



UNIVERSITY OF
FLORIDA

The Foundation for The Gator Nation.

COLLEGE of DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION & PLANNING

PERSPECTIVE

Preserving Our Future by Preserving Our Past

2005 / 2006

**“IT MAY TAKE A HUNDRED YEARS FOR
THE COMPLETION OF THESE PLANS, BUT
AS THE STATE GROWS ... THE UNIVERSITY
WILL FINALLY GROW INTO A SPLENDID
AND HARMONIOUS WHOLE ...”**

- University Record of 1906

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WINNER
2005 Golden Gator Award
"GRAND GATOR"



On The Cover:
Detail of the masonry
archway at UF's Sledd Hall.

Photos: Doug Barrett



Paul Wiseman

welcome...

For those of you who may not know me, I have been with the university and college for 39 years as a professor in the School of Architecture and as an administrator for the past 15 years. It is truly an honor to serve you as Interim Dean of the College of Design, Construction and Planning.

As you know, DCP is unique in that we have under one umbrella all five related disciplines: architecture, building construction, interior design, landscape architecture and urban and regional planning.

With a student body of approximately 1,500 and 90 faculty members, DCP is one of the largest programs nationally, and its funded research ranks in the top five.

In my short tenure as interim dean, I am very proud of the progress we have made in the restructuring of the Historic Preservation Program under the leadership of DCP professor Roy Eugene Graham, the Beinecke-Reeves Distinguished Chair and Director of the College's Historic Preservation Programs. In this restructuring process, a new Center for World Heritage Stewardship will be developed, which will foster professional and academic partnerships for the interdisciplinary initiatives in global heritage conservation. The center also would be a resource, responding to the needs of the worldwide community in conserving, managing and restoring physical and natural assets as well as creating the necessary information systems to help educate the federal, state and local governments to develop and manage their own resources in meeting stewardship goals.

When the college's historic preservation program started in 1957, it was one of the first four in the country. Today, the program continues to raise the bar in preservation

education. Our students have the opportunity to study preservation locally, nationally and internationally, in places throughout Florida and areas such as Nantucket, Mass., Mexico and Italy. This year, when the Gulf Coast was hit by Hurricane Katrina, the area lost many historic sites. However, through a new preservation studio created by Professor Graham, students will study alternatives to demolition and have already traveled to the region to help save historic homes.

Historic preservation is critical to all of our disciplines, and it is becoming more so as we continue toward the future. Soon, there will be few projects that don't involve preservation in some way. Here at DCP, we are educating future architects, contractors, designers and planners about preservation, so that they will be prepared when they enter the field.

This year, the college continues to work toward several goals. We will continue to work more aggressively in interdisciplinary collaboration, both within the college and the university. In addition, the college faculty approved the first-ever college constitution, which sets guidelines for shared governance. This process, at the college level, distributes the decision-making authority between the administration and the faculty.

I look forward to working with you, as we strengthen the college's programs together. If you have any comments, suggestions or want to get involved, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony J. Dasta".

Anthony J. Dasta
Professor and Interim Dean

CAMPUS *life*



PRESERVING OUR CAMPUS

It has been nearly 100 years since the University of Florida first opened its doors on the Gainesville campus in 1906 with just two buildings and 102 students. In the past century, the campus has undergone numerous changes with the ebb and flow of the economy and a growing number of students. Today, with nearly 70,000 students, faculty and staff, the campus has grown from the original two buildings – Thomas and Buckman halls – to over 900 buildings. But as we move into the campus’s second century, a group of professors within the College of Design, Construction and Planning, in conjunction with faculty from other disciplines, are making sure that the past is never forgotten.

“Everyone at the University of Florida has reason to be proud of the visual heritage of our campus,” says **Susan Tate**, a professor of interior design and a member and past chair of the university’s Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee (also called the Historic Preservation Committee), which is working to preserve the campus’s past while moving into the future.

“We feel that our historic environment is a visual history in which we can all participate. It speaks about human achievements over time and human challenges over time in a way we can experience beyond a textbook. People relate to the visual record of history.”

The University of Florida campus is a perfect example of just that type of visual record, and preserving it for generations to come is vital, Tate says.

“The University of Florida, rather surprisingly, has a visual record that is unique among large public institutions,” Tate says. “Many campuses across the country have lost their character as they’ve expanded. But we have this visual record of this

history that has come to us, and now we are caretakers for our generation and for future generations.”

One of the reasons that UF’s campus has maintained such a strong visual record, despite its rapid growth, is that it started with a plan for preservation and continuity, Tate explains. During the first period of the campus’s growth, from 1905-1925, **William Augustus Edwards**, the architect in charge of the campus design, started out with a collegiate gothic style that is still in place today.

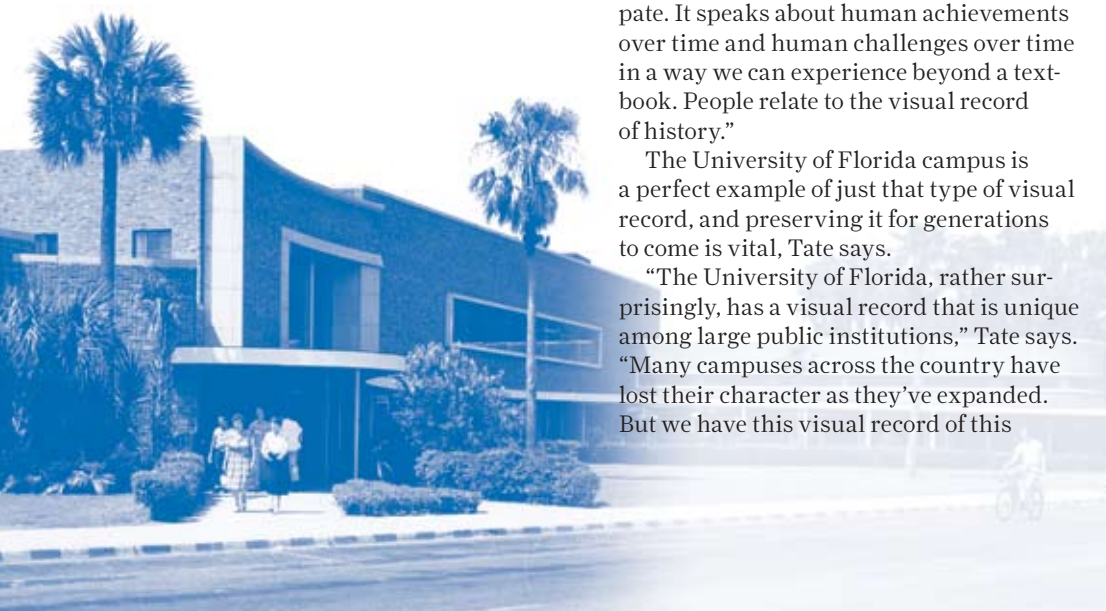
“The board at the time believed that in this young state where we were, in some parts, still wilderness, this style would portray a link to the ancient traditions of learning in schools such as Oxford,” Tate explains. “That tradition has continued over the years.”

The second university architect, **Rudolph Weaver**, who was also the first dean of the School of Architecture, continued the tradition of collegiate gothic construction during his tenure, which lasted from 1926 until 1944.

“The key thing here is that Weaver understood what had come to him, and he continued it yet pushed it into an evolution that expressed its own time,” notes Tate.

After Weaver came university architect **Guy Fulton**, who designed some of the university’s most well-known buildings, including Tigert, Century Tower and the Mallory, Yulee and Reid dormitories, all of which continued in the campus tradition. In 1950, the Hub went up in the center of campus. More than a half-century later, it remains a center of student life.

The university has continued to develop and go through various evolutions in the 50 years since Fulton stepped down in 1956, but the integrity of the campus has re-





mained intact, and most of the university's earliest buildings still stand, largely because of the efforts of faculty members who have, over the years, recognized the importance of preserving the university's traditions through preserving its buildings.

Now, through major historic preservation grants from the Getty Foundation and the state of Florida, professors from the College of Design, Construction and Planning – and team members from the UF Facilities Planning and Construction and Physical Plant divisions – are working to come up with a new preservation plan for the university to put even more emphasis on its historic significance. (See story page 5.)

Through the Campus Historic Preservation Committee, which traces its roots back to 1976, faculty members have helped place some of UF's most historic buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, have prevented the planned demolition of several historic buildings and are currently assisting architects and builders in renovating the campus while maintaining the integrity of the gothic style and the original buildings. They have also created a campus walking tour dedicated to the university's physical history (See « http://www.facilities.ufl.edu/cp/pdf/UF_Historic_Campus.pdf »).

But perhaps one of the most important historic preservation projects that DCP professors are involved in is the actual preservation of campus buildings that are currently undergoing – or about to undergo – renovation.

The Hub, the 55-year-old building that stands in the center of campus and has, for years, served as a center of student activity, is a perfect example of historic preservation efforts that go hand-in-hand with current development needs. Tate is one of the faculty members working to strike a balance between the needs of the past and the future.

“The first step is for us to identify buildings and their historic context,” Tate explains. “Once a building has been identified and work on the building has been proposed, the UF Historic Preservation Committee reviews the proposals and is invited to participate in the selection of contractors and architects to do the work. As a part of that, the committee makes the people selected aware of the goals of the university as far as the physical environment.”

The Hub opened in November 1950 in a very different incarnation than it exists today. The original building housed the campus post office, a ballroom, a barbershop and a formal dining area. Until recently, the rounded area that was once home to the post office housed a food court and the remainder of the bottom floor was home to the campus bookstore. The upstairs area that once was home to the ballroom housed offices for university services. What is unique about the architecture of the Hub is that it blended both old and new in a beautiful combination of 1950s modernism and the university's gothic tradition.

“It's visually a statement of international modern influences that were really important in this post World War II era when internationalism was key and everyone was thinking and moving forward

into a new world,” Tate says. “And yet the architect maintained the scale and materials of the campus so that the building, while a new kind of expression, fits very well in this context.”

The building's unique architecture and history as a center of student life make it a prime project for preservation. It is currently being reworked to become an international student center and academic technology center, which is an almost poetic representation of how the needs of students have changed in the five decades since the building first opened. But proponents of historic preservation want to make sure that the history of the Hub doesn't get lost as the building is adapted for a new tomorrow.

To that end, Tate and other faculty and students are working with UF alumna **Bahar Armaghani**, the project manager for the Hub renovation, and the Hub renovation's chief architect **Joe Walker** of Gainesville's Ponikvar & Associates, to make sure that the needs of both the past and future are being met in the best way possible.

“The renovation of the Hub was initially conceived as a reaction to meeting the space needs of two distinct departments at the University of Florida, Academic Technology and the UF International Center,” explains Walker. “With a clearer understanding of the project scope, we then took a hard look at the history of the existing building. Establishing the Hub as a historically significant structure brought with it many parameters for the design.”

The project calls for a complete gutting of the building and a redesign of the interior.

“But since the building has some historically significant features such as the original shell, terrazzo floor and original wood flooring, the project is dedicated to preserve these features in the building,” explains Armaghani.

Much of the historic interior, unfortunately, has been lost, concealed or destroyed over time as renovations and additions have been made to the Hub. But now, the team renovating the building is doing so with an eye toward history like never before. With guidance from the UF Historic Preservation Committee, the façade of the north side of the building will be cleaned and its glass and entry doors will be replaced. The Hub's original terrazzo flooring, much of which has been damaged over the years, will be documented and the design reflected in the new flooring. The original wood flooring of the ballroom,

SEE CAMPUS ON PAGE 34 »

WANT TO LEARN MORE?

- » For a timetable of key building events, visit « <http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/ufarch/history.htm> »
- » For more information about UF's campus preservation initiatives, visit « <http://www.facilities.ufl.edu/cp/hpp.htm> »
- » For more information on the college's historic preservation program, visit « <http://www.dcp.ufl.edu/hp/> »

The Swamp.

UF Stadium Creates Bonds Between Generations of Gator Fans

Ben Hill Griffin Stadium at Florida Field. The Swamp.

Athletic fans know of its importance – to intimidate opponents and energize the home team. When filled with Gator fans on a football Saturday, the Swamp is loud, overwhelming, powerful. But in reality, it is so much more.

“The personal relationship between the visitors and the city is part of what makes UF’s stadium unique,” says architecture assistant professor Shivjit Sidhu. “Each game is a homecoming.”

This past year, Sidhu and his graduate seminar class embarked on a study of stadiums around the world, researching how society fits in with the stadium as an architectural site. Among others, the class examined Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

Back in 1930, Florida Field started as a small venue. It has grown steadily through the years – an average of 10,000 seats per decade. Today, the stadium is one of the largest on-campus facilities in the world.

“Despite tremendous growth, the relationship with the fans hasn’t changed,” Sidhu says. “To the fans, the stadium embodies a collection of memories that stitch the individual with family and team. It is an avenue for generations of Gators to celebrate a shared bond with a larger community. In this sense, it is as much a social event as it is athletic.”

Among other issues, the seminar is exploring the synergy between cities and their stadiums.

“UF’s stadium is interwoven with the city of Gainesville. Football games are not just the game itself – attending the game is a day long event,” he explains. “The campus becomes a massive campground. People park on or around campus and walk to local restaurants.”

In the best situations, stadiums provide a sense of community and lead to other events. Also, in many cities, the area around the stadium is most democratic on game days,

which promotes free expression, says Sidhu. “In Gainesville, the stadium, the most massive structure between Orlando and Jacksonville, is the largest public gathering space.”

Sidhu and his students will continue to study stadiums throughout the United States and the world for the next few years as part of a larger study titled, “Stadia: Evolution of the Public Environment.” Their findings will be presented in an exhibit in 2008. In addition to architectural issues, they intend to look at social, economic, environmental and cultural issues.

One issue they intend to study is the relationship of stadiums and society during emergency situations. They will focus on events such as the Atlanta Olympic bombings, September 11 and the hurricanes that hit the Gulf Coast to see how stadium use was impacted by the crises, including the role of the stadium in the evacuation and reconstruction efforts of the communities.

“We plan to examine how athletic events bring people together during a time of crisis and how the stadiums of the Gulf Coast were transformed into shelters during the hurricanes,” Sidhu says.

These recent events call attention to many of the issues Sidhu and his students already planned to research.

“What is the greater benefit to having a stadium in your city? Cities build stadiums to attract athletic teams, but sometimes the teams aren’t successful financially. They move out of the city, leaving the stadium abandoned. Many times, there are more factors at work than just the team’s win-loss record,” Sidhu says. “It might be the way the city is designed, the location of the stadium or the true interest of the public.”

Of course, these are not issues for UF and Ben Hill Griffin Stadium. The stadium isn’t just home to the Gator football team, but also to thousands of fans. **P**



Paul Wiseman

Ben Hill Griffin Stadium at Florida Field



Paul Wiseman



DEVELOPING A PRESERVATION MASTER PLAN

Interested in bidding on a project on the UF campus that involves a historic building? In the past, it may have been difficult to know what was involved in such a project. What guidelines need to be followed? What is the history of the building? What details are critical to its preservation?



Susan Tate, Linda Dixon and Harold Barrand are answering those questions, through their work on the Getty Foundation's Heritage grant. Tate serves as principal investigator and Dixon and Barrand are co-principal investigators for the \$150,000 Getty grant awarded to the University of Florida in 2003.

"This grant allows us to develop a holistic preservation master plan, which looks at the UF campus as one entity," said Tate. The plan will guide both professionals working in UF's historic impact area as well as university staff responsible for ongoing maintenance of the campus fabric.

The approach to this project is unique, bringing together both academic and administrative functions of the university. Tate is a professor of interior design, DCP alumna Dixon represents UF Facilities Planning and Construction Division and Barrand represents UF Physical Plant Division. Student assistants working with the grant team gain professional experience as they contribute to the project.

The work began with analysis of buildings, landscape and focal points within the holistic context of the campus. Through detailed on-site analysis and archival research, the team identified character-defining features. Early in 2006, the team will meet with a roundtable of experts in historic preservation to finalize the guidelines. The product will be an online document, which will characterize significant features; provide guidance for rehabilitation, maintenance and compatible development; and link to significant resources.

"We already are seeing the impact of the grant. Awareness of the national significance of our campus as a leader in historic preservation and compatible development is creating a greater understanding of the goals and the processes of work proposed for the campus," Tate said. **P**

HISTORIC COURTYARDS: A CRITICAL COMPONENT TO CAMPUS

To some, preservation is about preserving buildings. But architecture professor **Kim Tanzer** points out it's so much more than that.

