Introduction
We began the spring semester with our National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) team visit. Accreditation is the required external instrument of assessment of the department’s professional degree program. Preparation for this year’s accreditation was a significant effort: it involved the yearlong collection and archiving of data and student work for the Architecture Program Report (APR), the development of a matrix of classes that addressed the SPC and the creation of the exhibition for the visiting accreditation team. Faculty, students, staff and administration all worked to prepare for this visit. I thank everyone involved in this effort.

This year’s Career Fair was expanded into a two-day event of presentations and interviews. For the first time, all our firms participated in a Pecha Kucha style presentation. Seventeen firms each presented for five minutes, creating a rapid set of mini lectures and giving our students a remarkable view into the profession. They were exposed to small and large firms, local and global firms, returning alumni and cross-firm collaborations. I thank all the firms for creating such a dynamic and diverse experience for our students.

We were delighted that our student’s work was showcased in SUPERSTUDIO, an exhibition at the 2017 AIA National Convention. Our alumni also participated in our first AIA National Convention Alumni reception hosted by AECOM’s Orlando office. Professor Jaime Canaves and I were thrilled with the turn out and we extend special thanks to alumni Gus Barrera for hosting the event.

We concluded the semester with our Master Projects Jury. While it is the end, Master Projects is the commencement of a lifetime of professional inquiry. For the second year in a row, we reviewed our Master Projects at the Miami Beach Urban Studios with our colleagues from academia and the profession and witnessed our graduating class present for the final time as students. We ended the day with a celebration and awards.

There are many other departmental events and accomplishments in this issue of eFolio and hope you enjoy reading about them all!

Jason R. Chandler, AIA
Chair and Associate Professor
Department of Architecture
Florida International University
College of Communication, Architecture + the Arts
FIU’s Department of Architecture Receives National Recognitions

Each year, DesignIntelligence conducts a survey for Best Architecture and Design Schools in America. The survey ranks both undergraduate and graduate programs from three separate pool of participants: hiring professionals, Deans and Chairs, and students. This year the survey was conducted between May 8, 2016 and July 14, 2016.

Approximately 2,700 students from NAAB-accredited schools registered their opinions on DesignIntelligence. FIU’s Department of Architecture students reported that 87% believe that they are well prepared for their profession upon graduation and that the quality of the program is above average to excellent.

In addition to the DesignIntelligence survey, FIU’s Department of Architecture ranked nationally for Graduate Program’s Best Master’s in Architecture Programs.

According to GraduatePrograms.com, FIU has ranked #2 among six architecture programs that qualified as the best in the nation. The student run website bases their qualifications on student reviews across different categories including, quality of education, student diversity, and earning potential, etc. The student must be enrolled in the program and submitted feedback on the institution.

All the institutions featured the list are nationally accredited by The National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc. (NAAB) and regionally accredited.

Source: www.GraduatePrograms.com
Over 170 Students and Leading Architectural Firms Participated in the 2017 Career Fair

Florida International University’s School of Architecture (SOA) hosted its annual Career Fair on March 21st and 22nd at the Paul L. Cejas School of Architecture building located at the Modesto A. Maidique Campus.

The annual fair serves as a unique opportunity for FIU School of Architecture students to meet with employers from local design firms that are interested in recruiting our top graduate students for internships or entry-level jobs.

This year, over 160 FIU students from the architecture, interiors and landscape departments and 10 non-FIU students from Miami-Dade College and DASH (Design & Architecture Senior High School) participated in the fair. Representatives and principals from 18 leading design firms served as prospective employers for future architects.

The fair is formatted to promote networking and engagement between students and firms, fostering a professional relationship between the two. The first day included firm presentations and a table fair that allowed students to meet employers, ask questions and secure interviews. The following day, students attended scheduled interviews.

With over 200 interviews scheduled, the SOA Career Fair proves that opportunities like this offer our students experience and a chance interview with renowned design firms.

2017 Participating Firms:

AECOM
BEA Architects
Bermello, Ajamil & Partners
CBI
Finfrock
Gensler
Gresham, Smith & Partners
Guernsey Architectural Solutions
HKS Architects
HLB Lighting Design
Interplan
Jewel Toned Interiors
Keith & Schnars
Lighting Dynamics
OBMI
ODP Architects
Perkins + Will
SB Architects
ARC+
Department of Architecture Students Receive 2017 Villagers Scholarship

The Villagers, Inc. recently awarded $34,000 in college scholarships to ten deserving students from Florida International University, DASH, and Miami-Dade County’s magnet school for architecture and design.

