The SOA Alumni Network Needs YOU!

Everything is ready and waiting for you. The SOA Alumni Network is now an official organization, complete with ratified Policies and Procedures and a slate of newly elected officers. The only thing remaining is your membership. Even though it is called the “Alumni” Network, all students, friends, and other advocates of the School are welcome and are encouraged to join the organization and help it support the students in a variety of ways.

Friday, October 22, 2004 (the day before the Homecoming parade and game) was the day that the SOA’s first alumni organization held its first annual meeting. In addition to current alumni, future alumni in the form of the officers and seniors in the various SOA student organizations were also invited to attend this historic lunch meeting.

The initial organizing meeting was held as part of the Alumni Reunion during Homecoming 2003, and the energy in the meeting room was palpable. One of the attendees was one of the School’s first graduates, Eve Williams [B.S. ‘77]. Even before knowing what the group’s structure would be or the requested donation amount, Eve made a contribution on the spot to help get the group up and running and, thereby, became its first member. “As a student, you don’t have any input from the profession, and the alumni group can be that kind of resource,” Eve said when asked why she was so excited about the formation of an alumni organization. “We can help students understand what it’s like in the real world and what to expect. We need to help them all we can because it’s really hard when you don’t know anything about it, and it doesn’t have to be that way,” she added.

Three other people at that meeting were selected to form a leadership team to develop the structure for an on-going...
From the Dean

The University continues to evolve and redefine itself, and so to does the School of Architecture. On January 3, 2005 the University welcomed back one of its own to serve as Interim-President, Dr. Castell Bryant, replacing Dr. Fred Gainous after his two-year tenure. Dr. Bryant brings to the University a wealth of experience in higher education after having served as a member of both the FAMU Board of Trustees and the Florida Board of Governors. In addition, she has served as President of the Miami-Dade Community College North Campus. The School of Architecture, its students, faculty, and administrators stand ready to help her continue the effort of moving the University “forward.”

“Forward” is the operative word here. There are numerous activities in the School of Architecture that are “forward” moving. For instance, as we go to press, our young Master of Landscape Architecture Program is readying itself for its initial accreditation visit February 27 - March 2. While the preparation for this visit began years ago, the realization that we are this close came at the meeting of the newly formed M.L.A. Advisory Board, January 31. With its diversity of experiences and backgrounds, the 12-member Board will be invaluable to the continued growth and success of the program.

There are many other “forward” progressing enterprises underway at the University and the School. In anticipation of the University’s SACS re-accreditation visit in 2008, a new assessment plan is being developed across the University, including at each school and college level. Over the next eight months, the architecture program will develop its self-study for an NAAB accrediting visit in the spring of 2006. In preparation for that visit, we are also developing a strategic plan for the next 5 and 10 years;

Integral to all of these endeavors is the need for the increased support of our alumni. As you can see from this issue, your SOA Alumni Network has materialized into a legitimate and official organization with a well-designed logo developed by alumnus Sergio DeSanto. The Network has also developed an administrative structure. What it needs now is for you to join and become an active participant. The School and the University are largely dependent on the activities and influence of its alumni. I urge you to get involved for the sake of our talented and enthusiastic student body.

Enjoy this newsletter, and let us hear from you.

Rodner B. Wright, AIA
Dean

The SOA Alumni Network Needs YOU! continued from page 1.

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organization. They were: Dion Storr [B.S. ’94], Chair; Anthony Payton [B.S. ’80], Co-Chair; and Akin Akinyemi, local Co-Chair. Dion felt strongly about the need for a strong alumni organization, saying: “I never understood why people would say, ‘When you graduate, don’t forget to give and come back to the School and University,’ but now I get it. I never want another student to have to go through what I went through during and after my time at SOA. If we all keep that in mind, I think we will all know how important it is for us to actively be part of this group.”

Working with both Dean Rodner Wright and Alumni Coordinator Judye McCalman, the chairs first drafted a set of Policies and Procedures that outline the organization’s mission and goals, membership rules, and governing structure. This document was presented to the membership for ratification at the inaugural meeting in Oct. ‘04. Next was the election of officers. The three chairs listed above were easily re-elected along with a Secretary and Treasurer. Karla Castellon [B.S. ‘00; M.Arch. ‘02] is the new Secretary. She currently works in the local firm of Elliott Marshall Innes, PA as a graduate architect and is studying to take the ARE. The new Treasurer is Rick Navarro [B.S. ’00; M.Arch. ‘02] who is an Asst. Prof. in the Department of Interior Design at FSU.

These five officers form the Network’s Executive Board, and they have a monthly electronic meeting via conference call. Judye McCalman joins them as an ex officio member in her capacity as Alumni Coordinator. The agenda is developed by the Chair, and members are welcome to contact Dion should they have topics they would like to see discussed.

Several Network committees coordinate student-related activities where alumni can interact with and mentor current students. For activities such as jurors for final projects, as guest lecturers, as participants in the student-organization-sponsored Professional Development Day, and in numerous other capacities, alumni are critically needed resources for helping students learn.

Treasurer Karla Castellon put it this way: “I joined the Alumni Network because I saw it as an opportunity to join forces with others in order to make a difference in our architectural community. This effort begins with the students and trying to find ways to help them make the transition from academia to the professional world. Then, on to the many intern architects who struggle with an inefficient licensing process and trying to find ways to alleviate their situation. And, to the seasoned architects, to provide them with potential collaborations, contacts, and projects. Ultimately, I want to enhance the profession by making it a little better for those following in our footsteps.”

Won’t you please join this group of fellow alumni who are eager to give something back to their alma mater? They’ve made it easy for you to do in whatever way you’d like. A low donation structure was established: $50 for licensed professionals in the design or construction industries and $25 for all other alumni and friends. You can send this either via check or online via a credit card. Checks should be made payable to the FAMU SOA Alumni Network and sent to:

Judye McCalman
Alumni Coordinator
FAMU School of Architecture
1936 S. MLK Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32307-4200

To pay with a credit card, go to www.famusoa.net/people/alumni/org and follow the directions there. Please don’t delay. Join today!
SOA Administrators Appointed by Dean

**Arleen Pabón and Andrew Chin receive permanent appointments.**

Two interim administrative appointments for the 2003-2004 academic year have now been made permanent. Professor **Arleen Pabón**, Ph.D., J.D. has assumed the position of Associate Dean, and Associate Professor **Andrew Chin** now serves as Assistant Dean for Architecture Programs and Director of Professional and Graduate Architecture Programs.

