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The *MAPP Alumni 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 fellow alumni or friends who did not receive the *MAPP Alumni 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 Ideation Land Use 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 Design Craft Preservation University of Maryland Real Estate Planning Development Urban Studies School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation Craft Real Estate Urban Design Zoning Ecological Planning Colvin Institute Housing Transportation Planning Real Estate Architecture Planning Preservation Smart Growth Creative Thinking Craft System Integration Sustainable Design Urban Studies**



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Left to right: Sebastian Dern, Ashley Grzywa,  
Patrick Reed, Sofia Weller, Daniel Moreno-Holt.



# **Our World has Winners!**

*Urban Land Institute Hines Competition  
2015 Champions*



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## Dean's Message

Dear Friends,

Creative problem solving, critical thinking and analytical capabilities are attributes that define a common educational thread in the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation. Whether you are studying architecture or urbanism, development or technology, we focus on developing these abilities in our students. There are certainly aspects of each discipline that are distinct to the area of study and not easily subsumed into a universal. However, in an age where everyone has more computing power in their pocket than the astronauts who first went to the moon, those content distinctions take on a different mandate and level of importance in the education of the next generation of architects, developers, preservationists and planners.

There is another reason why these more general attributes have taken on greater significance for education in the beginning of the 21st century. The professions themselves are transforming. As society wrestles with contemporary problems-like climate change or sustainability-and looks to professionals to assist, the professions themselves are ad-

justing to changes in technology while they search for market relevance. The clear and distinct boundaries that were used to define each discipline and profession as part of the enlightenment project no longer seem to be adequate to tackle contemporary problems or meet changing markets.

When I talk to firm leaders in all professions, they are concerned with bringing together disparate interests and perspectives and joining to form teams that effectively communicate and efficiently seek creative answers to perplexing problems. The faculty is responding to this challenge by teaching traditional skills with a renewed emphasis on creative problem solving, critical thinking and analytical capability.

Our response has taken two forms -- inside and outside the campus boundaries. Off campus we have augmented our tradition of service to the community through the extremely successful Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability (PALS). PALS is now one of the most successful action learning outreach

programs in the nation. It has been estimated through the PALS courses that we have provided close to \$1M in consulting services to The City of Frederick in one year. Through the efforts of Uri Avin and Gerrit Knaap, we will be providing a similar level of service to Columbia, Maryland, and Howard County next year.

On campus, we continue to provide services as part of the “grounded campus” initiative. The Grounded Campus is a term proposed by Associate Professor James Lang at Assumption College to describe academic work that uses the college campus as the object of study in college courses. This emphasis is not new to our school, but we are expanding the efforts. Last year, Matt Bell led an urban design studio to investigate development along Baltimore Avenue at our campus threshold. Those students proposed a new student housing complex, adjacent to the main gate to campus, that is shaping development policy. In 2016, another studio will work with anthropology, engineering and the business school to develop plans for the renovation of the Bob “Turtle” Smith Baseball Stadium and

surrounding area. This project is sponsored by Athletic Director, Kevin Anderson.

We are also expanding our interaction globally, beyond the numerous study abroad programs that have long defined a UMD education. This past year, we offered our first global classroom experience. Professor Marie Howland expanded the classroom to include counterparts at the St. Petersburg’s Higher School of Economics, National Research University in St. Peterburg, Russia. This year Professor Madlen Simon will be using the global classroom to work collaboratively with students in Bagdad, Iraq.

As can be seen by the PALS and “grounded campus” initiatives, we continue to explore ways that to make the educational experience meaningful and dynamic so we can prepare the next generation of leaders.



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



***New Undergraduate Minors in Real Estate Development and Construction Management*** – In March, the University of Maryland announced the establishment of two new undergraduate minors, one in real estate development and one in construction management. Generously funded by a \$1,000,000 gift from the Colvin Family Foundation, the new minors will offer foundational knowledge in community building, entrepreneurship, business development, sustainable construction and design through experiential learning and a professionally guided curriculum, forwarding the university’s continued mission to support student innovation and entrepreneurship. Available to undergraduate students campus-wide, the minors will offer a mix of existing and new coursework to match and anticipate industry trends. The first courses will begin this fall.

Longtime supporters of the school, John and Karen Colvin, provided the endowment for The Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development, an initiative that helped start UMD’s Master of Real Estate Development Program. They are dedicated supporters of both the school and its students, and passionate about education.

“Real Estate Development might be the most entrepreneurial enterprise that there is in this country,” said John Colvin (B.S. Business ‘69). “To me, it is critical to keep the barriers to entry in this industry to a minimum, so that future graduates of this program will be able to get their degree and, if they chose to, be in the business the next day. That’s the real importance of what we’re about to do; to foster that entrepreneurial spirit and train the developers of the future to be prepared to recognize and seize those opportunities when they come.”



John Colvin (center) speaking with graduates of the Master of Real Estate Development Program.



Left: Students celebrating the university's first Scholarship Day, where the school raised the largest amount of scholarship dollars of colleges and schools campuswide on the "Day of Giving."

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### ***MAPP Highlight: New Scholarships and Gifts to MAPP***

*Over the past two years, several alumni have honored the school and its students by creating TerpStart scholarships, a need-based endowment where donor funds are matched dollar-for-dollar by the university. The TerpStart program invests money in our most valuable commodity: our students. Each TerpStart scholarship will provide a student in need with the opportunity to study, create and grow at the school. This season, we are pleased to announce that two new TerpStart scholarships are joining the roster: The Charles Kibel Endowment and the Dennis and Kathleen Jankiewicz Endowment. Below, our newest benefactors talk about the school, the challenges of being a 21st century student and why they give:*

#### **Charles Kibel**

Charles Kibel is a 1990 graduate of the University of Maryland's Master of Architecture Program. The son of Henry Kibel, a New York developer who specialized in residential enclaves, Charles returned to the family business in New York after graduation, where he flourished in urban design, transforming grand Manhattan buildings into beautiful apartments, including the reconstruction of the city's historic 90 West Street.

With a keen interest in urban environments, Charles wanted to pursue his



Left: Charles Kibel.  
Above: Dennis Jankiewicz at his Baltimore firm the Design Collective.

master's in architecture at a school close to a major city. UMD's proximity to D.C. and Baltimore—plus its strong urban design-oriented curricula—gave Charles the education and opportunities to pursue his passion, experiences that now serve him professionally.

"I had a great experience at Maryland. Aside from the education, where I was able to focus on urban design, I was able to participate in some of their summer programs, traveling to Tunisia, Israel and Turkey. It's something that I wouldn't have been able to replicate after school—and it created life-long memories for me."

Charles' family has a long-established history of giving to the school, including the creation of the Kibel Gallery in 2001. It's a legacy that Charles continued after graduating. Contributing to scholarships is something he truly enjoys because of the human connection, as he remarked, "It's less of a nebulous idea; It's actually a real person." Terp-Start, in his mind, is a natural progression.

"UMD has been very good to me. I wanted to do what's best for the school and help where there was the most need, and that's with the students."

### **Dennis Jankiewicz**

Dennis Jankiewicz (B.ARCH '73) has seen first-hand the effects of student debt. In his experience working with young graduates at his Baltimore-based design firm, Design Collective, employees strapped with student debt tend to put many things on hold.

"When I went to school, student debt wasn't as big of an issue, but today's tuition is so much greater, relatively speaking," he explains. "It's harder for students to move forward when they're saddled with debt. They start their families later, they buy their houses later."

A disproportionate number of Dennis Jankiewicz's employees come from the Maryland architecture program, and for good reason. When Dennis

Thomas Eichbaum, a 1974 graduate, provided a major gift to honor his long time business partnership and friendship with Coke Florance. Together they have formed The Colden Florance-Tomas Eichbaum Lecture, SmithGroup JJR



launched Design Collective in 1978, he was starting from scratch and needed designers; UMD proved a fertile recruitment ground, building a capable base of architects that has made Design Collective one of the top design firms in the country. "Any successful business is based on the quality of the staff—we just have terrific people. We have been blessed in that we have so many good people here and a lot of the best are from UMD. The architecture school is first rate and continues to outshine many of the other schools out there." Dennis, who has been a Dean's Circle member for years and who now serves on MAPP's Board of Visitors, feels a true responsibility to give to those in need; he is very active within his own community, regularly giving to the Community Foundation of Howard County, a non-profit group that sets up grants for area charities. TerpStart was an opportunity for Dennis to support UMD students and, quite possibly future colleagues, by removing some of the burden and worry of tuition. Programs like TerpStart, in his words, "take the pressure of students once they have graduated so they can focus on their job, not their debt."

Gifts to the school help develop programming, sponsor study trips, bring lectures to campus and support our faculty. Adds Dennis, "The mission of the school needs to be supported, and that's where general endowments come in handy. As other firms grow, I hope they remember that UMD needs help to succeed in their mission."

### **Thomas Eichbaum Supports the Colden "Coke" Florance Lecture Fund**

This year, MAPP Alum Thomas Eichbaum (B.ARCH '74) announced a bequest to support the established Colden "Coke" Florance Lecture Fund. The Coke Florance Lectures brings some of the most interesting and innovative minds in the design world to MAPP's lecture hall, sharing new perspectives, experiences and ideas with the MAPP community. Tom's contribution will endow this important lecture series, which has brought such tremendous value to the school.

To learn more about creating or supporting a MAPP scholarship through a will or living trust, contact Laura Mikolajko at [lcoco@umd.edu](mailto:lcoco@umd.edu).



