

MAPP

Alumni Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

MAPP Alumni Newsletter is produced by the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, University of Maryland, College Park, MD. To comment or request a copy of the print edition, please write to us (mappalum@umd.edu). The *MAPP Alumni Newsletter* is also available on our website at www.arch.umd.edu. The *MAPP Alumni Newsletter* is published annually.

The *MAPP Alumni Newsletter* is a showcase of the achievements and activities in the School and serves to enhance the ongoing dialogue with alumni and friends. If you are aware of fellow alumni or friends who did not receive the *MAPP Alumni Newsletter*, please send their name and address to mappalum@umd.edu. We appreciate your comments on this publication and encourage you to contact us at:

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Students work on a project for the Architecture Technology Course

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“I recently participated in the Integrated Project Delivery symposium organized by MAPP. It was a thrill to see my alma mater engaged in such forward-looking, interdisciplinary investigation at the cutting edge of design and construction. Bringing together different areas of study is the future of education . . .

Coren Sharples, Principal
SHoP Architects
University of Maryland, 1987

COLLABORATE



Dean's Message

Dear Friends,

Why? Why do we do what we do? The “*why*” question is the driver of our behavior. Simon Sinek tells us that *why* questions penetrate deep into our brains and are lodged in the limbic area, the location of feelings and behavior. Simply put, *why* questions inspire. *What* we do or *how* we do it are merely descriptive and instrumental explanations that are relatively easy for us to answer. Most of us know *what* we do – teach, research, make plans or buildings, etc. *What* we do is important for organizational success, but it most likely will not inspire others to follow what you do. *What* we do is descriptive of the tasks each of us performs during work. For instance, I talk on the phone, respond to emails, write a report; these are all activities that describe what I do at my job. Want to join me? But if I wish to inspire you, motivate you to join me, or want you to do what I do – make draw-

ings, write reports, compile data sets – I will need to make a compelling statement about *why* I do these tasks.

The mission statement for the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation gives one a glimpse as to *why* we come to work and perform the tasks we do, and why students pay tuition to study with us. Our mission, “***to educate architects, planners, preservationists, developers and the many allied stakeholders whose work and scholarship focuses on the quality of the built environment and promotes social justice, cultural value, resource conservation and economic opportunity***” holds the seed to answer the question, “why do we do what we do?” The first part of the statement tells the reader what we do: “*educate architects, planners, preservationists, developers and the many allied stakeholders.*” We educate, and we educate through practice (work) and scholarship. The second phrase in

the mission statement gives some indication on how we do it: *"focus on the quality of the built environment."* Our efforts measure the qualities of where people live, work and play. However, the last phrase drives home *why* we do what we do. We teach to *"promote social justice, cultural value, resource conservation and economic opportunity."* As a school, we desire to correct injustices, preserve the value of all cultural processes and not just those of the dominant class, stop the degradation of the planet's natural resources through poor settlement patterns and construction practices and, lastly, we aspire to expand economic opportunity for all. This is why we come to school each day. This is a statement of the core values that we wish for our students so when they seek a different world they can draw on these values to assess success. *Why* study at the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation? The answer is to grasp the dimensions of what an archi-

tect, planner, preservationist, or developer must do if they want to make the world better than the one they inherited. As C. Wright Mills masterfully outlined, "We live in second-hand worlds." We inherit from our forefathers the world we inhabit, our interpretation of the world is mostly from information supplied by others and the images we hold of the world are not of our own making. If we are to envision a different world and find alternatives to the constructs we received, then best to know what values that can guide the interpretations of our experiences. *Why* do we study, work, and dream at the School? We do it to remake the world so it is more just and sustainable for all.



David Cronrath
Professor and Dean
School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation



MAPP Highlight:
**Roger Schwabacher Creates Endowment for a
TerpStart Scholarship**

Over the span of a 20-year-and-counting career, Roger Schwabacher (M. Arch '99) has made a name for himself in the green design movement. A principal architect at HOK, Roger has helmed a laundry list of projects as stunning as they are sustainable, from the first LEED-certified residential community in Saudi Arabia that boasts the largest solar array in the Middle East, to the national headquarters for NOAA, a LEED-gold building whose façade gives the illusion of fluid, cascading waves. An award-winning, widely published designer, Roger's portfolio holds a diverse range of building types that include higher education, government, commercial and entire communities, transforming landscapes all over the world with eco-conscious, efficient and beautiful spaces.

Prior to starting his Master of Architecture degree at UMD, Roger spent a year in Budapest studying sustainable design. That travel experience — which led to Roger creating a recycling program for the city and interacting with pioneers in sustainable design—no doubt influenced the type of architect he would become. So it is especially sweet for Roger to meet the first recipient of his TerpStart scholarship at a luncheon last month at MAPP: a sophomore who excitedly shared with him her hopes to use the funding to study in Spain.

"I hadn't thought too much about who the recipient would be, and I was not expecting to meet her, so it was a pleasant surprise," said Roger. "She was

really fantastic and so enthusiastic. She was interested in studying in Spain but she couldn't afford it, and the scholarship was going to help her go. It was nice to sit down and talk to her about her plans and share a bit about what I've learned along the way."

Roger's commitment to UMD's architecture program has gone a long way to enrich the educational experience for its students. He has lent his talents in studio and the lecture hall; two years ago, he sponsored the architecture lecture series. "I truly enjoy getting back into the school to see what the students are doing. It's a nice offset to office life." Creating an endowment through Terpstart was, to him, a rewarding investment in the school.

"Maryland has a wonderful program and I really feel like it needs the support. It isn't one of those schools, like Harvard, that has enormous private funds to keep it running. The program needs alumni involvement to help it along; it depends on alumni who have found success in their careers to give back."

Roger is the fourth alumnus of the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation to give through the TerpStart Matching Scholarship Program, a need-based scholarship program where the University will match the spendable income from the endowment in perpetuity. The program is designed to assist those students with the greatest financial need—Pell eligible students—as part of the University's continued mission to provide access and affordability to a quality college education. With the University's annual match, TerpStart allows the donor's gift to go farther, reach more students, provide greater impact and attract a more diverse student body. The TerpStart program requires a minimum of \$30,000 contribution, which is payable over five years.

TerpStart will be offered until June 30, 2015. For more information, contact Laura Mikolajko at 301-405-8628 or at lcoco@umd.edu.



Scott Metzner Creates Endowment for a TerpStart Scholarship

Scott Metzner (B.ARCH '82) is President of The Janus Property Company in New York City. Founded in 1989 by Scott, Janus is a real estate developer/owner/manager of commercial, mixed-use and residential properties, with a primary focus on the creative re-development of complex public-private projects in East, Central and West Harlem.

Scott was one of the pioneering developers of upper-Manhattan when he started Janus over 25 years ago. As Harlem has evolved, so has Janus. In addition to Scott's extensive for-profit and not-for-profit housing development and preservation work, Janus has also become the largest private non-institutional owner of non-residential property in West Harlem. Working closely with the local community, elected officials and the city planning agency, Janus rezoned and is now developing three acres of previously vacant and formerly industrial-zoned property into the Manhattanville Factory District, a one million square-foot mixed-use community. Having successfully completed the first two phases, Janus is currently developing phases three and four; respectively, the 340,000 square-foot LEED Silver certified Taystee Building and the 200,000 square-foot Malt House.

Scott's work is challenging, and for good reason. Instead of working on the same type of project over and over and building as much as possible, Janus makes a conscious effort to pursue the most complex projects where a unique idea, along with creative financing, design, construction and market-

ing, add the greatest value. Each of its projects has been a first in its own way.

“Our whole company is based on striking a balance of social mission- and profit-driven projects. We are not a not-for-profit organization but, by identifying strategies that create positive cash flow and profit, our continuing success has allowed us to create opportunity for previously homeless, low- and moderate-income New Yorkers and the neighborhoods we operate in, without having to rely on or follow existing government programs. I think we’ve been a leader in many ways and made a very positive impact on a lot of peoples’ lives. I attribute much of my ability to have done that to my time at Maryland.”

