The University of Florida, partnering with Santa Fe College, Alachua Habitat for Humanity and the National University for Singapore, has been selected as one of 17 collegiate teams to participate in the 2015 Solar Decathlon. The teams will design, construct and test solar-powered houses before reassembling them in October 2015 at the competition site at the Orange County Great Park in Irvine, California.

Currently, a team of students and faculty are further developing the design, fulfilling specific competition requirements and preparing for construction, which will begin in the spring of 2015. The Solar Living House utilizes a highly modular, efficient and elegant design that optimizes energy performance and the house as a home. The team reappraised the larger vision of the Case Study House Program, in order to challenge the current notion of sustainable design as unaffordable or unappealing.

Post-competition, the Solar Living House will be rebuilt for a family in Gainesville through our partnership with Alachua Habitat for Humanity. For more information on the Solar Living House and how you can partner with the team, visit: www.solardecathlon.ufl.edu.

As the University of Florida aims to achieve preeminence among public universities, the College of Design, Construction and Planning leads the way. Our tradition of excellence continues through the national rankings of our programs and the honors and awards garnered by our students, faculty members and alumni.

To prepare our graduates for an increasingly globalized environment in our disciplines, we must engage in the international arena. Our students immerse themselves in the challenges of the built and natural environment of Florida but hone those skills through global engagement. DCP students are not just studying abroad, but they are rolling up their sleeves and working with communities directly to address their needs.

They do this in Vicenza, Italy, in Curitiba, Brazil, in Singapore and in Indonesia, in China and in Mexico, not to mention many other places in the Caribbean, in Europe, in Africa and in Asia. This is what today’s students expect, and need, from top quality programs – the opportunity to learn outside of the classroom and studio and the knowledge that only comes from hands-on experience.

In this special edition of the Perspective, we share some top stories from the past year. Also, we provide a view of the locations throughout the world where our faculty and students are making a difference.

We welcome you to be part of our continued expansion beyond campus. Through your ongoing support for these innovative initiatives, you are impacting the lives of not only our students but also the global community.

Sincerely,
Christopher Silver, Ph.D., FAICP
Dean and Professor
UF TEAM WINS NATIONAL COMPETITION AGAIN

For the second year in a row, the University of Florida placed first in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Campus RainWorks Challenge.

The national competition engages college and university students in proposed designs on university campuses to reinvent rainwater infrastructure and develop innovative green infrastructure systems to reduce stormwater pollution and build resilience to climate change.

The team’s design, which won in the master plan category, addressed a 67.6 acre subwatershed in the northeast corner of the UF campus. Glenn Acomb, senior lecturer in landscape architecture, served as faculty advisor for the multidisciplinary team.

Team Members included: landscape architecture students Adam McCollister (project manager), Stephanie Bou-Ghannam, Johan Bueno, Kristina Bunyi, Adrienne Campbell, Viviana Castro, Craig Handley, Jr., Mark Koenig, Kyle Passeuneau, Joshua Rondell, Laura Snider, Jessica Soleyn, Christopher Stidham, Claudia Visconti, Theresa Wymer and Jordan Young; environmental engineering students Tracy Fanara and Kelsie Timpe; agricultural and biological engineering student Natalie Nelson and fine arts student Mario Rodriguez.

FOSTERS UNDERSTANDING AMONG DISCIPLINES

Four interdisciplinary teams competed in March for the 2014 Witters Competition. The 48-hour design charrette was led by Tom Smith, architecture senior lecturer, and Ravi Srinivasan, assistant professor in construction management.

The project challenge was to develop a proposal for a mixed use housing project in the downtown area of Gainesville. The project would provide a viable alternative development project in comparison to the single-family housing or apartment living buildings that currently make up the area. The challenge also tasked the teams to develop structures that met the Living Building Guidelines which includes site, water, energy, health, materials, equity and beauty.

THE RINKER SCHOOL CELEBRATES NEW NAME

In January, the Rinker School hosted a welcome reception for new students where the school unveiled its new name, the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management.

Since the program’s founding in 1935, the school and the profession have evolved. Today’s curriculum has developed to encompass modern management of projects and processes. The name change from “Building Construction” to “Construction Management” more clearly describes the degree to potential students and also better reflects the typical graduate’s professional experiences.
The University of Florida’s interior design graduate program was ranked 7th nationally in DesignIntelligence’s 15th annual survey of America’s Best Architecture & Design Schools 2014. In addition, the interior design undergraduate program ranked 2nd among schools in the south.

The DesignIntelligence survey ranks accredited undergraduate and graduate design programs from the perspective of practitioners working at leading firms in each field. Respondents are required to be highly involved in the hiring and performance of graduates and are asked to indicate which schools produce the most prepared graduates.


The Department of Urban and Regional Planning has been named one of the best graduate urban planning programs in the country by the Planetizen Guide to Graduate Urban Planning Programs. The program is ranked 14th overall (up three spots) and third in the southeast. Pictured: Professor Emeritus Jim Nicholas and Dean Christopher Silver at URP40, the department’s 40th anniversary celebration.

David Brandon, BCN 1981, founder of Brandon Construction Company in Palm Harbor, Florida, has been selected by the State University System’s Board of Governors as a UF trustee. Brandon has expressed continued commitment to the university as a fundraiser and charter member of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Construction Management Advisory Council. Brandon is a fourth generation Floridian and second generation UF Alumni.

