Greetings from the Dean’s Office of the College for Design and Social Inquiry

I am writing this letter to you from my new office in our new college headquarters on the FAU Boca campus. The college moved its main offices last December from FAU’s Fort Lauderdale campus in downtown Fort Lauderdale to the main campus in Boca Raton. We are now located in Suite 108 of the Social Science Building.

The College, including the Schools of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Public Administration, and Social Work now occupy the entire south wing of the Social Science Building.

The move to the main campus in Boca Raton is meaningful and historic for us as a college. It is noteworthy that just a few short years after celebrating our twentieth anniversary and changing our name that we relocate to the Boca campus. We have begun to chart new paths to become stronger and more ensconced in the heart of the university. In just a few short months, we have already begun to forge new partnerships and strengthen old ones. Our academic programs are experiencing enrollment growth which must be at least partially attributed to being accessible and known to the large student population resident on the Boca campus.

As many of you have read in the local newspapers, the university has experienced a major funding reduction imposed by the State of Florida’s Legislature during the most recent legislative session. Our college is not immune to the severe damage to the university caused by the reduction. However, we are offering a full summer program and we are experiencing an increase in enrollment over last summer while expending fewer resources than we did last summer. Through the extraordinary efforts of our faculty and staff we have found efficiencies, allowing us to proceed with a well rounded and substantial, if not optimal, summer program. I want to most especially recognize our school directors, program coordinators and the staff in my office, including advisors, the associate and assistant deans, and support staff, who worked beyond what could be reasonably asked or expected. We will continue our efforts to ensure an even more productive AY 2012/2013.

I invite you to read this latest issue of our Newsletter and learn about all the exciting and eventful accomplishments as we continue to promote safe, healthy and sustainable communities through education, research and design.
CCJ Interns

Five interns from Criminology and Criminal Justice recently participated in Thinking for a Change (T4C). The evidenced-based curriculum consisted of four and a half days filled with hands-on training, try-outs in all three components; Social Skills, Cognitive Self Change & Problem Solving, and fun skits on the last day. These interns will be part of a pilot project supervised by the Office of Community Corrections. T4C classes will be held at one of our contracted programs, Susan B. Anthony Recovery Center who currently house 15 Florida DC offenders, and at two (2) probation offices in Palm Beach Co. “There is another target population that needs services besides the incarcerated population. Bringing T4C to the community is a huge step in reducing recidivism and keeping our communities safe. The T4C group members will be practicing their skills in real life situations. Our goal is to keep them out of jails and prisons and to reduce future victimization.” stated Yvette Salinas, T4C trainer. The four (4) T4C classes will serve approximately 45 offenders who are currently on supervision in the community. The project would not have been possible without the collaboration of Susan B. Anthony staff and the internship program at Florida Atlantic University. The interns will also be part of a mentoring project at the recovery center assisting the women with their Leadership Team and working on Planning and Organizing skills two hours per week.

CCJ Faculty Member Appears on Nightline

ABC News Nightline aired a piece in January about Russian and Eastern European Organized Crime in Miami Beach. During their research for the project, producers came across newspaper articles in the Miami Herald about organized crime in Miami in which Richard Mangan of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice was quoted. The producers contacted Professor Mangan and asked if he would agree to do an on-camera interview about the subject with ABC News correspondent Matt Gutman. The interview was filmed on January 16th and the program aired on January 20th.

Lady Gaga’s Foundation Launch

Dr. Sameer Hinduja of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice was invited to be a part of Lady Gaga’s Born This Way Foundation launch at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts on February 29, 2012. Specifically, he was asked by the Berkman Center for Internet and Society to lead the School Climate/Culture stream at the Foundation’s “Symposium on Youth Meanness and Cruelty” because of his extensive work on the topic. Along with other scholars and practitioners from around the world who work at the intersection of teens and technology, his contributions will be used to inform shape programming and policy in schools and communities as we move forward.
Workshop in Delhi

Eric Dumbaugh from the School of Urban and Regional Planning was an invited participant to the International Workshop on Safety, Sustainability and the Future of Urban Transportation, sponsored by Volvo and the Transport Research and Injury Prevention Program, a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre, at the Indian Institute of Technology. This four-day event, held in Delhi, India from March 9-12, brought together 20 of the world’s leading experts on the issue of urban safety to examine the issue of sustainable mobility in the 21st century.

