A+D Students Present at NJIT Innovation Day

Fall 2014 Collaborative Design Studio were Matthew Gorman (Digital Design), Sharon Feng (Digital Design), Lucely Barrera (Industrial Design), and Katarzyna Cyrulik (Interior Design). The studio, titled “Material Dynamics: Cyber-Physical Systems,” explored how emergent materials and technologies can be interfaced with the digital world in the design of active and reactive objects and environments that are integral elements in smart buildings and cities.

Theatre Arts & Technology Performance of Woyzeck Includes A+D Students and Faculty

“Woyzeck,” a nineteenth-century unfinished drama by Georg Büchner, was adapted by the NJIT-Rutgers Theatre Program and directed by University Lecturer Louis Wells as the final show for the 2014-2015 season. A tragic story about a former soldier, the production featured graduating Interior Design student Mike Chiappa onstage as the Doctor.

Graduating Industrial Design student Gretchen Von Koenig designed publicity materials and served as the production’s graphic artist. Participation of A+D students in the Theatre Arts & Technology program provides myriad opportunities for students to prepare for involvement in the entertainment industry as Digital Design student Rebecca Jean Cortes served as the Sound Operator and Industrial Design student Lea Burlow served as the Video Designer/Operator.

Brew-Watches Funded on Kickstarter

Watch designer and 2014 Industrial Design graduate Jon Ferrer successfully launched his new company, Brew Watches, on Kickstarter this spring. Following an internship with Movado while he was still a student, and experience with MZ Berger and House of Horology, Ferrer created his own line of watches under his own brand. Inspired by his love for, and fascination with, traditional timepieces along with his love for the ritual of the coffee break, he created a set of three Swiss-manufactured watches inspired by the aesthetic of industrial espresso machines. Available in three finishes (silver with white face, rose gold with black face, and black with black face) the watches are made with stainless steel case and case back, and Ronda 3520.D Chrono movement. The endeavor raised almost $40,000 on Kickstarter and remain available for online purchase at http://www.brew-watches.com/. Ferrer, who graduated from the School of Art + Design just one year ago, participated in the annual Industrial Design “Where Are They Now?” program held at NJIT in April.
“Sails and Ship” Selected by AIA in Annual Architectural Photography Competition

Professor and Director of the School of Art + Design Glenn Goldman received Honorable Mention in the American Institute of Architects annual photography competition. “Sails and Ship,” a photograph of the Vancouver Convention Center, was one of fourteen images selected by the AIA out of approximately 1,200 submissions and was exhibited in Atlanta at the 2015 convention in May. This is the seventh time Goldman’s photographic work has been cited in a competition over the last five years.

Decker Speaks at San Francisco Symposium

Assistant Professor Martina Decker was an invited speaker at the Material Research Society (MRS) Spring Symposium in April in San Francisco. Her talk, “Time – Space – Matter,” was the first ever delivered to the society by an architect. Prior to her presentation in San Francisco, she participated in a symposium, “Designed Matter: Architecture and Emerging Technologies,” at the University of Buffalo.

Digital Design Students Attend Industry Spotlight 2015 at New York City ACM SIGGRAPH in April

Digital Design students and alumni, along with Associate Professor Andrzej Zarzycki, attended the New York City ACM SIGGRAPH chapter’s 13th Annual Industry Spotlight that featured animation and post-production facilities from the NYC metropolitan area that included award-winning firms Brainstorm Digital, The Mill, Mr. X Gotham, Psyop, The STUDIO, UVPHACTORY, and more who shared recent work and discussed future projects.

Industrial Design Work Selected for New York City Design Week Exhibition

Four Industrial Design students and two faculty members have had work selected for, and exhibited at, Sight Unseen: Offsite at the Hudson Mercantile in New York City as part of NYCxDESIGN, an annual citywide design celebration, May 15 through May 18.

“Curse the Darkness,” a competition organized by the American Design Club with Roll & Hill, invited designers to submit designs and working prototypes of candle holders that can be used to light a room. Second year student Dalal Elsheikh (Second Life Candle), third year student Fabio Castellanos (Chapel, below/left), and seniors Chien Hua Huang (Section, below/center) and Joseph Cardenas (Torch) along with adjunct faculty members Efecem Kutuk (Avocandle, below/right) and Jobe Bobee (Wire Form 01) all had work accepted and exhibited.

Interior Design Students Visit Phillips Lighting Lab

For the fifth consecutive year, sophomore Interior Design students traveled to the Philips Lighting Lab in Somerset, NJ, for a series of hands-on experiments, design problems, and seminars dealing both with lamp types and specific applications. Students performed quantitative and qualitative exercises measuring the amount of light found and needed, and determining the impact different light sources had on perception of color. The students were accompanied by Sr. University Lecturer David Brothers and the sessions were led by Dan Blitzer, principal of The Practical Lighting Workshop.
A+D Sponsors Evening Concert in Littman Library

Organized by Maya Gervits, Director of the Littman Library, the School of Art + Design sponsored and presented the first classical music concert on April 7 featuring the Montclair Trio from the Montclair School of Music. Robert Radliff and Aurora Mendez played the violin while Gergely Kiss performed on the cello.

