Department of Architecture

The Department of Architecture is dedicated to a socially responsible, technologically sophisticated, environmentally sensitive, and culturally engaging vision of architecture. It is distinguished in that it includes within one department the many disciplines required for an architecture curriculum; more significantly, it creates the opportunity for each discipline to have specialized advanced degree programs. We incorporate outstanding research and teaching programs in each of the following discipline groups: Architectural Design; Building Technology (BT); Computation; History, Theory, and Criticism (HTC); and Visual Arts. Undergraduates can earn a bachelor of science in architecture studies with a concentration in one of four discipline streams (architectural design, visual arts, building technology, and history, theory and criticism of architecture and art) and can minor in architecture and history of art and architecture.

Notable strengths of the Department that cut across the discipline groups are our devoted and spirited teaching, the grounding of architecture in both social and material issues, interdisciplinarity, and the remarkable internationalism of faculty, students, teaching, and research. The faculty includes architects, urbanists, building technologists, historians of art and architecture, artists, and various specialists in areas of architectural research, including computation as it addresses design issues.

The presence of this range of faculty ensures a professional program of both depth and breadth. The strength and well-being of the master of architecture program are fundamental in maintaining and enhancing our position as one of the world’s most respected professional schools of architecture. Starting with the master of architecture class that entered in 2005, the Department began to increase the size of the professional program incrementally and thus to expand the opportunities available. Likewise, the size of the master of science in visual studies program has doubled incrementally over the past two years from six graduate degree candidates to potentially 12. Searches concluded for two senior design faculty positions and continued for tenure-track positions in design and visual arts and an open rank position in the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture.

Leslie K. Norford, professor of building technology, was appointed associate head of the department, to assist the department head with day-to-day operations and to assume particular responsibility for teaching assistant/research assistant (TA/RA) matters, student financial aid, and space.

The discussion below is organized by discipline group, followed by individual topics that cross discipline areas.

Architectural Design

Faculty and Staff

Personnel in Architectural Design were professors Julian Beinart, Yung Ho Chang, Charles Correa (spring), John de Monchaux (joint appointment with the Department of Urban Studies and Planning), Michael Dennis (on leave, spring), Anne Spirn (joint
appointment with the Department of Urban Studies and Planning), and Jan Wampler; associate professors Mark Goulthorpe (on leave, fall), Ann Pendleton-Jullian, Andrew Scott, and J. Meejin Yoon; assistant professor Alexander D’Hooghe; senior lecturers Fernando Domeyko and Shun Kanda; professor without tenure (retired) William Porter; principal research associate Reinhard Goethert; lecturers Jenee Anzalone (spring), Ole Bouman (spring), Dan Chen, Simi Hoque (fall), Eric Howeler, Bill Hubbard Jr., Alan Joslin (fall), Rick Joy (fall), Rebecca Luther (fall), Winy Maas, Joel Turkel, and Angela Watson (fall, Independent Activities Period [IAP]); and technical instructor Christopher Dewart. A search for a tenure-track position resulted in a short list of candidates invited to visit during the spring term; however, no decision had been made as of the end of the reporting year. The senior faculty search resulted in the appointments of Rahul Mehrotra and Nader Tehrani as associate professors with tenure effective July 1, 2007. Professor Chang served as director of the design faculty.

**Architecture Design Studios**

A hallmark of studio education at MIT is that instructors propose to their students not merely a project but a process by which that project might be accomplished, advancing their pedagogies through a shared set of design agendas that include the following:

- **Community.** We believe that respect must be accorded to the identity and social needs of inhabitants of places, both to establish private territories for them and to enhance their abilities to participate in the public realm.

- **Culture.** We respect the value of cultural difference, and we seek strategies that preserve the legacy of artifacts and customs from the past while addressing the pressures and opportunities of the present.

- **Digitality and methodology.** We are fascinated by the new ways of thinking generated by computers and computation. We recognize the opportunity digital technologies offer as media and design methods that can foster a different sense of inhabitation, of place, in and out of cyberspace.

- **Landscape.** We understand the impact of buildings as material and experiential extensions of the land. We thus pay particular attention to the effects of designed environments on natural systems, and vice versa.

- **Light and experience.** We feel that attention must be paid to the capacity of light to transform and model space in ways appropriate to a range of human activities and emotions.

- **Sustainability.** We feel a concern for the conservation of natural resources, not just in terms of the efficiency of the buildings we design and the practices our buildings foster among their inhabitants, but in terms of larger practices such as settlement and transportation.

