From the Desk of Dean Christine Theodoropoulos

Learning from and Serving California

This issue of Connections shares stories about the many ways College of Architecture and Environmental Design students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends serve and learn from California. Leveraging the power of doing to merge education, scholarship and service is built on meaningful relationships that come about when our faculty and students make long-term, deep commitments that transcend single activities or projects. When communities know they can draw from our diverse pool of talents and disciplines over the years, our partnerships impact the future.

One of many great examples is our work with Weed, California. Our service there began in the aftermath of the Boles Fire when city and regional planning students assisted with on-site community outreach and engaged with city leaders and administrators to produce a General Plan Update and the first Resiliency Plan for a small town in California. They learned about the social disruption and economic impacts of destroyed housing and the pressing need to rebuild in ways that would offer affordable dwellings for Weed’s residents. This led to a partnership involving our interdisciplinary studios, local nonprofits and community members to design a new generation of sustainable, affordable houses. Our relationship with Weed continues today as the first prototype designed and built by students of architecture, architectural engineering, and construction management creates a house that a family will call home.

On behalf of our students, faculty, staff and partners, thank you for all that you do to help us serve and learn.

Christine Theodoropoulos
Dean, College of Architecture and Environmental Design

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In the CAED, scholarship takes many forms. It explores innovative possibilities for planning, design, engineering and building as it furthers our understanding of the many interconnected factors that affect built environments. The scholarship of service is especially relevant to Cal Poly’s mission. This past year CAED faculty and students worked closely with California communities to explore strategies to improve resilience. Great examples include service to the towns of Weed and Paradise as they address the aftermath of devastating fires, and to Cambria as it refines disaster preparedness plans.

It has also been a year of reflection as we strive to understand and commit to a multifaceted, interdisciplinary concept of resilience. In the proceedings of the Cal Poly Symposium on Resilient Design, faculty editors Margot McDonald (ARCH) and William Siembieda (CRP) offer this new definition.

“Resilient Design is an intentional action that enables a system, in whole or part, to meet the challenges posed by changing or unstable conditions to absorb a shock or stress while maintaining its identity and functionality through adaptive recovery.”
The town of Weed, California (population 3,000) lost many of its affordable houses in the 2014 Boles wildland urban interface fire.

Facing economic and recovery challenges, Weed needed a plan and a vision for the future. Since 2015, we have used service-learning projects focused on Weed’s recovery and reconstruction to teach over 60 students.

Soon after the fire, our community planning studio drafted the General Plan Update that qualified Weed to apply for state and federal funds. This work continued as students helped to develop a Resiliency Plan, the first for a California small town, with the support of Great Northern Services, a local nongovernmental organization, and the Rural Community Development Corporation of California. An advanced studio translated the plan into ideas for projects such as main street design, a trails plan and a local hazard mitigation plan.

The panels were shipped from Cal Poly to Weed to become part of the 1,300-square-foot prototype home.

As a community susceptible to wildfire and other hazards, Cambria has a plan for emergency evacuation of residents and visitors. Key elements of the plan are designated safe refuge areas and primary exit points. However, the plan has not been tested to answer the question that is potentially critical to its success — how long would it take to evacuate the town or its neighborhoods under specified emergency scenarios?

With sponsorship from the San Luis Obispo County Fire Safe Council, I conducted an initial study for Cambria’s Community Services District and Fire Safe Working Group to determine the minimum time needed to evacuate Cambria’s Lodge Hill area while allowing access for first responders. It involved compilation of relevant data, developing and applying an evacuation modeling tool, and mapping the results. Cal Poly students assisted me in transferring case study data into databases for a prototype tool for evacuation prediction, which I had developed previously for single-access primary exit points.

I conducted an initial study for Cambria’s Community Services District and Fire Safe Working Group to determine the minimum time needed to evacuate Cambria’s Lodge Hill area while allowing access for first responders. It involved compilation of relevant data, developing and applying an evacuation modeling tool, and mapping the results. Cal Poly students assisted me in transferring case study data into databases for a prototype tool for evacuation prediction, which I had developed previously for single-access primary exit points. This made it possible to update the tool’s applicability to other types of communities. Students were also instrumental in converting results of test scenarios into realistic-looking networks with thematic maps.

Model results for a worst-case scenario, in which both permanent housing units and vacation rental units are occupied, estimate that it would take from 4.1 to 4.7 hours to completely evacuate Lodge Hill with some vehicles needing close to three hours to traverse the heaviest-traveled segment of Highway 1. Through performance-based modeling of emergency scenarios like this one, we are helping California communities prepare to respond and plan to mitigate.
INTEGRATION WITH LEARNING + TEACHING:
CAED SCHOLARS STEP UP TO SOLVE GRAND CHALLENGES

The CAED teacher and student scholar support program integrates learning and teaching with professional engagement, research and other creative scholarship by offering student-scholar and teacher-scholar grants and fellowships.

Since launching in 2015, this program, sponsored by foundations, firms and individuals who support the CAED’s mission, has awarded nearly $300,000 in funding for 50 projects. The program has enabled over 60 students and faculty scholars to advance innovation, education and research to solve society’s biggest challenges. Last year, scholars focused their expertise on topics such as affordable housing, open space and building performance.

INNOVATION IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING
Stephen Phillips, architecture faculty and principal architect at Stephen Phillips Architects (SPARCH), founded, directs and teaches in Cal Poly’s Los Angeles Metropolitan Program in Architecture and Urban Design. With the support of an AVRP Housing Innovation grant, Phillips worked with students from the LA Metro Program to explore innovative ways to solve the city’s housing crisis. In response to the severe housing shortage, according to the Los Angeles Times, "tenants have agreed to tax themselves $4.6 billion to build housing — 10,000 units in 10 years — and provide supportive services for homeless people.”

To learn more about the issues, Phillips worked with students to organize a public symposium on new housing that attracted a large audience to the venue at Emerson College in Hollywood last spring.

Attendees heard from two panels that shared insights and opportunities for making affordable housing a reality. Speakers included David Baker (David Baker Architects), Neil Denari (NMDA), Julie Eisenberg (KoningEizenberg Architecture), Anne Fougeron (Fougeron Architecture), Thom Mayne (Morphosis), and Stanley Saitowitz (Stanley Saitowitz | Natoma Architects Inc.). The panels were moderated by Frances Anderton (KCRW/NPR) and Raul Segal (MIT Department of Architecture and Urbanism). CAED Dean Christine Theodorsopoulos and Doug Austin (AVRP Skyporit) introduced the event. Students used what they learned during the symposium to explore housing solutions by designing a large mixed-use housing project in Los Angeles.

Their goal was to integrate transitional family, low-income, mid-income, and high-income housing alongside retail, multimedia, health, office, and hotel facilities. With the advent of several new mixed-use high-rise housing projects under construction in Downtown Los Angeles, students had the opportunity to study what might be possible to integrate mixed-income and mixed-use building opportunities in Los Angeles and beyond. This research will continue with the goal of publishing a book in 2020 to celebrate the Cal Poly LA Metro 10-year program anniversary. With the completion of this work in Los Angeles, the team aims to inspire communities across California to consider new forms of mixed-use and mixed-income urban housing.