"A campus really is defined more by the space between the buildings than by the buildings themselves," says Tanzer. "That's what makes it a campus and not just a commercial development."

UF alumni **Herb and Catherine Yardley** shared this vision and supported it with a \$250,000 gift to beautify UF's historic district. Their gift, which was matched by the university, allowed for the creation of the Yardley Historic Courtyards, located between Buckman and Dauer Halls.

"The Yardleys were more concerned about the total environment, which made this project special," says **Bob Grist**, chair of the Department of Landscape Architecture. "They had some innovative ideas about improving the whole quality of campus."

Supported by former Provost David Colburn, the historic courtyards project was initiated by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and former Dean Will Harrison and was continued by Dean Neil Sullivan when he assumed the lead role for the college.

To explore options for the historic courtyards, Tanzer organized a three-day university-wide charrette in the spring of 2002. More than 100 people from across campus participated. The interdisciplinary teams consisted of architecture and landscape architecture students in Tanzer's and Grist's classes. In addition, at the beginning of the charrette, each team had an opportunity to brainstorm with representatives from the Physical Plant Division, Housing and other departments on campus.

"The charrette provided inspiration and focus for the hired landscape architecture firm EDSA to use when they created the final design," says Tanzer, who, along with landscape architecture associate professor **Tina Gurucharri**, sat on the selection committee which chose EDSA.

Tanzer indicates that the Yardley Historic Courtyards, which were dedicated in November 2003, is just the first of several landscape projects in the UF historic district.

Grist explains, "Campus open space projects are sometimes quick fixes to solve a functional problem not taking into consideration historical context and design aesthetics." He hopes more donors will realize the importance of preserving and restoring the beauty of UF's campus. **P**

Julie Frey



The Yardley Historic Courtyards help connect UF's historic campus while adding to its beauty.



Team members visit the site.



A team brainstorms during the Yardley Historic Courtyards charrette in Spring 2002.



A model of the courtyards.

EDUCATION

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM AT DCP

In 1957, the University of Florida became one of the first four universities in the country to offer a program in historic preservation. Guided by the leadership of dedicated faculty, the program grew to become one of the most well-respected academic programs in the country. Today, the historic preservation program at DCP operates in several foreign countries, six states and includes faculty from all five college units.


The arrival of **Turpin C. Bannister** in 1957 as dean of the College of Architecture and Fine Arts marked the starting point of interest in preservation studies at DCP. A founder of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Society of Architectural Historians, he introduced one particular architecture professor to the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) through a summer job opportunity in 1958. Professor Emeritus **F. Blair Reeves, FAIA**, would return from his summer experience and go on to become a strong influence on preservation studies at DCP and across the nation. HABS, a joint program of the National Park Service, the American Institute of Architects and the Library of Congress, would also become a launching pad to a career in historic preservation for many of UF's preservation students.

Starting in the early 1960s, groups of UF students began documentation and preservation work on local projects from North Central Florida to Key West, Puerto Rico and beyond. As statewide interest in the field grew, so did the program at UF. The architecture department expanded to a six-year program in the early 1970s offering graduate-level history and preservation courses which attracted students from many disciplines. A multi-agency collaboration and the vision of

Walter Beinecke, Jr., established UF's Nantucket, Mass., institute in 1972 which became Preservation Institute: Nantucket, now one of three preservation institutes at DCP.

By 1980, the historic preservation program was regularly attracting nationally recognized consultants, bolstering the quality of education and reputation of the program. The Research and Education Center for Architectural Preservation was established in 1978 and offered preservation education across the entire university. Architecture professor **George Scheffer** founded the Preservation Institute: Caribbean in 1981.

Herschel Shepard, one of DCP's first faculty members with preservation work experience, established the modern preservation curriculum in 1989 to include more preservation technology studies while he maintained the program's growth. Shepard also established the Master of Science in Architectural Studies, first conferred in 1992.

In 2003, **Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA**, was named Beinecke-Reeves distinguished professor in historic preservation and director of preservation programs. In the spring of 2004, the historic preservation program committee initiated the Interdisciplinary Concentration and Certificate in Historic Preservation (ICCHP) for graduate students across the university and established a joint degree with the Fredric G. Levin College of Law in 2005. In 2006, the college announced the proposal of a transdisciplinary Center for World Heritage Stewardship. The new center, chaired by Graham and assistant professor **Kristin Larsen**, will involve centers from across the university and complement those already functioning within the college. 



Photos courtesy of Peter Pugh

Alison Chuplis, an interior design student from International Academy of Design and Technology in Tampa, documents a Nantucket historic garden. Chuplis and UF interior design student **Paula Wagner** documented the garden as part of PI:N's ongoing work with the Nantucket Garden Club and its annual submission to the Smithsonian Institution's Archives of American Gardens.

PRESERVATION INSTITUTE: NANTUCKET

Dedicated to Preservation Education

Year Founded: 1972

Co-Founders: **Walter Beinecke, Jr.**, Nantucket island developer, and **F. Blair Reeves, FAIA**, UF architecture professor

Sponsors: University of Florida, Nantucket Historical Trust, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, National Park Service, National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Smithsonian Institution

Mission: Provide participants with a unique educational experience in a broad range of historic preservation issues, while helping to research, document and conserve the historic resources of Nantucket.

PI:N Stats:

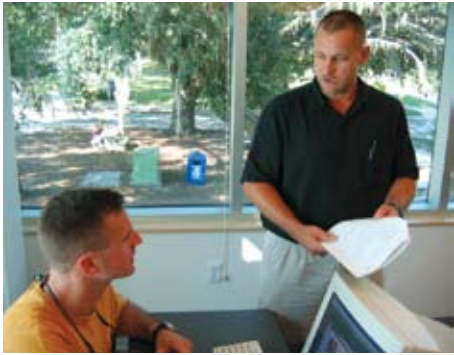
- » 500 students from more than 100 academic institutions in the United States and abroad have participated in PI:N.
- » PI:N students have documented more than 100 of the island's structures.
- » In 1998, PI:N students documented what some believe is one of the oldest lighthouse sites in the United States.
- » PI:N is located in Sherburne Hall, an 1846 Greek Revival structure located in the historic Nantucket town center.
- » Nantucket, Mass., was first settled in the mid-17th century on an island 30 miles offshore and has more than 800 structures that pre-date the Civil War.





IN HIS OWN WORDS: ROBERT COX

Inaugural Member UF Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars



Paul Wiseman

During the next decade, the University of Florida will strive to become one of the top ten public research universities. This goal emphasizes the university's need to grow in its research ability but does not neglect the importance of improving teaching.

To this end, the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars, under the auspices of the University Center for Excellence in Teaching, was created last year to reward and utilize the most adept and effective educators on campus to enhance teaching and learning throughout the university.

Among the five inaugural members of this prestigious academy is building construction associate director and professor Robert Cox. Here, Cox describes his own pedagogy and thoughts on the Academy.

On the Academy:

We are looking to enhance the learning experience of students through the Academy. Though the opportunities are limitless, the Academy may propose new ways of teaching and new ways of teaching evaluation with the goal of creating a durable connectedness between students and the university.

In one respect, the Academy challenges research, but not in a negative way. What it is saying is research is important, but we can never forget the teaching side of being a scholar.

On Excellent Teaching:

I think the biggest way to excel in teaching is realizing you don't know everything. You have to be humble and have respect for the student.


Create an environment where the student wants to learn, and it eliminates excuses for them. This approach allows flexibility, but at the same time, the students end up putting the pressure on themselves to excel.

On Today's Classroom:

If you really want to have a great learning experience, nobody should be intimidating. I don't ever discount a student's knowledge, and that comes by returning the respect that is given to me.

The way to get your students' attention changes every semester. This Academy has an opportunity to provide teachers with tools to adapt to their changing students. Students entering today's classrooms are much different than those of 15 years ago.

On Balancing Research and Teaching:

There may have been a perception of imbalance that was about to take place on this campus. What the Academy is trying to do is provide a happy medium between research and teaching. The creation of this Academy recognizes that you can have an impact through teaching and not just research. In other words, it is intended not to let us forget that ultimately our job is to educate. 

F. Blair and Mary Nell Reeves



Paul Wiseman

REEVES: Founder of Preservation Studies at DCP

A veritable pioneer of architectural preservation studies in his own right, Professor Emeritus **F. Blair Reeves, FAIA**, has influenced the lives of many of our nation's premier preservationists over an illustrious career spanning nearly half a century.

He and his wife **Mary Nell** have lived in their Gainesville house for 50 years, a house which he designed and built with the help of fellow Gators. Reeves began studying architecture as a young man working in the Beaumont firm of Stone and Pitts while he studied architecture at the University of Texas at Austin. Shortly after college, he started out on a career in architectural preservation while working with the Historic American Buildings Survey at Harpers Ferry, W.Va., recording buildings related to John Brown's raid before the Civil War.

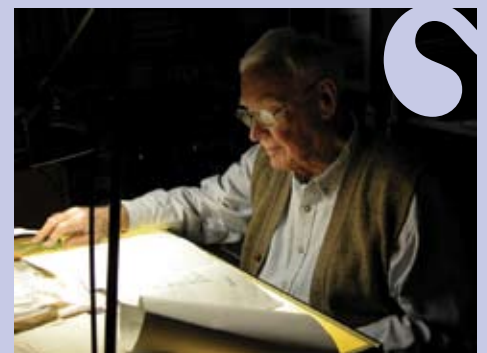
Part of Reeves' legacy at UF began in 1968 when he started one of the nation's first architectural preservation study programs. He and Mary Nell were also the protagonists behind the university's first preservation institute on Nantucket Island, Mass., co-founded in 1972 with the late **Walter Beinecke, Jr.** The institute continues to be a model for architectural preservation studies in North America and abroad.

"In addition to PI:N, Blair involved his students and architecture faculty in projects to identify and document buildings uniquely valuable to the state of Florida for their historic and architectural significance. I can remember working on the documentation of the Gilchrist County Courthouse for one of these projects," says **Anthony Dasta**, interim dean for the college.

Reeves began teaching at the University of Florida in 1949, and since then he has been honored with numerous awards, including the National Trust's Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award.


"Blair gave our program national recognition," says **Peter Prugh**, current PI:N director and associate professor of architecture. "His work at the national level gave us instant professional credibility in preservation."

Former students impressed by his instruction over a 38-year teaching career at UF attribute the direction of their life's work to Reeves' influence. Much of that influence began during their summers on Nantucket Island at PI:N. Recollections by past students at PI:N tell of a familial learning environment under the careful instruction and administration of Blair and Mary Nell. On one field trip, the couple and their students were mis-



taken for a large family by a sympathetic passerby at a restaurant.

"Blair had a gift for getting nationally recognized preservation professionals to come as consultants to the program and made them feel like part of a family," says Prugh.

Although Reeves retired in 1987, he continues to contribute to DCP, including serving as an adviser to the DCP Historic Preservation Committee and regularly sharing his wealth of experience and insights with preservation faculty and administrators. "It is highly gratifying to see former students excel and enjoy their careers," he says. 

PRESERVING AND REBUILDING AFTER KATRINA

The treasure hunt begins in the unlikely-est of places. Amid piles of trash and trees surrounding makeshift trailer-home parks, groups of children gleefully ride tricycles on bare concrete foundations where their houses stood just four months ago. Newly erected billboards and yard signs speckle the flattened landscape, announcing an insatiable need for workers and beckoning former residents to return. But the people of the Gulf Coast who were tragically removed from their communities after Hurricane Katrina swept through the region need a reason for hope, a reason to return.

For reasons uniquely their own, three graduate students in the college's historic preservation program volunteered the first week of their winter break to travel to Mississippi and assess, document and lend a hand to an area which suffered considerable loss.

The three students joined **Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA**, director of the college's Historic Preservation Programs, on the first leg of an upcoming preservation studio focused on alternatives to demolition.

The opportunity to witness and begin restoration work in the Gulf Coast region was made possible when the World Monuments Fund, an international organization dedicated to the preservation of endangered architectural and cultural sites, called on DCP's historic preservation program to become involved, and to bring students.

After the initial shock of witnessing firsthand what he had joined this trip to see, urban and regional planning student **Mathew Saffer** determined he would make this trip a personal learning experience. His first opportunity came on day two of the six-day trip when he and the rest of the group met local **Dorothy Phillips, 75**, and her brother **Russell Simons, 71**.

Longtime Bay St. Louis, Miss., residents, the siblings stayed in Phillips' historic antebellum home on North Beach Boulevard as Hurricane Katrina came ashore. The wind howled and the water rose well above the floorboards as the house shifted under-

neath their feet during a 14-hour struggle against nature.

"It was a once in a lifetime experience," Simons recalls. "We went through Camille, and we figured there wouldn't be a storm worse than that."

Phillips' two-story center-hall home, believed to have been built in the 1840s, suffered considerable damage this time around. The beachside porch and several rooms fell into the approaching bay, leaving gaping holes exposed to damaging winds and rain.

Phillips told the students what history she knew of her home as they followed her through the house while taking notes and drawing sketches. She stopped to pick up an oversized 10-of-diamonds playing card she once used as a Mardi Gras parade walker. The card survived, but most of her parade costumes fell from their closet when part of the house broke away into the bay.

"We are dealing with a disaster," says **Lisa Sasser**, historic architect and president of the Preservation Trades Network, or PTN, a partner organization on the project. "This is triage work being done here."

The disaster touched close to home for architecture graduate student **Charlene Eiffert**, whose family has lived in New Orleans for six generations.

"For months, I felt far away and helpless watching thousands of people and hearing thousands of stories of neighbors and friends. When I heard about this opportunity, I knew that it was my way to help," she says.

Graham and his students were fortunate enough to be working alongside members of the PTN, the World Monuments Fund, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and local preservation and historical societies.

"The educational experience offered by this trip is unprecedented for everyone involved. Never before has such a diverse group of people come together to work toward an ultimate purpose," Graham says.

Master timber framer and PTN member, **Rudy Christian** explained the work to the students. "Process," he says, "is the key to under-



Still vacant of people but not of its history, the area of the Lower Ninth Ward in New Orleans will be a future project for Professor Graham's Alternatives to Demolition historic preservation studio.



Pictured from left, Jessica Sweeney (IND), Charlene Eiffert (ARC), Mathew Saffer (URP) and Professor Roy Eugene Graham stand on the bay side of the hurricane-damaged historic Phillips house in Bay St. Louis, Miss.



Charlene Eiffert, left, meets Russell Simons who rode out Hurricane Katrina in the house with his sister Dorothy Phillips. During their talk, Eiffert and Simons discover a connection — Simons was once Eiffert's father's boss at the utility company in New Orleans.



standing who built these old structures and why they were there.”

Christian taught the students how to identify unique saw cuts in the 200-year-old wood pulled from the damaged home and identify hand-cut square iron nails – an experience not afforded in a typical classroom. Though he explained old building methods in detail, the greater social context of the work being done was never overlooked.

“We are giving hope to people that are in despair and that is extremely important here and now,” Christian says.

His words of encouragement were echoed by historic architect and PTN member **Misia Leonard**. “When we walk out of here this is not the end of anything. This is just the beginning for these people who now have a model for rebuilding their own historic homes.”

After four full days of work, the team of students, craftsmen and architects accomplished more than they could have hoped for. Tired backs and sore legs reminded them that they were not just there to observe, but to make an observable difference. Their work resulted in the complete disassembly of an early 19th century cottage carefully pulled apart board-by-board and moved to a dry warehouse for future reconstruction. The home’s owner, **Charles Hecker**, 86, decided not to rebuild, but he was happy someone knew well enough to save the house – likely the oldest remaining home on the Gulf Coast.

Next door, Dorothy Phillips has decided to stay. With her family at her side, she thanked everyone for saving a piece of the community’s historic fabric and the home she spent 51 years in building memories.

The college’s partnership with the World Monuments Fund continues in 2006 when Graham’s Alternatives to Demolition studio returns to New Orleans. A new group of students will come to know how their preservation work is important to the communities they serve and to offer another reason for the people of the Gulf Coast to return home. **P**



Paul Wiseman

URP student Mathew Saffer prepares one of the two remaining walls of the Hecker cottage for disassembly. Each piece of historic material was removed and safely stored for future reconstruction.