Each year, The Villagers awards outstanding college students with the Villager Historic Preservation Scholarships. The scholarship recipients are students who display interest in historic preservation, have high scholastic standing and show potential to make a positive contribution to local preservation sites.

Victoria L. Champion chaired The Villagers scholarship selection committee that included members Renee Belair, Verna R. Hodges, Margie Palmer, Irene Priess, and Barbara Moller.

The committee selected two outstanding FIU Department of Architecture students, Kaitlyn Fuson and Carolina Richardson as recipients. Both students are Masters in Architecture candidates and shared deep interest in historical preservation and architectural restoration.

Fuson, a junior in the architecture program, thanked the organization for paving the way to her future career. “Thank you to The Villagers for this amazing scholarship and allowing me to meet an organization that does so much to preserve local architecture,” she said.

About The Villagers:

The Villagers, Inc. is dedicated to the restoration and preservation of historic sites in Miami-Dade County, Florida. Founded in 1966, the all-volunteer organization is a not-for-profit 501(c)3. www.thevillagersinc.org
Each year, the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) hosts regional conferences in the springtime organized by local chapters who have been selected to represent their quad.

This year, FIU’s AIAS Chapter was selected to host the 2017 SouthQuad Conference in their hometown. The conference was held from March 30 to April 2 at FIU Miami Beach Urban Studios (MBUS) located in Miami Beach, FL. Participants included architecture students from 12 U.S. states and 43 universities nationwide.

Berenblum Busch Architecture (BBA) delivered an opening keynote address at the Faena Forum Building to kick-off the conference. Then, continued with four days of workshops, guest speakers, faculty lectures, and sites visits to notable Miami landmarks such as Lincoln Road, Perez Art Museum and Downtown Miami. Students also had the opportunity to tour the offices of Berenblum Busch Architecture and Touzet Studio in Wynwood.

Several industry professionals participated as guest speakers throughout the conference such as Dean of the School of Architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic, Evan Douglas and Brett Moss from Moss Architects. Department chair and faculty also delivered lectures to the student attendees.

At the conclusion of the conference, a celebration gala and mixer was held at the JW Marriott Marquis in downtown, Miami.

Guest Speakers:
Evan Douglas, Dean of the School of Architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic
Brett Moss, Moss Architects
Gustavo Berenblum, BBA
Timothy Archambault, Gensler
Jacqueline Gonzalez

Touzet & Carlos Touzet, Touzet Studio
Angelica Romero & Gia Zapatitti, Perkins & Will

Faculty Speakers:
Jason Chandler
Claudia Busch
John Stuart

Nick Gelpi
David Rifkind
Sara Valente
Marcelo Ertorteguy
Thomas Spiegelhalter
Gray Read
Henry Rueda
Roberto Rovira
Malik Benjamin

FIU AIAS Organizers:
Giovanna Gallardo, SouthQuad Chair
Patricia Elso, President
Matthew Wasala, Vice President
Zair Toloza, Treasurer

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Master Thesis Projects + Awards, Spring 2017

At the conclusion of every spring semester, FIU’s Department of Architecture hosts Master Project Juries for graduate students on their final term. These juries mark a completion of an incredible feat that consists of long hours, studio reviews, pinups and dedication.

This year, the Class of 2017’s Master Project Juries took place at FIU’s Miami Beach Urban Studios (MBUS) on April 21. Fifteen graduate students received awards for excellence in design and best thesis presentations.

The Master’s Projects focused on a wide range of creative research topics including urban development and sustainability. Assigned juries consisted of department faculty and invited industry professionals from local and international architectural design firms.

Special guests included renowned French Architect, Jose Oubrie and Mexican architect, Gabriela Carrillo.

All graduate students participated in the final thesis presentations and juries. Once completed, the jurors cast votes for the top two, master thesis projects of each design studio.

The following is a list of the Spring 2017 Master Project Award Recipients:

Malik Benjamin Studio
Monica Rodriguez
Vikki Tou Liu

Jaime Canaves Studio
Fernando Canal
Jessica Dickinson

Nick Gelpi Studio
Evelyn Iglesias
Olga Kusche-Iglesias

Eric Goldemberg Studio
Alejandro Diaz
Vivian Contreras & Robby Pena

Neil Leach Studio
Hadi Ahlaffar
Maria Moyano

Marilys Nepomechie Studio
Alejandro Diaz
Helena Hung

Henry Rueda Studio
Mylene Garcia
Juan Galica
Reef City: Infrastructural Replenishment of Coral Reef