EDUCATION IN OPEN SPACE
Amir Hajrasouliha is a city and regional planning faculty member who teaches courses such as urban design studio, planning methods, digital cities, urban design visualization and global information systems. His research areas include urban design, campus planning, and smart cities. With support from a Hearst Foundations teacher-student scholars grant, Hajrasouliha worked with three graduate research assistants to identify environmental factors that can support learning activities in outdoor areas on university campuses.

With Hajrasouliha’s guidance, the student team developed a novel way to survey Cal Poly students and determine what factors they prefer when selecting outdoor spaces for studying and learning. The approach involved showing pictures of 81 types of outdoor spaces, rather than using the more traditional method of survey using text only. The use of images is believed to improve the accuracy of findings.

Survey participants included 110 students from an online general education course during spring quarter of 2019. The results showed that the most preferred outdoor spaces are open spaces with a “lawn surrounded by buildings” (50% of respondents), “movable chairs and tables” (55% of respondents), “innovable chairs and tables” (55% of respondents), “shaded by trees” (62% of respondents), and “few students occupying the space” (65% of respondents). However, of the 81 total space types, 34 images were selected by at least one student. This finding highlights the significance of providing choice to students in terms of outdoor spaces on campus.

The team plans to conduct this survey again with another group of students who will take the same online course, and also with a group of students who will take a traditional face-to-face class. With a second set of data, Hajrasouliha and his students will be able to test the strength and accuracy of their methods and findings. The findings, which will be published, will be of interest to campus planners and designers.

DISCOVERIES IN BUILDING PERFORMANCE
Jeff Ponitz is a member of Cal Poly’s architecture faculty who explores fabrication methods that make design innovation possible. He coordinates the Architecture Department’s third-year Integrated Design Studios and teaches courses in computational design and digital fabrication, geometry and building envelope design. In his teaching as well as his own work, he promotes an ethic of “thinking through making,” an iterative process where material, form and phenomena intermingle to generate unexpected possibilities. In spring of 2018, Ponitz led a workshop at ZGF Architects’ office in Los Angeles building on his research in expanded metal mesh: sheet material that has been cut and stretched to form a surface that is both stronger and more open than the original surface, without creating any material waste. The workshop enabled participants to experiment with the effect of different types of expanded mesh on daylighting performance of buildings.

Following this workshop, Ponitz created a new course, Zero-Waste Surfaces: Design, Fabrication and Performance, focused on developing architectural components using zero-waste fabrication processes including expanding metal, smocking fabric, and migrating foam. Offered in winter 2019, 15 architecture students learned workflows developed from Ponitz’s prior work and used parametric design, 3D scanning and digital fabrication to rapidly prototype zero-waste surfaces. Student teams exhibited zero-waste prototypes that provided sun shading, water collection and sound absorption while suggesting new aesthetic possibilities. This work has been supported by the ZGF Fund for Building Performance.

The college has received over 85 applications for teacher- and student-scholar fellowships. Each project has tremendous merit and we thank the following sponsors who have made it possible to fund about 60 percent of these proposals: AVRP Skyporit, Harold Hay, Hearst Family Foundation, Paul and Verla Neil, Robin L. Rossi and ZGF.

HELP US MAKE THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT BETTER FOR OUR EVER-EVOLVING SOCIETY
Many small projects make a tremendous difference. Please consider sponsoring a student or teacher scholar project. For more information about how you can help, contact Jessica Otten, CAED Senior Director of Development, at otten@calpoly.edu or 805-756-6144.
**Activism in Architecture:**
*Bright Dreams of Passive Energy Design*

**By Margot McDonald - Architecture Faculty and Department Head**

In 1973, a team of CAED and College of Engineering faculty from the Architecture, Architectural Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering departments collaborated on the design, construction, and evaluation of an innovative passive energy house built in Atascadero, California. Harold R. Hay, a chemist and inventor from Los Angeles, instigated the applied research project at Cal Poly because of the hands-on, Learn by Doing reputation of the school and the faculty expertise in solar building design and energy performance modeling. The Cal Poly faculty included Ken Haggard (ARCH), John Edmiston (ARCH), Jake Feldman (ARCH), Dave Saverker (ARCE), Ed Ward (CRP), and Phil Niles (ME). The goal of this project was to build and evaluate a full-scale prototype of a solar house that demonstrated Hay’s patented Skyrthem passive heating and cooling strategy.

The “roof pond,” as it was more commonly known, relied on the occupants. In summer, the system operated in reverse. At night, water bags from the sun to provide daytime radiant cooling to the occupants.

In 2013, I collaborated with Carolina Dayer, who was at the time a visiting faculty scholar at Cal Poly, to publish a book of essays called, “Activism in Architecture: Bright Dreams of Passive Energy Design” (Routledge, 2013) to honor Hay’s life and ideas in the realm of solar energy. It was based on 200 boxes of source material consisting of books, articles, video tapes, photographs, and correspondence from Hay’s personal library. The source materials were made available to the authors as part of a bequest by the Estate of Evelyn and Harold R. Hay and included a directive to write Hay’s biography after he died in December 2009.

The collection of essays was written as a gedenkshrift — a memorial to an individual’s life posthumously. Authors chosen for the book represented three key aspects of Hay’s life as it pivoted around solar energy. These three areas were: innovation, entrepreneurship, and activism.

The innovators in the book include two Cal Poly researchers. Dale Clifford tapped biomimicry as a method for performance building design, and Bill Siembida, along with a pair of CRP graduate students, explored the potential for roof pond factories regionally distributed to meet future housing demand. Other innovators, such as Pablo La Roche and Dick Bourne, focused on the inherent efficiency of natural passive and low energy systems that require a fraction of the energy consumed by conventional active HVAC systems to do the same amount of work.

The entrepreneurs in the book wrote about their passion for product design and engineering as pathways to innovation in the smart use of passive solar energy. Whether the inventions were products such as Skylids by Steve Baer or Cloudgel by Day Charoudi, all shared the ability to break with conventional thinking to problem-solve using ingenuity, experimentation, and a hands-on approach.

And lastly, all authors in the book are activists. Top in this class are the passive solar pioneers like author Ken Haggard whose unwavering commitment to solar and sustainable design is deeply rooted in the generations of solar architects and entrepreneurs that he cultivated through education and practice. Additionally, Dennis Hayes, one of the founders of Earth Day in the 1970s, saw the need and opportunity to mobilize people around a movement for social, political, and environmental change and continues to advocate for net-zero buildings. And then, there are the college’s solar activists like Sandy Stannard (ARCH).

Like Harold Hay, they are futurists who embody the Learn by Doing philosophy that is central to Cal Poly’s core.
KEVIN CONGER- CAED HONORED ALUMNUS OF 2019
FASLA (LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, ’88)

The Cal Poly Alumni Association has added Kevin Conger to its distinguished roster of honored alumni.

View the video.

Through visionary designs, passionate advocacy and dedicated service, Kevin Conger (LA, ’88) promotes social and ecological well-being. As a role model for designers and communities he makes human experience in public space a priority, be it small or large, in the heart of the city or at its edges.

