**Interior Design Students Participate in NeoCON East**

On November 10th, students from NJIT’s School of Art + Design traveled to Philadelphia, PA, to attend the fourteenth annual NeoCON East, the premiere design exposition and conference for commercial interiors on the East Coast.

The trip, organized by the NJIT student chapter of the International Interior Design Association (IIDA), allowed third- and fourth-year Interior Design students to make industry contacts with more than 200 exhibitors, attend professional seminars, and have portfolio reviews sponsored by the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID). The students were accompanied by School of Art + Design Director and Professor Glenn Goldman.

**School of Art + Design Holds GameFest V**

The highly anticipated 5th Annual GameFest was held in November by the School of Art + Design. Organized by Associate Professor Taro Narahara, the event featured games created in Narahara’s History of Games course, which explores the principles of game design, the use of digital fabrication in producing physical games and the relationship between traditional and digital games.

This year’s games included “Shift-It: Chess” by Dominic Patulot, containing a segmented moveable board and “Escape Velocity” by Kathleen Nguyendon, a computer-controlled game incorporating lights and gears.

**Student Internships and Opportunities with Skwerl**

College of Architecture and Design Alumni, Mohammad Alnakash and Brian Novello, have launched a new platform to match architecture and interior design firms with talented designers at all levels of experience. Partnering with NJIT, their Laguna Hills, California, based company SKWERL opens new internship opportunities to design students anywhere in the country. NJIT and Skwerl have developed a pilot program that will provide students with paid professional experience as well as supervised work that contributes to the required experience in preparation for both NCARB and NCIDQ certification.

**Digital Design Alumnus Presents at Industry Summit**

Digital Design alumnus Amos Dudley ’16 returned to NJIT as a guest speaker at the Additive & Advanced Manufacturing Industry Summit, held November 29. Dudley, who now works as an applications engineer at 3D-printer startup Formlabs in Somerville, MA, spoke about his innovative use of 3D printing to successfully design and print his own DIY braces while still a student in NJIT’s Digital Design program.

Organized by ManufactureNJ and the NJ Innovation Institute (NJII), and hosted by NJIT, the event brought together industry professionals and thinkers to share practical and theoretical information on additive and advanced manufacturing, with a particular focus on 3D printing technologies and applications. Partner organizations for the event included SMART Caucus, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and Picatinny Arsenal.
‘Music in the Library’ Series Kicks Off Third Season

The ‘Music in the Library’ series opened its third season with a concert on November 15 in the Littman Architecture and Design Library featuring select music by Johann Sebastian Bach, Carl Phillip Emanuel Bach, and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart performed by the talented Montclair Trio, a group of performers and education enthusiasts: Robert Radliff and Aurora Mendez on violin, and Paul Vanderwal on cello.

As part of the concert, Library Director Maya Gervits curated a special book exhibit and digital presentation, “From Baroque to Neo-Classicism” to place the music performed into historical and cultural context.

Digital Design Alumna Travels East for SIGGRAPH Asia

Newly graduated Digital Design alumna Marta Brulinski ’16 participated as a student volunteer in the 9th annual SIGGRAPH Asia Conference in Macao, China, December 5-8. This marked the third time Brulinski was selected for a competitive SIGGRAPH Student Volunteer program, having participated previously for the 2015 and 2016 SIGGRAPH conferences in Los Angeles and Anaheim, California.

Andrzej Zarzycyki Reviews Architectural Series

Associate Professor Andrzej Zarzycyki wrote an online review of Terri Meyer Boake’s “Birkhauser Steel Design Series” for the Journal of Architectural Education (JAE). The series - comprised of Understanding Steel Design, Diagrid Structures, and Architecturally Exposed Structural Steel - is dedicated to the use of steel in design of the built environment.

Zarzycyki wrote of the series: it serves “to introduce this new material technology to a broader audience. Its informative illustrations and thoughtful commentaries are of use to technology-minded design students and aspiring architects.”

Industrial Design Students Take to the Stage

Industrial Design students Dalia Ahmed, Lea Burlew, Luz Cabrera, Henry Drago and Dalal Elsheikh (left) collaborated with the Rutgers-NJT Theatre Arts & Technology program to design and fabricate puppets for a production of the Broadway musical Avenue Q, scheduled to open during the Spring 2017 semester.

Working with Industrial Design Coordinator and University Lecturer José Alcala, Theatre Arts & Technology Faculty and Artistic Director Louis Wells, and puppet master Jake Bazel, the students created the entire puppet ensemble for the production, engaging in an intensive process of character ideation, development, detailed fabrication, user-centered approach to puppet ergonomics, and armature engineering, resulting in high quality, functioning puppets that will be brought to life on stage by live performers/puppeteers.

d Digital Design Research Team Awarded Funding

A team led by fourth-year Digital Design student William Busarello (Entrepreneurial Lead) and Associate Professor Taro Narahara (Academic Lead, Faculty Advisor) is one of this year’s awardees of the National Science Foundation Innovation Corps (NSF I-Corps) Site at NJIT, directed by Michael Ehrlich (PI, School of Management) and Judith Sheft (Co-PI, Assoc. VP Technology & Enterprise Development). The team will conduct research titled “Interactive Content Generations using UAV Photogrammetry and Gaming Technologies,” and generate interactive content using game engines and realistic virtual sites produced through UAV photogrammetry and application areas.

