Raising the Bar

With the focus on academic excellence at Woodbury, students and faculty have been stretching and challenging themselves to achieve more and more. The latest faculty applicants for rank advancement boasted evidence of wonderful teaching, care for the campus, and professional contributions.

In February we reported that Woodbury students had taken first, second, and third place prizes at Textile Association of Los Angeles, that a Woodbury student had won the IIDA scholarship for Design Innovation, overcoming entries from Art Center, Otis, USC, and all the major Southern California programs, that a 4th year Architecture Student had won the Jean Roth Driskell AIA Scholarship competing against USC, SCI-Arc, Cal Poly Pomona and another had won the 2006 Student AIA Design Award.

Now a project by 4th year Architecture student Natalie Popik ("cArbon Emissions trading tOWER_PONICS") took first Place winner in this year's AIA 2 x 8 competition. Natalie's work was selected from student work from undergraduate and graduate schools of architecture in California including: Cal State Poly Pomona, Cal State Poly SLO, UCLA, Otis, Sci-Arc, USC, Art Center, Cal California College of the Arts and UC Berkeley. Her project was the design of a tower in Hollywood for a studio taught by Ingailll Wahroos-Ritter. Natalie will receive the award of a $5000 scholarship at the AIA awards Gala on June 21st at the Beverly Hilton.

Woodbury Interniors student Corina Apodaca won an award from the Association for Women in Architecture Foundation. Last year’s winners were a graduate architecture student from University of Pennsylvania, a graduate urban planning student from UCLA, and an undergraduate interiors student from UC Davis. Woodbury architecture student Crystal Le - earned an honorable mention as well last year. Apodaca worked for three years at the architecture firm Zimmer Gunsul Frasca and is now at the firm J S Egan Design, known its non-profit projects and low-income housing. She is currently working on interiors for the new Project Angel Food offices in Hollywood.

Architecture student Ricky Hele was awarded a 2007 Mel Ferris Scholarship by the California Architectural Foundation. Dedicated to the advancement of architecture and the science and art of environmental design, CAF provides scholarships to qualified architecture students, awarded on the basis of need; academic excellence; portfolio; and service. Woodbury students have won these awards in the past.

We are starting to find out where are students will continue their education next year, where they are interning, and where they are employed. Early announcements include a Harvard graduate school acceptance for interior architecture student Iva Kremsa and a University of Pennsylvania acceptance for interior architecture alum Karen Glik.

Architecture student Danelle Jumanan has been accepted to graduate school at both Rice University and Syracuse University. Rice received 300+ applications and only accepted 12 students. They offered to waive Danelle’s tuition and Syracuse has offered aid as well. Decisions, decisions.

Non-traditional Business major Ani Halulyan attended a United Nations conference in Geneva this year. Now Woodbury students Amanda Abu-Khader (Politics & History), Lusine Arutyunyan (Politics & History), Linda Ebrahimian (Psychology), and Steve Gomez (Architecture) will be going to New York to participate in a Global Forum on Environment at the U.N. Head quarters in June. The UN 2007 Global Forum involves 400 students selected from universities and colleges worldwide and the UN Permanent Missions. They will be joined by Eridani Quiroz (International Relations and Finance) who interned with the British actress Julia Ormond, the United Nations Goodwill Ambassador for the prevention of trafficking in women and children. Eridani assisted in corresponding with UN officers, NGO's and grassroots organizations and helped to launch the global initiative against human trafficking and slavery. Eridani also interned at the Los Angeles Chapter of the World Affairs Council.

Woodbury’s San Diego architecture students topped the bill at TNT: ART & SPACE COLLIDE at the Museum of Contemporary Art in San Diego on April 5. With help from Bill Pierce of Radioactive Future, an underground art collective, the architecture students explored the line between art and architectural space.

Non-traditional psychology student Chris Olivero is shooting the next season of the hit ABC series Kyle XY. He plays Declan McDunaugh. While going to school at Woodbury, Chris has also appeared in 24, CSI: Miami, and Boston Public, among others. His wife, student commencement speaker from 2006, Alexandra Picatto, has been acting on television since she was 11, and has appeared in Get Real, Summerland, and Malcolm in the Middle.
Faculty members have also been busy.