- **Technology.** We recognize the critical roles technology and engineering play in the making of living environments. Advancements in structural engineering and mechanical engineering in particular have been altering the way we design and build. The integration of technological components in architectural design is therefore of paramount importance.
• **Tectonics.** We take a poetic and pragmatic interest in how materiality, the manner of construction, and the means of managing natural forces (such as gravity, climate, and airflow) might be expressed.

• **Urbanism.** We are acutely aware of architecture’s ability to contribute spatially, symbolically, and functionally to the shared but divergent social and economic life of cities.

Opportunities for student travel are a continuing strength of the Department. Destinations included Venice by invitation for the Biennale 10th International Architecture Exhibition: Cities, Architecture and Society in Italy and Turin, the city assigned for the studio project (Yoon); Rotterdam for the Biennale (D’Hooghe), where the team won third prize; Malibu (Scott); São Paulo (Beinart, de Monchaux); Ecuador and Beijing (Wampler); India (Santos, Correa, Sanyal); Kunming, China (D’Hooghe, Domeyko); and Louisiana (Goethert). Kanda again offered summer opportunities in the 13th MIT Japan Studio and the 3rd Veneto Experience in Italy. Students also may apply for individual travel grants.

The design faculty retreat in April 2006 considered how to improve the curriculum; how our program fits into larger academic, professional, and global contexts; how the paradigms of architecture are changing; where the new frontiers are; what the foundations of today’s design education are; and what our strengths and weaknesses are. This year we began to implement some of the ideas from that meeting, in particular the design of a core curriculum that can be summarized as 3+3+1: three core studios, three exploratory option studios, and one thesis. Tehrani was invited to lead a committee to make specific changes to be incorporated into the MArch curriculum in fall 2007.

Notable activities in 2006–2007 included the following.

A book, *Certain Agendas in Architecture*, edited by D’Hooghe and graduate student Sarah Dunbar, was published by the School of Architecture and Planning’s newly formed SA+P Press. More than a portfolio of student work and documentation of Department activity from calendar year 2006, the editors structured the book as a series or pairing of debates and differing worldviews—“agendas”—revealed through the work itself.

A spirited noontime debate, “The Fight Club,” pitched Chang, arguing for a “fabric” urbanism, against D’Hooghe, promoting a new urban “monumentality.” The transcript was published in the Department journal, *Thresholds*, Issue 33: Form(alism). The event was so well received that plans were made to offer future opportunities for faculty members to publicly debate their diverse views.

Chang invited Level 1 students to participate in a discussion about program pedagogy beyond its structure and logistics.

Level 2 and 3 studios were combined under the rubric “Advanced Studios” as a component of a reorganized studio sequence and as a means to broaden the choices through the lottery system.
To further the process of integrating discipline groups more fully with the core design curriculum, HTC faculty members cotaught studios. Mark Jarzombek taught a fall urban design studio with D’Hooghe and Chang; Stanford Anderson taught a fall workshop on Shanghai housing with visiting scholar Xiangning Li; and Arindam Dutta cotaught a spring studio with Goulthorpe.

Chang appointed Dutta to the role of MArch thesis coordinator. Along with other curricular changes, this appointment is part of the ongoing effort to bring more rigor to the program.

Advanced Studios broke for one-week midterm workshops led by Robert Mangurian, Simon Frommenwiler and Simon Hartmann, and Craig Dykers. Following the successful precedent of last year, these charrettes offered a concentrated exposure to distinguished visitors and the intensity of completing short-term projects for public review at the end of the week. Students were randomly assigned to one of the three workshops. Andrew Scott served as charrette host and coordinator.

Efforts continued to consolidate design studio activities in the main group and led to a number of significant space moves. Undergraduate studios, with the exception of 4.101, moved to Building 5. Graduate studios moved from Building 5 to Buildings 3 and 7. Workshop space was made available in Building 9, along with a computer classroom formerly in Building 3. The Computer Resource Offices also moved to Building 9. MArch thesis students, SMArchS students, and Computation PhD students also moved to space in Building 9.

Distinguished visiting critics were appointed as short-term lecturers to teach studios for a term and to bring to our students a diversity of experience in practice from all over the world. This year Bouman, Joy, and Maas were invited to fulfill that role.

The SMArchS committee, chaired by Rabbat, met to discuss the program and curricular needs of the postprofessional degree and submitted its recommendations to Chang for further consideration.