GRAHAM: MOVING DCP’S PRESERVATION PROGRAM FORWARD

Raised in a 19th century historic home in Natchitoches, La., the oldest town in the Louisiana Purchase, DCP professor **Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA**, says his appreciation for historic surroundings began in the community where he grew up. After graduating from Louisiana State University, he returned home to work in a local design firm whose clients’ mistaken interest lied in reproduction French Quarter architecture. Reacting to the proliferation of reproductions while seeing the genuine historic fabric deteriorate, he began to crusade for community conservation. He established theories that the restoration of the past should be to improve people’s quality of life, their sense of place, ownership and responsibility for the built environment and not to serve solely as an antiquarian ideologue.

After receiving a master’s degree from the University of Virginia, Graham went to teach at the University of Texas where he reached early tenure status and began a practice of creating and developing historic preservation programs. While resident architect of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, responsible for the departments of architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, research and conservation, he was teaching part time at the University of Virginia. Later, he became the first full-time director of historic preservation. Perhaps it was there or at Catholic University in Washington D.C., Texas A&M, or his time at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia, but along the way, Graham made it his mission to develop strong, interdisciplinary architectural preservation programs around the world. He arrived at the University of Florida in October 2003, after accepting the Beinecke-Reeves distinguished professor position in the College of Design, Construction and Planning.

As director of Historic Preservation Programs at DCP, Graham has a vision for the program which includes aggressively pursuing partnerships with international, national, state and local preservation

organizations and fostering the transdisciplinary melding he believes is critical to the practice.

The Center for World Heritage Stewardship, a proposed center that encourages interdisciplinary research and holistic approaches to conservation, is part of Graham’s vision to expand DCP’s historic preservation program to make it the best in the nation and recognized worldwide. He envisions a university-wide degree program in historic preservation at UF open to a variety of backgrounds, including all those in the college and others in the university to include anthropology, museum studies, cultural tourism, natural environment studies, law, history, economics, engineering and political science among others.

Opening up the historical preservation field in academia parallels Graham’s belief that preservation is meant to improve communities socially as well as aesthetically. His most recent project took three students, each from different disciplines within the college, to the hurricane-damaged Gulf Coast region as a precursor to a seminar focused on alternatives to demolition. For six days, Graham, his students and national partner organizations got dirty doing hands-on work and learned more about a tight community with strong historical roots. Although they cannot restore the entire coast, the efforts proved inspirational and a boost to the community’s recovery. **P**



Paul Wiseman

Professor Roy Eugene Graham inspects plaster held in place by the original lathing on a hurricane-damaged Gulf Coast cottage believed to have been built in the early 1800s.

RESEARCH

PRESERVING NEHRLING'S LEGACY

Just to the southeast of Lake Apopka and bordered by Florida's Turnpike is an old homestead on a six-acre parcel of property purchased by botanist **Henry Nehrling** in 1884 – just nine years after the city of Orlando, Fla., was incorporated.

During his 40-year tenure on the property, Nehrling introduced and cultivated nearly 3,000 species of plants such as the azalea, crepe myrtle and bromeliad.

However, he may be best known for his cultivation of the caladium and the foundation he laid for Florida's billion-dollar horticulture industry.

Landscape architecture master's student **Cary Hester** responded to Nehrling's great-grandson's request for assistance to preserve this now distressed historic property.

"It was during one of my design classes that the instructor notified me she had received a curious e-mail I might be interested in," said Hester, who received his master's degree in the spring of 2005. "It was from Richard Nehrling, the great-grandson of Henry Nehrling, and he was looking for a student who was interested in doing some sort of research on his great-grandfather's property."



Cary Hester's illustrative site plan presents a vision for the project showing complete site development, including circulation, parking, site geometrics, program development and the location of buildings.

For his master's thesis, Hester created a rehabilitation proposal for the property complete with extensive historical research, photographs and satellite-assisted mapping of the property. Citing the garden's important agricultural history in the state of Florida, he emphasized the need to preserve what is left and rehabilitate what can be remembered of the property.

"Nehrling stands out to me more than the other individuals I've read about, and that makes the property worth saving," Hester said.

Thousands of visitors came to marvel at the gardens in Nehrling's day. The hope for the rehabilitation of this unique property is to allow



Dr. Henry Nehrling is pictured under a lath shade house that once stood on his property in Gotha, Fla.

future generations to appreciate the beauty and heritage of Palm Cottage Gardens.


"Dr. Nehrling had a huge impact on the type of plants we see in the landscape of Florida today," said **Tina Gurucharri**, landscape architecture associate professor. "It is important for the public to know about his contributions."

Hester developed several project goals through his research – to create a historic photo database, develop a master site plan for new public gardens and create guidelines for the management of Palm Cottage Gardens into the future. The rehabilitation plan identifies many of the property's plants and trees which have existed since Nehrling's time as well as the physical structures on the property like his original homestead. He notes that many of the historic views are in fair to poor condition but could be fixed with some effort.

"My interest in historic preservation guided this project in some degree, but mostly it is the botany and the horticulture, and given that this man did wonders for the horticulture industry in the state, that is what intrigued me," Hester said.

Protecting this site is critical to maintaining its history for future generations, Gurucharri said. "Landscapes are part of our cultural heritage. They inform us about where we come from."

Hester's plan makes the gardens into a facility that can be visited by the public complete with historic descriptions and a reconstruction of the real feel of what the property was like at its highpoint. The driveway would be changed to accommodate new traffic levels, a palm-lined walkway would be restored and shade houses for horticultural demonstration would be added in areas of high disturbance.

"With the restoration of the gardens, the public benefits by learning about our cultural heritage in an experiential way – being able to see, smell, touch and 'be' in an important time and place in history," Gurucharri said. 



PLANNING FOR PEDESTRIANS *in an Automobile World*

Unless you live in a one-stoplight town, you probably can rattle off a list of dangerous roads and intersections that make driving, biking or walking near them frightening. With nearly 7,000 people moving into the state of Florida each week, it's no wonder the number of vehicles seems to be rising by the same margin. However, the solution to the traffic congestion problem is not just widening roads, says urban and regional planning associate professor **Ruth Steiner**.

"When you say transportation and movement, people think roads need to be bigger, but bigger roads are less safe for pedestrians," she says.

A neo-traditional neighborhood layout would be more appropriate to alleviate transportation problems for pedestrians and bicyclists and make streets usable by everyone. This approach would keep streets from separating people and increase the use of interconnected roads, like a grid, avoiding the establishment of large arterials that tend to be unfriendly to pedestrians.

Multimodal environments are favorable to a community. Many people even are willing to pay a premium to live in a community developed to accommodate all modes of



Jessica D. Gordon

transportation instead of focusing solely on the automobile, Steiner says.

Pedestrian safety is also the objective of crash mapping research, which Steiner and her associates in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning are completing for the Florida Department of Transportation. In this research, they use geographic information

systems, or GIS, to plot the location of pedestrian and bicycle accidents in counties throughout Florida.

"GIS mapping of pedestrian and bicycle crashes can be a powerful, life-saving tool for planners working in local governments," says urban and regional planning assistant professor **Ibir Bejleri**. "By mapping where crashes take place, improvements can be focused on problem areas. This creates a safer environment for pedestrians and bicyclists."

Steiner's research has earned her a 2005-2008 University of Florida Research Foundation Professorship award for her continued efforts to make roadways and neighborhoods safer for pedestrians and bicyclists through applied research. The professorships are given to faculty members with a distinguished current research program that places them among the leaders of their academic discipline.

"Generally speaking, we build to accommodate the automobile, but we do less well at accommodating the people who want to walk or bicycle. Analyzing how to improve that pretty much summarizes my research," Steiner says. **P**

ACCESSING HISTORY

How can you engage a community in city planning discussions if they don't have the necessary tools to make their decisions?

Before Alachua County and the UF Department of Urban and Regional Planning partnered to create a specialized online software application, citizen access to information about the area's historic structures was limited, at best. Databases containing information about these structures were easily accessible only by county planners and scientists. But **Juna Papajorgji** had a better idea.

As an urban and regional planning doctoral student and GIS Manager for the Alachua County Department of Growth Management, Papajorgji knew that transparency and community involvement were important factors in the city's decisions regarding historic properties. Her solution was a Web site with the capabilities of advanced mapping software which

could be made easily accessible to anyone with a computer.

The first of its kind in Florida, the Web site offers video, audio and photographic data on nearly 1,000 area historic sites. The award-winning program design is easily adaptable and cost effective for any city with a historic properties database.

There has been a positive response from the public who benefits by having ordinances in place to protect their historic sites, said Papajorgji. "Other Florida communities already have begun to show interest in adopting this program to further their own conservation efforts." **P**



To view Alachua County's historic structures online database, visit
« <http://growth-management.alachua.fl.us/histstruct/infosys/index.html> »

SERVICE

IMPACTING COMMUNITIES THROUGH PRESERVATION

One of St. Augustine's oldest neighborhoods is learning how to preserve its cultural heritage while moving into the future. Further up the state's east coast, near Fernandina Beach, Old Town is managing to preserve the markers of its amazing place in history as the last city platted by the Spanish in the western hemisphere. Seacoast towns in Dominica, St. Lucia and Mexico are learning how to live with their historical buildings and natural resources while developing their economies responsibly. Buildings in Nantucket, Mass., that have stood for centuries are being chronicled as standing monuments to the past. Buildings at Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village in New York State will be restored by traditional crafts. Even as far away as France, Slovenia, Ethiopia and Italy, historic preservation efforts guided by the long arm of the University of Florida are taking place.

Across the state of Florida, across the country and even across the world, professors, graduate students and undergrads from the various departments within UF's College of Design, Construction and Planning are embarking on historic preservation projects that impact communities in a big way.

Roy Eugene Graham

"It is central to our mission, since we are part of a public-funded university, serving the whole state and reaching out to the nation and the world at large," says **Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA**, the director of the College Preservation Program and a national advocate for historic preservation. "To quote the president of the National Trust (for Historic Preservation), preservation is about 'quality of life.' That's the way we've been looking at it lately. As the preservation movement gets more mature, it's not about individual buildings as much anymore as it is about ensembles of buildings, landscapes and intangible culture and using historic resources to help communities better themselves socially and economically."

In that vein and with that aim, the college has programs in place or in the making in areas of historic interest all over the world, some

of them in places such as St. Augustine, Nantucket or Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village, which already have strong historic traditions; some of them in places that are further under the radar, such as towns near World Heritage Sites in the Caribbean whose community leaders are struggling with the conflicting needs of preserving cultural and natural sites while addressing community needs and economic livelihood and expansion.

This is not a new battle for the university. In 1957, UF became one of the first schools in the nation to offer coursework in historic preservation after professor **F. Blair Reeves, FAIA**, introduced an architectural preservation studies program within the then-College of Architecture and Fine Arts. Since then, UF and the College of Design, Construction and Planning have gained an international reputation for historic preservation and have assisted in preservation projects all over the state, the country and the world.

With the creation in 2004 of the Interdisciplinary Concentration and Certificate in Historic Preservation (ICCHP), an offering for graduate students, the college is taking historic preservation to a whole new level. Faculty, graduate students and even undergrads from throughout the college are coming together to not only learn how to pave the way for a historically responsible future but also to help communities across the world preserve their heritage today. In the past semester, the ICCHP program has grown to include museum studies students from the College of Fine Arts, and plans are underway to include law, cultural tourism and anthropology students.

"America and the world are becoming more and more homogenized," says **Kay Williams**, an associate professor of landscape architecture who has been very involved in the college's preservation efforts. "In the face of that, historic preservation is important in keeping what's special about the places we love."

Pitons World Heritage Site in St. Lucia

COLLEGE *news*

» **Paul Zwick** recently was promoted to professor of urban and regional planning. In addition, we would like to welcome the following faculty who joined DCP in Fall 2005: **Esther Obonyo**, assistant professor in building construction; **Candy Carmel-Gilfilen**, assistant professor in interior design; and **Joseli Macedo**, assistant professor in urban and regional planning

» In April 2005, **Andrew Wehle**, DCP assistant in student affairs, was awarded one of six UF Superior Accomplishment Awards in recognition of his work with the students in the college. In order to be nominated for the university-level award, Wehle first received a Division Three 2004-2005 Superior Accomplishment Award in February 2005. In addition, **Mary Kramer**, office manager for the School of Architecture, received a Division Three 2004-2005 Superior Accomplishment Award for her extra efforts and dedication to the university. Both Wehle and Kramer were nominated by

students and colleagues for their efforts above and beyond normal assigned duties. **Sallie Schattner**, admission/registrar adviser for the Rinker School of Building Construction, served as 2004-2005 Division Three Chair for the Superior Accomplishment Award.

» **Abdol Chini**, building construction professor and director of the Rinker School of Building Construction, recently completed and published a state-of-the-art report on deconstruction and materials reuse, of which he was the editor, for the Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB). It investigates the systematic disassembly of buildings in order to maximize recovered materials reuse and recycling. A task group was commissioned in 1999 to produce a comprehensive analysis of worldwide building deconstruction and materials reuse programs and issues. Chini's report is the fifth and final in the series.

This report covers deconstruction and materials reuse programs and issues in 10 countries. The process of demolition often leads to the mixing of various materials and contamination of non-hazardous components. Deconstruction can actually be the source separation of materials and is emerging around the world as an alternative to demolition.

» The Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education Program, housed in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, hosted a national certification training event for 18 individuals as part of the National League of American Bicyclists. URP associate scientist **Linda Crider** and her program assistant, **Amanda Hall**, served as two of the four trainers for this national training. Crider recently has been selected by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration staff as one of 20 instructors designated to become a national



The students and faculty of the college are involved in a widely varying collection of historic preservation programs across the world, all of which help communities preserve their past while putting their best foot forward toward the future.

“Our built future is much richer if we incorporate where we’ve been,” explains **Kim Tanzer**, a professor of architecture who works with the Florida Community Design Center, which helps preserve history in Gainesville. “Otherwise you’re starting with a thin veneer of community. The thing about a city is that it builds through time. In the cities we love to visit, such as Rome, Paris, New York and Boston, you can feel the presence of 200 or 2,000 years of history while you’re standing there. That adds so much.”

In the cities that Tanzer mentions, strong historical preservation programs are already in place and have been for decades and even centuries. But what about cities such as Gainesville? Or Starke, Fla.? Or suburban Tampa? Or small coastal towns in Mexico, St. Lucia and Dominica?

“It has to do with understanding the culture and uniqueness of the place you’re in,” says **Kristin Larsen**, an assistant professor of urban and regional planning, who is helping lead a student group to preserve one of St. Augustine’s oldest neighborhoods. “History is often what attracts people to a community. The architecture connects you with the place. It also serves to educate, because the physical environment engages in a way that books can’t.”

Larsen’s project in St. Augustine is just one of the many that spring from the college’s wealth of expertise. Larsen, associate professor **Ruth Steiner** and a team of students are working to help develop a plan for Lincolnville, a historic neighborhood just south of Flagler College in St. Augustine’s historic downtown.

“Given how desirable it was to live close to downtown in this neighborhood with beautiful Victorian homes, the question became how to preserve this neighborhood and also to address needs of existing residents,” Larsen says. “We needed to balance affordable housing, historic preservation and transportation planning.”

There will no doubt, be development taking place shortly in the Lincolnville neighborhood. But the UF group provided the residents there with an important starting point: an understanding of how to preserve their rich cultural heritage through a better understanding of how to move into the future without destroying the heritage of the past.

Other professors within the college, including Tanzer, are leading charges to preserve the Second Avenue corridor, historic churches and a historic blues club in Gainesville, nearly in the university’s backyard. Graham and his students helped conduct similar projects in cities such as High Springs and now in Gary, a Tampa neighborhood near historic Ybor City. A presentation of the student project, including new design guidelines, was given at the end of the fall semester to the community of Gary, educators, city council members and preservationists at the neighborhood school.

“The whole idea is that we are helping groups that can’t afford professional help, in much the same way that legal aid societies provide legal assistance at no cost,” Graham explains. “We don’t take the place of professionals, but we give the residents a starting point and a better understanding of their communities.”

Further away, Graham, in collaboration with professor **Brejish Thapa** of the Department of Tourism, is also planning projects in St. Lucia and Dominica, with a grant from the UNESCO World Heritage Center, to help preserve natural sites such as volcanoes and waterfalls with cul-

turally significant villages around them.

