architect and has practiced landscape and urban design at several firms, most recently Ironside Farrar Ltd. of Edinburgh, Scotland. His book Residential Landscape Sustainability: A Checklist Tool will be published this fall by Blackwells Publishing.

Housing as if the Future Mattered: Sustainable Residential Design Seminar

This page: student work by William Britt, Ian Campbell, Patrick Kunnecke and Shannon Wallace (opposite) student work by Mary Bullington, Chris Harty and Ericka Kauffman.
Sustainability is more than a buzzword for Los Angeles architect Randall Stout, who harvests sun and wind and introduces system efficiencies to create buildings that can operate “off the grid.” Alongside Stout’s passion for sustainability is his desire to create places that elicit “emotive experiences and uplift the spirit of all users and ages.” As the Fay Jones Visiting Professor last spring Stout challenged 10 upper level architecture students to “turn architecture into a source of healing the environment, instead of scarring it.”

Assisted by adjunct assistant professor Esther Yang, Stout launched the semester with two concurrent investigations. Students researched passive and active sustainable strategies such as natural ventilation and heating methods, active solar hot water systems, photovoltaic cell electricity production, and gray water recovery systems. Each student also produced 10 multimedia studies that embodied emotions associated with critical events and revelations from the past (see back cover). A kind of graphic spin on method acting, the exercise prepared students to tap into their emotions as they developed their final project, a beachfront interpretive center.

Located at Dockweiler State Beach, a three-mile stretch of shoreline directly beneath the takeoff path from Los Angeles International Airport, the 3,000-square-foot Interpretive/Visitor Center for the California Department of Beaches and Harbors would provide exhibit and classroom space and an amphitheater to explore topics such as sports and water ecology that would enhance appreciation of the site. The students traveled to Los Angeles to visit the site, tour outstanding contemporary architecture in the area and participate in a work session on new technologies employed by Stout’s firm.

The semester’s most successful projects fully integrated sustainable systems from the inception of the project. Solar photovoltaic panels provided a silvery roof and generated electricity for one student’s amphitheater; in another project, undulating roof planes with strategically placed operable windows provided natural ventilation.

Randall Stout has won international acclaim for work that marries dynamic form with cutting edge green technologies. His work has been widely published and is featured in the 2004 monograph, Environmental Alchemy: Randall Stout Architects. He is a LEED-accredited architect and has served on the AIA Committee on the Environment since 1997 and the AIA California Council Sustainability Task Force since 2001. Stout has served as an adjunct professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, the University of Texas, Austin, and held the A.C. Martin Chair in Architecture at the University of Southern California.
This spring, third-year students addressed both large-scale issues of site, program and space making and the more intimate yet equally important scale of the detail and the attendant process of material joining. The studio’s dual emphasis forced students to consider the cost, fabrication and performance of materials and the placement of structural support as they worked out the big ideas of their designs.

The students began the semester by analyzing the cladding and structure of thirteen contemporary buildings, redrawing significant details just as aspiring artists copy paintings by masters. The students then traveled to Little Rock, where they toured Prospect Steel’s fabrication plant. Alumni Steve Kinzler (B.Arch. ’73) and Joe Stanley (B.Arch. ’69) led a construction site tour of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Patient Towers, designed in collaboration by their respective firms, the Wilcox Group and Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon Porter Architects Ltd. The students also visited the new Heifer International Headquarters with alumnus Reese Rowland (B.Arch. ’90), who led design on the award-winning sustainable project for Polk Stanley.

For their final project, the students designed a single room occupancy residence hall/hostel that would offer the flexibility of both short-term and long-term accommodations for international students as well as guest lecturers, seminar attendees and other visitors to the university. The program called for a public ground floor equipped with a bookstore, convenience store, Internet café and conference spaces. Students wrestled with issues of circulation, privacy and efficient use of space as they developed designs responsive to the project’s prominent site in downtown Fayetteville, at the corner of Meadow and College.

The students spent the last third of the semester developing a skin proposal that supported the building parti. Some experimented with new technologies such as transparent concrete, while others used traditional materials in innovative ways. “We asked them to pony up and design a multifloor residential building and detail it,” said Chuck Rotolo, who coordinated the studio. “For many of them, this was the first time they fleshed out their design; the product becomes more credible as architecture.”