The Honored Alumni Award is the highest honor bestowed upon Cal Poly alumni by the association. Each year, the College of Architecture and Environmental Design (CAED) nominates one of our most esteemed alumni for this honor, and the honoree takes part in Alumni Weekend celebrations for all of the honorees from the university’s six colleges, athletics and the Alumni Association.

Conger’s interest in landscape architecture began while he was in high school working in landscape construction. At the age of 18 he had the opportunity to take a course with a special teacher at Moorpark Community college, John Innes, a Cal Poly alumnus (Ornamental Horticulture, ’69) and fellow surfer, who inspired Conger, mentored him and hired him as a part-time drafting assistant.

Upon completion of his associate’s degree, Conger transferred to Cal Poly with a passion for landscape design and room in his schedule to take classes in architecture and construction management. He continued to work for Innes while studying full-time and committing long hours to gain skills that would prepare him to embark on a steep trajectory during the early years of his career as a designer.

At Cal Poly Conger met his future wife, Nancy Sabol, and traveled with her to Spain and Portugal where they studied urban design with professor Walt Tryon. They graduated together as members of Cal Poly’s 1988 Landscape Architecture class. In the years that followed, Conger continued to broaden his experience in landscape design and land development, working at several California firms and spending an adventurous year in Vaasa on the west coast of Finland where a forward-looking public parks and recreation agency entrusted students and young professionals with design projects.

After obtaining his professional license, he decided to pursue graduate study at the Rhode Island School of Design where he found the freedom to explore connections between landscape architecture, architecture and sculpture. While there he honed his approach to design criticism, adding dimension to his creative process and aesthetic sensibility. When Sabol started her graduate studies at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design the following year, they moved to Boston where Conger faced the challenge of searching for work during an economic recession. He was fortunate to find employment at the design practice of Martha Schwartz Partners, taking the only position that was available: marketing assistant.

In his interview he told Schwartz that he would prove his ability and earn a place on her design team, which he did in less than three months.

Upon their return home to the Bay Area, Conger joined Hargreaves Associates where he contributed to projects with profound impact on global cities, including the master plan for the Sydney Olympics, and the national park at Crissy Field where designers conceived places for people as part of a significant rehabilitation of one of San Francisco’s important natural settings. Through his work on Crissy Field, a legacy project in his own community, Conger discovered his commitment to democratizing the public realm. He started his own practice in 1999, adding partners a year later to found CMG (Conger Moss Guillard) Landscape Architecture. Today the CMG team consists of three dozen architects and designers, led by six principals. They are located in the heart of downtown San Francisco, which has become their hometown laboratory for a national, award-winning practice.

As president and CEO, Conger dedicates his leadership to improving the social and ecological health of cities. CMG’s work ranges from small-scale high-impact urban places to transformations of regional landscapes. He emphasizes the importance of people’s connections to one another and makes design decisions based on values that support human empathy and interaction. By making better, more meaningful places and by enriching the experience of people passing through those places, CMG’s goal is to create environments that can spread their values beyond the project site, to the rest of the city. Conger explains,

“Small places count maybe more than big places; where we live, where we connect can increase our social and ecological well-being.”

From designs that respond to sea level rise, drought and other effects of climate change to public planning processes for districts and cityscapes, CMG takes a creative approach to urban ecology. Recent examples from CMG’s extensive portfolio of transformative projects include the district-wide storm water management system for Bay Meadows. For the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art rooftop sculpture garden, the design team engaged a lichenologist to help them integrate a lichen habitat that will slowly transform the building into a living organism. In partnership with Kennerly Architecture + Planning, and Gehl Studio, CMG is currently leading efforts to engage San Francisco in envisioning a Civic Center Public Realm Plan that merges ceremonial space at the scale of the city with small everyday spaces that promote human connection.

A Fellow of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Kevin is widely known for his contributions to the profession. He lectures frequently on designing the public realm and furthering ecological resilience. In what spare time he finds he shares his talents with communities and schools as an avid volunteer engaged in public space issues, most recently focusing on increasing diversity in the profession by connecting inspiring young designers with low-income communities of color. He is a longstanding member of Cal Poly’s Landscape Architecture Department Advisory Council who inspires student designers to become change agents who will help envision the future of the public realm.

His strategy for impact resonates:

“I think most people want to do the right thing, be part of the solution and make the world a better place. To do so we have to remain activists; we have to participate. Sometimes the problems that are not being prioritized by others are where we can make the most difference.”
Between 1904 and 1951 the renowned architect Julia Morgan designed over 700 buildings in California and the western U.S. Morgan was revered for the versatility and lasting value of her architecture, and she earned many firsts. In 1898 she was the first woman to enroll in the architecture program of the prestigious École des Beaux-Arts in Paris; in 1904 she was the first woman to become a licensed architect in California, and in 2014, the first woman to receive the American Institute of Architects’ highest honor, the Gold Medal (awarded posthumously 57 years after her death).

The Julia Morgan Collections in Special Collections and Archives at Kennedy Library contain thousands of documents including drawings, sketchbooks, photographs, correspondence, project files, and other personal and professional papers entrusted to Cal Poly by Morgan’s heirs and others. They form an invaluable resource that contextualizes Morgan’s architectural legacy. For an online exhibit, see lib.calpoly.edu/search-and-find/collections-and-archives/architectural/julia-morgan.

We are curating a focused exhibit of selections from the Julia Morgan Collections that illustrate her study and use of concrete construction. It will highlight her innovative designs in reinforced concrete and the experiences and people that inspired her interest in the material. We will examine Morgan’s relationships with contemporaries in Paris and California, her influences, and those she influenced through a display of her work as a student and as a practicing architect. Open to the public and designed to engage students in learning about architectural history and technology from primary sources, it will tell a fascinating story about Morgan’s studies in Paris and how they informed the development of concrete construction in California.

The Cal Poly exhibition team will include students in paid positions who will benefit from the college’s jobs for students initiative. They will help us prepare an exhibition in late 2020 that features sketches from Morgan’s time at the École des Beaux-Arts, early design sketches of Hearst Castle, construction drawings and photographs, her drafting table, sketchbooks, and other original artifacts. “Julia Morgan, from Student to Pioneer of Concrete Construction” will present a history of building technology that reveals how education informs practice.

As a graduate of UC Berkeley’s civil engineering program and the École des Beaux-Arts, Morgan was influenced by her technical training and the experiences, mentors and peers she encountered in turn-of-the-century Paris. Her education at the École (including a construction course), her work in architects’ ateliers, and her European travels profoundly affected the direction of her career. In Paris Morgan observed two seminal reinforced concrete projects, the 1900 World Exposition, and the Rue Franklin Apartments. Morgan visited the Exposition site often, and wrote letters about what she observed during construction and the event itself. Also attracting her interest was the work of architect Auguste Perret, a contemporary of Morgan’s and former student at the École. Perret worked in his father’s architecture practice where he experimented with reinforced concrete. In 1902 he tested his application in the construction of the Rue Franklin Apartments. The concrete frame was expressed on the façade and designed to engage students in learning about architectural history and technology from primary sources, it will tell a fascinating story about Morgan’s studies in Paris and how they informed the development of concrete construction in California.