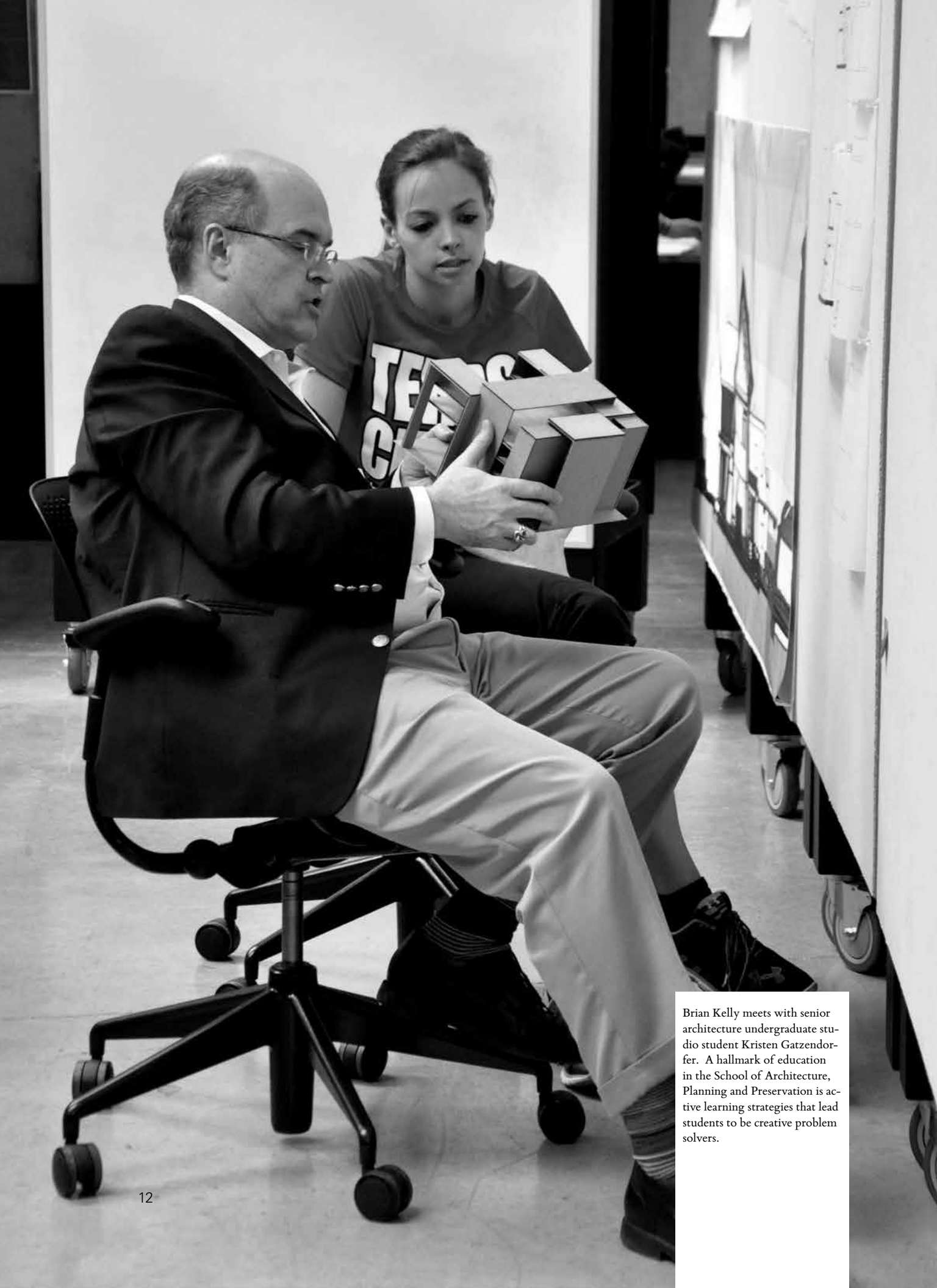
While Scott has been a supporter of the school for many years, creating an endowment through the TerpStart Scholarship Fund was a way for him to significantly impact the life of a student.

“The architecture program is such a challenging, rigorous program. It was five years of very hard work—very often 24/7. I feel that my Maryland experience was formative for me—not just in shaping my work ethic, but it was really my first exposure to any sort of intellectually creative way of thinking. It gave me an appreciation for urban design issues but, more importantly, it gave me a deep training in the process of starting with a blank sheet of paper, identifying the problems I was seeking to solve and designing a holistic and rational solution with meaning for those problems.”



Avanti! Celebrates a winning combination of Golf and Giving

This past September, alumni and faculty and friends of MAPP convened on the green for the fourth annual Avanti! Golf Tournament. More than just reconnecting with classmates over a couple of par fives, Avanti! benefits the Thomas Schumacher Rome Travel Scholarship Fund. The fund continues the legacy of Professor Thomas Schumacher, who for years shared his passion and knowledge of architecture and Italy with MAPP students, a tradition that remains over 30 years strong. The Thomas Schumacher Fund has helped hundreds of students connect on a deep level with the beauty and history of architecture in Rome. This year’s tournament raised over \$10,000. To learn more about how you can support our students’ study in Rome, contact Mary Elizabeth Gervais, Assistant Director of Development at mgervais@umd.edu.



Brian Kelly meets with senior architecture undergraduate studio student Kristen Gatzendorfer. A hallmark of education in the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation is active learning strategies that lead students to be creative problem solvers.

Scott joins an elite crew of alums from the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation who are giving through the TerpStart Matching Scholarship Program, a need-based scholarship program where the University will match the spendable income from the endowment in perpetuity. The program provides need-based scholarships as part of the University's continued mission to provide access and affordability to a quality college education. For Scott, that means offering an opportunity to someone who may otherwise have gone without, a fitting reflection of his professional philosophy.

"I really had little idea when I showed up at Maryland what architecture, design or urban planning really was. My five years in Maryland's architecture program were extremely important for me and certainly shaped both the person I am today and my professional accomplishments. It's a privilege for me to be able to continue to participate in the life of the school, especially in a way that so directly gives a worthy student the same opportunity Maryland gave me to begin my professional life."

TerpStart will be offered until June 30, 2015. For more information, contact Laura Mikolajko at 301-405-8628 or at lcoco@umd.edu.

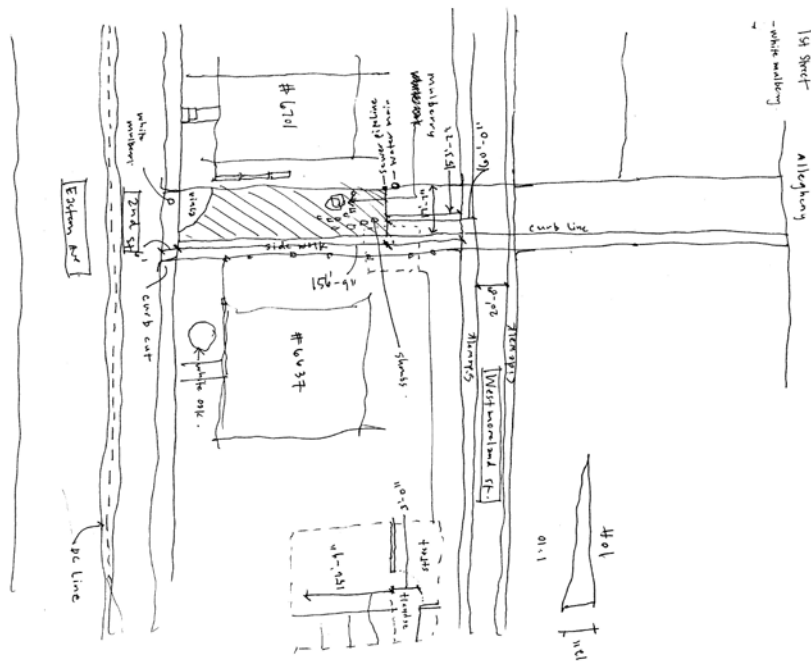
Thanks to Our MAPP Community, Students Win Big

Few things demonstrate the strength of a community better than its members uniting in a shared purpose. In December, MAPP showed strength in numbers, taking first place in participation in the second University of Maryland 24-hour Scholarship Day challenge. This year, 83 donors—including alumni, faculty, staff and students—raised over six thousand dollars for MAPP student scholarships, quadrupling our participation and doubling our giving from 2013. The university awarded MAPP an additional \$13,000 for our first place win.

The real win, though, is for our students. Over 50% of students at UMD apply for some kind of financial aid. The money raised during Scholarship Day is directed solely toward scholarships, providing a brighter future to our most deserving students.

Remember, giving feels good any time of year. If you missed Scholarship Day and are interested in making a difference for MAPP students or programs, visit our website's giving page at <http://www.arch.umd.edu/mapp/giving>.





Field notes of paper streets.

Making the Invisible Viable: Takoma Park’s Paper Streets

They are spaces you pass every day. They may present as an overgrown lot or a well-worn “short-cut” between fenced neighborhoods. They are city property but disappear into the built environment around them. They are known in the industry lexicon as *paper streets*: streets within a community that were drawn up on paper, but never materialized terrestrially. Paper streets exist in virtually every American community. Because they are not paved—and often are not even defined as public space—they can create a host of problems for communities, inviting crime, overgrowth or even claimed as additional property by nearby homeowners.

This past summer, Assistant Professor of Architecture Jana VanderGoot began a collaboration with Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture Kelly Cook to uncover these phantom streetscapes for the community of Takoma Park, Maryland. Working

with the planning department of Takoma Park, VanderGoot and Cook spent several months completing a field survey of the city’s paper streets, using county and city records, maps and on-foot exploration. Phase two, which began in the fall, developed design proposals that utilize the spaces and enhance the city’s cohesiveness. With a stress on accessibility, safety and low maintenance amenities, the duo is proposing a wide-ranging kit-of-parts, from a lot-connecting trail system to inviting seating.

VanderGoot and Cook plan to use this project to design a framework for communities and planners across the U.S. who are interested in the development and engagement of their own paper streets.



Proposed Eco Drive and Innovation Way intersection in the UMD Innovation District

Re-Defining the “Great” College Town: The College Park “Innovation District”

For more than a decade, the University has explored ways to transform the stretch of state highway that runs through the eastern part of campus. President Loh has made such a transformation a University priority; with developers breaking ground on a new University of Maryland hotel next year, all signs point to making Loh’s vision of College Park as “a top 20 college town by 2020” a reality.

After administrators abandoned plans for a stalled \$900 mixed-used project on the eastern part of campus last year, Dean David Cronrath and Professor of Architecture Matthew Bell approached Carlo Colella, Vice President of Administration, with a proposal for a graduate-level design studio. The idea was to perform an in-depth study of what it means to be a 21st century college town and how that philosophy can inspire a design that connects the town and gown in new ways. Inspired by collaborative places like Kendall Square in Boston, the studio project proposed a College Park “Innovation District,” an urban concept where higher education and business co-exist with a vibrant housing and retail environment to foster experimentation, innovation and opportunity.

“The University had proposed, and eventually scrapped, several plans that offered mixed-use space, but most did nothing to better connect the campus to



Illustrated site plan of the Innovation district

College Park,” explained Bell, who led 12 graduate students in the studio. “We wanted to go beyond offering mixed use development by finding ways to extend the impact of the campus along Baltimore Avenue and engage the other side of the street with both the campus and the city of College Park.”

Extensive research of successful college towns—and thriving Innovation Districts worldwide—served as a primer for the student’s concept, a collection of “innovation spaces” intermingled with

residential housing, private enterprise and retail anchored by the new hotel and the M-Square Research Park, which opened in 2012. The project’s vision also stressed a walkable, dynamic city that marries a thriving downtown to the state’s leading research institution. The students presented to President Loh, his cabinet and other administrators last spring. Bell is now serving on a steering committee to help guide the rapidly moving future development along the corridor.

