

HarvardGSD

STUDENT GROUPS BOOKLET

2014-2015

Student Forum

who are we, what do we do?

The Student Forum is the equivalent of student government at the GSD. Our mission is to increase student and design agency within GSD, across Harvard University, and beyond.

Whether this involves forming a new student group, initiating projects with other graduate schools, organizing special events, voicing issues and/or concerns with the administration, the Student Forum is here to help in every way it can.

We are composed of over 60 student groups leading dozens of student led workshops, events, lectures, etc... every week. This student oriented culture becomes as important as the academic studio culture at the GSD and we're continuously striving to improve on this experience

The horizontal, non hierarchical structure allows us to grow purely based on student initiatives. My favorite story so far is the ever so pressing issue of the MDes need for a collaborative space. Oscar, a MDes Risk and Resilience student, approached student forum with this concern, and together, we approached the administration, Harvard's Real Estate Office, and even found external sponsorship from Autodesk.

Getting engaged with real problems and increasing our relevance as students and designers is the opportunity Student Forum provides, and I hope you can join us in making your and everyone else's experience at the GSD an unforgettable one.

Best,
Stephen Sun
Student Forum Co-President, Spring 2015

Student Groups

what are they?

Each semester, every GSD student makes a contribution to the general GSD student body through the term bill in the form of an Activity Fee. The annual amount is pooled and managed by the elected officers of Student Forum, primarily the Treasurer. A portion of the money is used directly by Student Forum for events, meetings, and expenses related to pursuing its overall mission. The remaining portion is awarded to the GSD student groups who submit proposals at the beginning of each year.

Student groups have the privilege of being associated with Harvard and having access to its facilities. In order to gain recognition, a group must submit a proposal to Student Forum to be considered for status and funding. Additionally, the group must submit a constitution and bylaws, with a membership clause stating that it shall not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, or physical disability. To maintain official status, groups must register each fall by submitting a new registration form.

Guidelines

Leadership

A student group requires at least two individuals to run. This could be in any form including co-presidencies, president-vice president formations, and duty-based positions. In every student group one person will have to be the Event Liaison, which means that they would be responsible for making room reservation and getting necessary approvals which are dependent on the amount of attendees expected for each event. Another person will need to be the designated treasurer, meaning they will be responsible for finances and will need to coordinate with the Student Forum treasurer for reimbursements. The same person can take on more than one duty.

Events

Student Groups usually host independently organized events throughout the academic year. Events are in most cases meant to cater to the larger student body. That doesn't mean that they should address every student's interests, but rather should be available and accessible to anyone who may be interested. It is thus the group leadership's duty to communicate events to the GSD by circulating e-mails and printing posters. It is also important to review the school calendar to make sure scheduled events don't coincide with other prescheduled events.

Faculty/Staff Advisors

Having a faculty advisor is recommended but optional for GSD student groups. The functions of faculty advisors are two-fold. First, they endeavor to make a positive contribution to the growth and functioning of the student organization by giving constructive advice and aid of various kinds. Second, they can help prevent or resolve undesirable situations that may develop, or, if necessary, bring them to attention of the Student Forum and administration. Their role shall be purely advisory unless some special crisis arises requiring intervention.

Distinguished Speakers

In order to facilitate the necessary courtesies for distinguished visitors, the Assistant Director for Student Life as well as the Assistant Dean for Communications must be notified in advance and appropriate clearances obtained before the issuance of invitations to heads of state or governments, past or present, or cabinet members, and to foreign nations to visit Harvard as guests of a student organization.

Signing Contracts

Sign Contracts ONLY on behalf of the student organization. We recommend that student organizations require that two of its members sign any contract entered into by the organization, and that at least one signer be an officer of the group. Be advised that students DO NOT have authority to sign contracts on behalf of Harvard University or the GSD. If a student organization fails to meet its contractual obligations, neither Harvard University nor the GSD will assume those obligations. To make this clear to third parties, any contract you sign must bear the full name of your organization and must state the following:

“The parties hereto agree and understand that neither Harvard University nor the Graduate School of Design is a party to this contract and neither is responsible under any circumstances for performing any obligation of this contract.”

If these procedures are not followed and Harvard University or the GSD is compelled to perform any obligation under a contract signed on behalf of a student group Harvard University will seek to hold those students who signed the contract and the officers personally responsible.

Police Coverage

It is University policy that police be present at functions where admission is charged, where donations will be accepted, or where the public safety is best served. Any event hosting 100 or more people where alcohol is served must have a Harvard University Police Officer present. We strongly recommend that you reserve police detail two weeks in advance; otherwise, there may not be any police available for your event. These services must be pre-paid and covered by the student group. Refunds will not be granted for events canceled within 48 hours of the event. Contact the Student Services Coordinator for further details and assistance.

Sponsorship

Harvard University requires that each organization maintain local autonomy, having no institutional connection with outside organizations. This means that non-Harvard groups may not sponsor events here by using your organization as a vehicle to appear on campus.

Funding

Student Forum has a limited budget that needs to be allocated to a large number of groups. The requested funds regularly amount to at least three fold the available funds, and therefore it is virtually impossible to grant the requested amounts. That being said, resources are optimized and Student Groups Chairs coordinate with the Treasurer to most beneficially allocate the funds. New groups will be given limited funding in the vast majority of cases, and funding is allocated based on presented proposals and the track record for previous years. It is highly recommended that expenditures over \$100 be approved by the treasurer.

Special Projects Fund

To offer groups the opportunity to perform beyond their allotted budget and to encourage large innovative projects and events, a Special Projects Fund is accessible to all groups and further funding will be issues depending on the application. Events that are a collaboration between more than one group are more likely to get additional funding.

Financial Responsibility

Each organization is fully responsible for its own finances. It is expected that student organizations will maintain accurate financial records and maintain their own bank accounts at all times. If a group is interested in receiving outside or multiple sources of funding, they are required to open an account with the Harvard University Credit Union (HUECU). Groups may also want to consider applying for a Tax Identification Number (TIN). Prior to doing so, you are advised to discuss this matter with Student Services, as there are several fiduciary factors to consider. Existing groups with accounts at financial institutions other than the HUECU are required to transfer those funds to a newly established account at the HUECU.

Student Organizations may raise funds from student members, from the Student Forum, or through fund-raising events. Student organizations may not solicit funds from alumni, corporations, or government agencies or foundations without permission from the Executive Dean. Questions regarding this should be directed toward the Assistant Director for Student Life.

Reimbursement

Following your event, you must submit your receipts along with a reimbursement form available on 422.gsd.harvard.edu. Completed and itemized reimbursement forms along with ALL related receipts must be submitted to the Student Forum Treasurer NO MORE THAN 30 days after the event. Incomplete forms, forms not itemized, and forms without original receipts may not be reimbursed at the discretion of the Student Forum Treasurer. No reimbursement forms for fall semester expenses will be accepted beyond a week after the end of classes. Reimbursements are generally paid-out within 4-6 weeks from the time they are submitted. Checks must be sent to a U.S mailing address and come directly from Student Forum's commercial bank account.

Expenditure Values

Students are expected to spend their funds reasonably and within ethical and legal guidelines. Below is a suggestive list of appropriate expenditures.

01 Marketing: Costs related to publicizing an event including poster printing, are valid. A printing group can be set up with CRG to streamline the process. Students are encouraged to resort to electronic publicity through the online calender, the student listserv, and screen available in Gund Hall.

02 Invited Speakers or Guests: Travel expenses are permissible, but should be allocated reasonably to allow the maximum use for a group's funding.

03 Food and Drink: A reasonable amount of food and refreshments is allowed per event.

04 Student Travel: Local travel for students participating in a student group outing is a valid expense. This may include van rental, gas, and public transportation fare. Group members are encouraged to use public transit whenever practical.

05 Capital Expenditures: These are allowed but strongly discouraged as they tend to consume a great volume of cash with limited return and often provide a challenge in storage between academics years. All items must be returned to Student Forum and will remain the property of the GSD at the end of the academic year.

06 Services: Contracted services are discouraged unless they can be shown to have longstanding benefits to a great number of students at the GSD. These will need to be approved by Student Forum, particularly the treasurer.

Organization Status

During the application process, student groups will have the opportunity to be considered for organization status. This is only open to groups that have been active for at least two years and that have shown an upward trend in terms of student engagement and presence. This status ensures a considerable amount of funding, but also implies serious responsibilities towards the student body. Student Forum will target groups that have large outreach within and beyond the GSD and a robust leadership for this status. Groups should indicate their interest in being considered within the application and highlight the aspects that make their presence vital to the school. Among the benefits of this status is having an independent HUECU account and an @gsd e-mail alias. Organizations are also required to maintain an archive of events, posters, and photos.

STUDENT GROUPS 2014-2015

African American
Student Union **AASU**

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

GSD AASU

who are we, what do we do?

