COMING EVENTS

Harrison Lecture Series:
• Feb. 1, 4 p.m., Giles Hall  Walter Hood
• Feb. 15, 4 p.m., Giles Hall  Edward Cazayoux
• March 22, 4 p.m., Jackson  David J. Lewis – All are invited to the lecture and reception that will follow at the 5th-year building.
• April 5, 4 p.m., Giles Hall  Lisa Iwamoto

Giles Gallery Exhibitions:
Jan. 30–Feb. 13  Earthborn Studios
Feb. 15–March 4  Wendy Allison
March 6–March 29  Melanie Townsend Colvin

April 22-27 – Final Reviews
All are invited. A reception will be held after 5th-year reviews in Giles Hall on Friday, April 26

May 10, 1 p.m. – Recognition Day

Click here for more information about the lectures and exhibits.

FROM THE DEAN

I would encourage you, before you get caught up in the demands and aspirations of the new year, to take a few moments to reflect on the semester past in the School of Architecture at Mississippi State. This newsletter provides a concise highlight of the past semester events and accomplishments.

The School, which is always busy and where the “lights are always on,” proffers a smorgasbord of activities, events, field trips and other learning opportunities. Design studios, fashion shows, lectures, design build projects, community service and design competitions are examples of all that were available for architecture students in the fall 2012 semester.

As you review the work and events of the past semester in the School of Architecture, you will surely not be disappointed. I would additionally challenge you to engage in the rich educational opportunities that present themselves in the College of Architecture, Art and Design.

Jim West, AIA
Dean

Marshmallow Challenge

Students in Professor Jake Gine’s Architecture Appreciation class were recently assigned a project aimed at helping them develop deeper understanding and appreciation for the role of an architect as a collaborator, creator, materials explorer and structural manipulator. Students were asked to use 20 pieces of spaghetti, 1 yard of string, 1 yard of masking tape and 1 regular marshmallow to build the “tallest freestanding tower” in only 18 minutes. Many triumphed, a couple cheated and a few others found that their towers crumbled from the enormous weight of the marshmallow. The tallest tower soared 37.5” heavenward with the marshmallow hanging precariously to one side, teasing a chance with fate.

For more photos, click here.
**GALLERY EXHIBITS**

The gallery in Giles Hall stayed full last semester, thanks to hard work and much planning by Tau Sigma Delta (TSD) and hard work by students including Mack Braden and Kristen Perry. Galleries have included scientific illustrations by Joe MacGown, work from the Memphis firm *archimania*, student work from the TRASHION show and students’ final projects. Upcoming exhibits include Earthborn Studios, Wendy Allison and Melanie Townsend Colvin.

[Click here for more information about these exhibits.](#)

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**FROM THE DIRECTOR**

Dear Alums and Friends:

2013 marks the School of Architecture’s 30th anniversary. The program (started in 1973) was immediately accredited upon completion of the NAAB probationary period and has continued on an upward trajectory since. We have a well-recognized five-year Bachelor of Architecture program in the Southeast boasting well over 225 declared majors, along with 12 full-time tenured and tenured-track faculty and multiple part-time adjuncts including this spring, our Eminent Architect of Practice Todd Walker, FAIA. By ACSA (Associated Collegiate Schools of Architecture) standards, we are an average-sized program. Both of our major research centers (Carl Small Town Center and Gulf Coast Community Design Studio) have received numerous national and international accolades. In keeping with our tradition of working in small towns, the fourth-year studio capstone project (funded by Stion) will be collaborating with the city of West Point and the Howlin’ Wolf Blues Museum on a future proposal to help jump-start a major museum complex to honor this legendary Mississippi Blues musician. As many of you know, a few years back, we did a similar project and venture with the Delta town of Indianola for the current B.B. King Blues Museum. As the only accredited architecture program in Mississippi, we continue to be relevant and know we are making a significant difference in people’s lives in Mississippi and the Southeast region.

I remain humbled and honored to be able to lead this School at this important time in its life. I have seen a lot in the last 23 years, and it brings me comfort knowing that the School has an amazing faculty committed to pushing our students to the edge of excellence. As you browse this newsletter, consider it to be a “soft” communication, attempting to express the spirit and ambiance of the program – highlighting selected activities that make up the student life and culture of this place. Stay tuned for our next (and third) edition of the BARNworks monograph to view our students’ critical research and design studio work. If you have not seen this publication, please follow the link: [http://www.caad.msstate.edu/caad_web/sarc/barnworks.php](http://www.caad.msstate.edu/caad_web/sarc/barnworks.php).

This upcoming third edition will be funded by the S|ARC Advisory Council along with a matching gift from Richard McNeel, AIA.

The School will have a celebratory Open house + Reception at the Jackson Center Fifth-Year Program on Friday, March 22, featuring the Harrison Series Lecturer David J. Lewis, senior partner w/ LTL Architects (and dean at Parsons New School of Design). Stay tuned to our website for further details.

Our end-of-the-year Jury schedule in Starkville will be forthcoming, and we will close out the academic year at Recognition Day with the esteemed Harriet Fulbright (of the Fulbright Foundation). We hope to see you.