Ken Finder and Aran Ramos take a closer look at the LiDAR technology.



Restoring an Ancient Community with 21st Century Technology: Stabiae, Italy

Since 2004, the University of Maryland's Architecture Program has been a major player in uncovering one of the largest excavation sites in the ancient world: the Roman villas of Stabiae. Located on the western coast of Italy, Stabiae was a holiday mainstay for the Roman elite prior to the devastating eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, which buried the resort in over two meters of volcanic ash in 79 AD. For more than 10 summers, architecture students have travelled from College Park to the coastal town as part of the Restoring Ancient Stabiae Foundation (RAS), a non-profit archaeological organization founded in 2004 by the University of Maryland, the Superintendency of Archaeology of Pompeii and the region of Campania. During that time, student teams, working with scholars and archeological professionals from around the world have successfully excavated and documented several of the site's Roman gardens, courtyards and villas, including the Villa Arianna, known for its stunning frescos and private tunnel to the seashore.

Excavation work at Stabiae is painstaking and time-consuming. To add to the intrigue, once a portion of the site is unearthed, students must quickly draw and document the cultural resources before they are altered by the elements. For this reason, time is the student's biggest enemy and, unfortunately, the task is neither simple nor speedy; constructing renderings of just one villa wall



The LiDAR equipment in use on site in Stabiae, Italy. To the right is a 3-d image created by the scan.

can take days. This was probably evident to no one more than Luke Petrocelli, an architecture graduate student who has spent his past six summers in Stabiae. So last year, Luke embarked on a quest to research and, ultimately, convince the administration to invest in mapping technology that will not only change the way UMD students explore excavation sites all over the world, but squarely place UMD as an educational authority in archeological documentation.

The University of Maryland is one of a handful of universities joining what many experts are calling a “revolution” in archaeological exploration and understanding: using Light Detection and Ranging, or LiDAR, to uncover and document the world’s ancient treasures. LiDAR is a remote sensing technology that measures distance by illuminating a target with a laser and analyzing the reflected light. It is widely used in geology, agriculture and

by law enforcement; you can thank LiDAR the next time you are clocked over the speed limit with a speed gun. And while LiDAR has been increasingly used over the past decade in archeology, its cost-prohibitive nature has made it unavailable for most scholarly work.

“While LiDAR has been around a long time, it has been historically expensive, complicated and frankly, a bit cumbersome,” explains Professor Lindley Vann. “Updates in the past decade have definitely made it more accessible, but what really made this work for Maryland was the cross-discipline commitment to invest in the technology.”

To make his case, Luke organized a demonstration by FARO Technologies, an Ohio-based LiDAR company in the winter of 2014, with Dr. Vann’s support and help. Knowing the implications that the technology could have across many disciplines, Luke



Luke Petrocelli makes a presentation to students about the work done in Stabiae the previous summer using the new LiDAR equipment.



and Dr. Vann cast a wide net, inviting students, faculty and administrators from architecture, humanities, preservation and anthropology.

“I knew it was a good idea, so I just had to convince everyone,” said Luke. “Just the excitement from the demo alone did the trick.” David Cronrath, working with Dr. Mark Leone of the Anthropology Department, and Dr. Gregory Ball, Dean of the College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, green lit the purchase by spring.

The first trial, which took place this past summer in Stabiae, almost didn’t happen. An expedited package from FARO to College Park was then hand-carried to Rome by Professor of Architecture Matt Bell, who was in the city, briefly, for a conference. Luke and his team had a tight window before the machine had to go back to College Park with Professor Vann, who was leaving in three days. Dur-

ing that time, Luke traveled to Rome, picked up the machine, trained himself and his team and successfully mapped the entirety of the Villa San Marco.

As to what would have happened without the machine? “It would have taken the rest of my life,” laughs Luke. “And the project wouldn’t have been as good. We had a near perfect record in a matter of hours.”

This near-perfect record has broad applications for RAS and for future scholars. Its wide accessibility is a game changer; anyone who wants to study the villa now can, thanks to its digital format. The specificity of the technology notices things unseen by the eye; the pitch of a garden or wall patterns, for example, which can predict construction methods and dates of when the structures were built.



ABOVE: Historic Preservation students on-site with Dr. Don Linebaugh.
RIGHT: Students in the BIM modeling class.



“I think it’s important to note that traditional methods of architectural and archeological surveys, like sketching, will remain a crucial part of discovery and documentation,” said Luke, who plans to accompany another group to Italy this summer. “In Stabiae, we start by teaching the older techniques and then teach the technology. Adding LiDAR is a great compliment to our preservation efforts, because it offers a perfect representation of the site.”

Equally important are the broad implications the technology has for UMD’s reputation in the field. It is so portable—about the size of a small suitcase—it can be used just about anywhere, from the ruins at Aperlée, Turkey, to an 18th century cemetery on the Eastern Shore. In a sense, LiDAR is carving out a nice niche for UMD’s team; in an arena where so many top-level universities are lending their talents to the effort of preserving and

documenting archeological sites, this technology is opening doors to collaboration with other institutions and making UMD a leader in archaeological documentation.

“Right now UMD is building a reputation on site as the recording team,” says Luke. “So if say, Columbia University or another group is excavating or researching something in particular, they will need to have it recorded. We draw and record in order to understand, and that’s becoming UMD’s specialty.”



LEFT: Students in ARCH 242 Drawing Class

ABOVE: A critique during the ARCH 150 Career Discovery summer program by Carolina Uechi (B.S. Architecture '10, MRED '12, M. ARCH '14).

Preserving a Community's Culture Amidst Change

Nearly a decade ago, when Willow Lung-Amam was studying Urban Planning at UMD, she created a community resource guide for Langley Park, Maryland, a small neighborhood that straddles the Montgomery and Prince George's County lines, just two miles from College Park. A passion-project of her professor, Bill Hanna, Willow was similarly inspired by the low-income and largely immigrant neighborhood right in the back yard of the university. Ultimately, the experience was one of many that affected her research and, now, her work in low-income and immigrant communities.

Langley Park is one of many suburbs in the U.S. experiencing rapid immigration and poverty, as central city gentrification in Washington D.C. takes hold, pushing vulnerable populations out of urban centers and into the suburbs. Once considered places of opportunity, many of the poor suburbs like Langley Park face profound issues, such as in-

accessibility to jobs and transit, a lack of quality, affordable housing, poor schools and even lack basic human needs like fresh food, all of which exacerbate their conditions of poverty. As the trend of "urbanizing" or "retrofitting" suburbs creeps into the D.C. metro area lexicon, planners, like Willow, are casting a lens on how these vulnerable communities will be affected and what we can do to ensure that they do not bear the brunt of redevelopment, but are also able to take advantage of its opportunities.

Since joining the planning faculty in 2013, Willow, who now operates out of Hanna's old office, has examined how suburbs can deliver on the promise of opportunity—once held for middle-class white Americans—for disadvantaged populations today. With a new light rail, the Purple Line, mapped to run right through Langley Park, Willow is working with colleagues and community-based partners in



LEFT: Foundational design studio where students explore spatial problems using traditional media as well as digital representation. ABOVE: Presentation of the Salisbury Project by Vittorio Sciolli-Claverie.

Langley Park in hopes of bringing community and government stakeholders to the table for a broader discussion on equitable transit-oriented development. Their hope is that existing populations can enjoy the benefits of development spurred by the new transit corridor without fear of displacement. The work, explains Willow, has no clear-cut set of strategies and involves creating a middle ground that both residents and government will buy into. In her opinion, planners are in the best position to help guide that balance as well as advocate for communities like Langley Park.

“I see myself as a community engaged scholar,” says Willow. “I look for disadvantaged communities who need help and who could use what we offer. I see that as an important role that we need to take seriously.”

Giving Chesapeake Bay Communities a Fighting Chance

Over the past decade, communities up and down the nation’s eastern shoreline have been battling the particularly biting effects of climate change. Violent storms, erratic weather and devastating floods have become less a rare occurrence and more the new normal. While efforts are in the works on state and federal levels to combat the economic, environmental and social effects of climate change on our coastal towns, and while some municipalities—like Oxford, Maryland—have spearheaded their own initiatives, many of these communities lack the knowledge, budgets and manpower to implement meaningful stormwater management.

Now, a new initiative spearheaded by the Environmental Finance Center has set its sights on leveling the playing field, arming communities throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed with the knowledge, tools and training to implement innovative stormwater management, mitigating the effects of climate change on community life and improving the water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. The Mu-

URSP students participating in the annual Planning Bootcamp for entering graduate students. The Bootcamp is a multi-day series of courses and activities to introduce new graduate students to the foundational tools of planning and to encourage the formation of a community of faculty and students in the planning program.



municipal Online Stormwater Training (MOST) Center, which will launch next year, is the first of its kind in the region, made possible by a five-year grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

The MOST center will offer comprehensive online training and expertise to jurisdictions at no cost. At the heart of the program, communities will gain the “fundamental building blocks” of storm water programs, which include leveraging existing resources, developing innovative strategies and creating new approaches to financing. Modeled after the Massive Open Online Course Model catching fire at universities across the country, the MOST Center will offer assistance and training to communities throughout the watershed, regardless of size, budget or accessibility. The center will also take into account a municipality’s existing programs and knowledge, or lack thereof; a sliding scale of training modules will be developed to address a variety of levels of expertise, from the most basic to more advanced skill sets. According to Throwe, the MOST Center will implement a

number of resources in an effort to build the best comprehensive training program possible.

