Ranked Among the Top Ten

For the first time, the School of Architecture ranks among the top ten in the nation. Each year DesignIntelligence and the Design Futures Council conduct a study in conjunction with the Almanac of Architecture & Design to determine the best schools. This year the School ranked ninth among NAAB-accredited bachelor's programs.

A survey which determines the rankings canvassed 1,108 firms, asking them to choose the institutions that produced graduates most prepared for real-world practice. There are over 75 NAAB-accredited bachelor's degree programs in architecture, so this is quite an honor.

New Graduate Director

Philip Bess has been appointed director of graduate studies, effective in August. Prof. Bess succeeds Norman Crowe, who stepped down to concentrate on teaching, research and writing projects.

A nationally-recognized expert on town planning and neighborhood baseball park design, Prof. Bess is a design consultant for Chicago-based Thursday Architects, a research and design consulting firm committed to re-thinking American architecture and urbanism. He was the director and principal designer of the Urban Baseball Park Design Project of the Society for American Baseball Research.

Prof. Bess served for the past decade as a Professor of Architecture and curriculum coordinator in the Division of Architecture at Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan. He also has been a visiting professor at the University of Michigan, Miami of Ohio and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

A contributing editor to Inland Architect magazine, Prof. Bess has written extensively on issues of architecture and urban design, including the books City Baseball Magic: Plain Talk and Uncommon Sense About Cities and Baseball Parks and Inland Architecture: Subterranean Essays on Moral Order and Formal Order in Chicago.

As a design consultant for municipalities, architects and community development corporations, he engages in tasks as diverse as town and neighborhood master planning, code and ordinance writing, parking and traffic analysis, and the study of potential ballpark sites.

Prof. Bess received a Master's of Architecture from the University of Virginia in 1981 and Master of Theological Studies from Harvard's Divinity School. He may be reached at pbess@nd.edu.

School Publications

We are pleased to introduce two new annual publications, Acroterion and The Richard H. Driehaus Prize.

Featuring student work that demonstrates the best of refinement and design, Acroterion, which means "the highest point," also contains descriptions of every facet of the School, from the undergraduate curriculum and the Rome Studies Program, to the graduate program, the Downtown South Bend.

There are two new School of Architecture publications.
Moving Beyond Borders

The principles of social equity and environmental responsibility are at the core of what and how we teach traditional architecture. The values of celebrating cultural diversity, community and ecological stewardship offer our students solid foundations upon which to build a life of discovery. Experience has shown they employ this foundation in many creative ways as they develop their careers. In the coming years, we will continue to develop and bring to fruition more opportunities for our students as well as challenge their minds to assume leadership positions in the world. This past calendar year has brought much new visibility to the School and with it new opportunities for our students to become better acquainted with the importance of regionalism both abroad and in our own American cities and rural settings.

In Rome, the third year students explored the architecture and urbanism of Orvieto under the tutelage of Profs. Mesko and Casas while another group traveled to Barletta with Prof. Mazzola. The studios examined what elements make each community unique.

In the fourth year, the faculty took their students on a virtual tour of three non-western sites that exemplified a high vernacular and classical architecture of their respective cultures. One group examined the site of Tanjavur in India, another looked at a site in Kyoto, Japan and a third Bokhara in Uzbekistan. The faculty reasoned that returning from Rome, the students can better understand the principles of architecture if there is a greater distance in the forms that they use. Since they could not readily use the Italian vernacular and classical in the other settings they relied only on understanding urban and tectonic principles that are expressed by the various typologies of the respective cultures.

At the completion of the cross culture project the fourth years will focus on American regionalism. Over time we are developing sites in the northwest, southeast, northeast and southwest for our students to visit, analyze and prepare architectural proposals. In this manner they will better understand how climate, geology, landscape and culture shape architecture differently from time to time and from place to place.

In the graduate program we welcome Prof. Philip Bess who will be phasing into the position as Director of Graduate Studies. The plans for the graduate program are to eventually double its size and develop additional course opportunities both in South Bend and in Rome. This year, Dr. Demetri Porphyrios will be a visiting critic, teaching the Graduate Studio in Rome along with Samir Younés, Director of the Rome Studies Program.

Finally we are quite pleased with the positive recognition we have received for the giving of the Richard H. Driehaus Prize for Classical Architecture. The recognition that newspapers and magazines have given the prize and the program are a testament to the hard work of our students, faculty and friends over the years.

A MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN
MICHAEL LYKOUDIS

Design Center and examples of traditional and classical architecture.

The Richard H. Driehaus Prize, a monograph commemorating the inaugural Richard H. Driehaus Prize for Classical Architecture and the work of the 2003 honoree, architect and urbanist Léon Krier, highlights Mr. Krier’s lifetime achievements and publishes for the first time photographs of the restored Krier House in Seaside, Florida.