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***Alumni Profile:***  
**Charles Whitney Noble, III**

Charles Noble (MCP '09) sees opportunity as the great equalizer. A graduate of the UMD Urban and Community Planning Program, Charles—who also has his JD from The Ohio State University (OSU)—is the Program Manager for the Boys & Men of Color Initiative at the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at Ohio State. Through Kirwan, Charles is leading the charge on a pivotal social initiative: to create a foundation of opportunity for black youth through the program, More Than My Brother's Keeper (MTMBK). MTMBK is a community outreach program that provides mentorship, experiential learning, parent engagement and a variety of services to young men, ages 10-14, in two of the most vulnerable zip codes in the south Columbus area.

Charles started at the Kirwan Institute in 2012 as a legal policy analyst, working on diversity and inclusion issues in higher education and cutting his teeth on the landmark U.S. Supreme Court case, *Fisher vs. UT Austin*. A large portion of his work now, in addition to MTMBK, relates to the social determinants of infant mortality in communities of color, specifically why rates seem to be higher for African American and Hispanic families. Charles credits his planning background with allowing him to understand how institutions, policy and history work together to produce contemporary, negative effects on society. "Planning has helped me take the individual decision-making out of the equation and really understand that folks are situated in institutions, and that where they are situated affects their outcomes." Below, Charles talks about the More Than my

Brother's Keeper model, the rewards of his work and how race is a state of misperception:

*Talk a little bit about More Than My Brother's Keeper:* More than my Brother's Keeper is an iteration of the national program, "My Brother's Keeper," initiated by the White House to address the disparities in opportunity facing boys and young men of color. Our pilot program launched in September 2014. We focus on black males, 10-14, that come from a family 200% or more below the poverty line. The program has three main components: experiential learning, parent engagement and a mentoring component. The experiential learning aspect addresses two important aspects for these kids: building the soft skills that they may not be able to get in the same way that their suburban counterparts; and to offer opportunities for these kids just to be kids. These young men have to have this "grown man persona" because of some of the issues they deal with. The violence is chronic. The lack of opportunity is chronic. These are the stories that happen in Baltimore, Columbus, Chicago, and I think many folks just are not aware of them.

In my experience before this program, I worked to inform policy through dialogue and through applying different lenses, but this has given me a completely different perspective on what it is going to take to move people along this continuum of poverty. The parent engagement portion, which involves connecting parents with resources and services, tries to help move them through that continuum and out of poverty. We understand that if we're not working with the parents, the force of traction that we're gaining with the kids isn't going to hold.

My staff doesn't facilitate programming; we are the administrative arm behind the scenes. We've partnered with a wide spectrum of services: legal aide services, a furniture bank, a children's hospital (who screen our kids for early signs of Diabetes) mental health care—a wide spectrum. We are acting as the conduit between the services that people need and the people. Our team works to create multiple touches with these kids and their families throughout the week.

What we are looking to find out is if this collection of out-of-school activity increases in-school out-



Above left: Graduate students Gina Fernandes (center) and Marissa Ameer (left) at a student forum.

Above: Master of Real Estate Development students with Director Margaret McFarland (center) at a conference.

comes: grades, attendance and behavior are the metrics we are examining. We plan to follow this longitudinally for the next year, but we should have our first benchmark in the next two months. From there, we will know whether we're making an impact. This is the most amazing opportunity I've ever had; we get to focus on folks that are beyond the eight ball in a lot of ways.

*Talk about a turning point in your life that influenced your career path:* I had a lot of opportunity growing up, but my extended family didn't have the same opportunities I had. My cousin went to jail a few years ago for selling drugs. We grew up together, but his mom suffered from mental issues and substance abuse and there was a lot of instability. I remember reflecting on that as an adult and recognizing the unfairness; he was just as smart as I was, but when he needed the institutional support of school and of society, he just didn't get it. I have gifts and I have talents, but what makes me unique and what allowed me to get to where I am today was opportunity and what my parents provided me. I want to be able to give back to folks who aren't in that position.

*What do you find most rewarding about your job?*

The most rewarding part of my job is being able to help kids and families believe that their wildest dreams are possible. The other day, a mother said to me, "Charles, I want you to help my son understand that he can go to college, even though we are poor." It's those kinds of conversations, those seeds that we can sow, that help kids understand that, while there are barriers and limitations in life, this isn't the end of the road for you; there are bigger and better things out there for you.

You recently gave a TED talk on race in America. With the recent events in Baltimore and Ferguson, race is one of, if not the prevailing social issue of our time. Where, do you think, the disconnect lies? We don't necessarily have racial problems in this country, or economic problems or class problems; we have problems that develop in ideological contexts based on race, economy and class; then we go out and recreate the world based on how we understand it to be. It's those misinformed ideologies that result in a lot of what we see out in society. People just need to think differently; it can be that simple. If it is terrifying that these things exist in

our society, we can go out and educate ourselves about what's going on and we can start thinking differently about it, but the challenge is our reluctance to step outside of ourselves and into the lives of other people. I think that is a big perpetuator. Fundamentally, people are good-natured; but we don't have the chance to act on that good nature because we aren't aware of what the problems are.

*What are your hopes for the future of More Than My Brother's Keeper?* One of things that we have been racking our brains on is how to keep these kids in the program after they age out. So, we are looking to develop an alumni component, where they can come back and pour their talent and resources into other kids. We are also collaborating with the Young Scholars group at OSU, and the county and the city to create smart hand-offs, where older teens would have access to employment opportunities. The goal is to provide as many resources as we can so that we can keep kids, post-14, involved and engaged in a meaningful way.

On a grander scale, we hope to create a national model of the work that we are doing. More Than My

Brother's Keeper is the first entity in the country to be actively engaging in the national initiative; many of the others are still in the planning phase. We plan to work with other cities as well on their programs.

*What inspires you?* People inspire me. It's the untapped potential in people that I want to help draw out. That openness that these people share with us every day is such a precious thing that we have and so because of that, we have a responsibility to go out and tell their stories in ways that will bring attention to the issues that are affecting them. I think it's the struggles of people on a day-to-day basis that inspire me to go out and do this kind of work.



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### **Alumni Profile: Adam Stone**

Early on in his academic life, Adam Stone realized he had an eye for design but a mind for development. An Atlanta native and avid golfer, Adam initially pursued a degree in landscape architecture at the University of Georgia with the dream of designing golf courses, only to realize that his passion was in pro-formas—an epiphany that led him to UMD’s MRED program in 2009. Shortly following his graduate degree, Adam spent two and a half years with Easterly Government Properties, focusing on acquisition and asset management for the federal government. Now a Development Associate with Federal Realty Investment Trust, he focuses primarily on retail real estate, grocery anchor and retail shopping centers that offer mixed-use, urban and walkable areas outside the city limits. His latest project, the hip enclave Pike & Rose, located on Rockville, Maryland’s sprawl-ish Rockville Pike, just completed phase one, with phase two adding more apartments, street-level retail and a hotel. Below, Adam talks about the tangible rewards of development, moving beyond the market bust and good advice:

*You started off your education in landscape architecture. What made you decide to pursue your masters in real estate development?* Landscape architecture can be anything from laying out flowerbeds in someone’s backyard, to large-scale master plans in downtown areas. I was really interested in large-scale design, specifically golf course design, but of course, golf courses can easily snowball into subdivision design, which moves into master plan community design and so on. During my master plan design courses, I found myself ask-

ing lots of business-side questions about zoning, highest invest use—questions that really none of my classmates was asking about. I got the sense that I was more interested in the business end of design and development than the pure design set. As my degree progressed, I began to realize that design in the real world is not what the designer wants to design, but what someone else tells them to design. I started to discover that I could have more impact in the design of a place sitting in a developer's chair than I could being the one doing the details. In a project, the landscape architect is just one piece of the puzzle, but the developer is the one putting the puzzle together.

*Describe a typical day at the office:* There really is no typical day to day, which I think is one of the reasons people are attracted to development. The core of my day, though, is managing the pro formas of a project. Right now, that's the Pike and Rose project in Rockville, Maryland. The initial pro formas were done a while ago but those change as the company goes from assumptions to actual rents and construction costs.

What do you like about your job? More than anything, I enjoy the tangibility of it. You can see it, touch it, feel it, experience it. When I'm looking at numbers, these aren't just abstract concepts. For instance, if it's a retail unit, I can drive down the road and see exactly where the space is going to be. I can see how the buildings are built and how they transform an area; you can see it and experience it. For me, it's the best part of my job and why I got into real estate development specifically. It is very rewarding to take something that's an idea, implement it, get it off the ground and see how it can transform an area and impact people.

*Name something, professionally or personally, that you are most proud of:* Personally, I think I'm most proud of how I handled my postgraduate trajectories. When I graduating college in spring of 2009, the job market was going to hell and no one could get a job anywhere. Plus, I was graduating in a field that was one of the most heavily impacted. What brings me great pride is that I took what could have been a terrible situation and figured it out how I could make it work for me; I immediately went to graduate school because I knew that was a transi-



Right: Michelle Bennett asks a question at a school lecture.

tion I wanted to make. Once I finished UMD, it was about finding ways to keep building my resume in a still sluggish market and progress towards my goal of getting into pure real estate development. I am proud that I was able to make the best of that adversity. Professionally, I am proud of the work I did at at Easterly. I was the fourth person hired on the investments team and one of the first 10 employees. When I started, we were a fund-based acquisition company. In a short time and through a lot of work, we acquired another company and took the whole thing public; being part of a very small team and accomplishing something that big was very exciting to be a part of and an incredible learning experience.

*What's the best piece of advice you've ever received?* From a business perspective, never, ever under any circumstance, burn a bridge. Maintain your contact base, always be helpful; at times, you could be frustrated with someone or a situation, but you should always keep that relationship alive, because you never know when you'll need it.