Dr. Pabón joined the faculty in 1999. She has taught History of Architecture, Historic Preservation, and Architectural Theory and Philosophy. Prior to joining FAMU, she taught at the University of Puerto Rico where she also served as Associate Dean. Dr. Pabón runs a consultancy in the fields of historic preservation, historical research, and cultural interpretation. A native of San Juan, she studied architecture at the University of Puerto Rico before earning her Ph.D. at Northwestern University. Dr. Pabón has also earned her juris doctorate degree and is a licensed attorney in Puerto Rico.

He has taught first-, second-, and fifth-year design studios, urban design courses, and thesis research. Professor Chin’s appointment as Director of Professional and Graduate Architecture Programs combines the responsibilities of the previous Coordinator of Graduate Programs and the Coordinator of the B.Arch. Program and includes a promotion to Assistant Dean. He earned both a B.S. and a M.Arch. degree from the University of Florida and is in the midst of Ph.D. course work at Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. His recent grant-funded research has focused on various community assistance projects along Florida’s Panhandle.

For more information on these two administrators, please see the article on them in the Fall 2003 issue of **SOA News**.

**Students Take Historic Trip to Europe**

Approximately 15 graduate and undergraduate students will make SOA history over the 2005 spring break. For the first time, faculty will lead students on a study trip to Europe—historic Barcelona, Spain. During the 10-day trip, the group will visit famous buildings and sites, hear lectures by prominent architects, visit the Sagrada Familia Church construction site where they will be received by the architects, and be engaged in specific projects and activities such as freehand drawing and interpretation and analysis of urban and architectural sites. Two optional day trips are also offered: one to Tarragona where students will experience Roman architecture and one to Gerona, famous for its medieval buildings and fortification walls.

During the spring semester, participating students are taking a preparatory course called “Cultural Landscapes: Barcelona” taught by the faculty who will guide the students through the three foci of the course and trip. Prof. and Assoc. Dean **Arleen Pabón**, Ph.D., J.D. will lead the students in historic preservation and cultural interpretation studies. Assoc. Prof. and Asst. Dean **Andrew Chin** will focus on urban city planning, and Assoc. Prof. **Lalo Robles** will cover modern and contemporary architecture.

Eight weeks of lectures by the three faculty and research by the students will precede the trip. The research will generate common group work that will be analyzed during and after the trip. Upon their return, the students will create a publication and an exhibition that will be a synthesis of the semester. Also, an article on the results of the trip will be published in the fall 2005 issue of **SOA News**.

The School is grateful to the FAMU International Studies Program for providing the funding for this trip.

The upbeat inaugural meeting reflected the favorable attitude of each member about the MLA Program.

The SOA’s first Landscape Architecture Advisory Council (LAAC) was officially constituted on Jan. 31, 2005 when its first meeting was held at the SOA. With only one member absent due to transportation problems, the group attended pre-meeting events including a reception the preceding evening at the home of Assoc. Prof. Richard Rome, Director of the M.L.A. Program, and a breakfast at the Doubletree Hotel sponsored by the Tallahassee Section of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and GAP Architectural Products.

The upbeat inaugural meeting reflected the favorable attitude of each member about the M.L.A. Program at FAMU and generated a positive energy throughout the day. The Council is made up of a diverse group of individuals who are knowledgeable of and interested in the profession and practice of landscape architecture. The focus is the oversight of the mission, long-range goals, short-range goals, and objectives of the SOA’s M.L.A. Program. Members will provide an informed, objective perspective of the Program and its relationship to similar units of comparable institutions. They will also make recommendations for program improvement and will generate external support for the Program.

The LAAC is comprised of one honorary charter member and eleven charter members. The honorary charter member is Edward L. Pryce, FASLA who lives in Tuskegee, AL. Born in 1914 in Louisiana of Jamaican ancestry, he had an early childhood interest in art. Attending the University of California at Los Angeles, he was one of only five African-American students. He graduated from Tuskegee in 1937 and received his second bachelor’s degree in landscape architecture from The Ohio State University in 1948 and was hired by his alma mater to chair Tuskegee’s Ornamental Agriculture Program. He received his M.L.A. from Berkeley in 1953, and he served as a member of the Alabama Board of Landscape Architecture. Pryce retired from the Tuskegee faculty in 1977 as Professor Emeritus. He continues to explore his artistic interests with examples of his work on exhibit in many of Tuskegee’s buildings, including two important murals in its chapel. His art and mission in his teaching reflects his desire to instill pride in young African-Americans about the long heritage and contributions of Africans throughout the world.

Mr. Kona Gray, Vice President of EDSA in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, was elected Council Chair. Local alumnus David Cowles [M.L.A. ‘00] with Moore Bass Consulting was elected Council Secretary, and Emily O’Mahoney, Principal of Gentle Holloway O’Mahoney in Jupiter, FL, was elected Council Treasurer. All officers were elected by unanimous acclamation. These officers will also serve on the Policies and Procedures Committee and will be joined by fellow members Chris Flagg, Vice President of RS&H in Jacksonville, and Jeremy Earle of Kimley-Horne and Associates in Miami.

Other Council members are: Edward T. Baker (Miami), Elizabeth Marshall-Beasley (Palm Beach), alumna Jane Chichetti [M.L.A. ‘00], Leigh Grey (St. Petersburg), and Dana Worthington (Orlando). Others present at the meeting were Richard Rome (Program Director) and adjunct professor Jeff Caster (Program/Council Liaison).

The next meeting will be held during final jury week of the 2005 Spring Semester and annually during that period each year. The School of Architecture very much appreciates the contributions of these professionals to the M.L.A. Program and looks forward to a long and productive relationship.

In October, Assistant Professor Matt Powers and two Master of Landscape Architecture students, Shea Hansen and George Gilchrist, attended the Annual Meeting of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) in Salt Lake City, Utah. The meeting theme, “Natural Spaces, Public Places,” was well-suited to the conference venue in the Salt Lake Valley and provided numerous interesting presentations.

Among them was a poster presentation given by Professor Powers. The poster was entitled “Diversity in Landscape Architecture: Benefits and Strategies” and focused on the lack of diversity in landscape architecture and strategies for increasing the number of minorities in the profession. Many SOA students helped Professor Powers collect and analyze data for the poster, making it a true team effort.

The student attendees, Shea and George, took advantage of a range of educational sessions and met several key people in the profession during conference events. Student travel was funded by a grant from the Trust for Public Lands.

Next year’s ASLA Annual Meeting is scheduled for October 7-10, 2005 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.
Landscape Architecture Welcomes Visiting Professor

The School of Architecture is fortunate to have C. L. Bohannon as a visiting professor this year in the landscape architecture program. Professor Bohannon teaches Design II and Graphics/Portfolio Development and is working with the faculty on preparing for the program’s initial accreditation visit. According to Richard Rome, Director of the Landscape Architecture Program, “C.L. brings intensity, enthusiasm, and a generous spirit to his classes to which the students have responded positively. He combines rigor, discipline, and a sense of adventure to his design and communication courses, and he is eager to share his knowledge with the students. I believe that he is a great addition to our faculty.”

