In recent years, we have heard much discussion about the dismantling of the star architect, apologies for design’s association with power, and cries for architecture to somehow be more “culturally relevant,” in greater touch with the “public.” More often than not, these arguments have taken moralistic twists and turns that have little to do with our subject matter: Architecture. The fallout of these discussions fits into two extremes. On one side, many within the discipline have placed good design in opposition to social responsibility, as if architecture was impotent to affect culture at large. For these critics, strong form is reduced to an instrument of existing power structures and regarded as somehow evil, or worse, helpless. Those at the other end of spectrum have naively argued for the limitless power of architecture to effect social change: the architect as superhero. Architectural discourse has become paralyzed by these extremes and in the end we have gotten caught up, not in arguing the real matter but instead in self-centeredly rehearsing once again personal anxieties about our raison d’être.

The award of the Golden Lion to the Caracas Urban-Think Tank at the Venice Biennale a year ago provoked debates that for me, a native of Caracas, painfully illustrate this point. The project was two-fold: photographic and video documentation of the living conditions of Venezuelan citizens who have taken over a 1980’s unfinished reinforced concrete banking tower in Caracas (Torre David) paired with what the authors claim is a recreation of a vernacular structure, a common “cantina” within the tower. During the course of the Biennale exhibition this cantina served traditional Venezuelan quick meals to the many tourists that came to the Arsenale. Many observers lamented the award of the Golden Lion to this non-project as the death of architecture, while others touted it as the future of the discipline, where the appropriation of the common is left as the architect’s only positive action.

While we are busy mourning or celebrating architecture’s demise, what has been left out of the conversation is the really deplorable living conditions of those who inhabit the David Tower, the socio-economic forces that have led to them having no choice but to squat there, without basic sanitation services, security, or stability. The debates ignore the arrogance of a discipline (architecture) that deems it acceptable to reconstruct a common cantina for no other purpose than the leisurely enjoyment of those who have the means to attend one of architecture’s most significant international events. The debates disregard the shrewdness of architects who
document the living conditions of those in the tower for their own professional advancement. After Barbara Kruger, Martha Rosler, Cindy Sherman, and decades of productive architectural criticism, this attitude cannot be interpreted as naïve oversight, but rather must be recognized as cynical disregard and a means of avoiding the real matter.

But what is the real matter? To confront the question we need to move beyond the false idea that architecture can be anything but uncommon. The controversy over Venturi-Scott-Brown’s decorative “halo with blue icons” for the Big House in the mid 90’s, exposed the limits of well-intended populism. As it turned out, the public did not want the Big House to be subsumed by other Michigan icons and wanted instead what good old-fashioned architecture had to offer. While some may argue that the VSB project may have been better architecture, no one can argue that it was more representative of the public. That the Venice Biennale awarded the Golden Lion to the David Tower non-project should give us pause, not because we may think it is not architecture, or bad architecture, but because it proposes a destructive version of architecture that supports and reinforces the status quo. The authors’ intent was to offer “an inspirational model acknowledging the strength of informal societies.” By aestheticizing the deplorable living conditions of those who inhabit Torre David, and claiming them as a model, the Caracas Urban-ThinkTank renders them acceptable. The “common,” therefore is problematic in two counts: It is not only unattainable and thus false, but also runs the risk of perpetuating the very social conditions that architects purport to want to ameliorate.

Architecture has always straddled a public role and the complex private-public, socio-economic forces that give shape to the built environment. Disciplinary concerns such as form, materials, program, and image, as well as conceptions of the beautiful, the sublime, and what Mack Scogin and Merrill Elam have termed “the uglyful” have always been in dialogue, critical or supportive, with the culture at large. To state the obvious, culture literally constructs our discipline; architects do not fund buildings, segments of society do, and so by definition our discipline is inevitably the product of culture. Thus, instead of talking about ourselves and our role in public life, perhaps a more productive debate revolves around what physical shape public life should take in the midst of these dramatic socio-economic and technological changes. The capacity of form and space to construct or dismantle aspects of culture is, at the end, more significant than our ever-changing anxieties about social responsibility.
Both the Chicago School of Sociology and the L.A. School of Urbanism have significantly influenced urban studies. These schools, however, draw their insights from growing places. Detroit and dozens of cities like it have lost population for decades. Their circumstances and experiences seem far removed from those of Chicago and Los Angeles. Is it time to establish a “Detroit School of Urban Studies”? What would such a school look like? How does a focus on Detroit-like places change the questions scholars ask and the answers they find? What is gained by rallying a community of scholars under the “Detroit School” banner? What is lost?

The authors of this article organized a series of colloquia throughout the 2012-13 academic year exploring the possibilities of a Detroit School of Urban Studies. This colloquium series was made possible by a grant from the Distinguished Faculty and Graduate Student Seminars program of the Office of the Vice President for Research and the Rackham School of Graduate Studies, with additional financial support from the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, the Urban and Regional Planning Program, the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies, the Residential College, the School of Social Work, and the Sociology Department. In this article, we review the meaning of “schools” in urban studies, summarize the central approaches of the Chicago and L.A. Schools, and sketch the possible dimensions of a Detroit School of Urban Studies. We conclude by considering the pros and cons of establishing such a school.

“Schools” in Urban Studies

A city-based school in urban studies refers to (1) a community of scholars and (2) the scholarship they produce about (3) a place. The members of a school form a community in the sense that their writings are in dialogue with one another, and they think of themselves as engaged in a shared intellectual project. The city at the center of that project plays a special role. It both shapes the questions that school members ask and informs their answers. Typically, school members offer their findings as generalizable to some, if not all, other cities.

Schools of Growth

For both the Chicago and the L.A. Schools, growth in the metropolises that give these schools their names significantly influenced members’ research. The Chicago School was active in the early to mid-1900s when Chicago was a dense industrial city attracting a steady flow of workers from Europe and the American South to its factories, railyards and meat-packing plants. Sociologists at the University of Chicago became interested in how this evolving urbanism affected social relations and structures in the city and vice versa. At the same time, they brought greater scientific discipline to sociology. They adopted the detailed qualitative methods of ethnography and used language and concepts borrowed from ecology to identify and explain the social phenomena they observed.

The Chicago School produced a rich literature. Members’ detailed accounts of life in ethnic enclaves and low-income “slum” areas remain classic sociological texts (see, e.g., Louis Wirth’s The Ghetto (1928) and William Thomas’ and Florian Znaniecki’s The Polish Peasant in Europe and America (1927). Urban Planners know the Chicago School best for Ernest Burgess’ concentric zone model of urban development, published in The City (1925) by Burgess and Robert Park. Burgess’ model depicted a process wherein lower-status racial and ethnic groups and nonresidential uses push outward from a central business district (“CBD”) to invade surrounding neighborhoods, in much the way that plants invade new territories. These invasions cause the next-higher status residents to move farther from the CBD, invading the surrounding neighborhoods. This process continues, ultimately establishing a series of concentric zones radiating from the CBD.

The L.A. School developed in the 1980s in part out of the feeling that the dense, centralized city that informed the Chicago School was not a good fit with modern-day Los Angeles. L.A. was (and is) a sprawling, auto-dependent, multinodal, multicultural metropolis harboring stark inequalities that the built environment often reinforced. L.A. School scholars critiqued the social and urban form emerging in L.A. (see Mike Davis’ City of Quartz (1990), and touted it as a precursor of what was to come in all cities plugged into the global flow of people and capital (see Edward Soja’s Postmodern Geographies (1989).

L.A. School scholars particularly took issue with Burgess’ concentric zone model. The postmodern city is not organized by the center, they argued, but by the periphery.

“100 Abandoned Houses” is an ongoing documentary project by photographer Kevin Bauman. These architectural portraits record the collapse of deserted houses in Detroit, a condition replicated in many urban areas around the country. www.100abandonedhouses.com.
Deconcentration and fragmentation are its hallmarks, not organized density. In line with this view, Michael Dear and Steven Flusty coined the term “Keno capitalism” to describe the development pattern characteristic of L.A. It refers to the seemingly random locations of new development, which are apt to form a crazy quilt pattern, not ordered, concentric rings.

Growth is thus at the heart of both the Chicago and L.A. Schools. It drives Burgess’ concentric zones and Dear and Flusty’s Keno capitalism. The pressures of a growing metropolis caused concerns about the staying power of Chicago’s ethnic communities. The flow of people and capital into L.A. gives the city its postmodern identity. These issues no doubt have relevance to many other cities. They are, however, far removed from the circumstances of Detroit and cities like it. What would a school of urban studies that focused on cities experiencing sustained, substantial population loss look like?

**Defining a Detroit School of Urban Studies**

George Galster, Wayne State University Professor of Urban Affairs, offered a definition of a Detroit School of Urban Studies, revised by participants at a colloquium in October 2012:

*An interdisciplinary body of work exploring the causes, processes, consequences, and responses of metropolitan areas with sizable subregion(s) experiencing significant and sustained population and household decline.*

The definition that emerged from the discussion with Galster is appealing for three reasons. First, it posits that the causes, processes, and consequences of, as well as responses to, population decline are distinct from the phenomena in growing places. Thus, decline is not merely the inverse of growth. Rather, declining places must be understood on their own terms. This premise goes to the heart of the idea of a Detroit School. The challenge to prospective Detroit School scholars is to flesh out these distinctive phenomena.

Second, the definition emphasizes interdisciplinarity. This implicitly acknowledges that a sustained and substantial loss in the number of households in a subregion has far-reaching implications. It affects both the built and the natural environments, as well as social, economic, and political processes and relations. Moreover, the relationship is recursive; these forces in turn affect depopulation. Understanding these far-ranging forces requires contributions from all of the disciplines that contribute to urban studies, including urban planning, social work, sociology, economics, political science, history, geography, natural resources, and others.

This interdisciplinarity, if borne out in practice, would set scholarship in a Detroit School of Urban Studies apart from the “shrinking cities” literature. A focus on the physical environment has dominated that literature. Scholars in this area seek to understand the character of the physical change, such as the way blight spreads, and derive ideas about how to make “shrinking cities” more livable and sustainable.

This work, while significant, narrowly circumscribes who is and should be concerned with population loss. By contrast, a Detroit School of Urban Studies as defined previously opens up the dialogue. It challenges sociologists, for example, to take stock of the ways that depopulation affects social dynamics in a city; it asks social workers to consider how community organizing might be different in depopulated neighborhoods that have experienced many failed attempts at revitalization; and it asks political scientists to consider how the power and political dynamics in a city shift when nonprofits assume the powers and responsibilities that cash-strapped local governments can no longer carry out. These are just a few of the many issues that Detroit School scholars might investigate.

The third appealing aspect of the definition is that it allows that population loss occurs unevenly across space. While the literature refers to “shrinking cities,” not all parts of such cities lose population at the same rate. Some parts are largely empty, others are losing population, others are stable, and still others are growing. Moreover, “shrinking cities” are located in metropolitan regions that may be growing or declining at different rates in different locations. By making the region the unit of analysis, the definition implicitly asserts that what is happening in subregions losing population is connected with what is happening in subregions that are not. To understand the subregion, one needs to understand its region.

**Conclusion**

Discussing a “Detroit School of Urban Studies” before one exists may seem strange. However, growth and growing places so dominate urban studies that a little cheerleading may be needed to help persuade scholars that Detroit-like places reveal important issues to investigate. This is, perhaps, our best response to the concern that Columbia University urban theorist Robert Beauregard expressed at a colloquium in our series in November 2012. He worried that in holding out Detroit as representative of a class of other cities, scholars will play down the features that make the city distinct from those other cities. Indeed, his concern is valid. Nonetheless, we believe the greater risk is that the distinctive issues of Detroit-like cities will be underexplored without some effort to rally attention to them. Based on the widespread interest our colloquium series has received, we believe many scholars are ready to tackle the issue of what investigation into Detroit-like cities can offer to urban studies.