Eric Goldemberg Studio

Vivian Contreras & Robby Pena | Goldemberg Studio

STUDENTS

Alejandro Diaz | Goldemberg Studio
Out of the Soil, Architecture from the New Modernist Forrest
Nick Gelpi Studio

Olga Kusche-Iglesias | Gelpi Studio

Evelyn Iglesias | Gelpi Studio
Rethinking the Architecture School
Henry Rueda Studio

STUDENTS

Juan Gatica | Rueda Studio

Mylene Garcia | Rueda Studio
FIU Recognizes Syrian Architecture Student as a World Ahead Graduate

On Wednesday, May 3, 2017 the College of Communication, Architecture and the Arts held its commencement ceremony at the FIU Arena. Among the thousands of FIU graduates to receive their diplomas, one Masters in Architecture student, Hadi Alhafarr was recognized as a "Worlds Ahead Graduate."

Hadi Alhaffar came to FIU’s School of Architecture as a transfer student from the University of Damascus. While civil war was escalating in Syria, Hadi convinced himself that he was safer in the capital than in most other places in the country. His passion for architecture kept him focused.

Then one day the violence hit too close to home when a mortar went off on campus. Though Hadi wasn’t hurt, news of the university bombing reached his mother, Maisson. The shock soon led to a stroke, and as she recovered, it was clear that Hadi would have to leave Syria to complete his studies.

Hadi settled on FIU, where his cousins were students. Soon after arriving Hadi proved himself to be a stellar student working on a National Science Foundation funded cross-disciplinary project, SKOPE, which is developing a learning tool that integrates building information modeling with augmented reality. Hadi also created a 360-degree interactive art installation, Nuage, which allows viewers to experience an environment not bound by time and space. Outside of school, Hadi proved himself an entrepreneur, co-founding Instarender, a company specializing in the production of 3-D renderings for architecture firms.

After graduation, Hadi hopes to one day put the skills, education and perspective he’s gained from his time at FIU to rebuild his native Syria.

By FIU Office of Media Relations
FIU’s Tau Sigma Delta Chapter Inducts New Members for 2017

The Florida International University Sigma Xi Chapter of Tau Sigma Delta, National Honor Society for Architecture and Allied Arts, held its annual induction ceremony on May 2, 2016 at FIU Miami Beach Urban Studios.

Principal and Managing Director of Gensler and Tau Sigma Delta Silver Medalist, Diana Farmer-Gonzalez, delivered the keynote presentation at the induction ceremony. The event included welcome notes from Marilys Nepomechie (Tau Sigma Delta Faculty Advisor), presentation of certificates and followed by celebratory toasts from Jason Chandler (Chair of FIU Architecture and Interim Chair of FIU Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design).

Twenty-nine students from the School of Architecture were inductees into the prestigious chapter of Tau Sigma Delta at Florida International University. Invitation and induction to this honor society, celebrates the scholastic accomplishments of students who are in the final two years of their professional studies and whose academic records place them in the top 10% of their respective programs.

Below is a list of the 2017 Tau Sigma Delta inductees:

2017 Inductees:

Amada Alonso
Ana Maria Ortiz
Ana Maria Reyes
Ashley Moore
Ayman Mansour
Cindy Rodriguez
Dariel Shneiderman
Daryl Benjamin
Edna Desusma
Esperanza Muño

Grecia Estrada Gonzalez
Helena Hung
Ivana Collado
Jessie Cardenas
Juan Manuel Gatica
Karen Chu Metz
Lizette Anderson
Mariana Lamberti
Michelle Chedraui
Mikhail Orosz

Nathalie Restrepo
Nina Laguna
Priscilla Cuadra
Ricardo Guadalajara Gongora
Robby Pena
Rodrigo Silva Urbanija
Thaye Fonseca Darzi
Vikki Tou Liu
Yenisley Lopez
Eric Goldemberg Featured on Architectural Digest Publication

A technology that began in 1984, 3D printing has revolutionized the future of many industries including architecture, manufacturing and health care. With many recent advances and even recognition from the U.S. President, Barack Obama, 3D printing has become one of the most significant sources of technology in today’s modern world.

Architectural Digest took account of its importance and rounded up the 8 most ingenious 3D printed objects to date. Amongst the objects selected by the International Design Authority & magazine was a project set forth by our very own, Associate Professor of Architecture, Eric Goldemberg and his studio.

Goldemberg’s and Veronica Zalcberg’s (MONAD Studio) 3D printed, Piezoelectric Violin was chosen as one of the most innovative and functional objects that combines music and technology. This highly acclaimed new music instrument was developed by MONAD Studio in collaboration with musician-luthier Scott F. Hall.