The EFC is well versed in providing stormwater assistance to municipalities in the mid-Atlantic region. Over the past several years, they have assisted seventeen communities in developing stormwater policy and procedures as part of their Stormwater Financing and Outreach Unit, with dedicated stormwater revenue sources in Berlin, Oxford and, most recently, the City of Salisbury, Maryland. Currently, the EFC has water resource related projects in 12 locations throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and has recently expanded their reach to include a satellite office in California.

“Stormwater is by far one of the biggest threats to the health of the Bay,” says Throwe. “Arming communities with the tools to diminish their impact on bay resources will have lasting implications for the economic, social and environmental well-being of the state.”



Dual degree student Lucy Moore (architecture and preservation) photographs a resource at the Monocacy Battlefield outside Frederick, Maryland.

HISP Students Protect D.C.'s National Treasures

Three years ago, the National Park Service-National Capital Region approached Historic Preservation Director Don Linebaugh with a project: assist them in tracking and documenting the condition of the thousands of national treasures that fall under their care in the National Capital Region. Since then, graduate students from the Historic Preservation Program have documented the length of George Washington Memorial Parkway, over 184 miles of C & O Canal and the Antietam Battlefield, carefully surveying and assessing the condition of each historic structure—from monuments to culverts—that graces their respective landscapes.

In October, the National Park Service (NPS) renewed the contract for another year, tasking the program to undertake five separate and quite complex sites: Harper's Ferry, West Virginia; the Monocacy Battlefield in Frederick, Maryland; Catocin

Mountain Park in Thurmont, Maryland; Manassas Battlefield Park in Virginia; and a group of smaller parks known as the "National Capital Parks-East," a collection of sites that includes the Baltimore-Washington Parkway, Circle Forts like Fort Washington and the Mary McLeod Bethune House. It is the largest collection of cultural resources the team will survey since the project began and, because of the variety, the most challenging.

The new crop of site audits began this fall, sending six historic preservation graduate students into the field armed with cameras, notebooks and, because of the remote location of some areas, an occasional NPS Ranger. The program is managed by three-year project veteran and assistant to the director, Christine Henry and Kirsten Crase, who joined the HISP program as a faculty research associate this fall.

According to Henry, partnerships like the one with the NPS are the most crucial method of preparing students for the professional world because they provide much needed experience in developing methods and practicing interpretation. Crase and Henry teach very specific methodology for students to use as a baseline for their surveys. While highly structured, this foundation gives students the freedom to consider changes that might not be immediately apparent and factors that could create change over time. When assessing a structure, students must consider the environment (Is it near water?), the materials (Is the building wood or stone?) and its location (Urban versus rural?). Students must also pay attention to how the structure is being used, which greatly affects its condition; historic houses like the Mary McLeod Bethune House don't endure the same wear and tear as a cabin camp in Catoctin Mountain Park.

While the NPS is required to perform audits on all historic structures on a cyclical basis, this is more than an exercise; the recommendations and reports are critical to the individual site managers, who will determine the actions to take.

"We are very pleased to continue this relationship with the National Park Service," said Linebaugh. "I think the fact that the NPS has tasked us to survey these particular sites, which are quite varied and challenging, is a reflection of their level of confidence and trust in our work."



Don Linebaugh supervises the making of field notes by Supreet Kaur at the Indian Steps structure, depicted to the left.

Understanding History through Architecture

Acclaimed architect Ernst Johnson once said, "Architecture has been called the art of building beautifully, a fixation of man's thinking, and record of his activity... Keep in mind that last phrase. It is important." Without question, the examination of our historic footprint is one of the best methods of revealing the stories and history that connect us with our past. Over the last two and a half years, Professor Don Linebaugh has been painting a picture of a historic site in southern Pennsylvania in an effort to share stories of the site's architecture, its creator and its implications for understanding early 20th century notions of identity. Known as Indian Steps, the building was the creation of York County lawyer and avid outdoorsman John Vandersloot between 1910 and 1912. A stunning Craftsman-style property overlooking the Susquehanna River, Indian Steps became the "display system" for thousands of Native American artifacts found and collected along the property by Vandersloot, embedding stone axes, pottery and other artifacts into the building's exterior in pictograph-like images. Operating as a museum since the 1940s, Indian Steps is thought to be one of the first Native American museums in the U.S.

More than a research project, Indian Steps has become an important part of Don's instruction, allowing students to understand the implications of such

Gina Fernandes and Marques King (M. ARCH '14) look on at presentations by fellow students.



buildings on history and social movements. The Indian Steps site connects to the larger Pan-Indian Movement of the early 20th century, which sought to create a more powerful national Indian identity to counter U.S. federal Indian policies such as land schemes like the Allotment Act or assimilation via boarding schools. One aspect of the Pan-Indian Movement was a group of fraternal organizations such as the "Tipi Order of America." Vandersloot established a chapter of this masonic-like organization where members, for lack of a better term, "played Indian" on the property. According to Don, properties like Indian Steps "provide exciting opportunities for students to examine and interpret the material stories and histories of a site."

The Indian Steps Cabin celebrates local Native American culture and well as the civilization of early people from all over North America. The artifact-pictographs imbedded throughout the structure reflect John Vandersloot's extensive research.

The inscription over the door, "I entreat all those who pass this way to safely guard and preserve these former possessions of and monuments to an ancient Indian people..." is evidence that John Vandersloot meant for the building to be preserved.

The Indian Steps Museum has operated as a public museum since the 1940's. It is possibly the first Native American museum in the United States. Indian Steps was first owned by PPL and is currently owned by the Conservation Society of York County. The Indian Steps Cabin was entered in the National Register of Historic Places in 1990.

Lectures and Special Events

Lectures

Sylvia Smith, FAIA, Senior Partner at FXFOWLE,
Kea Distinguished Professor for 2014, ADVANCE
Distinguished Scholar

“Studio Work: Themes and Variations”

Elizabeth Mossop, Spackman Mossop Michaels
“Urban Vitality; Designing Open Spaces to Re-
make Healthy Cities”

J. Guy Lombardo, Jr. Memorial Lecture

Steve Dumez, FAIA, Partner | Director of Design,
Eskew+Dumez+Ripple

“Building Community”

Iñaki Aldayaki Alday, AldayJover Arquitectura y
Paisaje

“Hyper-real Drivers”

J. Guy Lombardo, Jr. Memorial Lecture

Omar Blaik, Principal, U3 Ventures

“A University in the City: Leveraging Real Estate
to Reimagine College Park”

Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development Fall
Lecture

Karen M'Closkey, PEG office of landscape +
architecture

“Synthetic Patterns”

J. Guy Lombardo, Jr. Memorial Lecture

Sean Lowry: Artist/Musician/Writer

MAPP Lecture

Gallery Lectures and Exhibits

Running in tandem with gallery exhibitions of their
work, the gallery lecture series hosted the follow-
ing design professionals this fall:

Luis Callejas, LCLA Office

“Islands and Atolls, Works 2011 – 2014”

Henry Kibel Lecture | Exhibition Opening

Jana VanderGoot, VanderGoot Ezban Studio

“Table in Rome: Forum as Planted Field”

CAPAA Lecture (UMD Creative and Performing
Arts Award)

Symposia and Conferences

Purple Line Community Compact Workshops:

This fall, Stakeholders with an interest in the
Purple Line light rail corridor convened at
two community workshops to create a Purple
Line Community Compact, a common vision
for economic and community development
along the Maryland Transit Administration’s
(MTA) planned transit system. Led by the
Purple Line Corridor Coalition (PLCC), in part-
nership with officials from the state of Mary-
land and Prince George’s and Montgomery
County leadership, the Compact will present
a livability strategy, identify opportunities
for economic growth and mobilize multiple
stakeholders for vibrant communities along
the 16-mile corridor. The PLCC hopes to have
a final version of the compact for signature by
January 2015.

Local Government Exchange: In June, the
National Center for Smart Growth sponsored
the Local Government Exchange, a day long

workshop allowing local government officials the opportunity to share ideas and experiences on a broad range of planning initiatives.

Fourth Annual Open Planning Tools Group Symposium: In November, the National Center for Smart Growth and the Montgomery County Planning Department led the country's leading work-session for scenario planning tool developers, researchers and high-level users. The Fourth Annual Open Planning Tools Group Symposium highlighted key projects coordinated by group members such as the curriculum development and the FOSS4G hackathon. Tool developers also had the opportunity to showcase their latest advancements. The symposium built on years of work funded by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the Sonoran Institute's Western Lands and Communities Program.

Symposia on Emerging Trends in Design and Construction:

In October, the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and the A. James Clark School of Engineering hosted a one-day symposium that explored the challenges encountered by design and construction professionals in the face of integrated project delivery, emerging technologies and the pressure for more efficient construction. Held at the Washington, D.C. office of the National Council for Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), the symposium assembled UMD faculty and a host of professionals from the greater Baltimore-D.C. area to discuss how professionals can adapt and prosper in a changing construction environment. Topics

covered performance-based design, new construction efficiencies and the communication challenges and opportunities associated with integrated project delivery.



Participants at the Symposia on Emerging Trends in Design and Construction. From Left to right Gino Gemignani, Glenn Birx of Ayers Saint Gross Architects, Troy Sanders of Whiting Turner Construction, Luke Smith of Whiting Turner Construction, Coren Sharples of SHoP Architects, Alexis Lenza of SHoP Construction, and Michael Ambrose from MAPP.

BELOW: Professor Jason Winters explains a concept to students participating in the summer explore architecture program.



In the News

UMD's Urban and Community Planning Program Receives Accolades in Higher Education Survey

A new survey from *Planetizen* shows that planning educators from across the United States rank UMD's Urban and Community Planning Program as one of the 20 best planning programs in the U.S. They also concurred with something many of our students already know: that Maryland's program is one of the best for enabling students to attend part time, coming in at #10 among U.S. planning programs. *Planetizen* is a nationally recognized website covering urban planning, design and development issues.