*For more information on our colloquium series, please see our website at www.umich.edu/~detsch/*
Design as Negotiation

John McMorrough, Ph.D., Architecture Program Chair

“Let us move from the era of confrontation to the era of negotiation.” — Richard Nixon

The relation of design to the world around it is one that tests the limits of correspondence between knowledge and contingency, and every instance of design entails negotiation. These negotiations extend far beyond the accounting of inert forces and run the gamut of interpersonal arrangements from political machinations to myriad prosaic exchanges that inform each and every circumstance in the provision and practice of cities, landscapes, buildings, and objects. Whether by the deformation of a structural span, the limits of a construction budget, or the changing opinions of a building committee, design must accommodate material, economic, and cultural forces.

There is no origin of design, nor a definitive conclusion; it is not a place or a thing but a cascade of relations. Rather than lamenting the compromise of half measures and mediated expressions that only partially reflect the absolutes of its component elements, instead we should understand that design itself exists only in a state of mediation. If design inherently exists in such a state, then the question is: How does design conceptualize the position from which it operates? That is, how does the discipline of design frame its efforts to elicit, allow, or preclude the inevitable confrontation with factors external to its control? The grounds of design will be displaced, but also shared; it is an opportunity to be part of a world in — and of — design. This to and fro conceptualizes a broader notion of engagement for design, not as lofty goals of social utopianism, but as an act of dialogue and exchange into new circumstances, new insights, and new possibilities.

Continuously Improving URP

Richard K. Norton, Ph.D., J.D., Urban and Regional Planning Program Chair

Michigan’s Urban and Regional Planning Program is today one of the largest and best-regarded urban planning programs in the U.S. While we do not plan to continue growing, we are always looking for ways to improve our teaching, research, and service, as well as to do a better job of letting the world know about our accomplishments. This year, we looked especially to our alumni. This past fall, we celebrated notable alums Peter Lagerway, M.U.P.’81, as the Taubman College Distinguished Alumnus Recipient for 2012, and Kristina Ford, Ph.D., as the Rackham Centennial Lecturer for Taubman College. We also invited several alumni and the urban planning members of Taubman College’s Alumni Board of Governors to help us thoroughly and rigorously review our master of urban planning curriculum. In the spring, we turned to alumni again to help us reach out to newly admitted students and encourage them to join the Michigan family.

We have also been seeking avenues to expand our efforts to address rigorously issues of sustainability and social justice through our teaching, research, and public service. To that end, we hosted a daylong, university-wide symposium on Sustainability and Social Justice. Composed of panels of faculty and distinguished guests — both academics and practitioners — we grappled with “conflicting urgencies”: what do the concepts of sustainability and social justice mean; how do they relate to one another; and how do we move them from theory to practice? You can read a short synopsis of the opening remarks for this symposium in this publication, and you can watch the symposium itself at www.vimeo.com/album/2135261. Building on the great student and faculty energy and enthusiasm generated by this event, we hope to continue these discussions with follow-on student- and faculty-led annual symposia. Stay tuned!
What distinguishes urban design from other disciplines is the insistence upon the centrality of design as an instrumental and critical prism through which to gauge existing urban conditions and prospective visions for the city.

On this premise, the Master of Urban Design (M.U.D.) exposes students to processes and complexities of urbanization in cities, megacities, and metropolitan regions as a means of advancing new perspectives on urbanism. The degree proposes a global examination of urban design as a catalyst for progressive urban development that accounts for complex capital flows, fluctuations in land valuation, and planning strategies that anticipate diverse policies and publics. Utilizing a pedagogical mixture of project-based studios and seminars, case studies, and travel to the developed and developing world, participants are exposed to diverse urban conditions and methodologies, with an emphasis on the most challenging contexts in which to effect change. Our unique curriculum focuses design research on a single city per year as a means of allowing students to consider global issues while placing them in a local context. This iterative case study approach provides the time to acquire multiple points of view on the issues that affect urban growth.

Michigan’s course of study brings to the forefront the complex forces that impact the shaping of cities with a curriculum that collapses the distance between design and a wide range of urban disciplines. This expansive approach to urban design requires speculative insights informed by expert knowledge in areas affiliated with the design process, including real-estate development and urban economics, the function of capital markets, and the legal and urban planning issues germane to global and local urbanization.

The M.U.D. degree program sits within a vibrant design and planning college and a world-class university. Participants will be exposed to top design and planning thinkers, special events with leaders in urban design and real estate, and adjunct/affiliated faculty in business, law, natural resources and the environment, economics, and other areas.
PUBLIC Conference

PUBLIC was the third installment of a series of conferences exploring present predicaments in architecture and urban planning. Convened on September 28, 2012, in the Rackham Amphitheatre, the conference focused on the relationships between planning, architecture, and the public while exploring the social impact of designs and decisions. Questions that were considered included: What role should public space play? What is the public definition of beauty? What forces enable planning and architecture to redefine culture and serve as a catalyst for change?

A diverse group of experts who actively shape the public opinion of architecture and planning responded through informal discussion to a series of four “provocations.” These free-ranging conversations underscored the complexities and contradictions inherent in each “provocation,” as well as suggesting potential solutions to such predicaments. The following provocations were proposed:

Provocation 1: Spontaneous Interventions: Design Actions for the Common Good
The exponential growth of the modern city has estranged us from a role in shaping it. For many, the city seems just too big, too intractable, too inaccessible. But around the world and throughout the United States, individuals and organizations are intervening directly in their own environments, bringing incremental improvements to their streets, blocks, and neighborhoods. These acts of micro-urbanism, of informal urban design, are characteristically small in scale, and often temporary — the opposite of the qualities we traditionally associate with good design — yet their power resides not so much in their forms as in their impacts, in their immediate ability to infuse places with value and meaning.

IN CONVERSATION: Ned Cramer, Editor-in-Chief, Architect magazine; Cathy Lang Ho, Commissioner and Curator for the U.S. Pavilion at the 13th Venice International Architecture Biennale; David van der Leer, Assistant Curator of Architecture and Urban Studies at the Guggenheim Museum and co-curator for the U.S. Pavilion at the 13th Venice International Architecture Biennale.

Provocation 2: Beauty as a Public Right
In recent discourse, the public role of design has focused on programmatic constructs that omit the visual dimension of architecture from the equation. While iconicity played a significant role in the explosion of architecture into public life in the 1980s and ‘90s, today the image has been disregarded as elitist and, as such, argued as not belonging in the public realm. This conversation used evolving notions of beauty, ugliness, and the sublime to explore what role character may play in the construction of public life, and the design tools that can be deployed to that effect.

IN CONVERSATION: Tatiana Bilbao, Principal Architect, Tatiana Bilbao S.C.; Matias del Campo, Lecturer, University of
Pennsylvania School of Design; Marc Kushner, CEO, Architizer; François Roche, new-territories, R&Sie(n), [elf/bat/c]. MODERATOR: Joseph Rosa, Director, University of Michigan Museum of Art.

Provocation 3: Are You Receiving? Providing Public Platforms for Architecture and Design
Our understanding of the world is based on connecting and interpreting ideas according to associations and the juxtaposition of information within a given context. The linking or accumulation of information helps us form a complex picture of daily life leading to greater interaction, engagement, and understanding of our place in the world. As such, this method of structuring information based on the accumulation and remixing of data is proving significant both online and off. Fueled by advances in production processes, materials research, and social and environmental concerns, as well as influences drawn from theoretical discourse, architects and designers such as Tobias Armborst, Iker Gil, and Eric Rodenbeck are developing projects that function as public platforms that engage a broad public in questions and issues related to interdisciplinary practice across architecture and design as a way to rethink their role, open up these fields, and stretch their range of influence. From installations to events, publications, and digital projects, these practitioners are carving out new avenues for experimentation as a way to develop output that engages diverse audiences.

IN CONVERSATION: Tobias Armborst, Principal, Interboro Partners; Iker Gil, Director, MAS Studio; Eric Rodenbeck, CEO, Stamen Design. MODERATOR: Zoe Ryan, John H. Bryan Chair and Curator of Architecture and Design, Department of Architecture and Design, The Art Institute of Chicago.

Provocation 4: 13178 Moran Street
13178 Moran Street: Grounds for Detroit, an exhibition project of five experimental architecture installations by Taubman College faculty, was an invited submission to the 13th Venice International Architecture Biennale of the exhibition Common Ground, curated by David Chipperfield. The creative repurposing of vacant homes and open lots as sites of architectural experimentation used the physical material of Detroit to project new programs for old forms. This project proposed architecture as a means to finding opportunity rather than solving problems, an approach that resonated with the contemporary condition of a city like Detroit.

IN CONVERSATION: Ellie Abrons, Lecturer in Architecture; Adam Fure, Lecturer in Architecture; Meredith Miller, Assistant Professor of Architecture; Thom Moran, Lecturer in Architecture; Catie Newell, Assistant Professor of Architecture; Rosalyne Shieh, Assistant Professor of Architecture. MODERATOR: Sarah Herda, Executive Director, Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts.

To watch the PUBLIC videos: taubmancollege.umich.edu/public
Social justice and sustainability are at the core of the Urban and Regional Planning program at Taubman College. Not only are these topics of interest to the Taubman College community, but also these issues are widely discussed among colleagues in the community at large. An important aspect of these discussions, one which became clear during the course of this symposium, is that there is no clear answer and no clear path to understanding the tensions and the synergies between these two very important topics of the built environment.

Several years ago, the faculty in the Urban and Regional Planning program held a strategic planning session to talk
about what we wanted to do, what we wanted to be, what we wanted to focus on and engage in. The faculty come to the program largely from two perspectives: some come from a sustainability background and set of concerns and others come from a social justice background and set of concerns. Consequently, it was very quickly decided that we should be dealing with issues of both sustainability and social justice, and then the real debate became: How do we address them? Do we deal with them separately or together? How do we bring them together?

We concluded that we need to do both, but we had to approach them both in a way that grapples with those concepts critically and thoughtfully. We had to avoid reducing them to platitudes and not take them as pre-determined road maps. We resolved to seriously examine their meaning and relationship to one another.

The next step was to determine how to fold those concepts into our curriculum. For this symposium, student groups took the lead on advancing some of the ideas that were discussed, in essence, holding the faculty’s feet to the fire. Here at the college we have approached these topics through specific seminars, as well as having folded these concepts into our core courses. Last year, we decided through a student group to organize a symposium to bring some colleagues here to help us work through these issues. Consequently, this symposium served multiple purposes.

First, it created a forum that was engaging for our visitors to grapple with these topics. The symposium brought together ten distinguished visitors, four academics and six practitioners, to provide a variety of viewpoints on each topic.

Consequently, it was very quickly decided that we should be dealing with issues of both sustainability and social justice and then the real debate became: How do we address them? Do we deal with them separately or together? How do we bring them together?

Second, we wanted this symposium to become a vehicle for our own faculty to get together and talk about these things in an in-depth way that we have not been able to do so far because we are all busy teaching our courses and engaged in other ways. And finally, as a way to introduce ourselves and our ideas outside of campus, we involved members of the larger University of Michigan community, the Ann Arbor community, and colleagues from Michigan State University. Our goal was to expand this discussion and approach these topics in a critical and thoughtful way.