Williams is one of the faculty members within the college working to preserve very specific sites. Hers is the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Historic Site, a Florida state park on the old homestead of the award-winning writer. The park’s purpose is to help teach visitors about Florida’s history and the heritage of Rawlings.

“Heritage tourism is very big in our economy,” Williams explains. “If you have things like this that can appeal to a broad range of people, it helps with tourism, which helps with basic economy.”

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE »



Photo courtesy World Monuments Fund, American College of Building Arts, and Preservation Trades Networks

Historic structure in Shaker Village at Mt. Lebanon, New York, site of DCP’s Preservation Institute: New York



trainer for the “Safe Routes to School” program. She will conduct trainings for schools and communities throughout the state and southeast.

» Urban and regional planning associate professor **Rhonda Phillips** has published a book called, “Community Indicators Measuring Systems.” Community indicators measuring systems represent a mechanism to improve monitoring and evaluation in planning, incorporating citizen involvement and participation. This book provides a comprehensive review of how community development indicators evolved and examines their interplay with planning and development.

» Associate professors of architecture **Michael Kuenstle, AIA**, and **Nancy Clark** recently completed a major research project to write a Florida Building Code Handbook for New Educational Facilities Construction. The

project was funded through a grant from the Florida Department of Education. The handbook is scheduled for publication in early 2006 and incorporates material from the International Building Code, which the state of Florida adopted as its new building code in October 2005.

In addition, Clark and Kuenstle received two Honor Awards for Design Excellence from the American Institute of Architects. The professors’ work recognized by these prestigious juried design awards is the result of their efforts in establishing a successful research-based architecture practice in Gainesville. The award-winning projects were for an innovative church building design proposed for construction on the eastside of Gainesville and for a modern beach house located in Clearwater Beach, Fla. The drawings for the two projects were included in an AIA exhibit at the Thomas Center in

Gainesville, which also featured the work of local and national award-winning architects as well as selected faculty and student projects from the UF School of Architecture.



Beach House 5, Clearwater Beach, Fla.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE »

SERVICE CONTINUED »

Charles Kibert, a professor of building construction and the director of the Powell Center for Construction and the Environment, is working to balance historic preservation with environmental needs and sustainability. He has done a lot of this type of work in older neighborhoods in Gainesville.

"Sustainability is largely about community," Kibert explains. "The less you have to tear down and rebuild, the better. Preserving historic buildings has far lower impact than building new things, and it's also such a cultural asset."

As co-directors of the Research and Educational Center for Architectural Preservation (RECAP), professor **William Tilson** and associate professor **Peter Prugh** of the School of Architecture are at the helm of many preservation projects, including home restorations in historic Jacksonville, the design of cultural management plans for the 75,000 acres of Florida Army National Guard facilities in the state, and the development of design guidelines for historic communities such as Old Town, Fernandina, Fla. "There are communities that are under significant development pressure," Tilson explains. "The guidelines are to maintain a certain character of place and to help manage development."

Tilson is doing similar work as the director of Preservation Institute: Caribbean (PI:C), along with architecture professor and co-director **Alfonso Pérez-Méndez**. Tilson and Pérez-Méndez are leading student design teams that focus on research issues related to the design of new construction in historic, water-based communities in Mexico and the Caribbean.

On Nantucket Island, Mass., Prugh, director of the Preservation Institute: Nantucket (PI:N), is leading the 34-year-old college program, which brings students, not only from Florida but from around the country, to the historic island every summer to help preserve the past.

"We are able to offer a really unique and astonishing preservation education experience for the students," Prugh says. "At the same time,

the island benefits from having research and documentation efforts done on buildings on the island to help them long-range with managing and protecting their cultural resources."

With the help of Ph.D. students, Graham has been developing an additional preservation institute, modeled on the Nantucket success, which will begin the summer of 2006 in Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village in New York's Berkshire Mountains. A grant from the World Monuments Fund and the Brown Foundation will enable students interested in learning traditional methods of building construction to spend nine months with master craftsmen and students from the American Academy of Building Arts in the village working on hands-on projects. Another preservation institute is planned for South Florida.

A new field seminar in the spring 2006, in partnership with the World Monuments Fund, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and others, will enable UF's College of Design, Construction and Planning students to help in the rebuilding and restoration work on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and New Orleans.

That's what the college's efforts are all about: contributing to the community while teaching students about the professions they hope to enter into. In the process, the college is changing the world – simply by helping preserve the past.

"Working with historic communities makes so much sense, because in many ways, preservation is a kind of a duty, whether it's preserving natural or cultural resources," says Graham. "It's a win-win situation, because the community benefits, and the students benefit, and the sort of rapport they develop carries on. We can get people really excited about possibilities that will conserve heritage and improve the quality of life."

The University of Florida is in a unique position to develop just those kinds of programs. Not only is there a strong tradition of historic preservation within the university and the college, but the state itself has a deep need for

such efforts. In addition to reaching outside the state's borders and helping the rest of the world, one of the college's most important functions is turning inward, to preserving what's in their own backyard.

"The state of Florida is under tremendous development pressure," says Tilson. "We're a very young state, but there's a significant range of historic places that are often undervalued and overlooked. There's a tendency in development to eradicate existing things and replace them with something new rather than combining and layering ideas. There is a great role for the university to play in preserving place. We're able to help communities support the things they value and cherish."

Even closer to home, College of Design, Construction and Planning faculty members are also very active in preserving one of UF's greatest sources of pride: the campus of the university itself. (See *Preserving Our Campus* on page 2.)

"We feel that our historic environment is a visual history in which we can all participate," says **Susan Tate**, a professor of interior design and a member of the university's Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee, which oversees much of the historic preservation efforts on campus. "It speaks about human achievements over time and human challenges over time in a way we can experience beyond a textbook. People relate to the visual record of history and because of this there is a widespread interest in keeping it, not just for our generation, but for future generations to experience as well.

P



COLLEGE NEWS CONTINUED »

» Architecture professor **Robert McCarter** recently published two books, "Louis I. Kahn" and "On and By Frank Lloyd Wright: A Primer of Architectural Principles." "Louis I. Kahn" is the first single-author, comprehensive monograph on Kahn published since his death in 1974. With more than 600 illustrations, the book includes new drawings and models by students in the UF School of Architecture. The book examines 24 of Kahn's most important works, built and unbuilt, as well as dozens of secondary projects. In December, the book was listed second on the Top 10 Editor's Picks: Arts, Photography and Architecture on Amazon.com's Best Books of 2005 list.

The second book, edited and co-authored by McCarter, includes 14 essays on Frank Lloyd Wright by the world's leading Wright scholars, plus three essays by Wright himself. All of the authors focus on analysis of Wright's design process, the cultural and social contexts of Wright's work, the importance of inhabitation and experience in understanding Wright's build-

ings, the relation of design conception to construction method, Wright's relation to the history of the discipline and the meaning of Wright's work for the future of architecture. Both books are published by Phaidon Press, Ltd., London and New York. **P**

STUDENT news

» Architecture student **Stuart Thiel** was elected AIAS South Quadrant Director at the national AIAS conference in New Orleans in January 2005 and began serving his term in July. He represents 38 schools with AIAS chapters including two in Puerto Rico. He served as the UF AIAS chapter president for academic year 2004-2005.

» Landscape architecture student **Stephanie Appel** won second place out of 40 entries in the first annual Award of Excellence in Landscape Design Student Competition. The competition, sponsored by the Daniel Corporation in partnership with the Center for Regional

Planning and Design, introduced the planning of a Greenspace Master Plan for the community of Ross Bridge. Participants were challenged with four primary criteria for developing their master plan, giving special consideration to the Ross Bridge, which was built in 1864 to transport supplies to Confederate troops in Selma, Ala. It is thought to be the last Confederate-financed project before the end of the war.

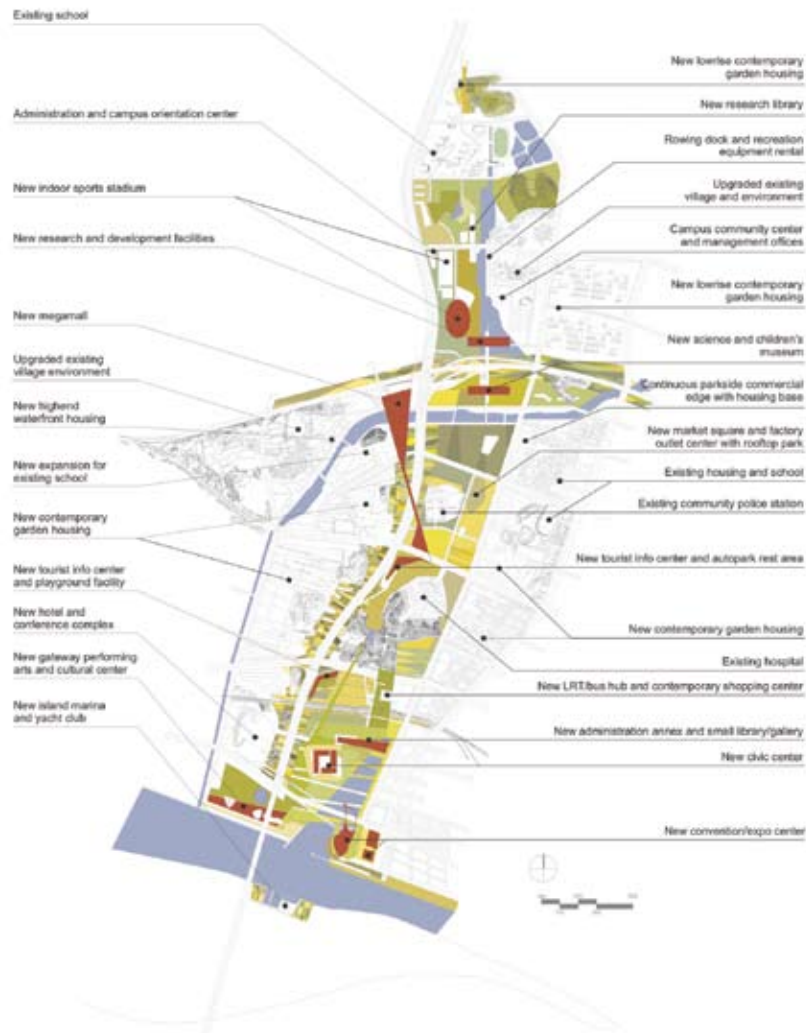
» Students in landscape architecture professor **Terry Schnadelbach's** Urban Design Studio received awards at the 2005 Active Place Design Competition for the Environmental Design Research Association: **Jack Wensel** received a first place award for "Green Infrastructure, Jacksonville, Ribault Creek," **Natalia Barranco** received a fourth place award for "Green Infrastructure, Jacksonville, Lower Hogan Creek," and **Steven Summerford** received a fourth place award for "Green Infrastructure, Jacksonville, Deer Creek." **P**



URBAN MASTER PLAN: SANSHUI, FOSHAN, CHINA

Assistant professor of architecture **Nancy Sanders** and associate professor of architecture **Robert MacLeod**, along with partner **Albertus Wang** (BDesign 1990), have been awarded first prize in a two-stage international design competition. Their firm, SWiMcau (Sanders Wang MacLeod international consortium for architecture & urbanism), teamed with PLT Planning of Hong Kong to receive first place for the Urban Master Plan for the Central Urban Area of Sanshui, Foshan, China.

Located in southwest China near Guangzhou, the project includes the design of a 5.2 square kilometer area for 500,000 projected inhabitants including civic, cultural and convention centers and public plazas, urban park belt and related buildings, extensive retail areas, a light rail station, sports complex, educational buildings and high, mid and low density housing. **D**



DUKES APPOINTED: COLLEGE DIVERSITY SPECIALIST

Last spring, the college appointed building construction professor **Walter E. Dukes, Ph.D.**, as diversity specialist for the college. His duties include assisting in the recruitment and retention of faculty and students, and he will work to strengthen the diversity within the college.

While others throughout campus work in the area of student retention/recruitment and minority affairs, Dukes' position is unique within UF in his charge to influence and build faculty diversity through year-round recruitment and retention activities.

"Our college is very fortunate to have a person of Dr. Dukes' experience and dedication in this new position," said former Dean **Jay M. Stein**, who appointed Dukes. "We are proud to be working with the university to strengthen the diversity within our college and around us."

Associate Provost **Debra Walker King** said she is a strong advocate for developing similar positions throughout campus.



Walter E. Dukes, Ph.D.

Paul Wiseman

"My excitement and pride in this appointment is exceeded only by my confidence in Walter Dukes' selection by the college," King said. "Having a specialist at the college level who is focused year round on faculty recruitment and retention will certainly assist UF in reaching its diversity goals."

Dukes has served UF for nine years mentoring minority students and faculty. He

served as adviser to the National Association of Minority Contractors for six years and to the student chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects.

He received his doctorate from Purdue University and a Master of Science from Indiana State University. Among his specialties are construction management and human resource development. In addition to his service to faculty and students, Dukes was the college's equal opportunity officer for three years and continues to participate in the University Minority Mentor Program.

"Dr. Dukes has been involved in recruitment and retention of students in the Rinker School of Building Construction for many years, and his knowledge and experience in this area will easily expand to include both faculty and students," said Interim Dean **Anthony J. Dasta**. **D**

STUDENTS IN *action*



Paul Wiseman



Design 5 architecture students **Lena Fan** and **Stephanie Springer** photograph their models in the atrium of the Architecture Building, using the late afternoon light to capture the dramatic shadows on their models.

« Lena's model (in the background) is the intervention in Florida landscape. It is a recreational facility of 200-500 sq. ft. for 5-10 people made as a viewing type area at Peacock Springs. It brings the cave system into a habitable space so that everyone can experience the springs.

» Stephanie's model is a 200-500 sq. ft. dance space in San Felasco State Nature Preserve. She says there is good architecture vocabulary in the dance vernacular. The site she has chosen is situated near a creek.



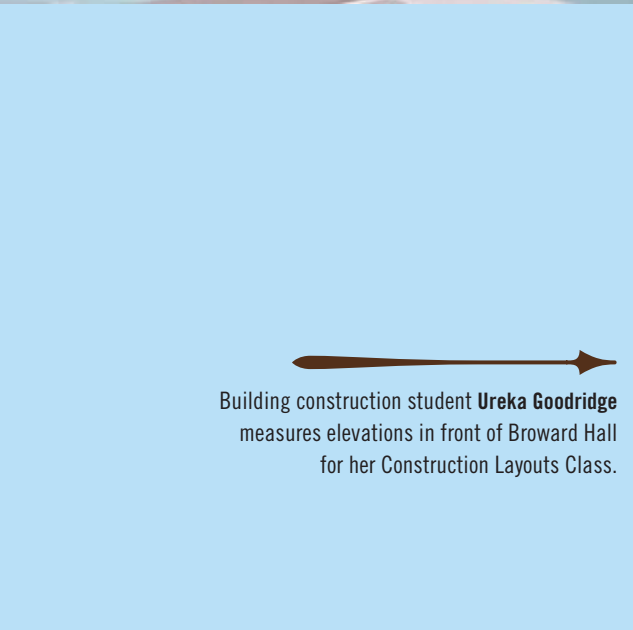
Paul Wiseman

Architecture master's student **Crystal Lester** carefully guides an Xacto knife across the base of her model.

Building construction students **Scott Marone** (left) and **Marty Baker** remove paneling on a landmark antique train caboose in Archer, Fla., damaged by vandalism, weather and termites. Once restored, the caboose will serve as a new concession stand for an athletic complex and a reminder of the railroad's role in Archer's history.



James Marini, Jr.



Building construction student **Ureka Goodridge** measures elevations in front of Broward Hall for her Construction Layouts Class.



Paul Wiseman



Urban and regional planning student **Mathew Saffer** works on an early 19th century cottage in Bay St. Louis, Miss. Mathew and others from DCP spent six days working in Bay St. Louis during their winter break to document and disassemble the historic home damaged by Hurricane Katrina.



Paul Wiseman



Paul Wiseman



Matt Allen

Interior design student **Darci Pappano** and architecture master's student **Eric Peterson** celebrate their graduation at DCP's Spring 2005 Commencement. Darci was one of seven students recognized at the ceremony for their achievements and service. The students who received the college's Undergraduate Student Academic Achievement Award were: **Catherine Anderson, Hayley Harrison, Shelley Jones** and **Jimmy Terpening**. The students receiving the college's Undergraduate Student Service Award were: **Darci, Aaron Plewke, Derick Taylor** and **Jimmy Terpening**.