The African American Student Union at the GSD is dedicated to supporting the advancements of African Americans in areas of study at the GSD and beyond. By providing the opportunity to build relationships with Harvard's African American students, alumni and in-field intellectuals, the AASU's members are empowered with the resources to not only transform their communities physically, but socially as well. Since its founding in 2012, the GSD AASU has created networks with other Harvard schools, has staged special events and speaking engagements, and has been pivotal in increasing the social dialog amongst GSD students and faculty, through organizing events such as inFORMing Justice and proposing additions to curriculum and library resources in order to heighten the discussion around the social impacts of design in the built environment.

events

Black in Design Conference

[9 & 10 October 2015] The Black in Design Conference seeks to simultaneously recognize the contributions of African Descendants to the design field and broaden our definition of what it means to be a designer. In doing so, we must recognize that it is designers who construct our built environment, which in turn contributes to social inequity within our lived experience. We hope that this conference will serve as a call to action for the GSD to instill in each and every student who passes through its doors the responsibility to build just and equitable spaces at every scale.

InForming Justice

[8 April 2015] In the wake of events in Ferguson, Staten Island, and around the country, three organizations at the Harvard Graduate School of Design came together on the evening of Wednesday, April 8 to host an interactive conversation about the role of urban design in social justice and equity. Sponsored by the Joint Center for Housing Studies, The Loeb Fellowship, and the African American Student Union, the event featured a dialogue among leading design, architecture, and planning professionals, exploring the power of urban form and the responsibility of design professionals in the creation of more just communities.

Phil Freelon Lecture

[13 November 2014] An active and progressive leader in the architecture field, Phil Freelon has excelled in both practical and pedagogical roles. His built works include the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture (with David Adjaye and Davis Brody Bond); the Anacostia Library and Tenley-Friendship Library (also in Washington, D.C.); the Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco; the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of African American History and Culture in Baltimore; the Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta; and the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture in Charlotte.



mad

AsiaGSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015



AsiaGSD

who are we, what do we do?

Founded in 1994, AsiaGSD is a student organization at the Harvard Graduate School of Design that bridges divergent groups of students, faculty and professionals committed to design issues relevant to the Asia. As it has been for the past twenty years, it is our mission to continue promoting an awareness of architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning and design, and related disciplines in the visual and design arts within an Asian context. By fostering dialogues focused on professional and scholarly concerns between students, academics and professionals from around the world, AsiaGSD creates an open community with a broad regional framework for Asians and non-Asians alike.

events

MAD

AsiaGSD hosted a lecture by Dixon Junliang Lu partner for MAD Architects' Los Angeles office. Founded by Chinese architect Ma Yansong in 2004, MAD Architects is a global architecture firm committed to developing futuristic, organic, technologically advanced designs that embody a contemporary interpretation of the Eastern affinity for nature. With its core design philosophy of Shanshui City – a vision for the city of the future based in the spiritual and emotional needs of residents – MAD endeavors to create a balance between humanity, the city, and the environment.

Beer and Dogs

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

Beer and Dogs

who are we, what do we do?

Beer and Dogs is a student group committed to connecting GSD students to one another through a weekly Friday social. It provides a break for students from the demanding and monotonous weekly schedule at the GSD as well as a way to meet students from other disciplines within the school.

President: Alica Meza
Vice President: Ambrose Luk
Treasurer: Maria Arroyo

events

Beer and Dogs + Student Group Fair

[9/5/2014]

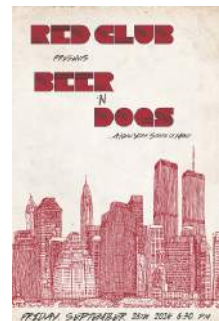
The FIRST OFFICIAL BEER AND DOGS of the year kicks off
Come join us for FREE BEER, \$2 CORN DOGS and \$2 PIZZA
Don't forget to check out the STUDENT GROUP FAIR in Stubbins from 6:30-8:30pm



New York State of Mind BnD (RED Club)

[9/26/2014]

FREE Brooklyn Lager / PBR / Rolling Rocks / Angry Orchard
\$2 New York Style Pizza
NY Rap + NY Jamz



Beer and Dogs + Halloween Poster Competition

[10/3/2014]

It's Friday, it's Fall, it's Oktoberfest!
// FREE Beck's Oktoberfest, PBR, Angry Orchard
// Wurst+Buns and Pizza

Don't forget to check out the Halloween Poster Competition and vote for your favorite!
Winner will get 2 FREE TICKETS to the GSD Halloween Party, bring your poster down to Stubbins by 6pm for a chance to win. There is still time!





ChinaGSD
HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN
2014-2015

MAD Office
Architects
Beijing, China

BEIJING

MAD Architects

Dashibei Hutong

The Opposite

ChinaGSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

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Dashilar Project

CCTV

ACROSS CHINESE CITIES
BEIJING

BEIJING

ChinaGSD

who are we, what do we do?

ChinaGSD Students and Scholars Association (ChinaGSD) is the official Chinese student group. It is established and organized by Chinese students for China urban development issues. It provides a platform not only for the exchange among Chinese students of GSD, but also for GSD students who are interested in design and urbanism issues in China. Currently we already have had more than 200 members, including current students and scholars and alumni. We aim to enhance the interaction between the design disciplines in GSD through social and academic events. ChinaGSD brings a fresh outlook on contemporary China, promotes cultural and social understanding, and adds to the international diversity of GSD student body.

events

Mid-Autumn Reception

Sept. 8th. Social Team invited new and old students to celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival together and enjoyed Chinese moon cakes and dinners.

Fall Outing

Oct. 11th. Social Team organized a fall outing to Brooksby Farm.

Thanksgiving Ski Outing

Nov. 21st to 22nd. Social Team organized a ski trip to Loon Mountain to celebrate Thanksgiving Holiday.

ChinaGSD Beer and Dogs co-hosting

On Feb 20 2015 ChinaGSD and Student Forum co-hosted B&D to celebrate Chinese New Year.

Lantern Festival Celebration

On March 6 Social team invited students to celebrate Lantern Festival with rice dumplings.



CLUB **MEDINA**

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

CLUB MEDINA

who are we, what do we do?

Club MEDINA is a student organization at the Harvard Graduate School of Design for students interested in design issues in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). Its aim is to engage in a better understanding, current and historical, of the architectural and urban dynamics of the region. The organization also aspires to become a platform for the promotion of dialogue and the establishment of links between the academic and professional milieus. With members representing multiple countries from MENA, without particular emphasis on a specific linguistic, cultural, or national affiliation, Club MEDINA critically investigates design issues in the light of political and economic developments across the region. The organization was founded in 2001, and has organized a diverse series of academic and social activities since

events

Diane Singerman Lecture + Reception

[29 January 2015] Aga Khan Program Lecture: Diane Singerman, “Architecture and the Territory: Models of Scholarship and Practice”

Diane Singerman is an Associate Professor in the Department of Government, School of Public Affairs at American University and currently co-director of a project called “Tadamun: The Cairo Urban Solidarity Initiative” (www.tadamun.info). Professor Singerman will talk about Tadamun with a brief response by Shahira Fahmy, 2015 Loeb Fellow, and a discussion with the audience.

Icons of Knowledge - Eckhard Gerber

[05 February 2015] Co-sponsored between Club Medina and China GSD on February 5 for a lecture series featuring Eckhard Gerber, designer of the Riyadh National Library, and Jurgen Engel, designer of the National Library of China. Both architects will be speaking about the libraries that their offices designed. The lecture series forms part of the “Icons of Knowledge Exhibition” curated by Noam Dvir and Daniel Rauchwerger.

Live Portal to Iraq (Co-Sponsored by HUPO/ Mdes APD)

[20 April 2015] GSD’s Tamara Jafar MUP ‘16 and Alexander Jacobson MArch ‘15 are creating a live portal from the school to the American University of Iraq - Sulaimani.

The interactive digital installation will intermittently interlace the cafeteria at the American University of Iraq- Sulaimani with the Chauhaus Café at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design for four days, April 20th-24th. The project, entitled “Interlaced Space,” is the serendipitous culmination of several years of work, and the first iteration of an ongoing experiment in empowering civilians to directly connect despite pre-conceived, spatial, national, or cultural barriers.



Code without Frontiers

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

Code without Frontiers

who are we, what do we do?

The aim of this student-run group of volunteers is to help mentor fellow students at the GSD with technical questions, code problems, software, hardware, etc., offering one-on-one assistance with the typical tools of contemporary design workflows.

We offer walk-in sessions twice a week; just bring your laptop and software questions. Our skilled volunteers offer specialized assistance for Grasshopper, Rhino, Arduino, C#, JavaScript, HTML, and Unity3D, just to name a few. We promise you'll leave with a more thorough understanding of the tools and how they'll help you arrive at a solution. We've had a 100% success rate so far!

help sessions

[September 2014 - May 2015] From the beginning of the Fall semester all the way to the end of the Spring, we have offered open help sessions twice a week, with a roster of highly skilled mentors. So far in 2014-2015 we have received more than 100 visits,



ECOLOGICAL THINKING

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

Ecological Thinking

who are we, what do we do?