The guiding theme of the workshop was that concerns about traffic safety and crime are major barriers to the development of a sustainable transportation system. Efforts to encourage travel by sustainable modes cannot accomplished unless people feel safe to walk and cycle by choice, either as the primary means of accessing their destinations or as a means for accessing transit. As such, safety is a necessary though not sufficient condition to mitigate the effects of global climate change.

Dr. Dumbaugh’s lecture, entitled “Positive Design,” detailed how the traffic safety strategies adopted in the United States during the 20th century have actually undermined efforts to encourage sustainable travel, as well as how those currently being adopted to address motorization in the developing world mirror the mistakes made in the United States. Dr. Dumbaugh concluded his lecture by outlining a new theoretical model for traffic safety—termed “Positive Design”—that better able to both reduce traffic-related deaths and injuries and support sustainable travel.

The results and conclusions of the workshop are being developed into a textbook aimed at guiding professionals and decision makers towards the adoption of more safe and sustainable transportation solutions.

Public Administration Theory Conference

Hugh Miller from the School of Public Administration was the Keynote Speaker at the Public Administration Theory Conference May 17-20 in South Padre Island, TX. Three doctoral students, Mariana O’Brien, Alexandru Roman and Lester Leavitt also presented papers at the conference.

The Public Administration Theory Network is an international network of professionals concerned with the advancement of public administration theory, providing a unique forum to discuss ideas in public administration and policy. The Network held its first annual conference in 1988. The 2012 conference theme is “Exploring Borders: New Realities, Challenges, and Solutions.” The idea is to examine, deconstruct and interrogate borders in the field of public administration. Here, “borders” is a reference to physical, geographical, metaphorical, philosophical and/of ontological spaces that tend to delimit or separate us in some ways and bring us closer together in others.
The future of Claiborne Avenue, New Orleans

Author: Caitlin Ghoshal
CNU, Better! Cities & Towns
Issue: January-February 2012

On December 6, more than 120 New Orleans residents attended “Local Street Networks and the Future of Claiborne Avenue.” The event presented research and reflections from both local and national experts that helped residents understand the impact of — and sparked renewed interest in — removing I-10 from New Orleans’ urban fabric. CNU and the Claiborne Corridor Improvement Coalition issued a preliminary study last year that discussed alternative visions for the corridor, particularly as an urban boulevard option in lieu of the elevated highway. Although the City of New Orleans received TIGER II funds ten months ago for a transportation study on the Claiborne Corridor, it has yet to release its request for proposals. The Coalition’s event sought to encourage momentum on the progress already made.

Councilmember Kristin Palmer and CNU President & CEO John Norquist kicked off the evening speaking about their local and national experiences with elevated highways. Next, John Renne from University of New Orleans presented on his students’ research and community survey based around a potential teardown project. Also at the event, Jonathan Tate’s students from Tulane University presented architectural renderings that showed the many possibilities for the Claiborne Corridor.

Addressing concerns

The featured speaker was Eric Dumbaugh, professor and program coordinator for the Master’s of Urban and Regional Planning at Florida Atlantic University who has also contributed to CNU’s work in Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares. The national street design expert delivered a lecture that outlined common transportation arguments against highway removal projects. Dumbaugh’s presentation successfully addressed many questions about traffic flow impacts on the street grid, congestion concerns, and pedestrian safety. Dumbaugh’s speech opened up a dialogue among community members present and stoked a debate about creating a livable, sustainable urban environment.

The evening ended with comments from Bill Gilchrist, Director of Place-based Planning in the Office of Mayor Mitch Landrieu. Gilchrist reaffirmed the city’s commitment to the Claiborne Avenue community and updated the audience on the current progress of the City’s TIGER II grant. The City intends to release a request for proposals for professional services to assist the City in a transportation study within the next several weeks.

CNU and the Claiborne Corridor Improvement Coalition organized the event, with support from the Ford Foundation, the Greater New Orleans Foundation, and the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, Tulane University’s School of Architecture, and the University of New Orleans’ Merritt C. Becker Jr. Transportation Institute.