Sustainability and social justice are not necessarily at odds, but it is also the case that they are not necessary compatible. They sometimes conflict. Sometimes things can be promoted for the sake of sustainability that are in fact socially unjust, and sometimes things promoted for the purposes of social justice are not sustainable. So the trick is to figure out where they conflict and where they converge and how we pursue them in ways that avoid the conflicts or deal with the conflicts so we can approach them fruitfully from both perspectives. That was the goal of this conference. The sessions were spent looking at the topics theoretically for much of the day but by the end, applying these theories to practice.
Research on the City 2012: Detroit

In its inaugural year, the Research on the City initiative is a competitive faculty research grant. The terms of the initiative encourage research teams to look beyond Taubman College to include collaborators from other fields of study. In addition, teams were required to focus their work on the city of Detroit.

The grant submissions were anonymously evaluated by a distinguished jury: Malik Goodwin, B.S.’97, M.Arch./M.U.P.’02, Vice President - Project Management, Detroit Economic Growth Corporation, and Taubman College Alumni Society Board of Governors member; Maria Nicanor, Associate Curator of Architecture, Guggenheim Museum, co-curator, BMW Guggenheim Lab; Andrew Zago, Principal, Zago Architecture.

Grants to fund a yearlong study were awarded to five research teams, and the results of their work were exhibited at the Liberty Research Annex gallery November 16–December 16, 2012. The grant program and exhibition were generously supported by Cynthia Berkshire, A.B.’83 LSA, and Alan Berkshire, B.S.’82.

Maria Arquero de Alarcón, Jennifer Maigret, R. Charles Dershimer, School of Education: “A Dozen Playgrounds” proposes to recuperate playgrounds as space for children, central to the living fabric of the city. Four schools were identified as sites for prototypical playgrounds; the iterative designs for these sites examine three different approaches toward designing interfaces between landscape and urbanism, overlaid with a concern for the natural environment.

Andrew Herscher, Steven Mankouche, Andrew Thompson, School of Art & Design: “Atlas of Love and Hate: Detroit Geographies” undertakes an alternative atlas of Detroit: a geography of the city that emerges from, and is adequate to, the city’s complex amalgam of contradictions. This project returns to an idea posed in 1969 by Detroit geographer, William Bunge, who proposed an “Atlas of Love and Hate” representing the city’s unknown, repressed, and invisible spatial conditions.

Rania Ghosn, El Hadi Jazairy, Sangyun Lee, School of Natural Resources and Environment: “Geographies of Trash” projects five situated yet generic architectural strategies of trash formations in the territorial grid. The five projects — CAP, COLLECT, CONTAIN, PRESERVE, and FORM — materialize alternative imaginaries of trash systems to engage issues of monumentalism, value, scales of management, social relations, ecology, and geography.

Mireille Roddier, Anya Sirota, Lada Adamic, School of Information & Center for the Study of Complex Systems, Jean Louis Farges, AKOAKI: “Imaging Detroit” is a speculative design research project and situational encounter that spanned a number of concentrated months, but found public and material expression over the course of a two-day pop-up agora and open-air media festival in a park on Detroit’s near east side.

Heidi Beebe, Julia McMorrough, John Marshall: The “Re:Tool-Kit for Detroit” project began with the question, “What can get made in Detroit?” The objective of the research was to gather insights about the skills and services available in the city today by conducting interviews with people who make things, resulting in a handbook for good communication practices between designers and fabricators. It continues with an online version at www.retoolkitdetroit.org.

For more information: taubmancollege.umich.edu/rotc
Clockwise from top left: “Imaging Detroit”; “A Dozen Playgrounds”; “Re: Tool-Kit for Detroit”; “Geographies of Trash.”
The Venice International Architecture Biennale is arguably the most important event on the international contemporary architecture calendar. Held in Venice, Italy, every other year, the Biennale showcases new ideas and projects by architects from around the world. The 13th Venice International Architecture Biennale was organized by architect David Chipperfield, who selected “Common Ground” as the overall theme of the exhibition. In responding to this theme, architects were challenged to put their own work into a global perspective and demonstrate a commitment to shared and common values.

Taubman College faculty participated in two projects for the Biennale:

13178 Moran Street: Grounds for Detroit is a collective exhibition of five experimental architecture installations and a curated show of work by more than ten artists, architects, and writers currently working in and on Detroit. In part, the exhibition revisits a collaborative fellowship project from 2010, where five of the architects collectively bought an abandoned single-family house in Detroit for $500 cash at public auction. The house on Moran Street served as a shared substrate within which each practice constructed a distinct project — a full-scale intervention. This project was designed by Ellie Abron with Adam Fure; Meredith Miller, Milligram Office; Thom Moran; Catie Newell, *Alibi Studio; Rosalyn Shieh, Schaum/Shieh.

supermanoeuvre operates through fluid collaborative networks across a diverse range of domains and between peers in three continents. Leveraging the potential of a highly networked structure, supermanoeuvre has been central in establishing a range of nonstandard practice initiatives, including the International Fabrication Robotics Network, founded by Wes McGee and Dave Pigram, which is dedicated to the evolution of advanced fabrication and algorithmic design techniques. The Clouds of Venice, supermanoeuvre’s contribution to FORMATIONS in the Australian Pavilion, is a demonstration of the potential for extreme customization and complex assemblies via the use of robotic fabrication.


Grounds for Detroit / supermanoeuvre: Projects for the 2012 Venice Biennale
Recently Published:
*Balthazar Korab: Architecture of Photography*

No one captured the midcentury modernism of the *Mad Men* era better than the late Balthazar Korab. As one of the period’s most prolific and celebrated architecture photographers, Korab captured images as graceful and elegant as his subjects. His iconic photographs for master architects immortalized their finest works, while leaving his own indelible impact on twentieth-century visual culture. In this illustrated biography, the first dedicated solely to his life and career, John Comazzi, M.Arch.’98, M.S.’99, traces Korab’s circuitous path to a career in photography. He paints a vivid picture of a young man forced to flee his native Hungary, who goes on to study architecture at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris before immigrating to the United States and launching his career as Eero Saarinen’s on-staff photographer. The book includes a portfolio of more than 100 images from Korab’s commissioned architecture photography, as well as close examinations of Saarinen’s TWA Terminal and the Miller House in Columbus, Indiana. The photos documenting finished buildings and architects at work include images of Mies van der Rohe’s S.R. Crown Hall, Le Corbusier’s Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts at Harvard University, Louis Kahn’s Kimbell Art Museum and Salk Institute, Minoru Yamasaki’s World Trade Center, Richard Meier’s Douglas House, Frank Lloyd Wright’s Fallingwater, and Jørn Utzon’s Sydney Opera House, among many others.
Lecture Series: Aesthetic

“Aesthetic matters are fundamental for the harmonious development of both society and the individual.”
— Friedrich Schiller

In addressing “Aesthetic” concerns in the Fall 2012 lecture series at Taubman College, we continued our ongoing series of concentrations on the conditions of design in the contemporary world. In previous years, the focus was on the frameworks for architectural work: “Technique” in Fall 2010 and “Discipline” in Winter 2011. This series has included a wide variety of speakers, among them not only architects and urban designers, but also artists, graphic designers, and theorists. In “Aesthetic,” the focus was on the aesthetic as a constitutive component of appearance in the logic of design, whether in the form of building, city, product, or situation, with the implication of concepts that exist within and around those appearances — not as superfluous conditions, but as core values for architecture and urban planning.

In this effort, we apply the collective intelligence of the school (this includes both faculty and students) to the most pressing issues of the practice of architecture. These issues involve economic, environmental, and political concerns, but also the reformulation of the academy into more effective dispositions vis-à-vis the world around us. — John McMorrough

> K. Michael Hays
“Architecture and Its Own: From Aesthetics to Ontology”
Robert J. Swanson Lecture
In his 2009 book, Architecture’s Desire, Hays explored the theoretical ethos of the advanced architecture of the 1970s. This lecture addressed the question of the ontological condition of post-contemporary architecture, speculatively adding a fourth element, the symptomatic, to the paradigm of Lacan’s triad. Using examples of contemporary architecture such as (pictured clockwise from top left) Toyo Ito’s “Sendai Mediatheque,” Diller Scofidio + Renfro’s “Blur,” Heatherwick Studio’s “UK Pavilion Shanghai Expo, 2010,” and Hollwich Kushner’s “Wendy,” Hays posits that these structures and others like them are an alternative to contemporary buildings through their emphasis on a broader ontological field.

Photo credits: “Sendai Mediatheque” by Nacasa & Partners Inc.; “Blur” © Beat Widmer; “UK Pavilion” by Iwan Baan; “Wendy” by Michael Moran/OTTO.
To begin the discussion on "Aesthetic," Scogin and Elam brought a mix of ideas from architecture, art, and popular culture to explore the concept of the "uglyful." Elam said, "Within the discipline of architecture, the strangely familiar emerges as a sophisticated radicalism — the uglyful — which gets to the heart and soul of things... The uglyful is a radicalism that evokes the familiar, makes us uncomfortable, and pulls us toward the humane." This diagram suggests the various paths, along with a timeline, toward various aesthetic plateaus: the uglyful, beauty, banal, grotesque, and ultimately, the sublime.
Faculty News

Caroline Constant, Emil Lorch Collegiate Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning, has been named a Peer Review Editor for *Places*, an interdisciplinary journal of contemporary architecture, landscape, and urbanism, with particular emphasis on the public realm as physical place and social ideal.


Professor of Architecture and Urban and Regional Planning Douglas Kelbaugh served as chair on the 2012 Congress for the New Urbanism (CNU) Charter Awards Jury. Lecturer Kit McCullough also served on the jury.

Richard Norton, Chair of Urban and Regional Planning, is part of an interdisciplinary research team recently approved for MCubed seed grant funding. Their project, “Innovatively Planning for Technological Innovation: Water, Infrastructure, and Sustainability,” was proposed by Josh Newell, Assistant Professor at the School of Natural Resources & Environment. Nancy Love, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, is the other member of the interdisciplinary team. The research team will use the MCubed funds to support a sustainable water infrastructure and planning Ph.D. cohort, composed of students from the College of Engineering, the School of Natural Resources, and Taubman College of Architecture and
Urban Planning, mentored by the three MCubed faculty investigators. The project also will hold Idea Lab Sessions, composed of faculty, students, and interested collaborators. Expected deliverables will include a collaborative journal article and research proposals to the National Science Foundation.

Professor Martin Murray was announced as a finalist for the Herskovits Award presented by the African Studies Association for his book, *City of Extremes: The Spatial Politics of Johannesburg*. The Herskovits Award is presented annually by the Africa Studies Association to the author of the most important scholarly work in African studies published in English.

Associate Professor Karl Daubmann delivered a keynote address at the AIA Colorado Practice and Design Conference in November. Daubmann’s talk, “Excess Efficiencies,” presented work from practice that leverages digital design and digital fabrication tools at various scales.

Associate Professor Karl Daubmann, Assistant Professor John Marshall, and Lecturers Tsz Yan Ng and Joel Schmidt presented projects as part of DELECTRICITY, a contemporary light and art festival in Detroit’s Midtown in October.

The Working Committee on Architecture and Politics presented “Architecture, Image, Action” in October, which explored the role of images in architecture and visual culture. Speakers included: Associate Professor Andrew Herscher; Michael Stöneberg, independent curator, Munich; Mary Woods, Cornell University; and Assistant Professor Claire Zimmerman. Brendan Fay; Associate Professor Keith Mitnick, Assistant Professor Anca Trandafirescu, and Lecturer Etienne Turpin were respondents.

Associate Professor Perry Kulper was featured in the exhibition “Aesthetics / Anesthetics: on birds, axonometries, children, green, comics and 30 Storefronts,” at the Storefront for Art and Architecture in New York in July.