\$100,000 Grant Keeps EDA Center Working for Maryland

This past fall, the U.S. Economic Development Administration University Center at the University of Maryland, College Park (EDA University Center)

received a \$100,000 grant to fund their continued efforts in fostering innovation and economic development across the state. The mission of the EDA University Center is to provide targeted assistance to Maryland communities through research, workforce development and entrepreneurship, as well as business counseling services. The Center also helps local organizations conduct preliminary feasibility studies, analyze data and convene customized seminars and workshops on topics such as regional strategic planning and capital budgeting. Since its inception four years ago, the center has created plans for the revitalization of Baltimore's Morgan Mile, developed a series of online professional development and economic training courses for area planning professionals and procured continuous commuting and employment data for Montgomery County's Department of Business Development. This fall, staff began work on the



LEFT: Dr. Jim Cohen, director of the URSP program, welcomes high school students to the G.I.S. Summer Internship program. The program is a joint effort between the URSP program and the National Center for Smart Growth. Its purpose is to introduce students to the usefulness of G.I.S. as an analytical tool.

ABOVE: High School students from Prince Georges' County participating in the internship program, shown with Chelsie Miller (second from left), Research Assistant and class instructor.

first-ever Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for St. Mary's County and an East Campus Development Plan for the University of Maryland, College Park.

MAPP Debuts New Interdisciplinary Archaeology Minor for Undergraduate Architecture Students

Last winter, Professor of Architecture Lindley Vann joined faculty from the Anthropology, Art History and Archaeology, Classics and History programs to form an Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Minor in Archaeology, the first of its kind at the university. Housed under the College of Arts and Humanities, the new minor—which officially launched this fall—offers a unique offshoot for architecture students, fulfilling many general education requirements while exposing them to an interdisciplinary body of scholars and the fundamentals of archaeology. A required prerequisite class will act as a

“team talk” course, incorporating lectures from faculty in the involved departments and providing an overview of field methods and contemporary technologies. Other courses will zero in on important excavation techniques and technology training that will prepare students for actual fieldwork; the minor requires 3 to 6 credit hours on an archaeological site, with options ranging from excavations in Iceland to MAPP's favorite archaeological haunts, the ancient ruins of Stabiae in Italy and Aperlai in Turkey.

UMD Team Takes Top Honors at Congress for New Urbanism Charter Awards

This past summer, the Congress for New Urbanism awarded a team from the University of Maryland's architecture program the Grand Prize in the Academic Category at the 22nd Annual Congress for New Urbanism Charter Awards. The award rec-



Purple Line event -- The School, through the activities of the National Center for Smart Growth, continue to play a leadership role in the planning of the new transit line in Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties.

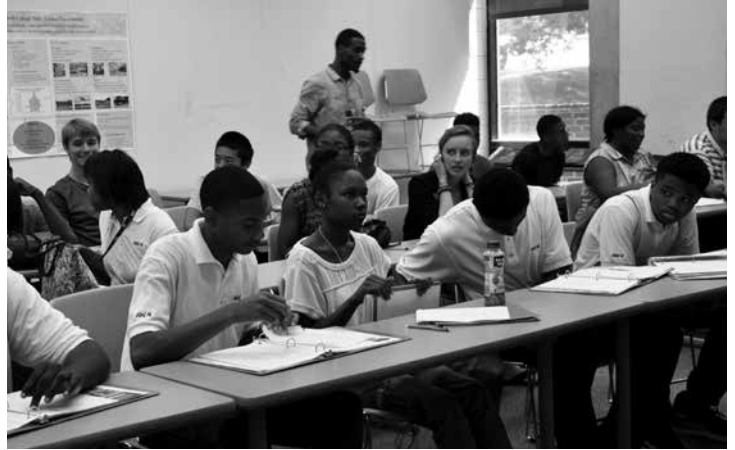
ognized the team’s 2012 innovative re-envisioning of the Schuylkill River waterfront and 30th Street Station area in the heart of Philadelphia, one of three designs selected for academic prizes from a formidable pool of student-led entries from universities around the world. The team members—now newly minted alumni with master’s degrees in architecture—were Jacob Bialek, Emma Crenshaw, Mark Elliot, Tamir Ezzat, Julian Goldman, Eric Jorderens, Katrina McRainey and Michael Taylor. The project was designed as part of ARCH 700, an urban design studio course taught by Professor Matthew Bell, FAIA. This is the second award the team has won for their Philadelphia waterfront design; they also received a jury prize at the Philadelphia Center for Architecture’s Ed Bacon Student Design Competition in 2012.

NCSG Studies Suggest Job Hubs Hold Key to Maryland Economic Growth

Two new studies released by the National Center for Smart Growth in December suggest that, to stimulate job growth and economic development, state and local governments should target incentives to existing “employment centers” within Maryland. “Employment Centers and Agglomeration Economies: Foundations of a Spatial Economic Development Strategy,” will appear this winter in *Economic Development Quarterly* and “Polycentrism as a Sustainable Development Strategy: An Empirical Analysis from the State of Maryland” will be published in the *Journal of Urbanism* in February. The studies identified 23 job hubs—defined as areas with a large concentration of jobs per square mile—that have the greatest growth potential and regional accessibility, serving as economic engines for Maryland’s economy. Areas like



Professor Alex Chen meets with URSP graduate student Lyneisha Jackson.



The Urban Studies and Regional Planning program offered an internship program to high school students from Baltimore City. ABOVE: students listen to a presentation before starting on their project.

Hunt Valley, the I-270 corridor and Greenbelt-College Park generate a substantially larger percentage of innovation, new business and higher wages compared to other areas of the state. Research also found that private sector creation and growth is strongly affected by the availability—and location—of transportation infrastructure; 39% of all transit ridership occurs in these hubs. This could influence future transportation planning and policy, particularly when weighing new public transit projects. The report findings have strong implications on future housing development as well, particularly when considering the influx of millennials and immigrants into the workforce. The researchers conclude that encouraging housing development within the transit commute sheds of these employment hubs—particularly those with strong transit accessibility—can best accommodate both the desires of a changing, more urban-focused

workforce and long-term sustainability. The reports are available online at <http://smartgrowth.umd.edu>.

NCSG Research Defines Challenges and Opportunities for Baltimore’s Landmark Regional Housing Plan

In December, the Opportunity Collaborative, a consortium of local and state agencies, non-profit organizations and higher education, released a housing strategy for the Baltimore region, funded in part from a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Entitled “Strong Communities, Strong Region,” the regional housing plan offers recommendations for boosting employment, affordable housing and transportation infrastructure, strengthening Baltimore’s communities and the regional economy. While the study touches on workforce and transportation

development, its primary focus is addressing the dearth of affordable housing, a challenge the Collaborative estimates over 70,000 families face in the Baltimore-area.

Determining the existing housing challenges was crucial to developing the plan. As part of his work with the National Center for Smart Growth's Housing Strategies Group, Associate Professor Casey Dawkins led a team of researchers in creating a Fair Housing Equity Assessment (FHEA), a birds-eye view of the state of housing in the region. The research identified concentrations of minority households living in poverty and examined the historical factors perpetuating the cycle of segregation and poverty. The National Center for Smart Growth also developed Opportunity Maps for the Baltimore region, which, combined with the FHEA, offered a basis for the plan recommenda-

tions. With the challenges laid out, the committee was able to develop specific objectives and strategies that serve as a solid foundation for the housing plan.

PALS students prepare for a tour of Frederick as part of their class project.



"PALS is exactly what we should be doing in our teaching," said Mary Ann Rankin, Provost of the University of Maryland at the PALS launch event. "One of our priorities for the University is better connections with communities throughout the state. I can't think of a better example of that than this program."

Changing Education Through Community Outreach: PALS

At the intersection of community outreach and academia, lives active learning. Collaborating with Maryland communities to help improve the lives of its citizens is a cornerstone of the University's land-grant mission, and getting students out of the classroom to interact, engage and invent with communities has been part and parcel of MAPP's standard curriculum for decades. But until this year, community impact has been confined to the size of the class and length of the course. This fall, the National Center for Smart Growth, with the support of Provost Mary Ann Rankin and Dean David Cronrath, launched an ambitious program to amplify current efforts through sheer numbers. The Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability (PALS) is a bold new way of leveraging student ingenuity and faculty expertise campus-wide, providing real solutions to sustainability issues facing Maryland communities. Working with one designated community each academic year, PALS pairs custom coursework with specific challenges designated by the partner community. Projects range from stormwater management to revitalizing a downtown block. Despite its freshman status, PALS is the second largest of 18 action-learning initiatives in the United States, with a roster of 30 courses and over 350 students from 10 disciplines across campus.

The idea, while novel, is also quite straightforward. Until now, most univer-



Gerrit Knaap, Director National Center for Smart Growth and Joe Adkins, City of Frederick's Planning Department, were instrumental in making the first year of PALS a success. ABOVE: Joe Adkins (right) and Gerrit Knaap share a laugh at one of the regular PALS meetings with faculty.



ABOVE: Students exploring Frederick, Md. on their first day of class as part of the PALS program.

sity “community-engaged” coursework operated in a vacuum. The aim of PALS is to funnel these efforts and provide a concentrated, well-orchestrated surge of novel ideas and approaches to the economic, social and environmental challenges for one community. This year’s projects in PALS’ partner city, Frederick, Maryland, includes analyzing the effects of greenhouse gas, developing environmentally sensitive recreation, creating a city composting program and addressing water quality issues. The meaningful, on-the-ground community engagement not only provides a living case study for students, it offers a rewarding interactive experience that mirrors future professional interactions within their disciplines.