In closing, please take a few moments to reflect on the passing of Sam Kaye (noted Historic Preservationist from Columbus) and our own alumnus, Larry Sones (Class of ’79) and acknowledge the many contributions they have made to our state and lives. They will be missed.

*Michael A. Berk, AIA, F.L. Crane Professor*

*Director*
The annual TRASHIONshow, put on by the National Organization of Minority Architecture Students (NOMAS) and the MSU Fashion Board, was held on Nov. 7 in Giles Hall. People showed up from all across campus and the community for the event, which raised $160 in donations. Before and after the TRASHIONshow, the group also held the first-ever JUNK2FUNK Sale, which raised $150. Samantha King, treasurer for NOMAs, said the money will go toward an ADA philanthropy design project. **Click here to see more photos.**

**Sameul Ball with his pink bubble wrap design**

**Selina Document with her unique design**

**Alaina Griffin and Taylor Howell with model Paige Staton; Materials: used coffee filters, mod podge and snaps**

**Anna Lyle, Kacie Green and Jake Johnson; Materials: plastic serving cups, shower liner, LED strand**

**Design by: Christopher Rivera; Models: Kendall Rogers and Blair Toney; Materials: wood and paper towels**

**AbovE: Design by Haley Whiteman and Kara Chapman; Model: Kara Chapman; Materials: plastic table cloth, TRASHIONshow posters, tissue paper, zippers, coffee Hamilton McBride; TOP RIGHT: Design by: David Lewis and Landon Kennedy; Model: Shannon Sullivan; Materials: dyed phonebook pages, packaging air pillows, shipping tape and trashbag ties**

**Design by: Emily Lysek and Rusty McInnis; Models: Natalie Phillips and Chase Cooksey; Materials: cardboard, Mardi Gras beads, craft paper, shower curtain and zipper**
Friday Forum
The School of Architecture hosts lecturers on various topics at noon on Fridays throughout the school year. The AIAS sells hamburgers and hotdogs for students, faculty and other visitors to enjoy during the lectures. Click on the headlines below to read a summary of a few of this year’s Friday Forum lectures.

USGBC Sustainability Event
Preston Hite, Laura Tinsley, Jay Warren, Chris Cosper
Marc Simmons discusses façade projects

Architecture students, Carl Small Town Center recognized for making a difference
By Leah Barbour
MSU University Relations
Outreach. Collaboration. Innovation. Sustainability. These paradigms daily impact quality of life in Mississippi, and at Mississippi State, two architecture majors and the university’s Carl Small Town Center have been working to make them an integral part of community development, according to the Mississippi Chapter of the American Planning Association.

At its annual conference in Meridian on Oct. 26, the state chapter recognized seniors Zachary N. “Zach” James of Terry and Rachel M. McKinley of Huntsville, Ala., for the positive impact their work is having on small town planning and design.

James and McKinley received the Student Collaborative Project Award for their spring 2012 work in the CSTC’s CREATE Common Ground class. The honor recognizes their community improvement plans for New Albany.

Additionally, the Carl Small Town Center received the APA MS Public Outreach Award for its recently published book, “Mississippi Bypass Guidelines,” a resource for elected officials and community stakeholders as they confront the positive and negative impacts that new highway bypasses can have on rural communities.

Click here to read more.

Architecture student discusses impact of Design Discovery Summer Workshop
Rashidat Momoh was a recipient of the Johnson-McAdams Design Discovery Camp Scholarship, which covered her camp expenses, including meals, lodging and supplies. Click here to read the full story.
**Fifth-year Architecture student receives AIA Scholarship**

Carolyn Lundemo, a fifth-year student in the School of Architecture at Mississippi State, received a $2,000 scholarship from the Mobile Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in association with the AIA Component Scholarship Program. Justin Lucas, the 2012 president of the Mobile Chapter and an alumnus from the School of Architecture, presented the award to Lundemo at the organization's Christmas party. Read the full story.

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**Assemblages class helps build Habitat House**

Professor Alexis Gregory’s Assemblages lecture course included students in the Building Construction Science Program and the School of Architecture. The class worked to help build the Habitat for Humanity house on Stedman Lane in conjunction with the events for the Maroon Edition.

**AIAS participates in Green Apple Day of Service**

About twenty people showed up on Sept. 29 at the Oktibbeha County Heritage Museum for the national Green Apple Day of Service.

Many of the volunteers were American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) who have been working on the project at the museum throughout the summer with School of Architecture Professor Hans Herrmann and Landscape Architecture Professor Cory Gallo.

Chelsea Pierce, secretary for AIAS, said volunteers worked from around 9 a.m. until noon painting 2x4s for the roof installation, cutting Plexiglass for kickbacks in the stairs, weeding the garden, painting and other small projects.

“It was good to be out there to give the School of Architecture a good name and volunteering,” she said.