Kulper’s “storefront, a cosmology”
Taubman College faculty, students and graduates presented papers and projects at the ACADIA 2012 Annual Conference, “Synthetic Digital Ecologies” held at the California College of the Arts in San Francisco in October. The ACADIA (Association for Computer Aided Design in Architecture) Conference brings together international designers, researchers, and practitioners who are undertaking experimental research and projects that explore the reciprocity and synergy between the digital and the physical. Presentations included: Associate Professor Steven Mankouche, Joshua Bard, M.Arch.’07, and Lecturer Matthew Schulte, “Digital Steam Bending: Re-Casting Thonet through Digital Techniques” and “Probing the Proto-synthetic Nature of Plaster through Robotic Tooling”; Associate Professor Geoffrey Thün, Assistant Professor Kathy Velikov, Lecturer Wes Mcgee, Lisa Sauvé, M.Arch.’11, “Design Ecologies for Responsive Environments: Resonant Chamber, an Acoustically Performative System”; Assistant Professor Catie Newell, Lecturer Wes Mcgee, Aaron Willette, M.S.’13, “Glass Cast: A Reconfigurable Tooling System for Free-form Glass Manufacturing”; Assistant Professor Glenn Wilcox, Assistant Professor Anca Trandafirescu “Cutwork: Robotic Hotwire Foam Cutting for Producing Variable Pre-Cast Building Units.”

Associate Professor Mireille Roddier and Assistant Professor Anya Sirota presented the Metropolitan Observatory for Digital Culture and Representation (MODCaR) at the Finissage and Grande Meeting di Chiusura of the 13th Venice International Architecture Biennale. They discussed their Research on the City project “Imaging Detroit” in the morning session, titled “Making Visible the Collective Value,” and led one of the working groups in which Venetians were invited to discuss the state of abandoned buildings in their city.

Associate Professor Geoffrey Thün and Assistant Professor Kathy Velikov published recent research examining the relationships between renewable energy systems, mobility infrastructure and projected urban patterns in a chapter titled Thün and Velikov’s Great Lakes Megaregion Shed Mapping in Sustainable Energy Landscapes: Design Planning and Development.

Associate Professor Geoffrey Thün, Assistant Professor Kathy Velikov with FABLab Director and Lecturer Wes McGee presented their “Resonant Chamber” project at SIGGRAPH 2012: the 39th International Conference and Exhibition on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques at the Los Angeles Convention Center in August.

Associate Professor Jason Young was awarded a 2012-2013 fellowship by the Institute for the Humanities for his research project, “Skirmishes with the MacroPhenomenal: Letting Go of the City.”

Sean Ahlquist, Assistant Professor of Architecture at Taubman College and doctoral candidate at the University of Stuttgart in the Institute for Computational Design (ICD) completed two design research projects at ICD, examining the potential of variegated material constructs to form complex force-active structural and spatial systems, as well as the development of a custom computational design application.

Assistant Professor McLain Clutter was awarded a Graham Foundation grant for his research titled “Imaginary Apparatus: Film Production and Urban Planning in New York City, 1966–1975,” which traces the intersection of policies regarding film production and urban planning policy during John Lindsay’s mayoral tenure in New York (1966–1973).

In collaboration with Mark Linder from Syracuse Architecture, Assistant Professor McLain Clutter organized an exhibition titled “American Cities 2.5” at the McGill University School of Architecture Gallery in Montreal in November. The exhibition featured one project by Clutter and Linder, respectively, each utilizing techniques of deploying GIS as a design medium that the two developed together.

Assistant Professor Rania Ghosn’s essay titled “Move Along! There Is Nothing to See” was published in issue 40 of Thresholds, the Journal of the MIT Department of Architecture. She also published, “Where are the Missing Spaces? The Geography of some Uncommon Interests,” in the Yale Architectural Journal Perspecta 45.

Assistant Professor Joy Knoblauch presented her research on the economics of the fear of crime and the growth of surveillance technologies in public housing at the Sixth Biennial Urban History Association Conference held at...
faculty update

Top: McGee and Clifford’s “La Voûte de LeFevre” at OSU. Bottom: Newell and McGee’s “Specimen” for ArtPrize.
Columbia University in New York City in October. She spoke as part of a panel on “Policing, Crime, and Urban Governance,” with a paper titled “Making Fear Pay; Oscar Newman, Crime Prevention and the New York City Housing Authority (1968–1974).”

Assistant Professor Catie Newell, FABLab Director and Lecturer Wes Mcgee, and Master of Science in Materials Systems candidate Aaron Willette, along with the help of M.Arch. student Grant Weaver, installed “Specimen” at the SiTE:Lab, an ArtPrize venue in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Assistant Professor of Practice Neal Robinson won an AIA Interiors Honor Award for his design of the Ann Arbor restaurant Frita Batidos at the annual American Institute of Architects Michigan Awards Gala in June.

Assistant Professors Anca Trandafirescu and Glenn Wilcox’s installation work LUMANOTUS was on view in November in Winston Square Park, Winston-Salem, NC. The installation, created in collaboration with lighting design students from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and under the direction of Norman Coates, Director of the Lighting Program, was the annual Winston-Salem Lighting Project. Three large-scale inflatable/inhabitable monuments were installed in a public park and illuminated by both projected and animated lighting media. Models and drawings of the work were on display at the Swift Wade Gallery in Winston-Salem.

The second annual Sheikh Zayed Institute Award for Innovation in Pediatric Surgery was presented to a multi-disciplinary team from the University of Michigan, including Assistant Professor Sean Vance, working with surgeons and engineers from the Department of Pediatric Surgery and the Medical Innovation Center. The award recognized work on a prototype isolation bed for pediatric neuroblastoma patients undergoing treatment with a targeted radioactive particle, metaiodobenzylguanidine (MIBG).

Lecturers Nahyun Hwang and David Eugin Moon’s project “(No)Stop Marconi,” was featured in this year’s International Architecture Biennale Rotterdam.

FABLab Director and Lecturer Wes Mcgee and Brandon Clifford, co-founders of Matter Design Studio, opened their installation, “La Voûte de LeFevre,” at the Ohio State University Knowlton School of Architecture in Columbus in May.

Christian Stayner, the 2012-13 William Muschenheim Fellow in Architecture, teamed with Jennifer Bonner, TVSDesign Distinguished Critic at Georgia Tech, to develop a project for the first Istanbul Design Biennial. The project, “Olfactory Futures,” is based on the idea that smell is a neglected realm in the design disciplines.

Published

Professor Margaret Dewar and Centennial Professor June Manning Thomas edited The City After Abandonment, a series of essays on policy and planning issues in declining cities; the book was published by University of Pennsylvania Press (2012).

Associate Professor Andrew Herscher published his book, The Unreal Estate Guide to Detroit (University of Michigan Press, 2012), listed as “a guide to the emergence of alternative urban cultures in the wake of Detroit’s economic decline.”

Harley Etienne, Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning’s new book, Pushing Back the Gates: Neighborhood Perspectives on University-Driven Revitalization in West Philadelphia was published by Temple University Press (2013).
Promotions

Robert Adams was promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in architecture. As a designer who makes things that seek to transform how we engage the physical world, his work has primarily taken the form of installations and exhibits in which artifacts, building apparatuses, and architectural spaces are used to reveal and interrogate the social, political, and experiential aspects of the public realm. His contributions start with issues of construction highlighting that things that are “made,” tell stories, and reveal connections among systems, events, and thinking. China has been a venue for those interests as he explored the effects of rapid urbanization and globalization and illuminated connections that are hidden even to architects themselves. In recent years, he has also built a powerful commentary on disability as a design consideration and is a leader in getting the field of architecture to think differently, to learn from difference, and to transcend from just implementing compliance-based, minimum standards to something much more creative and inclusive. Adams came to U-M in 2003 and was recruited from professional practice. He has previously taught at Southern California Institute of Architecture, the Otis College of Art and Design, and the University of Minnesota.

Lan Deng was promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in urban planning. She came to U-M in 2004 after receiving her doctoral degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of California, Berkeley. Her initial training in geography at Peking University is relatively unique in the urban planning field, and she has brought an important perspective to the field that is highly regarded. Deng’s research has focused on the provision of affordable housing in the United States and China, and her work assesses the effectiveness and impacts of governmental policies and institutional structures relevant to the built environment. She brings rigorous quantitative analyses to bear on debates that too frequently revolve around ideology or conventional wisdom and have often proceeded without systematic evidence. She is widely credited as the first to use quantitative methodologies to systematically examine the Low Income Housing Tax Credit program in the United States. Her research engages the central debates of her area of expertise: the cost effectiveness of current affordable housing initiatives; the relationship of housing policies with race and class segregation; and the impact of affordable housing developments on nearby properties and neighborhoods.

Steven Mankouche was promoted to associate professor, with tenure, in architecture. Prior to joining the college in 2003 as the Willard A. Oberdick Fellow, he taught at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He has extensive professional experience and has been the principal of Atelier Mankouche since 1996. The major focus of his creative practice and pedagogy is in material practice — a form of inquiry into the use, behavior, culture, and history of materials executed through making. This mode of architectural design practice is informed by and explores the history of labor and production, technology and its life cycles, and the culture and physicality of building materials. In the field of architecture, material culture has conventionally been studied through two distinct lenses: historical research or full-scale material research and prototyping. Mankouche’s work is original in that
he combines these two traditions, shedding new light on how cultural contingencies affect building methods and exposing the impact that material practices have in the construction of culture. His work has received some of the most prestigious honors within his area, including an Architect Magazine Research and Development Award, a Design Award from the Canadian Wood Council, and design awards from the Boston Society of Architects as well as the Architecture League of New York.

Roy Strickland was promoted to professor of architecture, with tenure. Recruited from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2001, he served as the first director of the Master of Urban Design degree for the past ten years. He is credited with developing an academic curriculum that allows students to gain valuable skills and insights as they participate in the urban design process and for creating interdisciplinary urban design laboratories for field work in the U.S. and abroad. There, students can research issues at scales including neighborhoods, districts, and even a new city with a potential population of 3 million people for one of the major “megaregions” of the world, Istanbul, Turkey. Through these and other interventions, he has helped reshape urban design theory and practice. Strickland is known nationally and internationally for his “City of Learning” strategy — a highly innovative approach to school design that integrates to the largest degree possible the school and the community — and his projects in the Harlem district of New York City are at the centerpiece of his upcoming book, Designing the Big Small School. He is the principal of the Office of Roy Strickland (also Roy Strickland Urban Design). His Bachelor of Arts degree is from Columbia University and his Master of Architecture is from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

**New Appointments**

Sean Ahlquist was appointed assistant professor of architecture. He will be joining the University of Michigan’s Computational Media and Interactive Systems faculty cluster that was created from President Coleman’s Interdisciplinary Faculty Initiative. Ahlquist is the founder of Proces2, and a Ph.D. candidate at the Institute for Computational Design at the University of Stuttgart. He holds a Master of Architecture from the Architectural Association in London Emergent Design and Technologies Programme. His current research involves the development of computational methods that impose material characteristics through the calculation of fundamental physical behaviors. This involves the cross-disciplinary study of biology, biomimetic and structural engineering, material science, and computation. The work embodies the implementation of simulation as an explorative tool for the discovery of principles in materialization and application of such developments for the generation of integrated structural, material, climatic, and spatial architectures.