Below find a link to the publication, written by Adam Peterson on December 20, 2016.

Source: http://www.architecturaldigest.com/gallery/most-ingenious-3-dprinted-objects-to-date
Thomas Spiegelhalter Presented Research at ‘One Community, One Goal: Physical Infrastructor’ Panel

Associate Professor and Co-Director of the CARTA’s Structures and Environmental Technologies Lab (SET-Lab), Thomas Spiegelhalter was invited to participate in the Future of Physical Infrastructure Miami & Resilient Smart City Panel at the ‘One Community One Goal Physical Infrastructure Access’ breakfast conference at the Florida Blue offices in Miami, FL on April 13th, 2017. The conference served to inspire designing and building sustainable solutions statewide.

The panelists included George Burciaga, Director of CIVIQ Smartscapes from Chicago; Hardeep Anand, P.E. Deputy Director, Water-Sewer Department Miami Dade County; Julie Edwards, Chief Marketing Officer Brightline Transportation, Dr. Anne Birch, Florida Marine Conservation Manager of The Nature Conservancy and FIU Professor, Thomas Spiegelhalter.

At the conference, Spiegelhalter presented his widely published and awarded, carbon neutral buildings and blue-green infrastructural planning projects as well as different tracking tools such as digital scenario design protocols, cloud-based optimization software tools, post-occupancy measuring and performance benchmarking processes.

The panel discussion discussed the benefits of carbon taxing, a tax on fossil fuels, intended to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide and omit atmospheric damage and climate change. They covered how its beneficial for coastal communities to use specific carbon taxing for long-term budgeting, carbon-neutrality planning codes, enhance publicly shared information and incentives to cope with increasing costs for sea level rise adaptation and projected mass relocations of citizens in the near future. A topical issue regarding Miami, a city that’s scientifically proven for coastal flooding caused by sea level rise; an issue already impacting the city’s infrastructure, businesses, and communities.

Written by Thomas Spiegelhalter
Nick Gelpi Awarded Two Prestigious Distinctions from FIU and the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce

Assistant Professor of Architecture and Founder and Design Principal of GELPI Projects, Nick Gelpi received two prestigious awards this year for his contributions to the Miami Beach community and his outstanding work as a Florida International University faculty member.

On April 26, 2017, Gelpi received recognition as one of FIU’s 2017 Top Scholars. This prestigious award honors distinct faculty members and administrators for their significant impact in their respective fields, such as their notable accomplishments or creative work. Gelpi, along with 30 other honorees attended a special reception ceremony at the Ronald W. Reagan Presidential House and were recognized by FIU President, Mark B. Rosenberg, and Provost, Kenneth G. Furton.

Gelpi also received the Forward Thinking Individual Award at the 5th Annual City National Bank Better Beach Awards Ceremony on April 27, 2017. The event was organized by Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce’s Real Estate Council and was held at the 1 Hotel in Miami Beach, FL. Gelpi was one of the stand-out honorees to be recognized for promoting a better and more vibrant Miami Beach. Individuals awarded included pioneers in the marketing, design, architecture, and entrepreneurship industries.
Eric Goldemberg Published in AD - Architectural Design

While attending architecture school in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Eric Goldemberg would completely indulge in the editions of Architectural Design (AD) that he could get his hands on. Never would he have imagined that one day he would be published within its sleek, aesthetic pages.

After a rigorous curriculum at Columbia University, Principal of his own architectural studio (MONAD Studio), numerous publications and widespread recognition, Goldemberg’s article “Mood, Posture and Rhythmic Feedback” was published in the November/December 2016 volume of Architectural Design.

Founded in 1930, the UK-based journal, also known as AD, is one of the most important contemporary design publications worldwide. For more than 80 years, the journal has delivered publications that highlight creative, theoretical, and technological advances, making it an influential and prestigious publication in the architecture realm.

Published by Wiley & Sons, the journal includes international architectural designs and construction by architects and designers. The article was part of the 86 volume entitled “Evoking Through Design – Contemporary Moods in Architecture” and was edited by Matias Del Campo.

Goldemberg is delighted and honored to be featured within the pages on AD; a lifelong dream finally accomplished.

Cover of “Evoking Through Design – Contemporary Moods in Architecture” | November/December 2016 | Volume 86
Faculty Members and FIU Miami Beach Urban Studios Featured on the Architect's Newspaper

Three faculty members of the FIU Department of Architecture and Landscape and FIU Miami Beach Urban Studios (MBUS), were featured in the Architect's Newspaper's April 2017 issue. The article discusses Miami's up-and-coming design scene and the hottest firms and studios in the city at this moment.