Left: Herb Heiserman  
Above: Recent project by Streetsense.

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### **Alumni Profile: Herb Heiserman and Streetsense**

Herb Heiserman gets to eat a lot of good food these days. His propensity for small plates, celebrity chefs and quail eggs are not because Herb's a foodie—but his restaurant of choice is a small diner in the suburbs of D.C.—but the result of a calculated career decision he made five years ago, when he merged his second-generation design firm, The Heiserman Group, with the creative development juggernaut Streetsense. Joining longtime friends Guy Ratner and Marc Silverman, Streetsense has developed a soup-to-nuts shop that focuses on experience and identity, offering location finding, brand development, architecture and interior design and culinary consulting. While projects range from restaurants and retail to municipal spaces and hospitality, like D.C.'s forthcoming Trump Hotel, Herb is responsible for cultivating new and expanding restaurant opportunities, bringing a chef's vision to life and masterminding places that focus on good food and great spaces. One of his latest projects is transforming the floundering third floor of Tysons II into a chef-inspired, innovative food marketplace, offering rotating food options, retail and cooking schools. "I'm very fortunate; my job is a lot of fun and I get to meet a lot of terrific people. I'm not a foodie, but when you get to eat some of the food that these chefs prepare, they really are artisans, it's just amazing. I'm lucky enough to still fit into a size 32 pants." Below, Herb talks about the merits of breakfast-all-day, taking a career leap and creating great spaces:

*You are a native DC-er and make a living helping chefs create and open restaurants. Where is your favorite place to eat in D.C. right now?* My favorite place to eat is The Tastee Diner in Bethesda. I sit at the counter and order a well-done cheese omelet, no matter the time of day; that's my guilty pleasure. I learned that from my dad. So that's the real Herb answer, but there are a bunch of restaurants downtown that I think are doing really great things as far as food and experience. Eric Bruner-Yang's Maketto is a really unique experience and has incredible food. In that same vein, Toki Underground, which is also Eric's restaurant, is amazing and my go-to choice if I want a night out in D.C. A couple that we've done that I'm really proud of are Tico and Ann Cashion's Taqueria Nacional, a fast casual taco joint. And, near and dear to my heart, is the original Ted's Bulletin on Capitol Hill. I am sort of a feel good food guy, so if I'm not going to Tastee Diner I'll go to Ted's and get a sloppy Joe. It's to die for, as far as I'm concerned.

*What sort of trends are you seeing these days in*

*the restaurant industry?* What's happening in restaurant and retail space is you're seeing a lot of what I'd call cross-collaboration. A great example, and I didn't design it but I'm a huge fan, is Maketto on H St. in downtown Washington, D.C.; it's a combination restaurant/retail/coffee shop. Another great example is Detroit's Shinola. We are about to put a Bar/Café/Speakeasy in their retail space on 14th St. It's sort of a cross collaboration of different experiences all within the same space and I think that that's going to continue. Another overall global trend—and I believe it's in direct response to the buying power of the millennial generation—is a focus on the authenticity of the experience and the food compared to the formality of the restaurant design. You're seeing a lot more casual environments and a lot of these white tablecloth chefs doing more casual offerings. My colleagues in their 20's and early 30's are more interested in throwing on clothes from the night before, going out and have a great food experience than they are dressing up and going to Morton's. That's why you're seeing a lot more small plate stuff. That's

why you've seen the wine program explode over the past decade. It's because of these people who just want to enjoy food; it's not a fancy night out anymore. I embrace that.

*Talk about a defining moment in your career:* I've been good friends with the Street Sense guys since we were teenagers. We had been talking about joining forces for some time. I had a wonderful 15 person firm, things were going very well professionally and personally and I realized that I could do that for another 15 years or take a leap of faith, shut down the company and go to a place where I could bring my core competency and grow professionally and personally. So, in 2010, we brought our firms together and launched what we consider a "collected intelligence"- branding, culinary, business plan, etc. I've been able to elevate my own personal goals and career beyond just architecture.

I knew, even going into school, that architecture was going to be the basis to do something more than just design; I used it as a learning tool, hoping

that eventually I could inform good architecture, smart design and possibly development, which I was always interested in. Architects are not rewarded for our thinking like we should be. We don't produce a product, we are creating environment and creating experience. I wanted to represent that and have people hire us for that. Now, it took me 20 years to get there, but it really is wonderful now to be part of an organization where a client says "it's yours- you have creative license," and we can make something truly inspired.

*What sort of philosophy do you try to bring to each project?* When I work with a small or individual client, I try to look at them as the artist. They have the vision, they have the story but they don't know how to get it onto the canvas, and we're the painters. So, it's my hand guiding the client and telling their story. I believe that each project is unique; we are the painters that create the solution for the artists' challenge.

Part of the reward is taking these incredibly tal-

ented individuals and be able to take them to the next level. They teach you and you teach them, and then you sit in the restaurant that you've created with them and witness them in their element, see people enjoy the environment and the brand- that's the reward. The food is icing on the cake.

*You like chocolate. In your opinion, who makes the best?* Nisha Sidhu, who owns Co Co. Sala in D.C. is a master. If I'm looking to get a really nice box of chocolates, I go there. But the real Herb answer is, I grab a bag of Nestle semisweet chocolate chips out of the pantry and just eat them right out of the bag. To me there's nothing better.



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### ***Alumni Profile: Rodney Harrell***

When Rodney Harrell was embarking on his Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Design at the University of Maryland, someone gave him one of the most valuable pieces of advice he's ever received: when picking your dissertation subject, find something that you're passionate about and start from there. For Rodney, that passion was neighborhood choice. At the time, he was working for the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and noticed something that, he says, goes against all the literature on housing choice. Middle-class African Americans were choosing to live in majority African American neighborhoods—specifically, in Prince George's County—not because of affordable housing, but because of something Rodney calls “racial and cultural amenities:” community connections, memories and pride. “I don't think we, as a research community, have done a very good job understanding that community ties have value and play a significant role in housing choice.”

Seven years after receiving his Ph.D., Rodney's passion project has significantly helped shape the work he does today. Rodney is the Director of Livable Communities for AARP, leading research and policy analysis that promotes safe, vibrant communities that offer a variety of housing options, transportation and supportive amenities. For Rodney's audience, this means security, in-

dependence and social opportunity in retirement. A native Washingtonian, Rodney has spoken and written extensively on the subject of aging, neighborhood choice and community livability for many national publications, academically and for his blog, Dr.UrbanPolicy. Below Rodney talks about his work at the AARP, addressing an aging population and his hope for the Washington Nationals:

*You helped develop a tool for AARP called the Livability Index. Can you explain how it works?* The Livability Index is a simple-to-use web tool, where an individual, policy maker or community leader can type in an address and see how prepared that neighborhood is for people of all incomes, ages and abilities, and whether it's capable of serving someone across their lifespan. We look at seven metrics, from housing and environment to health and engagement. An average score is around 50; to get 100 you have to be very high in every metric that we look at. The idea behind the index is that every choice has compromises. For example, you could be in a very nice, expensive area like

Potomac, Maryland, but end up having a relatively low score because most homes in Potomac are isolated if you can't drive, and they are also very expensive. So, the communities that you think of as "gold star communities" can be trouble if you can no longer drive or if your income decreases. The index identifies the gaps—those limitations within communities that can prevent a person from having the options they need as they age. In addition to the score, we offer policy information and resources that can help communities address these deficits.

We will update the index in early 2016 and then be able to compare the scores over time, which I'm really excited about, because we're talking about using this as a tool to help communities change. We are exploring what sort of spin-offs we could do—like a tool to help someone find a community by putting in their preferences.

*It's interesting that housing choice isn't just a matter of economics or amenities, but that sometimes*

*it boils down to familiarity, like the neighborhood pharmacist that knows you by name.* Yes, there's not enough discussion about that, honestly because it's so complex. Preferences differ for different groups of people and by individual. The understanding of a real estate choice as a simple economic decision doesn't really fit because there are so many outside things that impact those decisions; it's not just the house you like, it's the location, it's the neighborhood, it's other preferences that you have come into play. For older adults, what was interesting was that they had built up what I call community pride—in AARP language we call it community ties—over time. Those things are important to people and (they) impact their housing decisions. It's worth something to be near the park you love or the bar you meet your best friend at every week or the library you like; there's immense value in that.

*At UMD's recent senior housing symposium, there was a lot of talk about boomer demands in senior housing. How is the market going to meet that*

*demand?* I think there are short and long-term solutions that we need to proceed with at the same time. Most people are in communities that don't meet their needs now; so in the immediate future the real issue is making sure that people have the resources they need to make that better, whether its remodeling their home, transportation services, or what have you. These solutions are the things that have the most market benefit in the short term; "because I have a problem getting into my house today, I want to build a ramp today." Now, the long-term solutions are building homes with a zero step entrance in the first place. That means changing the way people are designing homes, whether it's wider doorways or places that have bathrooms and bedrooms easily accessible on the first floor of the house. These are simple things that can be baked into the design process, but we need to start doing it more and more. The same thing goes on a community level; designing communities that are made for people to drive, walk AND use transit. When you think about those things during the planning phases, it's a lot easier

and a lot cheaper. But, these things have a longer gestation period and a longer timeline, and only forward-looking builders and community developers are developing those things now. The goal of my work here is to help communities get to those points; To look at both those short and long term solutions so that people have what they need now, and the next generation of older adults have the choices that we need already in front of us.