**Louise Coffey-Webb**, assistant professor in Fashion Design and curator of Woodbury’s Tamkin Collection, spoke in March to packed audience at the Pasadena Museum about design from the Belle Époque to the onset of WWI. In April she spoke at the Culver City Historical Society meeting about the treasures of MGM. Coffey-Webb’s students and CCHS volunteers had examined all the 60+ MGM costumes in the collection at the new Culver City Historical Society Archive and Resource Center (ARC). Coffey-Webb, also helped with the Performance Costume Calendar, 2007, and contributed to America's Closets: The Key to America’s Costume & Textile Collections, Field Guide, both of which feature Woodbury’s collection. In May she presents a special pre-conference session on the care and management of fashion collections at the 33rd Annual National Symposium of the Costume Society of America in San Diego.

**Penny Collins**, chair of the Fashion Design program, book *Wear Your Chair. When Fashion Meets Interior Design* was published on March 19 and is selling well.

**Ingall Wahlroos-Ritter**, the Associate Director of the School of Architecture, is the Los Angeles office manager for Newhurst Macfarlane and Partners Consulting Structural and Façade Engineers. Ingall is responsible for some of the best-known modern structural glass projects in the United States. Among her projects are the Portland Aerial Tram in Oregon, which was honored by the national AIA; Pier 59 Studio; and the De Beers flagship store.

**Joye Swan**, Chair of Psychology, and **Mary Collins** of psychology have an article on “informed consent” accepted in the Journal of Applied Social Psychology, a highly regarded publication that fosters communication between researchers and those engaged in solving social problems.


**Emmanuel Lopez**, undergraduate advisor, will present a paper on “Improving First Year Experiences through Freshman Peer Advisors” at the International Conference on The First-Year Experience in Hawaii.

In September 2000, urban designer David Greenberg launched an international competition to solicit innovative, ecological tree house designs for implementation as hotels. “Hula House” by interior architecture faculty **Josh Stein** was one of 99 designs selected from 500 entries and is featured in Tree houses in Paradise: Fantasy Designs for the 21st Century. Josh also received a 2007 IDEC Special Projects Grant for “Reactive Voice” a project investigating Shape Memory Alloy (SMA) technology.

In March, **Dr. Rao Chekuri**, Professor of Physics and Chair of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, adjunct professor **Eugene Allevato**, and student **Edmundo Hernandez** presented transdisciplinary student work in the natural and social sciences at the Science Education for New Civic Engagement and Responsibility (SENCER) Symposium in the Rayburn Office Building on Capitol Hill. Team members also made presentations in April at the WASC Annual Meeting in San Jose and at the Western Regional SENCER Conference at Chapman University. Woodbury’s proposal for SENCER Summer Institute in August 2007 has also been accepted.

Woodbury University has been working on projects as part of a BEAMS (Building Engagement and Attainment of Minority Students) grant. The external evaluator for the grant was so enthusiastic about Woodbury’s innovative use of student, faculty, and staff learning communities to find the connections between co-curricular and curricular learning that Woodbury’s BEAMS team was asked to participate at the annual workshop in New Mexico this summer. The team comprises **Dr. Phyllis Cremer**, Associate Vice President for Student Development, **Dr. Douglas Cremer**, Director of the Institute of Transdisciplinary Studies, **Paul Decker**, Executive Director of the Institute for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, **Randy Stauffer**, Dean of the Faculty, and **Dr. Anne Ehrlich**, Dean of Student Life.

In March, Doug and Paul, who have become experts on the use of learning communities, presented a workshop on “Teaching Portfolios: A Transdisciplinary Faculty Learning Community Model for Decision Making” at the Lilly Conference on College and University Teaching at Cal Poly Pomona and again in April at the WASC Annual Meeting. ePAC International, an organization devoted to improving learning, noted the presentation as one of half a dozen notable sessions at the WASC conference.

Professors in the School of Architecture **Nick Roberts** and **Gerard Smulevich** joined Doug at the WASC Conference in a joint paper on “Extreme Teaching: A Transdisciplinary Foreign Study Program at a Minority-Serving...
Dr. Paulette Singley, who is a professor in architecture, a member of the advisory board for the Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design and co-editor of two books, Eating Architecture and Architecture: In Fashion, has a sabbatical to work on her new book on film and architecture. In her spare moments, Paulette organized a special Pecha Kucha night for the Los Angeles Forum for Architecture and Urban Design. Titled “Femmes Fatales” and featuring the work of female designers, the Pecha Kucha followed the standard format of twenty people, twenty slides per person, and twenty seconds per image. Among the twenty were our full-time faculty Jeanine Centuori and Ingalill Wahlroos-Ritter, as well as part-time teacher Emily White.