Given the current sense of urgency under the prospect of planetary environmental degradation, ecology has risen to the forefront not only as an academic field but as a way of thinking. As such, it has permeated areas beyond the natural sciences. As a result, the last 20 years have seen an unfolding of ecology into novel fields as diverse as industrial ecology, urban political ecology, or ecological economics. Design has not been the exception. Under the banners of sustainable, green, or environmentally friendly, ecology has become central in the agenda of design; yet ecology is not a smooth body of knowledge. Its various different strands do not always overlap and sometimes even stand in contradiction. The frictions and tensions inherent to ecological thinking are rarely questioned. This group provides a much needed space to critically question the implications of the incorporation of ecological knowledge in design, and how design in turn can shape ecology.

events

lecture by Miriam García García

[6 April 2015]

COASTAL RESILIENCE: Sustainable Development of the Spanish Atlantic Coast. The Coastal Management Plan of Galicia explores a new methodological approach from the perspective of the landscape, proposes an adaptive and anticipatory planning, and elaborates strategies for the protection and planning of sustainable growth of the coastal region. Thus, it challenges the traditional urban planning approach and proposes an alternative reading of the landscape as a system of superimposed dynamics requiring a comprehensive and holistic approach.

discussion session on the Histories of Ecological Thinking

[8 April 2015] HISTORIES OF ECOLOGICAL THINKING

The Ecological Thinking group is pleased to extend an invitation to all interested students to participate in a discussion sessions about the connections between ecological theory and the design disciplines. The work session has the objective of bringing together GSD students interested in the field of ecology in both its scientific and philosophical dimensions. A brief lecture on the History of Ecological Thinking will precede a group discussion with attendants.

discussion session on the content of New Geographies 8

[14 April 2015] NEW GEOGRAPHIES 8: ISLAND

This discussion session has the objective of bringing the general student community closer to the work of the New Geographies Lab and to discuss the content for New Geographies 8: Island. In tNew Geographies 8, editors Daniel Daou and Pablo Pérez Ramos explore the concept of the Island as a master metaphor used in human and natural ecologies. From Moore's Utopia to Darwin's Galapagos, islands have historically been recurrent cognitive devices for their capacity to frame the unbounded. But what new ideas emerge in an age where ecology questions the very notion of limit by claiming "everything is connected to everything else," and what does this mean for design?

GIANY
meets
GreeceGSD

GreeceGSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

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The Greek Institute of Architects in New York as a Collective Initiative

A conversation with:

Constantine Bouras, Evita Fanou, Electra Kontoroupi, Ioannis Oikonomou, Foteinos Soulos

April 17 2015 _ 5 30 pm _ Room 124 _ Gund Hall _ Harvard Graduate School of Design

GIANY

GreeceGSD

who are we, what do we do?

GreeceGSD aims to inform the GSD and the broader community of Harvard about contemporary academic, social and professional initiatives that concern Greece and the broader region of Eastern Mediterranean. Through a series of thematic lectures, social events, panel discussions and other events, this group will attempt to address current issues that are relevant within the above mentioned framework, thus facilitating the exchange of ideas and initiatives.

events

GIANY meets GreeceGSD

[April 17, 2015] GIANY [Greek Institute for Architects in New York] is established with the purpose of bringing together the Greek Architects that live and practice in New York. Through lectures, panel discussions, exhibitions and social events, GIANY has a leading role within the Greek architectural community in New York as a platform for sharing ideas, strengthening its members' professional voices and acting as a social initiative. The event will be a presentation and round table discussion regarding GIANY as a collective initiative, and the role and importance of such initiatives for young architects and professionals.

Buerger Katsota architects

[April 20, 2015] This lecture by Stephan Buerger and Demetra Katsota will present recent work of buerger katsota architects. Established in 2005 with offices in Athens and Vienna, buerger katsota architects combine practice, academic research and teaching as well as community pursuits. The practice has designed and build houses, public buildings and spaces in Greece, Austria and the Near East. Their 'PXAthens' urban research study lead to the realization of an innovative network of prototypical communal spaces for play. Their work is interpretive and pragmatic, paying particular attention to reference, spatiality, material expression and construction.

Eastern Mediterranean Echoes of Modernity

[April 22, 2015] This talk, by Professor Panayiota Pyla, offers glimpses into the history of selected urban/rural projects in the Eastern Mediterranean to demonstrate how the intertwined politics of infrastructure development, coastal tourist development, and ethnic conflict in mid-20th Century resonate with current realities of the physical environment in different parts of the region. Such historical glimpses also provide an important insight into current environmental, economic, and heritage crises. The event was organized in collaboration with Club Medina.



gsdBEES

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

gsdBEEES

who are we, what do we do?

We are a group of beekeepers and proponents of pollinators in the city. We manage the health and productivity of the resident honeybees on the roof of Gund. We aim to increase the beekeeping capacity of the university, advance knowledge of bees and beekeeping within the design disciplines, and act as a conduit to other beekeeping efforts and studies across Harvard. Through practice, we are exploring the potential of an urban apiary and reinforcing the GSD's commitment to ecological stewardship.

See more at gsdbees.tumblr.com

events

Honey Tasting Event

[8 April 2015] GSDbees held a 2 hour event in Gund lobby to welcome spring. We gave out free samples of honey from the GSD hives on the rooftop of Gund. We also set up information posters and bee keeping equipment and talked about beekeeping with interested students. We got very positive responses about the event.

13 If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. 3 If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

GSD Christian Fellowship

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

8 Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when completeness comes, what is

GSDCF

who are we, what do we do?

The GSD Christian fellowship seeks to support Christians in the practice of their faith at Harvard, to be a forum for Christians to ask questions about the relationship between design and faith, to act as a resource for those interested in the Christian faith, and to provide opportunities for people of all faiths or no faith to dialogue. The fellowship will meet regularly to talk, pray, and take part in joint meetings and activities with the other graduate schools.

events

Bible study (weekly)

A weekly investigation into the Bible with an emphasis on topics salient to life at the GSD. Consisting of prayer, worship, discussion, and critical reading of Scripture, these meetings are public, last between 1 and 1.5 hrs, and have participants of all faiths and fields attend.

Friday night worship (weekly)

Usually held after Beer & Dogs, this is an open and public event with a focus on worship through song and prayer.

Tea Party

Still in its early stages, this event sets a space and time apart for stressed students to enjoy healthy snacks, a calm atmosphere, and acoustic music for as long as they wish days before finals reviews.