Bohannon was born and raised in Memphis, Tennessee where his father has an architecture practice. The young C.L. was exposed to both architects and landscape architects, but he was always fascinated by what went on immediately outside the buildings. Somewhat torn between the two disciplines, he ultimately decided on a major in landscape architecture and received his B.L.A. from the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

While an undergraduate student, Bohannon spent two summers in an internship program at Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI)—the Multi-cultural Academic Opportunities Program (MAOP). This program introduced him to the university as well as piqued his interest in increasing the diversity within the landscape architecture profession. It was not a surprise, then, that he chose VPI for his graduate work and earned the M.L.A. degree with an emphasis in urban design. While a graduate student, he became the assistant coordinator of MAOP and was eventually promoted to the coordinator position.

At VPI, he met fellow student Matt Powers who moved to Tallahassee to join the SOA faculty. Due largely to their relationship, Bohannon was offered the opportunity to come to FAMU to help develop the new landscape architecture program and to teach. “I really like teaching,” Professor Bohannon states. “The students here are very eager to learn, and I also learn a lot from them. The faculty and staff have been very supportive and have helped me get started.” Professor Bohannon especially appreciates the opportunity to experiment with the students and to get out of the classroom to take field trips. “Travel is a key component of education, especially in landscape architecture,” he notes.

In his spare time, Professor Bohannon enjoys cooking, especially Jamaican food and Memphis-style bar-b-que. “I’d really like to go to culinary school and open my own restaurant at some point—one with a mixed cuisine,” he muses. “I also like to sketch and draw, listen to reggae music, and play video games.”

Plans for the immediate future include sitting for the licensing exam in August so that he will have the credentials to open his own practice some day. First, however, he’d like to gain experience working in other firms and teaching. His professional interests include opening a community design center that would focus on the neighborhood and introduce people to landscape architecture and architecture. He also wants to continue his work toward increasing the cultural diversity in the field.

The School appreciates Professor Bohannon’s work with us and wishes him the best in his future endeavors.

Faculty Initiate SAGA Task Force

In order to bring sustainability and green building issues more actively to the forefront of the SOA’s teaching, research, and public service, in late Nov. ’04 a group of faculty members and graduate students formed a Sustainable Architecture and Green Architecture (SAGA) Task Force.

Professor Larry Peterson has championed sustainability and green architecture issues during his nearly 20 years on the faculty, and Professor Walter Grondzik has also been continuously active in this area. More recently, Professor Tom Martineau and Assistant Professor Beth Dobson have become more involved: Professor Martineau through his teaching of the Introduction to Technology, Environmental Technology 2, and Environmental Technology 3 courses; his participation at the recent Agents of Change training at Woods Hole (see article, p. 7); and his recent LEED Accredited Professional® designation. Professor Dobson has been active through her teaching of the Introduction to Technology course and her participation at Woods Hole. Graduate students Adam Pelkey and Andy Beckham also participated in the Woods Hole training, and both have a strong record of interest in sustainability while at FAMU. Beckham, a fourth-year student, has also achieved LEED certification.

The Task Force meets regularly to plan and evaluate activities that will further its cause. For example, Profs. Martineau and Dobson offered electives during the spring ’05 semester that focused on issues related to the Agents of Change experience, sustainability, green buildings, and the LEED criteria. Also, the group will travel to Gainesville, Florida to view the three LEED-certified buildings on the University of Florida campus where all new construction must be LEED certified. They will also seek advice from faculty there on starting a USGBC Chapter in Tallahassee. Other activities and collaborations are being planned.

*Note: A Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional designation is offered through the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) and conferred after passing a rigorous examination. The Council is the nation’s foremost coalition of leaders from across the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthy places to live and work.

www.famusoa.net
**Honors and Awards**

Professor Tom Martineau recently passed the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Professional Accreditation Exam. With this certification, he will be listed as a “LEED Accredited Professional” through the United States Green Building Council. The Council is the nation’s foremost coalition of leaders from across the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable, and healthy places to live and work.

During AKAppreciate Week, the Beta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. awarded Professor and Associate Dean Arleen Pabón, Ph.D., J.D. a “Certificate of Recognition” as “Distinguished Professor of the School of Architecture.” This award was the result of a school-wide vote by the student body for the “Best Professor.” An AKA-sponsored reception was held at the SOA building where professors from other colleges were also honored by the organization.

Graduate student Gabriel Andrews (right) joined many other students who attended the reception in congratulating Dr. Pabón (left) on her award as “Best Professor.”

**Creative Activities**

Assistant Professor Valerie Goodwin is one of 56 artists invited to exhibit her original art quilts at the 2005 International Juried “Layers of Meaning: The Art Quilt Exhibition” at The Carnegie Center in New Albany, Indiana. The exhibit ran January 14 through March 19, 2005.

Professor Goodwin’s award-winning quilt, *Ground Zero*, was one of 32 works selected from over 400 quilts to be displayed in the juried “Layers of Meaning: The Art Quilt 2005” exhibition. The exhibit to be held at the Contemporary Crafts Museum and Gallery in Portland, Oregon will run from March 12 through May 8, 2005.

*Unknown Regions I,* another original art quilt by Goodwin (shown above), is one of 49 quilted works selected from 470 submitted for juried exhibition in the “Form Not Function: Quilt Art at the Carnegie” show at The Carnegie Center in New Albany, Indiana. The exhibit ran January 14 through March 19, 2005.

And locally, Professor Goodwin was one of two artists invited to display work at the Tallahassee City Hall Art Gallery Sept. 21 through Nov. 9, 2004 where she exhibited a number of her quilts. To end the tenure of Zoe Galloway as the Executive Director of the Gadsden Arts Center, “Art in Gadsden Retrospective: Winners Circle” will showcase the work of artists who have won cash awards for their work, including Professor Goodwin. The exhibition will be shown February 25 through April 1, 2005 at the Gadsden Arts Center in Quincy, FL.

**Sabbaticals**

Professor Walter Grondzik has returned from his one-semester sabbatical during which he worked to improve his architectural research and teaching capabilities through independent investigations into these issues. Specific activities included a brief but very active visit to the Pacific Energy Center (San Francisco) relative to their continuing education efforts, a several-weeks visit to the Center for Housing Innovation at the University of Oregon in Eugene to observe student-faculty research and teaching interactions (including a visit to the Energy Studies in Buildings Laboratory), participation in the ongoing Agents of Change teaching/research project, visits to several notable green buildings, active participation in the Buildings IX conference in Clearwater, and extensive updating (via research and reading) in topical areas related to his teaching responsibilities.

