



University of Notre Dame School of Architecture Newsletter

Volume 9, Issue 14

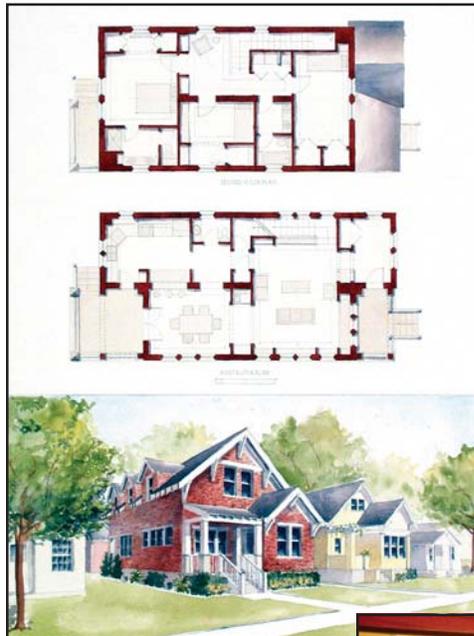
2007

Design Like a Champion Today

THE SCHOOL HAS ESTABLISHED THE CENTER for Building Communities (CBC), a new initiative to address architectural and urban design needs around the country. Led by professors Ron Sakal (the CBC executive director) and Sallie Hood (the director of design), the center serves a national constituency, offering design studios focusing on sustainable architecture and urban design.

Supported in part by an on-going gift from Champion Enterprises, Inc., a leader in factory-built construction, CBC studios place a special emphasis on modular building technology and the ways it can quickly and dramatically help strengthen communities.

“Notre Dame students have an opportunity to apply their talents to real projects for real clients with modest-to-average, rather than extraordinary budgets,” Sakal said. “Modular construction methods allow blighted areas to be rapidly transformed — within one-third to one-half the time of conventional construction — into fully occupied, lively and, with the Notre Dame touch, beautiful places.”



Partnering with Champion Enterprises, Inc., a leader in factory-built construction, the Center for Building Communities studios place special emphasis on modular building. Bottom right: Prof. Ron Sakal, Dean Michael Lykoudis, Bill Griffiths, president of Champion, and Prof. Sallie Hood celebrate Champion's collaboration with the School of Architecture.



The first CBC studios focused on urban infill in Elkhart, Indiana and a master plan for the historic downtown of Conway, Arkansas. At the invitation of the Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles, the fall 2007 studio will develop visionary design solutions for the 90-block downtown Fashion District.

Bybee Stone Company Studio

IN THE FALL OF 2007, PROFESSOR DAVID Mayernik will lead the first studio sponsored by the Bybee Stone Company. Six graduate students will focus on creating a new, downtown central library for the citizens of Washington, D.C.

Currently the District is considering either renovating or replacing its central library, a structure designed by Mies van der Rohe. The library suffers from chronic heating and cooling problems and leaking pipes, and due to

years of deferred maintenance, the building is in major need of facilities investment. The School's graduate students suggest a third option:

To renovate and design an addition to the Carnegie Library building, an important example of Neoclassical architecture that served as the District's original downtown central library from 1903 until 1972, when library services were relocated to the Mies-designed structure.

Besides exemplifying the national popularity of Beaux Arts Classicism and the influence of the McMillan Commission, the Carnegie Library is located in Mount Vernon Square at the intersection of two of Washington's most important avenues: Massachusetts and New York.