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**HONORING OUR SUPPORTERS**

The College of Architecture and Environmental Design would like to thank our alumni, parents, friends and Legacy Club members for their support this past year. Your generosity and engagement with the college powers our Learn by Doing approach to education and prepares our students to be ready day one. We would like to share with you a few gifts that have really made a difference.

**SUPPORT THE COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN**

Give online at [www.giving.calpoly.edu](http://www.giving.calpoly.edu).

Get involved and make a difference!

**CMAC RAISES $200,000 TO SUPPORT CAL POLY SCHOLARS**

With donations from the Construction Management Advisory Council (CMAC) and friends, and a matching contribution from the university, an endowed and inaugural scholarships will be created for future awards to construction management students. An ambitious campaign goal was to initially raise $100,000 for [Cal Poly Scholars](http://www.giving.calpoly.edu), a program designed to recruit and retain high-achieving, low-income students from California high schools. A large part of the effort was to honor recently retired Department Head Al Hauck for his 17 years of service to the department, university and the profession. With additional financial support from the Construction Management Department’s industry partners, the campaign doubled its goal and raised $200,000, providing more California students the opportunity to benefit from Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing philosophy. An endowment has also been created so that scholarships can continue in perpetuity. Cal Poly Scholars are supported in a variety of ways, including special student advising sessions, technology packages, two years of on-campus housing, and career preparation.

**BUILDING MOMENTUM FOR POLY CANYON REVITALIZATION**

Over 30 alumni and friends contributed to the new observation deck at Poly Canyon pictured in Student News on Page 20. Ted Throndsen, shown below with his family, was inspired to give in memory of his late daughter Kimberly Ann Throndsen (ARCE, ’90). Kimberly Ann was part of the team that built the cantilever structure shown here.

Poly Canyon is host to Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing philosophy. The Canyon Days Committee was formed to preserve this history by maintaining the student-built structures in Poly Canyon. [Click here](http://www.giving.calpoly.edu) to help support and preserve the structures.

**DEAN’S CUP SCORES BIG**

Final play of the Dean’s Cup Golf Tournament was held Sept. 14 in Monterey. This year’s champions were Jake McCollum (Business Administration, ’11) and the CAED Learn by Doing Student Jobs Fund. Thanks to over 50 alumni and friends who raised more than $20,000 to support student jobs! There is still time to [give online to the Student Jobs Fund](http://www.giving.calpoly.edu). Plans are already underway for the CAED Dean’s Cup 2020. You’re invited to view the dates on the back cover for locations across California.
AN ECOLOGICAL MASTER PLAN FOR LOS ANGELES: THE OLMS TED BROTHERS’ 1920S VISIONARY WORK

BY CHRISTINE E. O’HARA- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FACULTY

Visualize Los Angeles having a sustainable master plan, a design that conserves water, with the city connected by a verdant park system along unchanneled rivers. Parkways provide infrastructure while also managing stormwater, with the roads linking cultural heritage sites. Celebrating the landscape, subdivisions would be built around natural systems, with a community focused on walkability and outdoor recreation. Planned open space would protect fragile ecosystems and mitigate wildfires. This is not a contemporary aspiration, but rather the foundational elements of a prescient 1920s blueprint developed for Los Angeles by the Olmsted Brothers landscape architecture firm. My research on the Olmsted masterplan for Los Angeles has been an exciting journey of discovery in the city’s landscapes and in archival collections.

It is a California story that helps students, designers and scholars learn from a pioneering work of regional ecological design. The Olmsted Brothers firm was one of the most important landscape architecture firms in the history of the field, yet little is known of their prolific work in the American West. Founded by Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. (of Central Park fame), in many ways the brothers defined the profession of American landscape architecture, incorporating ecological principles within their design, an approach which predated modern ecological theories and applications.

Having been based in Boston for over 25 years, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. opened an office in Palos Verdes, California in 1923, moving west to become a permanent resident of his own design project. Such a move was uncommon yet necessary to enhance the firm’s understanding of Southern California’s Mediterranean climate, its culture, and politics. With Los Angeles County’s proliferate use of water, unbridled urbanization, and newfound love for automobiles, the region offered significant environmental, cultural and technological challenges for the firm. The Olmsted Brothers’ designs had to account for not only vast geography, but complex cultural and natural systems within it.

My book-in-progress examines the Olmsted Brothers’ master plan for the development of Los Angeles County, including community designs, park and parkway systems, open space conservation, and watershed planning, as the firm created public and private spaces that were responsive to the semi-arid climate of the region during a critical moment in the history of regional planning in Southern California. Should all of their 77 Los Angeles projects have been built to plan, the region would have had a very different footprint including unchanneled rivers and a 1,500 square mile park system.

For designers, one of the challenges of landscape architecture is that the environment is in constant flux. Unlike a building, for example, which can remain the same for a long period of time, landscapes are more readily influenced by not only natural systems such as rainfall, drought, and other climatic issues, but also culture and the use of space, as well as environmental politics. In-depth analysis of a historic landscape therefore comes from a range of sources, including historic maps, construction plans, period imagery and drawings, project correspondence, as well as ecological, cultural, and political context of the time.

While many of the Olmsted plans were implemented, for a number of reasons, their proposed park corridors, known as the Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway, were not constructed per the original plans. However, the foresight of the Olmsted Brothers’ design approach and the subsequent floods that devastated Los Angeles in 1938, offers a rich opportunity for backtesting how their parkway design could have performed during large storm events. While primary documents provide a way of explaining design history, they can also be analyzed and tested, modeling landscape performance through contemporary computer applications. Digital applications, such as HGIS, AutoCad, Photoshop, and Sketch-up, provide ways to simulate, test, and interpret how natural systems might have interacted with the built environment in a historic context — ecologically, functionally, and experimentally.

In collaboration with Aaron Liggett, Cal Poly landscape architecture faculty member, we are digitally constructing the Hollywood-Palos Verdes Parkway, utilizing proposed grading and planting plans, 1923 USGS Topography maps, and precipitation data from a historic 1938 storm flood event. The Olmsted Brothers designed this park and parkway system to mitigate and work with urban stormwater, once a deadly natural occurrence in Los Angeles prior to channelization of the rivers in the 1930s. Our work is to test whether the design as proposed could have managed stormwater during various levels of rainfall. While providing new ways to understand the spatial quality of historic narratives, this innovative research approach offers new applications for design historians as well as technical insights and methodologies to inform modern planning. The value of the Olmsted Brothers’ ideas offers 21st century practitioners paradigms in an ever-changing ecology. Understanding the intention and outcome of this research, however, requires not only methodology in historical studies, but also currency in practice to bring history alive.
LEARN BY DOING WITH A VIEW
A new Poly Canyon Observation Deck was dedicated by its designer-builders the day before their graduation in June. Designed in 2017 by ARCH students Sitora Vaxidova, Emir Kuljancic (ARCH, ’18) and CM student Jordan Horofsky (CM, ’18), it was built of redwood as a senior project by Vaxidova and two CM students, Tony Pelligrini (left) and Harrison Woods (right) in 2018-19. The students expressed appreciation to the many supporters who offered expertise and materials that helped them complete the project. The desk invites visitors to enjoy a restful break with a view of most of the existing structures created by CAED students over five decades. The Canyon Days Committee made up of students, alumni and faculty is dedicated to revitalizing and stewarding the experimental structures lab in Poly Canyon. To volunteer or provide support, please contact the college. Check out the view and more.