Crime Analysis with Crime Mapping

Rachel Boba Santos from the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice recently released the third edition of her textbook Crime Analysis with Crime Mapping. This edition continues to provide a basic introduction to the field of crime analysis for students and practitioners, covering its history, key concepts, data, and techniques. Instead of focusing on specific technology or the use of it, the text focuses on fundamental concepts and their practical application as well as illustrative examples. As the only introductory core textbook for crime analysis, this comprehensive volume is used across the country to provide a foundation for students looking to enter the field and is a must-have review and reference guide for crime analysts.

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Heart of Social Work

On March 23, the School of Social Work hosted its inaugural Heart of Social Work event at the Harold and Marlene Forkas Alumni Center. More than 100 community members, faculty, and alumni were in attendance. President Saunders welcomed the guests, and Barbara Schmidt, founder of Peaceful Mind Peaceful Life, provided an inspiring keynote address followed by an awards ceremony. Harvey and Phyllis Sandler were recognized as Outstanding Community Members. The Sandlers have generously donated to hundreds of organizations including the FAU School of Social Work. Their generosity has made a huge difference in the lives of so many. Elizabeth Lugo, a BSW alumna, was recognized for her accomplishments following receipt of her BSW in 1994 and her subsequent position as CEO of The Volen Center. Paola Wierzbicki, a field internship supervisor, was recognized for her guidance and support of more than 29 student interns. The event, was generously sponsored by the Greenberg Traurig law firm.

Social Work Students go to Tallahassee

Dr. LeaAnne DeRigne (Assistant Professor-School of Social Work) took over 70 students to Tallahassee for the annual National Association of Social Workers Student Lobby Day February 6-8th. The group advocated on a variety of bills that impacted vulnerable populations. They attended a legislative advocacy training session, a rally on the Capitol steps, and had individual meetings with their legislators. They were joined by over 800 students from other Universities and Colleges across the state. The student organization, Social Work Empowerment and Advocacy Team, raised over $10,000 to pay for the majority of the costs of the trip.

New Social Work Textbook

Social work professor, Allan Barsky, JD, MSW, PhD, has recently published a new textbook, Clinicians in Court: A guild to subpoenas, depositions, testifying, and everything else you need to know (Guilford Press, 2012). Mental health professionals often find that interacting with the legal system is stressful and intimidating. This book provides user-friendly strategies to help clinicians prepare for testimony in court and other legal proceedings. Dr. Barsky uses realistic case scenarios from family law, criminal justice, and other areas to explain legal terms and offer practical suggestions for avoiding pitfalls and managing ethical dilemmas. The book provides practical guidelines for record keeping, responding to subpoenas, preparing reports, and performing effectively on the stand as a fact witness or expert witness.
CCJ Study

A study led by Christina Mancini, Assistant Professor in the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice was recently published in the Journal of Criminal Justice (Mancini, Reckdenwald, and Beauregard, 2012). The article entitled, “Pornographic exposure over the life course and the severity of sexual offenses: Imitation and cathartic effects” examined pornography use during adolescence, adulthood, and just prior to the commission of a sex offense on the level of physical injury as well as the extent of humiliation experienced by sex crime victims.

Findings indicate that only adolescent exposure was a significant predictor of the elevation of violence—it increased the extent of victim humiliation. Results also suggest a tempering, or cathartic effect of pornography—pornography use just prior to the offense was associated with reduced victim physical injury. No effects, however, were observed for adult pornography exposure.

A clear policy implication stemming from the study involves efforts to design and implement procedures and practices to limit pornographic exposure during adolescence—the only time point observed in the analyses where offender pornography use significantly increased victim harm. Given the difficulty of completely preventing exposure of youth to pornography, more realistic intervention strategies should focus on early identification of adolescents exhibiting an escalation of sexual aggression or violence after confirmed or suspected pornography exposure.

VPT Lab

This Spring Asher Soldwedel, SURP Visual Planning Technology (VPT) Lab coordinator served as Co-PI on two projects funded by the City of Hollywood, FL: Phase I - 2011 City Commission District Analysis (with Cliff McCue, PA faculty and Phase II - 2012 New Redistricting Options (with Ceylan Oner, SURP faculty). Mr. Soldwedel led the VPT Lab project team which included SURP adjunct faculty Michael Stamm and SURP graduate student Alan Alvarez who served as GIS analysts for both projects.