A group of landscape architecture students pauses for a scenic photo before continuing on their walking tour to Crissy Field, the Palace of Fine Arts and the Golden Gate Bridge. Twenty-six third-year undergraduate and first-year graduate students traveled to San Francisco in October for the department's annual six-day trip.



Paul Wiseman

Architecture senior **Jay Dompur** stands with his entry to the annual lamp design competition sponsored by professor **Martin Gold's** Environmental Technology II class. His design was inspired by traditional Chinese lanterns used during the mid-August moon festivals.

NEWS

2005 TOP AWARD RECIPIENTS

On April 13, 2005, DCP held its 27th Annual Awards Ceremony, honoring donors and recognizing faculty, students and alumni.

The 2006 awards ceremony will be decentralized, with each school or department holding its own ceremony. For more information, please contact the school or department or you may contact the college at « perspective@dcp.ufl.edu » or (352) 392-4836.

Teacher/Adviser of the Year Awards

- » **UF/DCP Teacher of the Year**
Kevin R. Grosskopf, Assistant Professor of Building Construction
- » **DCP Undergraduate Teacher of the Year**
Nancy M. Sanders, Assistant Professor of Architecture
- » **DCP Graduate Teacher of the Year**
Kristin E. Larsen, Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning
- » **DCP Adviser of the Year**
R. Raymond Issa, Professor of Building Construction
- » **Dean's Faculty Service Award**
Susan Tate, Professor of Interior Design
- » **UF Research Foundation Professorship**
Ruth Steiner, Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning

Distinguished Architecture Alumnus

Lawrence Scarpa, Class of 1987
Pugh + Scarpa
Santa Monica, California

Distinguished Building Construction Alumnus

Harley W. Miller, Class of 1969
Miller Construction Company
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

Distinguished Interior Design Alumnus

Sally Burkhard, Class of 1977
DesignTex
Orlando, Florida

Distinguished Landscape Architecture Alumnus

Gerdo Aquino, Class of 1994
SWA
Sausalito, California

Distinguished Urban & Regional Planning Alumnus

Michael C. Holbrook, Class of 1981
Bowyer-Singleton and Associates, Inc.
Orlando, Florida

Construction Hall of Fame Award

Lance S. Frankham
The Frankham Company
Cullman, Alabama

J. Stephen Powell, Jr.

Powell Brothers, Inc.
Ft. Lauderdale, Florida

BCN CELEBRATES 70 YEARS

This year, the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction is celebrating over 70 years of excellence in construction education.

As the oldest continuing building construction program in the country, the Rinker School has a strong tradition of excellence. Starting as a program in 1935 and becoming a school in 1976, the Rinker School has led the nation in construction education.



Bob Angle, president-elect of the Tampa Bay Region UF BCN Gator Club, speaks at the 70th Anniversary Banquet in Tampa on Sept. 21.


The school developed the country's first master's degree program, organized the Associated Schools of Construction with the leadership of Chairman **Loys Johnson** and was the first program to be accredited by the American Council for Construction Education.

Today, the Rinker School continues this tradition with a doctoral degree, a graduate track in sustainable construction, online degrees in fire and emergency services and international construction management and an undergraduate track in residential construction. With the support of many, the school has a new home in Rinker Hall, the 26th building in the nation to receive LEED Gold certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

The anniversary celebration began on Sept. 21 at a dinner hosted by the Tampa Bay Region UF BCN Gator Club and will continue throughout the year as other

regional BCN Gator Clubs hold similar events. In addition to celebrating the Rinker School's anniversary, these events will raise money for the BCN 70th Anniversary Endowed Professorship. This professorship will fund a new faculty member or lecturer, which will help the school continue at the top ranks of construction education programs in the nation.

The Tampa dinner was extremely successful with nearly 300 people in attendance, raising approximately \$45,000 for the professorship. The Rinker School wishes to thank all who participated, especially the Tampa Bay Region UF BCN Gator Club Board of Directors and those companies who sponsored tables.

For more information about upcoming celebrations, please contact **Viki Solt** at (352) 273-1185 or « soltv1@dcp.ufl.edu » 



SLESNICK RECEIVES HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Honorable **Donald Slesnick, II**, mayor of Coral Gables, was awarded the college's Beinecke-Reeves Distinguished Achievement Award during a luncheon on April 13.

"Mayor Slesnick is one of UF's most distinguished graduates," said **Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA**, director of DCP's Historic Preservation Programs. "His work with both local and statewide preservation societies has made a lasting effect in saving historic resources. Through his initiatives, the natural and cultural treasures of our state and the historic City of Coral Gables will now be protected for future generations while citizens benefit economically, culturally, socially, environmentally and educationally."

The annual award recognizes an individual who exemplifies the spirit of historic preservation in Florida. Slesnick has worked hard to protect and conserve cultural heritage over the years. As mayor of Coral Gables, a city selected by the White House as a "Preserve America Community," he has led preservation efforts. He served as chairman of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council, chairman of the Dade Cultural Alliance, and was president of both the Dade Heritage Trust and the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation.

Slesnick received his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia, and his law degree from the University of Florida in 1968. His numerous other awards include being chosen by South Florida CEO Magazine as one of the "Top 101 Global Leaders of South Florida-2004," and he received the 2001 "Man of the Year" Award by the Renaissance Historical Society of Florida.

The luncheon was hosted by the college on behalf of DCP's Historic Preservation Programs. The award is named in honor of **Walter Beinecke, Jr.** and UF professor emeritus **F. Blair Reeves**, both of whom are known nationally for their accomplishments in historic preservation. **D**

DASTA NAMED INTERIM DEAN

After 39 years with the College of Design, Construction and Planning, **Anthony J. Dasta** is taking on his most challenging role – interim dean for the college. Appointed by Interim Provost **Joe Glover**, Dasta began serving as interim dean on Aug. 8, when **Jay M. Stein** stepped down as dean.

"It is an honor to serve the faculty in the college as interim dean. Everyone has been supportive and helpful as we work together to strengthen the college," Dasta said. "In a step toward that direction, the faculty recently voted and approved the adoption of the College Constitution. As the first-ever constitution for the college, this is a major step in the college's and university's development of shared governance."

Prior to his appointment as interim dean, Dasta served the college as associate dean for curriculum and student services. He joined the college administration in 1988 as director of computer facilities and was appointed assistant dean for student services in 1991. Throughout his tenure at UF, Dasta has taught classes in the college as a professor of architecture.

"I'm really pleased, on behalf of the college and the university, that Professor Dasta has accepted this assignment as interim dean," Glover said. "His deep understanding of college and university operations ensures no loss of momentum as the college moves into an era of new leadership."

On Dec. 5, Provost **Janie Fouke** announced the appointment of the Dean's Search Committee, which will be chaired by **Kathleen Long**, dean of the College of Nursing. The committee members are: **Margaret Carr**, associate professor of



Michael Talle

Anthony J. Dasta

landscape architecture, **Ian Flood**, associate professor of building construction, **Kenneth Gerhardt**, interim dean of the Graduate School, **Stella Hofer**, graduate student, **Kristin Larsen**, assistant professor of urban and regional planning, **Steve Palmer** of Stiles Corporation, **Jack Ponikvar** of Ponikvar and Associates, **Margaret Portillo**, chair of the Department of Interior Design and **William Tilson**, professor of architecture.

"Dr. Fouke has assembled an excellent committee to search for a new dean," Dasta said.

Other changes in the college's administration include the appointment of **Paul Zwick** as associate dean for research and graduate studies in addition to his serving as chair of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. Stein announced **Robert Stroh's** resignation from the post in a July 12 memo stating, "Bob has worked tirelessly with many of our faculty to assist in identifying research opportunities and in the preparation of proposals. On behalf of our college, I thank Bob for his service and contribution to our college's research program."

Zwick also was appointed to the position of director of the college's Ph.D. program. **Mary Jo Hasell** resigned from the director position after six years of tireless and dedicated work, said Stein in his announcement to faculty and staff. "Jo succeeded during her tenure in taking the program to a far higher level of academic excellence and national prominence."

Hasell will continue as professor and director of graduate studies in the Department of Interior Design, and Stroh will continue his position as research professor and director of the Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing. **D**



Pictured (left to right): Kathleen Slesnick Kaufmann, preservation officer for the City of Miami, Donald Slesnick, Roy Hunt, distinguished service professor emeritus of the UF College of Law, and Roy Eugene Graham.

Julie Frey

RINKER HALL RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD*for Architectural Design Excellence*

University of Florida's Rinker Hall recently was selected by the American Institute of Architects Committee on the Environment as a Top Green Project for 2005, one of eight selected nationally. Rinker Hall received a gold rating in May 2004, by the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

"Rinker Hall's success has resulted in UF adopting a policy that all future buildings be designed and built according to LEED standards," said **Abdol Chini**, director of the Rinker School of Building Construction, which is housed in Rinker Hall.

LEED is used to measure a building's environmental performance and emphasizes state of the art strategies for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, material selections, indoor environmental quality and enhancing occupant comfort and health.

Rinker Hall was recognized at the national AIA convention in May 2005 for design that protects and enhances the environment by integrating architecture, technology and natural systems.

Randy Croxton of Croxton Collaborative Architects, the project architect, accepted the

award in Los Angeles on behalf of his firm and the project partner firm, Gould Evans Associates, Tampa, Fla.

Croxton recognized the outstanding resourcefulness of the project and the participation of the faculty and students of the Rinker School and the School of Architecture, which contributed to the project's success.

Rinker Hall's uniqueness comes in many forms. It was the first LEED Gold rated building in the state of Florida and 26th in the United States. The technological innovation used in the construction of the building minimized the amount of construction waste produced and maximized energy efficiency.

"This particular project is an exemplar in materials minimization. It has facilitated characteristics of long-life loose fit, which allows for easy modification or change to the building over time with moderate impact on occupants in the building," Croxton said.

Construction materials were recycled in an attempt for reuse in the most efficient manner. One example is the reuse of bricks from UF's deconstructed Hume Hall for the retaining walls and service areas at Rinker Hall.

"Anytime you're resourceful in a way that is highly pragmatic and measurable saves money and resources for future generations rather than consuming and throwing the waste into landfills," Croxton said.

During the LEED rating process, the building received an innovation credit for the building's use as a teaching tool and the way it is integrated with the building construction curriculum.

"There has been a very robust sustainability curriculum that is embedded in the Rinker School's mission as developed by building construction professor **Dr. Charles Kibert**," Croxton said.

"Also, Rinker Hall accomplishes its sustainability mission through design intelligence rather than through capital-intensive technology, and therefore, at the end of the day was completed very close to campus standards of cost for a classroom building," Croxton said. "Resourcefulness does not defeat design excellence."

Making a building that was energy efficient and also fit with UF's collegiate gothic style posed a challenge to the designers. To maintain energy and heating efficiency, the building was framed with glass and steel. However, buildings on UF's campus have brick facades. To incorporate the architectural elements required of new buildings, the designers constructed a colonnade consistent with the Southern tradition of porches and columns and a shade wall of brick that is free standing on the western side.

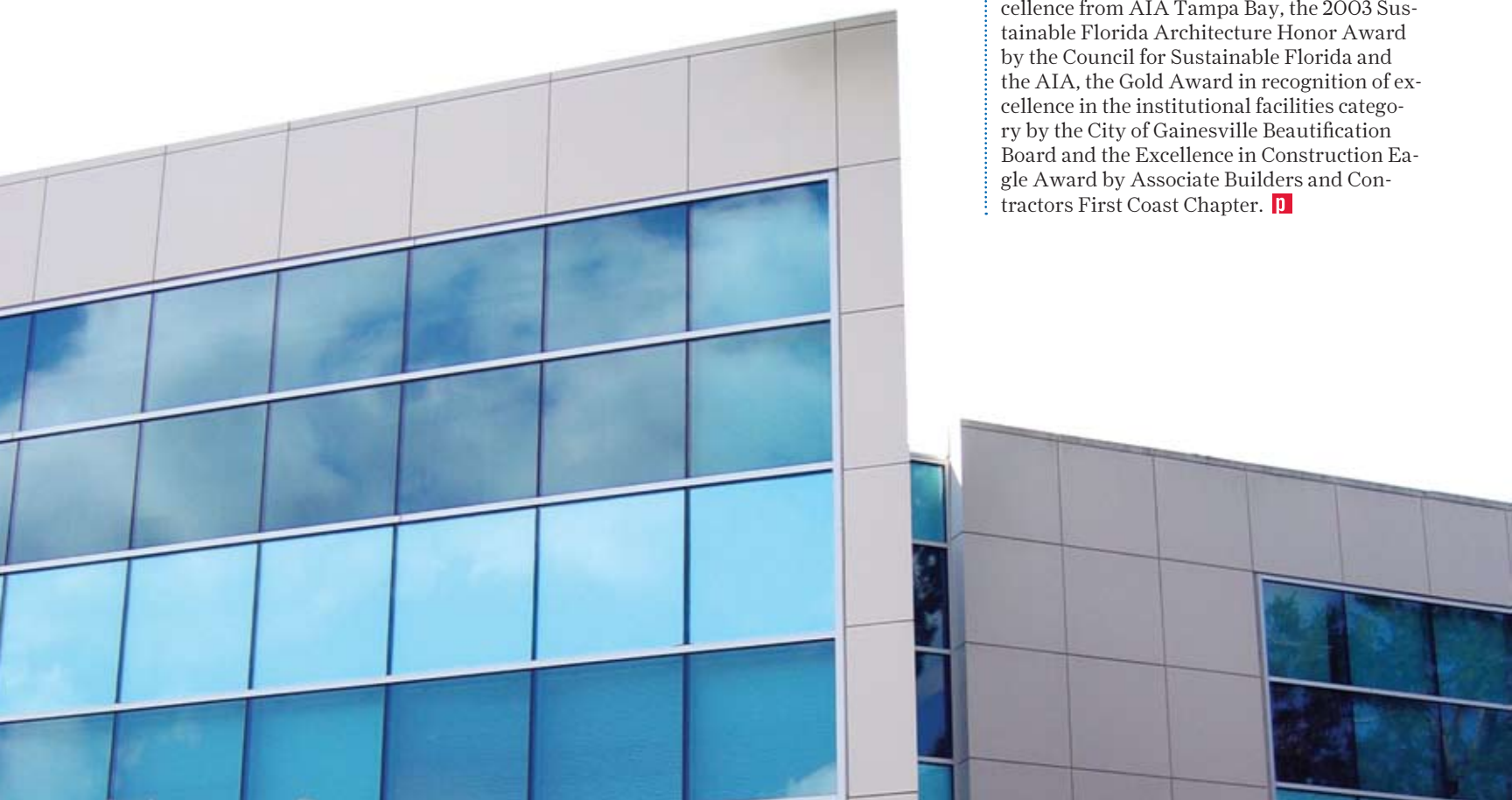
"We call this a building that both performs and belongs," Croxton said.

The Rinker School is housed within the UF College of Design, Construction and Planning. Designed and constructed as a green building, Rinker Hall uses 55 percent less energy than typical buildings of its size, and its future operation will be more environmentally friendly.

In addition to being recognized as a top green building, Rinker Hall, which was dedicated in October 2003, also received the 2003 H. Dean Rowe, FAIA, Award for Design Excellence from AIA Tampa Bay, the 2003 Sustainable Florida Architecture Honor Award by the Council for Sustainable Florida and the AIA, the Gold Award in recognition of excellence in the institutional facilities category by the City of Gainesville Beautification Board and the Excellence in Construction Eagle Award by Associate Builders and Contractors First Coast Chapter. **D**

"We call this a building that both performs and belongs."

- Randy Croxton



STEIN RESIGNS AS DEAN

On Aug. 8, 2005, **Dr. Jay M. Stein** stepped down as dean of the College of Design, Construction and Planning after six years of distinguished service in this position. He resigned after 19 years of holding various administrative positions in order to have more time for his family and to pursue his scholarly interests.

Interim Provost **Joe Glover** accepted Stein's resignation reluctantly in his announcement to the college faculty and staff. "Dean Stein has contributed considerably to the evolution of the college and his leadership will be missed," Glover said.

During his tenure, the college made significant strides. Previously, the college was known for its size, but Stein saw the strength of the college in its comprehensiveness.