**Faculty Activities and Achievements**

Architectural Design faculty members who also practice as architects include Beinart, Chang, Correa, Dennis, D’Hooghe, Domeyko, Goulthorpe, Hubbard, Kanda, Pendleton-Jullian, Porter, Santos, Scott, Wampler, and Yoon. Chang received an Academy Award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters for his Beijing-based practice, Atelier FCJZ. D’Hooghe won second place in a competition for a new town center in Opglabbeek, guest-edited an issue of *Volume*, completed a research report on the “New Radiant City” for the City Planning Government in Shenzhen, and contributed articles to the journals *AA Files*, *Archplus*, *Block*, and *Perspecta*. His research focus was on new monumentality, and he will turn his attention next to the “nonexpressionist architecture of infrastructure.”
Goethert was awarded support from the d’Arbeloff Fund for Excellence in Education and alumni funds from the classes of 1951, 1955, 1972, and 1999 to identify proactive strategies for approaching the problem of rapid urbanization in the Third World for his subject, The New Practitioner. He continued the Sustainable Housing in the Bayous program with partners Oxfam and Louisiana nongovernmental organization Trac, with a volunteer rebuilding workshop in the summer and a design-build workshop in Louisiana in January. Construction of the innovative “lift house” design conceptualized by a previous MIT class was targeted for completion in June. New initiatives on housing expanded into a critical permitting process mitigating future hurricane destruction. In addition, Goethert set up a community participatory pilot program as a model for the process of conserving and upgrading historic city centers throughout China.

Goulthorpe taught at the Royal Copenhagen School of Architecture during his fall leave. Spirn received a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Fulbright Senior Specialist Fellowship at the University of Copenhagen (see the Department of Urban Studies and Planning report). Wampler focused his efforts on his China studio, for which he received a grant, and on the undergraduate design program. Recent projects by Yoon were on exhibit at the Los Angeles Museum of Contemporary Art in October 2006. MY Studio/Howeler + Yoon Architecture was one of 65 design firms featured in the National Design Triennial at the Cooper Hewitt National Museum of Design and was also one of five finalists for the PS1/MOMA summer warm-up installation. Howeler and Yoon’s Young Architects Program entry was on exhibit at the Museum of Modern Art through September 2006, and they gave a 2007 Emerging Voices lecture at the Architectural League of New York.

**Admissions**

Students in our professional MArch degree program are admitted at two levels: Level 1 for those whose undergraduate background is in another area of study, and Level 2 for those who come from undergraduate programs in architecture and thus receive one year of advanced standing in our 3.5-year graduate program. Results for Level 1 were 209 applications, 47 admitted, 24 targeted, and 20 enrolled. Results for Level 2 were 158 applications, 24 admitted (along with two BSAD early admittances), 10 targeted, and 4 enrolled. Results for SMArchS were 113 applications, 49 admitted, 25 targeted, and 27 enrolled. We are assessing the unexpectedly low yield for Level 2 admissions this year and will adjust our promotion strategies accordingly next year.

**Building Technology**

**Faculty and Staff**

Personnel in BT were professors Leon Glicksman and Leslie Norford, associate professors John Fernandez and Andrew Scott, assistant professors Marilyne Andersen (on leave, spring) and John Ochsendorf, and lecturers Leonard Morse-Fortier (spring) and Carl Rosenberg (spring). Fernandez was promoted to associate professor with tenure and Ochsendorf was promoted to associate professor without tenure, both effective July 1, 2007. Ochsendorf was named the Class of 1942 career development chair for three years effective July 1, 2006. Glicksman served as director of the group. Norford was appointed associate head of the department.
Program Notes

The major focus of BT research was on developing advanced technologies for sustainable buildings and design tools for architects. Andersen is developing a video-based assessment, sponsored by the National Science Foundation, of advanced light-redirecting components in windows and luminaries to optimize lighting in buildings. Her daylighting lab now has two functional heliodons available for use by architecture students. Fernandez unveiled new material selection software for architecture and the built environment, the first computational design tool to assist in the assessment and selection of materials for buildings. This software is the culmination of collaboration with Professor Mike Ashby of the University of Cambridge.