*What is the key to successfully aging in place? What steps should pre-retirement age adults take now if they are interested in aging in place?* The biggest gap we found was that people aren't great at understanding what coming in the future and how to plan for it. Most of us are too busy with our day-to-day lives and what's going on in front of us to think about major life changes like, "What would happen if I could no longer drive?" or "will I be able to navigate these stairs in 10 years?" Having the livability index hopefully helps some people, from an individual standpoint, start thinking about those decisions they are making. There's not really

an easy way to look forward 20, 30 years, so hopefully the index provides a shortcut to understanding what their needs might be in the future.

*What's something you do outside of work that gives you great satisfaction?* Travel gives me great satisfaction. I love getting around and seeing different communities. I love the different perspectives I get going to new places.

*I understand you're a big Washington Nationals fan. What's your prediction for this season?* They are making me crazy, but I have play-off fever. I'm hoping they go all the way this year. I'm cautiously optimistic!



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### **Alumni Profile: Laura Mancuso**

Laura Mancuso (M.H.P. '09) can honestly say she was meant to be a preservationist. "I think most people who go into this field have an inherent love of old buildings or parents that dragged them to house museums as a child, or have that one building they saw disappear that tugged on their heart strings," she says. "I have all of those." An art history major in college, she found herself drawn to architectural history courses which, she says, combined her love of painting sculpture, metalwork and woodworking. With an initial trajectory of graduate school in architecture, Laura looked into historic preservation on a whim, finding UMD's program, which she began after a couple of years at Christie's in New York.

Since then, Laura's work in preservation has run the gamut—from a semester of manual labor at President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home National Monument to Town Historian of her hometown of Brookfield, Connecticut. She is currently the Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for the Connecticut State Historic Preservation Office. Below, Laura talks about the often rewarding, sometimes tricky work of preservation and how her favorite escape is not too far off from her day job:

*Describe a typical day at the office:* A typical day starts at 7. I am either in the

office answering calls and emails and working on managing my grants or I am in the field meeting with potential grantees at their historic properties. Those are my favorite days. I love touring old buildings and helping the owners develop reuse and restoration plans...and hopefully being able to offer funding to do so. That makes them and me happy!

*What is the biggest misconception about historic preservation? What is the biggest contemporary challenge facing preservationists right now? I think both the biggest misconception and the biggest challenge have to do with the same topic: what is "historic." I face that challenge every day. I think most people think that a property has to be very high style to be historic and when SHPO's say that vernacular neighborhoods, especially 20th century vernacular are historic, people are shocked. I think as preservationists, we need to be better about documenting the vernacular and the more "modern." Everyone knows that big M Moderns are important but worker housing, beach/vacation communities (which I have been studying for out*

Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Grant), 20th century downtowns and suburbs are an important part of our more recent past. And, of course, there is always the misconception and challenge of what the standards are and what should be repaired and not replaced and that we don't really care about paint color. How many times a week do I get that question?

*You are the town historian for your hometown of Brookfield, Connecticut. What's the most interesting thing you've learned about Brookfield that you didn't know before? Well I resigned from my position as Town Historian last year, but I am still very active in my hometown and am on the board of the Historical Society and the Historic District Commission. One of the coolest things about Brookfield is that, of the almost 20 founding families of the town when it was incorporated, ten are still living in and active in the town. Brookfield has deep seeded roots.*

*What do you like about your job? I love the fact that*

each day is always different. I manage a bunch of different programs: restoration grants, planning grants, easements and disaster relief grants and I work on Section 106 reviews, so every day is something new. And I get to help people, which I love. I am a people person, so being able to help people figure out what to do with their properties is so much fun and rewarding. In addition, I get to travel all over the state looking at amazing historic properties. That may be the best part. Getting paid to explore old buildings and doing what I love is fantastic.

*Where is your favorite place to escape to and why?* One of my favorite things to do is to hop in my car and explore. I love getting “lost” on old windy roads and just driving with the windows down and the radio turned up and finding something new, especially heading toward the beach. I love finding old farmsteads near the coast and just picturing what it would have looked like before development. And how much I would have loved to live there!

Below: Student reviews



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## ***Student Achievements***

Portland State University's Center for Public Interest Design awarded **Sofia Weller** (MARCH '15) second place in this year's reGENERATION, an ideas competition in order to explore new models in intergenerational living. Sofia beat out over 100 entries with her submission, Crux, an urban site that straddles the Maryland Institute College of Art and a senior high-rise in Baltimore.

Doctoral student **Eli Knaap** (MCP '13) was awarded the Innovative Student Contribution to Planning Tools Award by the Open Planning Tools Group. Eli's application, called OppMap, makes important contributions to the exercise of opportunity mapping by, among other things, including the ability to select and weigh opportunity indicators relative to different preferences and then making the indices available to the public. The university's Graduate School also awarded Eli a \$10,000 All-S.T.A.R. Fellowship, recognizing his outstanding scholarship and assistance.

Doctoral student **Yuchen Cui** was awarded the 2015-16 Ann G. Wylie Dissertation Fellowship by the Graduate School in March. Yuchen is only the second Ph.D. student to win this fellowship. Her dissertation focuses on defining the level of detail in transit networks for improving transportation decisions.

This past election year, two MAPP students proved their leadership potential by holding public office in Washington, D.C. URSP graduate student **David Do** (M.C.P. '15) was named the Director of the Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs by D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser and fellow URSP classmate **Elissa Silverman** was elected to the At-Large Seat of the City Council in January.

Right: Exhibition in Kibel Gallery  
 Middle Right: reception after a lecture.  
 Far Right: Gallery reception and opening.




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## Lectures and Special Events

### **Lectures - Spring 2015**

Hiroshi Jacobs, AIA, LEED AP and 2014 AIA Associates Award Recipient

“Hip Humanity: Thoughts on Protean Practice”

Craig and Mimi Spangler Lecture

Thompson Mayes, Deputy Counsel, National Trust for Historic Preservation

“Why Old Places Matter”

Marvin Breckinridge Patterson Lecture

Daniel Wheeler, FAIA, Founder, Wheeler Kearns Architects

“Evolutions and Assemblies”

Colden Florance Lecture

Sierra Bainbridge, Senior Director, MASS Design Group

“Beyond the Building”

John Wiebensen Memorial Lecture

Ingrid Gould Ellen, Faculty Director, Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, NYU Wagner

“The Future of U.S. Housing Policy”

LeFrak Lecture

Daniel J. Cinelli, FAIA, Principal and Executive Director, Perkins Eastman

‘What do Boomers Want?’

Neomie Colvin Keynote lecture

### **Gallery Lectures and Exhibits**

Running in tandem with gallery exhibitions of their work, the gallery lecture series hosted the following design professionals this spring:

Aki Ishida, Artist, Assistant Professor of Architecture, Virginia Tech and Principal, Aki Ishida Architect PLLC – “Urban Light and Human Temporality”

Ivica Ico Bukvic, Artist and Programmer, Virginia Tech – “Fostering Creativity, Education, and Community through Technology”

Elke Krasney, Curator and Professor, Academy of Fine Arts, Vienna with Graphic Designer Alexander Schuh – “Hands on Urbanism: The Right to Green”

### **Symposia and Conferences**

*UMD Kicks off 30 Days of EnTERPreneurship with Inaugural Innovation and Entrepreneurship Real Estate Awards*

The University of Maryland’s School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation’s Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development, along with the Robert H. Smith School of Business and the A. James Clark School of Engineering, honored three innovative entrepreneurs in real estate development at the inaugural “In-



novation and Entrepreneurship in Real Estate Awards.” The event, held on the eve of the university’s “30 Days of EnTERPreneurship,” recognized Jeffery S. Abramson, UMD Alumnus Michael E. Johnson (B.S. Architecture ’76) and the Transitional Housing Corporation for their successes and achievements in the field of real estate development and their innovative approaches to sustainably growing the nation’s cities.

#### *Boomers Rule at this Year’s Senior Housing Design & Development Symposium*

According to a 2011 report by the Brookings Institute, 80 million baby boomers will enter into retirement over the next 20 years. Baby boomers make up over one-quarter of the U.S. population. As a generation, they have orchestrated dramatic social, political and economic change to the fabric of this country, so it’s no surprise that they are revolutionizing the way they are spending the latter part of their lives. This extraordinary shift in both population and opinion is spurring unprecedented new thinking in what is considered “senior housing,” a theme that dominated the 2015 Senior Housing Design & Development Symposium at the University of Maryland. Sponsored by the Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development and the Neighborhood Development Collaborative, the symposium assembled some of

the most formidable experts in real estate, housing, design, development and economics to discuss the state of senior living and what changes the future holds. Among the many expert speakers at the symposium, NIC’s Robert Kramer, Senior Design authority Daniel Cinelli, AARP Director and Rodney Harrell (PhD ’08) led discussions that dove into the market’s senior-driven, innovative trends in design, housing options and neighborhood planning, and highlighted how millennials—the largest demographic in the U.S. today—will drive the future of the marketplace.

#### *Urban Transit Challenges*

In March, researchers and faculty from the School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation and the National Center for Smart Growth traveled to Paris for a three-day exploration of the changes and challenges facing the world’s metropolises. Co-sponsored by the NCSG, the event was the second part of a bilateral international seminar on urban transit issues and development. Engaging practitioners and academics from urban planning, architecture, engineering and social science, the seminar treated the cities of Paris and Washington as urban laboratories for exploring contemporary development challenges, sparking meaningful conversations about the future of modern cities around the world.



Left: Students brainstorming in Architecture Studio 600 - Comprehensive Design.  
Right: Students in Historic Preservation working with Professor Michele Lamprakos.