"Being the only university in the Association of American Universities with all five design disciplines in one college gave us the strategic advantage if we continued to emphasize and expand our interdisciplinary initiatives," Stein said. "From that concept, came the development of more interdisciplinary programs and centers and the renaming of the College of Architecture to the more inclusive College of DCP."

Stein is proud of many of the accomplishments completed while he was dean, including at the university level, chairing the

UF Community Campaign in 2002 – 2003, which set a new university record at the time for funds raised. In addition, Stein led the college in a successful five-year capital campaign, raising \$27 million, which included a \$3.2 million gift from **Steve and Carol Powell** to endow the Powell Center for Construction and the Environment. He also worked with **Charles and Nancy Perry** to secure their \$2 million gift for the Charles R. Perry Program for Crafts Awareness and to build the Perry Construction Yard, an addition to Rinker Hall which will house the program.

Other notable accomplishments include: the completion of Rinker Hall – UF's first "green" building; the college's adoption of new tenure and promotion guidelines; the programs created to support faculty – especially in research, such as the college's summer grant program; the increase in the diversity of the faculty especially at the administrative level; and creating a public relations office that resulted in a stronger college Web site, a monthly newsletter, a post-card series to publicize the accomplishments of the faculty and the annual publication of *Perspective*.

"Jay Stein's courage and unflagging leadership advanced the college in ways that recognized both the special character and connectedness of architecture, building con-



Michael Tabie

Jay M. Stein, Ph.D.

struction, interior design, landscape architecture and urban and regional planning," said **Margaret Portillo**, chair of the Department of Interior Design. "Through issues ranging from redefining the identity of the college to day-to-day operations, Jay championed for excellence in all things and changed the face of leadership in the college recognizing cultural and gender diversity."

Despite the demands of administration, while serving as dean, Stein completed his book, *Classic Readings in Urban Planning, Second Edition* (American Planning Association), a revision of his book published 10 years earlier and cited as the "best planning anthology to appear in 25 years." Stein also was honored to be named a fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP) in 2004.

"It's a great challenge to figure out the role of a design college within a major research university," Stein said. "I enjoyed the opportunity to take on this challenge." **D**

REBIRTH OF A COLLEGE COUNCIL

New student leadership in the Rinker School of Building Construction has transformed the college council into an ambitious organization of determined members. In just one year, the BCN College Council, under the direction of president **John Nickels**, has grown into a 23-member board representing undergraduate and graduate BCN students as well as all nine student organizations. They have a new constitution, bylaws and a plan for improving student life within their college.

The progress of the council in rebuilding itself was recognized in April 2005 by the University of Florida Board of College Councils as being the most improved for the 2004-05 school year out of 20 university college councils.

"The council started with so little to work with, but in short order we built a solid orga-

nization with renewed spirit," Nickels said. Nickels, his new board members and faculty adviser **Richard Smailes** worked closely to develop a two-phase strategy for rebuilding the council during the last school year. The council's rediscovery phase was realized with the help of Rinker School's director **Abdol Chini** and its director of graduate and distance education programs **Raymond Issa**. With the help of the Rinker School's administration and the council board, a new constitution and set of bylaws were written, and a strong vision for the future of the council was established.

"At the beginning of the Fall 2004 semester, we challenged the students to re-energize and to revitalize the BCN College Council," Issa said. "They took our challenge to heart."

It was through the process of rewriting the council's governing documents that a strong sense of unity and buy-in was born among the council members whose meeting attendance was dwindling.

"We achieved success in all areas by not taking on too much but building organization and focus," Nickels said.

A priority for the new council is to establish better interdisciplinary communication within the College of Design, Construction and Planning.

"Most building construction students do not feel like they are a part of the rest of DCP," Nickels said. "We need to build a bridge to the rest of the college and create a regular exchange of ideas and forums." **D**

ALUMNI & *development*

Throughout the years, hundreds of DCP students focused their studies on historic preservation. The majority of these students participated in the Preservation Institute: Nantucket, or PI:N, learning through hands-on experience in preservation. DCP alumni are spread throughout the country and even the world, and those with roots in historic preservation tell us how they continue to benefit in their current careers from this foundation.

Peter Dessauer takes a moment to pose during the Statue of Liberty restoration. He served as project supervisor from 1986 to 1990.

ALUMNI OF DCP'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Peter DESSAUER, MArch 1977, PI:N 1974

Straight out of college, **Peter Dessauer** went to work for the Bureau of Land Management to survey and document the remnants of old Alaskan mining towns. Not long after, he went to Denver, Colo., to work for the National Park Service, but a project of monumental proportions awaited him on Ellis Island. In 1983, Peter began working on a six-year restoration project of the Ellis Island Main Building and Castle Clinton restorations.

"The Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty restoration project was like a movie with a thousand actors," he said. "It was an honor to be a project architect designer (1983-1984) and on




site (1986-1990) as a project supervisor for the National Park Service at the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island restoration."

Peter oversaw his own design for the roof, ornamental roof features and the foundation for the Main Building. The fantastic copper globes atop the roof of the Main Building were perhaps one of the most fascinating features he restored. "I hope to live long enough to see the day when those copper domes and globes turn green," Peter said.

Like the oxidation of the copper globes, Peter's career matured, and he joined the National Park Service at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park where he continues his preservation work today. Among his duties as Park Architect at Harpers Ferry are lobbying the U.S. Congress for funding and support and overseeing major maintenance on the park's 80 buildings.

"I reflect upon my education at the University of Florida, both in Gainesville and at the Preservation Institute: Nantucket, as very decisive toward my career choice in the field of architecture to embrace preservation," he said. "I am grateful for the dedicated attention and guidance of professor **F. Blair Reeves.**"

Peter received the Presidential Design Award for his work on the Ellis Island Main Building in 1991 and the National Capital Cultural Resource Award in 2000 for his contributions to the National Park Service. Peter is a registered architect and Washington D.C. AIA member. 

ALUMNI *news***Thank you for sending us your updates.**

They have been edited for space. All cities are in Florida unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please contact us at « perspective@dcp.ufl.edu »

To submit your news, please complete the form on our Web site at « www.dcp.ufl.edu/perspective » or complete and return the card enclosed in this magazine. We hope to hear from you!

MASTER'S

» **Mary Elen (Bundschu) Burnup, MArch 1979**, reports that her daughter, Skye Burnup, was accepted to UF.

» **Mark Schimmenti, MArch 1980**, is returning to teaching at the University of Tennessee, College of Architecture and Design after a three-year leave to be the founding design director at the Nashville Civic Design Center. "The Plan of Nashville" will be published by Vanderbilt University Press about his work at the center.

» **Richard Lecznar, MArch 1983**, is vice president and director of CH2M HILL Architects PC with 11 offices in Florida. He is LEED accredited and a member of AIA and NCARB. Together with the Building Colorado Coalition, Ric's testimony before a Colorado Senate subcommittee played a key role in Gov. Bill Owens' executive order requiring the greening of state government buildings.

» **Luis A. Desousa, MAURP 1984**, says hello to everyone at UF and that he is a Venezuelan student who has become successful after graduating from the university. He would be very happy to hear from any faculty member or student. « ldsasesores@cantv.net »

» **Suzanne (Roess) Barnes, MArch 1985**, is planning a reunion for the undergraduate design class of 1982 and the graduate architecture class of 1985. You may contact Suzanne with your preferred dates and let her know how to keep in touch. « sbarnes4@cfl.rr.com »

» **Dana Smith, AIA, MArch 1985**, is a design partner at DJdesign, Inc., Daytona Beach — a large-scale firm specializing in administrative buildings, courthouses and arenas. He reports recently completing John Travolta's new

fly-in residence near Ocala which was published in the April 2004 edition of Architectural Digest. He and his wife have three teenage daughters.

» **Kathleen (Walston) Pagan, MAURP 1986**, participated in the 4th Savannah Symposium in February 2005. She presented the paper, "Byways and Regional Tourism: An Architecture of Place."

» **David Berton, AIA, MArch 1989**, moved to Denver in 1992 and formed the design/build firm, RealArchitecture Ltd and UnrealConstruction LLC a few years later in 1996. Since founding the firm, he has served as architect and builder for commercial and residential projects of all sizes throughout the Denver and statewide area. His company now has 11 employees. Out of the 11 employees, three (including David) teach in the MArch program at the University of Colorado - Denver. In 2002, Colorado Construction Magazine listed RealArchitecture Ltd/UnrealConstruction LLC as a top 10 design/build company and a top 10 residential firm. David was recently honored by the Denver Business Journal, selected as one of the Forty Under 40 Business Leaders for 2003. « www.realarchitecture.com »



Bill BAUER, MArch 1976, PI:N 1975

After practicing architecture for nearly 25 years, **Bill Bauer** recently retired in order to devote himself to teaching and to other artistic pursuits.

Whenever possible, he incorporates historic preservation into his lessons. His students at Gateway High School in Kissimmee, Fla., have placed a Central Florida building on the National Register of Historic Places and also helped to establish the Osceola County Pioneer Center.

"One of my primary inspirations for going into teaching was having **Blair Reeves** as a professor. He was truly outstanding and such a central figure in preservation," Bill said as he fondly remembered his summer experience at PI:N. In addition to his architectural studies, he and his wife served as "house parents" for the student dorms there. Described as an early version of Survivor, he recalled that "it was a wonderful and unique opportunity to experience Nantucket's architecture and natural beauty."

Bill is looking forward to teaching architectural history next year at Valencia Community College and encouraging his students to pursue further study at UF, especially in the historic preservation program. **P**

Beth GRASHOF, MArch 1977, PI:N 1976

Beth Grashof's first job after graduation was at the Historic American Buildings Survey in Washington D.C., where she documented historic structures for the National Park Service. After about two years, she joined Mariani and Associates, an architectural firm, also in Washington D.C., where she did historic preservation related work. After a brief stint as a preservation consultant, Beth moved to Atlanta in 1983 to work for fellow UF alumnus, **John Myers, MArch 1978**, at the Center for Architectural Conservation, a research office in the College of Architecture at Georgia Tech. There, Beth concentrated on issues dealing with the maintenance and repair of historic buildings.

Beth later went to work for the U.S. Army as the cultural resources manager for Ft. McPherson/Ft. Gillem. Her duties included supervising the rehabilitation of the historic buildings at the two installations and ensuring that installation personnel complied with federal historic preservation laws. Later, she worked with numerous other Army installations, assisting their cultural resources managers in managing their historic buildings. In 2003, Beth opened her own architectural firm, Grashof Design Studio, specializing in historic preservation planning, design, rehabilitation and adaptive use.

Beth attributes her career path to her influential professors at UF. "If it wasn't for **Blair Reeves**, I wouldn't be in this profession," she said. "He was the best mentor and friend a student could have." **P**

Kristin LARSEN, MAURP 1990, PI:N 1986

After graduating from DCP's urban and regional planning program, **Kristin Larsen** went to work for the City of Orlando in long-range planning, housing and land development. Her planning work in Orlando led her to continue her education toward a Ph.D. at Cornell University. Her dissertation was on the economically depressed Parramore district in Orlando. Now, an assistant professor in the UF Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Kristin teaches two courses relevant to the historic preservation program: Introduction to Historic Preservation and Planning Theory and History.

Her interest in preservation studies was piqued from her experience at PI:N – "the best summer of my life. I have come full circle from learning to teaching historic preservation," she said.

Unbeknownst to Kristin, the work of another PI:N graduate, **Peter Dessauer**, impacted her summer at PI:N. Kristin recalls the evening of July 4, 1986; the Statue of Liberty had just been restored, and she was surrounded by many people in Nantucket dedicated to the preservation of the history of the United States. A feeling of patriotism came over her in a proud moment she had never felt so strongly before.

"Some of the best people associated with the historic preservation program were there that summer," she said. **P**

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» **Cedric Christian, MArch 1989**, has been in Gainesville working with Flad & Associates for 10 years. He is a senior associate and lead designer in health care, rd&p and academic projects, including two alumni association buildings at UF and numerous jobs for Shands at UF medical center. They have projects in the Southeastern United States, Ireland and the UK. He and his wife, Julie (Business Administration 1982) have two children, Chloe and Caelan.

» **Frances Hamilton, MArch 1994**, has opened a digital illustration company and practices residential and small commercial design with a local firm.

» **Maria L. Masque, MAURP 1994**, is the senior project manager/senior planner at The Planning Center, Tucson, Ariz. She manages the public sector and government assistance division of the firm. Currently, she serves as the land planner for the University of Arizona Science and Technology Park providing ongoing support to the park and as development guidelines compliance reviewer for the park's design review committee. Recent projects include: Davis-Monthan Air Force Space Airfield compatibility study and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe master plan. She has directed numerous comprehensive, general, master, area, specific and neighborhood plans and the preparation of detailed development guidelines.

» **Paul Palmer, MArch 1995**, is a practicing architect with Renker Eich Parks Architects of St. Petersburg. He reports becoming LEED certified and promotes integrated sustainable design as best practice approach. He is in the final phase of the Gibbs High School project in St. Petersburg, which houses the magnet program for Pinellas County Center for the Arts. His firm works on historic preservation, commercial, multi-family, governmental and municipal projects.

» **Jason Faulkner, MArch 1996**, announces Gresham, Smith & Partners was recognized by the Jacksonville, Florida AIA for the design of the Barco-Newton Family YMCA in Orange Park, Fla. His team, which included **Jim Frey, ARC 2001**, and Georgia Tech graduate Catalina Miller, received the Award of Excellence for the design of a 40,000 sq. ft. fitness and family program facility.

» **Bradford Sims, MBC 1996**, reports starting a new construction management bachelor's degree in 2002 and an online master's degree at Western Carolina University.

» **Scott R. Crawford, MArch 2001**, has been the coordinator of the Emerging Architects (a.k.a. Young Architects Forum) Jacksonville chapter of the AIA for the past three years. They

currently are working on a community charrette for a public park in the St. Nicholas area of Jacksonville. In January 2005, he partnered with a fellow colleague to start Eleven Squared, Inc., a design studio aimed at design across multiple genres, including architecture, furniture, graphics and Web. In June 2005, he received the "President's Award" from the Jacksonville Chapter of the AIA, and in the same year was promoted to associate within Cannon Design where he has worked since graduating. «www.eleven-squared.com»

» **Matthew Allen, MArch 2003**, works for Skidmore, Owings and Merrill in Chicago. He is currently the design coordinator for the 201 Bishopsgate/Broadgate Tower project in London. This project comprises 850,000 sq. ft. within a 40-story tower and 12-story low-rise.

» **Robert Todd Gabbard, MArch 2004**, joined the architecture faculty at Kansas State University in the fall of 2004 to teach architecture studio and environmental systems.

» **Jeffrey Huber, MArch 2004**, announces his marriage to Julie M. Ciembronowicz on Nov. 5, 2005.

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ALUMNI CONTINUED »

Richard Crisson, BArch 1970, MArch 1973

Richard Crisson now works as a historical architect for the Northeast Region of the National Park Service (U.S. Department of the Interior). His territory includes nearly 30 national parks extending from Maine and Vermont down to Virginia and West Virginia. He has directed work on the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, the historic homes of Franklin D. and Theodore Roosevelt, Alexander Hamilton, J. Alden Weir and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, to name a few. Most of his work relates to the large-scale planning of parks within the re-

gion and for the preservation and maintenance of national historic sites.

In 1974, Richard visited PI:N for the first time as a visiting lecturer when **Blair Reeves** was director of the program. His previous summer experience documenting buildings for the Historic American Buildings Survey led him to continue at UF and earn his master's degree. He has participated frequently at PI:N as a guest lecturer during the tenures of professors **Susan Tate, Hershel Shepard** and **Peter Prugh** and has often hosted the students at his home



during the PI:N field trips to Newport, R.I. "Blair was my mentor, and I wouldn't be doing what I am now without his inspiration," Richard says. **P**

Jennifer Garrett, MID 2005 and Susan Jolley, MArch 2005, PI:N 2003

Underground tunnels, secret passages, hidden rooms and trap doors. South Florida's historic mansions hide a wealth of secrets and value for historic preservationists like **Jennifer Garrett**. Jennifer works for Southeastern Archaeological Research, a historic property survey firm in Jonesville, Fla. Currently, she is surveying and documenting Florida Boom-era homes of the 20s and 30s in South Florida. Jennifer and her firm also are documenting Mar-a-Lago, Donald Trump's Palm Beach residence and the former home of the legendary cereal heiress, Marjorie Merriweather Post.