Paulette will join Shulman Institute Fellow Teddy Cruz, adjunct architecture faculty member Guillermo Honles, along with Pritzker award winner Tom Mayne at the V International Reunion on Architecture in Costa Rica in June. In the fall Paulette keynotes the 24th International Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians of Australia and New Zealand in Adelaide. The title of her talk is “Panorama to Paradise: Scopic Regimes in Architectural and Urban History and Theory.” She is in Rome teaching this summer.

If you go to amazon.com, you can find Spirituality in the Workplace: What It Is, Why It Matters, How to Make It Work for You by Dr. Richard King, Woodbury Board member and former dean of the school of business; Dr. Satinder Dhiman, Associate Dean of the School of Business; and Dr. Joan Marques, adjunct faculty member. It is selling well, although it will not be published until May 28. Joan has also been named a member of the editorial board of Recruitment and Retention in Higher Education. By the way, the recent issue of Business Renaissance Quarterly, published by King, Dhiman, and Marqués, includes interviews with Board members Larry Shoaf and Eddie Wang as well as an account of the conference that the publication sponsored in LA this January.

Dr. Karen Kaigler-Walker, chair of Marketing and Fashion Marketing in the School of Business, recently addressed a meeting of Association of Image Consultants International (AICI). Karen, who has focused on women and on their international situation, is writing a monthly column for a woman’s e-zine Giving You a Voice. Her latest column is “Chinese Women and the New Economy.” Karen has also been appointed to the serve on the board of the Women and Public Policy Program at Harvard. She is traveling with her students in China.

Dr. Amy Pederson, assistant professor and coordinator of art history, recently had her essay “Institutional Critique and Relational Aesthetics” in a volume entitled Institutional Critique and After.

Dr. Bob Schultz, chair of information technology, will deliver a paper and chair a session on information ethics and intellectual property at the 2007 Information Resources Management Association (IRMA) International Conference in Vancouver.

Lance Gordon from the School of Business marketing faculty will give a paper at the Applied Business and Entrepreneurship Association International Conference in Hawaii.

Randy Stauffer, chair of the Department of Interior Architecture, presented “The Poche: The Intersection between Ethics and Design,” at the 2007 Interior Design Educators Council (IDEC) International Conference in March in Austin. The paper was well received and Randy hopes to expand his project into a book.

Animation faculty member Angela DAIMOS’ work was recently featured in Photo-Chimera: Ten California Photographers at The Brand Library Art Galleries in Glendale.

Stanley Bertheaud, professor of architecture, has been appointed an Oceanside planning board commissioner. He joins adjunct architecture faculty member Helena Jubany in civic service. She has been appointed a commissioner of the City of Los Angeles Board of Building and Safety.

The work of adjunct architecture faculty members Aaron Neubert and Mike Jacobs was recently profiled in a Los Angeles Times story. They designed a Studio City home on a lot that presented daunting challenges -- Laurel Canyon traffic in front and a steep hillside in back. This spring, the Los Angeles Times also featured on the front page of its Home Section an innovative green Santa Monica residence designed by adjunct architecture sustainability teacher Warren Wagner and worked on by Woodbury students.

Inaugural Julius Shulman Institute Fellow, Jennifer Siegal lectured on “TransModern Architecture” at the Palm Springs Art Museum. In Chicago, Jennifer spoke at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion on “The Art World is Flat: Globalism—Crisis and Opportunity “ and at the Chicago W Hotel Center on “The Geography of Curiosity.” She also was in DC to talk about her award-winning idea for a new Globe theater as a mobile design, part of Reinventing the Globe: A Shakespearean Theater for the 21st Century at the National Building Museum. Jennifer’s design work is featured in James Trulove’s new book Prefab Now.

In a little more than two months, the students and faculty have accomplished amazing things. We can’t wait to see what they will do in the next year! Whatever it is, the bar has been set pretty high for achievement.