Material ConneXion Presents at NJIT

Anuja Bagul, Material Scientist and representative of Material ConneXion, presented to students from the College of Architecture and Design in March, and introduced attendees to the procedures used to access the “world’s largest subscription-based materials library with more than 7,500 innovative materials and processes across all disciplines of design.” NJIT students, staff, and faculty may access the Material ConneXion Library from both on and off campus. The onsite Materials Library in the Littman Library and Material ConneXion provide members of the CoAD community (especially by those involved in Interior and Industrial Design) with a combination of physical and virtual access to a wide array of products used in design.

Pixar’s Danielle Feinberg Speaks to Students

On March 27, NJIT’s Murray Center for Women in Technology convened a day-long conference entitled "Women Designing the Future." Students from the School of Art + Design met one-on-one with Disney Pixar’s Danielle Feinberg who delivered a keynote speech on her work as lead designer of photography for lighting on feature films such as The Incredibles, Monsters Inc., and Brave. She also spoke about the challenges she successfully met on her path through the largely male-dominated world of computer science and digital technology in school and in the entertainment industry today.

Zarzycki Presents at Eurographics in Switzerland

“Augmenting Design Curriculum with Location-Aware Technologies” was presented by Associate Professor of Architecture and Digital Design Andrzej Zarzycki at Eurographics held at Kongresshaus in Zürich, Switzerland, during the first week of May. The paper describes ways in which emerging interactive augmented reality (AR) technologies are being adopted by designers and extended into areas of tourism, education, entertainment, and commerce. Student work developed in two A+D courses – Designing for Augmented Reality and Interactive and Reactive Environments – were included in the presentation.

Barbara Littman Interviewed on NJTV

Designer, alumna, and adjunct faculty member in Interior Design Barbara Littman was interviewed by Joanna Gagis on “Life & Living” on New Jersey Public Television (NJTV) in March during which she spoke about her work and how returning to school later in life affected her career.

Tenth Annual Design Showcase Held at NJIT

The College of Architecture and Design held its 10th Annual Design Showcase in April, bringing together alumni, students, and faculty in an event that combined networking opportunities, mini-trade show, keynote lecture, and a display of professional and student work during an evening reception. Awards for best student work in each program are also annually determined by an alumni jury. The 2015 winners from the School of Art + Design were seniors Sharon Feng (Digital Design) and Stefanie Collantes (Industrial Design), and sophomore Alma Villalba (Interior Design).
NJIT’s School of Art + Design participated in the second annual Greater Newark Mini-Maker Faire along with children, parents, teachers, and other makers who gathered at the Newark Museum, the state’s largest museum, on Saturday April 11. The Faire contained demonstrations, hands-on activities, workshops, and exhibits from woodworkers, robotics engineers, 3D printing artists, and more – including four public lectures, one of which was given by John Cays, Associate Dean from the College of Architecture and Design, who presented You are a Maker. Maker Faire (a registered trademark of Maker Media, Inc.) have been held in various locations throughout the United States in recent years attracting thousands of creative individuals who “make things” using a wide array of skills and techniques.

The School of Art + Design was well-represented with a variety of exhibit stations housed in a 30’ x 30’ tent in the Newark Museum’s garden. NJIT’s efforts were coordinated by Assistant Professor of Digital Design Taro Narahara who was assisted by faculty members Jose Alcala, Augustus Wendell, and Andrzej Zarzycki.

A workshop for children created and run by Digital Design students Amos Dudley, Kelvin Mendez, and Nathaniel Soto included a hands-on interactive demonstration and 3D printing, while also teaching about simple circuits and electronics. Participants made their own bobble-head toys by sculpting the heads in clay and scanning their creating to be printed as a bobble-head. The toys had integrated electronic parts which the participants snapped together.

The exhibits included a developing interactive 3D virtual environment using the Oculus Rift by third year Digital Design student Ed Lopez Jr. (shown left) along with Jonathan Rivera.

A second iteration of last year’s popular NJITs was created with a combination of 3D printed and laser-cut body parts that allowed users to select pieces and create their own creature alien, robot, or pirate NJIT. The collaborative team responsible for the project included Digital Design students Ryan Sokoloski, Lee Coward, Amos Dudley, Ed Lopez Jr., and Marta Brulinski. Industrial Design student participants included Fabio Castellanos, Juan Trapp, and Joe Perez.

Augmented reality (AR) masks were produced in a collaborative effort between Industrial and Digital Design students. Lee Coward (Digital Design) used QR-codes to create AR tags using Unity and plug-in Vuforia, and added this functionality to the masks designed by a group of Industrial Design students that included Julian Mena, Malorie Pangilinan, Luz Cabrera, Alexandra Nita, and others. Once participants finished folding origami masks, they selected stickers to place on the mask and then went to webcam-equipped laptops to look at themselves as 3D lions or wolves. On campus logistic support for various projects was provided by Don Menke at the CoAD Model Shop.