Harley Etienne was appointed assistant professor of urban planning. With several years of teaching experience as an assistant professor at Georgia Tech, he brings expertise in community development, as well as disaster prevention and recovery planning, specifically in Haiti. His recently published
book, *Pushing Back the Gates: Neighborhood Perspectives on University-Driven Revitalization in West Philadelphia*, studied how higher education institutions can become involved with their communities. He also has a well-established record demonstrating his commitment to diversifying the field of urban planning. He co-wrote the article “Diversity in Urban Planning: From Admissions to Practice” that appeared in the *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. Etienne received his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Morehouse College, his Master of Arts in Urban Studies from Temple University, and his Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning from Cornell University.

Lesli Hoey was appointed assistant professor of urban planning. She will be joining the University of Michigan’s Sustainable Food Systems faculty cluster that was created from President Coleman’s Interdisciplinary Faculty Initiative. Hoey recently completed her Ph.D. in City and Regional Planning at Cornell University with concentrations in participatory planning, food and nutrition policy, and development evaluation. With an emphasis on Latin America, specifically Bolivia, her research focuses on how policy processes facilitate or limit the development of equitable, healthy, and sustainable food systems. Hoey’s interest in the nexus between nutrition policy and questions of equity and implementation science fills existing gaps in food systems scholarship. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Earlham College and her Master of Regional Planning from Cornell University.

Joy Knoblauch was appointed assistant professor of architecture. She recently completed her doctoral degree in the History, Theory, and Criticism of Architecture at Princeton University, focusing on the interaction between psychology and architecture. Her research (supported by the National Science Foundation, the Centre Canadien d’Architecture, and the Fellowship of Woodrow Wilson Scholars) engages ongoing debates about the relation between policy and architecture, the intersection of the human sciences and design, the history of medicine, and the use of social science methods in design. Through a study of prisons, public housing, and mental health centers, her dissertation argues that the newly softened institutional environments of the 1960s were sites of biopolitical research, shaping a new direction for the discipline of architecture toward an enriched understanding of the heterogeneous occupants of those institutions. She has a Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University, a Master of Environmental Design from Yale University, and she has worked in architecture offices in Ithaca, New York, and San Francisco, California.
Andrew Holder was appointed the Willard A. Oberdick Fellow. He is the co-principal of the Los Angeles Design Group (LADG), where his design interests include repurposing common or outmoded drawing techniques, inventing architectural characters, and inducing states of play in an audience. Holder has held teaching appointments at UCLA, SCI-Arc, and Otis College of Art and Design, and is a frequent guest critic. He received his Master of Architecture degree from the University of California, Los Angeles with distinction and graduated summa cum laude from Lewis and Clark College with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Alexander Maymind was appointed the Walter B. Sanders Research Fellow. Previously, he taught at Cornell University Department of Architecture in both Ithaca and New York City. Professionally, he has worked for Eisenman Architects and Richard Meier and Partners. He has collaborated with L.E.FT Architects, Dagmar Richter, and Andrew Zago. His speculative design, research, criticism, and interviews have been published in Log, Pidgin Magazine, Thresholds, Conditions Magazine, and One:Twelve. Maymind received a Master of Architecture degree from Yale University School of Architecture, and a Bachelor of Science in Architecture from The Ohio State University Knowlton School of Architecture. His current projects include editing and assembling a forthcoming book of collected essays from the critic Jeffrey Kipnis and a series of comparative essays on prominent architectural figures.

Christian Stayner was appointed the William Muschenheim Fellow. Stayner is a founding partner of Stayner Architects, a Los Angeles-based design practice that provides comprehensive architectural services. His current academic research focuses on the possibilities of formalism and informality in excavation, spoils, and land use; East African urbanism and territorial organizations; and practice in the public domain. Stayner received his Master of Architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, with distinction in studio, and his Bachelor of Arts in Architecture and Human Rights Theory from Harvard College and the experimental liberal arts institution, Deep Springs College.

Lucas Kirkpatrick was appointed to Taubman College as a Michigan Society of Fellows post-doctoral fellow. He received his doctoral degree from the University of California-Davis where he wrote his dissertation, “Liquid Resistance – Water, Power, and the Politics of Infrastructural Crisis and Contraction in New Orleans.” Kirkpatrick blends his sociological perspective with community studies and regional development and focuses his research around the politics of infrastructure. He will join other urban planning faculty in the college studying shrinking cities in the region that are grappling with the withdrawal of infrastructure — from parks to water and sewer to streets. He will also work with faculty on developing the “Detroit School” initiative.
Taubman Scholars

A portion of the income from A. Alfred Taubman’s transformative endowment gift enables a group of talented students each year to pursue their dreams of a career in Architecture, Urban Planning, or Urban Design. In December 2012, this year’s Taubman Scholars met with Mr. Taubman for lunch at the Michigan Union to share stories and thank him for his generosity. Some of the thoughts from the students:

“This award not only helps me financially, but it also encourages me to give my all.”

“Without this support, I would not have been able to pursue my passion.”

“Michigan has outperformed our expectations and offered us the resources that were not accessible elsewhere. Thank you for making our dreams a reality.”

“No words will be enough to convey the extent of my gratitude.”

“I never dreamed I would have the opportunity to be a Michigan Wolverine, and I feel fortunate that the Taubman Scholarship makes this possible.”

“One day I look forward to being an alumna who is able to support current students, just as your generosity has supported us.”
Scholars and Patrons

Taubman College’s Scholars and Patrons event is held annually, celebrating the generosity of our donors and the excellence of our scholars. This year, the College commemorated the inaugural award of the Robert and Bettie Metcalf Scholarship. Professor James Chaffers, M.Arch. ’69, D.Arch. ’71, Jeffrey Hausman, B.S. ’79, M.Arch. ’81, and Metcalf Scholar Andrea Kamilaris reflected on the opportunities and contributions that Professor and Dean Emeritus Robert Metcalf has made to the College and the profession. Clint Harris, B.S. ’72, M.Arch. ’74 spoke about the importance and impact of alumni support, which expresses the belief that our students will make a difference in the world and that funding their efforts is a sound investment in our collective future.
Professor Emeritus Norman E. Barnett: A 70-year Relationship with the University of Michigan

When Norman E. Barnett, B.S.’44, M.S.’47, decided to study physics in college, his advisors at Jamestown (N.Y.) High School suggested the three best programs in the country: MIT, Cal Tech, and the University of Michigan. Because MIT was costly and Cal Tech was across the country, the Barnett family chose the University of Michigan.

Barnett’s life at Michigan included playing the French horn in both the Marching and Concert Bands. He persuaded Professor William Revelli to allow him to play in the band as a freshman. When offering him the rare opportunity, Revelli said, “Don’t disappoint me,” engaging Barnett’s persistence and drive.

As an undergraduate, he worked in a research lab. This physics student had the required skills for a project on infrared and acoustics, led by Dr. Paul Geiger, a leader in acoustical research. After graduation, Barnett joined the war effort by doing engine aircraft research for the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics in Cleveland. After the war ended, he returned to Michigan for graduate study in Physics, focusing on acoustics. He is still involved with the Physics Department, regularly attending Saturday morning Physics lectures and senior colloquiaums.

Prior to joining the faculty at Taubman College in 1969, Barnett was a contract physicist at Willow Run Research Labs and then with the Electrical Engineering Department, where he began teaching Architectural Acoustics for engineering and architecture students. After a few years, this area of study moved to the Architecture Program.

Once he joined the Architecture faculty, Barnett worked with colleagues to ensure that students had a thorough understanding of the technical areas needed to pursue a career in architecture. He was instrumental in the development of Environmental Technology courses, insisting that it was necessary to consider all aspects of a project simultaneously with design. In addition to teaching architectural acoustics and architectural photography, Barnett worked closely with faculty and students in the doctoral program, particularly in the development of research projects. Even after his retirement in 1993, Barnett continued to work with Professor James Turner in developing software for teaching architectural acoustics. Barnett also served as an acoustical consultant for the renovation of Hill Auditorium. In 2002, Barnett received the Distinguished Service Award for his contributions and dedication to Taubman College, as well as to the University.

When Barnett and his late wife, Mary, began their estate planning, they asked themselves, “Who has been good to us?” Their response was three endowed funds: The Norman E. and Mary E. Barnett Graduate Fellowship in the College of Literature, Science and the Arts, which supports graduate student research in physics; The Norman E. and Mary E. Barnett Scholarship in Music, for students studying French horn or voice performance, specifically opera; and The Norman E. and Mary E. Barnett Fund at Taubman College to support student research in environmental technology.

In addition to supporting these three endowments, Barnett also makes annual gifts to endowments bearing the names of his former colleagues, William Scott, Willard Oberdick, and Lester Fader, all of whom he worked closely with during his career at Taubman College.

We now need to ask ourselves, “Who has been good to the University of Michigan and Taubman College?” We are the grateful beneficiaries of Barnett’s decisions to attend, work, and support the University of Michigan and Taubman College. Professor Emeritus Norman E. Barnett has made a lasting impact with his contributions, making certain that Revelli would not be disappointed.
Research on the City: A Couple’s Generous Gift Provides an Opportunity to Understand Urban Issues Through Interdisciplinary Research

Many people desire to make a difference in the world but find true change hard to achieve. The step from talk to action is often daunting and requires the courage of one’s convictions as a motivating force. For Cynthia Berkshire, A.B. ‘83 LSA, and Alan Berkshire, B.S. ’82, a passionate interest in architectural and planning issues, combined with the vision of Taubman College Dean Monica Ponce de Leon, provides the impetus for a personal attempt to effect change.

Research on the City, a new competitive faculty research grant program generously supported by the Berkshires, is designed to encourage and support interdisciplinary research on urban topics. The grant funds research projects that address specific contemporary urban conditions. In addition, it emphasizes the expansion of the traditional role of architects and planners through collaboration with professionals in other fields.

In this inaugural year of Research on the City, the parameters for winning the grant included two specific conditions: a focus on Detroit, due to its importance, relevance, and proximity to the University of Michigan; and the addition of at least one researcher from outside the College.

“Issues facing cities, particularly large cities, interest and attract us,” say the Berkshires, who currently reside in Los Angeles. “We have lived all of our adult life and raised our family in large cities, and so we see some of the evolving conditions firsthand. We chose to fund Research on the City to provide seed money for scholars and practitioners to look at the development of the contemporary city in new ways.”

But this program is about more than the Berkshires’ love of cities; it’s also about creatively combining expertise from related fields. Guided by Dean Ponce de Leon’s vision, Taubman College is positioning itself to be a leader in interdisciplinary collaboration. “Our students must be prepared to understand and address issues that reach beyond the traditional boundaries of their professions and the scope of any one discipline,” notes Dean Ponce de Leon. “The significant societal problems of today and tomorrow cannot be analyzed or addressed in the context of any one discipline or field.”

When asked about the importance of interdisciplinary research, Cynthia noted, “Historically, most universities have encouraged, consciously or not, specialization among faculty creating inward-looking silos of deep focus on narrow topics. We feel Taubman College and the University of Michigan are leaders in broadening the possible ways to think creatively about problems and issues.”

The 2012 Research on the City projects were on display at Taubman College’s Liberty Research Annex Gallery November 16–December 16, 2012:

- “A Dozen Playgrounds” Jennifer Maigret, María Arquero de Alarcón, R. Charles Dershimer (School of Education)
- “Atlas of Love and Hate: Detroit Geographies” Steven Mankouche, Andrew Herscher, Andrew Thompson (School of Art & Design)
- “Geographies of Trash” El Hadi Jazairy, Rania Chosn, Sangyun Lee (School of Natural Resources and Environment)
- “Imaging Detroit” Anya Sirotà, Mireille Roddier, Jean Louis Farges, Lada Adamic (School of Information & Center for the Study of Complex Systems)
- “Re: Tool-Kit for Detroit” Heidi Beebe, John Marshall, Julia McMorrough, Seth Ellis (School of Art & Design)

“We feel strongly about the public role of architecture and planning and about the ‘public’ mission of the University of Michigan,” said Alan. “It is our hope that many Taubman College students and faculty will be involved with hands-on research and will have a meaningful learning opportunity to tackle issues affecting our cities.”

