



**IMPACT**  
**Alumni Newsletter**

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND  
School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation

*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 *Newsletter* is also available on our website at [www.arch.umd.edu](http://www.arch.umd.edu). The *Alumni Newsletter* is published annually.

The *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 a fellow alumni or friend who did not receive the *Newsletter*, please send their name and address to [mappalum@umd.edu](mailto:mappalum@umd.edu). We appreciate your comments on this publication and encourage you to contact us at:

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**School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation Community Design Smart Growth Urban Design Systems Integration Sustainable Design Real Estate Planning Development Urban Studies **Architecture** Community Design Smart Growth Urban Design Systems Integration Sustainable Design Creative Thinking Craft Preservation **Planning** Recycling Zoning Ecological Planning Colvin Institute Housing Transportation Planning Community Planning **University of Maryland** Real Estate Planning Development Urban Studies School of Architecture, Planning and **Preservation** Community Design Smart Growth Urban Design Zoning Ecological Planning Colvin Institute Housing Transportation Planning Real Estate **Architecture** Planning Preservation Smart Growth Creative Thinking Craft System Integration Sustainable Design**



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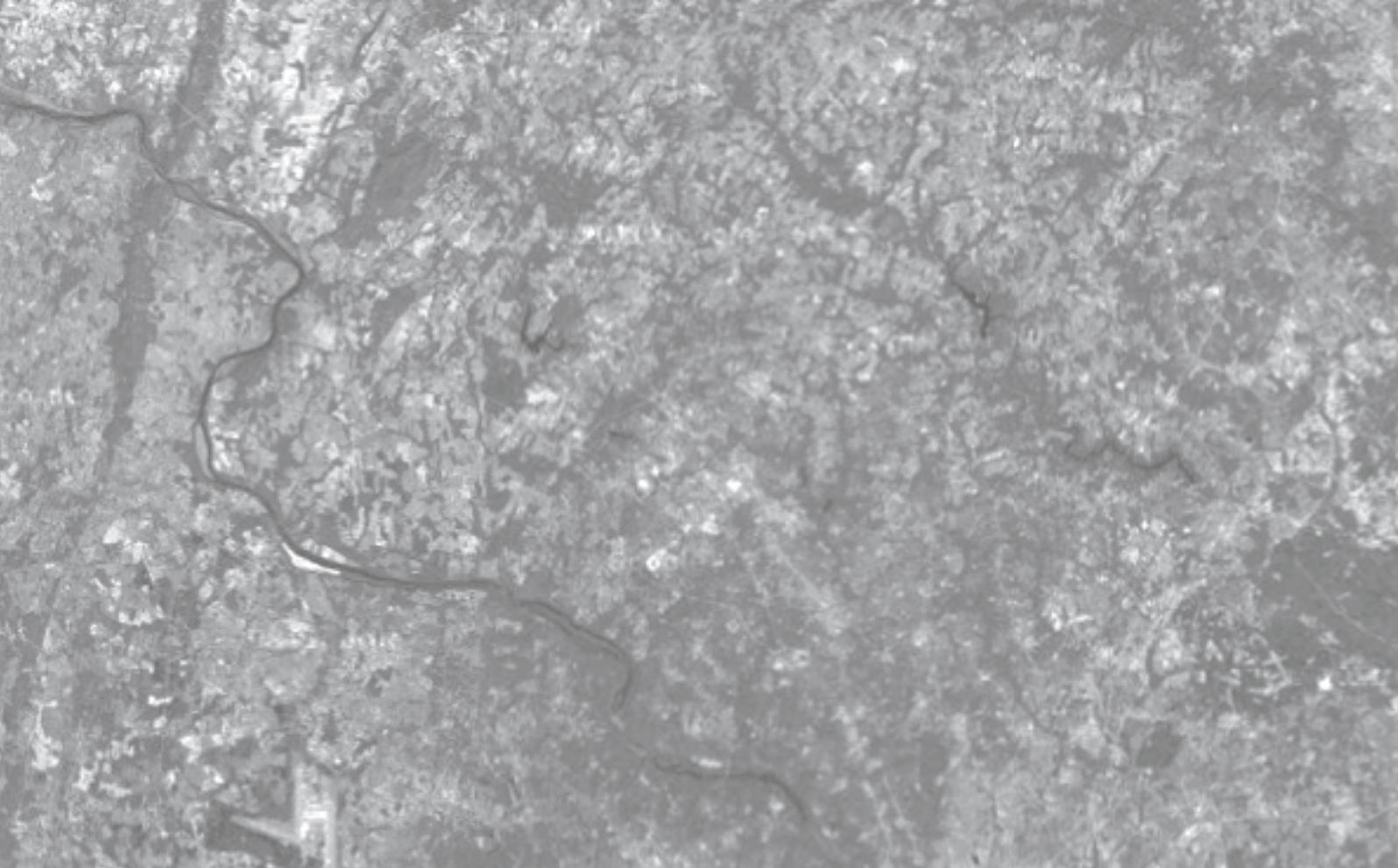
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**Integrative design embraces the entire spectrum of disciplines and professions that have a role to play in defining settlement patterns and habitat. Rather than having groups exercise their expertise as independent players, integrative design brings them all together. Those who finance designs and experts responsible for preserving projects and spaces work with architects, manufacturers and builders in a creative problem-solving process that moves from conception to habitation. Integrative design is about reducing fumbles and overcoming the inevitable fragmentation that happens when one profession hands off its product to another. Designing a more sustainable tomorrow will require an integrative design approach so knowledge can be traded and aesthetic efficiencies achieved. This is the reality our students are facing. It is also the reality the School embraces in its curricula. Our mission, collaborative education for a sustainable future, has integrative learning experiences at its core. We seek opportunities for our students – architects, planners, preservationists and real estate specialists – to work side-by-side with faculty to tackle the issues confronting the 21st century. Our greatest achievements are a testament to this way of learning. The 2011 Solar Decathlon winning team was an integrative design team of architects and landscape architects, physicists and programmers, engineers and naturalists. They worked to envision a different kind of habitat that not only uses less energy, but conserves water and grows food. Our winning Urban Land Institute design team consisted of planners and real estate specialists with architects and urban designers to envision settlements that conserve energy and enrich human existence. Our best efforts involve the collaborative search for answers. Integrative design means as a School we look for a new perspective and find inspiration in each other.**

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



## Smart Growth Reconsidered

A new National Center for Smart Growth (NCSG) study finds that Maryland planners, developers and land-use advocates consider the state's smart growth tools too weak to overcome citizen opposition and regulatory barriers within existing urban areas. The study, based on interviews with a representative group of stakeholders, finds a dampening desire for development.

"Just about everyone feels squeezed between a rock and a hard place – wanting development where state laws intend to promote growth, but often seeing it thwarted by both local opposition and regulatory barriers," says study co-author Gerrit Knaap, who directs the University of Maryland National Center for Smart Growth. "All stakeholders express a great deal of frustration, and most urge a more coordinated system."

The report, *Barriers to Development Inside Priority Funding Areas: Perspectives of Planners, Developers, and Advocates*, is based on in-depth interviews with 47 representatives of three key stakeholder groups active in the Baltimore-Washington corridor. It was commissioned by NAIOP Maryland, which represents the commercial real estate industry, and the Maryland State Builders Association, which represents the state's residential builders, developers, remodelers, suppliers and contractors.

The research finds that a majority of stakeholders believe it is easier to develop areas outside of those designated for smart growth – known as Priority Funding Areas (PFAs). Storm water regulations, citizen opposition and adequate public facility ordinances were the reasons most frequently cited as hindering development inside PFAs.

Earlier research by Knaap and the National Center for Smart Growth found objective indications that the state's regulatory system is "barely moving the needle on most widely accepted measures of smart growth." But this is one of the first systematic investigations of the perceptions of stakeholders that uses knowledge based on personal experience, the researchers say.



“The findings of this report confirm what we have been saying for some time: Priority Funding Areas need to be strengthened if Maryland wants to grow smart,” Knaap says. “But the unanimity of opinion is striking. The majority want more effective tools and better coordination of policies.”

- More than three-quarters of respondents say PFAs are only “somewhat effective” or “not effective at all.”
- Nearly four times as many respondents say it is more difficult to develop land inside than outside PFAs.
- High rise apartments and mixed use developments are viewed as the most difficult products to develop within PFAs.
- Zoning and the adequacy of infrastructure are viewed as the most influential public policy tools.

The report lists a series of recommendations that it says are needed for state and local governments to balance economic development, population growth and improve the water quality in the Chesapeake Bay. These include steps designed to integrate PFA targets more fully into a county’s overall planning process: make sure that PFAs are drawn to accommodate non-residential development and mixed-use projects; give local governments greater flexibility in defining the PFAs, provided they adequately restrict growth in other locations; and give local areas greater flexibility to reduce infrastructure and other regulatory restrictions within the PFAs, among other incentives designed to make development in PFAs more attractive to developers and local governments.

“If the system is to work more smoothly, areas designated for smart growth need to be practical and attractive for all parties, and that entails building a lot more flexibility into the system,” Knaap concludes. “State and local governments need to assure there is capacity and political support to grow inside PFAs.” The complete report is available online at: <http://ter.ps/7j>.

## MAPP Receives U.S. EDA Grant

Last September, the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) awarded a five-year \$500,000 grant to the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation's Urban Studies and Planning program to establish a University Center as part of the Administration's mission to create jobs and promote economic growth. In collaboration with the School of Architecture and Planning at Morgan State University, the University of Maryland/Morgan State University Center's mission is to leverage institutional assets that will foster innovation and economic development in Maryland.

Since its inception, co-principals Drs. Marie Howland and Scott Dempwolf of UMD, along with Siddhartha Sen of Morgan State and project team members, have made significant inroads with community leaders, government agencies and policy makers in furthering the mission of the center. Information sharing and collaboration with other University Centers and institutions such as Purdue, MIT, Harvard and Virginia Tech have also taken place, with the interest of strengthening the Center's core programs and sharing their findings with others. The Center continues to tap into the talents of MAPP's graduate programs, whose students have been instrumental in providing research and support.

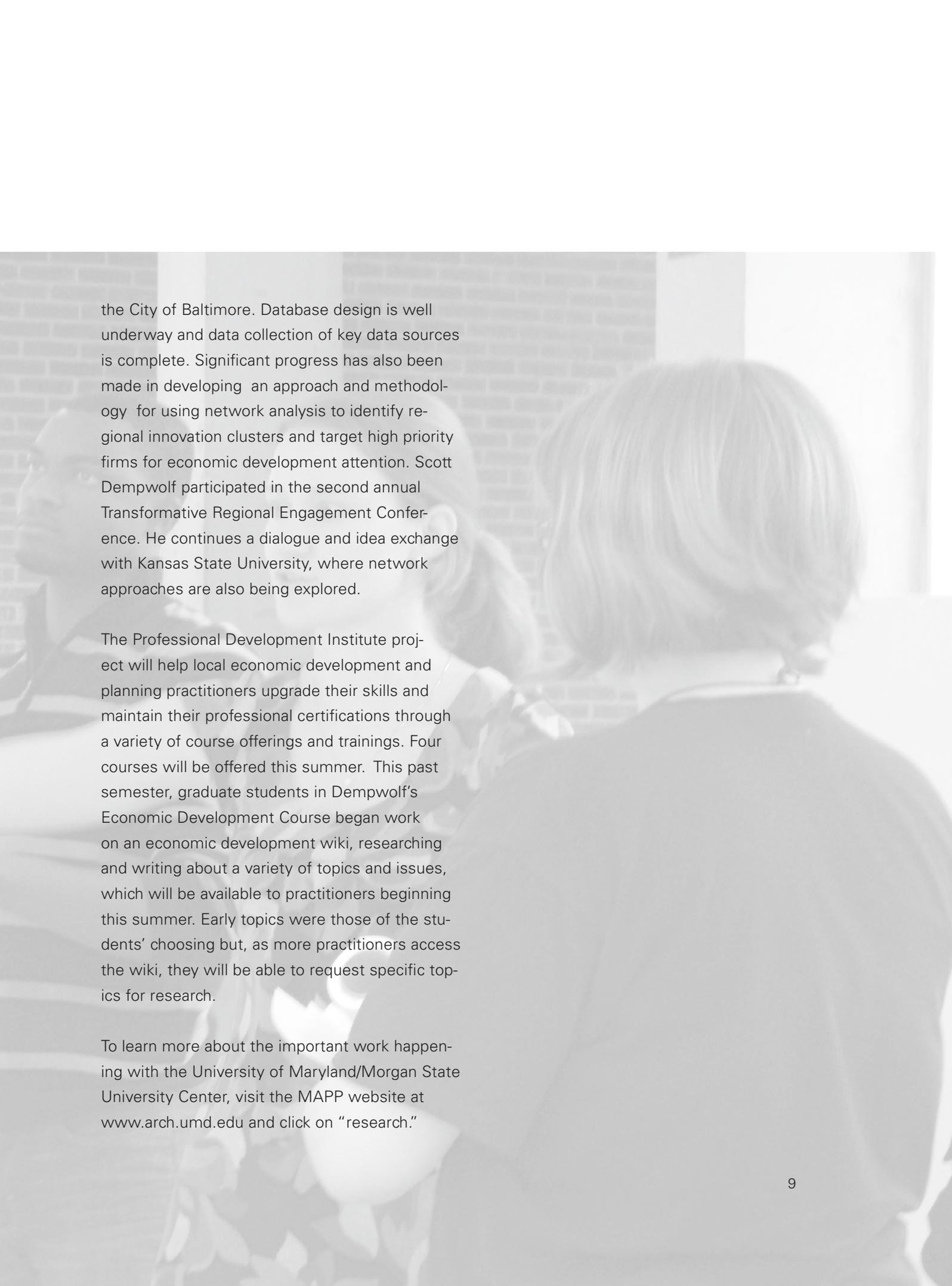
The University of Maryland/Morgan State University Center is currently focusing on three major projects: the Morgan Mile project, an innovative

mapping project, and the Professional Development Institute project.