Taro Narahara Speaks International VR Symposium

Associate Professor Taro Narahara was an invited speaker at the 9th International VR Symposium, November 17, in Tokyo, Japan. Using an Arduino microcontroller board, he introduced a device creation and programming method to control virtual reality software, UC-win/Road, by using data from sensors.
Faculty Presentation at SIGGRAPH Asia in Macau

Associate Professor Andrzej Zarzycki presented his article “Augmented Cities: Revealed Narratives” at the 9th Annual SIGGRAPH Asia 2016 conference in Macao, China, December 5-8. Zarzycki explored interactive augmented reality (AR) environments “as places where people engage with the past and experience the future,” particularly how AR technology can promote the type of interaction with those virtual environments that evoke new emotional connections and social interactions between users and the physical realm.

Zaitseva Completes Production on New Film and Ad Campaign

Animation director and multimedia artist Polina Zaitseva recently completed the opening title animation and credits for the 2016 film TRIBE, directed by Sabrina McCormick. As an adjunct instructor for the School of Art + Design, Zaitseva teaches Foundation Year courses as well as studio and upper level design courses in Digital Design.

Zaitseva also recently completed the VFX work for a new fragrance ad campaign for Calvin Klein and Michael Kors. The campaign is expected to launch later this year.

A+D Coordinators Present at ASCAAD Conference

Design Coordinator David Brothers presented their paper “Design Films: Implementing video creation techniques into undergraduate design education” at the 2016 ASCAAD Conference at the University of London’s School of Oriental and African Studies. The paper discussed the benefits of creative video authoring projects in the undergraduate design curriculum at NJIT’s School of Art + Design.

Peñalba Completes Work on “Reproductions”


“Cherry Blossoms in Winter” Flower

Visiting Associate Professor at the University of Pittsburgh and NJIT CoAD alumna Sophia Sobers ’11 participated in “Cherry Blossoms in Winter,” a public art initiative celebrating the cherry trees in Branch Brook Park and Newark’s 350th Anniversary. Sobers’ work, “Home, as it is” depicts the outline of a city home around a cherry tree representing it as the symbolic hearth and center.

RELAB Collaboration Creates First Zero-Net-Energy School in New York City

NJIT Industrial Design Coordinator and University Lecturer José Alcala completed final commissioning on the recent design and installation of a 645 kW building integrated photovoltaic (BIPV) system for the Kathleen Grimm School for Leadership and Sustainability at Sandy Ground (also known as P.S. 62) in Staten Island, NY. Alcala’s design and consulting company Renewable Energy Laboratory (RELAB), along with sister company and BIPV integrator, altPOWER, Inc., worked with architects Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, LLP (SOM) and the School Construction Authority (SCA) to help realize the first net-zero-energy school in New York City, and one of the first of its kind worldwide. The school is a 68,000-square-foot, two-story elementary school, serving pre-kindergarten through fifth grade students.
Narahara Serves on Programming World Cup Jury

Associate Professor Taro Narahara was one of four members of the Executive Judging Committee for the 4th Annual Cloud Programming World Cup, November 17, at the Shinagawa Intercity Hall in Tokyo, Japan. Eighteen teams submitted entries to this international event.

The objective of the competition was to “develop software that can run on VR-Cloud using UC-win/Road SDK (Software Development Kit) and VR-Cloud SDK” with the ultimate goal of promoting programming among students among various design fields. Submissions could include all-purpose software, application programs, engineering, business or game software.

CoAD Library Director Co-Authors Paper on Citation for Design Scholarship

Maya Gervits, Director of the Littman Architecture & Design Library at NJIT, co-authored “Citation Analysis and Tenure Metrics in Art, Architecture, and Design-Related Disciplines” with colleague Rose Orcutt, Architecture & Planning Librarian of the University at Buffalo, The State University of New York. The article was published in the Fall issue of Art Documentation: Journal of the Art Libraries of North America, “a peer-reviewed journal concerned with issues related to art, archaeology, architecture, design, art librarianship, and visual resources. “

Gervits and Orcutt examined the limitations of the current citation tools and standards for research assessment as applied to art and design scholarship, and argued for the creation of “a more holistic model for scholarship evaluation” for design disciplines, one which “takes into consideration various measures of impact and multiple research outputs.”

A Quarter Century of Leadership Ends

Urs P. Gauchat, Dean of the College of Architecture and Design since February 1991, is retiring at the conclusion of the fall semester. The longest serving Dean at NJIT, Gauchat was at the helm of the College as it transformed from a School of Architecture to a comprehensive College of Architecture and Design, when the School of Art + Design was established in 2008. He was only the third Dean of the College, initially established in 1973, and he oversaw the academic unit through numerous accreditations from the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) as well as the initial accreditations by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) and the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA).

Gauchat led the successful effort to establish a permanent home for the College with the renovation of and addition to Weston Hall, as it expanded towards the southeast corner of the NJIT campus at the intersection of Warren Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. As the College grew its facilities, so did its community, the number of students and faculty and its reputation as he transformed the College into an internationally recognized leader in architecture and the use of digital technologies. His leadership spanned 25 years, 2 centuries, 3 university presidents, 5 provosts, and a sea change in the nature of architectural practice and design education in an increasingly digital era. While he retires as Professor and Dean Emeritus of the College of Architecture and Design, he will continue his work with the United Nations focusing on housing, sustainability, and urban design.

Hagen is First A+D Alumna NCIDQ Certificate Holder

Interior Design alumna, Kristen Hagen ’13, has become the first graduate of the School of Art + Design to take and pass the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) certification examination. One of the early graduates of the School’s Interior Design program, Hagen specializes in hospitality design at Kraig Kalashian Architecture & Design (KKAD) in Chester, NJ.