Student Randall Hurban analyzed Renzo Piano’s Rue de Meaux Housing in Paris, France (left). Rendering of final project (opposite) by Stephen Reyenga.
Fifth Year Landscape Architecture

Landscape architecture students’ educational journey culminates in this studio. Building on two semesters of research, analysis and design, students address a “real world” project that offers a hands-on introduction to work in a professional landscape architecture firm. Student work is guided by faculty in landscape architecture and associated disciplines, and in some cases by real clients. The course concludes with a formal oral presentation and comprehensive project report. Two projects from fall 2006 exemplify the in-depth design solutions developed by students:

A 90-acre abandoned coalmine near Jeanette Wilson’s hometown in southwest Missouri looks much as it did more than 70 years ago, when the last shovel pulled out of the earth. Though 40- to 60-foot-high piles of disturbed soil and cavernous strip pits scar the landscape, Wilson viewed the site as a potential economic and educational asset for the region. She proposed a 37-acre municipal landfill within the mine spoils, using the disturbed earth left from the mining era to build and cap the landfill. Combined with adjacent farmland into a 197-acre tract of land, her ERG Landfill site would include an educational recycling facility and mining museums that interpret the surrounding landscape. Amended soils, replanted native species and a wetland storm water collection system would regenerate the site’s ecology, while a trail system winding throughout the site would provide opportunities for hiking, hiking and other recreational activities.

Evan Niehues designed a riverfront park for St. Louis, Mo., that would reinforce the city’s historic role as a gateway to the west. Directly in front of the park grounds for Eero Saarinen’s iconic Gateway Arch and LaClede’s Landing, a former industrial area with a rich stock of 19th-century warehouses and factories, the site is cut off from downtown St. Louis and its sports stadiums by a dense tangle of highways. Niehues’ park would revitalize the area by creating pedestrian corridors between the waterfront and city. An amphitheater, children’s playground, skate park, seasonal marketplace and other amenities would bring daytime activity to the area and provide recreational space for downtown residents. The sinuous woven movement of Niehues’ scheme formally responds to the catenary curve of the arch and the meandering Mississippi River; plazas and greenways would frame postcard views to downtown St. Louis.

Rendering of riverfront park for St. Louis, Mo. by Evan Niehues.

Preliminary sketches and model of a mine walk designed by Jeanette Wilson.
High Modern, Low Cost

A Tour of Darell Fields’ Showroom/Lab

Drawn by a scarlet Arne Jacobsen swan chair knockoff and a grass green sectional sofa, I walked right by Darell Fields’ display kiosk in Lacuna Modern Interiors. It may be easy to miss the modest white vitrine, but the contents – two pristine model homes with the clean lines and sculptural volumes of Le Corbusier’s Villa Savoie – represent nothing less than a revolution in prefabricated design: high modern at low cost.

For five years Fields has been working on a flexible prefabricated housing system, developing prototypes for innovative new building components as part of the process. His efforts to bring sleek housing to middle-class modernists have culminated in Sho®, a new showroom-production lab located behind Lacuna on Fayetteville’s College Avenue.

Sho represents a new take on the architect’s office. Instead of a warren of desks, computers and sticky coffee mugs, there are white walls, high exposed ceilings and polished concrete floors that embody the clean domestic environment that Fields has in mind. Images from APPX, Fields’ interdisciplinary journal, float in front of the display window. The furniture suggests high dollar designer stock but actually came from big box retailers (the streamlined lounge chairs that we relax into cost $138 at Target).

“We didn’t spend a lot of money to furnish this and that’s the point. You don’t have to spend a lot to produce a nice environment,” Fields said.

A quiet, unassuming man (his name appears nowhere on that vitrine), Fields is quick to flick on a wide-screen television, which presents a virtual tour through his designs. The synergy of his location eases the burden of marketing his work: “I don’t have to do a high-pitch sell – the fact that clients found my models in a high end furniture store indicates that the right sensibilities are in place,” he said.

DESIGN WITHIN REACH

Fields’ primary products at this point are the L-E house and Patio house, both two-story, 2000-square-foot prefabricated homes that Fields will build to order in partnership with a local developer. Fields’ system is groundbreaking on several fronts: cost, to start.
A lot of architects are interested in prefabricated construction, but in the end the prices are astronomical. You might as well have a custom-built house,” Fields said. “For about the cost of a typical spec home, his designs offer luxury options such as built-in furniture and a sustainable green roof accessible from the master bedroom suite. The most important benefit is intangible, yet palpable even in the design video.

“It’s all about sculpting space.” Fields said. “The spaces are interconnected, unique and well designed. You would never see these kinds of spaces in a spec house – it’s like night and day.”

Delivered on a flatbed truck and installed on a conventional foundation, the house can be completely customized by the client, from roof pitch to kitchen cabinetry. “There’s a great deal of flexibility,” Fields said, “and this system allows the client to have more control over the budget.”