Utilizing collaborative input from Morgan State and surrounding neighborhood communities, the Morgan Mile revitalization project will create economic, community and physical redevelopment plans for the area surrounding Morgan State University. Led by Dr. Siddhartha Sen, the Center staff from both UMD and Morgan State are working to build relationships with key community leaders in the Morgan Mile area in an effort to provide meaningful and productive discussions regarding future economic development strategies. MAPP Ph.D. student Naka Matsumoto has been assisting with this project and exploring ways to use Social Network Analysis to improve the community engagement process.

The team also held an initial meeting with the city of Baltimore in an effort to cooperate with them on their new Community Economic Development Plan. MAPP students from Dempwolf's Economic Development course have been preparing supporting research throughout the semester and will present their findings to the Baltimore City Planning Commission this month.

The Center's mapping and modeling of innovation and entrepreneurial networks has garnered considerable attention from local government organizations, particularly the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development and

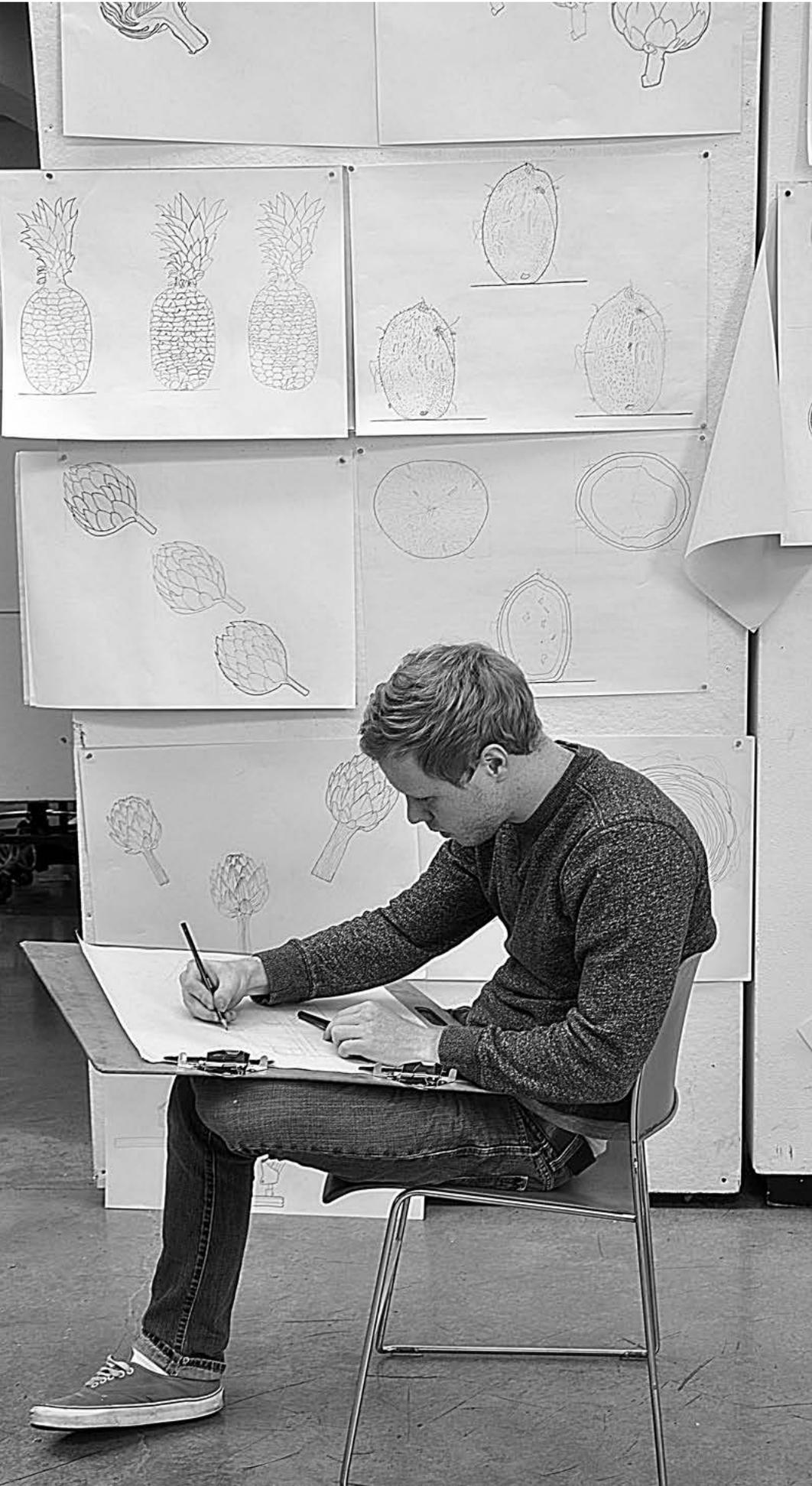
A grayscale photograph of two people in conversation, overlaid with a semi-transparent text box. The person on the left is seen in profile, wearing a suit and tie. The person on the right has short, light-colored hair and is wearing a dark top. The background is a brick wall and a window. The text is positioned on the left side of the image, within the semi-transparent area.

the City of Baltimore. Database design is well underway and data collection of key data sources is complete. Significant progress has also been made in developing an approach and methodology for using network analysis to identify regional innovation clusters and target high priority firms for economic development attention. Scott Dempwolf participated in the second annual Transformative Regional Engagement Conference. He continues a dialogue and idea exchange with Kansas State University, where network approaches are also being explored.

The Professional Development Institute project will help local economic development and planning practitioners upgrade their skills and maintain their professional certifications through a variety of course offerings and trainings. Four courses will be offered this summer. This past semester, graduate students in Dempwolf's Economic Development Course began work on an economic development wiki, researching and writing about a variety of topics and issues, which will be available to practitioners beginning this summer. Early topics were those of the students' choosing but, as more practitioners access the wiki, they will be able to request specific topics for research.

To learn more about the important work happening with the University of Maryland/Morgan State University Center, visit the MAPP website at [www.arch.umd.edu](http://www.arch.umd.edu) and click on "research."

Students drawing in ARCH 242 taught by Lester Escobal.



# Lakeland Project

*Preserving the Past for Future Generations*

Most case studies examined in historic preservation focus on the built environment—buildings, sites and structures that tell the history of a place and the people who inhabited it. But what happens when most of the physical aspects have been replaced? For the past three semesters, students from the Historic Preservation Program, the Department of American Studies and the Department of Anthropology, under the direction of Associate Professor of American Studies Dr. Mary Corbin Sies, have studied and documented the stories and heritage of the Maryland community of Lakeland. Since 1890, Lakelanders have built a thriving, multi-generational African American community near the University of Maryland College Park campus in Prince Georges County. But in the 1970s and 1980s, two thirds of Lakeland’s residents were displaced when urban renewal transformed the physical and demographic make-up of the area. This past February, students from Sies’s “Social and Ethical Issues in Historic Preservation” course brought part of Lakeland’s history to life when they screened their documentary film, *Folk Made the School*, as part of the Lakeland Gala Event. A culmination of oral history, newspaper and historical research, the documentary depicts the educational experiences of those living in Lakeland before, during and after the transition from segregation to integration of the public schools.

The film is just one part of a multi-faceted collaboration with the Lakeland Community Heritage Project

The film is just one part of a multi-faceted collaboration with the Lakeland Community Heritage Project, whose efforts strive to preserve the rich history of Lakeland for future generations and for everyone interested in African American communities and community history. In addition to *Folk Made the School*, students have produced several valuable documents, including a comprehensive report on the history of Lakeland’s east side and a brochure for a walking tour around Lake Artemesia (formerly East Lakeland). They have also helped build a digital archive of Lakeland’s story.

With such a rich history, the Lakeland project will continue in semesters to come. Says Dr. Sies, “Our goal is to help Lakelanders tell their stories about African American life during segregation and after, and to tell those stories in their own voices.”





## **WaterShed Will Continue to Educate Under Pepco's Ownership**

On a balmy evening this past March, hundreds of Maryland drivers witnessed something not seen every day on Washington-area roads: a procession of cars, police vehicles, bucket trucks and a house, carefully making their way from College Park to Rockville. The traffic-halting attraction marked the University of Maryland's official transfer of ownership of WaterShed, its first-place winning entry into the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2011, to electric service provider Pepco. With an approximate length of four city blocks, the entourage's 24-mile trip to WaterShed's new, permanent location—Pepco's Rockville facility—was the satisfying final leg of a two-and-a-half-year journey for the WaterShed team.

"It's fantastic to know that the house and its mission will live on, that Pepco will carry our torch and build upon what the team started years ago," says Amy Gardner, principal investigator of WaterShed. "WaterShed couldn't be going to a better owner."

Over the next few months, a team of faculty and students from UMD will work closely with Pepco and Maryland Custom Builders to re-assemble WaterShed, developing a foundation for the house, greywater and rainwater systems, wetlands and landscape design and marrying the house to the new



site. Pepco plans to use the solar house as a “living classroom,” both as a public teaching tool and as a technology testing center for some of the company’s newer residential innovations, such as smart thermostats and electric vehicle charging. Under the arrangement, Pepco and the University will continue to collaborate on its operation and performance, and will work closely together to design educational materials about WaterShed. Pepco’s hope is that students will continue to be involved as ambassadors and guides, sharing their vision with the public.

“I see the relationship continuing to build,” says Brian Grieb, WaterShed’s Project Manager and Faculty Advisor. “Seeing how WaterShed operates over the course of a year, through different seasons, is something we haven’t been able to see yet, and are anxious to explore. It is an integral part of the learning process.”

# Learning by Doing

## Reaping the Benefits of a Real-World Education

Allison Wilson, *B.S. ARCH '09 and M.ARCH '11*, credits her experience as a student team leader of UMD's winning Solar Decathlon 2011 entry, WaterShed, for providing her with the skills needed to handle the rigors of the professional world. It also helped her land her first post-graduate job with the Baltimore-based architecture and planning firm, Ayers Saint Gross. Wilson had the opportunity to demonstrate her talents at a sponsorship meeting with Ayers Saint Gross last winter.

Now on staff with the firm, Allison finds the same real-world project experiences that helped her get the job, now provide her with an unexpected edge on day-to-day projects. Falling back on her interdisciplinary, hands-on experiences from Maryland, she has contributed to several projects at Ayers Saint Gross, most recently lending her knowledge of solar energy systems to a project in Alaska. "Collaborating with WaterShed's engineers gave me a foundation for understanding the technical parts and varied lingo of sustainable design. Having the experience of seeing solar energy and other sustainable systems at work has helped me be a better designer at Ayers Saint Gross."

A core principal of a Maryland education is providing students with the opportunity to put their education to practice, allowing them creative flexibility and cross-disciplinary opportunities in real-world scenarios. Projects like WaterShed provide a laboratory for innovative thinking and information exchange, where students have the opportunity to contribute and collaborate with their peers, gaining different perspectives and new concepts. Creating learning opportunities for students outside the confines of the classroom, that mimic professional inter-disciplinary environments, is a core aspect of MAPP's mission.

Inspired in part by the WaterShed project, a new opportunity this summer will place Maryland students on the ground floor of an innovative housing project with the global design firm Gensler. Alumnus Jordan Goldstein, *B.S. ARCH '94*, a managing director and principal at Gensler, hatched the idea for the summer program after a rewarding collaboration with Maryland students on a furniture design project for WaterShed. Combining the cross-cultural adventure of study abroad with the practical experience of a design firm internship, Gensler's summer program comprises an eight-week research and design project that will focus on developing a sustainable, net-zero modular home model in Thailand. As part of an ongoing partnership between Gensler and Magnolia Policy Development Corporation in Bangkok, the internship will mix UMD architecture students with architecture and engineering students from University of Pennsylvania and students from a top-tier Thai University. The idea behind the design goes beyond the concept of sustainable housing. By producing resources—such as solar power and food—the concept house also aims to provide a source of income for the inhabitant. While the initial concept will focus primarily on housing in Thailand, it could eventually be adaptable to climate, cultures and economies worldwide.

Explains Goldstein, "Ultimately what we're creating is a laboratory, where we'll be able to study house and product as well as house as a product, in an effort to transform the industry."



**NOMAS** (National Organization of Minority Architecture Students) Design Charette with Neighborhood Design Center. **NOMAS** looked at turning the historic Ridgely house into a museum and community amenity. Mildred and LaVerne Gray from the Ridgely family were in attendance. LaVerne Gray and Sofia Weller work together on the project.