Each year, UF recognizes alumni who graduated 50 years ago by inducting them into the Grand Guard Society.


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Launched by the Historic Preservation Program in 2012, the UF Envision Heritage initiative explores how new and emerging technologies can be used to document, preserve and interpret heritage sites. The initial research projects of Envision Heritage utilize a 3D laser scanner to quickly and accurately record the physical design and conditions of historic buildings and structures. The scanner projects a laser beam into the environment and collects points that reflect the distance and location of the building being scanned. The scanner is able to collect 122,000 to 976,000 points per second. These points are then merged into a three-dimensional “point cloud” model of the historic building and site. Highly accurate measurements and other information can be obtained from the model. Traditional black-and-white line drawings, orthographic or photo-realistic plans, sections, elevations and video animations are some of the products generated from the 3D scanning process.

In 1957, the University of Florida became one of the first four universities in the country to offer historic preservation studies. Guided by the leadership of dedicated faculty, the program grew to become one of the most well-respected academic programs in the country. Today, the impact of DCP’s historic preservation program resonates across Florida and throughout the world.

The UF Historic Preservation Program in conjunction with Gainesville Modern and Habitat for Humanity, hosted the 2nd annual Gainesville Modern Weekend. The weekend included a tour of five of the area’s finest mid-century modern residences (pictured above), a symposium on “Saving the Modern Century: Historic Preservation in the Next Fifty Years” and a lecture on the work of UF architecture alumnus Horace Gifford titled, “Fire Island Modernist: Horace Gifford and the Architecture of Seduction.”

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The UF Historic Preservation Program has been working with partners to research, document and advocate the preservation of mid-century modern sites in Miami and Sarasota, Florida. Pictured is a view of the grandstand of the Miami Marine Stadium, constructed in 1964 for motor boat races and concerts from a floating stage. The documentation is being used to plan the restoration of this iconic Miami landmark.

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Dear Alumni and Friends,

Two years ago, I joined the College of Design, Construction and Planning after five years in UF’s South Florida regional office in Miami. Since joining DCP, I have had the good fortune of meeting many of you, our incredible alumni and friends, leading the industries our college supports. I’ve learned that our college is not only a leader on campus and among our professions, but also in programs and research that have a global reach.

I share this map on the opposing page to illustrate just how far the college extends. And this just represents our programs, research and students. Many of our 15,000 alumni live and work throughout the world. Just think, if we added a dot to show where each of you are, this map would be covered.

One of my favorite questions to ask our alumni is “When is the last time you visited the college?” I’m surprised to hear that some haven’t been back since graduation, even if they’re in town to catch a football game. I would guess that some things have changed since you were a student.

I invite you to reconnect with our college in a way that is meaningful to you. Whether it is through hiring an intern or recent graduate or by serving on a jury or advisory board, we would love to keep in touch. One way to do that is through the college’s monthly e-newsletter, Perspective.* You also can find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

We appreciate the ongoing support from our alumni and friends, which helps our students, faculty and programs. Our programs are at the top because of you – the legacy you are creating by giving back and building on the foundation started by others.

Thank you for all you do! I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Ann Baker
Director of Development

The College of Design, Construction and Planning depends on gifts from alumni and friends to cover essential needs, including student scholarships, faculty support and equipment. A donation would be greatly appreciated and is tax-deductible.

Please cut along the dotted line and mail in an envelope to: UF Foundation, P.O. Box 14425, Gainesville, FL 32604-2425.

You may also donate online at: www.dcp.ufl.edu/alumni

* Not receiving the Perspective e-newsletter? Please email us at perspective@dcp.ufl.edu.
Generates the second highest percentage of students studying abroad of the 16 colleges at UF. The School of Architecture, for example, has a 70-80% student participation rate in international programs.

- Maintains 27 agreements with top institutions on six continents.

- Operates 14 long- and short-term international programs attended by more than 1,800 undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D. students since 2003.
- Organizes regular community service projects with institutions in Haiti, Latin America, Eastern Europe, Africa, India and Indonesia.

- Ninety percent of DCP faculty are involved in international teaching, research and service projects.
- Seven faculty have been awarded a Fulbright Fellowship.
- Five faculty are active affiliates in the Center for Latin American Studies and two in the Center for African Studies.
UPCOMING EVENTS

**NOVEMBER 2014**
20th-22nd - Grand Guard Weekend

**DECEMBER 2014**
19th-20th - Commencement

**JANUARY 2015**
22nd-24th - UF Women's Symposium  
Sustainability: Orange and Blue Goes Green  
28th-29th - DCP Research Symposium  
31st - DCP Career Fair

**FEBRUARY 2015**
9th - BCN Major Donor Reception (Rinker Hall)  
10th - BCN Career Fair  
20th - Inaugural Edward D. Stone Lecture  
25th - Envision Heritage Celebration featuring the paintings of Logan Marconi, PIN Artist in Residence 2013-2015  
Santa Fe Performing Arts Center

**APRIL 2015**
Orange and Blue Tailgate

**MAY 2015**
2nd - Commencement  
7th - 27th Annual Dean's Reception (Ft. Lauderdale)

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