The inaugural semester included six courses from MAPP, the largest representation of any college on campus. Professor Matthew Bell’s ARCH 700 course developed “historically-minded” revitaliza-

tion ideas for the city’s two gateway corridors. Assistant Professor Willow Lung-Amam’s planning course had students engaging minority-owned businesses in the city’s “golden mile” to empower them in the area’s revitalization process. In HISP 680, taught by lecturer Connie Ramirez, students demonstrated the economic benefit of historic preservation. An urban studies course mapped neighborhood cultural resources and engaged residents through social media. Targeting a key City property, an MRED Capstone course provided city officials a soup-to-nuts development plan from market analysis to financing options. As part of her thesis, historic preservation graduate student Abby Tesfaye researched and created a downtown architectural walking tour guide for the city.

The established relationship with the City, cultivated by program officials for six months prior to the first day of classes, was a boon to many



ABOVE RIGHT: A general view of a street in Frederick, MD.

ABOVE: Architecture students review plans for development in Frederick prior to community presentation.

LEFT: Students conducting a workshop with residents of The City of Frederick, Md.

students. City officials helped connect students with groups and stakeholders in the community to enhance their project scope. A City tour in the first weeks of the semester allowed officials the chance to not only articulate Frederick's goals and challenges, but also convey the spirit of the historic city. City officials continued to offer their time, expertise and feedback throughout the semester, often traveling to College Park to meet with students and discuss project ideas.

"This has truly been a win-win situation for us," says Uri Avin, Director of the PALS program. "Frederick sees the value in what we can offer and has dedicated the time and effort to help our students as they develop their projects. That kind of collaboration is what makes this program both effective and meaningful for all involved."

The personal interaction with the people and landscape of Frederick proved to be a powerful tool for

students as they interpreted their coursework and approached the projects. Willow Lung-Amam's planning course, "Planning and Design in the Multicultural Metropolis," placed students on site regularly, interacting with a largely minority-owned small business population. Students had to learn to navigate language barriers, trust issues, cultural differences and perceptions as they worked to educate and empower residents.

"Although we discussed in class the changing demographics of American cities and the opportunities and challenges that our multicultural cities present for planning, the Golden Mile project made those lessons come alive for students," said Lung-Amam. "While they were given an opportunity to hone many of their professional 'hard skills' like research methods, presentation and professional writing, I think their 'soft skills' of building trust and rapport with communities, working as

a team, getting out into communities, and critical listening will be some of the more important lessons that they take from this experience.”

In return, students delivered thoughtful, innovative projects. Posters from ARCH 700, reminiscent of old tourism ads, are currently on display in Frederick City Hall; City officials and planning staff will see the student’s design ideas early this semester. A recreation master plan presented in December to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen by landscape architecture students will be integrated into the Department of Planning’s program.

“As I stepped into the role of sustainability manager, I was well aware that I would not have dedicated staff for sustainability projects,” said Jenny Willoughby, the City’s Sustainability Manager. “The PALS students have been able to help progress my goals as sustainability manager further than I’d be able to go on my own by conducting a greenhouse gas inventory, studying climate change in the watershed, and pushing the envelope with a shared use path extension. With their help, I will have plenty of data to back up the City’s Sustainability Master Plan with valuable data and information.”

MRED graduate student Amy Weber used a small site in Frederick for her capstone course. She produced a development plan that involves transforming a parcel of land along Carroll Creek into a boutique hotel, a purveyor of locally-grown food and a local arts studio, hitting a trifecta of city targets: tourism, arts and entertainment and boosting their outlying agricultural industry. Amy will present her plan to Frederick officials in February. “The city actually put out an RFP for this site in 2009 but nothing ever came of it, yet it’s the last good piece of property on the creek,” explains Amy, who won third place for her project in the Capstone Competition. “So Frederick, in reality, seems really open to a development on this site, which is pretty exciting. That was the cool aspect of the PALS program; it’s something real that could actually happen.”

In November, PALS administrators gathered with representatives from the other 17 action-learning programs in the U.S. to share stories—successful or otherwise—and to develop the Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities Network” or (EPIC). Over the course of the next year, EPIC will network to organize the programs’ efforts in order to showcase their impacts nationwide. As

PALS heads into its second semester this month, administrators will explore ideas gleaned from the EPIC meeting and from fall's inaugural semester. The program is planning ways to better cross-pollinate across courses by providing forums for students and faculty to connect and also explore past PALS coursework. These opportunities to interact and learn, share research and glean the institutional knowledge of past coursework in other communities, will be a key initiative interwoven into future models. PALS also launches an "in residence" mini-PALS program in College Park this month, which will be on-going as part of the University's town-gown relationship. And while there is still a semester left in the school year, the program is identifying the plans—and next jurisdiction—for the 2015-16 school year.

"We are incredibly pleased with the results of the first semester," said Gerrit Knaap, Director of the National Center for Smart Growth. "This program has incredible potential, not just for the jurisdictions we serve, but for the way it can shape the future of education."

In the meantime, work in Frederick continues. January brings a roster of 12 additional courses

dedicated to the city, including three more courses from MAPP: a development plan in East Frederick, taught by Assistant Professor of Architecture Jana VanderGoot; another Capstone course; and an industrial land use study in East Frederick, taught by Dr. Scott Dempwolf.

"PALS has had an incredible impact on our students this semester," said Dean David Cronrath. "I cannot imagine a better group of faculty coming together to create something wonderful at the very core of a land grant university."



MAPP faculty at the annual Fall Semester retreat. This year the retreat was held at the new Angelos Law Center at University of Baltimore designed by Behnisch Architekten and Ayers Saint Gross.



Professor Powell Draper making a point during thesis reviews.

FACULTY News

President Wallace Loh awarded **Howie Baum** Professor Emeritus status at the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. Howie began in his new position January 1, 2015. Howie retired as Professor from the Urban Studies and Planning Program last spring. Congratulations, Howie!

Assistant Professor **Powell Draper** attended the Smartgeometry Conference, “The Bearable Lightness of Being” in Hong Kong this past July, where the theme was “Urban Compaction.” Powell was on a workshop team that designed and built a parametrically optimized lightweight pavilion.

After lecturing for the Master of Real Estate Development Program at the University of Maryland College Park for 5 years, **Germano Gomez** joined the program staff as the Associate Director of the Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development

in July 2014. His current responsibilities include developing relationships with local and national real estate industry organizations, planning and marketing symposia and lectures, as well as preparing annual plans and reports for the Institute.

Dr. **Marie Howland** and Dr. **Scott Dempwolf**, Assistant Research Professor had a chapter published in a book on industrial land planning in U.S. and European Cities, entitled, “El retorno de la industria. ¿Están preparadas las ciudades?” *Educare Review Online* also featured Scott’s work, in collaboration with Distinguished University Professor Ben Shneiderman, as part of an article on UMD’s Campus Visualization Partnership, a major cross-campus collaboration between researchers and the university’s central IT division. Scott is writing a chapter for a forthcoming book on No-deXL applications, which features innovation net-



Professor Marie Howland



Professor Emeritus Howie Baum
having a lighter moment at his retirement party

work modeling and analysis methods he developed as part of his dissertation.

The University of Maryland Graduate School awarded Associate Professor **Ronit Eisenbach** with the Semester Graduate School Creative and Performing Arts Award for 2015-16. Her fall collaborative project with Dance Professor Sharon Mansur, *Placeholders*, garnered international attention this year, featured on Project Anywhere, a blind peer-reviewed online website for works that take place outside of the gallery and museum structure.

In July, Professor Emeritus **Richard Etlin** spent two weeks in France, where he gave a paper at the international symposium, "Philibert De l'Orme: l'architecte-mage de l'Hôtel Bullioud," in Tours, in honor of the French Renaissance architect Philib-

ert De l'Orme. Richard also delivered a paper at the international symposium, "L'Abside. Costruzione e Geometrie," COSMED, in Ragusa, Italy, in March. He continues his work as General Editor of the *Cambridge World History of Religious Architecture*, a massive reference work of 1.5 million words with over 200 articles. Started in 2007, the project is expected to go into production in this summer.

Since moving to Greenbelt nine years ago, Associate Professor of Architecture **Isabelle Gournay** has become Greenbelt's Scholar in Residence, penning nearly a dozen publications and lectures on the history and heritage of the iconic city. This past year she delivered the lecture, "From Paris to Greenbelt: the Life and Work of Greenbelt's designer Douglas Ellington," as part of the Greenbelt Museum Lecture Series. This lecture combines



ABOVE: Professor
Matt Bell.
RIGHT: Professor
Luis Quiros.
FAR RIGHT: Profes-
sor Hiro Iseki.



her work on Greenbelt and her current book project on American architecture students at the Paris Ecole des Beaux-Arts. She continues to serve on the City's Advisory Planning Board.

Professor of Architecture **Matthew Bell's** design team at Perkins Eastman (which includes alumna Abigail Cronin) received a Presidential Citation for Sustainable Design from AIA DC this fall for the design of Washington, D.C.'s Dunbar High School.

In December, Assistant Professor **Hiro Iseki** and UMD Economist Rubaba Ali published a peer-reviewed research report, "Net Effects of Gasoline Price Changes on Transit Ridership in U.S. Urban Areas" for the Mineta Transportation Institute. The study examined the variables of effects of gas prices on transit ridership.

Michele Lamprakos won a Research and Scholarship Award (RASA) for summer 2015, to support her continuing research on the mosque-cathedral of Cordoba, Spain. In November, she was invited to present her research-in-progress at MIT's School of Architecture and Planning/Aga Khan Program in Islamic Architecture fall lecture series.

This year, Assistant Professor **Luis Diego Quiros** was invited to participate in the GAA-Foundation Architecture Exhibition during the 2014 Venice Architecture Biennale. As part of the same event, Luis' studio – Luis Diego Quiros Arquitectura, was selected as one of 90 global outposts among 314 candidates to collaborate with OfficeUS, the United States Pavilion. Luis had a paper accepted at the ACSA 103rd Annual Meeting themed 'The Expanding Periphery and the Migrating Center,' which will take place in Toronto in



Mark McInturff (B.ARCH '72) and Professor Garth Rockcastle.