Ongoing professional service activities (particularly with ASHRAE and ARCC) were also part of the sabbatical activities mix. [Note: ASHRAE = American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers; ARCC = Architectural Research Centers Consortium.]

Associate Professor Enn Ots is on sabbatical during the 2005 spring semester. He is using the time to collaborate with Tom Porter, a former SOA Visiting Professor, on a prospective book.

**International Activities**

Over spring break, Professors Arleen Pabón, Andrew Chin, and Lalo Robles are leading a group of graduate and undergraduate students on a 10-day study trip to Barcelona, Spain. This will be the first time faculty will lead architecture students on a study trip to Europe. For more on this trip, see the article on p. 3.

Professor LaVerne Wells-Bowie and Dr. Richard Wagg (from FAMU Environmental Sciences) and four students traveled to the Bahamas (Cat Island) to participate in a design problem for an Artist Retreat site on land owned by Pamela Portier, daughter of actor Sidney Poitier. See the article on p. 9.
SOA Participates in “Agents of Change” Program

In mid-October 2004, two SOA graduate teaching assistants, Andy Beckham and Adam Pelkey, and two faculty members, Elizabeth Dobson and Tom Martineau, were selected by the Agents of Change project at the University of Oregon Dept. of Architecture to receive training fellowships for the fourth of five FIPSE-funded “Agents of Change” project workshops.

This project brings faculty and teaching assistants from accredited architecture programs and trains them in workshops to investigate actual buildings, conduct post-occupancy surveys, and develop exercises to implement at their home institutions. This year’s workshops were held at Woods Hole Research Center in Massachusetts. Participants were assigned to different teams who designed and executed case studies of this exceedingly green building.

The program generates an ever-increasing library of case studies published on the Web; increases the pool of qualified architectural technology faculty as graduate students are trained and motivated to enter the teaching ranks; and, ultimately, trains future architects to create buildings that provide for human health and well-being while using energy responsibly.

The FAMU SOA team also made a side trip to the remnants of the nearby New Alchemy Institute where the building of a green, intentional, residential community is currently in progress.

Graduate Students Earn Awards

Master of Architecture students Vanessa Greenaway and Adam Pelkey were recognized by the FAMU School of Graduate Studies and Research for their research and its incorporation in the classroom. Each was a teaching assistant and was given an “Outstanding Graduate Assistant” award for $500.00 to be used to further their research.

Vanessa was recognized for her work with Asst. Prof. Valerie Goodwin’s first-year design students in a project that related to her master’s thesis on the subject of tactile architecture. Adam was selected based on his work with the “Agents of Change” project (see article above) and his implementation of what he learned there in the Introduction to Technology class taught by Professor Tom Martineau. Our congratulations to both of these outstanding graduate assistants.

Students Receive National Scholarship Award

Two SOA students have received national scholarship awards from the Hideo Sasaki Foundation. Fourth-year student Mike Kruger and fifth-year student Cheuck Or each received $2,000.00 from the Foundation. The award was based on a competition that included a review of work submitted by each student. The programs of the Hideo Sasaki Foundation are funded by a trust established by Sasaki Associates, Inc. and family, friends, and colleagues of Hideo Sasaki, a renown landscape architect, educator, and planner. Our congratulations to both Mike and Cheuck on their winning entries.

First-Year Student Becomes Ms. SOA

First-year student Renee Boyer was selected as Ms. SOA 2004-05 by the Alpha Rho Chi fraternity for her efforts in raising the most money for the coronation of Mr. and Ms. FAMU during Homecoming week last October. The title qualified Renee to participate in the ceremony. Renee is from Chiefland, FL where she was home-schooled beginning in the third grade. She maintained a 3.4 high school GPA, and now carries a 3.75 college GPA. Before attending FAMU, Renee earned 30 credit hours in general education at Central Florida Community College in Ocala. Her goal is to become a licensed architect and design large-scale commercial projects.

Our congratulations to Renee for both her academic achievements and her fund-raising prowess!
### FAMU Graduate Students Travel to Virginia Tech

Visiting M.L.A. Professor C.L. Bohannon and architecture Assistant Dean and Associate Professor Andrew Chin traveled to Blacksburg, VA with six Florida A & M University (FAMU) graduate students (Azizi Arrington-Bey, Cheryl Callender, Stephen Cox, Robert Edwards, Vanessa Greenaway, and Natasha Richardson). The four-day trip provided an opportunity to develop an academic, social, and personal connection with Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VPI) students and faculty. The extended weekend of intense studio, thesis, and social activities was coordinated by Prof. Bohannon and Dean Bork, the Dept. Head for the VPI M.L.A. program.

On the way to Blacksburg from Tallahassee, a short break in Atlanta provided an opportunity for the students to meet with Landscape Architect Doug Allen, Associate Dean for the Georgia Institute of Technology College of Architecture. He spoke with the students as they toured the College of Architecture building. Professor Allen commented on the need to diversify landscape and Dean of the Graduate School, who described her vision for VPI’s Graduate School and the benefits of connecting with the FAMU School of Architecture (SOA). DePauw specifically commented on VPI’s Multicultural Academic Opportunities Program as a means for connecting FAMU SOA students to her “Preparing the Future Professoriate/ Professional” and “Graduate Education Development Institute” initiatives.

At lunch, students heard about the research work of various Ph.D. students. Afterwards, they attended a lecture on “Iranian Gardens” by Visiting Scholar Dr. Hassan Teghviea. Later, two FAMU students and three VPI students gave “in process” presentations of their thesis work followed by a discussion of Prof. Margaret Bryant’s studio. The thesis and studio conversations demonstrated obvious parallels between the universities’ M.Arch. and M.L.A. graduate programs.

Professors Chin and Bork are currently discussing multiple strategies for building on the inaugural trip.

### Students Participate in National AIA Design Charette

At the end of October, the national AIA and its Academy of Architecture for Health held an design charette in Washington, D.C. open to all schools of architecture. Professor Roy Knight’s 4th-year design section was one of only four groups whose applications to participate in this grant-funded project were accepted. The other groups were from Clemson, Carnegie-Mellon, and Penn. State.

The challenge was to convene in Washington at the Shoreham Hotel, site of the concurrent conference being held by the Academy, and, within three days, present design concepts for an emergency mobile medical care unit to be used in disasters. Participating students were: David Chase, Marketa Clark, Denise Francis, Erika Hagan, Todd Hinkle, J.J. Scott, Sean Sukhu, and Linda Weber. The students in the section who stayed on campus were given the same program at the same time and went through a similar process.