The benefits for students reach beyond a typical internship. Aside from embarking on a global adventure, working side-by-side with Thai counterparts will allow them to explore the impacts of culture and geography on design. Students will also reach beyond the bricks-and-mortar of the project by exploring what products, such as furniture, could be developed to benefit such a unique environment. Working in the professional setting of Gensler will provide them with hands-on experience in the development of an innovative, sustainable design project.

In concert with Maryland's education model, Goldstein hopes the experience will substantially influence the way students learn. "Design isn't happening in theory, it happens all around us. This is an opportunity for students to make the connection between what they learn in the classroom and the real world."



*Students from the Port Towns Youth Council work with graduate students on an urban planning project.*

## **Engaging the Next Generation of Students**

In keeping with the University of Maryland's mission as a land grant institution, MAPP faculty and students actively seek out opportunities to engage the next generation of students through outreach programs in primary and secondary schools throughout Maryland. This year, several programs developed and facilitated by the MAPP community provided unique learning opportunities for the younger set; opportunities that introduced new concepts, expanded their perspectives, cultivated their creativity and connected them to the people and places around them.

For over ten summers, the Architecture Program has opened its doors to bright minds in the making through the University's Young Scholars Program. For three weeks last summer, high school students from around the world got a taste of UMD college life and the chance to immerse themselves in a university-level architecture program. Architecture 150 demonstrates the many opportunities the University has to offer, as well as the vital role the profession of architecture has in shaping the physical environment.

This spring marked the fourth year the Architecture Program participated in Architecture in Schools (AIS), an initiative



*Weed Warriors in action – Geo-tagging invasive plants*

supported by the Washington Architectural Foundation that pairs undergraduate and graduate students with high school students at Northwestern High School in Prince George's County. Through AIS, students are able to bridge the gap between academics and civic duty, where concepts of space, design and surrounding environments help strengthen creative and analytical skills through a real-world, relatable project.

Urban Studies and Planning Professor Alexander Chen continues his educational outreach in elementary and secondary public schools in Maryland, connecting students to their communities and environment in fun, engaging ways. This past spring, Chen worked with a group of high school students from Northwood High School in Montgomery County in a collaborative project with the Maryland National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (MNCPPC). The students, serving as volunteers under the supervision of MNCPPC "weed warriors," undertook a project to remove invasive plant species in nearby Sligo Creek. Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Chen helped the students map and document their efforts, in order to assess their impact over time. The project exposed students to key environmental issues in their community and offered an introduction into the many applications of GIS technologies.

Dr. James Cohen, Director of the Urban Studies and Planning Program and URSP student Olivia Ceccarelli will be working with the Wellness Youth Ambassadors of the Port Towns Community Health Partnership this summer to facilitate the research of a "green street" conversion in

Bladensburg, MD. The Urban Studies and Planning Program ran a similar exercise with Youth Ambassadors last year. Cohen and Ceccarelli will train 30 students to design and conduct an extensive audit of a section of Bladensburg Road to determine its current environmental amenities, including walk- and bike-ability, number of shade trees and healthy food options. From there the team will be able to offer recommendations—such as healthy food vendors, on-site stormwater management and bike routes—to promote a more pedestrian-friendly and environmentally conscious route for the community. The project will run from June 25 through August 3.



*Architecture 150 students discussing a design project*

Over the past several decades, Geographic Information Systems, or GIS, have revolutionized the way the public and private sectors approach problems and share information. With the ability to translate raw data into maps and reports, GIS is applicable in thousands of fields, from disaster relief to traffic patterns. Due to its wide use, experience and knowledge in GIS is a sought-after skill in today's professional work force. Yet for many young people it is a skill difficult to obtain;

most GIS programs are taught at the University level and online training and certification can cost upwards of \$5,000. However, a new program emerging at the University of Maryland's National Center for Smart Growth (NCSG) is arming high school students in Maryland with both knowledge and experience in this state-of-the-art technology, creating new opportunities for life after high school.

The program is a GIS high school internship, an idea that sprouted from the Center's Sustainable and Equitable Economic Development—or SEED—initiative, launched last fall with funding from the Surdna Foundation. Following the lead of the SEED agenda, whose primary goal is to eliminate obstacles faced by low-income and underserved populations while simultaneously promoting environmental sustainability, the center's internship targets students in low-income areas who may face barriers for continued education or viable job opportunities once they complete high school. The semester-long internship provides valuable knowledge and experience in this in-demand field. Interns split their time between GIS training and actual mining and mapping of data for various research projects currently underway at the Center. Students who successfully complete the internship will have enough training to pursue an entry-level career in GIS, procure an inimitable showpiece for college applications and gain the experience of working alongside faculty at a major research University.

Most of all, explains NCSG director Gerrit Knaap, students will have options, which is exactly what the SEED initiative looks to promote. "A big part of the SEED agenda is creating pathways from poverty to prosperity. We wanted to be a part of that mission. If we can help prepare students for post-high school success, than we have practiced what we preach."



*URSP students working on project*



*MRED Capstone presentation*



*Architecture thesis presentation*





*2012 MRED Capstone Presentations – waiting to present*

## **Berlin, MD Leads in Sustainability Program**

Less than a year after the June 2011 launch of the Environmental Finance Center's (EFC) sustainability program, Sustainable Maryland Certified (SMC), the eastern shore town of Berlin was recognized in April as the first municipality in Maryland to achieve certification. Using tools and strategies provided by the EFC, Berlin completed a number of initiatives in an effort to provide a better, more sustainable quality of life for its residents.

The Sustainable Maryland Certified program aims to help communities throughout Maryland protect their natural assets and promote a healthy, more prosperous way of life through revitalization, and environmental and economic initiatives. With an extensive and varied list of greening actions to choose from — including stormwater management, health and wellness and air quality activities — SMC allows municipalities to tailor their goals according to the needs of each individual community. To assist communities, the EFC provides a variety of helpful tools: workshops, case studies, training programs and other resources.

While Berlin blazed the trail, many other municipalities are following suit. To date, 22 other communities throughout Maryland are currently working towards certification. To read more about the Sustainable Maryland Certified program and see which other Maryland communities are pursuing certification, visit the program's website, [www.sustainablemaryland.com](http://www.sustainablemaryland.com).

## MRED Capstone Course Leads to Student Success

For students pursuing their Master's of Real Estate Development (MRED), their final chapter is the Capstone course, a semester-long project designed to integrate everything they have learned in the program, put to work in a real-world scenario. It is part case study, part real-world development exercise and 100% their own; each student creates their own unique vision for a site in the Baltimore-Washington region (and sometimes beyond), crafting a full-blown feasibility study for development of the property. Then, of course, there is the semester's end competition: each student presents their project to a jury of three-to-four professionals in the real estate development industry for a chance to win the Colvin Prize.

The Capstone course was part of the original curriculum for the Master of Real Estate Development program, established in 2006 by the Board of Regents. Originally required as a final project, the competition was added in 2008 as a way to showcase the student's work to the industry and to elevate their skills in public presentation. According to Margaret McFarland, Director of the program, "The quality of the final projects and the development industry positions that our MRED students obtain shot up dramatically with the addition of a public presentation, an industry jury and a prize at stake. Incentives work!"

Students work with a developer or other industry mentor, who guides them through the development process from entitlements to finance, design, construction, marketing and management. Not only must students follow the steps of investigating and creating a financially viable development plan, they are expected to present a plan that incorporates the program's aspirational "quadruple bottom line: economically viable, environmentally respectful, socially responsible and beautifully designed."

### *Finding a Mentor*

Maryland's MRED program enlists the help of successful real estate development professionals throughout the area to serve as mentors. The program assigns mentors randomly to students. Most mentors choose a specific site, allowing the students to interpret the best development, but some simply provide a region. Amanda Vralsted, *MRED '11*, who completed her Capstone last December, received Queenstown in Queen Anne's County, Maryland as her assignment. With no specific site designated, she was starting from scratch in determining the right area to develop. "Having free reign on what and where I'd be developing was a big challenge," she explained. "But most of the time in professional development, you're not just handed a property; you have to look for opportunities where there is a need and that makes sense to investors."

The larger role of a mentor is that of a coach. Using their breadth of knowledge, mentors

advise, challenge and encourage each student through the process. "These students have taken classes on finance and feasibility studies, but they've never had a class where they start at A and go all the way to Z, allowing them the opportunity to fully engage in the process," explains Jim Agliata, Vice President of Development for Westfield Corporation and a four-time capstone mentor. "It's the mentor's job to help them on that journey."

*Project Development*

Throughout the process, the student acts as the development director. He or she does market research and conducts a highest-and-best-use analysis of the site to determine a plan. The second step is to research code requirements, zoning and restrictions. This can include parking requirements, height restrictions, soil reports and other logistics.

A key part of making the development vision a "reality," of course, is the financial feasibility of a project: determining the yield to lenders and

investors by comparing the development costs with revenue projections. Explains Agliata, what determines a successful project is a plan that reflects the market, the demand and the economics. "I encourage students to think creatively when preparing their plan, to look outside the box. Those are going to be the projects that are the most successful in real life."

While the design aspect of their project is important to the proposal, most Capstone students do not have drawing skills or training. To solve the problem, the Colvin Institute provides each Capstone student 15 hours of consulting services with a Maryland architecture student or alumni in support of their project. Working together they create a design scheme that will both fit the site and the student's vision.

"The whole process was very beneficial," said MRED alum Jonathan Florin, who developed an outparcel of land adjacent to Westfield's Montgomery Mall in Montgomery County to win the spring 2009 competition. "I was able to develop



*MRED capstone jurors - Steve Osgood, Al Tetrault, Ryan Boll (Capstone winner), Michael Johnson, Margaret McFarland, MRED -director.*

a project from beginning to end; creating the design concept, working with a construction person, speaking with the jurisdiction, figuring out the financing, then putting together the proposal for Westfield. Classes are great, but they just focus on one aspect. The Capstone is our opportunity to roll all of that into one holistic project.”

#### *Presentation Skills*

To help students prepare for the competition, they attend professional training in business style writing and presentation skills. Julie Smith, President of the Bozzuto Management Company, teaches the portion of the Capstone course that addresses professional development. In her course, Smith covers the ABC’s of a winning presentation: power point etiquette; use of graphics; and personal grooming. Smith’s objective is to help students feel comfortable and confident presenting their project. “The biggest challenge is conveying the depth and detail of a large body of work in 12 minutes,” says Smith. “My goal is to get students to a point where they can confidently tell their story in a compelling way in a

short time.”

The experience helps keep students focused, lively and on-target. “I’m a data person,” explained Amber Wheeler, *MRED ’12*. “My initial instinct was to incorporate a lot of data that I find interesting, but that doesn’t mean everyone else will. Julie reminded me not to focus on what I enjoy, but what everyone else would be interested in too.”

#### *Competition*

Ultimately, the months of research and preparation come down to one thing: the competition. Students must prepare a compelling and convincing visual presentation to sell their plan to potential investors. The Capstone competition provides candidates with 12 minutes to present their proposal in front of a jury of prominent professionals from the real estate development world. Judges score each candidate individually with specialized score sheets. This provides a fair and unbiased winning selection.

The Capstone provides students with a tangible showpiece to take on a job interview that fully encompasses their knowledge of real estate development. “It gives you a great work product at the end of the day; something you can take into a development group and show off,” said Wheeler. “It touches on each of the topics that are part of the industry.”

Florin, who was interning during his final semester for current employer JBG Rosenfeld Retail, attributes his Capstone win with helping him secure post-graduate employment in a poor job market. “Winning the competition was a data point to help me secure the job,” he explains. “I think more than any other aspect of my education, it demonstrated my ability in the field.”



*MRED capstone presentation and awards ceremony*

# Studying the Pub and its Place

*Summer Study Abroad program explores British pubs*

For centuries, the British pub has been a place of community gathering and social discourse, with thousands dotting cities and rural towns throughout the United Kingdom. Today, it is estimated that 20 pubs disappear from Great Britain's landscape every week. This rapid endangerment of a national pastime has led way to a unique hands-on study abroad program within the Historic Preservation Program. Every other summer, Dr. Don Linebaugh, Director of

*20 pubs disappear from Great Britain's landscape every week.*

the Historic Preservation Program, guides a group of students from Historic Preservation, Architecture, Planning and Real Estate Development on an extensive investigation in England. This past summer students studied the material and social aspects of pubs past and present. Lasting two-and-a-half weeks, the course explores the north of England from Manchester to Newcastle-on-Tyne, canvassing over 60 of these historic community gathering places, and examining what Britain is doing to restore, preserve and repurpose the physical and conceptual English pub.

Often referred to as an example of a "the third place," English pubs have historically provided a place for civic discussion, stress-free conversation and relaxation. The advent of the supermarket and popularity of television and other media has changed the country's social dynamic and, in turn, challenged the pub way of life. Linebaugh explains that the tour allows students to gain a greater appreciation for the history of the pub and its place in the community.

From town to town, students engage publicans about the economic and social issues of running a pub, and speak with the community members who patronize them. The trip also offers insightful tours by historic preservationists and pub experts. Veering off-the-beaten path, students experience many trip highlights, including a tour of Theakson's Brewery and lunch with Lord James Craythorne, who himself restored a community pub and helps coordinate Prince Charles's "Pub is the Hub" initiative. And after a long day of touring, students experience the pub in its truest form: enjoying lively conversation over a couple of pints.