1920

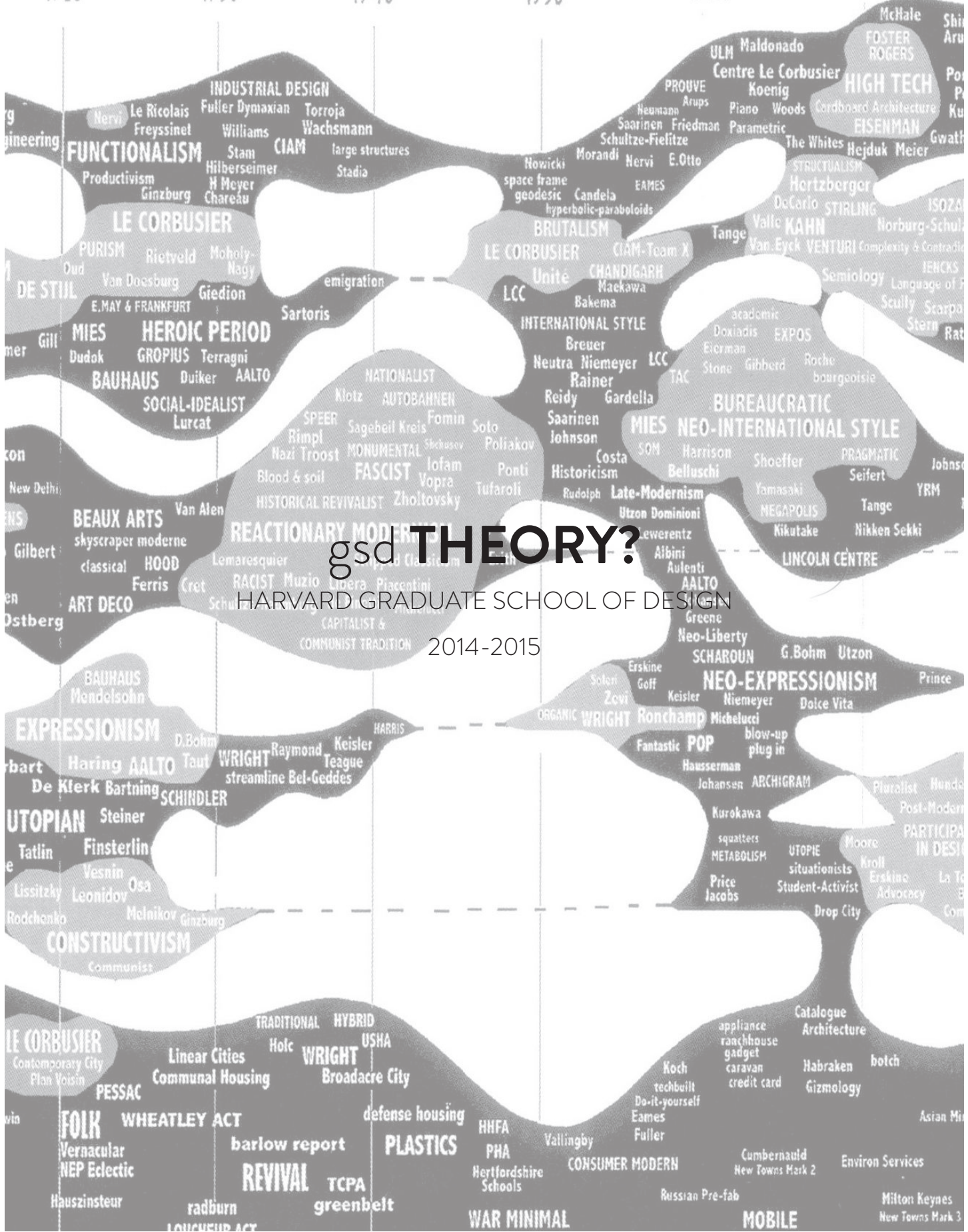
1930

1940

1950

1960

1970



gsd THEORY?

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

gsd THEORY?

who are we, what do we do?

GSD THEORY? is an academic group for students interested in topics related to the study of architecture history and theory. It will not only serve as a platform for the GSD community to become familiar with student work that focuses on the advanced study of these topics, but will connect students with scholars and professionals who are engaged in the production and public dissemination of critical research in architecture. Possible guests may include authors in the final stages of publishing a book; editorial teams planning the release of a new blog, or periodical; archivists and curators experimenting with models for the preservation and exhibition of architectural artifacts and events; as well as any practitioner working to expand and diversify public architectural discourse.

events

Panel Discussion

Irene Chin MDes HPD '15 organized a panel discussion related to her thesis research on museum expansions, with Cara McCarty (curatorial director of the Cooper Hewitt) Stephen Rustow, architecture professor and practitioner, and Mimi Zeiger (architecture critic). This was an event as part of Storefront for Art and Architecture's series of nomadic curatorial venues with MDes ADPD '14 Ashley Mendehlson and her team's project - "Circus for Construction."

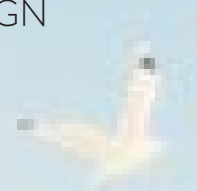
MDes. Pecha Kucha

Sponsored by MDes. HPD, a small Pecha Kucha event was organized towards the end of the spring semester to allow MDes. students practice their thesis presentations and share them with other MDes. and GSD students. The presentations were given in a short format, 5 minutes each. The event was meant to expose other students to the work being done by MDes. student in a collaborative and informal manner

GSD *West*

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015



GSD West

who are we, what do we do?

GSD West promotes an awareness of architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, real estate and design within the context of the North American West. United by big skies and the biggest ocean on the planet, GSD West promotes traffic between two sides of a continent. Together we represent Alaska, Arizona, Baja California, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, and British Columbia. Through a series of roundtable talks and an annual roadtrip, GSD West addresses current issues in the West and facilitates the exchange of ideas and initiatives among various stakeholders out west. By fostering dialogues focused on professional and scholarly concerns between students, academics and professionals from around the world, GSD West creates an open community with a broad regional framework for all GSD students.

events

Sebastian Mariscal: 'The DNA of Architecture'

Lunchtime lecture and following lunch with Sebastian to discuss his bi-coastal practice engaged in architecture and development.

Food and drinks were provided.

J-Term California Roadtrip

Visits to key pieces of architecture and design as well as over 25 design related offices highlighted this trip. The trip's objective was to introduce and familiarize fellow students to design issues shaping California at this moment of major transformation. Intimate talks with firm principals and site visits served as the primary medium for doing so.

J-Term Trip Info Session

Evening information session to present and answer questions regarding the road trip from Tijuana, MX to San Francisco, CA that took place in January 2015. Food and drinks were provided.



GS Dance

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

GSDance

who are we, what do we do?

GSDANCE connects the GSD community through the medium of dance. It is open to all members of the GSD and provides a space of inclusion free of competition or judgment— the only requirement for membership is the desire to move one's body. Group activities include, but are not limited to: a weekly open level, multi-style dance class, specialized dance workshops throughout the year, and opportunities for performances/recitals for those interested. GS (just) DANCE!

events

Weekly Choreography Classes

Join us weekly for a one hour all levels welcome, intro level (usually hip hop) class. Classes are led by choreographers from dance companies from Cambridge and Boston, and occasionally in house GSD students. Classes do not build on weeks prior, and no experience necessary.

GSDance + KPOP Beer'n'Dogs

At the last Beer n' Dogs of the spring semester, KGSD and GSDance have teamed up in the past with a kpop dance performance. All levels welcome, rehearsals for the performance are student led a few weeks prior.

GSDerive

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

GSDerive

who are we, what do we do?

GSDerive is reinventing the Derive for our contemporary culture. We are responding to the ubiquity of Google Maps, its top-down cartographic representation, and the screens that are used to guide people's existence, by experiencing space without a plan. We are reviving psychogeography to shed light on ways in which space is affected, used, and reappropriated. We will explore different kinds of cultural mapping practices to represent the uncanny and its relationship to overly-determined landscapes. We place the highest value on journeying, a hyper-sensitization to the everyday, and the multiplicity of narratives that coexist in place.

events

Field trip to Lawrence

[31 October, 2014] GSDerive partnered with the metaLAB and Docshop on a field trip to Lawrence, MA to view The Path, an interactive history trail that uses interpretive signage, a location-based documentary, and archival artifacts to trace the story of two sisters who worked in the Pemberton Mill when it collapsed on top of them and 600 other workers on January 10, 1860. The augmented reality tour is an example of map art that can enhance one's engagement and diffract their perception of place.

Mapping: Geographic Representation and Speculation

[16 February 2015] Members of GSDerive traced their daily rhythms around Boston as part project 1 in the class SCI 0632200, Mapping: Geographic Representation and Speculation taught by Bobby Pietrusko. At repetitive intervals activities were tracked to explore the magnitude and proximities within categories. Through mapping these excursions, students explored proximities and distances between the data and the latent possibilities of representing the ineffable in our daily lives.

“Urban Intermedia”

[28 April 2015] GSDerive members attended a panel discussion with Lev Manovich, Bobby Pietrusko, and Dietmar Offenhuber sponsored by Cities by Design called “Urban Intermedia.” Each panelist presented a selection of their work representing the city through data-driven measurements. Affordances and limitations of data and installation formats were discussed at the scale of a screen to immersive rooms, to building-wide facades.



GSDJ

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

GSDJ

who are we, what do we do?

GSDJ aims to create a collective for the musically inclined portion of the student body with a focus on contemporary trends in electronic music. The group also aims to explore the relationship between music production software and hardware and architecture. In tandem with producing auditory environments GSDJ will be experimenting with real time visualization and its relationship to space making and entertainment.

events

Dance Parties

Members from GSDJ spun dance inducing tunes at both bi-annual dance parties hosted by the school. The beats were not only rarities uncovered by each DJ, but a number of selections provided from a variety of students throughout the school, ensuring a blend of musical genres and styles, while keeping the dance floor moving.

MIX FIX

Mix Fix is a weekly segment brought to you by GSD's in house Disc Jockeys, GSDJ. Each week we will present a mix by one of your classmates, with the hopes that everyone discovers music they otherwise would not have or at least, it can keep you company through that next all-nighter.

For an aggregation of the mixes visit the groups soundcloud page:
<https://soundcloud.com/gsddj>

Beer & Dogs' Beats

GSDJs provides their services to each and every group hosting a Beer & Dog event. The previous year the group spun everything from Bollywood beats (IndiaGSD) to New York Classics (HUPO) to K-pop tunes (KoreaGSD). The group is sure to provide some good vibes during each Beer & Dogs.

Harvard East Asia Urban Forum

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

Harvard East Asia Urban Forum

who are we, what do we do?