The group in Washington gave a very successful presentation that was well received. Many architects attending the Architecture for Health conference saw the presentation. “Special note was made of the practicality of the modular design based on the size of containerized shipping units for flexibility and mobility. But it was especially observed that the design was made humane by the use of color (also used to code the specialized function of the units) and the application of fabric structures for the entry/triage spaces and gathering places,” reported Professor Knight. “Particular attention was called to the students’ very professional presentation of themselves as a sign of appropriate professional respect.”

“All in all the experience was a big success for our students, including the students in Tallahassee who came up with an equally effective design,” noted Professor Knight. The class assembled in Tallahassee during the following week to share both projects and discuss the experience. Funding ($5,000 to cover costs) was sponsored by the Steris Corporation whose representatives were gracious hosts as well.
Students Conduct Interdisciplinary Study in the Bahamas

Pamela Portier and the Portier family are the proprietors of approximately 50 acres of property in the northern region of Cat Island, in the Bahamas. This is the boyhood home of Sidney Portier. Pamela Portier, his daughter, desires to construct an Artist Retreat that would utilize approximately five acres of her family land. She envisions building a resort that includes five eco-friendly chalets and studios, a communal space for gatherings, and a low-impact transportation system.

Through an interdisciplinary course, “Tropical Paradigms Architectural and Environmental Strategies,” members of the FAMU community adopted this project as part of the course content. Prof. LaVerne Wells-Bowie (Arch.), Dr. Richard Gragg (Env. Sc.), Daisy Williams (Arch.), Jason Peat (Arch.), Natasha Richardson (Arch.) and, Yasmeen Barnes-Nkrumah (Env. Sc.) traveled to the Bahamas (Cat Island) as participants. The goals of the course established prior to traveling to the Bahamas were to evaluate current environmental conditions in the Bahamas and develop recommendations for sustainable tourism development. Members of the team visited Nassau and Harbour Island in addition to Cat Island to understand issues related to an ecologically and culturally efficient program for the project site. To achieve goals relevant to a development plan for Cat Island, students utilized their areas of research interest in environmental policy, water quality, solid waste management, and historical and cultural impacts of architecture.

The design team was met with invaluable insight into the policies, procedures, and culture of Cat Island and the greater Bahamas by various governmental agencies, officials, professionals, and residents. Hosts Pamela Portier and Sammy Thurston, owner of Sammy T’s Beach Resort where the class and professors stayed, offered important resources that opened avenues for design ideas and other interests of the team. Their diligence and passionate interest in the FAMU participants’ work made the trip a successful endeavor and directly shaped the quality of the experience.

The agencies that contributed to the planning and financing of this educational fieldwork were the Florida Association of Voluntary Agencies for Caribbean Action (FAVA/CA), the FAMU Office of International Education and Development, the School of Architecture, Environmental Sciences Institute, and the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

Bahamian architect Jackson Burnside, RIBA delivered lectures to the SOA and the FAMU College of Environmental Sciences in the fall. Mr. Burnside also assisted FAMU faculty and students during the Bahamas field trip study. A former student of Louis Kahn and graduate of Penn, he is known for his design participation in Bahamian Junkanoo festivals and has received many architecture awards including recent recognition for his work in tropical sustainability projects.
Graduate and Professional Students Study Ybor City

During the fall semester, both professional students and graduate students in architecture traveled to Tampa, FL. Led by Assoc. Prof. Keith Grey, Design 5.1 students conducted an urban design study of Ybor City, once renown for making fine cigars but then fell on hard times. Although Tampa has made considerable efforts to revitalize the area, the results to date have been largely limited to creating an entertainment street.

The students explored ways by which more people could be encouraged to live in Ybor City and walk or use public transportation instead of their cars. The study also required each student to identify a specific building of at least 60,000 square feet that he/she believes would be needed to support residential development. Those buildings included a school, a community center, commercial offices/retail, health facilities, and cultural facilities. In Design 5.2, all students will be required to do a follow-up design, in considerable detail, of the building they proposed for Ybor City.

Although doing an urban design study in Tallahassee, the graduate students participated in an urban scavenger hunt searching for examples of the urban design paradigms they were studying in their studio. Led by Assoc. Prof. Mike Alfano, the students looked at examples of mixed-use urbanism in Ybor City and the Hyde Park neighborhood.

Both groups of students visited the Atlier Architects office where recent graduate Dean Yates [B.Arch. ’04] shared his experiences in the work world. A visit to the School of Architecture at the University of South Florida was another event that enlivened the trip. After this visit, most of the students gained a new appreciation of the permanent faculty and facilities they enjoy at the FAMU SOA. Many of the students went on to visit the St. Petersburg waterfront and the Salvador Dali Museum.

Fourth-Year Students Travel to Miami

During the fall semester, students from the three sections of fourth-year design traveled to Miami along with their design instructors: Craig Huffman, Roy Knight, and LaVerne Wells-Bowie. Visiting professor of history, Dr. Wesley Henderson also joined the group. On the way to Miami, they stopped in Sarasota where they visited the office of architect Guy Peterson and saw some of the “Sarasota School” houses.

In Miami, the group toured the Art Deco district, guided by Prof. Henderson. They also selected and visited the sites they would use for their design projects in the latter part of the semester. Huffman’s students designed a high-rise, multi-use building across from the Liberty Tower in downtown Miami. Knight’s section took on an approximately 150,000 sq. ft. mixed-use, multi-story building in the Art Deco district, and the students in Wells-Bowie’s section designed a museum and end-point station for the Junkanoo Parade in Coconut Grove.

In each case, the students had an opportunity to examine their sites firsthand as well as to see the varied architecture of Miami, particularly in the Art Deco district, and the redevelopment of South Miami Beach.
Dear fellow alumni,

When I began writing this, it was just a few days after Christmas. I underwent radical prostatectomy (removal of the prostate) surgery late in October and was back at work just two and a half weeks later. Indications are that all the cancer was removed. I’m feeling fine; my recovery is proceeding well, and my doctor says I’m ahead of schedule! I can’t provide the same level of medical detail as your doctor, but I will present some basic information you need to know.

Judy McCalman usually writes these newsletters, but she has graciously granted me some space to tell you about prostate cancer, a problem that can affect any man as I recently learned firsthand. The National Cancer Institute recommends men have a yearly prostate checkup—a physical exam including a digital rectal examination (DRE) and blood test for prostate-specific antigen (PSA)—beginning at age 50. Any man with a family history of the disease (regardless of ethnic background) and all African-American men are recommended to begin this testing at age 40.

Cancer is one of three major health problems that can arise in the prostate gland, and it is the one most able to kill you. Don’t believe “it can’t happen to me,” or “it’s not so serious.” It can happen to you, and it is serious. The U.S. has one of the world’s highest rates of prostate cancer, with a one-in-six lifetime risk of developing the disease. Among American men, it is the most commonly diagnosed cancer, and the second leading cause of death from cancer, claiming around 29,000 lives in 2003.