Detroit’s problems may be more acute than some cities, but they are hardly unique. There is much work to be done to understand and transform our urban centers and attendant suburbs. Through the generosity of such forward-thinking individuals as Cynthia and Alan Berkshire and programs like Research on the City, talk and theory can be translated into action and change.
in memoriam

Arthur F. Moratz, B.S.Arch.’32
Larsen, WI, Oct. 25, 2011

Ross B. Petrie, B.S.Arch.’36
Oshkosh, WI, Nov. 10, 2012

John H. Burgess, B.S.Arch.’39
Battle Creek, MI, Jun. 22, 2012

George W. Sprau, B.Arch.’39
West Chester, PA, Sept. 1, 2012

Robert W. Trowell, B.S.Arch.’39

Richard G. Snyder, B.S.Arch.’43
Holt, MI, Jun. 5, 2012

John W. Jickling, B.Arch.’48
Ann Arbor, MI, Feb. 21, 2012

Richard C. Lane, B.Arch.’49
Battle Creek, MI, Aug. 29, 2012

Robert C. Rupp, B.Arch.’49
Woodridge, IL, Nov. 18, 2012

Arthur E. Nelson, B.Arch.’50
Stanwood, MI, Dec. 8, 2012

David F. Oeming, B.Arch.’50
Saginaw, MI, Aug. 7, 2012

Louis L. Coon, B.Arch.’51
Tucson, AZ, Apr. 9, 2012

Harold C. Cunningham, B.Arch.’51
Peoria, AZ, Jul. 20, 2012

Einar H. Hendrickson, M.C.P.’51,
M.S.Cons.’53
Seattle, WA, Nov. 15, 2012

Ervin E. Kamp, B.Arch.’51
Canton, MI, Jan. 24, 2012

Karl C. Nelson, B.Arch.
(Arch.E.’51)
Naples, FL, Nov. 26, 2012

Anthony Paparella, B.Arch.’51
Grand Ledge, MI, Dec. 4, 2011

William H. Race, B.Arch.’51
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI, Nov. 19, 2011

Robert A. Seger, B.Arch.’51
Palm Desert, CA, Jan. 1, 2013

Robert F. Slater, B.Arch.’52
North Palm Beach, FL, Oct. 29, 2012

Earl A. VanAllsburg, B.Arch.’52
Grand Rapids, MI, Nov. 13, 2012

Robert P. Wu, M.Arch.’52
Ann Arbor, MI, Jan. 5, 2012

Nathan R. Hale, B.S.L.Arch.’57
Seattle, WA, Nov. 25, 2011

William F. Rockershausen,
B.Arch.’60
Wyandotte, MI, Jan. 13, 2012

Robert W. Kindig, M.Arch.’62
Grand Junction, CO, Jan. 9, 2012

James J. Meneghini, B.Arch.’63
Hamburg Township, MI, Jul. 1, 2012

Frederick Werder, B.Arch.’63
Bellevue, WA, Oct. 28, 2011

William F. Heyd, M.Arch.’71,
B.S.’71
Franklin, TN, Mar. 17, 2012

Following a decade in the office of Eero Saarinen, Paulsen joined the faculty at Michigan in 1958. In 1965, he resigned to accept an appointment as President of Cranbrook Academy of Art and head of the Program in Architecture. He also opened his own firm. The firm merged with Tarapata, MacMahon Associates of Bloomfield Hills in 1969, becoming TMP Architecture. He earned national recognition as an architect by winning many design awards. In 1970, his achievements in practice and education were recognized by his elevation to Fellow in the American Institute of Architects.

In 1975, Paulsen returned to teach at Michigan as a design instructor. He was highly regarded for his quiet and constructive criticism of student work and for his ability to draw out of the student whatever design potential might be there. In 1981, he was presented the Sol King Award for Excellent Teaching and a year later he was appointed the Emil Lorch Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning. He retired from the university in May 1985.

Shaun Jackson passed away on January 15, 2013, in Tampa, Florida. Jackson was a native of Ontario, Canada, and made his way to Ann Arbor by way of a gymnastics and diving scholarship to the University of Michigan. Jackson went on to pursue a career in industrial design and founded three companies: Eclipse, Inc., Higher Ground, Inc., and Shaun Jackson Design, Inc. In 1995, Jackson rejoined the University of Michigan community as a professor in the Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design and went on to teach in the Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning and the Stephen M. Ross School of Business until his death. Jackson is survived by his wife, Cathy (Banish) of Ann Arbor; his sons, Ryan (Cortney) Jackson of Chicago and Taylor (Rebecca) Jackson of Ann Arbor; step-daughters, Sydney and Rachel Tuchman; and sister, Suzanne (Gary) Hochbaum of Ontario, Canada.
Remembering William Shaun Jackson

From the eulogy for Shaun Jackson given by Dean Monica Ponce de Leon on January 22, 2013

Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of Michigan was one of the three schools on campus fortunate enough to have Shaun as a faculty member. He was one of our college’s most talented designers, an extraordinary instructor, a role model for the rest of us. For me, personally, he was also a friend and valued adviser. It is not possible to summarize Shaun’s impact on the students, on our school, on the University of Michigan, on the world of design, and on me. He was a beautiful person whose mission was to make the world a more beautiful place. I am grateful for his generosity of spirit.

Shaun had an unwavering commitment to the power of design. He challenged all of us to pursue design excellence — to never compromise, to never do what was easy, or popular, or politically expedient. He always challenged us to do what was best. Not “best under the circumstances” — but simply what was “best.” With Shaun, it was never about him, it was always about what was best for design, best for our students, best for the University of Michigan — in that order.

His influence on me and how I think about the mission of the college, how we teach design, is immeasurable. And yet, I cannot think of a single time when Shaun made an appointment to see me. He was not one for bureaucratic processes, pomp, or circumstance. He made every minute count. We had the best discussions in the hallway, in the parking lot after a lecture, or when he would just walk into my office or give me a call. In the last couple of years we had been working together on developing his idea for an interdisciplinary Master of Science in Industrial Design. He felt very strongly that in order to make it rigorous, the curriculum should be two years. For bureaucratic reasons, I thought we could not make it longer than one year. In every conversation he brought me along inch by inch to his side. In our last conversation, just a few days before his passing, on the steps at the rear entrance of the Art and Architecture building, he brought me all the way to his side. He was, of course, right. I am so grateful for his persistence.

Shaun pursued design and the teaching of design with excitement. He truly believed that every day was a great day and another opportunity to make the world a better, more beautiful place. He saw teaching as a central tool in that mission. He walked the halls wearing his iconic blue jeans and black shirts with a bounce in his step and a smile on his face. If you asked him how he was, he always told you he was “great.” His love of life was contagious and brought out the best in everyone. Given everything that Shaun has meant to Michigan, I wish I could take credit for recruiting him, but that honor belongs to the vision of former dean Robert Beckley who, as Shaun told the story, way back in 1989 had lunch with Shaun and at that lunch Shaun pitched to him the idea for the now legendary Architecture of Objects course. It took the involvement of a former dean of the School of Art and Design, Allen Samuels, who hired him as an assistant professor in 1996 to completely bring this idea to fruition. The course has been taught every year since then and was the culmination of Shaun’s talents as a designer, educator, innovator, and entrepreneur. Shaun loved teaching that class; the posters hung at his memorial service were in tribute to his love of teaching. In his last class, Shaun told the students that at his funeral he would like the posters to be displayed. Since then I have heard from his former students that he made this request of students in previous classes as well.

There has been an outpouring of messages from Shaun’s former students telling me about the impact he had on their thinking, their designs, their education, and eventually on the trajectory of their careers. We all know how rare it is to have classes and instructors who stay with you for a lifetime, who influence and change you for the better, but that is the kind of teacher and person that he was.

The University of Michigan academic community has lost a valued colleague, teacher, and friend, but Shaun’s passion as an educator and his unwavering commitment to the power of design will remain with us always. Shaun created an extraordinary legacy, and I know his work will continue to provide inspiration to many for years and years to come.
2013 AIA Fellows

Paul Danna, FAIA, B.S.’81

is a Design Director in the Los Angeles office of Skidmore Owings & Merrill LLP. Paul’s portfolio of award-winning projects includes some of the most significant commissions in Southern California of the last decade. His broad range of work, which includes buildings and campus environments for private corporations, public, civic and academic institutions, has earned national and local awards from distinguished organizations, including the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and Urban Land Institute (ULI). Paul’s work has been at the forefront of sustainable design, having garnered awards from the US Green Building Council (USGBC), the EPA, ULI and others. He is currently engaged in the design of the new Los Angeles Federal Courthouse, which is anticipated to be a LEED Platinum rated building. Paul is also a leader in the design community. Having held many important positions, including 2010 AIA Los Angeles President and member of the City of Los Angeles Mayor’s Design Advisory Panel, he has played an influential role in shaping public policy concerning the built environment and architectural practice issues in the Los Angeles region.

Paul Dannels, FAIA, B.S.’85, M.Arch.’87

is a founding principal of SDI-Structures in Ann Arbor, where he conceives innovative structural systems for buildings on behalf of both aspiring and accomplished architects. His many clients value his ability to quickly grasp complex architectural intentions and effectively render them in structural form. His designs have earned three IDEAS2 Awards from the American Institute of Steel Construction, the industry’s highest engineering honor for buildings constructed with steel. His projects include the recently completed Broad Art Museum designed by Zaha Hadid, as well as Rafael Moneo’s Academy Studio at Cranbrook, the Lamar Corporate Headquarters in Hudsonville, Michigan, and the Robert B. Aikens Law Commons at the University of Michigan Law School. His firm has engineered projects throughout the U-M Athletic Campus, including major renovations at Yost Arena, Crisler Center, and the 1998 & 2011 Michigan Stadium Expansions.

Nan R. Gutterman, FAIA, FAPT, M.Arch.’81

joined VITETTA in 1988, after being part of a team that completed the restoration of the Main Building at Ellis Island. One of the national leaders in the conservation of masonry systems and historic building envelopes, she is on the forefront of building pathology, conservation science, and complex exterior building envelopes that involve a variety of materials as well as large decorative/sculptural programs. Her portfolio includes some of the most iconic sites in the Philadelphia region: the Reading Terminal Train Shed, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Academy of Music, the Rodin Museum, Philadelphia City Hall, and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. Nationally, her work includes the National Gallery of Art, the Cleveland Museum of Art, Arlington National Cemetery, and the Theodore Roosevelt Memorial. Through this diverse, lengthy, and exclusive engagement in masonry conservation, Nan has undertaken pioneering research and extensive evaluation of conservation and cleaning methods and has collaborated with some of the country’s leading scientists, conservators, contractors, and tradesmen.

Craig Abbott Hamilton, FAIA, B.S.’75, M.Arch.’77

joined Cannon Design, Los Angeles, in 1998. He focuses on creating high-performance educational facilities across the country as a practice leader for the firm. An advocate of fusion buildings, he has been recognized for programming, planning, and design of higher education buildings that utilize social space to enrich collaborative educational experiences and improve student outcomes. Craig’s recent work includes the Recreation Center Renovation/Expansion at California
Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; the Utah Valley University Student Life Center; and the San Diego State University Aztec Student Union, a new 200,000-square-foot student union. This new facility focuses on environmentally responsible design solutions and is expected to become the first campus-life building in the California State University system to achieve a LEED Platinum rating.