ARCHITECTURE STUDENTS SHINE IN STEEL DESIGN COMPETITION
The 2019-20 ACI AC/Steel Design Competition awarded Curt Budd (ARCH) first place in Category 1 — Intermodal Transportation Center for his project, “Interface.” The category challenged designers to “focus on a hub that synthesizes multiple transportation systems.” Andrew Swaim (ARCH) and Scott L’Esperance (ARCH) were awarded honorable mentions in the same category for “ARCH 2018” and “Interchange,” respectively. Congratulations to them and their faculty adviser Margarida Yin (ARCH). Designs will be exhibited at the AIA 2020 Conference on Architecture in Los Angeles and at: bit.ly/jcp-steel-design

EERI-SDC TEAM EARNawy Aw ARDS
Cal Poly’s Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) Seismic Design Competition (SDC) team made up of 15 ARCH students traveled to Vancouver, Canada, in March to compete against nearly 40 international teams. Their design was awarded ninth place overall as well as first place for the poster and third place for architectural design for their mid-rise building submission. The student captain was Jenna Williams (lower left) and the faculty advisor was Anahid Behrouzi (ARCH). Structural Engineering Students for Humanity (SESH) partners with disaster-stricken communities through a holistic and adaptive appreciation of structural engineering. This program focuses on the complexity of issues such as poverty, culture, geography, economy and history and how these affect local buildings. With Miyamoto International, students collected field information to help produce REVit as-built documentation of existing 1920s buildings at the Yangon Technological University and Yangon University. Working in collaboration with architecture students at the two universities and a local structural engineer, the students met with university leaders to present ideas for possible structural interventions to retrofit the buildings to make them seismically safe. The trip was supported by funds provided by Cal Poly’s Instructionally Related Activities Program and supplemented by fund raising by the students.

ASLA HONOR AND MERIT AWARDS
Congratulations to the students who garnered American Society of Landscape Architecture (ASLA) Southern California Honor and Merit Awards. Shown left to right in the front row are Pamela Brief, ASLA President Southern California Chapter, students Breanne Altiero, Tyler Ellison, Christina Dumont, Sydney Clark, Silvia Viola and Christina Chang, and Department Head Omar Faruque. From the top left are their faculty advisors Wiran Don, Joseph Bagdala, César Torres Bustamante, Aaron Liggett, Aja Louise Mateo (LA, ’12), Beverly Bass, David Watts and Christy O’Hara.

ACCELERATOR PROGRAM SUPPORTS STUDENT VISION
Recent grad Yumi Da Silva (ARCH, ’19) received one of six spots in the highly coveted summer accelerator program that included Hothouse office space and $10,000 in seed money from Cal Poly’s Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE). She is developing her artwork that brings the voices of marginalized communities into spaces from which they are traditionally excluded.

STUDENTS LEARN THROUGH SERVICE IN MYANMAR
Last summer, 14 architectural engineering students participated in a two-week community service learning project in Myanmar under the leadership of Associate Dean James Mwangi.

MCRP STUDENTS DRAFT COMMUNITY PLAN FOR OCEANO
Second-year graduate students in the city and regional planning program worked under the supervision of CRP faculty member Cornelius Nwoshi to develop a Community Plan for Oceano, including its airport area, one of a dozen designated growth areas. The vision for its redevelopment includes clustered housing and mixed-use to accommodate population and job growth. Students offered three options in the general plan that are intended to guide how and where the community should develop. See the story on KSBY at: bit.ly/mcrp-oceano.

THE CITY THROUGH ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION

Image courtesy of A+D MUSEUM, photography by Richard Traibley

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2019–20 DesignIntelligence Rankings at a Glance

DesignIntelligence, a company dedicated to the business success of organizations in architecture, engineering, construction and design, conducts annual surveys of hiring professionals, students and academic leaders in the fields of architecture and landscape architecture. The results inform national rankings of accredited programs based on a variety of metrics, and an annual roster of most admired educators. We are proud to share these exceptional recognitions of CAED faculty and programs:

Most Admired Educators
OMAR FARUQUE (LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE)
THOMAS FOWLER (ARCHITECTURE)
DAVID WATTS (LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE)

Program Distinctions

Architectural#1 Construction materials and methods #1 Engineering fundamentals #2 Healthy built environments #2 Sustainable built environments #2 Transdisciplinary collaboration across A/E/C #2 Interdisciplinary studies #2 Practice management #2 Project planning and management #2 Design technologies #1 Most admired undergraduate program; #1 among public universities #6 Most admired undergraduate program

Landscape Architecture#1 Construction materials and methods #1 Engineering fundamentals #1 Healthy built environments #1 Sustainable built environments #1 Transdisciplinary collaboration across A/E/C #4 Interdisciplinary studies #1 Practice management #2 Project planning and management #2 Design technologies #2 Most admired undergraduate program; #2 among public universities

Most Admired Undergraduate Program

CAED Alumni Invited to Mentor Through Cal Poly Career Connections!

Join Cal Poly’s exclusive online networking and mentoring platform and have a positive impact on a student’s success.
- Be a mentor and provide one-on-one career-related advice
- Grow your network while connecting with Cal Poly’s alumni community
- Join groups and discussion boards that match your career interests

Choose your level of participation by going to: careerconnections.calpoly.edu

Robert J. Condia (ARCH, ’80) and Lee E. Salin (ARCH, ’86) were elevated to the AIA College of Fellows, the organization’s highest membership honor. Condia is an architecture professor at Kansas State University and Salin is the managing principal at Andersen Bruk Architects (shown left to right respectively). Read more including Frank Mahan’s (ARCH, ’53) AIA Young Architects Award.

Ric Abramson (ARCH, ’88) received the AIA Los Angeles’ inaugural “Citizen Architect Award.” He is principal and founder of WorkPlays, a studio-based firm based in Los Angeles.

Bruce Albert (ARCH, ’78), principal of The Albert Group, received historic preservation awards from the AIA, the California Governor’s office, California Preservation Foundation, and Engineering News Record magazine for the restoration of the Hallide Building in San Francisco.

Leah Bayer (ARCH, ’14), founder of her firm EVIA, emerged as the winner of Charrette Venture Group’s 2019 Architecture Business Plan Competition. It recognizes small, innovative architecture firms.

Trevor Cassidy (LA, ’15) is a PGA professional golfer. He played in two legs of this year’s CAED Drive Cup and gracefully won the “own ball” category. He joined other alumni on the greens again next year.

Gaylaird Christopher (ARCH, ’70), founding principal architect at Architecture for Education Incorporated, has retired. He led the K-12 Education Division for the architectural firm of Perkins & Will.