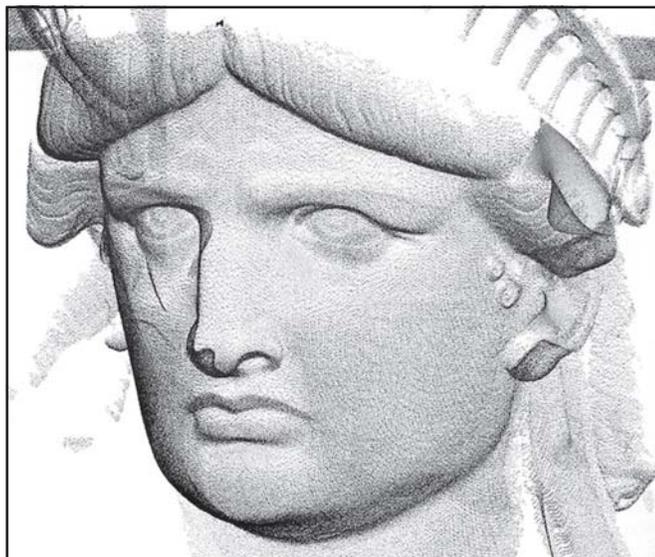
Both avenues contribute to the L'Enfant Plan. The relocation of the central library to Mount Vernon Square also would allow for an effective transition between the Washington Convention Center directly north and medium- and high-density residential buildings located east, west and south of the site.

The graduate students are challenged to develop ideas that satisfy both economic and preservation needs while restoring the Carnegie Library to its original grandeur. Their designs will meet modern requirements for a top research and learning facility, while honoring Carnegie Library's historic preservation status.

For nearly three decades, Bybee Stone Company, located in Bloomington, Indiana, has engaged in a full range of building projects, including both new buildings as well as restoration work, providing the highest-quality limestone and other building materials.

New Concentrations Offered

TWO NEW CONCENTRATIONS IN ARCHITECTURAL practice and historic preservation will be offered to students entering their fourth year beginning this fall. The first concentration known as "Concentration in Architectural Practice and Enterprise," with up to eight architecture students per year taking courses in accounting, management, statistics and corporate finance, among other courses through Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business. Admission into the concentration is expected to be



The Lecia 3D laser scanner recently acquired by the School will be used by students to document important monuments like the Statue of Liberty.



Left to right: Edward Bass, 2007 Henry Hope Reed Award recipient; Richard H. Driehaus; and Jaquelin T. Robertson, 2007 Driehaus Prize recipient. Mr. Bass and Mr. Robertson were honored during ceremonies held March 31 in Chicago.

competitive, with preference given to students with high GPAs and those who have expressed specific interest with an essay.

The Preservation and Restoration concentration initially includes the following courses: Research and Documentation of Historical Buildings, History of American Architecture 1630-1915, Historic Preservation and Traditional Construction, and History and Theory of Preservation.

"The Preservation and Restoration concentration is a direction in which the School can lead and show how traditional designs are sustainable designs," Dean Michael Lykoudis says. The concentration is open to all architecture students.

3D Scanning for Preservation

WITH AN \$85,500 GRANT FROM NOTRE DAME'S equipment Restoration and Renewal Program to Prof. Krupali Uplekar, the School has purchased a Lecia 3D laser scanner. It is a high-speed, long-range scanner ideal for projects with a short-time window for field data collection and for other field-efficient needs. The scanner is beneficial for capturing interiors of buildings and monuments, such as the Statue of Liberty.

In partnership with CyArk, a non-profit organization that collects the most accurate 3D models of cultural heritage sites, stores them and provides them freely to the world, the School plans to use the scanner to document endangered historic buildings such as those on UNESCO's world heritage list or the U.S. National

Register of Historic Places since few of these sites have been documented in much detail. Notre Dame now joins only a handful of universities in the U.S. with such technology, including Columbia, Stanford and the University of California at Berkeley. The scanner will be used as part of the School's new historic preservation concentration.

Robertson Receives Fifth Driehaus Prize

JAQUELIN T. ROBERTSON, AN ARCHITECT AND URBAN planner whose distinguished career has spanned continents, was named the recipient of the fifth-annual Richard H. Driehaus Prize during ceremonies held March 31 in Chicago. Robertson received \$100,000 and a model of the Choregic Monument of Lysikrates. In association with the Driehaus Prize, Edward Bass, president of Fine Line, Inc., a private diversified investment and venture capital firm in Fort Worth, received the \$25,000 Henry Hope Reed Award. Mr. Bass is recognized as a leader in one of the most successful urban revitalization efforts in the nation. He and his family developed Sundance Square into a successful mixed-use urban core in Fort Worth.