BACK TO THE FUTURE

In addition to mulling over maple versus laminate flooring and options for siding, Fields’ clients will be offered some completely new technologies in the not-too-distant future: an inexpensive, high-insulating window that can be hung on the wall, for example. Fields is pursuing a patent for the design. He is also developing a new, more efficient system for the radiant floor heating initially dreamed up by Frank Lloyd Wright for his Usonian house. Fields is eager to realize ideas envisioned by modernist pioneers: “Maybe now the technology has caught up with the concepts and we can implement these things in a new way,” he said.

Fields refines these ideas in the production lab adjacent to his showroom. Pacing around the small space, his reserve drops away as he shares details on his latest inventions. Stainless steel kitchen tables from Ikea are littered with screws, springs, magnets and washers, a hex wrench, hinges and a model train electrical control. “This is the inside of my brain,” he said with a laugh. The lab is crammed with stuff to tinker with, from traditional tools such as a drill press and band saw to a rapid prototyping machine that prints 3-D models of digital designs. Fields is especially proud of a UV light purchased at a beauty supply store. Originally intended to bond false fingernails, the light cures the bond between metal hinges and a 20-pound glass window to full strength in 15 minutes.

“These UV cured adhesives are similar to applications used in the auto industry. In terms of production, it means we’re not waiting around for stuff to dry,” Fields said, gesturing towards a full-scale mock up of his hanging window.

HANDS-ON APPRENTICESHIPS

Superbia, the product-development line of Fields’ research, has been funded in part by the University of Arkansas through startup funds, and the university will get a cut on any profits generated by his inventions. The arrangement pays off in more ways than one; students who work with Fields get a taste of his exploratory research. On the day that I visited, recent graduate Zack Cooley (B.Arch. ’06) was making a rubber gasket for the prototype window. Once Cooley takes off for graduate school at Princeton this fall, a new student will get an opportunity to join Fields in hands-on architectural invention. Fields also plans to use the showroom as a space for art exhibitions, lectures and other events. He’s planning a launch party for his journal APPX this fall.

“ar are more ways than one; students who work with Fields get a taste of his exploratory research. On the day that I visited, recent graduate Zack Cooley (B.Arch. ’06) was making a rubber gasket for the prototype window.”
Ken and Linda Sue Shollmier listen during the dedication ceremony. Photo courtesy Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/Michael Woods.

Shollmier Hall Dedicated

The best gifts can be tough to wrap: try getting a lecture hall or plaza under the tree! On Christmas day six years ago, Ken Shollmier surprised his wife Linda Sue with a $1 million gift to support architecture and business programs at the University of Arkansas. Last fall, one of the projects funded by the gift, a full renovation of the School of Architecture’s lecture hall, was celebrated with the dedication of the space as the Ken Shollmier Lecture Hall.

Chancellor John A. White, the Shollmiers and their family, and School of Architecture alumni, faculty and students were on hand to celebrate the renovated space, which features new cork floors, comfortable seating, state-of-the-art technology and a fresh coat of paint. The refurbished lecture hall presents a better image of the university to students, faculty and visitors participating in the school’s Distinguished Lecture Series, said Chancellor White.

Ken Shollmier, a Pine Bluff native and 1963 graduate of the Sam M. Walton College of Business, began his career at the University of Arkansas Women’s giving Circle.

In addition to this gift, the Shollmiers provided funds for the Linda Sue Shollmier plaza at the Walton College and for Outstanding Faculty Awards to be given each year in the amount of at least $5,000 to deserving University of Arkansas faculty. Along with his brother Dudley Shollmier of Little Rock, they made a $250,000 gift to the Walton College to establish the Shollmier MBA Investment Fund, which allows MBA students to purchase and manage an investment portfolio.

Whether providing for hands-on experience or a comfortable seat for a long lecture, the Shollmiers’ gifts have done much to enhance learning at the University of Arkansas.

RECENT GIFTS

The School is thankful for the following gifts:

Lawrence and Suzanne Averill, $85,000 to fund a master plan study at Garvan Woodland Gardens

Peggy Clark, $10,000 donation in honor of her parents to the Chapel Fund at Garvan Woodland Gardens

Contractors Licensing Board, $10,000 to support the 2007 Camp Aldersgate design/build project

Crafton Tull Sparks and Associates, $25,000 to support student international study

Deltic Timber Corporation, $10,000 corporate membership at Garvan Woodland Gardens

Lewis Elliott and Studer, Inc., $9,000 to support the Distinguished Lecture Series

Valerie Klipsch, undisclosed gift for improvements to the Paul W. and Valerie Klipsch Amphitheater at Garvan Woodland Gardens

Betty and Leon Mil hops, $50,000 donation to the Chapel Fund at Garvan Woodland Gardens

Carol Pratt, $10,000 donation to the Chapel Fund at Garvan Woodland Gardens

The School is thankful for the following gifts:

University of Arkansas Women’s Giving Circle, $23,000 in support of the Community Design Center project to develop a sustainable neighborhood for the Washington County chapter of the Habitat for Humanity

GARDEN PARTY

Azaleas, tulips and dogwoods in full bloom graced a party hosted by the School of Architecture at Garvan Woodland Gardens. One hundred architects, landscape architects and other design and building industry professionals from across the country gathered last April for the first ever joint meeting of the school’s Professional Advisory Board and Dean’s Circle. “Both groups provide vital support for the School of Architecture. It was fun to bring everybody together in such a beautiful setting,” said Charlotte Taylor, the school’s director of development.