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## In the News

### ***Two Architecture Courses Added to UMD's "Fearless" Course Roster***

Two additional architecture courses were added to the University of Maryland's Academy of Innovation and Entrepreneurship's list of "Fearless Ideas Courses" for 2015. The courses, a bridge design course taught by Assistant Professor Powell Draper and a course in ecological design thinking co-taught by Assistant Professor Hooman Koliji and Environmental Sciences Professor David Tilley, brings the tally of "Fearless" architecture courses to five, making it the second-largest represented program in the academy cadre. Comprising a variety of disciplines across campus, "Fearless Courses" are designed to stretch the boundaries of critical thinking and creative solutions in unexpected ways.

"Fearless Courses" represent the best and most innovative learning laboratories on campus. MAPP

has one of the largest Fearless catalogues at UMD, which includes a design in practice course taught by Madlen Simon, an urbanism studio taught by Jana VanderGoot and an interdisciplinary placemaking course taught by Ronit Eisenbach, sculptor John Ruppert and Gerrit Knaap. Both the urbanism studio and placemaking courses were also part of the PALS program this semester in The City of Frederick and College Park, respectively.

### ***HISP Students Cast New Light on a Fundamental Skill***

This spring, students from the Historic Preservation Program paired traditional measurement techniques with Light Detection and Ranging technology—known as LiDAR—to offer new insights in historic restoration in Virginia. Working in partnership with the Fairfax County Park Authority, Professor Don Linebaugh, Professor Dennis Pogue



and historic preservation graduate students spent the semester documenting a portion of Fairfax County's historic Ash Grove Plantation, providing the county critical information on structural conditions that will aide in future restoration. LiDAR scans can create renderings with minute detail, detecting things literally invisible to the naked eye, like the inside of a chimney or wall. With the price of LiDAR coming down every year, learning this technology in practice is a critical step in preparing students for the profession, and allows them to see the benefits of both traditional and high-tech methods of documentation.

The University of Maryland is one of a handful of universities to have a LiDAR machine available to students and faculty, thanks to efforts last year by M.ARCH '15 graduate Luke Petrocelli, who campaigned for LiDAR to use in archaeological efforts

in Stabiae, Italy. Since its purchase, the machine has enhanced the work of the archaeology program on the Eastern Shore, helped architecture students in their understanding of spatial concepts and is now helping with community outreach efforts in historic preservation.

"We find that most historic preservation graduates, whether they went to graduate school or not, don't have this type of experience when they enter the profession," said Karen Linquist, Historic Preservation Program Coordinator, Cultural Resource Management and Protection Section of the Fairfax County Park Authority. "Getting out in the field and learning these techniques will be a huge asset post-graduation. For the county, this partnership has been such a gift. What they did for us was a huge savings. We hope this will be an ongoing partnership."



The Global Classroom, developed by Dr. Marie Howland, UMD Professor of Urban Studies and Planning with Professor Leonid Limonov of St. Petersburg's Higher School of Economics, National Research University. Professor Howland is in the background making the initial connection with the students in St. Petersburg, Russia.



***Urban Studies "Global Classroom" Closes the Distance Gap in International Study***

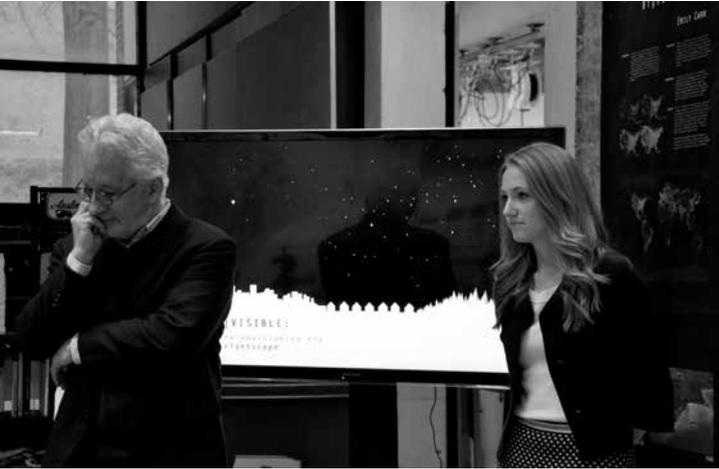
This spring, a new urban planning course is narrowing a distance barrier that, for years, has hampered cross-continental, international study experiences. Industrial Districts, History, Theory and Practice was one of six innovative courses on campus this year to provide students a first person, interactive account of foreign cultures and economies. Developed by Dr. Marie Howland, UMD Professor of Urban Studies and Planning, and her longtime colleague, Professor Leonid Limonov of St. Petersburg's Higher School of Economics, National Research University (HSE), the course was funded by a Global Classroom Initiative Grant from University of Maryland's Office of International Affairs. The course paired graduate students from the Urban Planning Program with students from St. Petersburg University's Higher

School of Economics to study and compare industrial policy in the U.S. and Russia

Using Adobe Connect, students meet weekly for a "virtual classroom" and again separately in blended, virtual teams, developing comparison studies of industrial policies and the influence of different histories, politics and geographies.

According to Dr. Howland, the experience of cross-continental learning is essential in preparing students for a highly globalized economy. The introduction of the virtual classroom provides that experience when travel is not possible. "It's a very different experience, but it's where the profession is going. There is so much to learn from international practice, and this experience is much more valuable than anything I could teach in a textbook or lecture."

Below: Professor Garth Rockcastle and thesis student Emily Carr.  
Right: Professional track faculty Michael Ezban makes a point with a student at studio reviews.



### ***Nature, Culture and the History In-Between: Exploring the Potomac River Gorge***

The Potomac River Gorge is considered one of the most spectacular and significant areas in the National Capital Region. Although awash with wildlife, diverse geology and thousands of plant species, it is less than a mile from the concrete jungle of Metropolitan D.C., making it a hub of transportation, exploration and cultural civilization for centuries. A three-year study by the Historic Preservation Program is now examining how areas like the Gorge have influenced our national history and how a growing, modern civilization can preserve, protect and celebrate its heritage in the future. The result of an ongoing partnership with the National Park Service – National Capital Region (NPS-NCR), the Potomac Gorge project serves to provide the NPS with a beta test for a larger narrative of the intersection between man and nature. The

expansive report will cover topics like transportation, trade history and plant and wildlife, highlighting key, strategic points along the river, including the C & O Canal, Clara Barton House, Glen Echo and various wildlife refuges. It will also offer many clues to understanding how the area's resources intersect and help administrators understand how practices interrelate among the many organizations at work in the area.

### ***Architecture Students Channel Their Inner Five-Year-Old***

This semester, a group of graduate and undergraduate students in Assistant Professor Powell Draper's Architecture Technology course examined the elements of meaningful, outdoor play—and how that influences design—for UMD's smallest students: the pre-school and kindergarten students at the Education Department's Center for Young

Children. Through a program called Come Alive Outside, the students collaborated with the landscape architecture program, the center's teachers and the preschool students themselves, to expand the school's existing, outdated playground into one that connects, excites and teaches. Students were involved from conceptualization to the final mulch spread, sourcing the materials and building the structures themselves—a tubular hillside slide and curvy suspension bridge. The hands-on venture allowed students to apply an understanding of building structural systems, methods and materials to a meaningful project for the University community.

### ***Terps Win ULI/Hines Two Years Running***

For the second year, an interdisciplinary team from the University of Maryland's (UMD) School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation has won the 2015 ULI / Gerald D. Hines Competition, beating out an initial 120 entries and the finalist teams from Harvard University and the University of Wisconsin. The team of five graduate students—

representing architecture, urban planning and real estate development—won over an international jury of experts with their development plan for the Tulane/Gravier and Iberville neighborhoods of New Orleans. Overcoming several site challenges—including an elevated highway shadowing the site and an eight-lane off-ramp that divides an existing park from the city's proposed greenway—the team used unconventional approaches and creative, yet realistic financing to develop a new configuration, connecting neighborhood retail/residential with the park and allowing seamless access to New Orleans' cityscape.

Maryland's winning team is: Sebastian Dern (MRED), Ashley Grzywa (MARCH), Daniel Moreno-Holt (MARCH/MRED), Patrick Reed (MCP) and Sophia Weller (MARCH). The team's advisors are Professor Matthew Bell, FAIA and Dr. Margaret McFarland, JD, Director of the Masters of Real Estate Development Program.

### ***ARCH Team Honored by AIA for Innovative, Sustainable Design***

A design project conceived by three graduate students from the University of Maryland's (UMD) Architecture Program placed in the inaugural 2015 AIA COTE Top Ten for Students Design Competition. Graduate students Valerie Sherry, Adam Chamy and Michael Sisson's winning design, entitled, "Regenerative Urban Ecology: Fostering a Place Based Workspace," transformed an urban site in Baltimore into a sustainable, energy-building space that connects the city's fabric while addressing its environmental condition. Created by the American Institute of Architects Committee on the Environment (AIA COTE), in partnership with the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), the AIA COTE challenges architecture students to conceive a project that integrates thoughtful design, natural systems and technology solutions that protect and enhance the environment. The team's entry, which was a brownfield site adjacent to Jones Fall Canal on Baltimore's West Side, employed green technol-

ogy, locally sourced and reclaimed materials, and a flexible foundation to create a community space that doubles as an economic research center.

### ***Newly-minted Alums Recognized by Congress for New Urbanism***

MAPP alumni Andrew Casavant (M.C.P), David Ensor (M.ARCH), Matthew Miller (M.ARCH), Amina Mohamed (M.LARCH) and Rameez Munawar, (M.RED) took the Award of Merit in the Academic Category at the 23rd annual Congress for the New Urbanism Charter Awards. The award recognized the team's 2014 innovative re-envisioning of the Sulphur Dells Neighborhood of Nashville, Tennessee, entitled "Chords," which also took first place at the 2014 ULI/Hines national competition.

