MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

Architecture and urban design are great and noble undertakings that serve every aspect of society. An architect must address many factors, recognizing that design challenges do not exist in a vacuum—there are social and environmental implications. And as a collaborative art, architecture must embrace the needs of numerous constituencies. Notre Dame students and alumni have transcended these factors with inspiring results. At the School of Architecture we continue to innovate locally (through recent initiatives such as a collaboration with Notre Dame’s Center for Research, the City of South Bend, and local neighborhood associations) and globally (with a new minor in sustainability and studies at international sites from Bath, England to Costa Rica and, this fall, Havana).

Though the architect’s work constantly remakes our world, our obligation is not only to our moment in time, but also to the past and the future. A sense of humility must animate our work, recognition that we belong to a larger cultural story that began long before and will continue long after the design and construction of our buildings. It takes endurance, energy, and empathy to be an architect whose work endures beyond its time to become part of our cultural history and identity.

—MICHAEL LYKOUDIS

While inspiration drives our work, we also recognize the practical realities and challenges of our time. Our graduates have worked hard to find employment in this difficult professional environment. According to the Notre Dame Career Center, 91 percent of the Class of 2010 found full-time employment within three months of graduation. It took patience, persistence, and entrepreneurship to find success in the job market. It is in difficult times that we define ourselves. It is our role as leaders in the architectural profession to transform our visions into reality. I know our recent graduates will make us as proud as their predecessors have with their contributions to the built environment.

Michael Lykoudis
Francis and Kathleen Rooney Dean

TOP CNU HONORS RECEIVED

The School of Architecture received top honors from the annual Congress for the New Urbanism Charter Awards. In the academic competition, Prof. Philip Bess’ urban-design studio “Strategies for Sustainable Skaneateles” in central New York State received the grand prize. The team of six graduate students received $1000 from The Oram Foundation Inc. / Fund for the Environment and Urban Life.

Cindy Michel, ’04 and ’10, received the Academic Award for her graduate thesis project “From Settlement to City: A Masterplan for Cap-Haitien, Haiti,” a case study examining urban-design problems in dense, newly built settlements in developing countries. Her project proposed a new master plan for Cap-Haitien, Haiti in the aftermath of that country’s devastating earthquake.

Prof. Samir Younés was part of a team that received honorable mention for a new town plan in Corbeanca, Romania.

Opticos Design, Inc. (whose principals are Dan ’95 and Karen Parolek ’95, and inaugural Driehaus Prize winner Léon Krier), were honored for a new town square and beachfront master plan for Seaside, Florida.

The awards were presented at a ceremony at the 19th annual Congress for the New Urbanism in Madison, Wisconsin in June 2011. Prof. Philip Bess, Cindy Michel and Dean Michael Lykoudis were featured in the CNU 19 Video Channel. The CNU is the leading organization promoting walkable, mixed-use neighborhood development.
The School of Architecture honored 48 undergraduates and 15 graduate students on May 22 on the front steps of Bond Hall. The valedictorians were Larissa Estrella of the undergraduate program, and Clare Watson, Jennifer Griffin and John Griffin of the graduate degree programs.

Many members of the class of 2011, which includes graduates from 24 states, Honduras, Nicaragua, Colombia, El Salvador, Spain, Ukraine, Korea and China featured prominent national buildings on their traditional mortarboard designs, including the Leaning Tower of Pisa and the Arc de Triomphe.

The School of Architecture’s Graduation speaker, Prof. Dennis Doordan, to the Class of 2011:

“The Senate represents a form of stewardship as well as an honored profession. Architects bear an enormous responsibility as stewards of creation. How you conceive, construct, and manage the built environment will shape the quality of life—all life on our interconnected planet—for generations to come. Here I want to remind you that architects are optimists by profession. To build is an act of hope and an affirmation of life. We can design a better world. You must design a better world.”