The evening began with updates from school leaders in the Fay Jones Pavilion, designed by alumni Fay Jones and Maurice Jennings. Though temperatures were brisk thanks to a late cold snap, guests were warmed by garden tours, live folk and blues music by Jeremiah Morgan Smith and an al fresco dinner catered by Café 1217. The event concluded with an evening tour of the fully illuminated Anthony Chapel complex, designed by alumni Maurice Jennings and David McKee.
Fall 2007  I  re:VIEW  I  29

ROAD TRIPS

Sure, it’s great to see old friends and make some new ones. But the parties that we host every year are more than just meet-and-greets with fine refreshments – they help us learn what our alumni are accomplishing professionally, and keep alumni informed on new developments at the University of Arkansas. This year we hosted parties in the following cities:

Minneapolis

Landscape architecture faculty Fran Beatty, Judy Brittenum and Mark Boyer and director of development Charlotte Taylor welcomed alumni to a gathering at the Sheraton Hotel in Minneapolis, the site for the 2006 annual ASLA meeting. The gourmet spread, sponsored by CEI Engineering of Bentonville, drew an appreciative crowd, including recent graduates by CEI Engineering of Bentonville, which was a John Williams Fellow. Other guests included Tom Butt (B.Arch. ’97) and Kimberly (Martin) Butt (B.Arch. ’96). The Butt family all work at Interactive Resources, an architecture and engineering firm based in Point Richmond, California.

New York City

The Greenwich Village offices of E.D.I. Architecture set the scene for an alumni gathering last October. The party, hosted by E.D.I. chairman Victor Mirontschuk (B.A. ARS ’72, B.Arch. ’74), stretched into the early hours as alumni filled in Dean Jeff Shannon and Charlotte Taylor on their latest news. Recent graduate Jaclyn Tyler (B.S. ARS ’03) is a project manager with Edmond G. Loedely Architect, PC; Richard Renfro (B.Arch. ’79) was finishing up lighting design for the Block building addition to the Nelson-Atkins Museum in Kansas City; and School of Architecture advisory board member Kevin McCurkan (B.Arch. ’84) recently made partner at Polshek Partnership Architects. ’83 graduate Robert Armstrong’s commission to design a home for New York Yankees All-Star shortstop Derek Jeter had the room abuzz. The earliest graduate, Allen Mullins (B.Arch. ’66), traveled the farthest, from Wilkes-Barre, Penn., where he is currently practicing after a long career in New York City.

San Antonio

In May Dean Shannon and Charlotte Taylor hosted a gathering at the 2007 AIA national convention in San Antonio. More than 50 alumni from all over the country were on hand to celebrate the Community Design Center’s third national AIA education award in a row and Gulf State regional honors for professors Marlon Blackwell, Michael Hughes, Selma Gatorc-Hughes and Kevin McCurkan. The Butt family all work at Interactive Resources, an architecture and engineering firm based in Point Richmond, California.

GROCERIES, GAS AND TRAVEL: STUDENT SUPPORT GROWS

What is one of the biggest challenges that landscape architecture student Ike Carroccio has faced? “What about when I become broke?” he asked with a grin, addressing a crowd of donors and students at this year’s Annual Scholarship Recognition Luncheon. Thanks to generous support from alumni and friends, Ike and other outstanding students can afford study in Italy, Mexico and England – not to mention Arches hot press paper, macaroni and cheese dinners and gas for the car. The School of Architecture awarded $90,870 in scholarships to 55 outstanding students this year, a 13 percent increase in funding from last year.

This year the school expanded student support with three new scholarships: the Hight Jackson Associates Rome Travel Scholarship funded by Hight Jackson Associates of Rogers, Ark.; the Noland Blass Jr. Scholarship funded by family and friends of the late Noland Blass of Rome Travel Scholarship funded by Hight Jackson Associates of Rogers, Ark.; and the Maurice Jennings International Travel Honors Scholarship funded by Don and Ellen Edmondson of Forrest City, Ark. “Your giving matters,” said graduating senior Rachel Smith. Though this year’s luncheon was her last to attend as a student, she promised to return: “Because of the example of all of the donors here, I will be back someday in a similar gathering, giving and not receiving.”