Harvard East Asia Urban Forum (HEUF) is an academic group that provides a platform of highly professional level to discuss urban planning, design, development and related urbanization issues in East Asian cities. It brings together advanced researchers, professors, practitioners, and governors, and provokes innovative ideas that may contribute to better cities and human settlement. It also links students, professors, professionals and enterprises, and creates a close collaboration between academic and practice field.

events

Lecture by Yu Liang- CEO of China Vanke

As the CEO of China Vanke, the biggest residential developer in the world, Mr. Yu Liang is known as one of the most influential entrepreneurs in China. Mr. Yu Liang started his lecture with the documentary film “The Rookies’ Dream”, sharing his idea that managing a firm starts from healthy self-management. Then Mr. Yu Liang talked about Vanke’s strategies of staff management, financial investment and overseas expansion. He also shared his view of real estate development in new towns in China. Yu Liang’s humorous speech won enthusiastic warm welcome from the 170 audience in the lecture hall of Harvard Science Center.

Techniques for Environmental Friendly Urban Design

The seminar was about how to assess air flow in indoor and outdoor spaces. Air flow analysis is a useful technique for environmental friendly design, as air flow is often a critical condition in terms of human comfort and energy saving. The seminar was given by Dr. Minamitani and Dr. Ikejima, both of whom are professionals in Computational Fluid Dynamics. By the end of the two-hour seminar, the participants had learnt how to do air flow assessment independently.

Internship Recruitment

HEUF creates a close collaboration between academic and practice. We help GSD students to find intern opportunities in industries, especially in the urban planning&design and real estate fields. In the summer of 2015, multiple intern positions were offered by China Vanke at Chengdu office.



HUPO

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

**Bring
down
the
Hauss,
mann!**

**Harvard Urban Planning
Organization (HUPO)**

The Harvard Urban Planning Organization (HUPO)

who are we, what do we do?

We are students studying at the Harvard Graduate School of Design's (GSD) Master in Urban Planning program. Although we come from a multitude of professional disciplines and from various parts of the world, we share a passion for improving the various aspects of the built environment, locally and globally.

HUPO serves as a vehicle for students at the GSD to engage professionals, academics, community organizations, city governments, and other students in working to improve cities. HUPO puts together a calendar of planning-related lectures, forums, social gatherings, and activities between September and May. HUPO also regularly posts information about programs, events, and planning related articles to our Facebook page.

Transit Oriented Beer'n'Dogs

Chauhaus was transformed into the greatest train terminal on this side of the Charles as MUPs brought the house down with Transit Oriented Beer'n'Dogs.

PARK(ing) Day

HUPO partnered with the Cambridge Community Development Department (CDD) of the City of Cambridge to transform a metered parking space into a 'park' for a day in September 2014. PARK(ing) Day is celebrated internationally as an event where parking spots are transformed into temporary public spaces. MUPs converted a parking spot in the close vicinity of Gund into a hang out space using discarded and recyclable materials. The 'Park' offered coffee and donuts all day long.

Networking Mixer with MIT-DUSP & TUFTS

A first of its kind networking event in which students in the graduate program in Urban Planning from Harvard, MIT and Tufts got together on an October evening to share their academic and professional experiences over some beers.



indiaGSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

india GSD

who are we, what do we do?

India is an ancient civilization, a young nation. Crucial to understanding India, not only as a rapidly developing socio-economy and urbanscape, but as a bristling cultural phenomenon, is the knowledge of the incredible array of influences that impact its multi-dimensional personality. As contemporary design in the sub-continent continues to discover its identity and direction, IndiaGSD will celebrate its strengths and confront its inhibitions with a critical eye. The student group will bring the flavour of the world's largest democracy to GSD through academic, social and cultural initiatives. With a focus on its powerful traditional foundations, it will attempt to make sense of its current situation and formulate context-specific ideas for its future. The group will not only help GSD understand the Indian context more comprehensively, but will promote collaborations between those interested in working for and with initiatives working towards its preservation and development.

Navigating the profession: A discussion with Rahul Mehrotra

Building Storeys: Lecture with SAI and lunch

Holi at Harvard: Harvard-wide celebration with Indian student groups across the university

The Architecture of Practice: Lecture + lunch with Prem Chandaverkar

Diwali + Open House BnD

Interpreting Cultures: Lecture by Siddhartha Das

India's Urban Future: Lunch with Suketu Mehta



kirkland gallery

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

kirkland gallery

who are we, what do we do?

Kirkland Gallery is an independent, not-for-profit, student-run organization. All exhibition and event proposals are peer-reviewed and selected to represent the diverse design and research endeavors of the GSD.

events

40 kirkland exhibiton

In the beginning of the Fall semester, the gallery will send out open calls for submission. The adjoining rooms on the first floor of 40 Kirkland are dedicated to the exhibition of student work. All GSD students are invited to submit proposals for installations of any media or scale. Previous exhibitions have included full scale wall sections, projected films, performances, and installations.

Each new exhibition will be scheduled for an opening every Friday and closing on the following Sunday. This will give the participants a full week to install work in the space.

CCVA + Kirkland Gallery + Gund + Lightbox Gallery

Expanding our programming schedule will be a new highlight to 40 Kirkland beginning this fall 2015-spring 2016 year. In collaboration with several other venues and establishments on campus, Kirkland will play host to a series of roving, temporary projects from panel discussions, visiting artist installations, film screenings, and performances. As 40 Kirkland continues to develop we see a need to better expand it's presence throughout the university. Students in the GSD are constantly hybridizing with other departments and we would like to better address as well and connect this otherwise disparate facilities to further expand the notions of what the design community is doing

ADPD Final Show

After a very successful ADPD final show bookending the Fall 2013 semesters we have decided to make this an annual event. The 1st year students will exhibit at the end of each fall semester, and the 2nd year students will have the space to present their thesis projects.



KGSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN
2014-2015

KGSD

who are we, what do we do?

Korea GSD (KGSD) is an organization that connects the GSD's environment with the Korean community at home and abroad. The group focuses on two goals: First, it serves as a platform for the greater student body to engage cultural, professional, and academic practices of contemporary Korea. Second, KGSD is the representative group for the Design School and establishes relationships with the larger academic community, including the 500-member Harvard Korea Society, as well as alumni and industry leaders. Korea GSD organizes lectures, events, discussion forums, and interdisciplinary activities in order to accomplish these goals.

events

New Students Welcoming Party

Annual gathering event of welcoming new admitted students to the KGSD community. Alumni as well as enrolled students gather to celebrate the newcoming students. The event also serves the purpose as a networking platform amongst the students and alumni to share knowledges, insights and experiences in the design field and also discuss potential business and internship opportunities. Refreshments, alcohol, and snacks were provided.

Grounded Visionaries Dance Event

Dance performance by KGSD by way of introducing Korean Pop Culture to the Harvard community during the Grounded Visionaries Weekend in the fall of 2014 at the Graduate School of Design.

KGSD Membership Training

A two day event away from the campus hosted by KGSD to gather all members at the GSD and other schools across Harvard and MIT to plan and discuss on better bringing a platform for the greater student body to engage cultural, professional, and academic practices of contemporary Korea and establishing relationships with the larger academic community, including the 500-member Harvard Korea Society, as well as alumni and industry leaders. The event also laid opportunities to discuss organizing lectures, events, discussion forums, and interdisciplinary activities in the given term.

Latin**GSD**

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

Latin 

LatinGSD

who are we, what do we do?

The LatinGSD is a student organization that works towards two main goals: the discussion of topics that are currently relevant to design and planning disciplines in Latin American countries, and the integration of GSD Latin students with other Latin student groups at Harvard. For this purpose, LatinGSD organizes lectures inviting relevant faculty, practitioners and policy makers from Latin America, discussions and brainstorming sessions as well as social activities that help to integrate and to enhance initiatives and students interested in the Latin American region.

events

Archdaily

ArchDaily was founded in March 2008 as the online source of continuous information for a growing community of thousands of architects searching for the latest architectural news: projects, products, events, interviews and competitions among others.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life of the next 3 billion people that will move into cities in the next 40 years, by providing inspiration, knowledge and tools to the architects who will have the challenge to design for them.

Female Voices Latin American Architecture

In Latin America, a new generation of talented women designers is beginning to emerge. To celebrate this remarkable expansion in the field LatinGSD and Women in Design are proud to welcome four Latin-American women that lead their own architecture practices: Tatiana Bilbao, Frida Escobedo, Cazú Zegers, and Carla Juaçaba – in a discussion hosted by GSD Faculty members Anita Berritzbeitia and Mariana Ibañez.

LatinGSD Beer&Dogs

THE ONLY Beer&Dogs with live music at GSD!

TONIGHT @ 7:30PM, Chauhaus

!! \$4 Burrito Plate !!

Pork, Beef, Chicken, Vegetarian

Chips+Salsa

!! Free Beer !!

!! Live Music !! Join us on our last BnD this semester and have one last dance before finals!!

VERY VARY VERI



...ers - the ecoteam' after the scan of a house.
...ries of small upgrades and provides tips for lowering the energy bills.

Spatial Efficiency on the Edge

To what extent does efficient design of storage space influence the structure, appearance or even the design strategy of a building?