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**Alpha Rho Chi donates to Habitat for Humanity**

Read the story by Leah Barbour | MSU University Relations
**First-Year**  
**November 28**

**Professors:**  
- Andrew Tripp  
  (coordinator)  
- Jacob Gines  
- Todd Walker, FAIA  

**Studio Assistant:**  
- Finas Townsend III

The first semester was divided into three modules:

1. **“Drawing Intensive”** – For the first seven weeks students were challenged to develop a rigorous but critical creative process through a variety of black and white freehand drawing assignments.

2. **“Rotation around a void”** – The next three weeks were spent on a three-dimensional composition exercise designed to challenge and condition a student’s ability to conceive and represent space. The conventions of architectural representation (including model making, plan, elevation, section and axonometric drawing) were introduced in this module.

3. **“Time tables”** – The final weeks of this semester are dedicated to fostering an elementary understanding of siting. Students were asked to document and analyze a typical place and purpose and to create a series of drawings. At the final review, the projects were only in progress and will be completed in the spring semester.

**Second-Year**  
**November 29**

**Professors:**  
- Hans Herrmann, AIA (coordinator)  
- Emily McGlohn

The second-year studio presented design proposals for the composition, material palette logic, detailing / tectonic considerations, methods of installation and finishing for the floating ceiling of the Oktibbeha County Heritage Museum, Green Building Demonstration Pavilion. The students will present individual schematic designs along with a single, full-scale built design. The designs will be presented via digital and physical means of representation.

**Third-Year**  
**November 30**

**Professors:**  
- Alexis Gregory, AIA (coordinator)  
- Jane Britt Greenwood, AIA  
- Justin Taylor

The third-year studio presented designs for a mixed-use, multi-family housing project on three different sites in Chicago, Ill.
Fourth-Year
December 3

Professors:
• Rachel McCann, Ph.D (coordinator)
• Frances Hsu, Ph.D.

Fourth-year students presented on Topical Studios: Gulf Coast.

Fifth-Year
December 5–6

Professors:
• Jassen Callender (coordinator)
• Mark Vaughan

In the first five weeks, fifth-year students worked in four large groups to create master plan proposals for the future development of the fairgrounds in Jackson. Individually, in the middle five weeks of the semester, half of the students worked to develop wooden ‘seeing’ frames, which correct for some aspect of the tendency of knowledge to short circuit full-fledged vision; the other half of the students worked with ‘language’ and developing a new graphic means of conveying spoken English. (They read Seeing Is Forgetting the Name of the Thing One Sees and Rousseau’s Social Contract, respectively). In addition, students worked in ‘seeing/language’ pairs to develop proposals for retrofitting/improving an existing street wall in downtown Jackson.

In the final five weeks, students continued to work in ‘seeing/language’ pairs to more fully develop a single street wall of their choice from one of the master plans.

ALUMNI NEWS

Lance Davis highlighted in publication, selected as juror


Davis spoke at the conference about the integrated design process and its use to increase the benefits of natural and man-made systems.

The alumnus also recently served as a juror for the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Design and Environmental Awards and has been appointed to the distinguished jury for the 2012 Beyond Green™ High-Performance Building Awards by the National Institute of Building Science’s Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC).

Read the full stories and see photos by clicking on the blue links, or visit our website at caad.msstate.edu/wpmu/sarcnews/
**Touchstone honored as 2012 Alumni Fellow**

Bradley C. Touchstone, AIA, was recently chosen to represent the College of Architecture, Art and Design in the MSU Alumni Association’s class of 2012 Alumni Fellows.

Touchstone, a 1992 graduate from the School of Architecture, has over 15 years of bridge design experience and has operated his own firm for the past 10 years. The founder and principal of Touchstone Architecture and Consulting, P.A., he has dedicated his career to the planning, design and construction of transportation projects worldwide.

The MSU alumnus has participated in a leadership role on some of the nation’s largest transportation projects between the U.S. and Canada and the $245 million Christopher Bond Bridge in Kansas City, Mo. He has also worked on signature international projects including the A-25 Completion Project in Montreal, Canada, and the recently completed Saadiyat Bridge in Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.

The 2012 Alumni Fellow has given hundreds of presentations and lectures on transportation-related subjects. He has taught at the Florida A&M School of Architecture and was a featured speaker at the International Bridge Conference.

His work has been published both nationally and internationally in publications such as Architectural Digest, Bridge Design and Engineering International, Roads and Bridges, Florida and Caribbean Architect and Engineering News Record.

Touchstone and the eight other 2012 Alumni Fellows were honored on campus Nov. 15-17 in conjunction with the MSU vs. Arkansas football game.

**Past CAAD Alumni Fellows**

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**Ted Porter gives back to alma mater**

Ted Porter presented the money from his Brick Industry Association Award to Jim West, Dean of the College of Architecture, Art and Design, and Michael Berk, director of the School of Architecture on Nov. 30. The alumnus is also the sponsor of the Paul Grootkerk Travel Scholarship.

Click here to read the full story that was also featured in the New Albany News-Exchange.

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**Belinda Stewart sponsors internship for Carl Small Town Center**

Click here to read the story, or visit our website at caad.msstate.edu/wpmu/sarcnews/category/alumni/