Jennifer credits architecture professor **Roy Eugene Graham, FAIA**, and interior design professor **Susan Tate's** historic preservation classes as being very helpful in her career. "Susan's class on historic hotels was very

useful and helpful in my work because it relates very closely to what I am doing now," she said.

Susan Jolley's first job out of college took her to Washington D.C., where she currently is working for RTKL Associates in the corporate government division. Susan is working on a renovation project for the U.S. Naval Academy's King Hall. Her next project will be Preble Hall Museum also at the Naval Academy. Her duties related to the projects are construction administration.

Jennifer and Susan, together with **Bing Hu, Ph.D. 2005**, were the first three DCP students to receive the newly established Interdisciplinary Concentration and Certificate in Historic Preservation (ICHP) in April 2005. **P**



Jennifer Garrett, interior design professor Susan Tate and Susan Jolley at the 2005 Beinecke-Reeves Distinguished Achievement Award luncheon in April 2005.

ALUMNI NEWS CONTINUED »

» **Jason (Jay) Wahl, MBC 2004**, was appointed project manager on two large-scale, affordable housing projects in the Atlanta area. He lives in Atlanta with his girlfriend.

» **Cary Hester, MLEA 2005**, now lives in Naples, Fla., with his wife and four children where he has joined Smallwood Design Group. His most recent project was the landscape design for a premier beachside yacht club called Aqua – a project with a nearly limitless budget for landscaping, he says. Cary's master's thesis is featured on page 10.

BACHELOR'S

» **Allan Hall, BCN 1958**, reports that after migrating north to Atlanta, he returned to Miami Beach to live seven blocks from his home of long ago in order to pursue a fourth career which is yet undetermined. Retirement has not worked after three attempts. It is clear; work is more fun than the lack of it, even when there is no need.

» **Donald Conway, ARC 1961**, has retired as professor of architecture and chairman of the department of architecture at Woodbury University, Burbank, Calif. He reports having moved to West Palm Beach.

» **Jeffrey A. Huberman, ARC 1964**, was elected to Region 3 director for the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) in Charlotte, N.C. He was elected at NCARB's 86th Annual Meeting and Conference in Miami.

» **Richard Webb, BCN 1965 & LAE 1973**, has built a homestead in Knoxville, Tenn., and still enjoys cycles. He is looking to hear from **Ross Bush, BCN 1965**, and **William Bottomly, LAE 1965**.

» **Joseph C. Amanzio, ARC 1967**, has retired with the title professor emeritus after 33 years of teaching architectural design at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Calif. He remains in San Luis Obispo and has taken to riding his motorcycle among the golden hills and vineyards in the surrounding countryside of the Middle Kingdom.

» **William R. Elliott, Jr., ARC 1969, Richard Marshall, ARC 1972, Bill Douglas, ARC 1973** and fellow UF alumnus Erin Callan, FAC 1997, all of Elliott Marshall Innes, PA Architects report their latest updates. Dick Marshall was principal in charge of the Southwood Golf Club Clubhouse which received the AIA Tallahassee Design Honor Award for 2004. Bill Douglas, Bill Elliott and Erin Callan currently are working

on the firm's design of the new 162,000-square-foot Life Sciences Building for Florida State University.


» **Miguel Massens, ARC 1972**, is working with HNTB, Corp. Architects, Engineers in Miami where he is the construction manager and trusted representative for the bond holders of construction funds for the expansion of the South Terminal Program at Miami International Airport.

» **Willy A. Bermello, ARC 1973**, received a 2005 California Design Award of Honor with his firm Bermello, Ajamil & Partners, Miami, for their project, Network Access Point of the Americas. He and his firm also received an Award of Merit for the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority Headquarters. Willy received the Miami AIA Architect of the Year award in 2004.

» **Joseph Cooley, LAE 1979**, was one of three people graduating in the first class of a new dual-degree program between the Georgia Institute of Technology and Georgia State University College of Law in May 2005. He received a master's degree in city and regional planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology and juris doctor from Georgia State University College of Law. He accepted a position in the land use law group of Smith, Gambrell & Russell LLP in the Atlanta office.



ARC ALUMNI FEATURED ON HGTV SERIES

Two architecture alumni are getting their Boulder, Colo., design firm off the ground and thrust into the limelight with a 13-part television series, which began airing on the Home & Garden Television network on Oct. 3. The show, "Dream House," follows the construction process of the personal home of Studio H:T principal **Christopher Herr, MArch 1999**. Herr and his business partner, **Brad Tomecek, MArch 1998**, started Studio H:T in 2002, and the Herr house project was their first. Dubbed "Box House," the modernist design with influence from Louis Kahn and Alvar Aalto is a 2,300-square-foot hillside home in the Rocky Mountains. Now five employees strong, Studio H:T primarily does design work for commercial and residential projects in the Colorado area. Tomecek is a licensed architect in both Florida and Colorado. To learn more about the firm, visit Studio H:T's Web site at «www.studioht.com». 



Christopher Herr and Brad Tomecek of Studio H:T



Studio H:T's Box House

Photos courtesy of Studio H:T

» **Mike Williams, ARC 1979**, is principal of Capital Healthcare Planning, a consulting firm specializing in strategic planning, demand analysis and master planning for hospital/healthcare systems. He lives with his wife and 18-month-old daughter in Houston, Texas.

» **Lee Smith, BCN 1980**, has his own CPM scheduling and consulting business and concentrates his work in the Washington D.C. area. He credits much of his career's success to his degree from the Rinker School. Lee says, "We are not engineers or construction managers who accidentally become contractors. We are trained to do exactly what we do and that is the difference."

» **Monarcha Marcet, BCN 1981**, recently earned the Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist designation. This designation identifies her as a building industry professional in home modifications for aging-in-place.

» **Michael Rahal, ARC 1982**, was appointed to the position of project architect with Rafael Vinoly Architects New York, N.Y., for the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio.

» **Barbara (McNamara) Audet, IND 1983**, moved with her husband to Las Vegas in 1995. She passed the NCIDQ in 2002 and became licensed in the state of Nevada. She has been working with JMA Architecture Studios for five years, the best five years of her career, she reports. Projects range in scope from commercial and healthcare to government and hospitality.

» **Lynn (Crocker) Osborne, ARC 1984**, is a design director in the Washington D.C. office of Gensler and recently passed the LEED accreditation exam. She was promoted to senior associate. Her practice area is focused on law firm strategic

planning and law firm workplace design and covers the southeast market from Philadelphia to Miami. She lives in Charlotte, N.C., with husband **Ben Osborne, ARC 1984**, and their 11-year-old daughter.

» **Dave Ceppos, LAE 1985**, is a managing senior mediator at the Center for Collaborative Policy, a joint program of California State University Sacramento and the University of Pacific's McGeorge School of Law. He specializes in managing complex, multi-party natural resource conflicts and negotiations such as the Klamath River Crisis and the Headwaters Forest. In 1999 he married Sandi Osterman, an artist, and they have two boys, Nathan, 3 and Matthew, 16 months. They live in Davis, Calif.

» **Thomas Mical, ARC 1987**, has published Surrealism and Architecture, London, New York through Spon Press.

» **Scott McCarthy, BCN 1992**, returned to Ajax Building Corporation in May 2005. He is the assistant project manager at University of South Florida, College of Nursing Additions, Tampa.

» **Margaret (Rosenberger) Norcott, IND 1993**, reports the birth of her first child, Amelia Lee. Her design firm has participated in the 2003 & 2004 Alliance Children's Theater Christmas Show House (entry & ladies office). The entry made the cover of Today's Custom Home Magazine in the Spring 2004 issue. She will be in the Designing Elegance Southeastern ASID Design Projects (due out this year). She also has designed a nursing pillow that is now patent-pending.

» **Kricket Snow, ARC 1994**, received the 2004 Miami AIA Young Architect of the Year Award.

» **David Crawley, LAE 1995**, and wife Stephanie were blessed with their first child, Kinsey, Jan. 13, 2005. All report being well and happy. David is a senior landscape architect and ISA certified arborist with URS Corporation in Tampa.

» **Gary R. Crumley, LAE 1996**, has opened a new office for his firm, Gary R. Crumley Landscape Architect, in downtown Jacksonville and purchased a home in Oak Harbor, which will be his newest project. He has been selected by The Plantation at Ponte Vedra to be their new landscape consultant in charge of reviewing landscape plans submitted for approval to the Architectural Design Board. Gary is also excited to be teaching landscape design courses at Mandarin High and Englewood High for the first time and Fletcher Senior High for the 16th year. «la1362@hotmail.com»

» **Jessalyn Leyra, ARC 1996**, is currently sitting for the ARE exam, and she is loving life in her new house in Tampa.

» **Ralph Crumpton, BCN 1997**, lives in Birmingham, Ala., with wife Rebecca, daughter Isabel, 4, and son Emerson, 2. He is a senior project manager with the national healthcare construction firm M.J. Harris, Inc.

» **David Leshowitz, BCN 1998**, has taken a different route in construction, recently taking on a vice presidential role at an executive recruiting firm in Boston, Mass. If there are any recent or past Rinker School grads looking for a job in Florida or the Southeast construction market, call David. (617) 262-5050 ext.113.

» **Jeffrey Schiller, BCN 1998**, is president of the newly formed UF Tampa Bay Region BCN Gator Club, which served as a pilot for other clubs being formed around the state.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 35 »

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The College of Design, Construction and Planning is fortunate. Through the generosity of donors, we have permanent funds called endowments that provide sustained income for a variety of purposes, such as scholarships, professorships, lecture series and research centers.

Endowment gifts create a legacy. They offer many benefits, both to the college and to donors. By decreasing the college's reliance on public funds, endowments provide the college with the resources it needs to stay at the cutting edge. Endowment donors have the opportunity to have a lasting influence on the college's character and to honor or memorialize loved ones, friends, colleagues, teachers or others.

While academic demands increase and state funds decrease, the need for reliable income grows. As the most dependable funding source, endowments are an exceptional way to ensure the continued excellence of the college's programs.

Many donors have generously supported the college through endowments, and those gifts play a critical role in supporting the college's academic mission. We thank our donors who support our endowment funds! 



For more information on endowments or other giving opportunities, please contact the college's Director of Development, **Marcia Bourdon** at (352) 392-4836, ext. 314 or «mbourdon@ufl.edu»

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Charles R. Perry Program for Crafts Awareness

Powell Center for Construction and the Environment

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UNRESTRICTED FOR COLLEGE SUPPORT

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RESPECTED BUILDER, UF ALUMNUS DIES*Charles R. "Chuck" Perry leaves his legacy at the Rinker School*

Courtesy of UF Foundation

On May 10, **Charles R. "Chuck" Perry** died of a heart attack in Dresden, Germany, while on vacation with his wife **Nancy**. He was 71.

By all accounts, Perry was an honest, generous, intelligent, caring and fair man. For the Rinker School of Building Construction, he was a critical supporter, both through his volunteer work and his financial contributions. His years of service to the Rinker School helped the faculty shape the construction program and provided a key perspective from the field.

"Chuck was always telling me that the most successful students he hired from our program were not always the ones with the highest grade point average, but instead were the students with the best people skills, and those who were willing to do whatever they could to solve the problem," said **Abdol Chini**, Rinker School director.

Perry became the first member of his family to earn a college degree when he graduated with a bachelor's degree in building construction in 1960. He started Charles Perry Construction in 1968 and since then has built hundreds of buildings throughout Gainesville. Some of the company's most recent projects included UF's Emerson Alumni Hall and the expansion of Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

Perry was inducted into the Rinker School's Construction Hall of Fame in 1983. He served as an emeritus member of the BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee. In 2003, he worked with the American Council for Construction Education's accreditation visiting team as they reviewed the Rinker School for reaccreditation.

Chuck and Nancy Perry made many generous donations to the University of Florida through the years, including gifts to the Phillips Center for Performing Arts, the Florida Museum of Natural History and the UF Alumni Association. Most recently, Perry committed \$2 million to the Rinker School to fund the Charles R. Perry Program for Crafts Awareness and to build the Perry Construction Yard to house the program. Perry hoped the program would educate students in the work of subcontractors, master craft and trades people.

"Chuck felt that construction managers always received the credit and respect, while the craftspeople received none," Chini said. "He wanted to be sure that when our students graduated, they would have an appreciation for the crafts and they would know they are dealing with people, not just documents and books."

Perry is survived by his wife, three daughters and six grandchildren. His genuine spirit and true guidance will be missed by the Rinker School and the college. **P**

\$2 MILLION GIFT SUPPORTS CRAFTS AWARENESS: IN RINKER SCHOOL*Project begins with the design of the Perry Construction Yard*

What training do electricians receive? What skills are needed to be a mason? What's the difference between good quality and poor quality welding? What techniques and materials are used by a carpenter?

Building construction students will learn the answers to these questions from master craftspeople through an innovative program made possible by a \$2 million gift from **Charles and Nancy Perry** to the Rinker School of Building Construction.

The Charles R. Perry Program for Crafts Awareness will allow the school to bring master craftspeople in trades such as masonry, electrical and plumbing to the Rinker School as part of laboratory work in courses throughout the four semesters the students are enrolled in the school. Along with learning about trades straight from the experts, students will receive detailed information about the trades to use as a reference upon graduating.

"The program comprises a hands-on approach to expose our students to training, techniques and materials used by master craftspeople in 16 different construction

trades," said **Abdol Chini**, director of the Rinker School. "The objective is not to teach the crafts, but rather to give our students a working knowledge of the difference between good quality and bad quality construction practices and the productivity they can expect."

A critical component of the program is the addition onto Rinker Hall to house the program. The Charles R. Perry Construction Yard will provide a safer environment for students to work, while also providing maximized and unobstructed space for the trade demonstrations.

As it is part of Rinker Hall, which is certified as a LEED Gold building by the U.S. Green Building Council, the construction yard must be designed to meet these standards. In order to restore Rinker Hall's original "green" footprint, the design team will incorporate an eco-roof. This roofing system is comprised of plants and soil and is being driven, in part, by research at the Rinker School.

The eco-roof will provide many benefits. It will provide insulating value to the roof and will store and clean stormwater. It will reduce

cooling loads on Rinker Hall itself by providing a surface that will absorb solar energy rather than reflecting it back into the main building. And it will provide a beautiful surface of flowering plants that will enhance the experience of the occupants of Rinker Hall throughout the year.

Currently, the architect is finalizing the design of the Perry Construction Yard. The Rinker School hopes to break ground on the project in June, with completion in mid-November.

"Since this type of construction education is lacking in most other building construction programs at major universities, we expect it to be a model that others will emulate. Thus, the Charles R. Perry Program for Crafts Awareness will have a significant impact not only on the education of our University of Florida students, but also - ultimately - on the education of building construction students nationally," Chini said. **P**



RENOWNED ARCHITECT, FRIEND OF COLLEGE Passes Away at 92

Rufus Nims, known for his work with Howard Johnson's restaurants and his residential work in South Florida and the Caribbean, passed away on Sept. 17 at his home in Coconut Grove.

"He will be much missed for his sharp mind and happy spirit in his young 92 years of age," said **Martha Kohen**, director of the School of Architecture. "He has been very active in the profession until the end of his life."

Nims is recognized as one of the most outstanding members of the Modern Movement in Florida. He challenged the traditional Spanish and Mediterranean design principles found in South Florida and created designs that were more climate aware and accounted for regional conditions. His work helped change the face of architec-

ture in South Florida. In 2004, he donated his drawings, spanning seven decades of his work, to the School of Architecture.

"We were very fortunate to receive his drawings and add them to our special collection of Florida architects," said Kohen, who



Julie Frey

Martha Kohen and Rufus Nims

worked closely with Nims to secure the collection. "Rufus was a pioneer and our students will benefit greatly from reviewing his work."

Last April, Nims was honored with the school's Distinguished Service Award, which is given to a non-alumnus for outstanding contributions to the school and profession.

Since graduating from North Carolina State in 1934, Nims worked in 25 states and 12 foreign countries. His works have been exhibited in two world fairs and several galleries and museums and have received 18 national and international awards and a Silver medal from the American Institute of Architects. **p**

CONNECTING: BCN Graduates Connect Through Alumni Clubs

With nearly 6,000 graduates throughout Florida and the nation, the Rinker School of Building Construction wanted to find a way to bring alumni and friends together. The school decided to form regional BCN Gator Clubs to foster and enhance the relationship between the school and its alumni and friends and to support the school's mission of teaching, research and service.