Ochsendorf and his students helped to design and build a new sustainable conference center in Dover, England, utilizing a historic vaulting method to create two 45-foot-span brick domes. The project was the first application of this technology in England. The BT group continued its collaboration with the University of Cambridge on sustainable buildings with natural ventilation, sponsored by the BP Global Power Corporation as part of the Cambridge-MIT Institute. Andersen coordinated the BT lecture series during fall 2006, which featured Laura De Lorenzis, Leith Sharp, Lynne C. Lancaster, Axel Killian, Andersen, and Steven Lockley. Ochsendorf coordinated the BT lecture series during spring 2007, featuring Steve Connors, Steven J. Strong, Matthew Johnson, and Jean Marc Weill. BT maintains a website at http://bt.mit.edu/.

Faculty Activities and Achievements

Andersen received a 2007 Boston Society of Architects Research Grant in Architecture for “Pioneering Daylighting Design Tool to Combine Architectural Form with Advanced Technology: The LightSolve Project.” She continued her work on LightSolve (early stage interactive, climate-based daylighting tool) in collaboration with the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (New York), the Université Catholique de Louvain (Belgium), and Yale; continued work on the HelioDome project (spectral, bidirectional gonioradiometer and sun course simulator); and collaborated with Harvard Medical School on light and health issues. Her research projects were featured in Spectrum (Winter 2006), Tech Talk (November 2006), and ERC Spotlight (March 2007).

History, Theory, and Criticism

Faculty and Staff

Personnel in HTC were professors Stanford Anderson and Mark Jarzombek; associate professors Arindam Dutta, David Friedman, Caroline Jones, Erika Naginski, and Nasser Rabbat; and lecturer Wasma’a Chorbachi (fall). Jones and Rabbat were promoted to full professors effective July 1, 2007. Jarzombek served as director of the group. He was appointed associate dean for two years effective July 1, 2007, to focus on consolidation of the school’s arts offerings and their integration into the larger MIT academic community and to assist in developing a strategy for the school’s diversity efforts. A search for an open rank position in the Aga Khan Program resulted in a finalist, but the appointment review was postponed until fall 2007. HTC hosted two visiting scholars: Xiangning Li (China) and Bernhard Klein (Germany).

Program Notes

HTC graduated three PhD and two SMArchS students. The faculty ranked 12 of 53 PhD applicants into three lines, admitted six, and enrolled all six. Of 18 SMArchS applicants, faculty admitted six and enrolled five for the fall. HTC believes that the change in the nonresident fee structure this year was due in large part due to its presentation to the 2005 Visiting Committee. Now, in the first three terms of nonresidency, advanced PhD candidates have a reduced rate of 5 percent tuition. Increased funding for SMArchS students has paid off in the enrollment of leading applicants.

Though the exchange program with Fondazione Scuola di Studi Avanzati-Venezia, now in its fourth year, usually brings one student to MIT, this year no one from Venice came. This year HTC participated in the National Research Council ranking of doctoral programs in US universities, which takes place approximately every 10 years. A publication date has not been announced. With assistance from administrative assistant Anne Deveau, HTC tightened program oversight, revised PhD and SMArchS guidelines, developed mechanisms to better track student progress, and streamlined the administration of faculty decisions. HTC fulfilled two long-term goals by hosting a national Architecture-Race-Academe conference that focused on questions of race and was reviewed in Architectural Record and other journals and an international conference on architecture and religion, deus (e)x historia. Over the past few years, HTC has been reexamining its integration with the core MArch program. This year HTC students served as teaching assistants in design studios and thesis preparation; HTC faculty taught workshops and design studios and coordinated MArch thesis preparation and review (see the Architectural Design section above).

Discussions continued about contributions to the curriculum requirements through subject offerings and undergraduate concentration, minor, and major programs. The student-run HTC forum hosted Jèssica Jaques, William Craft Brumfield, Rey Chow, Donatella Calabi, W.J.T. Mitchell, and Georges Didi-Huberman. The HTC film series was produced in the fall in cooperation with History and Theory group of the Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and Department of History of Art and Architecture (HAA), and in the spring with HAA, around the theme “Spaces of the Cold War.” HTC students jointly organized and
sponsored “*research in progress,” an interdepartmental presentation series, with HAA. Faculty, students, and alumni of HTC contributed substantially to the journal *Thresholds* (see below). HTC maintains a website at http://architecture.mit.edu/htc/.