UNCOVERING ROME’S SECRETS

The second edition of City Secrets Rome: The Essential Insider’s Guide recently came out, and School’s faculty played a major role in its publication. Called “an extraordinary resource” by Travel and Leisure magazine, the book includes the recommendations of artists, writers, historians, architects, chefs, and other experts whose passionate opinions and informed perspectives illuminate well-known sites as well as overlooked treasures. The guide includes submissions by Prof. David Mayernik, Ingrid Rowland, Steven Senses, and Thomas Gordon Smith and former Notre Dame faculty Jeff Blanchard and Judy DiMaio. All have served as Fellows at The American Academy in Rome, which will receive a percentage of the book’s proceeds. The Academy is for independent study and advanced research in the arts and humanities. City Secrets Rome is available through Fang Duff Kahn Publishers.

BEYOND THE COMPETITION

The conference will include an exhibit and launch of the Seaside Research Portal, an online resource for students and enthusiasts of architecture, urban design, planning, and real estate. This site will serve as an archive of Seaside. The portal will provide a new way to study and access architecture and New Urbanism online. For more information and to register visit seasideat30.library.nd.edu.

Since its first award in 1982, the Arthur Ross Award for Architecture seeks to reward and recognize individuals or organizations demonstrating excellence in the classical tradition. The award ceremony, honoring Franck & Lohsen and this year’s other laureate— including Ralph Lauren for Patronage, and Evergreen Architectural Arts for Artisanship— was held on May 2 at the University Club in New York City.

Franck & Lohsen Architects in Washington, D.C. has been honored with the 2011 Arthur Ross Award in Architecture by the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art. Co-founder and principal Michael Franck, received a Master’s in Architecture from Notre Dame in 1994. He is the first alumnus to be honored with a Ross Award.

Founded in 2001, Franck & Lohsen was recognized for their “elegant and sensitive designs throughout outstanding residential, institutional, and civic commissions.” The firm’s work includes numerous Catholic Church projects around the country and in Rome, public libraries and other institutional projects, residential, new town, and urban design projects.

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Robert A. M. Stern, whose influential designs have revitalized traditional architecture, was awarded the School’s Richard H. Driehaus Prize on March 26 in Chicago. In conjunction, Robert A. Peck, now serving for the second time as the General Service Administration’s Commissioner of Public Buildings, received the 2011 Henry Hope Reed Award. Both participated in a colloquium moderated by WTTW Chicago Public Television host Geoffrey Baer. WTTW also produced a documentary about Robert A.M. Stern that will air on American Public Media’s “American Masters” series, produced and hosted by Geoffrey Baer. The documentary will air in conjunction with the Driehaus Prize Award Ceremony in Chicago. Bottom left: The Driehaus Prize cocktail reception above. Additionally, the Driehaus Prize Award Ceremony in Chicago. Above: Richard H. Driehaus at the 2011 Driehaus Prize Award Ceremony in Chicago. March 25, 2011. Bottom right: Robert A.M. Stern addresses the audience at the Friday-night event.

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In accepting the Driehaus Prize, Stern said: “Unlike the architecture of the past, today’s architecture is a humanistic discipline which is open to a cross current of ideas, welcoming that which is new and challenging standards that have prevailed in the past. He said design is deliberate and considered. “To value a tradition and to maintain it over time requires a conscious effort and a sense of self. Traditions are very precise, they are talismans, symbols, beliefs. Tradition provides a refuge from the ruthlessness of everyday life but tradition is not fixed, tradition evolves just as culture evolves. Traditions can be initiated but not initiated. One architect cannot a tradition make. Architects should stop worrying about self expression and Zeitgeist which lead to an obsession with saying things differently as opposed to saying them clearly or meaningfully. Obviously each architect dreams of making a contribution but such contributions are best made when within a context. In embracing tradition there is no need to throw out invention. In fact I believe that without tradition there can be no invention.”