The idea was first suggested by Diaz Fritz Isabel Group of Tampa in August 2003. After surveying 150 BCN alumni in the Tampa area, the firm found strong interest in forming BCN clubs. Respondents identified

several goals/objectives for the clubs:

- » Fundraising to benefit the Rinker School
- » Fellowship of alumni
- » Social interaction
- » Sharing the great Gator spirit
- » Communication of information (industry news, trends, employment)
- » CEU credits/educational benefits

So far, nine regional BCN Clubs, eight in Florida and one in Atlanta, have formed or are in the process of forming. To learn more about the clubs, please contact **Viki Solt** at (352) 273-1185 or «soltvl@dcp.ufl.edu» **p**



Tampa Bay Region UF BCN Gator Club's inaugural meeting

WORKING TOGETHER

During the Spring 2005 semester, landscape architecture students in **Bob Grist** and **Gail Hansen's** Planting Design Studio worked with **Amy Vigilante**, director of the University Galleries, and with UF's Physical Plant Division to provide landscape solutions for the University Gallery's entry plaza.

The class provided 26 different solutions. After interviewing the students and listening to their presentations, the team selected **David Heffelfinger's** project on which to base the entry plaza. After some revisions, David's plan was implemented by the Physical Plant Division in March 2005. **p**



Courtesy of College of Fine Arts

STUDENT *life*

STUDENT-RUN MAGAZINE MATURES

An excellent example of what can be done with a student-run design magazine is Architrave. The independent, biannual publication from the students of the School of Architecture showcases selected creative work of students in the College of Design, Construction and Planning and throughout the university.

“Architrave aims to document, distribute and expand the architectural ideas of our students by showcasing their design work from many disciplines. It is a medium for student art and architecture to meet in conversation through the field of design,” said **Ben Lloyd Goldstein**, editor in chief in 2004.

Just six years ago, the magazine started as a four-page black and white newsletter of the American Institute of Architecture Students UF chapter. Since then, it has matured into a 64-page, four-color collection of design submissions made by UF students and faculty.

Under editor **Eric Kleinsteuber’s** oversight in 2000, Architrave began its transformation.

“When it was presented to me, a couple friends said, ‘hey do you want to go for this in AIAS and be the editor of this magazine,’ so I took it and really examined what the possibilities were,” said Kleinsteuber, who currently is an intern architect at C.T. Hsu + Associates in Orlando.

“My first issue came together with 24 pages, a color cover and some decent content by begging people to submit to a magazine that basically didn’t exist,” Kleinsteuber said.

At that time, the students decided to build each issue around a theme to help focus the magazine. Also, this is when the magazine began its move away from being a newsletter and toward becoming a journal.

During his tenure as editor, Kleinsteuber received national recognition for his work on Architrave as the recipient of the 2002-03 AIAS Special Accomplishment Honor Award. With the support of students and faculty, the magazine has continued to grow.

“Each group of editors has propelled the magazine forward, accelerating the progression of the publication and appealing to a larger audience,” said **Shane Clark**, Architrave’s current editor in chief.

As a Student Government-funded publication, Architrave has been successful in securing funding from the Architecture College Council, the Board of College Councils, the Student Senate and outside advertising sponsors. It is a great example of students pulling together resources to create a high-quality communication piece.

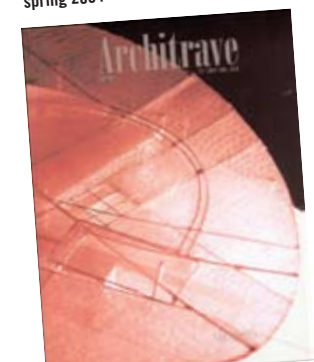
“Each generation builds on the previous one – Architrave is getting more mature,” said **Martha Kohen**, director of the School of Architecture and faculty adviser for the magazine.

Future Architrave issues will reflect the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of the programs within the college, Kohen said. In addition, Clark sees the potential for including alumni work.

“We have had discussions about inviting alumni to submit projects to be considered for a new column that addresses alumni work,” Clark said. “This would benefit both the school and alumni as we work to expand our circulation both nationally and internationally.”

Architrave is distributed to design firms and architecture schools around the world. Two thousand copies were printed for the 12th issue, which was published in February 2005.

The next issue of Architrave was published in the Fall 2005 semester. Its theme Translate, refers to the process by which students must take theoretical ideas and form them into an architectural concept. **D**



fall 2001

spring 2001

fall 2000

fall 1999

spring 1999

spring 2005

fall 2004

spring 2004

spring 2003

fall 2002

spring 2002



INTERDISCIPLINARY COMPETITION HEATS UP

Witters Competition provides students the opportunity to work across disciplines in an intense 24-hour competition.

It was all in a day's work for a six-member team of students who walked away from an intense design competition each \$580.33 richer.

No gambling here, but the stakes were high for all 10 teams who participated in the annual 24-hour, up-all-night Witters Competition held March 2005 at the College of Design, Construction and Planning.

The event, endowed by **Col. Arthur G. and Beverley A. Witters**, pits teams of students in the college against each other in an interdisciplinary design-build competition with a tight time limit. The winning team had three architecture students, one interior design student and two landscape architecture students. The combination proved successful and drew praise from Gainesville City Commissioner **Rick Bryant** who was invited to judge the competition.

Members of the winning team were: **Chris Emens, Christen Hutton, Meredith Klein, Loraine Mickelson, Aaron Plewke** and **Steve West**.

Challenging the students was the redesign of the Andrew R. Mickle Pool complex at the T.B. McPherson Center in Southeast Gainesville. Architecture assistant professor and 2005 Witters Competition organizer **Charles Hailey** said he chose the site because of its historical, cultural and social significance in Gainesville, particularly to the residents of East Gainesville.

Members of the East Gainesville community were invited and participated in an opening presentation at the McPherson Center to tell the competing teams what they would expect

from a new pool complex. Discussions with children prior to the event revealed their desire for, among other things, two water slides and a wave pool. Parents expressed their desire for better lighting and seating around the pool area.

The competition, which began at the McPherson Center, quickly moved back to the UF campus where the teams settled into separate studios for the remainder of their 24-hour quest.

Visiting architect and invited juror, **Jim Adamson** of Jersey Devil, a design/build firm, acknowledged the great potential the complex has for revitalization.

"The biggest challenge," he said, "is identifying problems and resolving them in an architectural way. It is a wonderful facility and may just need a change in programs."

The competition sought to respond to the decreasing use of the pool in recent years by creating incentives for increased attendance like better facilities and improved access.

Andrew R. Mickle, Sr., the man whose name is inscribed on the front of the pool complex, and his family were at the evening award ceremony to congratulate the winning team and peruse the design offerings. Mickle was a manager and swimming instructor from 1957 to 1974 at the Lincoln Pool, which was renamed in 1990 in his honor.

When the winning team and honorable mentions were announced, each competition participant went home with a better understanding of the Southeast Gainesville community's needs and a greater appreciation of the value of interdisciplinary teamwork. **D**

Witters competition organizer Charles Hailey, left, architecture professor Kim Tanzer and invited juror Jim Adamson.

Before the competition began, Adamson gave a motivating presentation about a design/build project he and his firm recently completed in Africa.



Paul Wiseman

WITTERS COMPETITION: A Timeline

Photos by Paul Wiseman



03.18.05 @ 6:30 p.m. The day gets colder as the sun sets behind the pool complex, where the students examine the space they will spend the next 24 hours redesigning.



03.19.05 @ 2:20 a.m. Roy Salloum (BCN), right, and Chris Sutton (LAE) pour over site drawings for the pool area their team created for the competition.



03.19.05 @ 12:40 p.m. Kelly Wiczorek (ARC) and Chris Sutton (LAE) work out the details of their team's plan as coordination becomes more important to their project.



03.19.05 @ 7:20 p.m. Competition juror Doris Edwards talks through a site plan with a group of students during the judging portion of the competition.



03.19.05 @ 7:40 p.m. Members of the winning team pose with Andrew R. Mickle, Sr. and his family.

PRESERVATION + ARCHITECTURE + INTERIORS

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM: BRINGS HOME NATIONAL AWARD

A team from DCP received one of six national awards in the interdisciplinary student competition for the 2005 National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) Prize for the Creative Integration of Practice and Education in the Academy. The entry, titled “Bridging: The Links Between Practice and Education in the Academy,” was based on a collaborative, comprehensive project by students from a graduate architecture seminar in environmental technology and senior and graduate students in interior design.

Architecture and interior design students worked together in teams to create a design program for the renovation of the Hub on UF’s campus. The teams brought together the varying needs of the end users, the university and the architects. After the teams presented their projects, the architects and the end users made changes to their design and program.

“In practice and in academia, the architects and interior designers who succeed through their collaboration seem able to embrace their vast common understanding and, at the same time, celebrate the specialized areas of knowledge and creativity in which each one excels,” said **Susan Tate**, interior design professor and coordinator of the project, along with architecture visiting professor and practitioner **Joe Walker**.

The team members that received the NCARB prize were: **Melissa Engers, Kathryn Frederick, Shelley Jones, Eric Peterson, Cori Robertson** and **Shannon Shirah**.

“The NCARB Prize jury celebrates this precedent-setting project, for it represents future building opportunities within universities. Jurors also were pleased to note that students served as ‘adjunct professionals’ in the way the class operated,” the NCARB jury commented on the team’s award. **D**

» CAMPUS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

which has been abused over the years, will be kept intact under a new layer of flooring rather than being destroyed or replaced. The grand marble staircase, a focal point of the building, will be preserved and will receive only minor code upgrades for hand rails. And the corrugated glass lighting in the mezzanine, which hasn’t been properly maintained, will be replaced with glass block to resemble the original interior.

“Each of these strategies was reviewed with the Historic Preservation Committee and approved for implementation into the renovation,” Walker says.

The committee has played a vital role in identifying these historic features and working with contractors to make sure they’re preserved.

“From our experience, the professionals on campus who are members of the Campus Historic Preservation Committee are very helpful to guide us through what needs to be preserved,” says Armaghani. “The committee is an asset to the university for preserving the historic buildings on campus. We value their input and engage them in the process from the inception of the project to its completion.”

Interestingly, many students from the College of Design, Construction and Planning have also contributed to preserving the Hub’s heritage. Both Tate and Walker worked with student groups who formed into interdisciplinary teams and worked on historic preservation design proposals. Their efforts have been integrated into the final design of the building and were recognized with a national award by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

As a result, the Hub will move into the future without forgetting its past. And, as Tate notes, this preservation is far more valuable than it appears on the surface. The benefits of historic preservation spill far beyond simply remembering the past.

“With potential students, particularly grad students, and faculty, we’ve had ongoing comments about how the visual character of the campus and its historic campus have contributed to their decision to come to the University of Florida,” Tate says. “For the future, we’d anticipate that same thing.

Beyond that, we’d imagine that students and faculty and visitors in the future will be able to visualize the ongoing evolution of the campus as a visual record rather than just a textbook history.

“It will be a part of the present,” she adds, “instead of just a part of the past.” **D**





GEOPLAN DEVELOPS AWARD-WINNING ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING TOOL

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning's GeoPlan Center last fall developed a new method for Florida transportation officials to conduct environmental reviews of projects using a Web-based Geographic Information System and interactive database.

URP doctoral student **Alexis Thomas** and URP master's student **Christy McCain** created the program with participation from the Florida Department of Transportation for use during the 2004 hurricane season, when Florida was hit by four hurricanes. The students and the team from the FDOT received recognition for the creation and implementation of this innovative program as recipients of a 2005 Davis Productivity Award. The awards are given by the state of Florida and Prudential Financial to state

employees for achievements which increase productivity and promote innovation.

Implementation of the new program came at a particularly advantageous time for the state, which was recovering from damage caused by Hurricane Charley.

"Disaster workers can pinpoint a place on a map and get results on the viability of any location to place people in relief shelters through the Web site," said McCain, co-principal investigator on the project, along with Thomas.

After Hurricane Charley, state officials had to come up with places to put the 1,100 displaced mobile homes, Thomas said. "Using this program identifies locations for not only human relocation but for the mountains of debris created from destroyed property. It places the people in safe areas

and the debris in locations where it will have the least environmental impact on the surrounding area."

Researchers at the GeoPlan Center were working on a system for the state to identify areas of low environmental impact for new transportation projects when the hurricanes began to hit Florida, said FDOT Environmental Resource Manager **Peter McGilvray**.

Use of the system for hurricane workers went into effect within days after Hurricane Charley struck and continues to operate today, Thomas said. The databases containing the information are maintained and housed at the GeoPlan Center. For more information on the center, please visit the Web site at

« www.geoplan.ufl.edu » 



Pictured at the 2005 Davis Productivity Awards Ceremony in Tallahassee, from left to right, are: Dennis Murray of Prudential Financial, Lt. Gov. Toni Jennings, Pete McGilvray of FDOT, Michael Konikoff of URS Corp., Christy McCain, Alexis Thomas and Dominic Calabro of Florida Tax Watch.

ALUMNI NEWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25 »

» **Howard Shaw, IND 1998**, is living and working in the Washington D.C. area for the U.S. Department of State as a space planner for new embassies and consulates around the world. Howard says, "The job is exciting because I get to travel around the world and meet great people." He is married with two young children.

» **John Paul Weesner, LAE 1998**, is an associate at Gladding Jackson in Orlando. While there, he has worked on campus landscape master plans for Florida Southern College, University of Central Florida and St. Leo University. He won a Frederick B. Stresau Award, Florida ASLA's top honor.

» **Clinton Robinson, ARC 2000**, recently moved to Idaho with his wife Mika and two children, Bryce, 3, and Clay, 3 months. Mika has accepted a position as assistant coach for the volleyball team at Idaho State University.

» **Justin Moore, ARC 2001**, reports being the first student to receive dual graduate degrees in architecture and urban design from Columbia University in 2004. Since completing his graduate studies, he has collaborated with one of the finalist teams for the African Burial Ground competition in Manhattan and is currently working on research projects

in New York and Australia under the Urban Research Group which he helped found in 2004. Currently he is an urban designer and associate city planner for the New York Department of City Planning. He lives in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, where he is involved with the planned redevelopment and urban design of the East River waterfront.
« www.urbanresearchgroup.net »

» **Rachael Scott, ARC 2002**, reports graduating from Arizona State University with a master's degree in architecture. She is currently working for her father in Orlando and hopes to keep close connections with DCP.

» **Ragan Al-Agely, ARC 2004**, reports working and living in Southern California.

» **Miguel Porras, ARC 2004**, has graduated from the Columbia School of Architecture with highest honors. He reports living in New York City for six months doing research before moving to Miami to work with Perez and Perez Associates. 

KEEP IN TOUCH

We want to hear from you. Please return the enclosed card and share your news with your fellow alumni. Or you can complete the online form at the college's Web site
« www.dcp.ufl.edu/perspective »

STUDENT *spotlight*

STUDYING INTERIOR DESIGN

Interior design students **Jill Brunson** and **Pam Cotera** have a vision for the future. They are working ambitiously to introduce current students to design alumni already established in successful careers. Realizing the importance of creating strong professional contacts and networks, Jill and

Pam have spearheaded several new initiatives to get students and alumni connected. As coordinators of the first interior design career day, they invited nearly 1,500 businesses, design firms, industry professionals and college alumni to campus for the ASID/IIDA sponsored event. **D**

PAM COTERA, Vice President UF STUDENT CHAPTER OF ASID/IIDA

"I chose to study interior design because it allowed me to combine my creative energy with my problem solving skills. Growing up, I always had a passion for the worlds of art and science. I feel that interior design is the perfect blend of these two subjects. In every project, there is an element of technology, theory and beauty that merge into a perfect design. In essence, interior design is the culmination of all the things that make me feel alive."



JILL BRUNSON, President UF STUDENT CHAPTER OF ASID/IIDA

"I chose interior design after one year of studying other subjects. I was drawn to this major because I have always liked hands-on projects from finger painting to model building. Also, I consider myself a problem solver and was looking to combine these interests. Interior design allows me to generate design solutions by expressing myself creatively."



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(Hub photos, page 2 and 3, aerial photo page 5,
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