The Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development hosted architect/preservationist/developer/Councillor Surinder Bagha on Wednesday, October 4th to speak about the design and development of the City of Chandigarh, India. Chandigarh was India's first planned city, as designed by Swiss-French architect Le Corbusier.

Mr. Bagha presented his lecture to MRED students, faculty, friends and advisors of the Colvin Institute. Dean Sonia Hirt welcomed the guests to the School, Director Margaret McFarland welcomed them to the Colvin Institute’s Fall Lecture and Tanya Bansal, Assistant Director and Clinical Assistant Professor introduced the speaker from his home state of Punjab. Mr. Bagha spoke about his instrumental role as a City Councillor, for the last 10 years, in completing the development of Chandigarh as conceived and planned by Le Corbusier. Mr. Bagha as known by many international architects is also a developer and was instrumental in preserving the working studios of Le Corbusier.

Mr. Bagha (pictured right) presented the master plan and modern architecture that went into Le Corbusier's grand design. Chandigarh, a City planned and developed from the ground up, was the new capital that was created after Lahore became the capital of the new country of Pakistan upon partition from India. In the 50 years since its founding as the Capital of the state of Punjab, the population has grown to nearly 1,000,000 people. The design of the city by Le Corbusier was inspired by peace and unity symbolized by the Open Hand.

Field Trip Visits Iconic Maryland Places

Tanya Bansal, Assistant Clinical Professor, and the instructor for the Introduction to Principles, Process, and Practice class for undergraduates enrolled in the 5 course minor in real estate development, incorporates...
each term a field trip to 2 or 3 important sites. On Saturday, September 16 the class visited historic Greenbelt, as well as the Jim Rouse planned city of Columbia, and finally, Baltimore’s Inner Harbor. The new MRED Program Director, Maria Day-Marshall, joined students in Greenbelt, which was one of four “Green” towns developed through President Roosevelt’s New Deal program following the Great Depression. Sheila Maffay-Tuthill and Steven Oetken, alumni of UMD’s Historic Preservation program, toured students through the community.

In Columbia, Clinical Professor Margaret McFarland joined the group to show students 5 sites in Columbia: The first three were (1) the Frank Gehry designed Rouse headquarters which has been repurposed as a Whole Foods, (2) The Metropolitan, a mixed-use housing and retail project in the redeveloping Town Center near the Mall at Columbia, and the (3) redeveloped Wilde Lake Village Center, with a more dense (than originally) mix of housing, retail and community space. Wilde Lake was the first of the 9 Village Centers built by Rouse. The highlight of the tour was a working lunch at (4) Selborne House of Dorsey Hall, a senior affordable housing project developed by Orchard Development. Earl Armiger, Chairman and CEO of Orchard Development gave a presentation on the company’s plans for new uses, buildings and community spaces for the redevelopment of the (5) Long Reach Village Center.

Dennis Jankiewicz speaking to the Introduction to Principles, Process, and Practice Class

The final stop of the day was at the architecture firm, Design Collective
in Baltimore. Maryland alum and retired founder of the Design Collective, Dennis Jankiewicz, explained the history of the Pratt Street Power Plant, which was originally built to power Baltimore's streetcars and was one of only a few buildings to survive the Baltimore fire of 1904. Design Collective renovated the building to provide light and views over the Inner Harbor but maintained many elements to showcase the building's history. The repurposed Power Plant was a key piece of the redevelopment of the Inner Harbor as visioned and planned by Jim Rouse.

MRED Out and About

September 11th and 12th, NAIOP held a two-day Commercial Real Estate Diversity and Inclusion Roundtable entitled Developing a Diverse Talent Pipeline into the Commercial Real Estate Industry. MRED Program Director Maria Day-Marshall was a panelist at the Roundtable along with representatives from the George Mason University and Georgetown University real estate development programs. She and her co-panelists talked about how universities are working to develop a pipeline of diverse talent into the commercial real estate industry.

On September 21st the African-American Real Estate Professionals of DC organization (AAREP DC), hosted its "Meet the Women - Power Players in Commercial Real Estate" session entitled, What it's Really Like Being a Woman in CRE.

The interactive session featured prominent women in the commercial real estate industry in the areas of brokerage, lending, development, and corporations with substantial real estate portfolios. The MRED Program's own Heather Howard (2011) (not pictured), Senior Development Manager at FD Stonewater, was a panelist at the session. In attendance at the session were Real Estate Development Program Director Maria Day-Marshall (pictured in the middle), and students Elsa Escobar (pictured right) and Masengo Kapanga (pictured left).

Alumni News

Malcolm Haith (2009) has taken a new position at The Buccini/Pollin Group, located in Washington, D.C. Malcolm will be working as a development manager on hotel and mixed-use projects around the mid-Atlantic.

Recent graduate, Meghan Leahy (2017) has accepted a position with UIP (Urban Investment Partners) located in Washington, D.C. as a development analyst. UIP is a real estate investment, asset and property management company specializing in multi-family properties exclusively in the Washington, DC metropolitan area.

The Newsletter would love to report on other alumni. Send your news to Catherine Ryckman at cryckman@terpmail.umd.edu to be featured.