### ***PALS Program Delivers One Million Dollars in Project Value to Maryland Communities***

Joe Adkins, The City of Frederick's Deputy Director of Planning, has a signature block that is longer than most of his emails. In it, he lists 31 awards

bestowed on Frederick since 1952 that recognize its commitment to an enhanced quality of life. So, it's understandable that a *Washington Post* article earlier this year referred to The City of Frederick as a regional "mini-D.C."; located 60 miles from the nation's capital, Frederick has become a millennial boomtown, attracting young professionals looking for affordable housing, historic charm, good restaurants and a vibrant culture scene.

But like most communities in the U.S., Frederick is dealing with some very real challenges. Algae blooms threaten the water quality of its downtown tourist magnet, Carroll Creek Park; cars stack bumper-to-bumper every rush hour along Route 15; the Golden Mile shopping area is struggling to survive; unsanctioned recreation, invasive plants and the effects of climate change are compromising the city's watershed. Despite considerable efforts, city officials find the day-to-day tasks of running a city often revolve around the squeakiest wheel; making meaningful headway on Frederick's sustainability issues was a constant, frustrating challenge.

This year, a partnership with the University of Maryland helped Frederick advance their sustainability goals with fresh perspectives and considerable reinforcements. The Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability (PALS) is a new program that pairs faculty expertise and student energy with local and county-level governments across Maryland to tackle challenges in sustainability. Developed by the University of Maryland's National Center for Smart Growth (NCSG) with support from the Town Creek Foundation and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, PALS offers affordable, sustainable solutions for partner communities while providing valuable exercises in critical thinking, real-world problem solving and community engagement for UMD students. Its mission is to blend student ingenuity, classroom concepts and faculty expertise in a meaningful way, leveraging the entire weight of the university's assets to help Maryland communities become leaders in sustainable practices.

In addition to its yearlong partnership with Frederick, a smaller PALS partnership launched in January with the City of College Park, generating four

projects ranging from a greenhouse gas analysis to designs for a new city-university hall. University and program officials hope the partnership will be on-going.

The 29 total projects tackled this year reap some very impressive numbers; administrators estimate that over 50,000 hours were dedicated to Frederick and College Park during the 2014-15 academic year. It is also estimated that the cities gained close to \$1,000,000 in project value from students and faculty, averaging about ten dollars of product work for every dollar spent.

For Frederick, PALS projects have yielded many promising ideas. A landscape architecture class suggested several innovative solutions to the algal blooms in Carroll Creek. A travel demand model analysis showed that adding a lane to Route 15 in each direction would be a net benefit to the city without a negative greenhouse gas bottom line. Outreach and interaction by students of minority businesses in the Golden Mile raised the profile of this problem for the city. Frederick will benefit from one final course this summer, an urban plan-

ning studio taught by Professor Jim Cohen that will utilize the work conducted this past year to offer recommendations for enhancing Frederick's existing sustainability plan. PALS launches a 2015-16 partnership with Howard County, Maryland later this summer.

For students and faculty, PALS has created rich, real-world opportunities for putting concepts into practice. Campus-wide, cross-disciplinary work offered students something other courses do not: the opportunity to learn, collaborate and question with peers from other disciplines, an exercise that best mirrors future interactions in the profession.

Right: The 2015 Career Fair was the laegest career fair to be hosted in the Architecture Building.

### **NCSG Reports Education, Infrastructure and Affordable Housing is Key in Maryland's Economic Growth**

A report released in March by the National Center for Smart Growth states that, while Maryland boasts a strong economic foundation, it must respond to 21st century challenges—like aging infrastructure, a diverse population and regional economic disparities—if it wants to ensure long-term economic success. The report, “Beyond Smart Growth: An Economic Development Strategy for 21st Century Maryland,” suggests a path for the state’s role in continued economic growth, including what many economists claim is critical to long-term economic prosperity: addressing economic, social and environmental challenges—the triple bottom line. Specifically, the report stresses the importance of opportunity in breaking the cycle of poverty for the state’s poorest residents, an issue that can be improved with pathways to education, workforce training and more affordable housing in high opportunity areas. The report, a culmination of three years of research, follows a series of stud-

ies by the NCSG on economic development in the state, including a 2012 report on economic and demographic trends, two 2014 reports that identify 23 “job centers” in the state and a report earlier this month examining the state’s poor. These studies are the result of a Sustainable and Equitable Economic Development (SEED) grant in 2011 from the Surdna and Abell Foundations.

### **NCSG “Opportunity Maps” Provide Foundation for First-Ever Regional Plan**

A series of maps that illustrate disparities in opportunity, developed by the National Center for Smart Growth for Baltimore’s Opportunity Collaborative, was the basis for Baltimore’s first-ever comprehensive regional plan to create strong, sustainable communities. The largest and most comprehensive snapshot of equity and opportunity in Baltimore’s history, The Baltimore Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD) is a comprehensive roadmap to help the region coordinate investments in housing, transportation and workforce development, reduce disparities and increase



quality of life for the entire Baltimore metropolitan area. The mapping project was a three-year effort of data collection and analysis, using over 100 indicators—from infant mortality to transit access—to illustrate where economic, social and environmental strengths and weaknesses lie in the Baltimore metropolitan region.

Most notably, the maps confirmed what many experts consider to be a root cause of the recent Baltimore riots: a wide disparity between parts of the region—particularly in housing, safety, health and education—with the City of Baltimore lagging grossly behind its suburban counterparts in most areas. The RPSD offers specific recommendations for addressing these opportunity gaps, shoring up regional shortfalls and creating a better quality of life for all the region's citizens.

### **EFC to Create Region's First Online Stormwater Training Center**

Early this year, The University of Maryland's Environmental Finance Center announced the launch

of the region's first Municipal Online Stormwater Training (MOST) Center, a web-based resource to help municipalities within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed access and implement innovative stormwater management techniques to improve water quality. The initiative is made possible through a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, which will provide \$350,000 a year for the next five years to launch and operate the Center. Developed in partnership with the Low Impact Development Center, MOST will be completely virtual; it is expected to become the most wide-reaching and comprehensive stormwater training initiative to date, eliminating the accessibility issues, budget restraints and lack of expertise that often inhibit communities from successfully implementing effective stormwater management programs. MOST will utilize the university's Enterprise Learning Management System (ELMS), including new online courses to fill critical gaps in training, and offer partners with existing training resources a new avenue to reach a broader audience. The Center is expected to officially launch

late this fall/early winter.

### **New Partnership between Annapolis and Newport Forges Bay Restoration**

A series of groundbreaking forums convened by the EFC this spring were the catalyst for Annapolis, Maryland, and Newport, Rhode Island, to join forces in piloting innovative financing solutions for water quality issues. Both bay cities—one on the Chesapeake, the other on the Narragansett—are considered the most vulnerable in terms of sea level rise and flooding in their regions. Though they have a historic sailing rivalry that dates back

to the first annual Annapolis to Newport yacht race in 1947, both cities committed to partner in a new kind of competition that should result in each becoming environmental and economic champions. The first forum took place in New England's Narragansett Bay region in April and culminated in May with highly collaborative workshops in the Chesapeake Bay region. Federal, state and local governments pledged, along with the private sector, to explore solutions for financing the restoration of both iconic bays.



Left: Professor Hooman Koliji.

Above: Professor Brian Kelly

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## FACULTY News

Professor **Brian Kelly** was elevated to full professor this semester, while Assistant Professor **Hooman Koliji** received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

**Joanne Throwe**, Director of the Environmental Finance Center, was nominated to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Environmental Finance Advisory Board (EFAB). The board provides ideas and advice to EPA's Administrator and program offices on ways to lower the costs of and increase investments in environmental and public health protection. In this new role, she will advise on environmental protection issues.

Assistant Professor **Willow Lung-Amam** published two peer-reviewed journal articles this semester, one on Asian immigration in Silicon Valley for the *Journal of American Ethnic History* and a commentary on teaching equity planning for the *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. She was also included in the new book, *Making Suburbia: New Histories of Everyday America*, and continues to serve as lead UMD investigator on

an affordable housing and equitable development planning report for Langley Park, Maryland, in light of the proposed Purple Line. In addition to speaking at several talks and conferences, Willow continues to work on her research project, "The Right to Suburbia: Redevelopment and Resistance on the Urban Edge," which looks at the intersection of issues around the suburbanization of poverty and immigration with suburban redevelopment in the Washington, D.C.-region. She received funding this spring from the UMD's ADVANCE Seed Grant to pursue this research with Co-Principal Investigator with Katrin Anacker of George Mason University. Willow recently completed her first year of UMD's Advancing Faculty Diversity fellowship program, and has been invited to participate as a fellow in the Association for the Collegiate Schools of Planning Junior Faculty of Color Workshop to be held at Harvard University this summer.

Associate Professor **Madlen Simon** led a workshop on Design Thinking for UMD's Academy of Innovation and Entrepreneurship in February at George Mason University's Center for Social Entrepreneurship and is teaching another workshop

Right: Jana VanderGoot speaking to her class.  
Below Isabelle Gournay in seminar with students.



Professor Powell Draper making a point during playground design for the UMD Center for Young Children.

at that center's Social Action Institute this summer. In April, Mady attended the Architectural Research Centers Consortium Conference in Chicago, participating in their Research Directors Roundtable, and joined a panel discussion on Engaging the Professoriate in General Education at the Committee on Institutional Cooperation's Undergraduate Deans meeting at the University of Maryland. She represented UMD in the Science of Learning/Pedagogical Innovation Network at The Reinvention Center Specialized Network Meeting in Fort Collins in June. Together with doctoral candidate Maria Beltran, Mady co-authored three papers on urban spaces that will be presented at international conferences this summer.