*Students visiting Castle Howard*



*Students outside the Birch Hall Inn in Beck Hole, Yorkshire.*

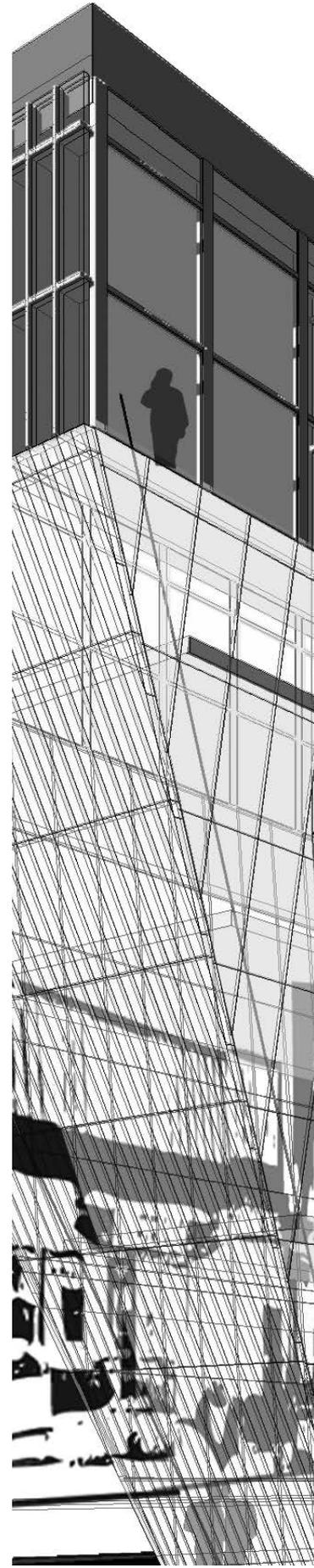
# New Vision for Baltimore's Cross Street Market

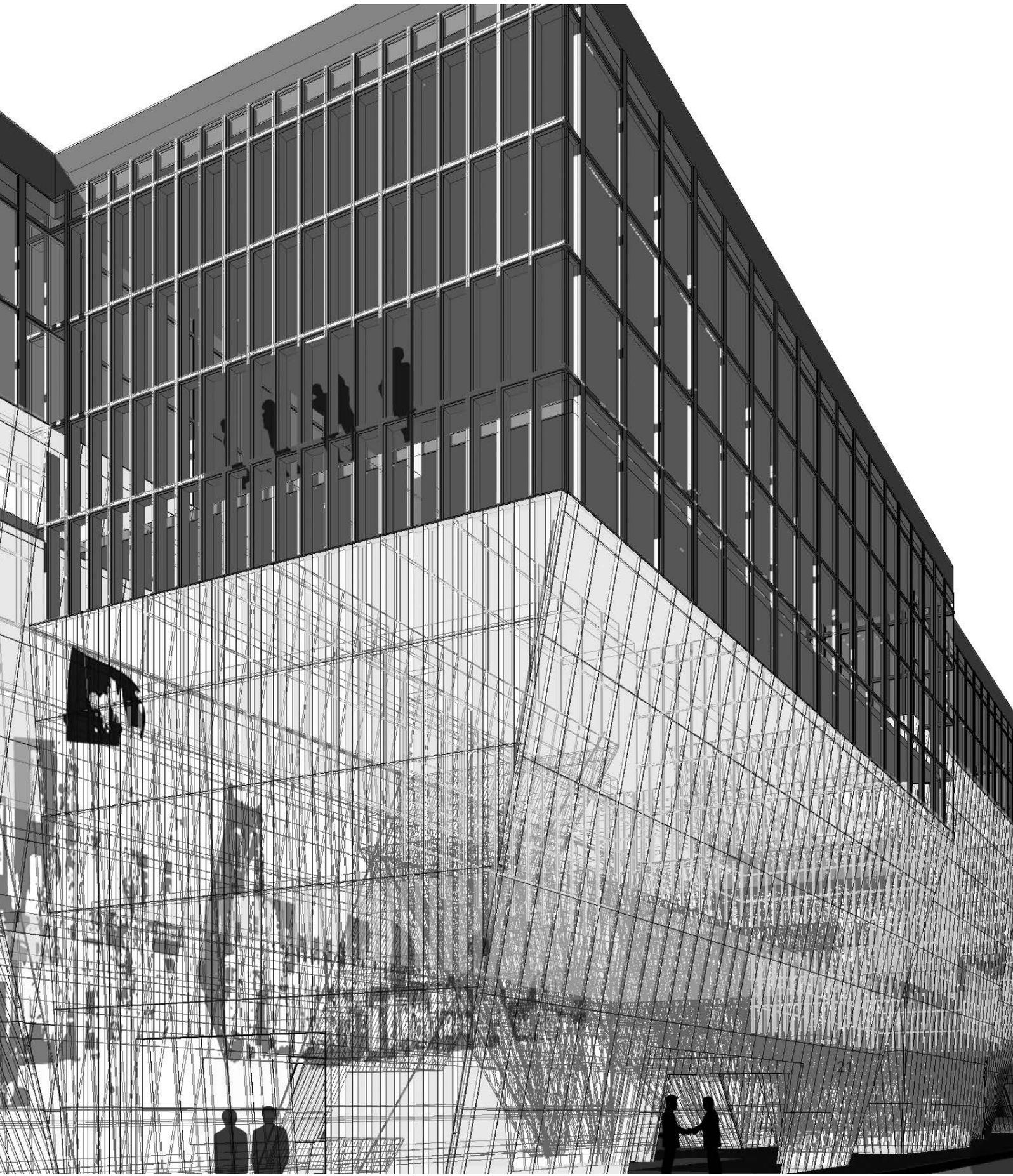
Among Baltimore's unique architectural treasures are its five city-owned public markets, the oldest continuously-operating public markets in the United States. Mostly established in the 19th century, these markets created a much-needed central location where Baltimore's booming immigrant population went to obtain fresh meats, seafood and other goods. Over the years, many of the markets have seen a number of changes: both structurally, due to age and fires, and socially, as the surrounding neighborhood demographics move from blue collar to white collar or vice versa. The need to re-think these spaces for the 21st century provided a unique backdrop for a cross-institutional studio with Morgan State University this past fall, where graduate architecture students from both schools re-envisioned a design for the Cross Street Market in downtown Baltimore.

The studio is in collaboration with the nonprofit Federal Hill Main Street, who approached the two schools with the idea of injecting new life and a new vision into the market and surrounding business district that would reflect the changing social and economic landscape.

Under the leadership of MAPP lecturer and architect, Michael Stanton, Maryland students spent the first months of the fall semester understanding the social, economic and architectural history of the market and surrounding neighborhoods. Aside from site visits, students analyzed data, photographs and maps of the area, beginning with abstract exercises that gradually focused in on city, district and neighborhood. They pored over news articles, attended lectures from various Baltimore experts and watched a 1997 documentary (starring Baltimore icon John Waters) on Formstone, a faux-brick material seen in facades throughout Baltimore. With their research complete, students created an urban design scheme for South Baltimore, developing two concepts for the market: one, a pie-in-the-sky development plan that reflects the current needs of the community while preserving the spirit and history of the market, and one that provides appropriate development for the changing neighborhood.

The students' work from both programs was presented at a special reception hosted by Federal Hill Main Street this past March. Attended by some 500 members of the community—including representatives from the Planning Commission, developers, community leaders and politicians—the response was overwhelmingly positive.





## ARCH - Alumni Profile

Joseph Brancato is an award-winning architect who for 30 years has committed his talents to making great places and spaces. A Managing Partner at Gensler, a global architecture, design and planning firm, Joe oversees ...

the Northeast region and Latin America. He has opened and developed several of the company's offices including Boston, Morristown, NJ, San Jose, Costa Rica and Sao Paulo, Brazil. He is a leader in key master planning and architecture projects, recently creating the master plan for a light rail system in San Jose, Costa Rica and the planning and design of transit-oriented developments in Fairfield, CT, North Philadelphia and Newark. Joe is an active alumnus of the University's School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation alumni, recently spearheading the creation of a scholarship endowment with Gensler. This spring, he was awarded the Distinguished Alumnus Award, Architecture, Planning and Preservation at the University of Maryland's Alumni Association 2012 Annual Awards Gala.

As a boy, Joe found himself drawn to the construction sites and architecture around his home in northern New Jersey and nearby Manhattan. While initially not enrolled in the Architecture Program at the University of Maryland, he found himself hanging out at the Architecture school frequently during his freshman year. He joined the program as a sophomore, graduating with a Bachelor of Architecture and a Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning and Design in 1980. Below Joe talks about success, giving back and what makes his profession so rewarding.

*You have an extensive resume of design work under your belt, including buildings, light rail, U.S. and international projects. What type of project really gets you excited these days?* I am fortunate to have worked 27 years now with Gensler, working on a variety of project types and sizes. I have worked on very small projects and very large ones too. With that said, the projects I really

enjoy most are those that have impact on people in many different ways: how they work, play, learn and are entertained. Mixed-use projects and specifically transit-oriented development projects allow you to have the most impact on people in their daily lives. A good mix of retail, education, transportation nodes, housing and office space all come together to create a community; it's a combination of functions that activate these incredible places that people are drawn to.

*What do you find to be the biggest challenge in creating environmentally considerate, sustainable designs?* Years ago, it was about being persuasive enough to convince a client that it's the right thing to do. Sometimes it still takes work to convince developers and municipalities, but it is getting easier. Now, the challenge is convincing the manufacturers to make better systems and products that are affordable so that the ROI's are realized a lot quicker, which will continue to reinforce the monetary payoff of sustainable design while doing good for the environment. Overall, the key is to be persuasive, passionate and knowledgeable so that people see the savings in reduced energy cost, the benefit to their employees and the value of reduced environmental impact.

*You are spearheading an endowment through your company, Gensler. Why do you feel it is so important to give back?* The University of Maryland is very much a part of me. In the past several years, I have been more active with the school, as has our company as a whole. It's tremendously rewarding to partner on projects and work closely with students and faculty. Giving back, whether it be my time or monetarily, allows me to be more connected to the school. Many of our Gensler alumni feel this way as well, so



I decided that we could consolidate our efforts and create an endowment that keeps us tied to the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. Gensler will match contributions up to a certain level as well. So far, we have had a very good response and are pushing hard to get to an endowment level within two years. In the meantime, we will continue to look for more collaborative project, research and teaching opportunities with the school in the coming years.

*What can schools like Maryland do to help prepare their students for post-graduate success?* Students are drawn to the architecture program because they are passionate about design, but I think it is equally important that, in addition to the

design curriculum, students have an understanding of the business side of architecture. Encouraging students to take classes in business, entrepreneurship and public speaking will not only provide a better understanding of the business and their future clients but also prepare them to be leaders. It will also help them be more innovative, and to communicate their design in a clear and compelling way. Architecture is more than just the bricks and mortar of the design. When you are competing for work or presenting a design concept, how you articulate that design and tell your story will differentiate you from the competition.

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?* I love interacting with people. As an architect, I work with many different people, including my colleagues, developers, engineers, corporate and municipal professionals, and contractors, many of whom became friends. While I love walking by a building that we've designed, which provides a great sense of pride, it's the relationships that I've built on these projects that I cherish the most.

I've also had the opportunity to open many offices for Gensler. In doing so, I have had the chance to recruit and teach some of our people, and help them develop professionally. It is incredibly rewarding to see our employees feel empowered and to watch them grow, explore and become successful.

*What inspires you?* Really great places inspire me. It is the feeling I experience when passing through or interacting with a place defined by buildings and landscape, like the Piazza del Campidoglio in Rome or Rockefeller Center, which I get the chance to enjoy often since I work there.

## URSP - Alumni Profile

Ilana Preuss is the Vice President and Chief of Staff for Smart Growth America, an advocacy and policy-making group focused on creating smart growth solutions to support America's communities.

She is a 2002 graduate with a Master of Community Planning degree. With over 15 years of experience in community-based initiatives, advocacy, environmental strategy and transportation policy, Ilana is one of this country's leading experts in smart growth. She has contributed her talents to several government and policy-making groups, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Transportation for America. Ilana's career has run the gamut, offering technical expertise, outreach, communications and everything in between.

Once convinced she would pursue a career in architecture, Ilana's experience in a U.S. government class during high school—where she caught her first glimpse of city planning—put her on the path to a career in urban planning and, later, smart growth issues. Below Ilana talks about the makings of a great community and the many rewards of working with one:

*In your opinion, what makes a great community today? What do great communities need to succeed for years to come?* In my opinion, the communities that are great today are the ones figuring out how to incorporate different kinds of places within the community and welcome all different kinds of people. Great communities must also have great spaces where people can come together and encourage people to join in the activities within the community. They are constantly thinking about what is special about their community and how they can enhance it, whether it

is architecture or natural spaces. The places that are great today share a love and pride for their community and those who live in it.

Communities today need to be open to change, and that is tough in a lot of places. We built one way for so long that I think people forgot that there are many different opinions about where people want to live and how people want to live. Having people who have been a part of a community for a long time, who see what it can become, is what it takes to start changing a community into something stronger again.