Marlene Imirzian, FAIA, B.S.’80, M.Arch.’83
is principal of Marlene Imirzian & Associates Architects, a regional practice with offices in Phoenix, Arizona, and Escondido, California. Her work includes projects for higher education, civic, medical, historic preservation, commercial and residential clients. Her projects are known for their design excellence, project performance, and integration of sustainable design practices. She has been awarded numerous design awards, including local and regional awards from the American Institute of Architects, and the work has been published internationally. She creates finely considered and inventive buildings that contribute to the regeneration of place, engaging the public, students, and the profession by re-establishing the connection between architectural beauty, excitement, and purpose. Marlene is a faculty associate at The Design School, Arizona State University Herberger Institute for Design & the Arts Architecture Program. She currently serves as Chair of the AIA Committee on Design Advisory Group.

Cynthia Kozak Pozolo, FAIA, B.S.’80, M.Arch.’82
recently joined Smith GroupJJR in Detroit as a principal and project director for the new $734-million Veterans Administration Medical Center complex in Louisville, Kentucky, which is a joint-venture partnership with URS. Prior to her recent appointment, Cynthia had been a studio leader, vice president, and corporate director at Albert Kahn Associates in Detroit, where she coordinated multi-discipline design/architecture/engineering teams with a focus on client responsiveness and innovative solutions. During her career at Kahn, her longtime clients included the University of Michigan Health System, Hammes Company, Aurora Health Care, and William Beaumont Hospital. A member of AIA since 1988, she is currently chair of AIA/MI Finance Committee.

1960s

James A. Chaffers, M.Arch.’69, D.Arch.’71
served as the Grand Marshal of the 25th anniversary African-American History Parade in February in Shreveport, LA. Dr. Chaffers was chosen as Grand Marshal in recognition of his distinguished career as an educator.

1970s

Michael Margerum, B.S.’73, M.Arch.’75
is a Senior Project Architect at Parsons Corporation in Pasadena, CA. He has worked most recently on the Shanghai Disneyland Project and the Disneyland Resort Park.

David Nemens, M.U.P.’78, M.L.Arch.’78
has been named Planning Director of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. The Tribal government is located on the Muckleshoot reservation near Auburn, Washington.

Edward F. Smith, D.Arch.’76
received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Institute of Architects Utah. Edward “Ted” Smith, ARCOM’s former President and CEO, is a Professor Emeritus of Architecture at the University of Utah. The award celebrates his many years of hard work and significant contributions through teaching, practice, and service to the community.
He is widely recognized as a pioneer and an authoritative leader in the field of architecture for integrating design and computer science and developing innovative computer tools for master specifications, teaching, and practice. As President of ARCOM for 19 years, a professor of architecture for 28 years, and a practicing architect for 25 years, his main focus was computer applications in architecture. His academic endeavors from 1968 to 1997 at the University of Utah and the University of Michigan include pioneering research and teaching computer applications. In practice from 1966 to 1991, Ted developed architectural programming software for several projects and directed the initial installation of computer hardware, peripherals, and CAD and other software in his firm. The first installation of MasterSpec in a time-shared mainframe computer evolved into a MasterSpec word-processing service and laid the foundation for the establishment of ARCOM.

Suad Amiry, M.U.P.’79
founded Riwaq in 1991 with a group of fellow architects and artists because of concerns about how quickly Palestinian historical sites were either being destroyed in the conflict or falling into neglect. Riwaq has turned more than 100 decrepit sites into thriving public spaces, and its experience with single restoration projects led to a larger intervention: Riwaq is now focused on restoring and protecting entire historic centers — not just rebuilding individual structures, but also improving street infrastructure and green spaces. These restorations are completed by local citizens who are taught new professional skills through educational programs and workshops.

Thomas Lowing, AIA, LEED-AP, B.S.’79, M.Arch.’81
marked his 15th year as an educator, complementing his fifteen prior years in private practice. He is currently a full-time faculty member at Andrews University’s School of Architecture, Art and Design and serves as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Notre Dame’s School of Architecture.

1980s
Doug Farr, B.S.’80
is the founder of Farr Associates. The AIA/Chicago Chapter awarded the firm its highest honor. The Firm of the Year Award recognizes outstanding collective achievements by a firm and overall excellence in its body of work. Farr Associates was selected based on the “firm’s commitment to sustainability far surpassing industry norms. Seven LEED Platinum projects, two net-zero projects, and numerous publications on the subject of sustainable urbanism clearly show that Farr Associates is advancing the profession.”

Gregory Wittkopp, B.S.’82
was awarded the Michigan Museums Association (MMA) 2012 President’s Award, the organization’s highest award for service. He was chosen based on demonstrated commitment to Michigan’s art community and his record of service as a past president of MMA. Gregory is Director of Cranbrook Art Museum and Cranbrook Center for Collections and Research.

Marc L’Italien, FAIA, B.S.’84
Marc L’Italian, FAIA, B.S.’84 is a design principal with EHDD in San Francisco, CA. Marc was the lead designer of the new home for the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, a net-zero energy use and LEED Platinum certified building in Los Altos, CA. Marc also led the design team of Valparaiso University’s new Arts and Sciences Building. EHDD has been awarded three significant cultural projects under Marc’s leadership this year: working with the Maybeck Foundation and the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department to conduct a study on future uses for Bernard Maybeck’s historic 1915 Palace of Fine Arts; collaborating with ZGF Architects to design The Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center, a new wing that will house the Space Shuttle Endeavor at the California Science Center in Los Angeles; and the new Pomona College Museum of Art in Claremont, CA.
Raymond Chladny, M.Arch.’87
of Building Innovations Inc., completed the $10-million Martin County Aquatic Center and the $30-million expansion and upgrade for Club Med. In 2011, the firm received a national award for the Best Retail Building design.

Cynthia Radecki, B.S.’87, M.Arch.’88
has been appointed Associate Director of Development, North East States, at U-M’s Ross School of Business. She was previously Director of Business Development for Lord, Aeck & Sargent where her responsibilities included nationwide business development for the firm.

1990s

Catherine Broh, B.S.’93
has been promoted to Partner at MGA Partners Architects in Philadelphia, PA.

Jason Kasler, M.U.P.’93
was named the executive director of the New Jersey Planning Officials (NJPO). NJPO is an educational nonprofit that teaches planning board members and zoning board of adjustment members so they may make better land use decisions.

James Nicolow B.S.’91, M.Arch.’95
a principal of the firm Lord, Aeck & Sargent and its director of sustainability, has been named by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) to the 2012 class of LEED Fellows. The LEED Fellow designation is the green building industry’s most prestigious professional designation, recognizing exceptional contributions to green building. Jim’s qualifications include his LEED AP BD+C credential, fifteen years of green building experience, an extensive portfolio, including the Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve’s Coastal Resources Center; the Gwinnett Environmental & Heritage Center; and the Southface Energy Institute Eco Office, whose passive solar design and salvaged renewable energy system earned a perfect “10-out-of-10” energy optimization points.

Zafar Alikhan, M.U.P.’96
currently resides in Los Angeles, CA, and is the National Planning Director for David Evans and Associates, an engineering firm with eighteen offices.

Andrew Kotchen, M.Arch.’96
is co-founder of workshop/apd that received recognition as one of the fifteen young firms to watch by Residential Architect. The firm rose to prominence in 2006, when it won Global Green USA’s design competition for energy-efficient affordable housing in New Orleans. Since then, the New York-based firm continues to leverage its experience to solve design challenges with innovative solutions that incorporate sustainable methods and ingenuity within a signature aesthetic.

Mary Jane Nirdlinger, M.U.P.’97
was promoted to Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives for the town of Chapel Hill, NC, after the successful adoption of a community-based comprehensive plan that involved a year-long effort to include 10,000 people in the town’s planning process. She is now responsible for guiding the implementation of the plan’s vision and pursuing strategic planning and priority budgeting initiatives.

Fernando Luiz Lara, M.S.’99, Ph.D.’01
was promoted to Associate Professor at the University of Texas at Austin School of Architecture. In addition to teaching Latin American architecture, Fernando continues with a practice in Brazil, Horizontes Arquitetura (www.horizontesarquitetura.com.br). He also chairs the Center for Brazilian Studies at the Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies at UT.
2000s

Hillary Mateev, AIA, B.S.’01, M.Arch.’03
was named Associate at Cambridge Seven Associates, Inc. Hillary joined C7A after working at firms in Boston, Los Angeles, and Michigan. Since joining C7A, she has provided architectural design and construction administration services for several hospitality, academic, and museum projects. Most recently, she worked on renovations and new exhibits for World of Little League in Williamsport, Pennsylvania. Other recent projects include the Hall at Patriot Place, the New England Patriots Hall of Fame; the College of Business Administration and College for Women at Kuwait University; Corbu Spa at The Charles Hotel; and renovations to the Revere Hotel.

Anthony Valerio, B.S.’01, M.Arch.’03
moved to California after graduation and worked for DesignARC for four years before joining Valerio Dewalt Train and opening an office for the firm in California. His six years with the firm are marked by increasing responsibility for design, management, and construction administration on a range of projects in California. A recent project, UCSD Rita Atkinson Residences, received a Distinguished Building Award Citation of Merit and a 2012 Residential Design Honor Award.

Marie Adams, B.S.’02 and Daniel Adams, B.S.’02
received an Architect magazine 2013 Progressive Architecture Award for their work on the Rock Chapel Marine project at Landing Studio. The site is a former 13-million-gallon oil tank farm on the bank of Chelsea Creek in Chelsea, MA. The project was designed as a shared-use infrastructure, combining a distribution center for road salt with public park and seasonally expandable recreation facilities that include an amphitheater, a “play dome,” and a platform for viewing barges. With Rock Chapel Marine, the design team at Landing Studio sought to reconcile those factors by turning industry into public amenity for Chelsea’s inhabitants. Starting with the removal of the oil tank farm, the master plan transforms the port city’s industrial area into an urban playground with waterfront views.

Peter Warren, M. Arch.’02
after working in Juneau, Alaska, and New York City, started his own firm in his hometown of Memphis, TN, called Warren Architecture. As Project Architect at his last firm, he oversaw the construction of a 290-foot pedestrian bridge and main entrance to the FedEx hub in Memphis.

Jason Kaplan, M.U.P.’03
joined Wake Forest University after serving five years as Space and Facilities Planner at The Ohio State University. At OSU, he served on the Classroom Readiness Committee, where he was instrumental in the collaborative leveraging of both financial and academic resources to resolve challenges related to facility planning and use.

Deepika Padam, M.Arch.’03
received an AIA 2013 Young Architects Award. She was the founder and past chair of the Emerging Professionals/Young Architects Forum at AIA Las Vegas, and in 2010 she became the first female president of the chapter. As the editor-in-chief/communications advisor for the national AIA Young Architects Forum in 2011–12, she turned a one-page YAF newsletter into an 80-page web magazine distributed to more than 23,000 architects. Deepika is passionate in advocating for sustainable design. She has led education workshops on LEED, served as president of USGBC Nevada, and led the LEED certification process for many projects.

Yu-Hwa Lin, M.Arch.’04
is an Associate at Perkins Eastman. In 2011, he worked on the Lower East Side Tenement Museum Visitor Center in Manhattan.
Murat Uyanmis, M.Arch.’04
is working as site architect for 20 Fenchurch Building in
London. Rafael Vinoly is the design architect.

Jessica Zgobis, M.U.P.’05
joined Equity Residential in Chicago as Manager of
Affordability and Compliance. Jessica is identifying resources
for the portfolio of units developed with tax-exempt bond,
tax credit and local affordable housing programs; and providing
training and assistance to staff on affordable housing matters.