Professor Emeritus Herb Fowler presents fifth-year student Ignacio Gonzales with the Herbert K. Fowler medal, which Fowler’s family created and designed in his honor.

alumni Reese Rowland (B.Arch. ’96) and Mark Weaver (B.Arch. ’82). Guests reveled in the luxe warmth of the Hotel Valencia, a boutique hotel on San Antonio’s River Walk recently renovated by Texan firm 3D/I. Sam Pate (B.Arch. ’96) who works in the Austin office of 3D/I, was inducted as a John Williams Fellow. Other guests included Tom Butt (B.Arch. ’97) and his wife Shirley, Andrew Butt (B.Arch. ’97) and Kimberly (Martin) Butt (B.Arch. ’96). The Butt family all work at Interactive Resources, an architecture and engineering firm based in Point Richmond, California.
very likely the last) University of Arkansas football letterman to graduate with a degree in architecture. He began his career with a Fayetteville engineering firm and later worked with Edward Durrell Stone in New York City and Roy P. Harrover & Associates in Memphis.

In 1976 Polk returned to his home state of Arkansas to start a firm with Joe Stanley and Jeff Shannon in Little Rock. Their first major commission was the First National Bank in Fayetteville, an award-winning project credited in the revitalization of the Fayetteville Square. Polk’s designs are visible throughout the university community and include the Pat Walker Health Center, Bell Engineering Center and Northwest Quadrant residence halls.

Tommy Polk was a founding member of the School of Architecture Dean’s Circle, and he served on the School of Architecture’s advisory board and committee for the Campaign for the Twenty-First Century. His firm has provided ongoing support for the school’s community design center and lecture series. He was awarded the school’s Distinguished Service Award in 2004. Polk has three daughters and is married to Carolyn Lindsey Polk (B.Arch. ’83), a principal with Yeary Lindsey Architects of Little Rock.

Mark Weaver (B.Arch. ’82), director of design for Huedak Bobo Group, picked up Gulf States Regional Honor Award. Boelkins joined Marlon Blackwell’s firm last spring and is coordinating work on components of the Virginia B. Fairbanks Art and Nature Park for the Indianapolis Museum of Art.

Reese Rowland (B.Arch. ’90) of Polk Stanley Rowland Curzon Porter Architects, Ltd. led design on the Heifer International Headquarters in Little Rock, which was selected as one of the AIA/COTE Top Ten Green Projects for 2007 and published in the June 2007 issue of Architect magazine. The project also won a Gulf States Regional Honor Award and was one of 35 recipients of the American Architecture Award 2007 sponsored by the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design.

Jon Boelkins (B.Arch. ’04), was a finalist for a 2006 Honor Award and was one of 35 recipients of the American Architecture Award 2007 sponsored by the Chicago Athenaeum Museum of Architecture and Design.

Chip Ashley (B.L.A. ’01) has joined the Atlanta, Ga., office of CEI Engineering Associates Inc.

Murrye Bernard (B.Arch. ’04) is director of Forward, a quarterly publication intended to provide a voice for AIA Associates. It is available online at http://www.aia.org/nacq_archivelist. Bernard also has published articles in Architectural Lighting and Architectural Record magazines.

Natalie Blair (B.Arch. ’96) has found a position with German firm König Consult in Dubai. She is currently designing three 20-story towers that are part of a project worth more than $1 billion.
Jason and Sunny Cerchie (both B.Arch. ’05) are designing fully immersive 3-D virtual environments for Second Life, a virtual world built by Linden Lab of California. They recently relocated to Brooklyn, N.Y., where they work for the Electric Sheep Company. For more information visit http://secondlife.com/ and http://electricsheepcompany.com/.

Marcy Conrad-Nutt (B.Arch. ’01), currently an intern architect with James Dayton Design in Minneapolis, helped to design the MacPhail Center for Music, a new 60,000-square-foot home for a local music school. Located in the heart of Minneapolis’ mill district, the $25 million project will complete construction by the end of this year.

Bradford Gaines (B.L.A. ’06) has been named land development coordinator for Rocket Properties LLC in Little Rock.

Jim Matchett (B.Arch. ’06) is leading a sustainable design initiative at the Springfield, Mo., firm, Butler, Rosenbury & Partners. Among other projects, he is working on a 50,000-square-foot conference center for Big Cedar Lodge and Resort on Table Rock Lake, near Branson, Mo.

Jorge Ribeira (B.Arch. ’06) is an intern architect with Moshe Safdie and Associates of Boston.