Either book may be purchased from the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore by calling 574-631-5757. For more information, please visit the School’s Web site (architecture.nd.edu/publications/publications.html).

The second recipient of The Richard H. Driehaus Prize is Dr. Demetri Porphyrios. A leading architect and theorist, Dr. Porphyrios will be honored in a ceremony March 20 at The Ballroom at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Rome Publications

Because of the School’s work in urban design, cities throughout Italy now seek the School’s advice on architectural issues, says Samir Younés, director of the Rome Studies Program. The students’ proposals for two such Italian cities are featured in new publications edited by Prof. Younés and Prof. Ettore M. Mazzola: Arpino: Un Nuovo Borgo, A New Quarter and Como: La Modernità Della Tradizione, The Modernity of Tradition. Detailing proposals prepared by fourth-year students, the books are printed in English and Italian to reach an international audience.

Arpino features students’ designs for a new urban quarter that protects the city’s historical center by connecting Piazza Caio Mario, a popular public space, with the University of Arpino.

Como displays a new waterfront, assembly hall, outdoor
theatre, bus station and other designs for the eastern edge of this resort town’s historic center. To coincide with the launch of Como, a conference was held in the city in September 2003 to address new traditional architecture in the region.

Downtown Design Center Moves

The school’s Downtown South Bend Design studio moved to a bigger and better home in October. Only two blocks from its initial location on Main Street, the storefront studio at 217 S. Michigan Street now shares 10,000-square-foot space with several other organizations including the University’s Office of Community Relations and Downtown South Bend Inc. (DTSB), a non-profit organization dedicated to the growth of South Bend. Notre Dame’s Snite Museum of Art, Institute of Latino Studies, and Department of Art, Art History and Design also share gallery space at the location.

For the past five years the studio in downtown South Bend has allowed students to work with professionals and contribute to the urban evolution of the city.

Students Present Designs for New Studebaker Museum

In late November, fifth-year students participating in the South Bend Downtown Design Studio under the direction of Prof. John Stamper presented 10 different designs for the new Studebaker National Museum to be located just west of downtown South Bend. Each design was 50,000 square feet with a gift shop, exhibition spaces, a workshop, curatorial offices and storage. The proposals connect the museum to the Northern Indiana Center for History.

A jury of invited critics from local architectural firms selected the top two student designs with $100 being awarded to Kiernan Moriarty for first place, and $50 to Katie Borchardt for second place.

James Childs Architects of South Bend has been selected to design the new museum. James Childs is a 1965 graduate of the School of Architecture and sponsor of the James Childs Scholarship.

Pushing Modernism Forward

Arquitectonica, the Miami-based architectural firm co-founded by Bernardo Fort-Brescia, FAIA, aspires to use the automobile, the expressway and our fast-paced society to its advantage. Kicking off the School’s 2003-2004 lecture series Mr. Fort-Brescia said, “In modern society there’s a lot of conflict, energy and contrast. Buildings should show conflict of social structure.”

Showing his curved buildings marked by glass facades, Mr. Fort-Brescia explained that buildings themselves, not city blocks, should be visual anchors. He said European cities are very different than American cities where “unplanning should remain, the unexpected should remain.”

Mr. Fort-Brescia says his firm has always adhered to modernism and pushed it forward while dealing with urban realities. “We don’t proclaim what we do is for every building in every city,” Mr. Fort-Brescia said. “It’s not what every building in a block should be. But it’s appropriate for a new city like Miami.”

Krier Praises Classical Planning

Léon Krier, the first recipient of the Richard H. Driehaus Prize for Classical Architecture, came to Notre Dame on November 3 to deliver the Prize’s inaugural lecture. Titled “Why I Practice Classical Architecture and Traditional Urbanism,” Mr. Krier said reason and tradition are important traits for architects to uphold in their designs. “Practicing classical architecture is like speaking. It’s completely natural to us,” he said.

Classical architecture celebrates “the spirit of geography” because it addresses the cultural needs of a specific place, Mr. Krier said. “Architecture is a response to everyday needs within a certain geography. It responds to needs specific to a geographical climate.”

Considering the term historical misleading in the description of classical principles, Mr. Krier said we live in a continuum of time and any idea that is useful is modern. “You need relatively little classical adornment if (the buildings) are in scale. The most important thing is to establish place and let it enrich itself over time.”