A partner in the firm Cooper, Robertson & Partners, Robertson founded the New York City Urban Design Group. He served under John Lindsay as the Director of the Mayor's Office of Midtown Planning and Development and worked as a New York City Planning Commissioner. In 1975, he directed the design of Iran's new capital center, Shahestan Pahlavi.

At the ceremonies in March, Robertson said he continues to be drawn to Vitruvius, the Roman architect and engineer, active in the 1st

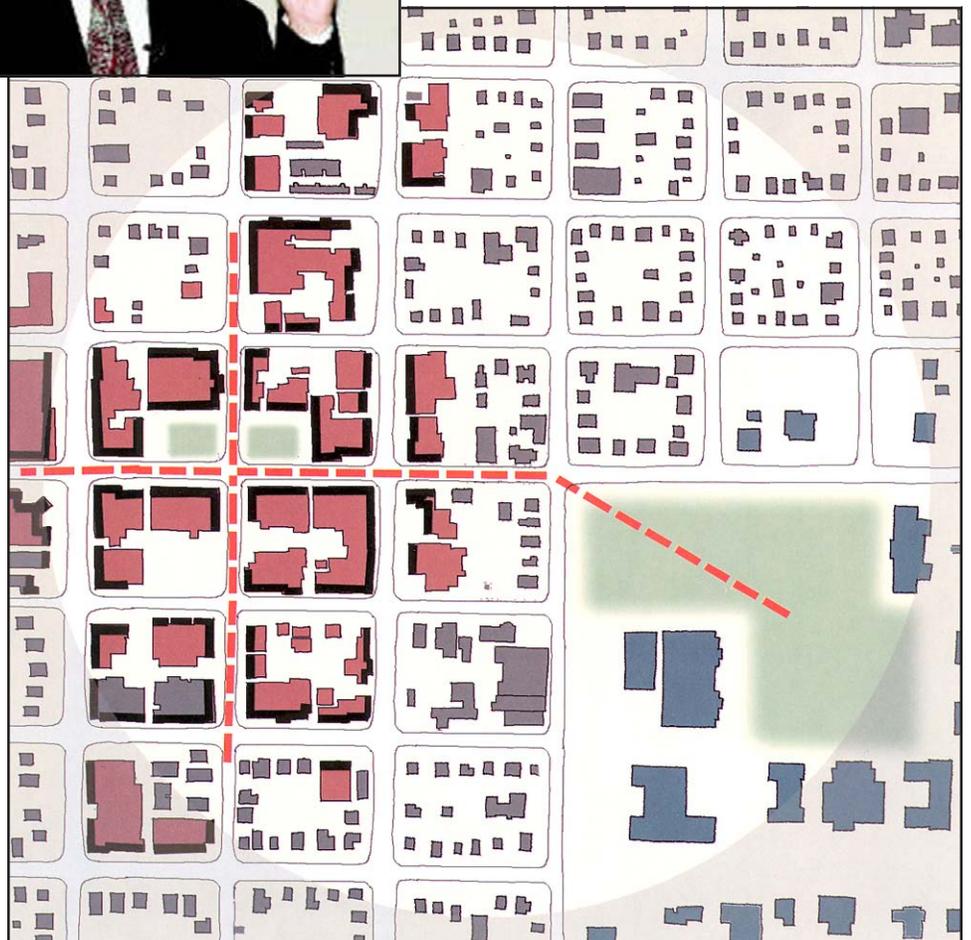
century BC "whose treatise to Caesar Augustus gave the shortest and best description of architecture's goal: to provide firmness, commodity and delight." Robertson said Vitruvius spoke knowingly of the genius of place, whose inherent rules are the architect's task to discover. Other speakers included Paul Goldberger, architecture critic for *The New Yorker*; Léon Krier, architect, urbanist and the inaugural Driehaus Prize recipient; and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, dean of the University of Miami School of Architecture and founding principal of Duany Plater-Zyberk. Excerpts of their talks can be found at www.driehausprize.org.