March 2015. In addition, *The Journal of Architectural Education* published a review on the "Conflict and Convergence: Urban Informality in Latin America Symposium" organized by Quiros, titled "A Much-Needed Reflection on Urban Informality in Latin America: A Retrospective" on "Conflict and Convergence." Luis also became a writer for *FavelIssues*, the most visited blog on urban informality and his article "Academia: Teaching Architecture through Urban Informality: Reflections on the Practice and Teaching of Architecture," which features ARCH master's student Carolina Uechi's Award Winning Thesis, was published in *HABITAR Magazine*. Next semester, Luis will be teaching an ARCH 601 studio with Gensler Baltimore, where students will be exploring design alternatives for Baltimore's Southwest neighborhoods.

Professor **Garth Rockcastle**, FAIA, has been re-

tained to lead a design team, including colleagues at his firm MSR Design, in a unique adaptive reuse project, converting a former 338,000 square foot Vocational Technical Public Trade School into a new creative community for emerging New Economy companies and live/work entrepreneurs. The former public building, sold to developers for reuse or demolition, is now protected by the National Register of Historic Places. The project, named BOK Creative Community, will include innovative maker labs, performance and film making studios, food and entertainment venues, with over half the building dedicated to residences for the creatives who will both live and work there. Garth is also behind a new Net Positive Community, currently being referred to as "Deepwater" in Northern Minnesota by Native Tribal Business Enterprises. A collaboration between Garth, a research team at MAPP and his firm, this new community is be-



Uri Avin, Director of the PALS program and a MAPP adjunct faculty.



Clinical Professor Margaret McFarland

ing conceived to occupy 1800 acres of a former Iron Mining region just east of Chisholm, Minnesota to produce more energy than it uses and to provide more benefits than it requires. A comprehensive master plan will commence this winter.

Dr. **Margaret McFarland** joins the Housing Opportunities Commission following in the footsteps of Professor Ralph Bennett, who served in the HOC for 12 years. Margaret could not be better suited for her new role; she has more than 30 years of experience in affordable housing finance and served as the former General Counsel to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development. She has drafted more than 30 pieces of legislation during her time with the state, including revisions to the Maryland's authorizing legislation for the HOC and other housing authorities. As the General Counsel to the District of Columbia Housing Authority in the early 2000s, Margaret helped make a major push to finance public private mixed income housing developments in conjunction with the federal HOPE VI program. In her new role, Margaret will help shape policies that will affect Montgomery County's communities well into the future.

*In February 2014, MAPP began a multi-year collaboration with the World Bank's Metro Colombo Urban Development Project (MCUDP) to explore the role of sustainable design in the context of rapid urbanization and climate change. Spear-headed by **Hooman Koliji, Michele Lamprakos, and Garth Rockcastle**, this initiative will develop, test, and refine integrated design strategies to address these global challenges. In October, Koliji travelled to Colombo to tour prospective sites and to meet with local stakeholders. His mission yielded a collaboration with the School of Architecture at the University of Moratuwa (UMW), now being formalized through a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities.*

Alumni NEWS

Patrick Maier (B.A. Urban Studies '75) is the Executive Director of the Innovative Housing Institute (IHI), a non-profit affordable housing organization that specializes in inclusive land use strategies. They are currently finishing up the Baltimore Regional Housing plan, partnering with UMD's Center for Smart Growth, BAE Urban Economics and the University of Baltimore. Patrick is also assisting Chicago's Department of Planning and Development in revamping their Affordable Requirements Ordinance, which has produced substantial "fees in lieu" of affordable housing development but little on-site housing. After spending 27 years working in various housing roles for Montgomery County, Patrick and his wife Kathleen moved their empty nest to Federal Hill in Baltimore and were charmed by Charm City. They now live in Bolton Hill and have been re-nested by two of their children who are fixing up Baltimore homes of their own. They are keeping it interesting and keeping it urban!

Stephen Paul's (B.A. Urban Studies '77) firm, Mid-Atlantic Builders, won the Maryland Building Industry Association (MBIA) En-

vironmental Award for Most Energy Efficient New Home, acknowledging Mid-Atlantic's leadership in designing and building energy efficient homes and communities. Mid-Atlantic homes feature advanced construction technology and techniques that deliver greater longevity, durability and savings over the life of the home. Stephen is Executive Vice President at Mid-Atlantic.

Maryland alumnus **Vincent Lee's** (BS Architecture '81) work was featured on the cover of the December 2014 issue of *Architect Magazine*. Vince is Associate Partner at ROGERS PARTNERS, Architects+Urban Designers, in New York City. The project is the award-winning Henderson-Hopkins School in Baltimore.

Sally Berk (BS Architecture '84) has, for three decades, been researching and writing about Harry Wardman, the most prolific residential developer in the history of Washington, D.C. This extensive work has resulted in the launch of a website dedicated to the man and his work, which you can read about here: www.wardmansworld.com.

Dan Rosen (MCP '94) continues to facilitate the state's land preservation efforts through the Maryland Department of Planning. He also became involved in issues relating to the food system, serving as editor and lead author of *Planning for the Food System*, the 28th volume of MDP's "Models and Guidelines" series. Dan's duties also include working with the Patuxent River Commission and on state efforts to implement the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement. Since this is the centennial of the start of World War One, Dan's interest in that conflict and its literature inspired him to write a paper called "Two Jewish Poets of The Great War: Siegfried Sassoon and Isaac Rosenberg," which he hopes to present to his congregation.

Mary Rankin (BS Architecture '98, M.ARCH '01) and her team at Perkins Eastman made an unexpected discovery during the rehabilitation of Washington, D.C.'s Roosevelt High School this past summer; two frescoes, dating back to the 1930s, were found under layers of yellow paint in the school's cafeteria. Upon further research, Mary learned that the frescoes, entitled "Adolescent America"

and "American Panorama," were products of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal initiative called PWA – Public Works Administration. The frescoes were preserved and transferred to canvas, where they will adorn the high school's new grand entrance.

After 15 years at Ayers Saint Gross, **Alick Dearie** (BS Architecture '99, M.ARCH '04) has transitioned full time to growing his firm, GriD architects, with good friend and fellow ARCH alum **Brian Grieb** (BS Architecture '99, M.ARCH '01). Alick and Brian recently completed the Solstice Headquarters in the Federal Hill section of Baltimore and a private home in Berkeley Springs, West Virginia (which was featured in *The Washington Post*). The New Year brings projects for the team in New Mexico, West Virginia and Baltimore.

Kenya Covington (MCP '00) is an Associate Professor in the Urban Studies and Planning Department at California State University, Northridge where she has been for nine years. Previously, she was director of the research department at the Congressional

Black Caucus Foundation, Inc. in Washington, D.C., where she was responsible for the conceptualization and release of major research studies on black male unemployment, innovative legislation to boost homeownership among renters and the implementation of a health disparities grass root education campaign. Her current research examines the social and economic conditions of at risk populations and considers the effect of social and urban policy responses. Currently, she is documenting how Los Angeles responded to the 2007 housing crisis, focusing on efforts by the city to stabilize neighborhoods after unprecedented foreclosures.



Marianne Navarro (MCP '03) is continuing her work implementing the Mayor's Anchor Institution Initiative, an economic and community development strategy focused on improving quality of life, addressing public safety issues and promoting economic inclusion in Baltimore's neighborhoods. She is also serving on the Mayor's Grow Baltimore Advisory Task Force. Marianne received her AICP certification in 2014, and is a recent honoree of *The Daily Record's* Leading Women award for Maryland professionals under 40 years old. She and her husband John and are very busy raising their two daughters, Loren (almost 4) and Farah (2) in Baltimore City's Locust Point community.

Principle **Peter Pelsinski** (BS Architecture '89), of SPAN Architecture, was recognized as a Finalist in *Interior Design's* Best of Year Awards 2014, for the studio's work on Hyatt Times Square. Image of the project is to the left.

Aimee LaMontagne Baumiller (MCP '04) is a Senior Market Analyst for PNC Real Estate. She celebrated her 10-year work anniversary in September and is enjoying Pittsburgh's transformation and all it has to offer as the Most Livable City in the continental U.S. Her work at PNC entails analyzing individual commercial real estate transactions for the Bank as well as producing macroeconomic reports on the multi-family sector. Her reports are

published on www.pnc.com/realestate. Her 20-month old daughter, Greta, continues to make life more interesting and fulfilling (and exhausting!).

Scott Booth (BS Architecture '05) was promoted to associate at COOKFOX Architects, in New York, N.Y., this past October. He has been with the firm since 2011.

Darsey Nicklasson (MCP '05), VP of BDP Development, LLC and Principal of DHN Planning & Development, LLC, is happy to report that construction is underway for Blue Dot Place, the first multifamily apartment development to be built in downtown Colorado Springs since the 1960s. Blue Dot Place has 16 people on a waiting list for 33 units; find more information on their Facebook page. Darsey credits the success of this project to her time in grad school at UMD: "I learned a lot. Now I am building buildings, creating places and communities. I love what I do."

Rei Harada (MHP '08) left her home of Japan in July, and traveled to Egypt to join The Project for the Conservation Centre in the Grand Egyptian Museum, operated by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), as an Expert Conservation Training Organizer. In addition to her work for JICA, Rei will join a new excavation project in Bahrain where she will be in charge of public reach/public archeology, her first experience fully com-

mitting to an archaeological project. She also continues to research about Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA), which she and her team applied to a museum site development plan in Petra, Jordan. They are planning to make a presentation at this year's ICOMOS scientific symposium in Italy. Finally, after five years apart, Rei married her long-time American boyfriend at a beautiful ceremony in Japan.

Prince George's County's Social Innovation Fund has included alumnus **Rodney Harrell** (Ph.D. '08) as one of the 40 "best and brightest" county residents under 40-years-old for 2015. Rodney is the Director of Livable Communities in AARP's Public Policy Institute. Follow him on twitter @DrUrbanPolicy.