Léon Krier signs copies of Architecture: Choice or Fate, while students Ryan Duffy, Suzanne Stryker and Allison Grobe look on.
In the fall, each fourth-year student accepted a site in one of three cities whose cultural history lies outside Western Civilization. The cities were Buchara in Uzbekistan, Thanjavur in India and Kyoto in Japan. Each site was within a conservation district of the selected city where all new buildings are required by law to be consistent with the historic architecture of the district. It is an architecture that is regarded as classical by the respective culture. The students learned to apply their knowledge of the principles of western classicism to analyze the architecture of the culture they selected, and to translate from one classical expression to another as one would translate from one language to another. The intent was not to become an “expert” in the architecture of the particular culture but rather to begin to understand a process of analysis and design that takes into consideration its venerable and long evolved architectural expressions. In the end, it engenders a respect for the architectural achievements of non-western civilizations. At the same time students learned more about western architecture, its substance, meaning, and principles, through contrast and comparison.

— Prof. Norman Crowe

Prof. Crowe taught a fourth year studio along with Prof. Alan DeFrees, Prof. Barbara Kenda, Fr. Richard Bullene, C.S.C. and special consultant Swapnali Srikanth.
At the beginning of the semester, students each selected a facade from among the town houses in the Gold Coast neighborhood of Chicago, which they would use throughout the course as a vehicle to learn how the computer can be a tool for drawing. In the first exercise, an exercise in line drawing, students produced a measured plan, section and elevation of their facade. The second was an exercise in digital modeling and lighting, and students produced elevations with color, shade and shadow. In the final exercise, students added material detail to their models, and digitally composited various views of their facades to produce an analytique. Animation was also briefly covered to demonstrate that the computer does in fact expand the architect's traditional representational arsenal. The course is thus designed to reveal both the strengths and the weaknesses of the computer as another tool at the architect's disposal.

— Prof. Dino Marcantonio

Prof. Marcantonio taught a computer course along with Prof. Frank Huderwitz.


Faculty News

Prof. Dennis Doordan has been named chair of the University’s Department of Art, Art History, and Design. He will continue to teach architecture courses.

Prof. Norman Crowe and Prof. John Stamper have been named co-directors of the School’s South Bend Downtown Design Center. Prof. Stamper also published “Portrait of General Jean-Louis Reynier” in the exhibition catalog “Face to Face: Examining Identity,” published by the Snite Museum of Art.

Prof. Richard Economakis recently published Acropolis (Artmedia), and will continue with books on the ancient cities of Ephesus and Pompeii. On leave last year working as a design associate with Porphyrios Associates in London, Prof. Economakis completed designs for Whitman College, Princeton’s sixth residential college. The project is in the construction document phase and is scheduled for completion in summer 2006. Also working on the College were Notre Dame alumni John Griffin, Neil Hoyt, Tim McCarthy and Thomas O’Neal.

Villa Indiana, a house designed and built by Duncan Stroik was published in the Institute of Classical Architecture and Classical America’s A Decade of Art and Architecture 1992-2002. His essay “Allegorical Portrait” was published in the exhibition catalog “Face to Face: Examining Identity.” And on May 31, 2003 All Saints Church in Walton, Kentucky, designed by Prof. Stroik with Clarisey Frank Architecture was dedicated by Bishop Roger J. Foys.

Prof. Thomas Gordon Smith, a speaker for the New Jersey AIA Design Day Educational Program, spoke as part of a program “designed to remind and recall two opposite positions on architecture: the classical/traditional and the modern/iconoclastic.” Prof. Smith spoke on the current state of the world and how tradition and classicism should affect the way we design and practice architecture. The other speakers were Paul Goldberger, Pulitzer Prize winning architectural critic for The New York Times and The New Yorker, and Thomas Mayne, founder of Morphosis and The Southern California Institute for Architecture.

Shop Talks

Two alumni returned to campus in October to give Shop Talks, informal discussions where graduates discuss the architectural profession from a more casual point of view. Shop Talks are opportunities for students to ask professionals frank questions about the profession. Ricardo Alvarez-Diaz ’96 discussed his personal experience as a young architect making his way in what he calls “an older profession” and what one should know when trying to develop an architecture firm. He is the principal and founder of Alvarez-Diaz+Group, PSC in San Juan, Puerto Rico and co-founder of Alvarez-Diaz+Cruz, Inc. in New York City.

Rick Ryniak ’76, also principal of his own firm Ryniak Architects, based in Lahaina, Hawaii, is a residential architect with famous clients including Kelsey Grammar, Carlos Santana and New York Yankees’ manager Joe Torre. He discussed how he built his high-profile client base and his techniques to keep Ryniak Architects profitable.

New York Alumni Reception

On October 1, Notre Dame alumni — including many School of Architecture graduates — and friends gathered at the Union Club of New York for the first annual architecture lecture co-sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of New York and the School. Organized by Patrick Perrella ’90 and Marc Clemenceau Bailly ’97, the highlight of the event was a lecture by Chairman Lykoudis titled, “Architecture and Urbanism at Notre Dame: Sustainability.
Trumps Style.” Chairman Lykoudis spoke of the School’s journey over the past 15 years in teaching a classical curriculum. The architectural firms Ferguson & Shamamian, Gensler, Cooper, Robertson & Partners, and Gage/Clemenceau Bailly also helped support this event.