Creating a 21st Century College Town

LAND WILL BE DEVELOPED JUST SOUTH OF THE NOTRE Dame campus with plans to incorporate market-rate housing, retail, restaurants and offices. A well-



Good college towns are pedestrian and bicycle friendly, says Dhiru Thadani, left, who lectured in April as part of the symposium on college town planning. He presented plans of successful college towns such as Miami of Ohio University shown below. Miami's interconnected streets are walkable making businesses and residences easily accessible.



Faculty news

- Richard Economakis was one of 17 architects selected to participate in a design charette for the development of buildings for the new Cayalá neighborhood in Guatemala City master planned by Léon Krier.

- David Mayernik continues to do work for TASIS, an American international boarding school. He produced a new master plan for the TASIS England campus, and is working on a master plan and designs for a new elementary school for the TASIS Switzerland campus. His *plein air* paintings, represented by Mia N. Weiner of Connecticut, are the basis for two new large *capricci*.

- Ettore Maria Mazzola published, *Toward Sustainable Architecture* (Gangemi Editore, 2007), in which he argues the health of cities depends on a mix of buildings and uses.

- Bill Ponko designed the recently built Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary in Elkhart, Ind. which is expected to receive a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold-level rating. The 30,000 square foot facility employs significant day-lighting technology.

- Ron Sakal was named executive director of The Center for Building Communities, while Sallie Hood was named the Center's director of design.

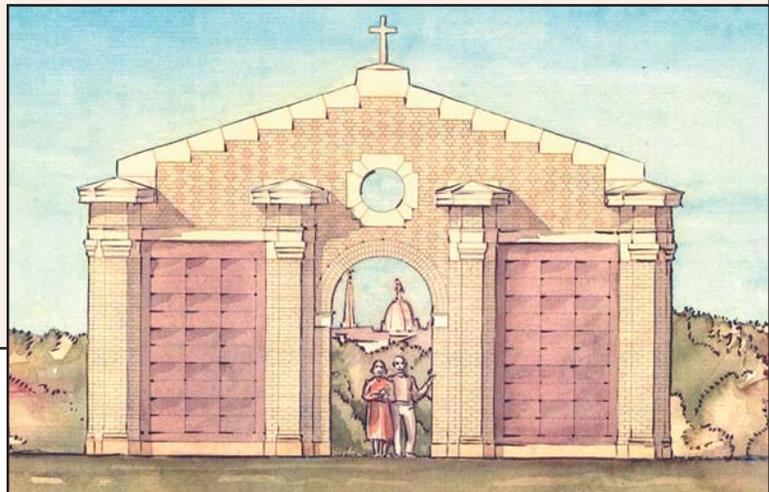
- Steven Semes will spend the 2007-2008 academic year in the Rome leading a studio for the graduate students in the fall and teaching an undergraduate studio in the spring.

- Thomas Gordon Smith designed a series of mausoleums for Notre Dame's Cedar Grove cemetery. The buildings are under construction with alumni and their spouses now eligible to purchase above-ground crypts and niches.

- Duncan Stroik's shrine of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was recently installed in the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Missouri. He also recently designed a new altar, baldacchino and organ screen for the sanctuary of St. Theresa Church in Sugarland, Texas.

- John Stamper was recently promoted to full professor.

- Samir Younes was named The Francis and Kathleen Rooney Director of Rome Studies.



Prof. Thomas Gordon Smith designed a series of mausoleums, currently under construction, for Notre Dame's Cedar Grove Cemetery.

conceived and executed master plan could help further connect the campus and the surrounding community. With this on the horizon, the School of Architecture and AIA Northern Indiana brought together experts for "Creating a 21st Century College Town," a symposium to discuss the attributes of successful developments.