Assistant Professor **Powell Draper** kept his students busy this semester, designing and building a bridge and slide for the UMD Center for Young Children, creating a nine-hole mini golf course for Maryland Day and presenting a building sustainability improvement study to representatives of

the Eppley Recreation Center. In March, Powell gave a lecture at Johns Hopkins University on Preservation Engineering and moderated a session on "Structural Optimization: From Research/Practice to Education" at the Structures Congress in Portland, Oregon in April. He received a Citation of Merit from the International Committee for the Documentation and Conservation of Buildings, Sites and Neighborhoods of the Modern Movement for his work on The National Gallery of Art East Building Exterior Stone Repair project.

Associate Professor **Isabelle Gournay** presented her work and research on Beaux-Arts at the Musée du Petit Palais in Paris, Carleton University in Ottawa and the annual conference for Study of Architecture in Canada. Isabelle also joined Professor **Gerrit-Jan Knaap**, Associate Professor **Casey Dawkins**, Assistant Professor **Hiro Is-eki**, Assistant Professor **Willow Lung-Amam**, Research Associate **Sevgi Erdogan** and Ph.D. Assistant **Eli Knaap** in Paris this spring to partici-



Above: Peter Noonan making a point during student reviews.



Above Right: Gerrit Knaap, Madlen Simon and students meet with an official from College Park.  
Right: Jason Winters meeting with students.



participate in the second part of a bilateral international seminar on urban transit issues and development: "Paris – Washington: Comparative Timeline of Planning, Architecture and Transportation." She lent her expertise to an article on Cesar Pelli's Comsat Building for *Washingtonian Magazine*, and was interviewed last month by Radio Canada.

Associate Professor **Ronit Eisenbach** was named a 2014/15 Distinguished Visitor by Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, where she led a team of artists in this year's SANDBOX initiative, a program that brings artists and scientists together to create works and experiences focused on the environment of the Chesapeake Bay. Ronit's contribution to the program, "Waterlines," received accolades by the local community. Ronit again collaborated with sculptor John Ruppert and Professor Gerrit Knapp for "Making Place: Public Art and Design," which explored placemaking in the university's home of College Park.

Professor of the Practice **Peter Noonan** designed and developed a new graduate level seminar titled "Architecture & Cinema: Place & Film." The seminar, offered for the first time this spring, provides graduate students a discussion and project rich context in which to explore the relationship between place making and film media. Peter also led a team of students from the Integrated Design Studio, ARCH 600, to victory in this first-ever National AIA COTE Top Ten for Students Design Competition. Professionally, Peter is principal and project architect on the Greencourt Innovation Center, currently under construction in Montgomery County, for McInturff Architects. The 130,000 square foot facility will offer new high concept workspace to generate industry leading ideas in an environment filled with progressive design, new collaboration opportunities and communal amenities.

Professor Emeritus **Ralph Bennett** and Clinical Professor **Amy Gardner** have been elevated to



Above: Gerrit Knaap speaking to the Alderman in The City of Frederick. Right: Carl Bovill explain an aspect of building science during final reviews.



the American Institute of Architects (AIA) College of Fellows (FAIA). Ralph and Amy are two of over 100 members elevated this year out of 80,000 AIA members. This prestigious honor recognizes their extensive contributions to the advancement of the profession through teaching and practice. The AIA honored Amy and Ralph in May at the AIA Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

A 2013 design studio that re-envisioned the future of McKeldin Library was featured in a new book, released this spring, called *The Living Library: An Intellectual Ecosystem*. Co-written by Dean **David Cronrath**, the book follows the collaborative process and successful result of the studio, serving as a case study for how libraries can inspire and support the 21st century student.

A new book co-edited by Professor **Gerrit-Jan Knaap**, entitled *Planning for States and Nation-States in the U.S. and Europe*, was released this semester by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy.

The book examines case studies in both the U.S. and Europe following the changes in international planning frameworks and the roles of national, state, regional and local governments in response to climate change, economic development, social justice and community development.

Professor **Carl Bovill's** new book, entitled *Sustainability in Architecture and Urban Design*, was released this spring by Routledge. The book examines the challenge of sustainability and gives essential information about LEED, efficient design and the relationship between design and ecology.

Assistant Professor **Michele Lamprakos** will have her book, *Building a World Heritage City: Sanaa: Yemen* published by Ashgate in August. She also recently had a second peer-reviewed article published, entitled, "Riegl's 'Modern Cult of Monuments' and the Problem of Value." This summer she returns to Spain to continue her research on the mosque-cathedral of Cordoba and its changing



Above: Margaret McFarland meeting with representatives from The City of Frederick as part of the PALS program.

Right: Michele Lamprakos working with students in the Sri Lanka studio.



fabric and meaning through the centuries.

This semester, The Real Estate Development Program welcomed four professionals to the faculty ranks: **Elizabeth Casqueiro** is a leader who has served at several world-class financial institutions, including World Bank and the International Finance Corporation, Elizabeth has extensive knowledge in capital allocation, asset/property management, risk management, project management, space and workplace solutions, site improvement and funding/financing. She teaches business writing skills and asset management. Retail expert **Nick Egelarian** is the President and Founder of Site-Works Retail Real Estate Services. Considered a pioneer in the segmentation of retail into commodity and specialty sub-categories, Nick has a mile-long resume of clients, including Starbucks, FAO Schwartz and Lane Bryant, and advises some of the biggest development groups in the country. Nick taught a new course this semester in retail development. **Jeff Lesk** is a Managing Partner

of Nixon Peabody's Washington, D.C., office. A finance attorney with over 35 years' experience in public housing, large-scale investment programs and public/private partnerships, Jeff has made a career of bringing much-needed capital to affordable housing and community projects. He is also a founder of the company's Legally Green Initiative, Nixon Peabody's integrated sustainability philosophy. Jeff taught the tax credits course this semester. **Ron McDonald** brings over 20 years of experience in real estate development to the classroom, and led MRED students this spring in the NAIOP/MDDC Real Estate Case Competition. Ron is Managing Principal of RMC Development, LLC, where his team advises both public and private partners in commercial real estate and financial endeavors.

# Alumni NEWS



Christena McCabe AIA, LEED AP (B.S. Architecture '85, M.ARCH '87) is currently the Project Manager for construction of a 261-unit high rise in Washington, D.C.

**John R. Bowie** (B.ARCH '79), of John Bowie Associates, Philadelphia, joins faculty Ralph Bennett and Amy Gardner in his elevation to FAIA this past spring by the American Institute of Architects.

**Larysa Kurylas** (B.ARCH '80), founder of The Kurylas Studio, recently won the competition to design a memorial to victims of the famine in Ukraine. The winning design, called "Field of Wheat," is currently under construction near Union Station. She came back to campus to lend her expertise in reviews for Matt Bell's class in December.

**Christena McCabe** AIA, LEED AP (B.S. Architecture '85, M.ARCH '87) is currently the Project Manager for construction of a 261-unit high rise in Washington, D.C., representing Eric Colbert & Associates. The building will be multi-family and offer several amenities such as a heavily landscaped courtyard with a water feature and a roof top pool and water feature. Construction commenced in September 2013. The site was formerly an empty lot on the Connecticut Avenue corridor at Military Road intersection.

In May, **Sally Lichtenstein Berk** (B.S. Architecture

'82) was given the Lifetime Achievement in Historic Preservation Award by the Washington, D.C. Historic Preservation Office during the 2015 Annual Awards for Excellence in Historic Preservation.

This past spring, one of MAPP's alums was severely injured during the Baltimore Riots that followed the death of Freddie Gray. **John Chae**, who earned his Bachelor of Science in Architecture at UMD in 1993, was attacked by rioters while trying to protect his store, Fireside Liquors, and his employees who were inside. The store was looted and burned, and will most likely be torn down. A Go Fund Me page has been started by a close friend to help John and his family; if you are interested in contributing, visit <http://www.gofundme.com/BaltimoreRiot>.

**Jordan Goldstein** (B.S. Architecture '94) and his firm, Gensler, recently nabbed real estate veteran and friend of the school, **Kurt Haglund**, to serve as Southeast Regional Director of Practice Areas. Kurt, who is also on MAPP's Board of Visitors, is currently a managing director with JLL's tenant representation group in Washington. He is slated to join Gensler officially in July.

Mide O. Akinsade (M.ARCH '04; Certificate in Urban Design '04; B.S Architecture '96) worked on the design of Burnham Place at Union Station Train Shed (with HOK). The project collected a National AIA institute Honor Award in 2013 and was recently awarded a Washington, D.C. AIA Chapter Award 2014 for Urban Design/Master Planning.



DeStefano Architects PLLC, a Portsmouth, New Hampshire-based architectural design firm, promoted **Robert Harbeson** (M.ARCH '01) this past March to Commercial Studio Manager. Harbeson joined DeStefano Architects in 2003, where he has instructed the design and management of the firm's commercial projects.

After eight years at Cunningham Quill Architects, **Julie Pelletier** (M.ARCH '01), recently changed firms and joined Beyer Blinder Belle's Washington, D.C. office as a senior project architect.

After seven years at Smart Growth America, most recently as Vice President & Chief of Staff, **Ilana Preuss** (M.C.P. '01) launched her own business last year. Recast City ([www.recastcity.com](http://www.recastcity.com)), is a start-up that operates with cities, real estate developers and small businesses to bring small-scale manufacturing back into the city. The firm works to incorporate this growing business sector into new real estate products and rehabilitation projects. They also partner with entrepreneurs and small manufacturing business owners to get the support and exposure they need to bring good paying jobs back into neighborhoods.