Benjamin Coates (MCRP, ’96), is a judge of the Superior Court of Ventura County.

Charles Durrett (ARCH, ’82), of McCamant & Durrett Architects, is currently producing “The Best of Both Worlds: The Promise of Cohousing,” a film that depicts cohousing as a sustainable, community-based lifestyle.

Alicia Elkenberry (ARCH, ’79), engineering manager for Tamarack Grove Engineering in Boise, Idaho, is professionally licensed in 12 states and a member of the Structural Engineering Association of Idaho and National Society of Professional Engineers.

Michael Enamoto (ARCH, ’72), owner of Gruen Associates, contributes to the field of architecture through his advocacy for Los Angeles and internationally. He was awarded the AIA/LA Gold Medal Award as a Presidential Honoree.

Anthony Flanagan (LA, ’81) is CEO and chairman of Boulevard Properties, a 30-year-old global real estate corporation that leads in real estate business formations, partnerships and innovative product development.

Emily Foley (CRP, ’06), associate planner for M-Group in Campbell, California, received her professional planning certification with the American Institute of Certified Planners.

The design firm of George Garcia (ARCH, ’86) Garcia architecture + design, received multiple Central Coast AIA Design Awards including a Citation Award and two People’s Choice awards.

Paul Hamalian (CM, ’80) has assumed a new role at Habitat for Humanity International as vice president and steward of culture and spiritual practices.

Michael Hollis (M. S. ARCH, ’83), a principal architect at DMMA Architecture + Interior Design in Santa Barbara, served as chairman of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Enterprise Forum of the Central Coast.

Bill Jacobs (CRP, ’99) was a principal planner for Advance Planning during his 30-year career in Southern California.

Bob Kitamura (ARCH, ’75, M.S. ARCH, ’83), owner of The Kitamura Company, was awarded the Octavius Morgan Distinguished Service Award by the California Architects Board.

Thomas Knapp (ARCH, ’72), formerly of Bechtel Corporation and Previdio Trust, has moved to Hawaii to focus on architectural design, project management and construction management worldwide.

David Lambert (ARCH, ’06, M.S. ARCH, ’10) of ARUP is currently collaborating with Cal Poly faculty and students in four departments to design and build a Polytechnic College in Tanzania, Africa.

Forest Lanning (ARCH, ’01), FEMA’s earthquake response liaison for the southwest and the Pacific Island territories, serves as a technical advisor to FEMA leadership, and a technical consultant to the United Nations in Kyrgyzstan.
Jane Lily (MCRP, ’70) faculty emerita in the School of Art and Design, West Valley College, Saratoga, California, recently retired in Sacramento.

The Cal Poly Black Alumni Association (BAA) hosted the Black Legacy Weekend on campus in August. Participants included, from left to right, Preston Allen, emeritus director of campus experience and logistics planning at Cal Poly, Rhonda Hayes (ARCH, ’79), and BAA vice-president, Jazmine Lomax (CM, ’16).

Cal Poly Rodeo Coach Ben Londo (CM, ’57) was named the 2019 National Intercolligiate Rodeo Association Coach of the Year. He worked with Granite Construction to transform Spanos Stadium into a rodeo arena and as part of a team helped develop a $5 million donation from Granite, Catelaro and Beavers Charitable Trust to fund the Granite Heavy Civil Engineering and Construction minor. See how it happened at: www.engineering.calpoly.edu/rodeo-and-back.

Richard McCluskey (ARCH, ’79) is retiring from McCluskey Blakemore Architects in Illinois after 40 years in practice as the firm’s founder.

Marc Honord (ARCH, ’92) is currently president-elect of Pennsylvania AIA, and will be president in 2020.

Scott Murley (CM, ’10), founder of Murley Company, focuses on urban infill development, lifestyle residences and real estate investments.

Wendy Orosas (ARCH, ’00), professor at Kansas State University, guided her students to win the 2019 Studio Prize bestowed by Architect magazine for a project to introduce migrants in Granada, Spain, to a new way of life.

Michael Paradini (ARCH, ’03) principal and managing partner at Smith Structural Group, was one of 20 winners of The San Luis Obispo Tribune’s 4th annual Top 20 Under 40 Award. It honors young professionals who do exemplary work in their profession and community.

Stuart Poulter (MCRP, ’15), associate planner for EMC Planning Group, received his professional planning certification from the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Bill Ramsey (ARCH, ’85), principal at RGDY, was recognized as one of the 40 Under 40 in Professional Builder Magazine’s annual 2019 list of influential early-career stars in the home building industry.

Brian Ross (CM, ’01), managing principal/owner of Ross Infrastructure Development, was recognized by Engineering News Record on its annual 2019 list of Top 20 Under 40 honorees.

Victoria Ruzzo (ARCH, ’14), an architect at BRCA design, resides in Seattle and works on YMCAs and multifamily residential projects in the Puget Sound region.

Farid Shahid (ARCH, ’16) and business partners founded the Eighty20 Group, a full-service real estate brokerage, and WithCo Coffee, both in San Luis Obispo.

Stephanie Silkwood (ARCH, ’08), and Steve Stenton (ARCH ’00), were promoted to associate principals at RMW Architecture & Interiors based in San Jose, California.

The Foundation for Interdisciplinary Studies honored Larry Simons (ARCH, ’82) with the George Hasslen Medal for his outstanding contribution to architecture.

Megan Snyder (ARCH, ’15) has assumed a management role with Gregg Maedo + Associates Inc. on a ground-up nursing project in Bakersfield, California.

John Tischler (LA, ’01), a project manager at Sugimura Finney Architects in Campbell, California, earned licenses to practice both landscape architecture and architecture.

Architecture faculty member Alicia Uhlig (ARCH, ’95) was honored with a 2016 Women in Sustainability Leadership Award, which recognizes women making a difference in the world through sustainability.

Ingrid Stromberg (LA, ’05) has transitioned from working at Perkins + Will architecture to be UC Davis’ first urban designer. More at: bit.ly/ycop-stromberg.

Mimi Van Kirk (ARCH, ’80) received her Career Tech Ed (CTE) teaching credential in architecture and engineering and is an instructor in those fields at a high school in Fremont, California.


Cal Poly alumni from various companies are teaming up to finish construction of 75 Howard, a LEED Gold condominium high rise on San Francisco’s Embarcadero. Left to right are Alfredo Huerta (CE, ’15), Thomas Will (CM, ’10), Mallory Arend (ARCH, ’14), Dixie Bronson (CM, ’16), Bryan Wilson (HST, ’04), Patrick Driscoll (CE, ’12), Patrick Haley (CE, ’12), and not in photo, Thomas McCue (CM, ’10).

REUNIONS & ALUMNI EVENTS

In October several CAED alumni in Texas met again during the Texas A+D Design Expo, this time in Galveston.

The architecture classes of 1979 and 1980 got together for a fun-filled 40th reunion on campus and in Morro Bay in early November.

For 2020, the Class of 1979 is planning a Golden 50th Reunion for architecture, architectural engineering, and city and regional planning majors. For additional information contact baracco@gmail.com.