Keynote speaker Dhiru Thadani, a principal with Ayres / Saint / Gross Architects based in Washington, D.C., provided an overview of trends in college-town planning across the country. In a typical college town, Thadani said, students account for only about 20 percent of sales in retail stores, so merchants must be selected to appeal to the broader community. Retailers should be predominantly local to create a sense of place, but that could require subsidies from the university as an incentive to those businesses.

Thandani, who has worked on or studied more than two dozen similar projects, emphasized the importance of a central gathering place — a public plaza or square. Desirable housing, narrow roads to slow traffic, pedestrian crossings and street parking are also essential to a successful development.

To avoid creating a "student ghetto," Thandani said the development must be planned with the idea of attracting a diverse population that includes everyone from young knowledge-based workers to retirees interested in the arts and educational value of living near a campus.

"Creating a 21st Century College Town" was

presented as part of the American Institute for Architects nation-wide community service initiative, "Blueprint for America," marking AIA's 150th anniversary. The School received a grant from the AIA toward the symposium. In addition, the School of Architecture would like to thank Advisory Council members Matt and Joyce Walsh for their support in making the symposium possible.

Join the Club

TWO NEW STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS HAVE made an immediate impact on the School and helped to advance its mission.

Fourth-year student Mollie Ponto founded a Notre Dame chapter of the Student Association for Women in Architecture (SAWA). Ponto's organization will work to promote gender equality and diversity in architecture.

SAWA invited Marianne Cusato, B.Arch '97, to speak during the spring semester. Cusato discussed her Katrina Cottages, homes for hurricane victims designed to remove the blight of FEMA trailers on the Gulf Coast. SAWA also recently received a grant from the Beverly Willis Architecture Foundation to bring notable female architects to lecture. To kick off the series, Beverly Willis, FAIA, who served as the first female president of the California Council of American Institute of Architects in the early 1970s, will come on December 3 to speak.

A new Notre Dame chapter of Students for New Urbanism (SNU) was also recently established.

SNU-ND will host the first SNU Congress October 5 - 7 at Notre Dame. Students from across the country will discuss development practices and public policies, learn from recent innovative work and explore initiatives that have the power to transform communities. Speakers include John Norquist, President and CEO of the Congress for the New Urbanism and Geoffrey Mouen, a nationally-recognized advocate of traditional town planning and town architect for Celebration, Florida.

China and Japan Summer Program

THE SCHOOL'S SUMMER PROGRAM IN CHINA and Japan continued with five students and three faculty members studying architecture in Hong Kong, Beijing, Nanjing and Shanghai among other locations. This year, the group also visited Wutai Shan located in China's Shanxi Province where Han Buddhist, Tibetan and Mongolian Lamaist temples make it one of the best places in country to view Buddhist architecture. The program strengthened the School's relationship with the University of Nanjing School of Architecture with several of its graduate students and faculty serving as guides. Plans are in the works for a graduate student exchange where a Notre Dame graduate student would spend a semester at the University of Nanjing, and a Nanjing student would in turn come to Notre Dame to study.



Wutai Shan, located in China's Shanxi Province, is home to many architecturally significant Buddhist temples. This is the third year, the School has sponsored a summer program in China and Japan.

Graduates In Demand

THE SCHOOL HAD ITS MOST successful Career Fair to date with 65 firms coming to campus in March from around the U.S. and Europe. That is 11 more firms attending than students graduating (the class of 2007 had 43 undergraduates and nine graduate students).

Because of that demand, 100 percent of the School's graduates left with plans in place for employment or further education. In addition, Notre Dame students' salaries are 17 percent higher than the average first-year starting salary as reported by *DesignIntelligence*, a journal that provides insight into practices within the architecture industry.

The most popular city for this year's School of Architecture graduates was Washington, D.C., with London close behind.