During Phase I of the project, the investigators proved that it was necessary to redraw the City of Hollywood’s city commission districts. As part of this process, they also identified several discrepancies with US Census data pertaining to the City’s northern boundaries (to be addressed by the City at a later time).

During Phase II, the VPT Lab project team elicited public input and created new district options for the city. Working with the City Clerk Patricia Cerny, they created a public submittal packet and a web submittal system for citizens to participate and share redistricting option ideas. The packet included a redistricting base map, a corresponding census population table, a submittal form, and instructions for how to use them.

After collecting the results of the public input, the VPT Lab team created three different redistricting options. These three options incorporated ideas from the public input as well as best professional judgment from the team based on established legal redistricting criteria. These options were presented during a public workshop: Option 1 moved one border and represented the least amount of change; Option 2 moved two borders to make districts more easily identifiable by following major thoroughfares; and Option 3 moved three borders to make even more compact and easily identifiable districts. On March 7th, 2012 the City Commission praised the investigators for making the whole process smooth and transparent and they adopted the third option as their new city commission districts.

2003 Commission Districts

2012 Commission Districts
Florida Case Study

2012 Award of Merit – Theoretical Research and Design
Alberto Gonzalez – Assoc. AIA, Leed AP
Andrew Gershon – Assoc. AIA, Leed AP
Ramon Sacristan – Assoc. AIA
Steve Westbay – Assoc. AIA, Leed Green Assoc.

Several Alums from The School of Architecture collectively decided to enter a competition calling for designing a 21st century version of the Florida Case Study home. They were fortunate to receive The Award of Merit, from the American Institute of Architects, The Orlando Chapter, in the category of Theoretical Research and Design. What follows here is how one of them describes their entry:

If we bring to mind one of the iconic images of 20th century architecture - the one image etched deeply into our subconscious is the evening view of Pierre Koenig’s Case Study House #22 which seems so memorably to capture the whole spirit of late 20th century architecture. The origins of the Case House Study evolved as an outgrowth of endless discussions from young enthusiastic architects about new ideas in residential design and construction.

It’s been 50 years and the spirit of these talks haven’t changed but what has changed is the framework of our discussions. Our focus has shifted from the abilities of new raw materials to the finite nature of these natural resources. Our discussions now center on dwellings that use these resources wisely, embody a spirit of efficiency, sustainability and utilize local materials, green technologies, and most importantly a home that responds to its climate and unique environment creating a sense of place.

The pre-fabricated nature of the home establishes a forty-eight (48) inch grid, allowing for reduced material waste and construction time. A major design feature of the house is the main corridor, which is the connective tissue that binds and organizes the spaces of the house into one organism. The spine acts as a hinge that ties the participant to the 4 elements - earth, water, wind and sunlight. The idea of the spine is reinforced by an inverted roof with a transparent trough that captures rainwater while allowing light and changing shadow patterns throughout the house at different times of the day, thus, blurring the demarcation lines between interior and exterior. The sequence of spaces within the house are only a single room deep with alternating open spaces allowing for cross ventilation throughout the year and finally the urban garden completes the structure providing and opportunity to get back to nature as well as providing sustenance for the participants.

Transportation Summit

On Wednesday, May 9th, 2012, the City of Fort Lauderdale and Florida Atlantic University invite you to discover how this world-class city is leading the way with innovative and inventive mobility and sustainability solutions. Partners will showcase plans for major transit projects. Expert presenters will help inspire Fort Lauderdale residents and businesses as we collaborate to forge new directions to make our city more livable and environmentally sustainable. Presenters for this event include Dr. Leonard Berry, Provost Anthony Abbate, Dr. Eric Dumbaugh, James Murley, Larry Horowitz and Sam Poole, Mayor Jack Seiler and City Manager Lee Feldman will also make remarks. In addition to these presentations, an open forum will take place in the Second Avenue Studio Gallery on the first Floor of the Askew Tower from 9:00am -2:00pm with the following partners: BCT, B-Cycle, DDA, FDOT, MPO, TMA, SFRTA and SmartGrowth. Associate Professor Francis Lyn, Director of the Broward Community Design Collaborative was instrumental in organizing this event.
“Unfinished Modernisations”

Professor Vladimir Kulič from the School of Architecture was a contributor to the exhibition, “Unfinished Modernisations”, that opened in the Art Gallery Maribor in Slovenia on February 10, 2012, as part of the 2012 European Capital of Culture Program. He was also one of the chief curators, it included six institutional partners from four countries (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia), and more than twenty individual researchers and research groups. An edited volume of the material from the exhibition will be issued in April. The exhibition can be seen in May in Belgrade, Serbia and in November in Zagreb, Croatia.