For help planning your class reunion: Email: caed-events@calpoly.edu
Phon: 805-756-7432

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Waiting outside of a local coffee shop in downtown San Luis Obispo, Lisa Wise (M.S. ARCH, ’03) finishes up her conference call before heading inside. We take a seat at a small table by the window where a story unfolds of how a commodities trader from Chicago found her way to leading a planning firm in San Luis Obispo.

Wise grew up in northern Kentucky. As a product of the 80s and having experienced a recession, Wise’s family taught her the value of hard work and making money. After pursuing a bachelor’s degree in business administration and finance from University of Cincinnati, she moved to Chicago, where she found her way to Price Waterhouse Coopers where she worked as a financial services manager in the securities and commodities industry for 10 years.

As a Wall Street executive, Wise worked hard and played hard and is still guided by this principle today. She loved finance, but grew tired of the long hours and high-pressure environment. After turning down a promotion, Wise moved to San Francisco where she worked on planning policy under OPR Director Loretta Lynch. “The summer internship was one of the most valuable experiences I had at Cal Poly. I still keep in touch with the chief deputy director, Scott Morgan,” to this day.

After graduating from Cal Poly, Wise worked for a small planning firm in Los Osos. She then established Lisa Wise Consulting Inc. (LWC). Her firm now has 19 employees (including eight Cal Poly alumni) across three offices in San Luis Obispo, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Inspired by the enthusiasm and passion of Cal Poly’s CRP students, Wise launched an internship program with over 20 students and counting. She also teaches CRP 472, a real estate capstone class filled primarily with students majoring in construction management, planning, architecture, engineering and business.

Wise’s firm has experienced tremendous success over the past few years. Whether working on entitlements, market or feasibility studies in the U.S. or leading a comprehensive code update for Riyadh, the capital of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, she has learned that there are consistencies in planning, “people want better cities for their growing population. They want clean air, clean water, healthy and equitable communities.”

Their adventures led them to Los Osos, California where Wise realized her interest in urban design, diving headfirst into the master of city and regional planning program at Cal Poly. She enjoyed hanging out with her classmates, taking field trips to new urbanist communities and learning from the “amazing guest speakers who shared their experiences with eager students.”

One guest speaker from the California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research (OPR) offered Wise a summer internship at the state capital. There, she worked on planning policy under OPR Director Loretta Lynch. “The summer internship was one of the most valuable experiences I had at Cal Poly. I still keep in touch with the chief deputy director, Scott Morgan, to this day.”

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CRP Faculty Hemalata Dandekar has been busy editing and writing the third edition of “The Planner’s Use of Information” with chapters contributed by other CRP faculty including Vicente del Rio, Amir Hajrasouliha, Cornelius Nuworsoo and Chris Steins. The book empowers practitioners to use and address the impacts of 21st century technologies.

CRP faculty Cornelius Nuworsoo’s research and a presentation in Ghana has influenced the country’s national level transportation planning. As a result, the minister of Ghana’s Railways Development Department has launched a monthly railway dialogue to interact with stakeholders for improvements in the railway system.

As chair of the Research and Scholarship Committee of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, Dean Christine Theodoresopoulou leads a national conversation that defines research metrics within global contexts. She is also serving as chancellor of the ACSA College of Distinguished Professors, coordinating efforts to recognize, mentor and support faculty.

Landscape architecture emeritus faculty Alice Loh (M.S. ARCH, ’83) is busy as an AARP regional volunteer director working as a liaison with Congressional District 24, California State District 17, and California Assembly District 35. She and emeritus faculty Larry Loh (ARCH) are designing and building homes in San Luis Obispo County.

Emeritus faculty Paul Wolf (ARCH) and his spouse have shared their Holocaust survival background with student audiences in the U.S. and Germany. Cal Poly faculty Sky Bergman featured them in her nationally acclaimed film “Lives Well Lived.”

Architectural engineering faculty Ed Sallikis (ARCH) authored the book “Structures: A Geometric Approach, Graphical Statics and Analysis.” “Meant for students, it is useful to professionals looking to add the power of graphic statics to their work.”

Faculty Maggie Kirk (ARCH), Dennis Bashash (ARCH, ’81) and Greg Starzyk (CM) received the 2018 Cal Poly Service Learning Faculty Team Award for their interdisciplinary studio focused on new housing for Wood, California. See Page 7 for more information.

Anahid Behboudi and Michael Deigert (ARCH) were awarded the 2019 Gerald R. Seeley Award by the Civil Engineering Division of the American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) for their paper “Exposing Undergraduates to Design, Fabrication, and Large-Scale Experimentation in a Structural Steel Design Course,” co-authored with architectural engineering students Jenna Williams and Mark Wright. This best paper award recognizes work done by new/faculty with five or fewer years of experience.

At Fall Convocation architecture faculty Dale Clifford (below) received the Cal Poly Distinguished Teaching Award. Clifford joins previous CAED distinguished faculty award recipients Thomas di Santo, Thomas Fowler, Michael Lucas, William Siembieda, Sandra Stannard and Umut Toker. Read more information and profiles about the award winners.

SCHOLARSHIP AND OUTREACH
City and Regional Department Head Michael Boswell, Adrienne Greve (CRP) and Tammy Seale co-authored “Climate Action Planning,” a book designed to help planners, citizens and others working at local levels to develop and implement plans to mitigate a community’s greenhouse gas emissions and increase the resilience of communities against climate change impacts.
The 33rd annual Cal Poly Community Service Awards celebrated the contributions to meet community needs and building Learn by Doing partnerships between the university and the community. Architecture faculty Stacey White (ARCH, ’93 MBA, ’94) and Kent Macdonald received the Cal Poly Service Learning Faculty Team Award for their studios’ contributions to the community of Paradise, California. See the related cover story that begins on page 5. Administrative analyst Kate Ausslen (below) received the Significant Contribution staff award for her volunteer work in the fundraising and construction of San Luis Obispo County’s first inclusive playground, located in Atascadero, for individuals of all abilities, including those with special needs. Acolades as well to construction management students Harrison Tucker and Nicholas Vellucci who participated in the construction process. Their senior project director was construction management faculty Phillip Barlow (CM, ’87).

Architecture faculty member Thomas Fowler IV, was elevated to the American Institute of Architects (AIA) College of Fellows, the organization’s highest membership honor, for his contributions to architectural education. Fowler teaches undergraduate and graduate students and directs the Master of Science in Architecture program. He was also recognized this year with a prestigious Wang Family Excellence Award bestowed by the California State University for outstanding teaching. Wang awards recognize CSU faculty and staff who, through extraordinary commitment and dedication, have distinguished themselves by exemplary contributions and achievements. More at: bit.ly/fowler-fellow and bit.ly/fowler-wang.

Construction management faculty Scott Kelting (Industrial Technology, ’00 M.S. Industrial and Technical Studies, ’90) received an Outstanding Educator Award at the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Student Chapters Awards Ceremony. The award recognizes educators for high-quality standards in teaching construction education and their voluntary extracurricular activities. Read more at: bit.ly/kelting-award.

