MRED Students Travel to ULI Vancouver

Six MRED students (pictured above) attended the annual Urban Land Institute (ULI) Spring Meeting in Vancouver, BC, April 9-11. ULI members were welcomed by Vancouver mayor, Gregor Robertson, who spoke about cities having a challenging past, inspiring present and prosperous future.

Healthy economic development was the topic of the ULI Fall Meeting, including a lot of discussion on the impacts of technology on the built environment, with the construction and development industries often 10 to 20 years or more behind the technology curve.

Vancouver has been voted among top five most livable cities in the world due to its geographical location and smart growth city planning practices. While there are many variables making up the formula of what
it means to be a livable city, Vancouver certainly makes its mark through sustainability and promoting a healthy living environment.

Students took full advantage of unusually pleasant weather and toured such landmarks as **Stanley Park** which has been voted the number one urban park in the world, and the Vancouver Convention Center West building designed by **LMN Architects** from Seattle, which was certified LEED platinum in 2010.

Another great learning and networking experience sponsored by Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development. We were proud to represent Maryland, the University and the Institute.

**Maryland Day, April 26, 2014**

MRED students **Mohammad Shiravand (left)** and **Tanya Bansal (3rd from left)** with MD Architecture alum **Mannix Hernandez** and his family

On Saturday April 26, 2014 (Maryland Day) the Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development presented a "virtual tour" of development projects, planned and underway, in and around the city of **College Park**. Attendees were mostly College Park residents, alums and their families who came to see what developers are planning to accomplish in College Park in the near future.

Director **Margaret McFarland** and MRED students **Mohammad Shiravand** and **Tanya Bansal** led the virtual tour with images and facts about upcoming developments along Route 1. Architecture alum, Mannix Hernandez and his family were excited to be back on campus, participating in Box City (see below) and getting reacquainted with campus and the buildings where they studied. Several attendees also attended an introduction to the Real Estate program at the University of Maryland.

Some of the sites covered in the Virtual Tour, were the **Maryland Book Exchange**, coming up out of the ground this spring, and originally bought (and now sold) by MRED alum, **Ilya Zusin**. Among other projects presented were the **Koons Ford site** which is slated for a hotel and ground floor retail, the **Domain** apartments built as a private luxury building with retail at street level, right across from the Architecture building, and finally the **Arts District** in **Hyattsville**.

Younger visitors (and students) took part in building a Box City in the
great space  Pictured below is MRED student Tanya Bansal advising a "junior developer" on their "mixed use development" with a tunnel running under the river.

It was a great day for those who attended to discover both real estate developments happening in College park and the Real Estate program at the UMD. Plan to come out next year. It's the best Saturday of the year.

ULI Washington Spring Trends Conference

Associate Clinical Professor Al Tetrault, MRED Student Anthony Notarfrancesco and former planning and real estate student, Alex Hutchinson, at the Colvin Institute booth

This year seven students were sponsored by the Colvin Institute to
represent the Real Estate Program at the 17th annual ULI Washington Real Estate Trends conference held at Ronald Reagan Convention Center in Washington D.C. Clinical Associate Professor Al Tetrault accompanied the students on this one day conference.

The Colvin Institute presented the Institute and the MRED program at a booth in the main atrium along with other architectural, development, and engineering companies, and real estate programs from other schools. Tanya Bansal and Mohammad Shiravand "hosted" the booth and engaged the professionals who stopped by the booth expressing interest in teaching or being a guest lecturer for the program. Several prospective students stopped by to get information at the Colvin booth.

For those of you who missed it, there were a total 10 sessions focusing on changing lifestyles impacting real estate, plus a developer showcasing of projects like MGM Grand Hotel, followed by a networking reception in the atrium. Another perfect learning, networking opportunity for MRED students sponsored by the Colvin Institute.

Faculty Profile: Tim Pula

We are delighted to introduce Tim Pula who is a new instructor for the Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development, teaching Capstone this semester. Shortly after graduating from the University of North Carolina with Masters in City and Regional Planning, Tim took a job with Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse as an assistant development director and was quickly promoted to senior development director position.

Tim most prominently worked on the adaptive reuse project at the old Clipper Mill which was a redevelopment of an 18 acre old machine shop and foundry in North Baltimore into a mixed use neighborhood.

Currently, Tim is Vice President of Capital Planning and Facilities at the National Aquarium in Baltimore, MD, where he recently completed a $14 million renovation and construction of the Black Tip Reef exhibit. Tim is also working on a 12 acre brownfield redevelopment with the idea of building an animal care center.

Tim Pula has been on the advisory committee of the Colvin Institute for several years and currently enjoys sharing what he knows with the students who are passionate about similar things. As a piece of advice to current students, Mr. Pula suggests they try to understand the idea that a building whether an office or mixed use apartment building is more than just a financial investment or mechanism. As Tim puts it, "Buildings are physical places that we create and live in for many years to come."