**Exceptional Gifts from Hong Kong**

If you saw *Lost in Translation*, then you discovered the luxuriously cool interiors of the Park Hyatt Hotel in Tokyo designed by John E. Morford ’64. When the South China Morning Post asked local designers about the designer they admired most, the majority picked Morford, citing the timelessness, rigor, beauty, and subtlety of his work. Morford & Company Ltd., is based in Hong Kong and has masterminded an array of prestigious hotel and restaurant design projects for clients such as the Hyatt hotels in Hong Kong, Seoul, Singapore and Macau and the Sydney Customs House Restaurant in Australia. Before founding his company in 1984, Morford worked with Skidmore Owings & Merrill (Chicago), Dale Keller & Associates (Hong Kong) and former Notre Dame professor Paul Jacques Grillo in Paris. He also earned a Master’s in architecture from Rice University and studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome.

Morford retains close ties to his alma mater, and particularly the Architecture Library. For several years boxes have arrived regularly from Hong Kong containing a treasure trove of books on Chinese and Asian architecture, from ancient construction and traditional building to classical Chinese furniture and landscape design. These books are not only historically significant, but also visually outstanding, providing the kinds of photographs and drawings that architecture students rely on. Many of the titles would be difficult, if not impossible, to find in North America, but Morford’s knowledge of Chinese art publishing helps him to locate these exceptional volumes. In addition to the Asian titles, Morford has donated a range of books from his personal library including titles on Russian, Korean, Philippino and Indian architecture.

In a recent letter to the School, Morford wrote: “I am hugely indebted to, in particular, Paul Grillo, Frank Montana and Ernest Brandl for their talents, vision and patience which influenced me tremendously when I was at Notre Dame.” His gifts to the library have been made in honor of these outstanding teachers and also in memory of his father, John L. Morford (1915-1993) whose “patience and support allowed me to start a wonderful life as architect designer...”. Through his commitment to the School, Morford has taken the further step of bequeathing his personal library to the Architecture Library and of arranging for an endowment that will provide funds to the Architecture Library for future acquisitions. This exceptionally generous support will help the library to enrich its collections with outstanding titles like the ones Morford has already donated.

— Jane Devine Mejia, Architecture/Art Librarian

**Building Cities**

Co-sponsoring the 40th International Making Cities Livable Conference June 13 – 17 at the University’s London Centre in Trafalgar Square, the School invites all to attend this gathering designed to provide expertise and information for making cities more livable. The title for this year’s gathering is “Building Cities for Community and Identity.” The conference’s keynote speakers are architects Robert Adam, George Ferguson, Demetri Porphyrios, John Simpson, Quinlan Terry and Dean of Venice University’s School of Urban Planning, Edoardo Salzano. For more information and to register, visit www.livablecities.org or call Suzanne Crowhurst Lennard at 831-626-9080.
UPCOMING EVENTS

2004 CAREER FAIR
March 18-20, McKenna Hall, Lower Level, University of Notre Dame.

THE RICHARD H. DRIEHAUS PRIZE AWARD CEREMONY
March 20, 5-7 p.m., The Ballroom at The School of The Art Institute of Chicago. Dr. Demetri Porphyrios, principal of London-based Porphyrios Associates will be honored.

LECTURE: THOMAS NORMAN RAJKOVICH
March 29, 4:30 p.m., 104 Bond Hall, “Climbing Mount Parnassus: Drawing Parallels.”

LECTURE: KATE DIAMOND, FAIA
April 5, 4:30 p.m., 104 Bond Hall, “Architecture of the Public Realm.”

LECTURE: KATHRYN ANTHONY
April 19, 4:30 p.m., 104 Bond Hall, “Designing for Diversity: Gender, Race and Ethnicity in the Architectural Profession.”

COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND
May 14-16. May 15, 2 p.m., Bond Hall Front Steps, School of Architecture Graduation Ceremony.

HAVANA SUMMER PROGRAM
May 24 - June 20, Students will explore the history of Havana Architecture and Urban Design under the direction of Prof. Deupi and Prof. Casas.

LECTURE: KATHRYN ANTHONY

AIA NATIONAL CONVENTION, CHICAGO NOTRE DAME ALUMNI RECEPTION
June 10, 6:30 - 8 p.m., The Cliff Dwellers, 200 S. Michigan Avenue, top floor of Borg-Warner Building.

CHINA SUMMER PROGRAM
June 16 - July 3, Students will travel through China and study architecture and urbanism with Prof. Westfall and Prof. Lykoudis.

CAREER DISCOVERY
June 20 - July 2, Notre Dame Program for high school students who want to study architecture.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED