During the past four months the faculty and students at Woodbury have been doing amazing work that has regional, national, and even international impact. This newsletter will give you an idea of the accomplishments of some of those people. I hope you enjoy it.

Going Above and Beyond

The work of Ingalill Wahlroos-Ritter, Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture, was recently displayed in the Morphosis exhibition at the Pompidou in Paris and published in the latest Architectural Record. In September she lectured at LACMA in connection with her exhibit there entitled, 'Glass: Material Matters.' She was Project Architect on the Corning Museum of Glass which is featured in the show, along with the work of Zaha Hadid, Sir Norman Foster, Eric Owen Moss, James Carpenter, and others. Ingalill's work is impressive in its beauty and its substance. She also helped design the exhibit of work of Los Angeles architect Thom Mayne at the Pompidou Center.

Rich Matzen has been named to the editorial board for the Journal of the Council Writing Programs Administrators. He joins members from such schools as Purdue, Clemson, Colgate, Santa Clara, Washington State University, Penn State, Arizona State, and New Mexico University. It is an impressive recognition of the quality of our writing program and our commitment to bring the best to Woodbury’s students. Tamkang University, a leading private university in Taiwan, has also just published his book Reformation: The Teaching and Learning of English in Electronic Environments. He is delivering a paper, along with Will McConnell, at a regional conference in Salt Lake City and at the National CCCC conference.

Carol Bishop is a Senior Lecturer at Woodbury. She is also a world-famous artist, whose photographs of Frank Lloyd Wright’s work were on display at the Mona Bismarck Foundation in Paris from September 7 to 21. She has created over a dozen art exhibitions on Frank Lloyd Wright in America and Europe including shows at Taliesin III and Taliesin West.

Eddie Clift, Associate Professor of Communication, presented a paper at the 3rd International Russian Communication Association Conference in St. Petersburg, "The Russian as Role Model: American TV and the Commodification of Spirit." Due to the huge success of Forex Capital Markets LLC’s expo in New York this summer where Eddie presented, they are holding a larger event in Las Vegas. Eddie has been invited again to speak, along with Jim Rogers, co-founder of the Quantum Fund with George Soros, as well as senior economists and traders at large banking institutions such as Goldman Sachs. Forex anticipates over 5000 attendees.

The National Science Foundation selected a group of Woodbury faculty led by Rao Chekuri, head of natural sciences and mathematics, to attend the Science Education for New Civic Engagements and Responsibilities (SENCER) Summer Institute 2006. SENCER is a program devoted to improving science education and connecting science learning to the most important civic issues of our day. Other members of the team included Marty Tippens, assistant professor of mathematics; Eddie Clift; Louis Molina, instructor of architecture; Eugene Allevato, lecturer in mathematics and physics; and Paul Decker, executive director of the Institute of Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Rao Chekuri has been asked to conduct a workshop on Instructional Models, e-frames and p-prims at the National Seminar on Emerging Trends in Physics Education in India. His work on teaching acoustics was presented...
this summer in Tokyo at the conference of the International Commission on Physics Education. The author of a highly regarded book on teaching physics, Rao is considered a world authority on science education.

This fall Paul Decker gave individual orientations to over 50 new adjuncts. Paul is the head of Woodbury’s Institute of Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Paul has been invited to present at The 5th National Conference for Accelerated Programs in Higher Education. The conference organizers wrote that his was “a great proposal [on] how to effectively ‘bridge the gap’ between these two very different learning groups.” Paul was also an invited presenter at the program for new Faculty Learning Community facilitators held this summer at Claremont Graduate School. He has been asked to return in summer 2007 and will take the lead as Woodbury collaborates with the University of Miami at Ohio in a FIPSE grant.

Penny Collins, head of Fashion Design, has been named to the board of Fashion Group International. She will serve as a coordinator of the international conference to be held in LA in 2007.

Hadley Arnold, full-time architecture faculty, along with adjuncts Peter Arnold and Matias Creimer, displayed their work at the inaugural exhibit of the A+D Museum. The exhibition featured the works of 40 emerging architects in conjunction with the 2006 national convention of the American Institute of Architects this summer.

This summer Bob Schultz presented a paper on IT Ethics Issues at the Information Resources Management Association’s 2006 international conference. The title of his talk is “Information Technology and the Ethics of Globalization.” Sabah Al-Fedaghi of Kuwait University chaired the session.

The Government of Punjab and the International Punjabi Chamber for Service Industry (IPCSI) has honored Satinder Dhiman with the “Excellence in Management Award” in recognition of his contributions to the field of management education. A delegation, led by the Finance Minister and including the Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, a Commissioner of NRI Affairs, and the President of IPCSI conferred the honor in Los Angeles at the end of May.

When “Superman Returns” was released this summer and people remarked on the parallels between the comic superhero and Christ, CNN sought an expert on the comic, Amy Pederson, Woodbury art history professor. Amy happens to have done her doctoral thesis at UCLA on the history of the superhero comic book and helped curate the exhibit on comics at MOCA and the Hammer Museum this spring.

Tahmoures Afshar and Leo O’Hara won the “Best Paper Award” by the Clute Institute for Academic Research at the 2006 Business and Teaching Conference held in Siena, Italy this summer. Their award-winning paper, “Pedagogical Issues Concerning Academic Advising,” examined how students’ personal and cultural circumstances affect academic advising.

Eddie Rosas, long-time animator on The Simpsons, and Woodbury teacher extraordinaire, was tapped to lead in the up-coming Simpsons feature film. Eddie, who is mentoring senior animation students, is coordinating Woodbury internships at The Simpsons and at Rough Draft, which will be starting the Futurama movie in the fall.

Angela Diamos, a new animation faculty member, comes to Woodbury with a long list of computer animation credits, among them Curious George for Universal Pictures, Fantasia 2000, Tarzan, and Hercules for Disney, and StarTrek, Battle Star Galactica, and Quantum Leap for Apogee. She recently curated and exhibited her work in the show “Watermark” at Arena 1 in Santa Monica.

The world of business finds faculty members Joan Marques, Satinder Dhiman, and trustee and former dean of Business Richard King directing a new international journal, The Business Renaissance Quarterly. Focused on

"Woodbury’s faculty is a tremendous asset in the education our students."

Carol Bishop’s photograph of the Charles Ennis House, Los Angeles, California, 1923.
enhancing the quality of life for all stakeholders in the business world, BRQ is attracting scholars and business executives with an interest in workplace improvement.

Dr. Karen Kaigler-Walker spent two grueling weeks of her summer in Korea, China, and India. First, she presented a paper on “Chinese Women and the Market Economy” at the Academy of Marketing Science's international conference on Cultural Perspectives in Marketing in Seoul July 12-15. From there, she traveled to Guntur, India for four days to visit an orphanage that ECF International supports, an organization on whose board Dr. Kaigler-Walker serves. Then she returned to Shanghai to work on a documentary on Chinese women, the first of several she hopes to complete on the role of women in China. While at Hangzhou, she also met with Dr. Fu at Zhejiang University regarding a student study tour for next summer.

Woodbury Students are Finding Regional, National, and International Recognition

Woodbury business majors Quisha Henderson and Jessica Velazquez were selected for the Emerging Minority Business Leaders Summer Institute in June. The Institute, sponsored by the Department of Commerce and held at West Liberty State College in West Virginia, teaches students the fundamentals of entrepreneurship and technology management and the principles of leadership and self-management. Henderson and Velazquez, students of Alexandra Saba, were chosen from a national pool of university students. Last year, another Saba student, Eridani Quiroz, was selected to attend.

Jessica Velazquez was also selected as one of ten students to represent the western region at 2006 Emerging Business Leaders Summit (EBLS). The other ten students from the region, which consists of 15 states, came from UC Berkeley; Duke University; Notre Dame; University of Hawaii at Manoa; Stanford University (3); Harvard University; Yale. The U.S. Department of Commerce, which made the selection, stated that they found in Velazquez “the potential to be [an] entrepreneur of tomorrow.”

When the winners were announced in the 2005-2006 6th Annual ACSA/AISC Steel Design Student Competition, two Woodbury University architecture students claimed top prize. Chosen from among 400 submissions from over 50 universities, Jesie J. Kelly and Daniel Schrobilgen’s design “ARC Transportation Hub for Gaza, Palestine” showed “a formal elegance with an appropriate use of materials and systems with a clarity of presentation,” according to the judges. The two Woodbury students and their professor Gerry Smulevich share in the $14,000 in cash prizes awarded to winning students and their faculty sponsors. Their project will be exhibited at the 2007 ACSA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, the 2007 North American Steel Construction Conference, and the 2007 American Institute of Architects Convention in San Antonio.

Kelly and Schrobilgen were so passionate about this project that they traveled to Jerusalem during spring break to learn about the culture of the Middle East and how it relates to architecture and its contemporary ideas. The Compton-born Kelly, who now lives in Gardena, could have donned a cap and gown in May, but chose to delay his thesis so that he could return to the Middle East to better understand the reality of this strife-torn region.

For the third time in four years, a Woodbury Interior Architecture student won the prestigious national Angelo Donghia award. Interiors student Iva Kremsha was one of 15 recipients of a full
Woodbury’s students keep winning national awards. It is a great testimony to our quality.

Scholarship for her senior year. This year’s competition had the largest pool of candidates from 41 accredited institutions, including schools across the nation, such as Art Center and Parsons, vying for the scholarship. Students are judged on residential and commercial design studio course work. The $30,000 scholarship will help to cover Kremsa’s tuition, board, books, and other materials. “Iva’s success in this scholarship is a testament to her exceptional design talents as well as the hard work the IA faculty puts into creating an exceptional program in interior architecture,” said Woodbury IA chair Randy Stauffer.

Woodbury students Cesar Vergara, Alicia Lopez, Sam Farhang, Noel Moreno and Fung Kong will soon begin work to transform Woodbury’s library into a more open forum for learning activities through a redevelopment of its courtyard space. The plan for the Raymond E. Enkeboll Courtyard that was developed by these five students has been selected as the winning entry in the iScape competition. With the generous support of the Enkeboll Foundation for the Arts and Architecture, the Woodbury University Library Associates, and the Maxine Frankel Faculty/Student Awards, construction of the Raymond E. Enkeboll Courtyard is expected to begin in the fall of 2006. The goal is to create an outdoor extension of the library that inspires learning, provides flexible space for group study, classes, events and gatherings, and supports the use of current and evolving technologies for teaching and learning.

Earlier this year, two Woodbury students worked with the Integrated Media Systems Center (IMSC) at USC’s Viterbi School of Engineering to create a virtual flyover of the park site for the Lear Center. When the Gehry plans for the park became available, two Woodbury students, Jason King and Sam Farhang, were asked to incorporate those plans into the virtual flyover. You can see Jason’s blog at Archinect http://www.archinect.com/schoolblog/blog.php?id=C0_183_39

Jessica Velazquez, president of Associated Student Government,

Tom Callon, president of Greek Council, and Rosie Flores, president of the Program Board were selected to participate in the LeaderShape Institute. Named by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation as an “exemplary program,” the LeaderShape Institute is a six-day educational experience comprised of approximately 60-70 students from diverse ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds. While at the institute, the Woodbury students defined a personal vision and developed a blueprint for action to undertake when they return home — with the objective of effecting meaningful, measurable change in their organization during the next 9-12 months.

Woodbury architecture students Koko Takahashi, Jesie Kelly and Daniel Schrobilgen had projects on display at the Architecture + Design Museum, in the annual 2x8: Swell exhibit sponsored by the AIA/LA, showcasing exemplary student work from architecture and design institutions throughout California.

The California Society of CPAs and the Association of Government Accountants recognized two of our students as outstanding scholars. Martha Araujo and Aelina Mehrabian received the awards based on their scholarship and their interest in accounting.

Jessica Velazquez, President of Woodbury ASG, (seated front row right) with the U.S. Secretary of Commerce and EBLS classmates.
Woodbury Students Travel the World

Woodbury Students Trek to China
A group of Woodbury students traveled to China this summer with Professors Doug Cremer, Nick Roberts and Catherine Herbst. These students learned Mandarin Chinese, scaled the Great Wall, and then went to an architecture mini-studio in China or an “Over-the-Pole” studio that included visits to Beijing and another mini-studio in Paris or Berlin. The 13-day intensive immersion program was based at one of China’s top universities, Southeast University, located in Nanjing, once the southern capital of China. The language, culture, and architecture program also featured visits to Beijing, Shanghai, and Suzhou.

Architecture Students Travel to Rio’s Slums
As part of their study of Rocinha, which is one of the favelas – or slums of Rio de Janeiro, students spent 10 days in Sao Paulo, Rio, and Brasilia, with three intense days spent in the favela itself. Woodbury students teamed up with one of the architects responsible for trying to improve the favelas, Jorge Jauregui and heard first hand about designing and building new public projects in several of the favelas for the last 10 years, ranging from simple public laundry areas to new samba halls, to housing units, to commercial enterprise zones. Much of the Woodbury studio project was modeled on his work. In teams of four or five students worked on an urban scale scheme for a four-acre bus parking lot in the middle of Rocinha. The architecture students then developed an individual project within their scheme, ranging from housing to commercial and mixed use, to civic and institutional buildings.

Fashion Students Explore Italy and Turkey in May
Fashion design department’s Meredith Strauss took 15 fashion design and fashion marketing students on a three-week study of textiles and fashions in Italy and Turkey. The group traveled to Milan, Como, Venice and Florence with side trips to smaller cities and islands visiting churches, museums, design houses and factories. Their guide was emerging Italian fashion designer Franco Francesca, whose workshop and studio on the island of Torcello they also visited.

In Turkey, Strauss and her students spent many hours viewing tile and fabric factories, as well as mosques and the grand bazaar. In the former Ottoman capital of Bursa, Esaat Uluumay gave the students a private tour of his folk costume collection at his private museum.

Architecture Students Explore Sustainability in the Desert
35 students in the "dry" section of Woodbury’s summer Architecture + Sustainability Studio traveled with instructors Hadley and Peter Arnold and Sam Farhang on an annual road trip into the desert. The purpose of the trip is to take students out of the comforts of an urban existence and place them in direct confrontation with the life-support systems that make Los Angeles possible: the massive dependence on coal, natural gas, and oil to deliver water, food, and power to our city. This year, students traced the Colorado River Aqueduct to its intake station and conversed with engineers and farmers along the way. They also visited ancient archeological sites, Native American reservations, and traditional farming communities, from the Sonoran desert to the upper

“Study abroad is the most powerful educational experience a student can have.”
Rio Grande, looking at alternative models of adaptation to life in the arid lands. Students camped in desert structures of their own design and fabrication; designed their campsites each night; and celebrated the rich diversity of their cultures -- many of which have roots in arid agrarian landscapes, from the Middle East to Mexico -- by cooking communal feasts under the stars. Upon their return, students were asked to re-imagine a degraded stretch of Sun Valley as an integrated urban landscape and to work on designs that pragmatically and poetically address the possibility of a robust, diverse urban economy within a healthy landscape.

ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS SET UP LIFE IN PARIS
In June, Woodbury architecture students set up their own apartments in the area around Montmartre and practiced their French by ordering dinner and buying groceries. The group explored the axes of the city from the Louvre to La Defense, and from the Luxembourg to Montmartre, experienced the great public spaces of the Place des Vosges and the Palais Royale, and even descended into the Paris sewers to understand the infrastructure of the city. The students researched a number of building types in the area, such as high-density housing, mixed-use development, import-export commerce and warehouse buildings, before making proposals for a site along the canal in a redevelopment area of Aubervilliers. The faculty, Gerry Smulevich, Nick Roberts, Ingalill Wahlroos-Ritter and Roland Wahlroos-Ritter, created a studio format in which the finished work comprised a slide show and booklet.

ROMA! WOODBURY STUDENTS SPEND JULY IN ITALY
Humanities professor Elisabeth Sandberg and architecture professor Paulette Singley led a group of Woodbury students on a summer study program in Rome. Following a two-week study session on Woodbury’s Burbank campus, students spent the entire month of July in Italy. Students studied the history of architecture and Italian literature in Rome, Pompeii, and Florence.

LEARNING ABOUT PATTERNING IN BARCELONA
Led by Woodbury IA faculty Joshua Stein, Alex Suarez, and Sara Daleiden, twelve Woodbury students from both the interior architecture and architecture departments took part in an intensive summer workshop in Barcelona, Spain, focusing on understanding the contemporary European city through the lens of patterning. The studios were housed in the Institute for Advanced Architecture of Catalonia (IAAC). Marta Male-Alemany, IAAC faculty and principal of ReD Research+Design, led technology charrettes exposing students to the potential of contemporary fabrication techniques. Weekly excursions included trips to Tarragona, ancient Roman capital; Bilbao, site of Frank Gerhy’s Guggenheim Museum; San Sebastian, home of Basque sculptor Eduardo Chillida; and Parc Guell, a public garden on the outskirts of town by Barcelona’s favorite son, Antoni Gaudi.

INTERIOR ARCHITECTURE STUDENT INTERNS IN SW CHINA AND TIBET
Interior architecture student Sharon Ko and faculty member Ildiko Choy spent five weeks exploring the culture, history, architecture, and way of life of the Lisu and Tibetan people in NW Yunnan. Working with China Exploration and Research Society (CERS) in Shangri La, with field trips to project sites such as the Black Necked Crane Observation Center, they helped in projects that conserve the nature and culture in Tibet.