Jose Carlos Ribeira (B.Arch. ’04) is an intern architect with Machado and Silvetti Associates in Boston. Last fall his comp studio work was included in the Young Architects exhibition organized by the Boston Society of Architects.

Trinity Simons (B.Arch. ’04), who has been managing projects for the Mayor’s Institute for City Design, will begin graduate study in city planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology this fall.

Joe Aruna (B.Arch. ’05) is designing luxury apartments and condos for Simonson Germany Nonemaker + Associates in Atlanta, Ga. Joe brought along a video camcorder when he participated in the school’s summer studio in Mexico a few years ago, and recently found time to edit the footage into a short video (available at http://architecture.uark.edu/mexico_film.html). Thanks, Joe!

Peter Bednar (B.Arch. ’06) and Zack Cooley (B.Arch. ’06) won first prize and honorable mention in two recent international design and planning competitions. Their scheme for a new public square in Ruzomberok, Slovakia (at right and below) won first place for defining a new tourist/shopping district that is emerging on the edge of the small town. A proposed park for Kosice, Slovakia, one of the oldest industrial centers in Eastern Europe, won honorable mention. Located on a site that overlooks the city, the park would transform the ruins of an old brewery, an ancient cemetery and an overgrown orchard into an economic catalyst for the city.

Matt Mihalevich (B.L.A. ’01) has coordinated development of eight miles of paved multiuse trails in his first year on the job as Fayetteville’s trails coordinator.

2008 Alumni Design Awards

We want to celebrate your creative work! Winners will be announced in the next issue of Re:View.

SUBMISSIONS MUST INCLUDE

- Description of the work including program issues and design intentions plus project title and location (three pages or less)
- Floor and site plans
- Applicant’s name, address and telephone number, enclosed in a sealed envelope with project title on front
- CD with approximately 12 images
- A check for $25 made payable to School of Architecture Foundation

Note: Submissions must be anonymous! Please remove all identifying marks from your submission.

Mail to:
Alumni Design Awards
120 Vol Walker Hall
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Must be postmarked by February 15, 2008

Questions? Contact Karen Stair
479/575-2702
kstair@uark.edu
OF NOTE
Fran Beatty presented “Literary Landscape: Ideological Connections between James Russell Lowell and Frederick Law Olmsted” at the June meeting of the Environmental Design Research Association in Sacramento, Calif.

Last June Architecture for Humanity broke ground on Marlon Blackwell’s “Porchdog” house, one of seven storm-proof prototypes selected by families in East Biloxi, Miss., where Katrina wiped out approximately 3,500 homes. Oprah Winfrey’s Angel Network funded the project. Blackwell won a 2006 Arkansas State AIA Honor Award and 2007 Gulf States Regional AIA Honor Award (new construction) for Blessings Golf Clubhouse in Johnson, also received Renovation-Merit Awards and Guardhouse in Johnson; Arkansas House, a private home in Johnson, also received Renovation-Merit Awards in the 2007 awards programs sponsored by Custom Home and Residential Architect magazines. In April, Blackwell discussed the comp studio curriculum in a lecture, “The Necessary, the Inevitable, the Possible and the Core,” presented at a two-day conference on design and pedagogy organized by the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

John Crone is exploring the feasibility of a roundabout gateway project for West Memphis. The Mark Blackwell Rural Transportation Center, the city of West Memphis and the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department are funding the project.


Ethel Goodstein-Murphree, Greg Herman and Laura Terry received the 2007 McIntosh Faculty Research Award. Goodstein-Murphree and Herman will use the award to prepare a publication on their work in New Orleans (see pp. 45-55); Terry is writing a book on the Camp Aldersgate design/build program.

The Moreland residence in Baton Rouge, La. (left), designed by Michael Hughes and Selma Catoire-Hughes was one of four selected nationally to receive the 2006-07 Faculty Design Award from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. The Moreland residence also won a 2006 Citation Award from the Colorado chapter of the American Institute of Architects and a 2007 Merit Award from the Gulf States AIA Merit Award. Hughes published articles in the Journal of Architectural Education, Oz: Beyond Aesthetics and Baffle: The L.S.U. School of Architecture Journal; Projects by his firm were featured in Architectural Record (May 2007), This Old House Magazine (April 2007), and will appear on HGTV.

Greg Herman presented “Post-Katrina New Orleans and Design: Build New Building, New Vernacular” at the March 2007 Vernacular Architecture Forum in Savannah. He is profiled in The Things They’ve Done, a review of Rice University School of Architecture alumni that will be published in 2007. Herman also was awarded the 2007 Tau Sigma Delta Silver Medal for distinction in architectural education.