After working at Jacobs for 12 years, **Meghan Powell** (MCP '08) recently took a new position as task manager for Parsons. She is part of Parsons Rail and Transit Systems group and is working on a general architecture and engineering contract for WMATA. Under this project, Meghan is managing the development of a flood emergency response plan, as well as inspection work for the eventual replacement of WMATA's faregates. She also has past experience in all stages of rail and transit projects including feasibility studies, planning and final design. Meghan lives in Silver Spring, Md., with her two boys.

Tiffany Williams (MCP '08), Executive Director of Teach for America-Detroit was recently this year in the Michigan Chronicle's annual "40 Under 40." Tiffany is also featured in the fall 2014 issue of TERP Magazine.

In July, **Matt Bowling** (MHP '09) joined the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission's Montgomery County Planning Department as a Senior Planner in Historic Preservation.

Danielle Felix (MCP '09) is an Asset Manager for the U.S. General Services Administration. She supervises the real property capital investment program for the Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Courthouses and the Heating Operations and Transmission District (HOTD) located in the National Capital Region (NCR). She also assists with the development of the Capital Portfolio Plan for these agencies in order to reduce their footprint and save federal tax dollars on leases. She recently became a great aunt to Kylie Theresa Shaw, born on October 4, 2014.

Daniel Irvin (MRED '09) is a Partner at Smith-Charles Associates, a design and development business in Georgetown. Smith-Charles Associates has been awarded an exciting new contract with the Gary Housing Authority located in Gary, Indiana. With this contract award, they will bring subpar buildings up to meet market standards for

their underserved residents, including senior citizens. Daniel hopes this new venture will serve as a model for other communities within the public housing supported by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development across the country.



Kim Sullivan Centrone (M.ARCH '14) presented her thesis to her hometown of Pembroke, Florida, in July. Her thesis envisions a new town center that creates a vibrant, walkable area embracing Pembroke's natural beauty and history (image above). She recently completed all of Architecture Registration Exam in December, and is well on her way to becoming a registered architect! She states, "I feel like my education at Maryland prepared me well."

Joseph Kunkel (M.ARCH '09), currently a Rose Architectural Fellow, is based in Santo Domingo, New Mexico, working with the Sustainable Native Communities Collaborative and the Santo Domingo Housing Author-

ity. In January, Joe was a featured leader in the placemaking field at “Creative Placemaking: Connecting Community Development and the Arts” an event Hosted by the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts and Sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Shahid Rana (MRED '09) was recently appointed as the Executive Director for Fairmount Community Development Corporation (FCDC) in Philadelphia, Pa. Shahid comes to this new position from a background of community development and planning, urban design and creative marketing and branding. As the Executive Director, he manages the Greater Art Museum Business Alliance (GAMBA), coordinating community-planning efforts in the Greater Art Museum neighborhoods as well as overseeing the redevelopment of historic West Girard Avenue. His role is to ensure that establishments are built to stay in business by providing them with the resources needed for sustainability and growth.

Renee Thompson (MCP '09) is a Land Use and Environmental Planning Geographer for the U.S. Geological Survey, Chesapeake Bay Program Office. She has been working as a GIS Analyst to model infill and redevelopment patterns and potential in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and maintaining geospatial datasets related to protected lands.

She is also serving as Coordinator of the Maintain Healthy Watersheds Goal Implementation team tasked with maintaining healthy waters and watersheds at optimal levels. Currently, Renee is on maternity leave caring for her newly born daughter Cordelia. She is enjoying time with her now family-of-four including her almost 5-year-old son and husband.



In November, NAIOP Seattle awarded **Myer Harrell's** (BS Architecture '02) project, the Sunset Electric Building, Multifamily Mid-Rise Development of the Year (image above). Completed in May of 2014, The Sunset Electric Building is a LEED for Homes Platinum mixed-use building in the Capitol Hill neighborhood of Seattle, with 89 apartment units,

3 live-work units and approximately 5,700 square feet of ground-floor retail. Myer was project architect on the building.

After 3 years of working for the MTA in the Capital Programming department, **Michael Helta** (MCP '10) was promoted mid-year to manage the Project Development department in the Office of Planning and Programming. Duties include the oversight of the conceptual design and public outreach for major agency capital expansion projects (MARC stations, transit corridors, facilities and the like), initiation and oversight of planning studies (such as BRT and Bus OnShoulder) and other initiatives that will help to position the agency to improve its services in the future. The Professional Association of Young Transportationists (PAYT), a trade organization he helped start in 2013, is officially becoming a YPT chapter this fall. He is still living in and loving Baltimore.

Jessica Reynolds (MCP '10) has been working with the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development since 2011 in the Office of International Investment and Trade. She is currently responsible for attracting investment and promoting exports in Africa and India. She has been working on her coursework for the Economic Developer Certification (CEcD) and hopes to take the test in the next year or so. She continues to serve on the Rockville Historic District Com-

mission and, earlier this year, was re-appointed for another three-year term. Jessica and her husband also welcomed their second child, a daughter, this past August.

Jaime Fearer (MCP '11) is the Planning and Policy Manager for California Walks. Jaime joined California Walks in late June, and her focus is on multigenerational advocacy with the goal to positively influence policy and land use changes that will improve pedestrian safety and walkability across the City of San José and the greater South Bay. Before moving to California, Jaime worked with City of Greenbelt, Maryland, as a community planner, where she focused on a number of projects, including working with Greenbelt's Advisory Planning Board to complete the city's Pedestrian and Bicyclist Master Plan, implementing Safe Routes to School infrastructure improvements at a local elementary school and securing a grant to complete a citywide bike share feasibility study.

Ray Hayhurst (MCP '11) is an Urban Planner II for the City of Alexandria Transit Services in Alexandria, Virginia. He works on planning and implementing new transit projects for the City of Alexandria. Projects include the Potomac Yard Metrorail Station, West End Transitway and future improvements to the recently opened Crystal City-Potomac Yard Transitway on Route 1. He works with URSP alumni on a regular basis, as is true for every

position he is held since graduating from the program.

Jaqueline Marsh (MRED '11) is a Planner for The City of Frederick where she focuses on development review. She strives to constantly improve the approval process in order to enhance Frederick's goal of creating a thriving community. Jacqueline is also excited to see that her educational and professional background have come full circle, working with the University of Maryland PALS Program this year in Frederick. She was proud to witness MRED students using Frederick properties for their Capstone projects this term.

Matthew Texler (MCP '11) is the Managing Director for the Meridian Capital Group, New York, N.Y., where he focuses solely on affordable housing. He has financed approximately

\$3 billion in affordable housing, mostly in Harlem and The Bronx, with an emphasis on Section 8 Project-Based HUD contracts and other workforce housing projects. Of particular note was the recent recapitalization of the 42-building TriBoro Portfolio, which had fallen into disrepair by the previous (slumlord) management company. Matthew structured a new \$146 million mortgage that included \$10 million of funds set aside to repair deferred maintenance and renovate apartments, and cure approximately 3,500 building violations. In concert with the Attorney General of New York, we were able to help preserve 1,600 affordable housing units and satisfy the needs of several community housing groups.

2014 marked Bennett Frank McCarthy's 25th Anniversary of orchestrating thoughtful and creative design in the Metropolitan-D.C. area and beyond. Founded in 1989 by partners **Ralph Bennett** Professor Emeritus at MAPP), **Larry Frank** (B.ARCH '84) and **Brian McCarthy** (BS Architecture '84), the Silver Spring, Md. firm is a TERP powerhouse: BFM employs a staff of eleven, nine of which are UMD alums. All told, BFM holds 12 Maryland Architecture degrees (with a 13th on the way) and 44 collective years of study at MAPP. To the left, a renovation completed by the firm this past year in New Jersey.

Aysegül Yılmaz (Ph.D. '12) is currently work-



ing on a yearlong urban archaeology study in Istanbul with the Istanbul Development Agency. Aysegül is coordinating social and cultural development activities organized for school children and women as part of the project's community outreach and engagement. She and her team are also part of an EU project LIMEN: Cultural Ports from Aegean to the Black Sea, where the major aim is to develop cultural tourism in the wider Black Sea region, connecting a number of cultural port cities in the Aegean and Black Sea regions. She continues to teach a course for the Bogazici University.

Cristina Huidobro (MCP '13) moved back to Chile on April 2014 and started working for Santiago's Municipality, which is the main one within the Santiago's metropolitan area. The Mayor appointed her as Master Plan Director of the "Franklin Neighborhood," a historic and commercial area close to downtown. She is in charge of a comprehensive revitalization of the neighborhood that includes public space, infrastructure, economic development, historic preservation, transportation and community development.

Matthew Dolamore (MCP '14) is the National Network Coordinator for the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service in Baltimore, Md. He works with nonprofit partners to develop community-based services for migrants impacted by immigration detention,



with emphasis on individuals and families seeking asylum in the U.S. He is also involved in discussions on policy and program implementation with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

David Miles (B.ARCH '78) and his firm, The Drawing Board are in construction documents for a three-story atrium for St. Vincent Pallotti High School in Laurel, Md (image above). The challenge for this project was to connect the two wings of the school—having different floor elevations—with an elevator and accessible ramps. The three-story glass atrium preserves the existing relationship between the two buildings, while also allowing views through to the interior courtyard. Creating a glass box makes a dynamic space of student filled circulation ramps and stairs with views to the neighborhood and a new green roof covering the one-story rear section. Construction is scheduled to start in May 2015.

After a 12-year relationship in joint ventures and consultants, **Al Rubeling** (B. ARCH '77) and his namesake firm have joined forces with the architectural firm, Johnson, Miriam & Thompson. As of September 2014, JMT's 11 registered architects joined the Rubeling staff in Towson, significantly increasing the studio. The new company is now Rubeling & Associates, A JMT Company.

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