**Faculty Activities and Achievements**

HTC faculty contributed notably to their fields worldwide through lectures at universities and conferences, board memberships, and publications. Anderson’s exhibition on Eladio Dieste continued to travel worldwide with new editions and related lectures. He led seminars on housing at Tongji University and on Aalto at Harvard. He received funding for his Research and Teaching Program on Micro-Urbanism to offer a workshop with Li Xiangning and others from Tongji University. Dutta gave a number of outside lectures, coorganized the HTC conference deus (e)x historia, and was a panel discussant at the College Art Association annual conference. His book *The Bureaucracy of Beauty: Design in the Age of Its Global Reproducibility* was published by Routledge. He received, with Mark Goulthorpe, a Rotch Travelling Studio Award from the Boston Society of Architects. Friedman was a member and advisor to Comitato Scientifico for the Museum of the New Towns, San Giovanni Valdarno, and presented a conference paper at Worcester College in Oxford, England.

Jarzombek participated in four outside conferences during the year and with Chang and D’Hooghe, as principals of AMY Inc., taught an urban design studio for Guangming City, China. His book *A Global History of Architecture*, coauthored with V. Prakash and F.D.K. Ching, was published by Wiley. Jones was named a reviewer for three years for the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS)/Luce Fellowship Award for Dissertations in American Art and was named to the Advisory Board of *Senses and Society*. She was advisor to the curatorial team for *Sensorium* at the MIT List Visual Arts Center and edited and contributed to the accompanying publication. Her book *Eyesight Alone: Clement Greenberg’s Modernism and the Bureaucratization of the Senses* was published by the University of Chicago Press. Naginski received fellowships from three sources: the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, Deutsches Forum für Kunstgeschichte (Paris), and the Sterling Clark Art Institute. She gave a number of outside lectures, and she coorganized the HTC conference deus (e)x historia and chaired one of its panels. Rabbat’s activities are reported below in the Aga Khan Program section.

**Visual Arts**

**Faculty and Staff**

Personnel in the Visual Arts Program (VAP) were professors Joan Jonas (on leave) and Krzysztof Wodiczko; associate professors Ute Meta Bauer and Wendy Jacob; lecturers Andrea Frank (photography), Joseph Gibbons (video), and Joe Zane (foundations); visiting professor Antoni Muntadas (spring); and visiting associate professor Regina Moeller (fall). Bauer is also director of VAP. A search for an associate professor with or without tenure continued.
Program Notes

VAP supports the undergraduate education curriculum of the Institute, offering Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Distribution (HASS-D) and HASS Elective (HASS-E) subjects and a concentration in visual arts, along with the Department’s bachelor of science in art and design and core MArch degree programs. It conducts a graduate program that addresses the relation of artistic practice to new media, performance, architecture, urbanism, and related questions of sociopolitical content. In AY2007 VAP served 15 percent more students than in AY2006. Graduate student enrollment increased by 16 percent; undergraduate enrollment increased by 13 percent; Course 4 enrollment increased by 23 percent; and School of Architecture and Planning enrollment increased by 25 percent. In fall 2006, the number of entering graduate students doubled from three to six. Applications were up by 60 percent, and the program intends to continue to actively pursue a plentiful, diverse, and talented applicant pool.

VAP participated in schoolwide discussions around the idea of fusing with the Center for Advanced Visual Studies to combine research and education in the field of visual studies at MIT. In addition, VAP revised its graduate curriculum to strengthen thesis preparation by changing the sequence of subjects and adding a thesis tutorial. The program undertook a review of its undergraduate discipline stream, debated a collaborative bachelor of arts course with Comparative Media Studies, and reflected on a PhD program in visual studies.

The program achieved a greater sense of community and improved communications by moving all program staff and students to one floor. In addition, new outdoor seating in the courtyard provided space for meetings and public events. VAP initiated relationships within the Institute to help with outside fundraising, including a new alumni fund established through the dean’s office. VAP hosted a number of visiting artists and lectures in conjunction with its subject offerings and public events. In honor of Joan Jonas and in collaboration with the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna, VAP sponsored a daylong conference on theatricality in current artistic practices. In conjunction with the Goethe-Institut Boston, VAP participated in the Fifth Boston Cyberarts Festival with “40 Years of Video Art 1963–2003.” Work from VAP students was featured in “Six Artists” at the Space Other Gallery in Boston. Students also presented their work in a public exhibition titled “LAUNCH: New Work in a New Space.” In fall 2006, VAP began hosting SCREEN, a public forum for the viewing and discussion of works in progress by local film/videomakers. VAP maintains a web page at http://web.mit.edu/va.