Presently, whether they are mobile or permanently installed, the guts of a house are operated with physical strength, air pressure, water, electricity, or fuel. Contemporary architects use the term "equipped wall" to refer to a physical wall that absorbs a variety of technical functions beyond its function of partitioning space.² As equipped façade, the wall is no longer just a fine line separating interior from exterior, but also a management system. In a paradoxical way, the equipped wall takes up space in order to free up space, providing greater infrastructural efficiency for adjacent spaces. Equipped with space-taking

Newsroom

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

...space for their execution...
...hardware to facilitate their technological function. In spite of these requirements, equipped walls allow for the integration of clutter or other interior components that would otherwise impede the efficient use of limited space.

Historically, the primary type of specialized hardware enabling this convertibility was the hinge: hardware at the scale of a tiny mechanism.³ Renaissance cabinetmakers in France and the United Kingdom began with the production of strap hinges that could be used on many kinds of interior and exterior doors and cabinets. Apart from serving as simple, sturdy locking device for doors and other types of stationary frames, the hinge made possible the striking enlargement of an object's available surface—eventually giving birth to the draw-top table, gate-leg table, flip-flop console, fall-front desk, and *poudreuse* dressing table. A spectrum of strap and butterfly hinges can be found on old desks and cabinets throughout Europe from around 1670 until the 18th century.

In the histor... refers to a co... of either disg... As part of a d... removing or li... Eliminating te... its intention is... the form of the... necessary const... the other hand... between the spa... enclosure deline... to either structur... has never really bu... since it has been h... a necessary kind oi... a leftover element i... through the mediat... desires. A thickenec... architecture allowed... existence of a varia... within one body. The... Syon House, Frances... Carlo alle Quattro Fo... 'Design for a Spherica... Lutyen's 'Papillon Hall... figures in one plan. It is... a circular room in a squa... formal excess, but the Sy... that, and in doing so high... of the poché.

Eventually, developm... mechanisms and furnitur

Newsroom

who are we, what do we do?

Newsroom is a student publishing group whose mission is to create high-quality, student-edited content that reaches a wide audience of design professionals and non-professionals alike. We provide a platform for GSD students to broadcast their ideas to the world in the form of a printed, respected, and generalist periodical.

The GSD has a long history of student-initiated publications that made an impact beyond its walls, and which represented the full range of interests amongst its students. Newsroom revived this tradition in 2013 by launching *Very Vary Veri*, a journal that sets forward a unique and irreverent view of the built environment by examining the breadth of authorship responsible for its form. *Very Vary Veri* 1 has since sold hundreds of copies and is stocked in specialty bookshops around the world.

events

editorial meetings

We occasionally meet to establish the content of the following issue, to plan events, and to divide up tasks. Much of the work as a member of Newsroom can be done remotely, for example by emailing potential contributors, following up with them, and editing submitted texts. We are currently collaborating with Boy Vereecken, an up-and-coming graphic designer in Belgium who has designed the template for *Very Vary Veri*.

presentation at the Harvard Club in New York

Last summer, the Newsroom editors presented the first issue of *Very Vary Veri* at an event in the Harvard Club of New York City. The event was a great success; many GSD alumni were in the audience, some of who had worked on previous student publications when they were enrolled at the school. During the question-and-answer session, we were told by audience members that there was strong interest amongst Harvard alumni to hear about what GSD students are thinking about these days.

paper party

Newsroom regularly participates in the "Paper Party," an annual event at which various GSD student publishing groups (including *Open Letters*, *Backpocket Projects*, and *SAMPLE*) informally present their work to the student body.



Newswall

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

News wall

who are we, what do we do?

We put on exhibitions on the 2nd floor wall behind Piper, next to the elevator!

events

Harvard China Trip

We put on one show, currently up: an exhibition on the architecture scene in China.

open letters

“...you once made me print a sign for the office kitchen that said, ‘NO GOBBETS IN THE SINK!’ But we both know you can’t get away with much bombast in Georgia...”

Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller

open letters

Dear David,
I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well.

Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller

open letters

“Volcanoes are dangerous, and this is not dangerous, this is just a mountain, or a ski slope, or a power plant, or a giant pipe.”

Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller

open letters

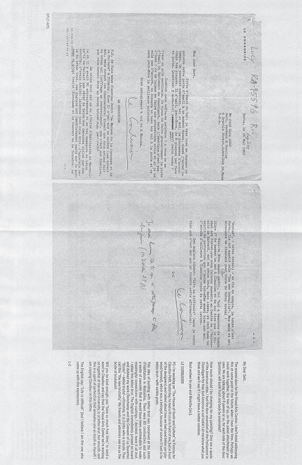
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Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller

Letters from the ARCHIVES

Dear David,
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Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller



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Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller

open letters

“I wish instead of having to legitimize ourselves as part of a conversation, we could just have a conversation.”

Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller

open letters

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Issue 001
Christina
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Open Letters

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Issue 001
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Year 020
Issue 001
Christina
Muller

open letters

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

open letters



Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

open letters

Dear David,
I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well.

Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

open letters

“The end is the beginning, and then you go on.”
— Samuel Beckett

Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

open letters

Dear David,
I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well.

Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

Letters



Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

open letters

Dear David,
I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well.

Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

open letters

“We were foreigners, untethered, unleashed, and hell-bent on seeing it afresh.”

Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

open letters

Dear David,
I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well. I have been thinking about you a lot lately. I hope you are well.

Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

Letters from the ARCHIVES

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Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

Letters

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Year 022
Issue 002
Christina
Muller

open letters

who are we, what do we do?

Open Letters is a bi-weekly experimental literary journal whose fundamental purpose is to stimulate earnest, personal, and thoughtful conversation about architecture, landscape architecture, urbanism, and design through the publication of first-person correspondence.

Each issue of **Open Letters** presents one open letter. We are interested in all forms of letters: text, images, graphics, diagrams, etc. We invite original submissions from correspondents both inside and outside the Harvard Graduate School of Design and enthusiastically encourage liberal interpretations of the submission framework.

events

archiveACCESS

Open Letters is committed to rediscovering and re-defining the relevance of print publication to design discourse and production. To that end, **Open Letters** collaborates closely with the Harvard Art Museums and the Frances Loeb Library Special Collections archives to provide GSD students with opportunities to discover the prints, publications, letters, and other unique works held within the Harvard collections. **Open Letters** organizes viewings, classes, and publication of these works throughout the school year.

SUBMIT

Open Letters is always accepting submissions at openletters-online@gmail.com. Submissions are reviewed on a rolling basis by the editorial team, and most letters will undergo a substantial collaborative editing process between writers and editors to maintain consistent standards and accessibility for our readers. That said, our philosophy is based on providing a forum for direct, personal communication between people thinking about architecture and design. Please see our submission guidelines on our website at www.openletters-online.com/submissions.

paperPARTY

Along with **backpocket projects** and **Very Vary Veri**, **Open Letters** organizes joint celebrations of print periodically throughout the year.

PROJECT

LINK

Project Link

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

Project Link

who are we, what do we do?

Mission: Project Link is a student-run organization at the Harvard Graduate School of Design (GSD), whose goals are to expand awareness of and interest in design among groups that are under-represented within the GSD by offering introductory workshops and lessons in design to Boston Area youth. The program is volunteer-based during the school year and compensated in the summer.

Description: The program strives to foster the development of a broad range of design skills and to put students on track for exploring their creative ideas at the collegiate level. The goal of the program is to cultivate greater diversity in the next generation of designers in order to expand the scope and influence of the profession itself.

events

Design Carnival

We sponsor a free workshop in Piper Auditorium that serves as a creative exploration into the world of making. We invite students to join Project Link volunteers in a series of multi-disciplinary design stations, introducing concepts such as prototyping, 3D printing, animation and model building. Everything the students make is theirs to keep. All high-school students are welcome to participate, and encouraged to apply to the summer program.

Link Lite and Lego Workshop

In order to help recruit for the Project Link summer program, during the fall we invite high school students to develop a broad range of design skills that will put them on track to explore architecture and the allied design fields at the collegiate level and beyond. For the Lego Workshop, interested students and their parents will be able to participate in a valuable design thinking learning experience. GSD students serve as instructors to deliver lectures, computer training, workshops, and field trips.

On-site recruiting at local high schools

Preview activities led by volunteer GSD student instructors with students at Boston area high schools aimed to recruit students for summer Project Link class during the months of March-April-May 2014. Projected attendance is typically 2-3 GSD volunteers per campus visit. The high school student participation varies. Past recruitment activities include making collages, Lego-based design, and Adobe creative suite exercises.

QUEER & DOGS



Queers in Design

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

GSD OPEN HOUSE
FRIDAY APRIL 10
CHAUHAUS & PIPER

Queers in Design

who are we, what do we do?