Greatest Risk Factors

Age—Prostate cancer usually takes many years to develop, so the older you get, the more likely you are to be diagnosed with it. The disease’s probability from age 40 to 59 is 1 in 53. From age 60 to 79, the probability jumps to 1 in 7. Currently, the average age at diagnosis is 69, down in recent years from 72. This is not because men are getting the disease earlier but because detection has improved.

Race—If you’re an African-American, your risk is higher. “African-Americans have the highest risk of prostate cancer of any ethnic group in the world. Worse, black men seem to get more severe forms of prostate cancer, are more likely to have recurrence after treatment, and are more likely to die from the disease than white men” (Walsh and Worthington, 2001, p. 40). The reasons for this are not known with certainty, but researchers are investigating genetic, hormonal, and dietary causes.

Family History—Your risk of having prostate cancer is doubled if your father or brother has had the disease. Also, you may develop a hereditary form of prostate cancer if three relatives (father and two brothers) have had the disease, or if it occurs over three successive generations, or if two relatives developed it before age 55. Researchers are also hard at work searching for the causes of this aspect of cancer development.

Other risk factors include diet and obesity. Our contemporary “high-fat, low-fiber” way of eating has a strong correlation with the development of prostate cancer. Men from China (where prostate cancer is rare) begin (over time) to develop the disease at the same rate as Americans, after they adopt an American-style diet and lifestyle. It appears that a low-fat, high-fiber diet rich in fruits and vegetables may be beneficial in warding off this disease (and other problems). Obese men with a body mass index (BMI) over 32.5 have about a one-third higher risk of death from prostate cancer.

Testing

You can’t rely upon symptoms to warn you. The paradox of prostate cancer is that it is most easily cured when detected in its early stages, but it almost never produces any symptoms during that time. As mentioned earlier, your doctor has two tools available for detection: DRE and the PSA blood test. No man enjoys the DRE; it’s uncomfortable (at best) and undignified. It is also one of the best means your doctor has for detecting prostate cancer.

The blood test measures the amount of prostate-specific antigen (PSA) present in the blood. PSA is a normal product of the prostate gland, and a small amount of it ordinarily escapes the prostate into the bloodstream. The amount of PSA in the blood is proportional both to the prostate’s size and the presence of cancer. Because of this ambiguity, there is some controversy regarding the usefulness of PSA testing. However, before PSA testing was begun, three quarters of prostate cancer was discovered in its later stages where it isn’t easily treated or cured. Since PSA testing became widespread, three quarters of prostate cancers are detected in the early stages. Thanks to early discovery, the survival rate has increased from 67% to 97% over the past 20 years. It is the PSA test that first warned me that I had a problem—almost eleven months before the DRE revealed anything.

I hope I’ve been able to impress upon you the importance of getting tested. If you’d like more information, I recommend checking the websites for the Centers for Disease Control (www.cdc.gov/cancer), the National Cancer Institute (www.cancer.org), the Mayo Clinic (www.mayoclinic.com), the M. D. Anderson Cancer Center (www.mdandersonorlando.org), and the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center (www.mskcc.org).

Best wishes to all of you.

Donald D. Swaby [B.S. ‘81, M.Arch. ‘98]

P.S. You may contact me by email at DDSwaby@aol.com. Just be sure to include “SOA” in the subject of your email so it won’t get deleted as spam.

Alumni Notes

Congratulations are in order for Modupe (“Mo”) Arthur [B.Arch. ’98] who recently received his Florida license! When Mo was a student, he worked as an intern for four summers at Strollo Architects in his home town of Orlando. After graduation, Strollo hired him full time. In 2001, he made a move to Cuhaci and Peterson Architects in Orlando where he stayed until Dec. ’04. He now works as an architect in the Orlando office of Schenkel Shultz Architecture. The firm is actively involved in sustainable architecture and designed Stetson University’s Lynn Business Center, the first LEED™ certified building in the state.

After his graduation, Jose Baella [B.S. ’97] began studying for his M.Arch. at the University of Miami. After one year, however, he made the decision to begin working at Gill McGraw Architects where he focused on aviation and school projects. After four years, he was offered a job captain position with RLC Architects in Boca Raton, FL where he worked on production and coordination of the firm’s diverse commercial and industrial projects. After six years of experience there, he became a project manager at OGSP Architects in West Palm Beach where he oversaw a Lexus/Toyota service center and a bank. Since April 2004, he has been a project manager with PGAL Architects in West Palm, a large firm with eight offices throughout the U.S. There he works primarily with institutional and commercial projects that draw on his mix of previous experience. While still working, he has now returned to the Univ. of Miami to complete his M.Arch.

After receiving her undergraduate degree from FAMU, Daya Bates [B.S. ’97] earned a M.Arch. degree from Clemson University in 1999. After graduation, Daya was quickly employed by the small firm of Nasrallah Fine Architectural Design in Winter Park, FL where she still works. Though the firm does some development and commercial projects, it specializes in high-end residential design. After spending some time in the production area working on construction documents, Daya’s primary focus now is design and project management.

Daya and her firm’s principal, Mark Nasrallah, recently made headlines in the Orlando Sentinel for the model home they designed for a program called “Art in Architecture.” The challenge was to squeeze three bedrooms, two bathrooms, a living room, kitchen, and dining room in about 1,000 square feet—a project quite different from what they were used to. “Working with clients who have financial means is very different from working on a project for an affordable home,” Daya said. “Designing this house was a welcome change of pace.” (For more on the firm’s work, visit their website at www.nasrallah.com.) Daya is also teaching at ITT Technical Institute in Lake Mary, FL. As adjunct professor in the Drafting and Design Department, she is teaching night courses in “Materials and Processes,” “Capstone Project” (the final project), and “Rapid Visualization” (drawing). Last quarter she also taught Architectural Drafting I, an AutoCAD course.

The beauty and cool weather of Vancouver, British Columbia attracted Chiwai Chan [B.Arch. ’01] to accept a position there with Andrew Cheung Architects, Inc. The firm specializes in residential, institutional, cultural, and commercial building types in the greater Vancouver area. Working as a designer, Chiwai’s recent work includes the design of a 16-story, mixed-use project in Richmond, a suburb of Vancouver. He enjoys working in the small (10-person) firm, and the fact that he can bike to work, crossing the peninsula in 15 minutes, is a bonus.

Phil Chisholm [B.S. ‘90, B.Arch. ’97] has changed positions but remains in Houston, TX. After working five years with PageSouthernlandPage Architects as their Director of Medical Planning, Phil moved to Perkins + Will where he holds the same title. His primary reason for the move was the exposure he would have to large-scale, world-class, international projects. Phil has been married to Lariann Jenkins for 10 years, and they have three children: William (4˚), Emerson (1˚), and a new baby girl, Ella, was born in Dec. ’04.