In accepting the Henry Hope Reed Award, Robert A. Peck said: “I suppose it was only a matter of time before this award went to someone affiliated with Federal government buildings. It is the government, after all, that has most notably and consistently embraced classical architecture since the nation’s founding. And whether through public buildings, military forts, the Northwest Ordinance, the National Parks or the Interstate highway system, the government has influenced the public realm on a scale that nothing else can approach.”

Peck also noted how federal buildings reflect the aspirations of the American public: “The value of great American public buildings is not in its style per se; it is in their ambition. To paraphrase Jefferson and the capital commissioners of 1791, public buildings should elevate the building arts; they should be elegant and express confidence in the future. It is not about style. To paraphrase Senator Moynihan, public buildings say something about our politics. Politics is the best sense: politics as expressing our shared values.”

This time, students developed a master plan for the improvement of a blighted area within Bath’s historic center in the Kingsmead and Green Park areas to the west of the Medieval Abbey. They examined Bath’s history and evolution, especially its medieval core and the outlying 18th-century regions. Recent proposals around Bath have faced public opposition because they have been viewed as incapable of harmonizing with the city’s well-preserved fabric of classical and traditional buildings. The students proposed to uphold the existing traditional patterns and range of classical expressions that have made the city a World Heritage site.

In spring 2011 the first-year Path C graduate design studio led by Prof. Richard Economakis focused on the architectural past and future of Bath, England. Students assessed the contemporary architectural needs of the area along with the history of the region’s urban development. The studio was a continuation of the summer 2009 program that outlined a master plan for Bath’s Western Riverside area. That project, which addressed the traditional urban patterns, building forms and constructional techniques, received a 2010 Academic Award of Excellence from the Congress for the New Urbanism (CNUL).

An axonometric of a new master plan for the improvement of Bath, England’s historic center designed by Path C graduate students.

Doug Garofalo, ‘81, a sensitive, visionary architect who was a vital part of the Chicago architectural community, died in late July. A fellow of the American Institute of Architects, he received the AIA Chicago Young Architect Award in 1995 and was elevated to Fellow in 2003. He received a Master’s degree from Yale University in 1987. Garofalo was a tenured professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago, serving as acting director from 2001-2003 and he assisted in the founding of ARCHWORKS, an alternative design school focused on social cause. Garofalo was among the first U.S. architects to use computer technology in designing buildings. Among his built projects are the award-winning Korean Presbyterian Church of New York in collaboration with Greg Lynn and Michael McNulty, a project that gained international acclaim as the first building conceived and executed with digital media, and because it represents an alternative solution to adaptive reuse; the Hyde Park Art Center, and numerous residential projects.
RARE BOOK ACQUIRED

The Hesburgh Libraries of Notre Dame’s Architecture Library recently acquired two of the most important publications in the history of architecture. The first, Leon Battista Alberti’s De Re Aedificatoria (On the Art of Building), was printed in Florence in 1485. Patterned after the work of Vitruvius, De Re Aedificatoria became a major reference for architects, craftsmen, and scholars, opening up theories and ideals of the Florentine Renaissance.

The second important acquisition is the first illustrated book on architecture—Vitruvius’s De Architectura. This book, better known as The Ten Books on Architecture, was published on May 22, 1511 and celebrated its 500th anniversary this year—coincidentally the day the School of Architecture’s graduation ceremony. The Ten Books on Architecture was dedicated to Vitruvius’ patron, the emperor Caesar Augustus as a guide for building projects. The work is one of the most important sources of modern knowledge of Roman building methods as well as the planning and design of structures both large (aqueducts, buildings, baths, harbors) and small (machines, measuring devices, instruments). These books are now part of the permanent collection in the Ryan Rare Book Room and are available for students and researchers to use upon request.

ARCHITECTURE ALUMNI WEEKEND

The Notre Dame Marching Band is playing a concert on the Bond Hall stage, 90 minutes before kickoff.