*What are some of the biggest challenges government and planners face concerning smart growth in the 21st century?* We face three major obstacles. At the local level, most of the zoning codes are incredibly out of date in terms of what people in the market want today. Many of these codes were written decades ago, aimed at what was in demand during the 50's. The market today is looking for small houses on small lots or attached housing, and most of the zoning codes exclude that type of development. These codes are a huge barrier to smart growth, and the communities who don't address that are the ones who will be left behind. The second factor is how we spend our transportation money. For a long time, we have been building based on an interstate highway system. Over the years we have discovered that public transportation, carpooling and walking offer less costly ways of getting around. We need to be thinking about how we can create

these low-cost transportation options, keeping in mind that some transportation investments can increase property values of our communities (like transportation centers). The third area is how the federal government provides tax incentives and financing for real estate—like the mortgage interest deduction—which encourages people to buy bigger homes as their incomes go up. Home ownership should be about owning a home, not necessarily about owning a more expensive home.

*Who has the most influence in making change in a community?* The people who live in a community have an enormous influence in what that community becomes. Some people dream about the future of what that community will be, while others don't want it to change at all. The goal for planners is to seek out those people who have a vision, from all different political perspectives and backgrounds, and bring their voices together to figure out what the future should be. It involves open and transparent conversations, which will build trust. When people are excluded from a process, they get suspicious and it gets much harder. Business leaders need to come to the table with elected officials, civic leaders and other representatives of the community for these discussions.

*What advice do you have for today's students?* Having strong technical skills—whether it's mapping, writing or statistical analysis—is the thing that can help you get your first job. In my opinion, the other thing that will get an entry-level person their first job is to show passion for what they are doing. People who have compelling reasons for getting into smart growth are the ones we give the chance to, even if it means we have to teach them policy-specific information.

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?* Community development is all about figuring out each place's puzzle. I love working with communities that are trying to piece together that puzzle by helping them along that path to create a great

community. And I enjoy working with all the different types of people who join that process.

*What inspires you?* I work with a terrific group of people. They are smart, passionate and committed to making a difference. Collaborating with my colleagues and these communities every day makes my work rewarding and fun. There are always new things to learn, and that is an incredible source of inspiration.



## MRED - Alumni Profile

Heather Howard is a Senior Development Analyst for The JBG Companies, and a 2011 graduate of Maryland's Real Estate Development Program. Since joining The JBG Companies in 2010,

Heather has been a part of several high-profile development projects, including a 625-key hotel property in Arlington that has the flexibility to operate two functional hotel brands with one back of house system. She also completed design, obtained financing and expedited a speedy 13-month construction of a 300,000 square foot trophy office building in Ballston this past March. Currently Heather is in the design and entitlement phases of three Washington, DC projects.

Heather's inspiration for returning to school sparked from her time working as both a property and asset manager for the DC-area company, Combined Properties. A chance to represent her company in a larger capacity gave Heather the opportunity to interact with other development companies, experience some of the more logistical aspects of development and work with cities on smaller neighborhood redevelopments. Her time at Maryland further nurtured that passion, providing her with a well-rounded, interdisciplinary program taught by successful industry professionals. Below Heather talks about Washington's development landscape, the impact of good community development and how Maryland prepared her for success:

*What do you feel are the biggest challenges facing developers today?* One issue is obtaining financing, which is largely an issue for smaller developers that have not developed a strong reputation over the years. Another is being creative, but without being trendy. You want to be

innovative but you want your project to stand the test of time.

*Your employer, JBG, is a leading developer in the Washington, DC area. What areas of the city do you think will see some exciting development in the coming years?* The Southwest Waterfront is an area of the city that has a lot of potential for exciting development. I am currently working on



a project in conjunction with master developer, PN Hoffman, that will completely change the landscape of DC's waterfront, providing amenities that can be found in other leading cities in the U.S. The larger development will feature office, retail and residential, as well as a strong attention to parks, piers and interactive amenities. Additionally, this development will have the ability to tie into the larger National Capital Planning Commission plan to reconnect the 10th Street corridor and improve connections between the waterfront, the National Mall and Washington, DC as a whole. JBG is also active in the U Street corridor with several projects delivering in 2012 and 2013.

*What's the most valuable lesson you learned during your time at Maryland?* Development ideas and designs require both funding and city support. It's not as simple as designing what you want, or even having the money to build it just because you own the land. Besides zoning codes and regulations, the current planning board has a lot of influence on what will actually happen as well. I also learned a lot about the importance of affordable housing components; while typically looked down upon by developers, they are a large necessity to sustainable communities. It is important to have a diverse population of residents which will bring diverse retail and keep job growth sustainable. The ULI/Hines Urban Design Competition was also an invaluable learning experience. Although I did not want to do the competition at first, it was hands-down the best thing I did while at Maryland. It forced me into the role of a developer, not just a student learning about development. It honed my public speaking and teamwork skills. It was interdisciplinary so I

got to work with architects, landscape architects and planners. We learned from each other as we tackled the problem. It also taught me to assert what I knew and be more confident in my abilities, skills I directly carried over to my new job.

*What advice do you have for today's students?* Do the Hines competition! Take the tax credits class and affordable housing class! Get to know proformas intimately well, especially now where you can get examples from your professors on proformas that have been used. Interact with your professors and classmates because if you intend to stay in development you will definitely cross paths again. You may even be able to help each other; sometimes it's really about who you know.

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?* The most rewarding aspect of my job is having a large impact in changing the city landscape for 10, 20, 30 years from now, and improving the experience for residents in ways that they may not even be aware of. I talk to friends all the time who have no idea why things are designed/planned the way they are in the cities they live in. I can give a reason why, indicate who did it or what's coming down the road and it's always interesting to them.

*What inspires you?* Experiencing new things, whether it's at work or in my personal life. Having an impact on communities and getting to see that transformation, whether it's the life of a person or a city block.

## PhD - Alumni Profile

Dr. Arnab Chakraborty (URSP 2006) is an assistant professor of urban and regional planning at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he studies how . . .

zoning and other land use policies affect housing markets and development outcomes.

His work in this area, and its implications for local and regional planning processes have been published in such venues as the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Urban Studies*, *Land Use Policy*, and *State and Local Government Review*.

Chakraborty came to Maryland in 2003 at the promise of finding exciting researchable issues in the Baltimore-Washington area and the prospect of working with Gerrit Knaap at the National Center for Smart Growth (NCSG). At the NCSG, Chakraborty played a major role in visioning exercises that consider regional challenges in the DC area, which later inspired his dissertation work. Chakraborty earned his Doctorate in Urban and Regional Planning and Design from the University of Maryland in 2007 and continues to be affiliated with the NCSG. Below, Chakraborty reflects on his role as a teacher of tomorrow's urban planners:

*What, from your experience at UMD, influences the way you work?* A Ph.D. program is where research and teaching styles and interests are molded. I continue to work on a number of projects that started when I was at UMD. Since I joined the University of Illinois, I have also helped set up new collaborative projects between the two institutions. A number of my current teaching assignments are draw upon research that I did at the Center for Smart Growth. While I have reshaped these interests over time, I go back to

my Maryland experiences from time to time.

*What issues do your urban planning students face today that were not an issue when you were in school? How does that affect what and how you teach?* Since I graduated in 2007, there has been a big change in the economic outlook and job supply. To keep up, I find that students now are more proactive and well-versed in not just technical skills, but also in skills needed to navigate the planning process. I constantly stress the importance of thinking about this in my classes. For example, I teach negotiation, mediation and public engagement and the importance of good communication. In my classes, we also discuss the role that underlying interests and uncertainties can have on the outcomes of processes and plans.

*What advice do you have for today's Ph.D. students?* Try to get a sense of your interests early



and then shape your research agenda in a way that satisfies and sustains your intellectual curiosity. When looking for research/academic employment, try to give the impression of an independent researcher and have a fair idea of what you would like to do in the next five to ten years. Many academic planning positions are open to a variety of backgrounds; the key is to show them the value of your research and your potential as a scholar.

*What do you hope your students take away from having you as a teacher?* In addition to the specific lessons I try to teach, I focus a good deal on critical thinking. I hope they will recognize that no two problems are similar. I hope they will be confident, enthusiastic, and humble.

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?* There are two: teaching smart people, and having the freedom to research whatever I find interesting.

*What inspires you?* My colleagues' and students' trust in me.

## HISP - Alumni Profile

Matt Bowling, *HISP '09*, has been a Planner with the City of Gaithersburg since February 2011, acting as the liaison to the Historic District Commission. Within the City there are two historic districts and a number of individual historic sites, including an observatory that is a National Historic

Landmark. On a day-to-day basis, Matt helps applicants prepare their application packages for submittal to the Commission. During his time with the City of Gaithersburg, Matt has been involved in a number of significant projects, including the designation and ongoing rehabilitation of the Kentlands Firehouse. Aside from his work with the City of Gaithersburg, Matt is a Marine Science Technician in the United States Coast Guard Reserve, recently completing a two-month training assignment as part of the marine safety field. Matt was drawn to the Historic Preservation Program because it provided a well-rounded environment that nurtured his passions for urban studies, history, and social justice. Below Matt discusses the challenges and many rewards of working in historic preservation:

*What are some of the biggest challenges preservationists face today?* As planners and preservationists, I think we have to continue to evolve in how we recognize and involve public participation and to make a case for what we do. They are the ones living in the historic homes, they shop in the historic shops, they visit these great places and, without them, there is no need for preservation. I think we have to continue to find ways to spark the public's curiosity, particularly younger folks, and that is an ever-evolving process.

*Working in a part of the state that is seeing rapid development, do you feel more pressure to defend historic sites and structures?* I think there is room for all types of architecture; it's a matter of finding that balance and symmetry between the old and the new. We don't ever want to think of preservation as being mutually exclusive from modern architecture or development. I think they can, if done right, go hand in hand. The Kentlands in Gaithersburg is a great example of a planned community that very successfully integrates the old and the new. We have an approximately 110-year-old Colonial Revival farmstead right in the middle of the Neo-Traditional/New Urbanist community that people know and love.

*Is there anything from your experience at UMD that influences the way you work?* I think the way I approach problems and challenges is a direct reflection on my education at Maryland. To a certain extent, it's about sharing my expertise, but more so it's asking, "What can I learn here?" What can I learn from my colleagues?" and "What do I take away from projects, experiences and working in this unique team environment?"

*What advice do you have for today's graduates?* Be persistent. Learn as much as you possibly can from

as many people as you can. Whether you are doing an internship or are in a full time job, work hard; learn as much as you can both in the field and about other disciplines too. Don't be afraid to branch out, those different perspectives will help you be better at your job. I think Maryland really prepares you for that, that desire to learn and the interdisciplinary environment.

*What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?*

When everyone comes together under a common cause. For example, there is a late 1800's Gothic revival farmhouse that sits within one of the largest development projects in Montgomery County. On the site is an old log house, made with hand-hewn timbers, v-notched corner notching, and Type B cut nails, probably dating to around the 1850s or 1860s. The developers of the project were very interested in the log house and have been very proactive in keeping it unharmed. For example, when they were planning on doing some blasting nearby, they came to us to see what they could do to insure the log house wouldn't destabilize and collapse. They developed an idea for the installation of temporary exterior shoring and then submitted an application to the Historic District Commission for review. The Commission loved the idea, issued a Certificate of Approval to the developers, and the log house remained stable throughout the blasting process. This is a great example of where the City, a developer and the Historic District Commission have worked hand-in-hand to ensure the integrity of a site. It is without a doubt the best part of my job.

*What is your favorite type of architecture?* Actually, when I started the Historic Preservation

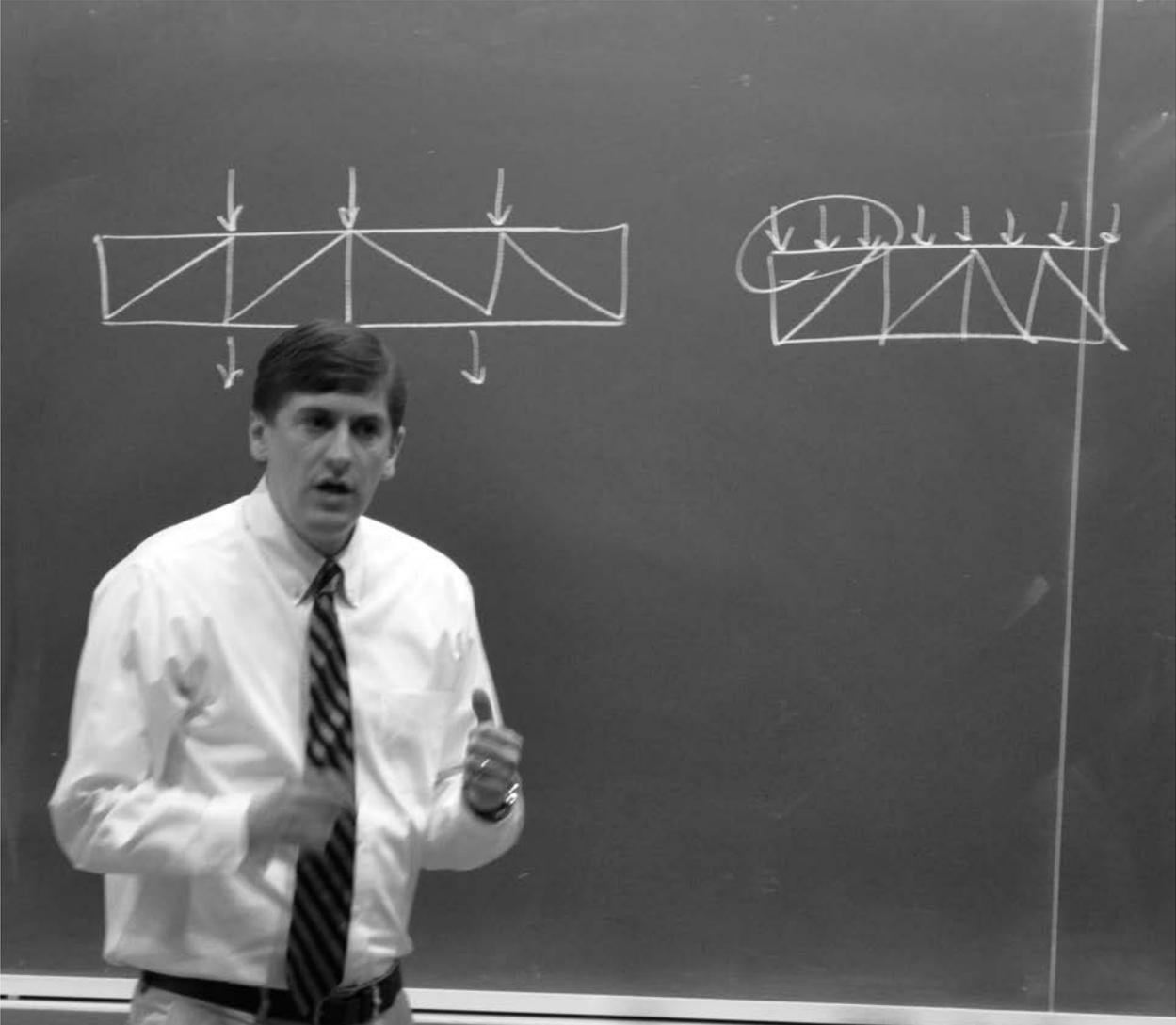
Program, one of the very first questions Don Linebaugh asked us was to name our favorite architectural style. Everyone was spouting off different styles - Georgian, Colonial Revival, Folk Victorian - and when it was Don's turn, he said, "I like vernacular." I always thought that was interesting, but looking back on it, I realize, now that is probably my favorite too: the every day. I have a great appreciation for the every day.



*What inspires you?* There are two things. First, my wonderful wife inspires me. She was a tremendous support in my returning to graduate school and that first hungry year out of grad school. I am so thankful and inspired by that. Secondly, I think we live in a wonderful place, and we are very fortunate to be in a place where we value our history and our environment. That provides great inspiration to me.

# FACULTY

## New Faculty





**Powell Draper** joined the University of Maryland this year as an Assistant Professor of Architecture, where he teaches building technology and bridge design. Professor Draper is a structural engineer with experience in the building, bridge and shipbuilding industries. Most recently, he was an Assistant Professor at Manhattan College. He holds degrees in history from Wake Forest University and civil engineering from the University of Virginia, and received his Doctorate in Structural Engineering from Princeton University.

Professor Draper's work has been the basis for several professional journals and publications; a chapter he coauthored for the book *Felix Candela: Engineer, Builder, Structural Artist*, which was based on his doctoral dissertation, was named as one of the best architecture books of 2008 by ArchNewsNow. Professor Draper's research interests range from the history of engineering and structural art, to new technologies such as structural optimization and energy harvesting to design of sustainable structures.

## Faculty NEWS

**Carl Bovill** had two papers accepted this past year, one for publication and one for a conference, both of which continue his research into using fractals to understand design. "Using Christopher Alexander's Fifteen Properties of Art and Nature to Visually Compare and Contrast the Tessellations of Mirza Akbar," will appear in *The Nexus Network Journal*, Autumn 2012 and the conference paper is titled "A Fractal Procedure to Limit Gerymandering."

**Michael Ambrose** and **Kristen Fry** co-authored a paper "RE:thinking BIM in the Design Studio – constructing a progressive process of reiterative learning," which was presented at the ASCAAD 2012.



Michael Ambrose speaks to students

**Howie Baum** had an article published in the journal *Planning Theory*, "Planning and the Problem of Evil." He also launched his current research project with the presentation of "Theories of Human Nature for Planning: Liberalism and Libertarian, Evangelical and Conservative Alternatives" at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference.

**Matt Bell** and his firm, Perkins Eastman, won a Presidential Citation for Sustainable Design from the AIA|DC Chapter, for their work on the Stoddert Elementary School in Washington, DC.

Professor **Hiro Iseki** continued his research into public transit. He had a paper published on the impact of wait time on ridership in the *Journal of the Transportation Research Board*.

Professor **Marie Howland** and Research Assistant Professor **Scott Dempwolf** were



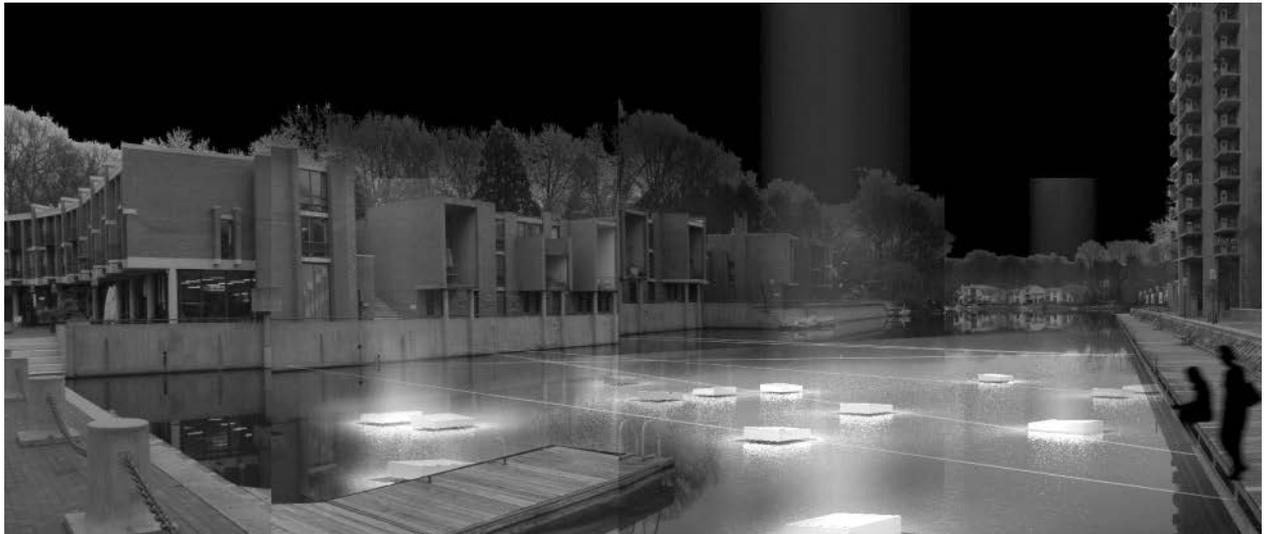
Marie Howland, Director PhD Program

awarded a grant to develop a University Center Center by the U.S. Economic Development Administration. The Center is a joint venture between UMCP and Morgan State, and will explore economic development opportunities in the Baltimore area.

**Casey Dawkins** helped establish a new research group on housing strategies within the National Center for Smart Growth. Since starting the group, Professor Dawkins has received a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. His work is currently focusing on the impacts of sustainable communities policy on housing affordability and quality.

Associate Professor **Ronit Eisenbach** co-curated and designed the exhibition on Ruth Schnee's textiles in Florida and Venice. She was also a fellow at the prestigious MacDowell Colony as well as at Montgomery College and the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts.

*Modern Techniques in Bridge Engineering* published by Taylor and Francis. He also co-authored a paper with James Guest and David Billington on Santiago Calatrava's Alamillo bridge, which was published in the *ASCE Journal of Bridge Engineering*.



Installation by Ronit Eisenbach in Reston, VA.

Dr. **Don Linebaugh** published two books this year: *The Springfield Gas Machine: Illuminating Industry and Leisure, 1860s-1920s* published by the University of Tennessee Press, and the second, published by National Park Service, was the *Saugus Iron Works; The Roland W. Robbins Excavations 1948-1953*.

**Scott Dempwolf** joins the faculty as a Research Assistant Professor and Director of the University Center. Scott will continue his work on UC projects.

**Powell Draper** had a chapter published on the Hudson River bridges in the new book

Professor **Garth Rockcastle** led a research studio with **Charles H. Thornton**, PE, to study new techniques for the design and construction of high-rise structures. Professor Rockcastle also worked on the AAI campus plan with a group of students. This project included an adaptive reuse of former factory space into creative office environment for the Baltimore-based corporation.

**Chengri Ding** published two papers this past year, both appearing in *Land Use Policy*. His "Assessing Farmland Protection Policy in China" was ranked the most cited paper published by the Journal since 2007. His sec-

ond paper on land acquisition policy in China was ranked in the top 20 most cited journal articles.

Assisatnt Professor **Hooman Koliji**, an architect and landscape architect on faculty, had his paper titled "Revisiting the Squinch: From the Squaring the Circle, to circling the Square" published in *Nexus Journal: Architecture and Mathmatics*.

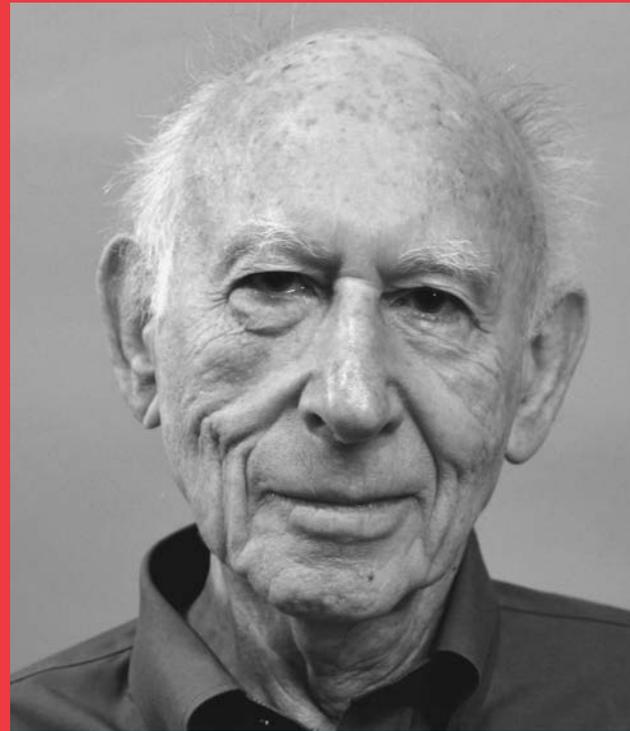
Professor **Luis Quiros** received a grant this year to develop a blended learning course alternative for Architecture 170 – Introduction to the Built Environment. He also made presentations at several national conferences with colleague **Vicki Chanse**, Ph.D. Landscape Architecture, on sea level rise in Dorchester County, MD.

**Gerrit Knaap** co-authored a book published by Oxford University Press titled *Handbook on Planning and Economics*. He also co-authored three additional book chapters this past year. Professor Knaap serves as lead investigator for a major grant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration.

**Brian Kelly** had a solo exhibition of his drawings titled *Lines of Inquiry* exhibited at the New York Institute of Technology and at the offices of Gensler, New York.

**Mady Simon, Amy Gardner, Ralph Bennett,** and **Gerrit Knapp** had a chapter published in the new book *Sustainability in America's Cities: Creating the Green Metropolis*. The title of their chapter was "LEED in Washington, DC."

Besides heading the interdisciplinary team that won the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2011, **Amy Gardner** directed the production of a new book, *Inspired Innovation: WaterShed at the University of Maryland*, which describes the design and execution of WaterShed, the winning project.



Amy Gardner at a reception for WaterShed

This year, the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation bid a fond farewell to a respected colleague, teacher and friend.

**Sidney Brower**, an Associate Professor of Urban Studies and Planning, retired this past winter after over 30 years at the University of Maryland. Throughout, Sidney has been a much-loved and dedicated teacher, imparting his passion for communities through the many courses he has taught over the years. Sidney was also an active participant in the study abroad program, sharing his love of travel with his students, particularly to his birthplace of South Africa.

Born in Upington, South Africa, Sidney received his Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Cape Town in 1954. He established his own practice in Cape Town in 1956. Sidney later attended MIT's Master of City Planning Program, receiving his degree in 1964. After graduating, he moved to Baltimore where he worked for several organizations including the Baltimore Urban Renewal and Housing Agency and the Baltimore City Department of Planning, serving as Chief of Comprehensive Planning and, later, as Chief of Design Analysis. He joined the faculty at the University of Maryland's Community Planning Program in 1979 and served as acting director for the newly minted Urban Studies and Planning Program from 1989-1991.

Sidney has written several books examining the connection between the built environment and human behavior. He recently published *Neighbors and Neighborhoods: Elements of Good Community Design* (APA Press).

"Sidney has been a wonderful teacher, colleague, mentor and friend to all of us," remarks James Cohen, Director of the Urban Planning Program. "Among the many contributions that Sidney made to the planning program were his courses on urban design and human behavior, and his studio classes in Baltimore and in Cape Town, South Africa. We miss Sidney and hope to have him back to teach classes for us as an emeritus professor."

Sidney is making time to enjoy life at a more leisurely pace, nurturing his love of weaving, ceramics, gardening, and tai chi at his home in Baltimore. Although technically retired, Sidney remains active in the world of urban planning and at the school. He will be participating in two sessions in the regional American Planning Association (APA) conference in Columbia in October, is advising several doctoral students and analyzing student-conducted interviews with residents in single-family detached houses. He also hopes to lead another studio to South Africa in 2013. With luck, MAPP's students will continue to benefit from his wisdom for years to come.

Sidney with students in South Africa



# Alumni NEWS

**R. Nicholas Loope** (*B.ARCH, '73*) was appointed President and Chief Operating Officer of Otak, Inc., an award-winning urban design, architecture, planning and engineering firm. He now oversees operations and leads Otak's marketing, business development and technology initiatives, working closely with HanmiGlobal Co. Ltd., the firm's new global strategic partner. He continues to serve as a tenured member of the faculty of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at Arizona State University.

**Paul Tankel** (*B.ARCH '74*) recently "retired" from the position of University Architect at the University of Rochester and has been at the SUNY College at Brockport as the Associate Director of Facilities Planning for the last two years.

**Howard E. Goldberg** (*B.ARCH '75*) continues to have success with his firms, HEGRA Architects and HEGRA Properties, along with academic writing. His new *Revit Architecture 2012* book is the latest in a series of 13 books on computer technology for Architects. Howard's books are used by 135 ITT Technical Institute campuses throughout the United States. He also wrote the curriculum for ITT. His *Revit Architecture 2009* and *2010* books have been translated into Russian for use by Russian State schools.

**Mitchell H. Lowe** (*B.ARCH '83*) continues to work for CBI Consulting, Inc. in Boston, MA. He currently lives in Ipswich, Massachusetts.

**Albert W. Rubeling** (*B.ARCH '77*), founder and president of Rubeling & Associates in Towson, MD, was named secretary of the College of Fellows for the American Institute of Architects.

Al will serve a two-year term, which started in January.

**Janet Harrison** (*B.ARCH '79*) is principal of her own firm, J. Harrison, Architects in Annapolis, MD. She continues to push the envelope with green design and LEED consulting, and recently completed training for the Living Building Challenge.

**Barbara A. Mullenex** (*B.ARCH '79*) is managing partner of OPX ([www.opxglobal.com](http://www.opxglobal.com)) in Washington, DC and the head of OPX Hospitality, specializing in creatively solving and managing challenging domestic and international hotel projects. OPX recently teamed with Marriott International to design the new Fairfield Inn & Suites, repositioning the brand with new building and interior concepts that will be adopted nationally.

**Bruce Boswell** (*B.S. Urban Planning '78, B.ARCH '80*) was honored this past year by the Baltimore County Historic Trust with the John McGrain Lifetime Achievement Award in Historic Preservation. A "hands-on" preservationist, Bruce completely restored an 1852 attached house in Federal Hill, and was very involved in the restoration of an ancestral castle in Scotland. Bruce is currently the Chair of the Landmarks Preservation Commission of Baltimore County.

**William Leonard Glen** (*B.S. Architecture '81, M.P.S. '95, Ph.D. '07*) is working full-time as a government contractor in the capacity of Senior Directorate Planner for the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, making use of his 30-year facilities management experience and architecture degree. He also has a part-time Reiki/Chakra Balanc-

ing practice in a Pasadena, MD wellness center where he offers holistic health consulting services. William recently bought an old farmhouse (1890's) in Ellicott City, MD, which he plans to renovate with his partner.

During his time as President for BRAVA, **Gordon Mead Stewart** (*B.ARCH '82, B.S. Urban Studies '82*) played a large role in funding (raising over 13 million dollars) for the creation of an 800-seat performing arts center in Bowie, MD. He is active in several youth activities, including coaching a middle school, award-winning Botball team.

**C. Michael Arnold** (*B.ARCH '84*) and his business partner **Tom Eichbaum** (*B.ARCH '72*) contributed a new exhibit to the National Building Museum with their firm, Studios Eichbaum + Arnold (SE+A), entitled "House and Home." The exhibit features 14 architectural models of high styled American homes that SE+A were commissioned to design and build, beginning in 2007. Models include Monticello, the Gamble House, Fallingwater and 11 others, fabricated from original and historic design documents. Key Maryland alumni contributing to the "House & Home" project include **Loreen Arnold** (*B.ARCH '82*), **Matt Bryson** (*M.ARCH '09*), **Dan Lucenti** (*B.S. Architecture '09*) and **Elizabeth Vetne** (*M.ARCH '09*). The exhibit will run for five years at the National Building Museum.

**Maurice (Maury) Zev Schlesinger** (*M.ARCH '86*) continues to act as project manager for National Public Radio's new headquarters on North Capitol Street in Washington, DC. Maury lives in Silver Spring, MD.

**William E. Kirwan III** (*B.S. Architecture '85, M.ARCH '87*) and his business partner Stephen Muse were featured recently in *Home and Design's 2012 Portfolio of the 100 Top Designers*. Their firm, Muse Architects, have several design projects in the pipeline including four elementary schools in Montgomery County, MD.

**Christena Marquette McCabe** (*B.S. Architecture '85, M.ARCH '87*) recently joined the firm of Eric Colbert & Associates in Washington, DC. At her previous firm Torti Gallas and Partners, McCabe served as design architect for the facades and building skins for two projects which have recently completed construction - the Georgetown Safeway and The Lyon residential tower at Clarendon Center in Arlington, Virginia. Chris is an active member of the University of Maryland Alumni Association, and has served as adjunct faculty at the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation.

**Quentin Montrie** (*B.S. Architecture, '87*) is the Studio Director for Woods Bagot in Shanghai, China, having worked there for the past three years. Woods Bagot is an Australian-based architectural firm with a large presence in China and the Far East. Their Shanghai studio is involved in large commercial mixed-use projects, mostly within China. Prior to that, he was with HOK in Hong Kong and San Francisco.

**Lee Driskill** (*M.ARCH '89*) is a principal at Hord Coplan Macht in Baltimore, MD, where he has designed many of the firm's urban infill projects. Among them is the award-winning Century Engineering Corporate Headquarters, a LEED Gold certified office building that received an AIA

Design Excellence Award, and the IFMA 2007 National Award for Sustainable Design.

**Darrell J. Smith** (*B.A. Urban Studies '91*) returned to Amtrak last July as Chief of Business Line Planning & Strategy in Washington, DC, after a 7-year stint owning a small private passenger shuttle company in Jacksonville, FL. Darrell lives in Kensington, MD.

**Alex E. Lee** (*B.ARCH '92*) is the Communications Program Manager for Virginia Department of Transportation's (VDOT) General Engineering Consultant team for Northern Virginia Megaprojects Program. Alex oversees the budget, staff, resources and strategic communications programs for VDOT's major infrastructure projects in the region including the I-495 Express Lanes, Dulles Corridor Metrorail, Base Realignment and Closure and I-95 Express Lane Projects. He lives in Arlington, VA with his wife Kathy and their three sons.

**Kristine Danielle Kowalczyk D'Elisa** (*B.S. Architecture '94*) is currently living in Stamford, CT with her husband Tom, a fellow Terp, and their two little girls. In addition to being a Principal at Granoff Architects, an architecture, landscape architecture and interior design firm, Kristine is also a board member of the Southern Connecticut Green Building Council and Sustainable Stamford. As Director of Sustainable Stamford's Corporate Sustainability Challenge, she is enlisting commercial property owners throughout Stamford, CT to join the Challenge by benchmarking energy and water usage and adopting nine sustainability policies.

**Jordan Goldstein** (*B.S. Architecture '94*) is

co-managing director of Gensler's Washington, DC office, and recently opened Gensler's Bangkok office. He has a range of projects in design or under construction overseas including Duke University's new campus in Kunshan, China, two 740-foot tall office towers in Beijing's central business district and a 60 story mixed-use tower in Bangkok. Locally, construction starts this month on the new Tysons Tower building, a 20-story office building in Tysons Corner, VA. Jordan's DC projects include the newly opened District Commons restaurant and two historic renovation projects near the ballpark (the Boilermaker and Lumbershed Buildings). He teaches a product design course each fall at the University of Pennsylvania and this summer will be taking Maryland and Penn students for a two-week research and development trip to Thailand. Jordan and his wife live in Bethesda, MD with their two daughters.

**Peter E. Jurmala** (*M.ARCH '94*) is currently living and working in Stockholm, Sweden. He was part of the design team for Rinkebykolan, which has won an award from the City of Stockholm for its incorporation of art in public spaces, and which was nominated for Stockholm's Building of the Year 2011. Peter recently passed the LEED Green Associate exam and was elected to the Sweden Green Building Council's committee on LEED.

**Keith A. Palma** (*B.S. Architecture '92, M. ARCH '94*) launched his own practice, Cogitatedesign PLLC in 2009. Cogitatedesign is an architectural firm whose work is not rooted in a particular style; it is about absorbing a philosophy and building something appropriate. The firm's goal is to build collaborative relationships with

like-minded clients where they are renowned for, respected for, and sought out for the quality of service and designs.

In 2011, **Alexander Dzurec** (*B.S. Architecture '95*) was the recipient of two AIA Santa Fe Citation Awards for two projects designed by his firm, autotroph. Autotroph also had two homes on a modern home tour in Santa Fe this past April. Their current projects include a new line of bus shelters and amenities for the City of Santa Fe transit division and a Library and Community Center in Dixon, NM.

**Erick Christian Morgan** (*B.S. Architecture '10*) is a carpenter for the Shakespeare Theatre Company, building sets and props. In his spare time, he runs his own graphic design business doing artwork for bands and nightclubs. Erick lives in Riverdale, MD.

**Jason Atkin** (*B.S. Architecture '96*) is currently working as a Technical Designer at Dillon Works in Mukilteo, WA. He lives with his wife and two young children in Seattle, WA.

**Michael Vance Scalingi** (*M.ARCH '98*) has worked on a number of projects in 2011, including the People Mover ("Aerotrain") Station at Dulles Airport, the "Moynihan Station" at Penn Station NYC and the King Abdullah Financial District Conference Center in Saudi Arabia. He is currently working on expansion and rehabilitation of BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport B/C terminal and C Concourse.

**Brian Matthew Baker** (*M.ARCH '99*) is the co-founder/owner of Baker Development Group LLC,

which does business in Eastern PA as Studio 26 Homes, a green, high-performance custom home designer and builder, and Renu Building & Energy Solutions, which is a green custom remodeler, energy auditor and solar installer. The company's projects have been featured in numerous publications and have won many awards, including the prestigious Building Innovation Award from the Pennsylvania Builders Association in 2008. Brian is a Board Member (and past Vice President) of the Lehigh Valley Green Builders and was selected by *Professional Builder Magazine* as one of the "Top 40 Under 40" Building Professionals in the country in 2011. Brian and his wife live in Orefield, PA with their daughter and son.

**Cindy (Gray) Schneider** (*M.ARCH '00*) recently joined Holabird & Root in Chicago, IL after spending two years in Istanbul. Cindy's focus is on planning and architecture of mixed-use buildings, blocks and neighborhoods. She lives in Chicago with her husband Jeff.

**Brian Grieb** (*B.S. Architecture '99, M.ARCH '01*) founded his own firm, Grid, in 2010. Grid specializes in residential architecture and collaborations with sculptures on site-situated exhibits. Brian also played a major role in the 2011 Solar Decathlon Watershed project. Brian lives in Annapolis with his wife, Mollie and four children.

**Katie Irwin** (*B.S. Architecture '99, M.ARCH '01*) is now NCIDQ certified, working at Quinn Evans Architects in Washington, DC. Katie lives in Herndon, VA.

**Mary Rose Rankin** (*B.S. Architecture '98, M.ARCH '01*) and **Abbie Cronin** (*B.S. Architec-*

ture '03, M.ARCH '05) were recognized with several awards this year for their work on the Stodert Elementary School and Community Center for their firm EE&K/Perkins Eastman Architects. Awards include: AIA|DC, Presidential Citation for Sustainable Design; Engineering News Record: Southeast Best Projects, Best K-12 Education Project; Learning by Design, Citation of Excellence.

**Stephanie P. (Berger) Trzyna** (B.S. Architecture '02) has been working for Stephen Lasar Architects in New Milford, CT since 2004. She and her husband welcomed a daughter in October of 2006. They reside in Danbury, CT.

**Samir Bhowmik** (M.ARCH '03) was recognized with his design partner Luca De Gol by the International Competition for a Sustainable Community in Sibbesborg, Finland in January for their urban design entry *Letters from Sibbesborg*.

**Jeff Kayce** (B.S. Architecture '03) is currently Vice President at Bozzuto Development Company, responsible for expanding joint venture development opportunities within the greater Washington-Baltimore metro area. Some of his current development projects include Union Wharf in Baltimore, Flats170 at Academy Yard in Odenton and Cathedral Commons in Washington, DC.

**Mary Zagar Brown** (B.S. Architecture '04) recently left her position with the Office for Community Development of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, where she was Corridor Development Manager, to be a full-time mom. As a Corridor Development Manager, she was involved in

neighborhood planning, community and economic development in the Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia. Mary has a Masters in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning from Tufts University.

**Jacob Day** (B.S. Architecture '04) is the founding director of Center for Towns, a community design and education center working with small towns within the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy (ESLC). Before launching Center for Towns, Jake served as national president for AIAS as well as Editor-in-Chief of *Crit*. He is an adjunct professor of Environmental Policy at Salisbury University, and recently authored *place work[s] hop*, a book about ESLC's community design process. Jake is also currently a candidate for City Council in the City of Salisbury. He spoke about his work at the 2012 AIA National Conference in Washington, DC.

**David Hamma** (B.S. Architecture '04) is a Program Analyst for URS, who provides contract support for the Federal Aviation Administration's Terminal Facilities Execution Group and their Design, Engineering and Integration Team. David performs project management for seismic upgrades to the FAA's Air Traffic Control Towers (ATCT) and Base Buildings and helps manage the process for design reviews for new ATCTs. He is currently pursuing his Certificate in Construction Management.

**Catherine Cervantes Morrison** (B.S. Architecture '04) is currently an architect with Gantt Huberman Architects in Charlotte, NC. While attending graduate school at UNC Charlotte, she crafted a dual-degree master's program in archi-

ecture and geography with the help of faculty from both departments, which others have followed since. She currently serves on the AIA Charlotte's executive committee.

**Matthew J. Rowley** (*B.ARCH '04*) has joined the firm of Bates Architects, PC (**Marty Bates**, *B. ARCH '79*) in Frederick, MD to do architecture, planning and interiors. Bates Architects is currently working on their first LEED project in Maryland. **Ben Bates** (*B.S.ARCH '08*), who is also with the firm, returned to the University of Maryland Architecture program in pursuit of his M.ARCH in the fall of 2011.

**Jon Schramm** (*B.ARCH '04*) is a designer, artist and educator working in New York City. Jon is a part-time faculty member at Parsons the New School for Design teaching a variety of representation and spatial reasoning courses bridging the hand and computer. He is also a founding member of \*hb\* collaborative, a design build firm in Brooklyn focused on custom furniture, interior design, and lighting. You can see examples of his work at [www.hbcollaborative.com](http://www.hbcollaborative.com) and [www.jonschramm.com](http://www.jonschramm.com).

**Chelsea (Dean) Thomas** (*B.S. Architecture '04*) works as an architect for Studio DH Architecture in Denver, CO. She became a LEED Accredited professional in '06 and obtained her license in October '11.

**Sarah Beth Goncarova** (*M.ARCH '05*) continues to have great success with her sculptural installations across the country and abroad. Her time-based textile pieces have been exhibited in New Haven, New York, Los Angeles, San Fran-

cisco and London. She also co-founded a publishing house out of New Haven called Clay Grouse Press. This year, Clay Grouse Press is launching a memoir by holocaust survivor Sonia Korn-Grimani, entitled *Sonia's Song*. Translated from the original French, Sarah Beth and her husband Vary spent over a year editing and reworking the text from over 30 hours of interviews with the author. You can read more about their project at [www.claygrouse.com/sonias\\_song](http://www.claygrouse.com/sonias_song). To see more of her textile work online, visit [www.goncarova.com](http://www.goncarova.com).

**Laura DeHart** (*M.ARCH '04*) obtained her architectural license this past spring. Laura is a Project Architect at GTM Architects in Bethesda, MD.

**Sunni A. Massey** (*M.C.P '05*) has been managing the Department of Commerce's participation in the White House Strong Cities, Strong Communities Initiative, which breaks down silos and uses existing federal resources to build capacity in acutely distressed cities. Sunni also obtained her formal Project Management Certification (PMP) in March of this year. In addition, she and her husband, **Brian Dylong** (Class of '05) purchased a home in Hyattsville, MD, close to the University. Brian continues to work as a Senior Analyst at Real Property Research Group, assisting developers in planning residential projects throughout the Eastern United States.

**Julie Ann Mirvis Morris** (*M.C.P. '05*) has been working as a Facilities Planner for Montgomery County Public Schools since 2009. She and her husband welcomed a baby boy, Zachary, into their family in December 2011.

**Matthew Aaron Peters** (*M.ARCH '05*) was

both married and became a registered architect in 2009. He and his wife live in Philadelphia with their baby girl, Alanna.

**Lori Wasilewski Steenhoek** (*B.S. Architecture '05*) started her own 3D Visualization / Architectural Rendering / Animation / Design company, Capital Pixel, in July 2011. She works with DC-area architecture firms, real estate developers, interior designers and marketing companies to create visualizations of their designs and ideas. Lori is currently finishing her Masters of Arts in Visual Effects/Animation.

**Jonathan Zee** (*B.S. Architecture '05*) is currently a Senior Designer for Skidmore Owings & Merrill, LLP. Zee has a Master of Architecture from Harvard University Graduate School of Design.

**Dana Perzynski** (*B.S. Architecture '06*) was recently promoted to Associate at her firm Ayers Saint Gross in Baltimore, MD. She specializes in planning for higher education institutions with a focus on academic medical centers, including the University of Southern California and Emory University. Dana is the first accredited Evidence-Based Design Professional in Baltimore.

**Cindy Thompson** (*B.S. Architecture '06*) is a Community Advancement Specialist for the US Green Building Council, where she serves as the fundraising and development subject matter expert. She also runs a grants program to fund innovative green building projects. Cindy completed her Masters in Historic Preservation in 2008.

**Cynthia McLaughlin** (*B.S. Architecture '07*) received her Master of Architecture in '09, and has

been working for Arium Architects and Engineers since 2011. An avid photographer, one of her roles for the firm is photographing spaces they have designed. This work has led to other freelance photography, including engagement and newborn shoots.

**Rachel J. (Fitzgerald) McNamara** (*M.C.P. '07*) left the National Park Service in February 2011 to join the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission as an Outdoor Recreation Planner. In September, she and her husband welcomed their daughter Ella to the world. They live in Hyattsville, MD.

**Kat Schooley** (*B.S. Architecture '07*) works for Grimm + Parker in the schools studio. She and her husband Zak are expecting a daughter in June.

**Nari Stephens** (*B.S. Architecture '07*) found her passion for event planning a few years ago while working in administration for a non-profit group. She is currently working her way up in the hospitality field, right now for Cassa Hotel in New York City.

**David A. Derenick** (*M.ARCH '08*) has been Project Manager at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD since August 2011. He received his Architecture License in the State of Maryland this past November. He lives with his wife and two sons in the Forest Glen neighborhood of Silver Spring, MD.

**Rei Harada** (*M.H.P. '08*) has been involved in the investigation and recovery of culture heritage in Japan after last year's devastating Tsunami.

Rei participated in the Cultural Property Rescue Program, which attempts to locate and recover artifacts, ceremonial tools and structures in areas hard-hit by the disaster. She is now organizing a symposium that will examine how countries react to disaster-affected cultural heritage in emergencies or after the emergencies. If you are interested in supporting the Cultural Property Rescue Program, visit [http://www.bunkazai.or.jp/donate/en\\_index.html](http://www.bunkazai.or.jp/donate/en_index.html).

**Cheyenne Thomas Irby** (*B.S. Architecture '08*) is a project manager at The EMG Group, an engineering, environmental and energy-consulting firm. He works in the asset management division and deals with decision intelligence for real estate life cycle of properties. Cheyenne lives in Hunt Valley, MD.

**Jennifer Anne Kerrick** (*B.S. Architecture '08*) is a graduate student at the University of Texas at Austin, expecting to graduate in December of this year. Prior to graduate school she worked for Martinez + Johnson Architecture, a small firm in Washington, DC with a focus on historic preservation. At UT Austin, Jennifer has held several teaching positions for history classes and was a design assistant for undergraduate studios this past semester.

**Leah M. (Burch) Mayer** (*M.H.P. '08*) works for the Harford County Department of Planning & Zoning as a Historic Preservation Planner. She previously worked for the non-profit organization Historic Charlotte, Inc. as Preservation Planner. Leah was married last April to her husband Jeff.

**Beibei Su** (*M.H.P. '08*) is in her fourth year work-

ing for the Ottery Group. She also finished her first marathon on March 17th in Washington, DC, clocking in at four hours, 36 minutes. Beibei lives in Germantown, MD.

**Behbahani Behrad** (*MRED '09*) is currently working as a Building Rating Analyst at CoStar Group where he is developing a Building Rating System that will rate commercial buildings on a national 1-5 star scale. He lives in Bethesda, MD.

**Sam V. Jones III** (*MRED '09*) was recently promoted to the position of Loan Originator within BSC's Production Group. He works to expand BSC's commercial lending in Dallas and throughout the United States through development of new and existing relationships. Before that, he was a consultant for the accounting firm Weaver in Dallas and for the Hong Kong Country Club in China.

This past spring, **Laura Mancuso** (*M.H.P. '09*) was named town historian of her hometown of Brookfield, CT. She is currently the Construction Grant Coordinator for Connecticut's State Historic Preservation Office (CT SHPO), where she oversees the Historic Restoration Fund program. Under her new role as Brookfield's historian, Laura looks forward to educating Brookfield about the town's physical history.

**Robert Sanz** (*B.S. Architecture '07, M.ARCH '09*) works for Wilmot/Sanz, Inc. out of Gaithersburg, MD. He started his architecture career working on several hospital projects at the Inova Fairfax Hospital campus, including a new patient tower and a new large Women's and Children's Hospital tower. He is currently working as the

Project Architect for two hospital projects on the island of Aruba (Horatio Oduber Hospital and Instituto Medico San Nicolas). Both projects are aiming to modernize and significantly upgrade the medical care provided on the island. Rob was married in 2010 to his college sweetheart Sara. They live in Rockville, MD.

**Jason Vaughan** (*M.H.P. '09*) was appointed the Director of Historic Preservation and Interpretation for the Baltimore National Heritage Area. Previously, he served as the heritage area's trails and byways manager. He serves on the boards of the Historic Charles Street Association (Baltimore) and MYM Media, a non-profit film production company based in Adelphi, MD. He is currently working with MYM Media on a full-length documentary film on the Star-Spangled Banner and the music of the War of 1812 (tentative release in June 2012).

**Kira Canon Goodman** (*M.ARCH '10*) was awarded a Graduate Award for Excellence in Design in the fifth annual 2011 AIA Maryland Student Design Awards Competition for her UMD thesis, "Baltimore Center for Making: a Public Interface for Creative Culture."

**Gilbert Lo-oh Mbeng** (*M.H.P. '10*) is currently working on the Mbainwol Initiative-affiliate of Maryland's Historic Preservation program. This initiative seeks to preserve the lost architectural heritage of the Kom, a kingdom in the northwestern tip of Cameroon in West Africa. The project is coined Mbainwol Initiative, in honor of Mbainwol, the woman who helped save the surviving structure. To learn more, visit <http://mbainwol.wordpress.com/2011/01/02/mbainwol-initiative/>.

**Jessie McClurg** (*M.ARCH '10, M.S. HISP '11*) is a LEED AP BD+C working with BWBR Architects in St. Paul, MN. Among her projects, Jessie worked with a local community in 2010 to research options for conservation district designation, a fairly new concept in the preservation community. In 2009, she received the Walter H. Judd traveling fellowship for research on preservation practices in Japan. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Preserve Minneapolis. Preservation is a part of Jessie's everyday life, as she lives in one of Minneapolis' original apartment buildings, built in 1895.

**Rachel Reilly** (*MRED '11*) joined the staff of the Institute for Community Economics, an affiliate of the National Housing Trust, in March 2012. ICE is a revolving community loan fund and a certified Community Development Financial Institution. Heading Investor and Borrower Relations, Rachel works with investors to finance affordable housing developments, both homeownership and rental housing. She works with fellow alum Matt Latham, Sustainable Development Manager at the National Housing Trust.

**Brent Roberts** (*MRED 2011*) Brent is Controller for 28 Walker Development and working with Colvin Council of Advisors member Abe Rosenthal on McHenry Row, a mixed-use development in the Locust Point neighborhood of Baltimore.

**Elena Sylos-Labini** (*MRED 2011*), who won the Spring 2011 Capstone competition, currently works with Abraham Rosenthal, a member of the MRED Council of Advisors, as a Real Estate Development Consultant for the McHenry Row Project in Baltimore.

# Alumni Chapter NEWS

*MAPP Alumni Chapter reactivated*

One of the many benefits of a Maryland education is its extensive network of alumni. This past February, the **MAPP Alumni Chapter** was reactivated in an effort to keep our tight-knit community even closer. The **MAPP Alumni Chapter** welcomes all alumni from the Architecture, Planning, Preservation and Real Estate Development programs. Recent graduates receive a free one-year membership in the Alumni Association as well as the Chapter upon graduation. Alumni from past years can become part of the network by simply joining the University of Maryland Alumni Association. MRED grads also gain access to the Masters of Real Estate Development Club (for more information contact Abdullah Osman at [aosman101@gmail.com](mailto:aosman101@gmail.com)). According to new president, **Emilie Rottman** (M.ARCH'11), the Chapter will provide networking events and opportunities, as well as a vehicle for keeping up with fellow classmates. "I think our school provides such a nice, connected community," said Emilie. "A group to keep everyone in touch after graduation, as well as the opportunity to connect with other classes, provides an ideal next chapter for our graduates."

To learn more about joining the Maryland Alumni Association, visit [www.alumni.umd.edu/](http://www.alumni.umd.edu/).



MRED students on a site visit.

# Donors

We thank all donors for their support and generosity. The gifts listed below are from January 2011 to April 2012.

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