Stewart named Fulbright Scholar

RECENT GRADUATE ZACHARY STEWART HAS BEEN named a Fulbright Program scholar. Out of 500 applicants, Stewart was one of eight chosen to study in the United Kingdom. Stewart, a double major in architecture and medieval studies, will spend a year studying the history of Gothic architecture in Europe

at London's Courtauld Institute of Art. The Institute is one of the world's leading centers for teaching and research in the history of art and conservation. It houses important collections of paintings, prints and drawings.

In Memoriam

ESMEE BELLALTA, A LONGTIME PROFESSOR and friend of the School, died in February. She was 79.

Bellalta was a 1952 graduate of Harvard University's Graduate School of Design and taught for many years at the Universidad Catolica de Chile in Santiago before joining the Notre Dame faculty in 1976. Her husband, Jaime Juan Jose Ballalta, is also a professor emeritus of architecture. He survives, along with their 10 children, 25 grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



In addition to her teaching and research, Bellalta was an accomplished international landscape architect and president of Bella-Alta 2 Associates. She also coordinated the Justice Education Program at Saint Mary's College.

"The thrust of her interest in landscape design was from a social dimension," Prof. Norman Crowe said. "She taught a course that pioneered outreach efforts for this program — long before the advent of the Downtown Design Studio — by introducing students to marginal, poor or unstable neighborhoods and communities in South Bend. Esmee encouraged students to work with them to turn unused land, such as vacant building lots, into community gardens."

For her contributions to the School of Architecture, Bellalta posthumously received the 2007 Orlando T. Maione Award.

Library Makes Rare Slides Available

THE ARCHITECTURE LIBRARY HOLDS A RARE collection of 100-year-old glass lantern slides produced in France by G. Massiot & Cie that they have made available electronically. Although each slide has a hand-typed label with brief identifying information: country, city, and monument name, the librarians are looking for other information such as

the architect, date and style of architecture. The library has put nearly 3,000 of the scans on Flickr to make them accessible, and so that the general public can help identify the images.

To browse and possibly supply the library with some information on a building you know, please visit: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/ndalls/>. The images can be viewed by country or building type.

To leave information in the "comments" section below each photo, an account needs to be established with Flickr on Yahoo. Another option is to use this public login the Library created:

Yahoo! ID: ndarchy

Password: batman



An image of an Italian Piazza posted on Flickr.com by the School of Architecture library. This image came from a unique set of pre-World War I lantern slides. The images are now in the public domain.

Continued Growth

THE SCHOOL'S GRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUES to expand with 27 "Path C" students now in the program. Path C, begun in fall 2005, is a three-year professional Master of Architecture (M.Arch) degree intended for professionals with undergraduate degrees in fields other than architecture. Like the School's other graduate students, Path C students are required to choose a concentration in either classical architecture or urban design, and spend a semester studying in Rome.

Norman Crowe: A Career Blending Architecture, Urban Planning and Nature

Norman Crowe saw more in Pueblo, Colorado than the steel yards and government pamphlets that made the city famous. He saw the “giant columns on the portico” of the municipal courthouse, “a quirky classical building.” He saw a church and recognized it not only as a house of worship, but as a building of “obvious substance.”

This awareness of his built environment led Crowe to become an architect and educator. It also became the basis of his popular 1997 book, *Nature and the Idea of a Man-Made World* (MIT Press). As technology evolved over the centuries, architecture and urban planning lost the relationship with nature that allowed it to exist. To Crowe, “the fundamental source of all our knowledge, however, still remains rooted in nature.”

Blending architecture, urban planning and nature has been a central theme in Crowe’s career, and he has developed a reputation for shaping a curriculum that helps students learn about and relate to the natural world around them.

He also has served in nearly every capacity within the School of Architecture. From teaching first-year students to acting as the first director of graduate studies, to teaching in the Rome Studies Program and leading the School’s summer programs in locations such as Portugal, Lebanon and Japan, his influence is far-reaching and deeply felt.