**Mide O. Akinsade** (M.ARCH '04; Certificate in Urban Design '04; B.S Architecture '96) and his firm HOK (Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum) recently completed the construction of a mosque as part of a 200 building campus for KAPSARC in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The Mosque, presented at UMD's School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation in 2010, was recently awarded an Honor Award for Religious Architecture/New Facilities by Faith and Form magazine and The Interfaith Forum on Religion, Art and Architecture (IFRAA), at the AIA convention in Atlanta 2015. A second project, Burnham Place at Union Station Train Shed (with HOK), was honored with a World Architecture News "Highly Commended" WAN Award in the Transportation category. The project, which collected a National AIA institute Honor Award in 2013, was recently awarded a Washington, D.C. AIA Chapter Award 2014, for Urban Design/Master Planning.

**Brynn Kurtzman** (B.S. Architecture '06) recently relocated to the DC area from Los Angeles to take a job as a sustainability specialist with Gensler. Prior to heading back east, she was a project manager for Brightworks Sustainability Advisors in Santa

Monica.

**Derek Meyers** (MRED '08) was elected as chairman to the Annapolis Board of Appeals. The quasi-judicial board provides the city with a final administrative review process relating to a wide range of city determinations. His role is to ensure that an efficient, fair and expeditious decision-making process exists as the last step in the City's permit issuance process. He also concluded his appointment as Co-Chair to the Annapolis Mayor's transition team evaluating the City of Annapolis Departments of Planning & Zoning, Public Works and Neighborhood/Environmental Programs.

**Forrest Popkin** (B.S. Architecture '08) started teaching an evening three-credit course on green building at Frederick Community College this spring. The course, entitled, CON 171–Green Building, Introduction to LEED and Other Rating Systems, instructs students not only about LEED, but about the importance of sustainable design practices, including real world Platinum LEED examples and how they achieved their status as green buildings. A special case study included in the course is LeafHOUSE, a project that was unfolding during

Forrest's time as a MAPP UMD undergrad. Forrest also continues to work at Bates Architects in Frederick.

**Jason Cheung** (B.S. Architecture '07, M.ARCH '09) recently left a successful career as an architect at Ayers Saint Gross Architects and Planners to follow his passion in filmmaking. Cheung, 29, now serves as principal and owner of Lost Note Productions LLC, a full service video production company that focuses on visual storytelling. Mastering the techniques of spatial composition and visualization as an architect, he transferred that language to filmmaking and has developed a niche in delivering quality videos for architecture and commercial real estate companies. He said his company has a reputation for creating videos that are humanized and evoke emotions through compelling cinematography. Past clients include Mercedes Benz Research and Development, GlaxoSmithKline, Mission 14 and narrative films for FOX Architects, Work Design Magazine and Corporate Office Properties Trust. He has donated his services to a variety of nonprofits, including Heroines of Washington/March of Dimes and United Way of Central Maryland. He is also currently creating two promotional videos applauding



Mahmoud M. Riad (M.ARCH '09) and his firm RiadArchitecture have been shortlisted to design the 136-acre residential neighborhood in Samara, Russia, which is shown above.



student wins at ULI and AIA COTE for MAPP.

**Shawn R. Crowley** (B.ARCH '09) was promoted to Associate Principal at Tevebaugh last January and acquired part ownership of the 10-person firm. He is also BIM Manager and a Revit Architecture 2013 Certified Professional.

After four years of international project work with Zaha Hadid Architects, **Mahmoud M. Riad** (M.ARCH '09) moved back to his home town of Cairo, Egypt, to take over his newly rebranded and renamed family practice, RiadArchitecture. The firm has been around for 80 years, spanning three generations, and has been responsible for some of Egypt's most iconic modernist architecture (like the Arab League Headquarters, the Nile Hilton and the USSR Embassy), as well as planning some of the most prominent parts of the city of Cairo (el Mohandesine, Nasr City and the Maadi Corniche). Under his leadership, the firm is now seeking to expand into the Middle Eastern and international markets, through various competitions and bids. The firm has since been shortlisted to design the 136-acre residential neighborhood in Samara, Russia, as well as working with SODIC Real Estate to

design and build Vacation summer homes along the North Coast of Egypt.

**Sean O'Neill**, AICP (M.C.P. '09, Behavioral and Sciences '04) recently began work at the Chester County Planning Commission in West Chester, Pennsylvania. Prior to starting at Chester County, Sean worked for a couple consultants in Wilmington, DE, including McCormickTaylor. Sean is excited to get back into public sector work, noting, "Chester County has a great traditional of land preservation and smart growth." Not to mention, additional time off; "Lesson learned over the past few years, working on a billable hour basis is not a lot of fun." Sean also was married in 2013, and welcomed his first child, a daughter named Norah, in 2014.

**Allison Wilson** (B.S. Architecture '09, M.ARCH '11) continues to work for Ayers Saint Gross, but will soon be relocating from Baltimore to Austin, Texas, where she will work remotely as she plans her upcoming wedding.

A Preservationist's job is never done: As New England lay in the grip of snowmageddon 2015, **Patrick Alley** (M.H.P. '10) proved that preservation is



Patrick Alley removing Snow from roof of historic Jackson House.

a hands-on job, spending a couple of hours removing snow by hand from the roof of historic Jackson House in Portsmouth, NH.

**Rebecca Schaaf** (M.C.P. '10) was promoted to Senior Vice President by Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future (SAHF). Having served as the Vice President of the SAHF Energy division for nearly two years, Rebecca will be leading SAHF's energy and water conservation work following the retirement of SAHF Energy President, Richard Samson. Since joining SAHF in 2011, Rebecca has worked with members to bring innovative models and tools to the affordable housing industry through a variety of retrofit demonstrations. In her

*"I owe Maryland a great debt of gratitude for the education that made all this possible!"*—

Mahmoud M. Riad (M.ARCH '09)

role as Senior Vice President, Rebecca will work with SAHF members and others in the field to overcome barriers to energy and water conservation in multifamily affordable housing. She will help develop innovative methods focused on portfolio-level

approaches to systematically reduce the impact on the environment and the impact of energy and water costs on housing affordability.

After living and working in Japan following the 2011 East Great Japan Earthquake, **Yukari Yamahiro** (M.ARCH '11) is now living in New York City and working at Perkins and Will. In her downtime, she writes a great column for Inhabitat.com, a green-design weblog.

**Daniel Brooks** (M.C.P. '12) is the Director of Transit Planning at the transit start-up, the Detroit Bus Company (thedetroitbus.com), where he designed, planned and managed their largest project, the Youth Transit Alliance (youthtransit.org). The Youth Transit Alliance offers free rides so that students are empowered to find and feed their passions at after-school programs. A crowdfunding campaign, begun earlier this year to support the program, was funded 150% in just one month, keeping the buses rolling through the end of the school year.

**Michele Rubenstein Van Steinburgh** (M.ARCH and Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning and Design '12) spent the past year working on a

renovation of a lake estate on Lake Waramaug in Litchfield County, Connecticut, for Robert Dean Architects, a small, custom residential firm where she is a project manager. Michele is enjoying working with Rob Dean at the firm where she spent some of her undergraduate summers.

**Joey Ijjas** (M.ARCH '13) recently took a new job with Soto Architecture and Urban Design in Washington, D.C. He previously worked for Grimm and Parker. Joey's wife (and fellow M.Arch '13 alum) Leah Davies Ijjas also made a job move last fall, from Perkins + Will to Gensler.

**Louis L. Thomas** (M.C.P '13) is about to embark on dissertation research at MIT, tentatively titled "Parents, Policy & Place in the Resurgent North American City". It will examine how urban parents and policy makers think of high-density neighborhoods in terms of childrearing and urban design in three cities: Vancouver, B.C., Boston, Ma. and Washington, D.C. If you're working or raising a family in any of those towns and are willing to talk about it, please drop him a line! In more important news, Lou's wife Julie gave birth to their second child, Augustus Cecil Parker-Thomas, on May Day 2015. They and their

daughter Nettie Maude, now two and half, are just smitten.

Since starting with Ayers Saint Gross in 2013, **Amber Wendland** (B.S. Architecture '10, M.ARCH and M.C.P. '13) has worked on projects both locally and around the country. She has been able to use her architecture and planning degrees to bridge the gap between large and small scale planning and design through varied projects, including: planning efforts for Washington University in St. Louis, Sewanee: The University of the South and the Southwest Neighborhood Plan with the D.C. Office of Planning, and collections planning for the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History and National Air and Space Museum.

**Meredith Gorres** (M.H.P. '14) began a full-time paid 400-hour summer internship with the National Park Service (NPS) in June. She is working with Dean Herrin, the Chief Historian of the National Capital Region, on National Register nominations, National Historic Landmarks, Special History Studies, Historic Resource Studies and general park history issues relating to various NPS sites in the D.C. metro area and surrounding region.

After graduating last May, **Josh Schnitzlein** (M.C.P. '14) started work for the Department of Justice at the United States Attorney's Office in Baltimore. He is currently attending the Army's Combat Medic School in San Antonio, Texas, training to become a medic for the Maryland Army National Guard.

**Roger Schwabacher** (M. ARCH '99) was recently added to the HOK Design Board, a group of design directors from each of the 25 HOK offices world wide.

*"I believe that my ability to participate in NPS contract work through the University of Maryland at Antietam Battlefield and the C&O Canal played a significant role in securing my internship with the National Park Service this summer. I have been interested in the NPS for many years now, and I am really looking forward to experiencing firsthand what it's like to work there."*

—Meredith Gorres (M.H.P. '14)



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