

ART + DESIGN : NEWS + NOTES

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN – NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY – NEWARK, NEW JERSEY – DECEMBER 2012

Interior Design Students Win Kimball Office Furniture “Through the Decades” Chair Design Competition



Three third-year Interior Design students were selected as one of two winners of the 2012 “Through the Decades” Chair Design Competition sponsored by *Kimball Office Furniture*. Six teams

from New Jersey interior design programs were asked to “creatively match the aesthetics of a specific decade” while “reinventing a classic piece of Kimball furniture.” The winning NJIT team consisted of **Mike Chiappa**, **Nora Gharib**, and **Gerard Toledo** who collectively were assigned the decade of the 1960s. All NJIT entrants in the competition participated outside of regular class or studio time as an extracurricular activity and were supervised by University Lecturer **David Brothers**, Coordinator of the Interior Design program.

The winners were announced at the 2012 Kimball Office Furniture Partnership’s Annual Halloween Party on October 25 where party goers voted on their favorite design. Designers attended the party in costume representing their assigned decade. The winning chairs were placed on display at the Kimball showroom in New York and the three designers shared a scholarship prize of \$1,000 that was presented to them by John Hindman of Kimball. The other NJIT participants included a second-year team of **Sean Liao**, **Katarzyna Cyrulik**, and **Nathalie Acavedo**; and a fourth-year team of **Tatiana Duarte** and **Nora Hamadé**.



1960's (winning) chair



Future (second-year entry)



2000's (fourth-year entry)

Digital Design Student wins Cover Design Competition for Virtual Academic Library (VALE) of New Jersey



For the third consecutive year, the winning design selected for the cover of the Virtual Academic Library (VALE) of New Jersey conference program came from a third-year Digital Design student in the School of Art + Design. The competition asked entrants to design the 2013 cover for the fourteenth annual event, “*Demonstrating*

Value for Every User,” to be held on January 4, 2013 at Rutgers University in Piscataway.

This year’s winner, **Andres Henao** of North Bergen, NJ, created the winning design with Autodesk’s 3DS Max software in a design studio taught by University Lecturer Augustus Wendell as he manipulated a series of rectilinear and ruled shapes in order to generate curved forms and a sense of depth.

Siena Summer Program Expands for A+D Students

Almost twenty years after the School of Architecture established its summer program in Siena, Italy, the course offerings have been expanded to include design investigations appropriate for students in the School of Art + Design. Starting in 2013, students will be able to take up to six credits of design elective courses during the six-week program in Italy.

The trip, open to students enrolled in the College of Architecture and Design, is planned to include four weeks in Siena, and one week each in Rome and Milan. Although final schedules and courses are not yet determined, it is expected that students will have an opportunity to study issues in contemporary Italian design at various scales as well as to participate in studio-based, traditional media graphics courses.

Industrial Design Students Exhibit at Furniture Fair



Students in the third year Industrial Design studio of Assistant Professor **Brooks Atwood** displayed and reviewed their furniture designs outside the NJIT Campus Center Ballroom during the first week of December.

Sixteen students creatively used recycled and/or sustainable materials to design a collection of chairs. Among the projects were a chair made from shredded red SOLO cups (**Roxanna Munoz**, below left) and another created from melted buttons (**Julia Colombo**, below right).



Alissia Melka-Teichroew Presents Work and Design Process of byAMT, Inc. in CoAD Lecture Series



Product designer **Alissia Melka-Teichroew**, founder and creative director of byAMT, Inc. in New York presented her work in October as part of the College of Architecture and Design

Lecture Series. Furniture products and 3D-printed jewelry were among the items shown and discussed.

NJIT/SIGGRAPH Holds Tutorial Sessions for Students



The student chapter of SIGGRAPH, the Association of Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group in Graphics – the professional organization for Digital Design students – held student-run software tutorial sessions for their colleagues in the School of Art + Design. The students delivered lab-based instruction in both *Autodesk Maya* and *3DS Max* during the Fall 2012 semester where they covered a variety of topics that ranged from character rigging to lighting and rendering techniques.

Atwood Introduces New Projects



Brooks Atwood, Assistant Professor of Industrial Design and Principal of POD DESIGN in Brooklyn, has introduced the lightweight Sylki Chair, created out of a single sheet of laser-cut 20 gauge recycled metal.

Recent Industrial Design alumni **Sara Jane Rin** and **Avrami Rakovsky** and fourth-year student **Nick Domanski** were part of the design team that produced the project. The chair has already been featured on the IDSA website as well as *Cool Hunting* and *Moco Design*.

Architects + Artisans has featured Atwood's proposed design for an energy efficient 3,000 square foot pre-fabricated house in Hollywood, California. The residence will be a two-story single-family residence sitting on a sloped property. Recent Interior Design graduate **Mina Liba** worked on the project team along with Rin, Rakovsky, and Domanski as well as other students and alumni from the School of Architecture at NJIT.

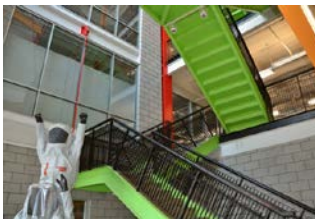
Zarzycki Presents at SIGGRAPH Asia 2012



Assistant Professor **Andrzej Zarzycki** added to his list of international appearances when he presented “*Urban Games: Application of Augmented Reality*” at the Symposium on Apps during the Annual SIGGRAPH Asia conference in Singapore in early December 2012. The mobile app is designed to encourage individual users to “become an urban explorer

and discover the mystery of abandoned public infrastructure” by providing content to users and through “gamification of learning and everyday life.” In addition to his own mobile app, Zarzycki discussed augmented reality apps developed by his NJIT students in his course, Designing for Augmented Reality, offered as a design elective during the Spring 2012 semester.