Matthew Saurman, M.Arch.’05
works for Studio Dwell, a design-build firm in Chicago. He just
completed his first construction project in Chicago, a single
family residence in Ukrainian Village, and is working on several
other single and multi-family residences, in addition to his
own art projects and competitions.

Amanda Orenchuk, M.U.P.’07
was one of a team led by Doug Farr, B.S.’80, to develop the
Master Redevelopment Implementation Plan for Mundelein,
Illinois. The plan received the Congress for the New Urbanism
Illinois Charter Merit Award in December 2012.

Matthew Schulte, B.S.E.’00, M.Arch.’08
a lecturer at Taubman College, and Associate Professor
Steven Mankouche of ARCHOLAB, won an Architect magazine
2013 Progressive Architecture Award for “The Farm: Gaming
Strategies of Empowering Marginalized Youth.” They developed
a series of games to engage a group of New York City children
in the design process for a rural retreat center for the
community group Project Reach. The architects created
revitalization plans from input received in these workshops.

Courtney Brinegar, M.Arch.’09
recently became a licensed architect in the state of Texas.

2010s

Robert Linn, A.B.’09, M.U.P.’11
has been chosen as one of the “Next American Vanguards”
for 2012, an award through Next American City. The award
recognizes the top 40 under 40 urban leaders across the
country for their efforts to improve their city. Linn’s efforts
are focused on Detroit.

Patrick McDonnell, A.M.’11, M.U.P.’11
has been chosen as one of the “Next American Vanguards”
for 2012, an award through Next American City. The award
recognizes the top 40 under 40 urban leaders across the
country for their efforts to improve their city. McDonnell
is a community designer at the Dallas City Design Center.

Ashraf Ragheb, M.S.’03, Ph.D.’11
is an Associate Professor at Lawrence Technological
University. He won the Richard Edwards II Educational Award
from the U.S. Construction and Specification Institute in 2012.
He received the 2009 AIA UpJohn Research Grant.

Shintaro Hori, M.U.P.’12
was assigned to Coastal Shipping Division, Maritime Bureau,
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism by
Japan’s Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism.
His position is Director for Policy Planning and Coordination,
the second-highest position in the division. He oversees policy
on Coastal Cargo Shipping and Coastal Passenger Shipping,
including management and improvement of the sea routes to
remote islands. Shintaro also coordinates related parties, such
as lawmakers of the Diet, governmental agencies, and coastal
shipping industry.
Student News

With the support of Taubman College, the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, and the International Institute for Experiential Learning Fund, in May 2012, the INUNDATION studio went to Bangkok and Jakarta. They visited the Institut Teknologi Bandung and then began an intensive, site-driven three-week design charette with Professor Adam Bobbette of the University of Hong Kong Division of Landscape Architecture, and his students, as well as with colleagues and students from Universitas Indonesia. They presented their research at the Universitas Indonesia in June. The student team was: Lucas Peter Bartosiewicz, David De Cespedes, John David Ewanowski, Allen Gillers, Jared Heming, John R Hilmes, Andrew Kaczmarek, Joshua Kehl, Elizabeth Nichols, Nathan Oppenheim, Catharine Pyenson, and Geoffre Salvatore. The studio was directed by Assistant Professor Meredith Miller and Sanders Research Fellow Etienne Turpin.

Master of Science in Architecture Digital Technologies student Aaron Willette gave a lecture, “Research & Making: Explorations in the Tacit Dimension,” at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston in July. He discussed his research and recent collaborations with Taubman faculty members Adam Fure, Wes McGee, and Catie Newell as a means to explore the academic value of making. Willette’s work aims to expand the capabilities of digital fabrication through an investigation into the embedded cultural contingencies of craft methodologies.

Dimensions, the annual student-produced journal of architecture at the University of Michigan, was awarded a 2012 Douglas Haskell Award Honorable Mention by the Center for Architecture Foundation/AIA New York Chapter Committee. Dimensions seeks to contribute to the critical discourse of architectural education by documenting the most compelling work produced by the students, faculty, fellows, and visiting lecturers of Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Now in its twenty-fifth edition, the journal was cited by the selection committee for its “focus on theme and quality of essays.”

In mid-September, first-year M.U.P. students traveled to Milwaukee to use the city as their classroom for four days. They met with city officials, urban farmers, architects, and developers as part of the annual Expanded Horizons trip. The trip was organized by Mike Westling.

Robert Yuen, M.Arch.’11, M.S.’12, was published in the issue 2.0 of PLAT. Yuen’s article, “Language of the Instant,” is the abstract to the research and design of Yuen’s research thesis project “Points + Clouds.” The article draws and redraws spatial relationships through techniques of scanning to produce re-conceptualization of our immediate context. PLAT is an independent architectural journal published by students at Rice School of Architecture. In addition, Yuen was awarded a Rackham Graduate Student Research Grant, designed to support Rackham graduate students in carrying out research that advances their progress toward their degree.

The International Institute awarded more than $190,000 to 50 U-M students as part of its Individual Fellowships program. The fellowships help students travel abroad in the summer to conduct research or participate in an internship. These Taubman College students were among the recipients: Scott Claassen, M.Arch., Saudi Arabia & Turkey, “Metabolic Pilgrimage”; Joshua Shake, Ph.D. (urban planning), Brazil, “The Local Forces of Brazilian Culture-led Redevelopment”; Rudai Shan, Ph.D. (architecture), China, “Climate Responsive Energy Efficiency Façade Strategies in China”; Ian Trivers, Ph.D. (urban planning), Germany & Poland, “The Detroit School and Shrinking Cities in East Germany”; Nadim van de Fliert, M.U.P., India, internship with Environment Planning Collaborative.

Kyung Jin Hong, M.Arch.’12 and Daniel Moffatt, B.S. Arch.’12 won Honorable Mention in the 2012 Animal Architecture Awards competition, “Urban Animal.” This competition challenged designers to create beneficial environments for non-human urban animals. Hong’s project, “Urban Transhumance,” explores urban farming as a viable urban renewal option by proposing to transform Grand Boulevard in Detroit into a functional and productive agricultural space. “Oceanic Agriculture” by Moffatt is a marine strategy for rapid deployment of food aid in times of prolonged civic stress. The design proposes to generate a flotilla of horizontal surfaces that become deployable seafaring farmlands.

The UM / ULI Real Estate Forum was held on November 7–8 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This year’s theme was, “Creating the Next Urban Center.” The first-place team in the Case Competition was “RSW Group,” whose members were Matthew Gilbert, M.Arch., Matthew Richter, MBA, Paige Shesterkin, M.U.P., and Eric Wilson, Real Estate Development Certificate. In addition, Taubman students earned all five Jeff Blau scholarships available this year: Carly Grob, M.U.P., Real Estate Development Certificate, Peter McGrath, M.U.P., Real Estate Development Certificate, Hans Papke, M.Arch., Paige Shesterkin, M.U.P., and Taylor Traub, M.U.P./Master of Sports Management. The Jeff Blau Scholarship, named after the Chief Executive Officer of Related in New York City, awards five $1,000 scholarships to graduate students for essays written on Grand Rapids. Mandy Lee, M.U.P., has been awarded the 2012 Commercial
Real Estate Women (CREW) Chicago Scholarship. CREW Chicago is an organization for senior-level executive women in the Chicago real estate field, dedicated to advancing the success of women in commercial real estate. The organization awards an annual scholarship for graduate and undergraduate students majoring or concentrating in real estate or related fields. The scholarship is awarded on the basis of academic excellence and is intended to help qualified students pursue an education that will lead them into productive careers in commercial real estate.

Cross-plotted: Detroit to Windsor was a group exhibition in November formulated around a research practice that investigates the unfolding circumstances of the city through full-scale work. The exhibition focused on specific plots of land in Detroit by exploring their material and atmospheric conditions as well as their immaterial regulations, degrees of neglect, and idiosyncrasies. The group collaborated with the artist-led interdisciplinary collective Broken City Lab in Windsor, Ontario, as well as the Creative Rights legal team. The attitudes and research practices developed for this work will inform a year-long thesis studio led by Assistant Professor Catie Newell. Students: John Guinn, Tony Killian, Anastasia Kostrominova, Emily Kutil, Sarah Nowaczyk, Harry Solie, Grant Weaver, Andrew Wolking, Ning Zhou.

Eric Burnstein, M.P.P.’12, M.U.P., and Michael Herrick, B.S.’12, earned Fulbright Scholarships. Burnstein will study in Romania, focusing on “Political Structures and Policy Outcomes in Romanian Cities.” Herrick will research “Stuttgart 21: Urban Transit Redevelopment in the 21st Century.” The Fulbright U.S. Student Program provides grants for individually designed study/research projects or English Teaching Assistantships to take place during one academic year in a country outside the U.S.

“An Appropriation of Means: The Advent of Installation as a Critical Tool of Architecture,” an article co-authored by Master of Science in Architecture, Digital Technologies & Material Systems student Aaron Willette with Robert Trumbour (Assistant Professor, Wentworth Institute of Technology), was published in the November issue of Big Red & Shiny, an online contemporary art and culture journal. Looking at the history of installation starting from the 1960s, the article positions installation as an interdisciplinary tool that can be utilized to help expand the field of architecture.

Missy Stults, a Ph.D. student in Urban and Regional Planning, won second place for her essay titled, “Sustainable Energy for All – Building a Sustainable, Resilient, Affordable, Accessible, and Equitable Energy Future.” She traveled to Dubai in October to take part in the 2012 World Energy Forum and present her essay. Stults is a Science Research Fellow and doctoral student working on issues related to urban resilience to climate change. As part of her work, she is co-developing the Adaptation Chapter for the U.S. National Climate Assessment, working on a typology of adaptation actions being implemented in developing countries, and helping enhance municipal preparedness to climate change in the Great Lakes region.

In November, four M.U.P. students, Christian Roadman, Katy Ryan, Liz Treutel, and Danielle Thoe, met with Ann Arbor City planning commissioners about possible changes to improve safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists while simultaneously beautifying the South State Street area.
Alumni from around the globe joined us October 12–13, 2012, for an all-class reunion weekend. They enjoyed reconnecting with former classmates and faculty, catching up on happenings at the college, and celebrating the accomplishments of the 2012 Distinguished Alumnus, Peter Lagerwey, M.U.P. ’81.

See former classmates and faculty, meet current students and new faculty, tour the facilities, and view student work.

Mark your calendar:
2013 Taubman College Reunion Weekend, October 4–5, when we will celebrate the accomplishments of the 2013 Distinguished Alumna, Karen Fairbanks, B.S.’81.

Homecoming Weekend

America’s Best Architecture & Design Schools Survey

Help us communicate the value and strength of Taubman College! For the fifteenth consecutive year, DesignIntelligence is conducting their annual surveys of America’s Best Architecture & Design Schools. These rankings are very important to students as they choose where to attend school. If your firm hires architects you are invited to participate in the survey. Your participation will not only ensure the rankings are valid and accurate, but will also communicate the value and strength of Taubman College.

If you are in a leadership position and are qualified to hire employees, take the on-line survey by going to: www.surveymonkey.com/s/architectureschools

As a special thanks to you for your contribution, DesignIntelligence will provide you with the final executive summary report upon its release. For more information, visit the DesignIntelligence website at www.di.net.

Keep in Touch

Connect with the college and your classmates in one or more of the following ways:

Through Class Notes
Share your latest news and work.

By email: portico@umich.edu or visit the Taubman College website at taubmancollege.umich.edu/portico. (Images submitted should be 300 dpi.)

By mail:
Class Notes, Taubman College
University of Michigan
2000 Bonisteel Blvd., Room 2150
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2069

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