After leaving Tallahassee, Bryan David [B.Arch. ’92] moved to Tampa where he gained experience working in several firms. For five years, he worked with the DLR Group Inc., a firm that specializes in sports facilities such as the new skybox addition at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium in Gainesville. In 1999, Bryan received an Honor Award for Architecture from the Tampa Bay A.I.A. Chapter for his design of the Southern Connector Toll Facilities in Greenville, SC. In 2001, Bryan started his own company called Carolina Studio, Inc. and earned his FL and VA license in 2003. Carolina Studio specializes in townhouse and condominium design as well as some small commercial projects.

Jennifer Davy [B.Arch. ’94] and Rolando Mendoza [B.S. ’94] have been from one end of the country to the other since leaving FAMU. From Tallahassee, they went to South Miami Beach where Jennifer worked for architect Don Sackman, and Rolando worked for Carlos Zapata. Rolando was accepted to graduate school at MIT, so the couple moved to Cambridge, MA for about three years. While Rolando earned dual degrees, an M.Arch. and a M.S. in Design Technology (2000), Jennifer worked in Boston for ADD, Inc. “This was a

Please see next page.
tremendous growth experience for me,” said Jennifer, “but then I was ready to go back to school myself.”

In 2000, Jennifer started graduate school at Southern California Institute of Architecture in Los Angeles, and Rolando went to work in Santa Monica for Morphosis Architects. Since receiving her degree two years ago, Jennifer has been working with Osborn Architects in Glendale, CA. She recently finished the design of a community gymnasmium for the City of Anaheim and is now designing a middle school for the L.A. Unified School District in downtown Los Angeles.

Rolando is currently working with Gehry Technologies, the advanced geometry component of Gehry Partners. As a member of GT, Rolando forms part of a highly specialized group of 3d-construction modelers whose mission is to implement and figure out how to get complex geometries constructed for Frank Gehry projects. “Through 3d parametric-driven technology, we are striving to transform the design and construction industry by showing, through projects with real-world constraints, that architects can and should take full responsibility for their geometries, and become, once again, as they were in the days of the renaissance, the master builders,” Rolando notes. He has worked on a mixed-use development in Brighton, England; an 80-story residential tower in Manhattan, New York; and is currently working on a new Sports Arena in Manhattan, New York; and is currently working on a new Sports Arena in Manhattan, New York; and is currently working on a new Sports Arena in Manhattan, New York; and is currently working on a new Sports Arena in Manhattan, New York.

Congratulations to Deborah Desilets [B.Arch. ’87] who has recently published a book on the life of architect Morris Lapidus, the famous mid-century architect known for his design of Miami Beach hotels. Published by Assouline Publishing, Morris Lapidus is an 80-page, hardcover book that includes 40 color and black-and-white illustrations. According to Assouline, “This book establishes the importance of his work and offers private insights into a man who said ‘why be exotic in private?’” An opening party and book signing were held on January 26, 2005 (the same date as Philip Johnson’s death) at the Metropolitan Hotel in New York, one of six NY hotel that Lapidus designed. Among attendees were former NYC mayor Ed Koch, Morris’ son Alan Lapidus, and major media representatives. Deborah worked in Miami as Morris’ last associate architect for six years before his death in Jan. 2001. She is a practicing architect and artist in Miami and has been the architect for seven nightclubs in Miami/ Miami Beach since 1999. Go to www.nocturnalmiami.com to see why “Miami will never sleep again.”

Gary Feldman [B.Arch. ‘01] is a Construction Project Manager for Florida State University where he manages major construction projects above the million-dollar range. Currently, Gary is managing a $16 million, four-story parking garage that will be the largest parking garage in Tallahassee. He is also managing a dining facility that will serve the northwest quadrant of the University. With a construction budget of @ $4.3 million and a total budget of @ $6 million, the 17,000 gsf building will seat 420. Construction is expected to be completed May 2005. To fulfill his IDP requirements prior to sitting for the licensing exam, Gary also works with a few local architects to provide design and construction documents for various buildings and clients.

After graduation, James (Jim) Fitzpatrick [B.Arch. ‘95] worked in Tallahassee for about 18 months before moving to Portland, OR in January 1997. There he worked on condominium and townhouse design at a small firm for five years and earned his Oregon registration in 2000. For the past three years, he has worked as a project manager for a firm specializing in school design. He is currently developing the design of a new 800-student middle school in Redmond, OR. “Since moving to Portland, I have been able to enjoy a semi-professional ‘second career’ as a musician, performing on trombone with various orchestras and jazz bands,” Jim said. “I am proud to be a FAMU SOA alumnus, and I’d like to thank all of my former professors for their help in providing me with an excellent foundation for my career.”

In Dec. 2004, Tara Hanby [B.Arch. ‘97] completed her M.Arch. degree from the University of Oregon. Her thesis topic arose from the frustration she experienced while working as an intern in Greensboro, NC. There she found that, though interested in sustainable architecture, she was not able to follow through in any meaningful way. She decided to move to Eugene to attend the University of Oregon, and her master’s thesis title was Assessing Barriers to LEED Certification in Oregon. (LEED = Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design.) Her research included a Web-based survey and personal interviews. She spoke with over 40 designers in Oregon about the difficulties they faced using LEED and how they overcame them. Currently, Tara is teaching a design studio at the university as an adjunct professor. In the summer, she plans to return to practice and to begin taking the licensing exams.

Shantee Jamison [B.Arch. ‘04] has taken a position with the Washington, D.C. office of HKS, Architects who are headquartered in Dallas, TX. She is currently working on the new U.S. Census Bureau building in Suitland, MD. “I enjoy it a lot,” Shantee reports. “Every day I work out on the construction site doing construction administration. It’s a design/build project, so I am learning a lot, not only from the architects I work with but also the engineers I interact with on a daily basis.” In her free time, Shantee likes to cook, read, and sleep. She also took advantage of the D.C. weather over the winter and took a couple of ski trips.

Weighing in at a whopping 8 lbs. 10.5 ozs., Camden Brockman Kennedy was born Sept. 21, 2004 to Mike Kennedy [B.S. ’97] and his wife of nine years, Lori. After leaving FAMU, Mike began working at PageSoutherlandPage in Wash., D.C. “Despite the overall size of the firm, the D.C. office has afforded me the perfect opportunity to work in a small firm environment despite the relatively ‘big firm name,’ overall corporate size, and high-profile projects. I have worked on everything from interiors fit-ups on the modest end to US embassies (Phnom Phen, Cambodia and Managua, Nicaragua) and FBI-field office compounds on the extreme end,” Mike said.