Arch Daily (A well read Architectural website) had this to say about the exhibition:

“The exhibition will present numerous architectural projects, ranging from tourist experiments on the Adriatic coastline, concepts for new cities and presentation pavilions at international exhibitions, to disreputable public edifices and historical memorials in all the former Yugoslav countries during 1948–1980. Through a new approach and audaciousness brought by the timely and political side step from modern history, it is the purpose of the project to re-examine the socialist architectural legacy of Yugoslavia and to awaken the strong and productive connections that are present at every step in the urban space of the former common state!

The project is a result of a two-year collaboration of several institutions – such as the UGM/Maribor Art Gallery (Maribor), UHA/Croatian Architects’ Association (Zagreb), MAO/Museum of Architecture and Design (Ljubljana), SAS/Association of Serbian Architects (Belgrade), KOR/Coalition for Sustainable Development (Skopje) and Institute for Contemporary Architecture (Zagreb) – as well as the research work of over 50 experts, especially architecture historians, critics and activists.”

Urban Design’s First Graduate

On May 3, 2012 Andres Felipe Barrera, walked across the stage of the Live Oak Pavilion making him the first student to graduate with a Bachelor of Urban Design here at FAU.

The Bachelor of Urban Design (BUD) program is the first undergraduate program within the Florida State University System, second in the nation, that provides a broader knowledge of the principles and practices of urban design.

Urban Design (BUD) is an undergraduate degree program for Students who are interested in design of the built environment toward sustainable development at the neighborhood, community, and city scale. The program offers an “interdisciplinary approach” for students who plan to pursue a professional career in an urban discipline such as urban & regional planning, urban development policy, real estate development, municipal and planning law, as well as, design disciplines including architecture and landscape architecture.
THE RETURN OF THE MAGENTA

This Spring Dr. Henning Haupt from the school of Architecture opened his unique art exhibit “The Return of The Magenta”. He calls his latest work “a color-space construction in which the three-dimensional physical form is generated out of a visual color space composition. The visual, painted and the architectural, built space become one inseparable entity that can be experienced simultaneously. While walking into the space our perception of the architectural space, measured in relation to our human body, is set in tension with the impression of the immeasurable qualities of the color-spaces.

In his short narration at the opening he states this more concisely, “It’s all about the material and how they interact with the space”. Viewers of his exhibit walk around the structure to figure out what it is. They’re meant to experience its external view first. Then this outer framework gives way to a wide opening, and viewers can literally walk into the piece.

As you can see in these pictures the piece envelopes the onlookers and invites them to draw their own conclusions about its meaning.

View as you enter studio

Full inside view of piece
Student Advising Corner

The CDSI Academic Advising Centers are here for all students, current and perspective, to answer any questions you might have about your program of study. We have Advising Centers on three campuses, Fort Lauderdale, Davie and Boca. Appointments are required for audits, but walk-ins are welcome for help in completing forms or a quick question about a specific requirement. For an appointment in Fort Lauderdale or Davie, call 954-762-5158. For an appointment in Boca, call 561-297-2316.

Important deadlines your programs need you to know.

May 14, 2012 – Approved Revisions (Form 9) to Plans of Study for graduate students, are due if you are planning to graduate in the summer, 2012 semester.
May 30, 2012 – Applications for Degree for due for all student planning to graduate in the summer, 2012 semester. Complete the form in person or on-line and then drop them off with your advisor.
June 1, 2012 – Approved Plans of Study for graduate students planning on graduating in the fall, 2012, semester.
May 18, 2012, 5:00PM – Deadline to add/drop courses for summer 1 and 2 sessions.
May 21, 2012 – Last day to pay for summer 1 and 2 sessions.
June 29, 2012, 5:00PM – Deadline to add/drop courses for summer 3 session.
July 2, 2012 – Last day to pay for summer 3 session.