How is space affected by gender and sexual identity? As LGBTQ designers, we ask ourselves what we are privy to understanding and our roles in creating inclusionary spaces. We hold socials. We develop cross-disciplinary conversations with other LGBTQ groups. We have design discussions. This coming year, we aim to identify and invite speakers to help us facilitate the dialogue.

events

FALL FUNDRAISER // CAMPUS WIDE

Having been in communication with various LGBTQ groups across campus, it was both in our interest to create an atmosphere for people to come together as well as fundraise in support of future panels and lectures. It was wonderful to share the space and socialize with other disciplines. Those in attendance spoke of the event as a welcoming, safe, and supportive environment that was camaraderic and altogether, the most fun they've had at a Harvard event. It generated a lot of great conversations and connections among Harvard groups. It's been the group's work to bring together the larger campus.

QUEER 'N DOGS // GSDRAG

We spend the latter semester organizing this event. We get to welcome the admitted students while expressing the importance of identity and expression.

SPACEGSD

Ted Southern
Final Frontier Design

**Designing Garments for
Space Travel:
Commercial Space Suits
for the 21st Century**

SpaceGSD
HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN
2014-2015

5:30-6:30 pm
Thursday, April 23
Room 111, Gund

Harvard
Graduate School of Design
48 Quincy Street
Cambridge, MA

Ted Southern is president of Final Frontier Design, a private design firm crafting aerospace safety garments (space suits).

Southern will speak about his transition from the field of costume design and art into designing space garments, the creation of Final Frontier Design, the work they have produced thus far, and general trends in space suit fabrication.

SpaceGSD

who are we, what do we do?

Our group focuses on high technology produced through outer space research and the creative potential of its integration within design.

events

Launch of the group + AD on space architecture

Featuring Neil Leach and Spela Videcknik

Lecture by Zara Mirmalek

In this talk, Zara Mirmalek, a postdoctoral fellow in Science, Technology and Society at the Harvard Kennedy School, will share data from her one year as a participant in NASA's Mars Exploration Rovers (MER) mission, which involved the coordinated work of over two hundred scientists and engineers in southern California — and two robots on Mars. Drawing on her background in Science Technology Studies, she will discuss some high- and low- tech features of the project as well as cultural and political aspects of MER's interplanetary work environment.

Lecture by Ted Southern

Ted is president of Final Frontier Design, a private design firm crafting aerospace safety garments (space suits) for the future of space travel. Ted and his company have recently been selected by NASA as commercial partners. Final Frontier Design's work has been featured on the BBC, Popular Science, Wired Magazine, The Atlantic, and are the focus of a recent VICE documentary. (<http://motherboard.vice.com/read/spaced-out-space-suit-makers-video>). Several items designed by FFD will be on display after the lecture, including a glove (often considered the most challenging space suit component to develop) and elbow joint.



Spain GSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

spain GSD

who are we, what do we do?

Spain GSD is a student group based at the GSD, who aims to promote the work of Spanish scholars, architects, planners, and institutions, within the Harvard Community and beyond. The group organizes lectures by Spanish emergent and consolidated architects and scholars, site visits to Spanish-designed architecture in the area, and social gatherings in order to give visibility and bring to forth the challenges and successes of the country in the architecture and planning fields, but also in the social and economical arena addressing contemporary debates. The group also functions as a platform for new discourses and possibilities within the Spanish context to be heard by a diverse international community. The objective is to create an enriching dialogue and exchange, that could lead to innovation and a better understanding of the Spanish culture in North America.

events

Tour + Screening: Sert's Legacy at Harvard

Josep Lluís Sert (Barcelona, 1902-1983), former Dean of the Graduate School of Design from 1953 to 1969, was one of the most important figures in the history of the school. The activity consisted in visiting three representative buildings - the 1973 Science Center (educational), the 1965 Holyoke Center (office and services) , and Peabody Terrace (residential) built between 1962 and 1964. The event finished with the screening of the documentary "A Nomadic Dream" – introduced by Pablo Bujosa, director of the documentary – at the Real Colegio Complutense at Harvard.

Lecture: Coastal Resilience by Miriam Garcia

The Galician Coastal Management Plan explores a new methodological landscape approach and proposing adaptive and anticipatory planning, and elaborating strategies for the protection and planning of sustainable growth of the coastal region. It challenges traditional urban planning approaches and proposes an alternative reading of the landscape as a system of superimposed dynamics requiring a comprehensive and holistic approach based on planning for coastal resiliency by critically reflecting on the actual cultural and political meaning of landscape as an infrastructure.

Miriam García García is an Urban planner and Landscape Architect.

Lecture: Studio Banana

Key Kawamura (AA Dip) and Ali Ganjavian (RCA) founded Studio Banana in 2007 out of a garage, it now has offices in Great Britain, Switzerland and Spain. The ethos behind this multidisciplinary creative platform is lots of playfulness and radical collaboration at the fringe of disciplines. Most famously known for their creation Ostrich Pillow, they have lectured and their work has been exhibited and published widely (MoMA New York, Guggenheim Bilbao, Stanford University, Skolkovo School of Management Moscow, Tokyo Designers' Week).



Travel**GSD**

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

TravelGSD

who are we, what do we do?

TravelGSD aims to foster a deeper understanding of architecture, landscape architecture and urban design by providing first hand experiential opportunities outside the gates of Harvard. In doing so, it aspires to enhance the quality of student life at the GSD and provide a healthy outlet to the high stress environment of Gund Hall.

events

TravelGSD Annual SkiTrip

TravelGSD's second annual Ski Trip was a very successful trip in the mountains of Vermont. We enjoyed the cabin, making food together, the beautiful scenery, and the ski slopes. The Ski Trip has been a very successful event for us to bring people from different programs and years in school to meet and share an amazing trip. This is the largest event for TravelGSD each year with the highest costs and most attendees.

Gropius House

We took a private behind the scenes tour of the Gropius House. It was a good opportunity for people who had never been to go or for individuals who did not have access to a car to get there. This is a medium size event for us that takes a small amount of planning and a smaller group of students usually attend.

Wine and Cheese at MFA

At the end of the year with a group of students we went to MFA as a way to say farewell. We enjoyed the exhibitions and topped it off with some wine and cheese in the courtyard.

PROJECTIVE VIEWS ON URBAN METABOLISM

Urban Metabolism Student Group

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

10.00 - 18.00 / FRIDAY

10.00 - 12.30 / PANEL 1 METABOLIC UPSCALING

JASON W. MOORE
ERLE ELLIS
TIMOTHY W. LUKE
MATTHEW GANDY
MODERATOR: NEIL BRENNER

13.30 - 15.30 / PANEL 2 TERRITORIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

LOLA SHEPPARD
SALVADOR RUEDA
JANE HUTTON + KIEL MOE
MODERATOR: PIERRE BELANGER

16.00 - 18.00 / PANEL 3 THE AGENCY OF DESIGN

MITCHELL JOACHIM
CHRIS REED
ILA BERMAN

In the last two decades, the concept of urban metabolism, aiming to grasp the continuous processes of energy, material and population exchange within and between cities and their extensive hinterlands, has been subject of both extensive empirical research and, increasingly, critical discussion within the social and natural sciences. However, these interdisciplinary challenges have not yet been met with a synthetic response from the design disciplines. The goals of this one-day conference are, through the lens of urban metabolism, to: generally reassess the planetary rescaling of contemporary urbanization processes; unpack the transformation of spatial forms and structures and subsequently, the emergence of new operative territories for design; explore the agency of design in confronting these challenges.

—
_ORGANIZERS: DANIEL IBAÑEZ / NIKOS KATSIKIS /
DANIEL DAOU / ALI FARD / TARANEH MESHKANI / PABLO PEREZ RAMOS

—
_SPONSORS: ADVANCED STUDIES PROGRAM – DOCTOR OF DESIGN (DDES)
CONFERENCE / URBAN THEORY LAB / ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT LAB / NEW
GEOGRAPHIES LAB / DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE / DEPARTMENT OF

Urban Metabolism Student Group

who are we, what do we do?

The Urban Metabolism Student Group at the GSD aims to reunite young scholars, students and practitioners around the topic of Urban Metabolism. Emerged as a response to the increasing scale and reach of urbanization processes, metabolism has been useful to unpack the complexities and ecological interdependencies of urban transformation.

This student group has been instrumental, with very limited funding, to bring to the GSD designers that in different forms are engaging with this topic.

This student group is conformed with students from all the departments at the GSD and lead by Daniel Ibañez and Nikos Katsikis.

events

From Virtual to Real. Lecture by Daniel Fraile.

This lecture explored the dynamics of contemporary practice in African contexts. Derived by the consequences of the 2008 financial crisis, Arquivo Arquitectura, along with many other Spanish architecture practices, turned its focus and geography of practice toward Africa. Today, seven years after, Daniel Fraile will report on the opportunities and challenges of architectural practice there through a series of projects covering its entire process, “from virtual to real”. This metabolic shift on the geographies and territories of practice is of great value for designers today.

Suspicious Biophilia. Lecture by Izaskun Chinchilla.