In early November, Mike decided to step away from the rigors of the corporate architectural work environment and
dedicate himself to being a part-time stay-at-home dad while studying for the licensing exam. He will also spend the winter months wrapping up their house and site designs for their future home in Harpers Ferry, WV. Construction is expected to begin with the springtime ground thaw.

In mid-2004, Virginia Martin [B.Arch. ‘87] moved from Mobile, AL where she was a member of the board of directors and Vice President of Volkert & Associates, Inc., a 600-person E/A firm, to take a position with Rodney L. Sartain, Inc. in Birmingham. There, she specializes in designing multi-screen theaters and finds it an exciting building type. “We work with companies all over the country (like Regal Cinemas) and do international work, too,” Virginia said. “It’s really a lot of fun.” Virginia is registered to practice in AL, FL, MS, GA, and LA. She has been married to her husband, George, for 23 years, and they have one child, age 11.

Joe Munroe [B.S. ‘80] was in the first group of students to participate in the SOA’s then-new Washington, D.C. Study Center. Largely because of that experience, Joe remained in Washington after graduation where he gained professional experience by working at Sherman Associates and CHK Architects (now Torti-Gallas, CHK). In the early 90s, he returned to Tallahassee and operated Joseph F. Munroe Architectural Interiors for two years before moving back to D.C. to work for Sydene Interiors. For the last 10 years, Joe has designed for Model Home Interiors in Beltsville, MD where he is also a partner/owner. The firm specializes in architectural interiors, and Joe has designed a number of luxury high-rises in the metro area. Several of his designs are Washington landmarks, and Joe’s work has been published in both the Washington Post and in Best Addresses, the definitive history of Washington luxury high-rises by James Goode published by Smithsonian Press. The firm also designs model homes not only in metropolitan Washington but throughout the east coast and midwest with offices in Raleigh-Durham, NC and Indianapolis, IN.

Congratulations to Sarah Nagy [M.Arch. ‘98] who recently passed all sections of the ARE! Since earning her B.S. at Georgia Tech and her M.Arch. at FAMU, Sarah has been wearing a number of hats... simultaneously. She works as a design specialist for the Beukenkamp Building Group in Shalimar, FL, a residential design-build development company. (She authored their website, so check it out at www.beukenkamp.com.) In addition, she works as a middle-management consultant for LBM Design, a full-service architecture firm in Ft. Walton Beach, FL. As if that weren’t enough, for the past four years, Sarah has been a Commissioner on the Ft. Walton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency Board of Commissioners, and she is making inroads into entrepreneurship with a small business called www.teeshirtquilt.com. Sarah has been married to Daniel Kaster for six years. They have two cats.

After spending seven years with the Tallahassee firm of EMO/Architects, Inc., Robert Rice [B.S. ’93; M.Arch. ’96] met Linda Lee in Ft. Walton Beach and asked her to marry him. After the wedding in 2000, Robert moved to Destin where he worked with DAG Architects and is now with Prescott Architects. His work is focused primarily on high-end residential and commercial projects.

A bouncing baby boy (8 lbs., 7 oz; 20” long) was born on August 30, 2004 to Angela and Lemuel Rios [M.Arch. ‘03]. His name is Nathan Angelo Rios, and he is welcomed to the family by his three-year-old sister, Ariel. The family lives in Rapid City, SD where Lemuel is serving a four-year stint as a 2nd Lt. at Ellsworth Air Force Base. He works as a project manager/client on architecture projects that the Air Force contracts out to A&E firms. As such, he is responsible for the project from beginning to end and sits on review boards, performs site inspections, monitors the contractors, and oversees construction.

About three months after graduation, William Santiago [B.S.’00; M.Arch. ’03] joined fellow alumnus Sidney Smith [B.Arch. ’95] in the Tampa office of HKS Architects, Inc. as Assistant Construction Administrator. William’s current primary projects are the Atlantis Resort in the Bahamas and condominiums on Marco Island, FL. He and his wife, Suzanne, have recently purchased a home in the Tampa Bay area where they live with their two children—Manuel (5) and Izabelle (2).

After working on K-12 facilities in Colorado for 10+ years, Joellen Thiel [B.Arch. ’92] accepted a position as project manager with Strob Rogers Architects in Prescott Valley, Arizona. She will be involved with a wide variety of building types including government, medical, and housing. Currently she is working on a housing development located on the rim of the Grand Canyon for the Havasupai Indian Tribe and a Marshal’s Facility in Camp Verde, AZ.

After almost eight years at Gilchrist Ross and Crowe Architects in Tallahassee, Don Williams [B.S. ’95, M.Arch. ’98] has moved to Orlando where he is a Project Manager with The Scott Partnership. The firm includes interior design and master planning as well as architecture and works on a wide variety of building types. For more information, please see their website at www.scottarchitects.com. Between his architecture degrees, Don also earned a B.S. in construction engineering in 1997 (from FAMU), and he has recently become a licensed architect in Florida.
Lost Alumni: Where In the World Are You?

Please Help Us Find Your Friends

This newsletter is sent as bulk mail to allow the lowest possible postage rate. However, this method does not let us know when the mail is not deliverable because of a bad address.

In order to verify the addresses we have, the School paid more for the mailing of the Fall 2004 issue and included a request for return service. With that, we discovered that many of the addresses we had for alumni are no longer valid. Consequently, the number of our “lost alums” has grown considerably.

Please help us by reviewing the list of names below to see if you have any contact information for any of these people. If so, please contact Judye McCalman at 850.599.3746 or jmccalman@famusoa.net. Thank you!
Alumnus Wins Logo Competition continued from page 1.

Sergio DeSanto in Lima, Peru

FL where he takes part as design lead and project manager for several Hillsborough County School projects.

Published criteria for logo selection were:

- Symbolism for the Alumni Network
- Composition and creativity
- Usability in a variety of contexts (letterhead, brochures, posters, etc.)
- Usability in both black/white and color
- Overall visual appeal

Submissions underwent a “blind” review and were rated by each judge based on a quantitative scoring system. Each judge then explained to the entire panel his/her thinking about the highest score he/she gave. After a brief discussion, consensus was reached, and the clear winner was determined.

The panel of judges included: Dion Storr [B.S. ’94], Network Chair; Akin Akinyemi [M.Arch. ’88], Network Co-Chair; Anthony Payton [B.S. ’80], Network Co-Chair; Rodner Wright, SOA Dean; Elizabeth Dobson, AIA, Asst. Prof.; Valerie Goodwin, Asst. Prof.; and Judye McCalman, Alumni Coordinator. Since Dion Storr could not attend the meeting, the entries and evaluation sheets were sent to him electronically and included in the final tally.

Board illustrating possible uses for merchandise.

Board showing an ad for a T-shirt DeSanto designed.