Jeff Shannon and Charlotte Taylor participated in a national panel on developing support for architecture schools. Cosponsored by the AJS and the AIA, the meeting took place in San Antonio in conjunction with the AIA annual meeting in May. Shannon and Taylor led a session that focused on involving department heads and faculty in development.

Laura Terry’s painting Carry Me Home was exhibited at the Arkansas World Trade Center through June as part of an exhibition organized for the center’s grand opening. Four of her paintings were included in the Arts in the Air exhibition at the Winthrop Rockefeller Institute on Petit Jean Mountain. Last summer Terry and nine students designed and built two accessible picnic areas for Camp Aldergate, a Little Rock camp that serves children with disabilities. The project was supported by $10,000 from the Contractors Licensing Board of Arkansas and $5,000 from a private donor.
**VISITING FACULTY**

Adam Gross, a principal with the 92-year-old Baltimore-firm Ayers/Saint/Gross, will be the Fay Jones Visiting Professor this fall. Since Gross joined the firm in 1984, they have specialized in design and planning for nonprofit institutions, with a specific focus on higher education. Now one of the leaders in that field, Ayers/Saint/Gross is currently working on 40 campuses for clients such as Johns Hopkins University Hospital, Rutgers School of Law and Emory University. "I cannot tell you how interesting it is. every day," Gross said in a 2000 interview with Edward Gants, architecture critic for the Baltimore Sun. "It's like town planning. You can do just about any building under the sun. And every campus is different. They all have different cultures and different characters and different levels of leadership."

Recently the firm has won design awards for the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Rams Head Center; the U.S. Lacrosse, National Lacrosse Center; Longwood University, Brook Common Pedestrian Mall; the Johns Hopkins University, Homewood Campus Master Plan; and the Arizona State University Comprehensive Development Plan. Gross earned his bachelor's degree in architecture from Syracuse University. This fall he and Tahar Messadi will lead a project in South Fayetteville for fourth-year students.

**Kate Kulpa** will share her expertise on curtain wall construction with School of Architecture students this fall. Currently a project architect and associate with Polshek Partnership in New York, Kulpa has designed exterior envelopes for the William J. Clinton Presidential Center in Little Rock and the Newseum/Freedom Foundation Headquarters in Washington, D.C., and managed the design team for the Pennsylvania State University Dickinson Law School in State College, Pa. She previously worked for R.A. Heintges Architects Consultants, New York; Venturi Scott Brown and Associates, Philadelphia; and Ballinger Architects, Philadelphia. She earned a B.S. in Art/Architecture from Northeastern University and an M.Arch. from Syracuse University.

**IN MEMORY**

Richard E. Kellogg, a professor emeritus of architecture who taught at the School of Architecture for 26 years, died July 11, 2007 in Fayetteville. "Dick Kellogg taught almost every course offered by the school during his tenure. In particular, he helped several generations of students master the new computer design technologies that appeared at that time," said Dean Jeff Shannon. Born June 10, 1930, in Moline, Ill., Dick Kellogg earned a Bachelor of Architecture degree at Tulane University in 1955 and a Master of Science degree in architecture at Columbia University in 1963. From 1956 to 1970 he taught at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette, La., also serving as chairman of the architecture department there. He came to the University of Arkansas in 1970.

Murray Smart, a professor emeritus of architecture and former dean of the School of Architecture, met Kellogg when they were both students at Tulane University, and later hired him. Smart said: "Dick loved every component of architecture. He was fascinated by technology, structure, site planning, and form. He thought architecture could contribute to good living, stewardship of the earth and relating to neighbors—all things that make our world a better place to live."

Following his retirement in 1996, Kellogg traveled extensively, documenting sites around the world with charcoal and watercolor sketches. His work was exhibited at the School of Architecture last fall.

**NEW STAFF**

Collin Brunner has joined the community design center staff, where he provides invaluable administrative and accounting support. A graduate of Little Rock’s Central High School, Brunner is pursuing a dual degree in political science and hospitality management from the University of Arkansas.

Tracy Cookson’s well-rounded experience in retail, customer service and higher education have provided excellent preparation for her new position as administrative assistant to architecture department head Tim de Noble. She attended Hendrix College in Conway.

Durla Grantham is the new administrative assistant in the landscape architecture department. She worked as a secondary center coordinator and library technician at Phillips Community College in Joplin before moving to northwest Arkansas. She attended the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

Mark Morgan brings 10 years of computer experience to his new job as the school’s computer lab supervisor/specialist. Most recently, he was the computer support specialist for the UA Computer Store. Morgan is earning a B.A. degree in geography.
Peter Eisenman has enjoyed a long career as an architectural theorist, provocateur and practitioner. Since 1980 his New York firm has taken on a broad range of projects encompassing urban planning, inventive private residences and landmark designs such as the Wexner Center for the Visual Arts at Ohio State University and the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe in Berlin. Eisenman currently teaches at Yale and has taught at Harvard, Princeton, Cambridge, Ohio State and the University of Arkansas, where he was the first John G. Williams Visiting Professor in 1997 – 98. This fall he will return to campus to discuss what is (and isn’t) new in the profession.