Senior advisor Mitra Rassaf received an NCAADA (National Academic Advising Association) award for her presentation “Guiding Faculty Advising to the Developmental Level: A Training Program for Faculty Advisors,” selected as Best of Region 9 and 10, which includes several western states.

The lifetime work of retired faculty Ken Topping (CRP) was recognized at the California American Planning Association meeting in Santa Barbara. The panel discussion “At the Forefront: Work of a Resilience Planning Pioneer” examined his work over four decades. Topping is an innovator in applying GIS to city planning, hazard mitigation and disaster recovery planning, climate adaptation and natural resource conservation. William Siembieda (CRP) was one of the panelists.

Architecture faculty Greg Wynn (ARCH, ’88) received a People’s Choice Award at the Central Coast AIA Design Awards for his renovation efforts for the Creamery Marketplace (shown below). The design team focused on how circulation through the site could be a part of the greater San Luis Obispo Creek Walk and enhance the interior courtyard.

Omar Faruque, head of the Landscape Architecture Department, was honored by his alma mater, the Texas A&M College of Architecture, as a 2019 distinguished alumnus for his innovative design and planning, his book, “Graphic Communication as a Design Tool,” and his academic leadership at Cal Poly.

The CAED’s Sustainable Environments Minor received an honorable mention in the Sustainability Organization of the Year award category at the inaugural Cal Poly Sustainability Awards. The interdisciplinary program is taught by faculty in architecture, city and regional planning, landscape architecture and others from across campus and the community.

The college expresses its gratitude to Kevin Dong for his many valued contributions as associate dean for over five years. He will continue teaching in the Architectural Engineering Department.

Congratulations to all CAED faculty who received nearly $225,000 in CAED Teacher and Student Scholar Awards. We are grateful for the generosity of alumni, charitable foundations, partnering firms and friends who have made this valued support possible.

ACADEMIC FORUMS + COURSES

City and Regional Planning Department Head Michael Boswell, with support from co-chair Adrienne Greve and the steering committee, hosted the fourth California Climate Action Planning Conference in August. It was in cooperation with the California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research. More than 250 climate professionals and others from around the state discussed best practices for creating low-carbon, resilient communities. The next conference is tentatively scheduled for 2021. Boswell was also elected to serve as treasurer of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP).

Architecture faculty Thomas di Santo (ARCH, ’89) has instructed more than 250 students as part of the Studio Ticino, a Cal Poly Global Program in Switzerland for the past 10 summers. Below are students presenting in the Rivolina designed by Leonardo da Vinci.
John Day, director of Cal Poly real estate education initiatives, is leading the effort to create a culture of interdisciplinary studies between the College of Architecture and Environmental Design and the Orfalea College of Business. The CAED Real Property Development Minor, directed by Scott Kelling (CM), encourages broad interdisciplinary learning at the undergraduate level and is one of the few in the country. Read more at bit.ly/rpd-minor.

Faculty Kevin Dong (ARCE, ’86) and Thomas Fowler IV (ARCH) with David Lambert (ARCH, ’06, M.S. ARCH, ’10) of ARUP traveled to Tanzania, Africa, this summer with nine architecture and architectural engineering students to build a steel frame pedestrian footbridge so that primary school students and community members from Majevu could safely travel over a 20-foot-deep ravine. Dong is shown at right with camera, Fowler and students are on the bridge, and Lambert is at the end, facing the children.

Many thanks to Allan Hauck, former head of the Construction Management Department, who retired in July after 17 years of distinguished leadership. See Page 17 for the related $200,000 CMAC donation to support the Cal Poly Scholars program in honor of Hauck, and CM Department events on the back cover.

NEW FACULTY
Daniel Abbott, Architecture
Chris Davis, Construction Management
Bryan Knakiewicz, Construction Management
Padma Mailland, Architecture
Ayla-Louise Matos, Landscape Architecture
Zahra Rusti, Architecture
Brick Robbins, Construction Management
Alicia Daniels UNH, Architecture
Jeong Woo, Construction Management, Department Head

NEW STAFF
Jamie Budd, Architectural Engineering
Justine Gentimil, Landscape Architecture
James Mwangi, CAED Associate Dean for Program Support and Operations
Rachel Smith, California Center for Construction Education
Nadine Spingola-Hutton, CAED Advising
Kathleen Bracamonte, Architecture

RETIREES
Allan Hauck, Construction Management
Margarita Hill, Landscape Architecture
Chandrika Jaggia, Architecture
Barry Jones, Construction Management
John Lange, Architecture
Astrid Reeves, Landscape Architecture
Elbert Speidel, Construction Management

PROMOTIONS
Joe Ragudale (LA), Christy O’Hara (LA), Beverly Bass (LA) and John Lawson (ARCE) promoted to professor

IN MEMORIAM
KEN SCHWARTZ
1925-2019
Founding Faculty Member
Passes Away at 94
Read more at: bit.ly/ken-schwartz-caed.
DEC. 14
Cal Poly/CAED Fall Commencement
Cal Poly Recreation Center

JAN. 16
CAED Career Fair
Madonna Inn Expo Center

JAN. 22–23
Winter Career Fair
Cal Poly Recreation Center

JANUARY–JUNE
Los Angeles Metro Program Lecture Series
Various SoCal locations

FEB. 8
Architectural Engineering Structural Forum and Dinner
San Luis Obispo

FEB. 13
Poly Gives/Days of Giving

MARCH 6
Architectural Engineering Alumni Reception
San Francisco

MARCH 13
Landscape Architecture 5th-Year Show
TBA

APRIL 15-16
Spring Career Fair
Cal Poly Recreation Center

APRIL 16-18
Cal Poly and CAED Open House
April 18 / Alumni Beer and Wine Garden

APRIL 24-26
Design Village Competition “Reflect”
April 25 / Shuttle + Viewing 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Poly Canyon

APRIL (TBA)
Annual Simpson Strong-Tie Symposium
Cal Poly SST Demo Lab, Bldg. 187

MAY 1
Evening of Green and Gold (by invitation)
Cal Poly

MAY 4-29
Architecture 5th-Year Thesis Studio Shows
CAED Galleries + Downtown SLO

MAY 14-16 (TBA)
CAED Alumni Event
AIA Conference on Architecture, Los Angeles

MAY 22–23, MEMORIAL WEEKEND
Architecture 5th-Year Thesis Exhibition
Cal Poly Multi-Activity Center

JUNE 5–6 (TBA)
Construction Management Golf Tournament,
Spring Banquet and CMAC Meeting
Cypress Ridge Golf Course, Nipomo (tentative)

JUNE 13, 1 P.M.
Cal Poly/CAED Spring Commencement
Alex Spanos Stadium

OCT. 29
Construction Management Career Fair
Cal Poly

OCT. 30–31
Construction Management 50th Anniversary Banquet and Golf Tournament
San Luis Obispo

ONGOING
CAED Dean’s Cup 2020
March 27- Los Angeles | May 8- Sacramento | June 26- Bay Area | Aug. 14- Torrey Pines | Sept. 18 + 19- Pebble Beach

For event updates, go to
www.caed.calpoly.edu or
e-mail caed-events@calpoly.edu.
For career fairs explore:
careerservices.calpoly.edu.