After 33 years, Crowe will retire from the School the end of the fall 2007 semester. In many ways, Crowe says, it feels like his career here has come full circle, at least in the ways that matter most to him.

“The School has become more comfortable with itself,” Crowe says, “and is finally being recognized for its influence on promoting more humane architecture and more humane cities.”

Instilling those principles in students has been his greatest priority since arriving at Notre Dame in 1974. His passion for finding the “humane” in architecture and urban design began with a clinic in Pueblo. In a dismal setting, he designed a courtyard to create a more welcoming environment.

“I wanted people to look out on a scene that was not dominated by parking,” Crowe says.

Before he went to graduate school, Crowe spent a year living in a medieval town in Sweden. His intention was to explore modernism. What he found there was a more refined modernism, comfortable in a traditional urban context.



Prof. Norman Crowe, back center, recently led a group of faculty and students on an architectural tour through Japan.

“Sweden had no great starchitect and no great modernist buildings,” Crowe says. “They were not searching for novelty or modernism, but better buildings. A better way to do modernism.”

It became the focus of his professional — and professorial — life. He took that influence with him to graduate school and into teaching as a source of inspiration to be innovative in architecture without severing its roots.

“Traditional architecture has evolved over time. It is from this foundation where innovation should

begin,” Crowe says. “I introduced traditional architecture in studio as a counterproposal to modernism.”

In the 1980s, Crowe and fellow Cornell graduate Steven Hurr designed a parallel track in classical architecture at Notre Dame. The evolution in the focus of the entire curriculum toward that vision has been steady.

That direction has helped the School rise in stature and, in turn, raise more resources than the “do-it-yourself” place Crowe remembers from the mid-1970s.

Students have followed the same upward arc in their performance and commitment to the profession.

“The students today are more mature,” Crowe says. “They see architecture as a very serious discipline.”

Never more so than after their experience in the Rome Studies Program. If “traditional architecture helped lay the foundation for the program today,” then a year in Rome provides the impetus for the students’ carrying those enduring principles into the future.

“The Rome Program changes students’ perspectives. It’s like basic training in the army. I liken it to boot camp, but a wonderfully positive experience,” Crowe says. “The students return from Rome as committed professionals.”

Much like Crowe himself when he returned from Sweden to go to graduate school and then spent his career teaching students the humane lessons of his education and experience.

2007 - 2008 LECTURES AND EVENTS

For additional events and speakers visit WWW.ARCHITECTURE.ND.EDU

DAVID LIGARE, SEPTEMBER 10

Neo-classical painter, Monterrey, California

EDWARD SUZUKI, SEPTEMBER 24

Principal, Edward Suzuki Associates Inc., Tokyo, Japan

FIRST INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS FOR NEW URBANISM CONGRESS, OCTOBER 5 - 7

PAOLO PORTOGHESI, OCTOBER 17

Architect and Professor, University of Sapienza, Rome

JAQUELIN ROBERTSON, NOVEMBER 7

2007 Driehaus Prize Laureate and Principal, Cooper Robertson & Partners, New York

BEVERLY WILLIS, DECEMBER 3

Architect, artist, author, activist and philanthropist, New York

DEBORAH NEVINS, JANUARY 21

Principal designer and president, Deborah Nevins & Associates, New York

JOHN ALEXANDER, FEBRUARY 4

Architectural historian, Texas A&M's College of Architecture

EXPO ROMA 2007, FEBRUARY 15 - 17

A weekend celebrating the class of 2009's year in Rome

CAREER FAIR, MARCH 27 - 28

For more information visit http://architecture.nd.edu/professional_development/career_fair08.shtml

THE RICHARD H. DRIEHAUS PRIZE AWARD PRESENTATION, MARCH 29

John B. Murphy Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Erie Street, Chicago

MIGUEL LANDA SIERRA, APRIL 7

Architectural historian, Cusco, Peru

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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