Q: Do you think media interest has changed public perception of architecture?

I think media interest has changed public perception, period, whether it’s specifically architecture or not. I think the way we view our world has been very much influenced by media. I mean, just take the incapacity that students have to read, to write letters. You know, they e-mail, they Facebook, they instant message, they have a very difficult time with spelling. There’s so many ways that our society has fallen into a kind of malaise because of the overwhelming availability and ease of information. I would agree with you there. How do you feel this has impacted architecture?

The students, first of all, learn how to do renderings and drawings that look good for the computer. They’re more interested in what is called Photoshop, how to make a drawing look like it’s real rather than interested in what would be architecture. Most presentations that I see of students applying to graduate school and other places where I encounter student portfolios are all about the latest techniques of animation and Photoshop and basically have very little to do with what architecture is really about.

So you like to see a hand-drawn rendering.

I certainly would love to be able to see a hand-drawn rendering, yes. There’s something about hand drawing that I require from my students, it’s like writing a letter, you know, as opposed to typing it or e-mailing it or what have you.

I love the hand drawn work myself – you see people thinking on paper. Absolutely!

Jeff Shannon mentioned that you’re going to discuss some of the new trends in architecture; could you talk about that?

I was going to try and talk about where I thought architecture was today. Basically, talk about the whole concept of late styles coming from a book by Edward Said which I’m very fond of, where he talks about how we’re not in a new era – and everybody wants everything to be new – but rather we’re at the end of an old era, and how one deals with the end of an old era, rather than trying to be new and avant-garde.

So, old era - what are some of the styles that you would describe as culminating or wrapping up?

Well first of all, now you’re asking me to give my lecture, and I haven’t even sat down to write it; I’m going to write it over the summer.
Okay, how about this: what do you feel is the most significant issue that architects are addressing now?

I think urban housing issues are still a big problem that architects certainly are not being asked to address. It’s not just disaster like New Orleans, . . . there are cities all over the southwest that look like bombed out cities because they’re parking lots and empty lots where people have moved out of the cities. How do we inhabit high density? That’s still a pressing problem for the West. Certainly Europeans know how to live in cities; they don’t live in shopping malls.

Can you think of any cities in the U. S. that have got it right?

I couldn’t answer that question because that’s not my area of expertise. We’re not a country of cities to start with. We’re a country of countryside, wonderful countryside. Our cities have never been places where culture was really important, where urban design and the fabric of the city were important. Chicago is probably one of the great American cities because it was able to do both, to have a grid and have a series of buildings that populated that grid that were very important to the fabric of everyday life.

Is there a project type that you’d like to do, but haven’t yet? You’ve done such a wide range of work.

I’d still like to build a high-rise building, even though I’m not certain I have any new ideas about them. I think a prison would be an interesting building type to do … We’re maybe doing an aquarium; I think that’s an interesting project. I think there’s a great deal of difference between people in an aquarium and people in a museum, that’s the kind of problem that I’m interested in.

There’s that barrier that you have to contend with in an aquarium.

Also, keeping these animals alive – you can’t lose your exhibits. The care and feeding of these guys is really important.

Final question: do you have any advice for our students?

I do have a lot of advice for students because I teach. I think that not enough students think of their education as a way to have a better and fuller life rather than to get a better job. I think that the top ten percent, whether they’re in Arkansas or Kansas or Yale, they’re the same. The trouble is, the state university is not set up to take care of that top ten percent; that’s not what they’re there for. So, the top ten percent have to struggle on their own to receive what the top ten percent at a private institution would get, in other words, an opening toward thinking about things beyond getting a job. So I try to tell students, “Hey guys, realize that you’re as good as anywhere, but you’ve got to climb out on your own, because the institution is not there for you, nor should it necessarily be there for you.” That’s a tough thing to have kids understand. There are kids that do make it out, and they’re wonderful.

Peter Eisenman will present a series of lectures titled “Close Reading on a Media Culture.” The first lecture will take place at 7:30 p.m. on September 17 in Giffels Auditorium; the second and third lectures will occur at 12:30 p.m. on September 18th-19th in the Arkansas Union Theater.
Back cover: Randall Stout's students produced multimedia studies of emotional states in preparation for their design work (see p. 16). These studies by Melissa Clark, Ericka Kauffman, Rebekah Meeks and Nadia Turella.