Registration Opens for Global Game Jam 2013



Weston Hall at NJIT and the School of Art + Design will again be a host site for the international Global Game Jam to be held January 25-27, 2013. The event draws a

combination of Art + Design and Information Technology students from NJIT as well as creative students and game professionals from other schools and the surrounding area. Registration is online and information may be found at:

<http://globalgamejam.org/sites/2013/new-jersey-institute-technology>

Interior Design Student Attends Autodesk University

Nora Hamadé, a senior in the Interior Design program received a scholarship from Autodesk and attended Autodesk University November 27-29 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Hamadé, a student expert who has attended rigorous Autodesk Revit training in the past two summers, had an opportunity to attend technical session and network among peers and professionals.

Decker’s Façade System and Smart Screen Published



Shading devices, intelligent materials for sun screens and smart facades, developed by Assistant Professor **Martina Decker** and her firm Decker Yeadon, are the subjects published recently in a pair of books. The work appears in “*Superfici Dinamiche*” (Dynamic Surfaces) by Alessandro Premier and also “*Screncity: International Academic Journal/Media Environment/New Technologies for Built Environment Communication and Valorization*,” edited by Katia Gasparini.

Honors College Panel Discussion: Behind the Scenes – The Secret Life of Entertainment Technology Engineers



The increasing overlap between technology, design, and entertainment was addressed in an NJIT event co-sponsored by the Honors College and Theater Arts and Technology program on December 5. With an increasing number of students choosing to combine studies in one of the Art + Design programs and Theater Arts at NJIT, the program was relevant as it illustrated the nature of possible career opportunities for Engineers, Interior Designers, Digital Designers, and Industrial Designers. Experts from **Electronic Theatre Controls** and **Fisher Dachs Associates** presented material that ranged from the design of luminaires for live performances; to space and interior design for theater, dance, and musical events and innovative techniques for the rapid conversion of fixed-seat theaters to a level surface for different types of events.

Hurricane Sandy

On the last weekend of October, the wind picked up, water levels got higher, and people started to lose electrical power. Due to hazardous conditions and the declared State of Emergency in New Jersey, NJIT was closed on Monday, October 29. By the end of that day, the campus and many in our community were without power. As the tides rose and storm increased in intensity, transportation became difficult and in some instances impossible. Communication lines were down, roads were washed away, tunnels were flooded, rail lines rendered unusable. Some people lost more than power: they lost their homes.

The almost post-apocalyptic scenes have been played over and over again on television and the Internet since the storm showing people walking through eerily quiet (and dark) neighborhoods, or through places that were once filled with vibrant and active residential communities that have been reduced to rubble. The shoreline of the state has been redefined. Governor Chris Christie has estimated the economic cost to New Jersey at approximately \$30 billion.

NJIT was closed to regular classes the entire week. However, with the assistance and efforts of university personnel, all on-campus residents were safe and received necessary care during this unprecedented event. Classes for the School of Art + Design resumed on Monday, November 5; the day before Election Day. Despite problems of their own, IT personnel navigated the difficult routes from their homes to campus the week of the storm so that they were able to restart necessary services, test applications, and have the important digital academic infrastructure ready for students, faculty, and administrators before classes restarted.

The damage to our region was extensive. Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG) – the utility company that serves much of northern New Jersey including NJIT – estimates that more than 1/3 of their transmission circuits and 3/4 of their distribution circuits were interrupted requiring the removal or trimming of 48,000 trees and replacement or repair of more than 2,400 utility poles. And PSEG is only one of a number of

utility companies along with Con Edison in New York City, Orange & Rockland Utilities in parts of Bergen County in New Jersey, and Jersey Central Power & Light that together serve the homes of most of our students and faculty.

And yet, while the storm hit some people very hard, others were barely inconvenienced. The idiosyncratic nature of the legacy power grid built up over decades created scenarios where people on two sides of the street were treated differently. One house may have had power, while its neighbor was cold and dark. Many pieces of our transportation systems have been restored, but others are still being repaired prolonging hardship for those who rely on these services. Most people have been affected in some way. It is incumbent upon all of us to help those who need it. Just because one family can continue without lasting damage it doesn't mean that there shouldn't be consideration and accommodation for others. There is no intention to treat everyone equally after this storm. The storm was neither equal to all, nor fair. Each individual will be treated according to his or her need. That is, at least in part, the nature of community and the School of Art + Design is a community.

In the end, we pick up and continue. Students and faculty will have structured opportunities at NJIT in the coming months to use their skills and time to help our neighbors. And we will continue to design and to create art. We design in order to make our environment and our lives better and more beautiful. We create art because it is what distinguishes us as human, and because it has the power to address our spirit. We do this because it is important and necessary in order to collectively move beyond the struggle for existence that preoccupied all of us during the first week in November 2012. We do this so we can live.

I wish all in our community, our friends, and family, a very Happy New Year in 2013.

Glenn Goldman, FAIA, IIDA
Director, School of Art + Design