The School of Architecture will host its second Architecture Alumni Weekend September 2-3—the weekend of Notre Dame’s first football game against South Florida. The weekend begins at 8pm Friday with updates on the School’s service projects including a school designed and under construction in Uganda, and a house Students for New Urbanism designed and recently built in South Bend’s Near Northwest Neighborhood. Matt Walsh, Chairman and CEO of The Walsh Group, will also give a talk on the value of a Notre Dame Architecture education. A reception will follow. On Saturday, pregame events begin with a 10am Mass in the Log Chapel followed by an outdoor reception on the lawn behind Bond Hall. The School thanks Marvin Windows and Doors for generously underwriting this event.

Architecture Alumni Weekends are an initiative of the School’s Montana Society. In an effort to connect Notre Dame Alumni within architecture and the arts, building trades, real-estate development and building industry, a group of architecture alumni founded the Montana Society in 2010. Named in honor of Rome Studies Program founder and longtime School of Architecture Chair Francesco Montana, the Society seeks to organize ND alumni who are practicing architects, and those who support the causes of traditional and classical architecture and urban design. The Society is also seeking to develop contact information for each graduating class. If you are interested in serving as class representative, please contact Sean Nohelty ’97 at s nøhelyt@nd.edu. Next year’s Architecture Alumni Weekend is scheduled October 12-13, 2012, the weekend of Notre Dame against Stanford.

INDIAN HILL STATIONS

A view of Ooty Hill Station in Tamil Nadu Province, India. Recent graduate Elizabeth Israel was awarded the 2011 ADAM Architecture Travel Scholarship to research European-settled hill stations in South India. Now in its sixth year, the scholarship enables ADAM Architecture, a UK-based firm specializing in classical and traditional architecture and urbanism, to support outstanding research. Israel plans to investigate a regional network of hill stations for patterns in the urban morphology, particularly with regards to environmental and cross-cultural conditions. The Indian hill stations were high-altitude towns formerly developed by Europeans as summer retreats. She plans to explore what urban types evolved from the exchange between the European settlers and the local Indian peoples, as well as analyze how the urban space and architectural language engaged the topography, climate, local materials, and traditional building methods.

HURT TT APPOINTED ROME ACADEMIC DIRECTOR

Steve Williams Hurtt, professor and former Dean of the School of Architecture at the University of Maryland, College Park, has been named the Visiting Academic Director of the Rome Studies Program for the 2011-12 academic year. He succeeds Steven Semes, who will remain on the faculty and return to the Notre Dame campus after three years in Rome.
PALLADIO’S INFLUENCE

Students for Classical Architecture, founded last spring by graduate student Jenny Bevan, plans salons, lectures, and tours to supplement the School’s traditional and classical curriculum. The group’s activities included “Application of Classical Design in a 12-Hour Esquisse,” which featured an international jury of architects judging entries from architecture schools around the world.

In 12 hours, students were to sketch a three-story building with a first level of flexible commercial space and second and third levels that included apartments. The site was located in the Veneto region of Italy, across the Brenta River from Palladio’s Villa Foscari. Graduate student Samuel Lima took first place, with fourth-year Mason Roberts and Tiffany Tran ’13 taking second and third. The award-winning designs were presented at the Chicago Architecture Foundation in early June.

MIND DESIGN DIFFERENTIATION

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MINOR IN SUSTAINABILITY

“Sustainability—cultural and physical—should be a concern in all that we do,” says Prof. Samantha Salden. Toward that end, Notre Dame launched a new minor in sustainability this fall. The minor is open to all students with at least two years left on campus. Students entering their final year of study are welcome to participate in the courses offered and use them as an opportunity to build a foundation for research and practice. The current course listing and structure of the minor is available from the College of Science. “The goal of this new minor is to foster more holistic thinking about sustainability,” Prof. Salden says, “and to open greater avenues for interdisciplinary study, research, and discussion.”

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