Assistant Professor, Nick Gelpi (Gelpi Projects) and Assistant Professor, Nikolay Nedev (NC-Office) from the Department of Architecture were included on the list as well as, Landscape Architecture and Environmental + Urban Design's Associate Professor, Roberto Rovira (Studio Robert Rovira).

In addition to the faculty's professional studios, FIU's Miami Beach campus, Miami Beach Urban Studios, was highlighted for its research lab, 3-D printers and interdisciplinary collaborations.

On April 27, 2017, AECOM and Florida International University’s Department of Architecture hosted an alumni reception at the AECOM offices located in Orlando, FL.

Vice President of AECOM and FIU alumnus, Agustin “Gus” Barrera invited fellow FIU architecture alumni, graduate students and department faculty to join for a special night of dinner, drinks and networking. Attendees and several faculty members got the opportunity to reconnect with classmates, past students and share mutual panther pride.

The event was held as a “kick-off” event to the annual American Institute of Architects (AIA) Convention held at the Orange County Convention Center on April 27 through the 29.

At the AIA National Convention, the department’s student work was showcased in SUPERSTUDIO. FIU was joined with the other NAAB accredited professional architecture programs in Florida: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Florida Atlantic University, University of Florida, University of Miami and University of South Florida.

AIA Orlando hosted this exhibition with the intention to provide a platform for Florida’s NAAB Accredited degree programs to a national audience of architects. Hundreds of architects from around the country saw FIU’s display of recent student work from Design 6, Comprehensive Studio, Sustainability Studio and Master Projects.
On February 9, 2017, Miami Beach Urban Studios hosted the Leaders of Design Alumni Panel, a featured event of Florida International University’s annual Panther Alumni Week (PAW).

This year, the School of Architecture invited four alumni from the Departments of Architecture and Landscape Architecture + Environmental and Urban Design to part in a part of the discussion panel. Invited participants received the opportunity to revisit their alma mater and inspire students to use their education at FIU to the fullest.

Associate Professor Eric Goldemberg (Architecture) and Associate Professor Roberto Rovira (Landscape) moderated the panel which discussed a variety of topics including post-graduation professional experiences, FIU nostalgia and current projects and achievements. Alumni gave students career advice, industry insight and most importantly motivation to keep expanding their creativity and career goals.

The following alumni participated in the 2017 Leaders of Design panel: Devin Cejas, Tyler Schwartz, Ali Qureshi and Chris Cabezas.
The Department of Architecture offers the Master of Architecture degree and the Master of Arts in Architecture degree. Whether you are a high school graduate, possess a 2- or 4-year college degree, or have a professional degree in architecture, our architecture program offers customizable tracks that range from 1 year to 6 years.

Master of Architecture

- MArch (6-Year)
- MArch (5-Year)
- MArch (3-Year)
- MArch (2-Year)

Master of Arts in Architecture

- MAA (1-Year)

We also offer the Graduate Certificate in the History, Theory and Criticism of Architecture.

NAAB Accreditation

In the United States, most state registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degree programs in architecture, recognizes three types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture, the Master of Architecture, and the Doctor of Architecture. A program may be granted a 6-year, 3-year, or 2-year term of accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established educational standards.

The Doctor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degree programs may consist of a pre-professional undergraduate degree and a professional graduate degree that, when earned sequentially, constitute an accredited professional education. However, the pre-professional degree is not, by itself, recognized as an accredited degree. The Department of Architecture offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs: M. Arch. (school degree = 175 credits), M. Arch. (pre-professional degree = 60 credits), and M. Arch. (non-pre-professional degree = 105 credits). The next accreditation visit is scheduled for 2017.

Mayra Ortega, Admissions Recruiter
email: maortega@fiu.edu
Tel: 305.348.4884
Office: PCA 273A
Department of Architecture
College of Communication, Architecture + The Arts
Florida International University

You can visit us in the Paul L. Cejas School of Architecture Building, Office 272, Monday through Friday, from 8:30am to 5:00pm.
Call 305.348.2765 or email us at cartaadv@fiu.edu to make an appointment.

The Department of Architecture

The FIU Department of Architecture trains students in the profession of architecture to become thoughtful practitioners, critical thinkers, and broad visionaries with the skills and knowledge to enhance their communities and the built environment around them. The Department has a world-class faculty engaged in architectural practice and research on issues of design, sustainability, history/theory/criticism, sea-level rise, digital fabrication, and a whole host of interdisciplinary areas that advance knowledge in South Florida and across the globe.

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