The notion of ‘biophilia’ has been recently addressed by several authors in the field of architectural design. Biophilic spaces and objects, are supposed to connect with natural preferences of humans, determined by their physiology. These preferences include natural light, vegetation, a particular range of materials, specific color arrangements and spatial conditions reminding natural landscapes. A more sophisticated definition of biophilia is deeply informed by perception, psychology or social studies.

Projective Views on Urban Metabolism.

In the last two decades, the concept of urban metabolism, aiming to grasp the continuous processes of energy, material and population exchange within and between cities and their extensive hinterlands, has been subject of both extensive empirical research and, increasingly, critical discussion within the social and natural sciences. However, these interdisciplinary challenges have not yet been met with a synthetic response from the design disciplines. The goals of this one-day conference are, through the lens of urban metabolism, to: generally reassess the planetary rescaling of contemporary urbanization processes; unpack the transformation of spatial forms and structures and subsequently, the emergence of new operative territories for design; explore the agency of design in confronting these challenges. This conference has been instrumental to set up the basis for the contemporary design approach to Urban Metabolism.



VideoGameGSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

VideoGameGSD

who are we, what do we do?

Video Game GSD is a student group dedicated to bringing the secret and public gamers of GSD together. We host tournaments, invite local indie developers to beta test, and host game jams where we design our own game. As a group we will continue to investigate and develop discourse on the impact of immersive technology on architecture design and the profession.

events

Sharing

PLAYlist is a weekly segment brought to you by VideoGameGSD. Each week we will present you with a set of games that are free to play in your browser! We hope to brighten your day just a little bit and give you a slice of joy when it's 3am and you need a break. The selection of games are both retro and experimental, trying to emphasize the breadth of the medium. For a selection of games, visit the tumblr:

<http://videogamegsd.tumblr.com/>

Playing

VideoGameGSD delights in bringing a wide variety of gaming to the school. To kick things off we hosted a Smash Brother's Tournament, with a Mario Kart Through The Ages tournament the following semester (NES, N64, Gamecube, Wii). Additionally the group provided gaming for Beer & Dogs for JapanGSD and HUPO, with games that fit the respective themes, allowing for a social experience around gaming.

Teaching

Through Citizen School's Citizen Teacher program VideoGameGSD taught a video game class at a local middle school. The group focused Citizen School's apprenticeship on game design as a means to teach middle school students a broad range of skills, from art and story to coding and audio. Every Thursday members would commute by train to the school and spend the afternoon with the students, each week focusing on a different skill. By the end of the apprenticeship the students collaborated to develop a procedural platform game with individual avatars by each student.



Women in Design

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

Women in Design

who are we, what do we do?

Women in Design is a forum to instigate dialogue about diversity, inclusion, joint creativity, interdisciplinary and collaborative practice in the design disciplines. Led by women, but open to all, the group is a network shaping the field to be more equitable and open in light of the historic under-representation of women in recognized leadership roles. Women in Design is a flexible association that can shift direction and focus in response to the interests of its current members, which include students, faculty, alumni and staff.

events

Women in Design Beer'n'Dogs

October 24, 2014

WiD hosted its first Beer and Dogs, a Friday ritual at the GSD, in collaboration with Beer and Dogs organizers: Ambrose Luk, Alica Meza, and Maria Arroyo.

With an ingenious graphic poster by Rae Pozdro – an ode to Anne Tyng and Denise Scott Brown, respectively peering out of the National Assembly Building at Dhaka and the duck from Complexity and Contradiction – lady jams by Michelle Shofet (MLA I '16), and free drinks, the GSD student body overflowed into the Chau for a night of classy tomfoolery.

International Women's Day

March 9, 2015

“The Women in Design (WiD) student group celebrated International Women's Day in style at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, engaging students, staff and faculty to think about the role of women in the field. From a photo booth where people could show their support, to writing Wikipedia articles on women designers, video interviews, and a reception in the Loeb Library, the group highlighted the central role women play at the GSD and in the design profession.” James Evans (GSD Communications + Publications team)

Conversation with Cornelia Oberlander and Susan Herrington

In September, as part of the GSD Talk series, the GSD hosted Cornelia Hahn Oberlander and Susan Herrington for a conversation regarding Oberlander's legacy of work, as documented in Herrington's biography, *Cornelia Hahn Oberlander: Making the Modern Landscape*. The event was moderated by Sonja Dümpelmann, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, who generously helped arrange for Oberlander and Herrington to engage in a more intimate conversation with WiD members.



Working**GSD**

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

WorkingGSD

who are we, what do we do?

Working GSD seeks to provide a presence at the school as a resource and advocacy platform for students who have a diversity of experience based on their financial need. The organization works on problems at a variety of scales, including the institutional (the GSD), the professional (the world of practice), and the broader community (larger issues of student debt). Working GSD remains an inclusive group which works towards positive and practical solutions and generates awareness of issues without separating itself from the realities and limitations of the school and practice, or from those who may not identify as being in financial need. We seek to create an open and productive dialog in the school surrounding the problems identified within the three scales and work through design thinking to confront financial issues as they are imbedded in cultural biases, labor organization and the professional status quo.

events

How? I: The Architecture Lobby lecture + discussion

[27 February 2015] Part 1 of our series “How? The Ethics of Making” brings the Architecture Lobby into the walls of Gund. Featuring Peggy Deamer, Assistant Dean of the Yale School of Architecture and principal at Deamer Studio; Quillian Riano, principal at DSGN AGNC; and Manuel Schwartzberg, founder of Hunter + Gatherer. Together they talked to a packed room about the value of labor in architectural education and practice, the prospect of an architect’s ‘union,’ design activism, and more.

Stacks + Stats II: Pancake Breakfast and Surveyathon

[2 November 2014] Our annual proposition to Gund: You tell us about yourself, your finances, your work-life balance, etc. (all anonymously of course!), and we’ll give you pancakes. For free. Pancakes for all. Most calories for the least dough. Yum.

How? II: Sanda Iliescu of UVA + discussion

[13 April 2015] Part 2 of “How? The Ethics of Making” brought Sanda Iliescu, Assistant Professor of Architecture and Studio Art at UVA, into conversation with the GSD’s Grace La and Jay Wickersham. Professor Iliescu presented her works which celebrate labor and collaboration, and treat making and material as first and essential pieces of design thinking. The conversation following centered on questions of institutional and educational biases, as well as ethics in design education. Partnering with Women in Design, there was a more intimate follow-up breakfast, which got to the heart of many of these institutional bias issues. Further, it provided insight into Sanda’s methods for combating such biases in the academy.



xDesign

HARVARD GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015

xDesign

who are we, what do we do?

The XDesign Club at the Graduate School of Design is a group dedicated to exploring a wide range of design careers. We are a group that is committed to understanding the business of design in its entirety. Our goal is to understand how business and design work together to create successful enterprises, while also discovering the myriad of possibilities open to us as design professionals. We want to look beyond our areas of study at the Graduate School of Design to learn about allied industries and careers. In order to reach beyond our programs, we work with groups like the Harvard Business School's Design Club and Harvard College's Springboard group. We believe in embracing the Harvard network across colleges to better understand the value of design across disciplines.

events

HarvardxDesign Conference

The Harvard xDesign Conference is the university's annual exploration of all things design. Launched in 2012, the conference is a collaborative effort between groups at the Harvard Graduate School of Design, Harvard Business School, and Harvard College. The event brings together creative thinkers, design luminaries, experts from a variety of backgrounds, professors, and students to engage in and reinterpret the design process for a selected subject. In 2014, the conference was attended by over 500 participants, including industry leaders, professionals, and students from a number of schools.

xDesign Beer 'n' Dogs

Typically held in the fall, the xDesign Beer 'n' Dogs serves as a way to advertise the group to the student body as a whole. Additionally this past year we used the Beer 'n' Dogs to collect the names of 'dream' speakers people had outside the discipline. This helped to inspire future names we can reach out to as a club.

Spring Speaker

We host a larger name speaker in the Spring for a xDesign sponsored lecture. This past year we had the Head of Design for Ford Motor Company, Moray Callum. He spoke about car design and its connection to the city. Additionally we followed this up with a panel discussion with professors from MIT and the GSD.

YogaGSD

HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN

2014-2015



yogaGSD

who are we, what do we do?

yogaGSD is a free wellness activity for all GSD students. Elizabeth Brown, a certified yoga instructor from Karma Yoga Studios in Cambridge, teaches 1 hour classes on Mondays and Wednesdays at the GSD. Elizabeth has been teaching yogaGSD since its inception, and knows the regulars very well. All levels, from beginners to experienced, are welcome. We have two spare mats for those that do not own one or left theirs at home.

events

yogaGSD Mondays and Wednesday

Our meetings take place at 7:00pm on Mondays and Wednesdays during the semester. They last for 1 hour and go through beginner and intermedite poses. Typically, we meet in Piper, but also meet in Stubbins or the porticos if there's a public lecture.

For further information:

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Student Forum

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September 2015