Faculty Activities and Achievements

Among many other public appearances, Bauer was a panelist for “Just Jerusalem” and participated in a conference, “The Situational Drive: Complexities of Public Sphere Engagement,” that also included former VAP faculty and alumni. Her work was included in a number of publications. Jonas performed at DIA:Beacon. She received an honorary doctorate from the San Francisco Art Institute. Gibbons’s work was shown at the grand opening of the Boston Institute of Contemporary Arts and at the Whitney Biennial 2006, and it was featured in Aspect and ArtForum. Muntadas had a number of
solo exhibitions and participated in international group exhibitions, including at the Museum of Modern Art (New York), Centre Pompidou (Paris), and Museo Nacional Reina Sofía (Madrid).

Among other venues, Zane exhibited at Art Space in New Hampshire, had a solo show at the Allston Skirt Gallery, and received the Best Show of an Emerging Artist award from the Boston chapter of the International Art Critics and Curators Association. Jacob exhibited internationally and lectured. Frank exhibited at a number of venues, including a solo exhibition at the Edward Thorpe Gallery, New York. Jacob and Frank received support from the d’Arbeloff Fund for Excellence in Education and alumni funds from the classes of 1951, 1955, 1972, and 1999 for their proposed introductory studio subject, “Art Work-Out: Visual Arts in the Gym.” Wodizcko received an honorary doctorate from the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznan, Poland; received a number of commissions for public art; and exhibited widely.

Computation

Faculty and Staff

Personnel in the Computation discipline group were professors Terry Knight, William Mitchell, and George Stiny; associate professor Takehiko Nagakura; assistant professor Larry Sass (on leave); professor without tenure (retired) William Porter; principal research scientist Kent Larson; research scientist Stephen Intille; and lecturers John de Valpine (spring) and Dennis Shelden (spring). Nagakura served as director of the group.

Program Notes

The group’s research and teaching are focused on areas situated at the intersection of architectural design, computer applications, and computational theory in design representation, synthesis, and construction, with consideration for the broader cultural and societal impacts of digital technologies on built form at all scales. The work includes applications with immediate implications for current practice as well as strategic, long-term research with the potential to transform design practice in the future. It is through the latter that the group seeks to distinguish itself from competing programs at other institutions. A new curriculum stream for undergraduate architecture majors was approved, with implementation planned for fall 2009. The Computation Lecture Series hosted a number of distinguished academics and practitioners, including Carlo Ratti, Donald P. Greenberg, Marcos Novak, Branko Kolarevic, and Kostas Terzidis. Computation maintains a website at http://architecture.mit.edu/descomp/.

Faculty and Staff Activities and Research

Knight, in collaboration with Sass, began a new research project, “Ornamented Structure::Structural Ornament,” to investigate the potential for shape grammars and digital technologies to merge visual and physical languages in the design of building systems, with particular application to rapid housing in developing countries through vernacular design patterns. Mitchell published Imagining Stata: Designing a Campus for the Twenty-First Century (MIT Press, April 2007). He has various design projects under
development through the Design Lab initiative. Industry partners for design projects such as new motor bike development for a Taiwanese manufacturer provide financial support for Department students.

Nagakura presented papers in Greece and Boston, exhibited DESKRAMA (in collaboration with J. Oishi) in Boston and Los Angeles, and entered design competitions. His video projects were screened in Germany and Tokyo. In addition to his research with Knight, Sass published several papers on digital fabrication and prototyping. Porter was made an honorary member of the MIT chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Stiny’s book Shape: Talking about Seeing and Doing (MIT Press, 2006) won the Reference category in the 2007 Association of American University Presses Book Jacket and Journal Show. He lectured or led workshops at a number of institutions and completed a chapter for a forthcoming book on algorithms and style.

**Undergraduate Program**

Undergraduate officer Leslie Norford, director of the Undergraduate Architectural Design Curriculum Jan Wampler, and administrator for academic programs Renée Caso continued to support and strengthen the undergraduate experience. As a response to the changing needs of students and the demands of the profession, curriculum improvements were made including a new integrated architecture design studio offered in the fall to incoming sophomores and an international undergraduate advanced studio for seniors. Two new studios strengthened the architecture design studio sequence by increasing to six the total number of studios a student can complete at MIT, thereby also increasing the level of work in the advanced studio. In addition, an IAP drawing class for architects and a hands-on building workshop were introduced to sophomores, while a thesis preparation class was made available to seniors interested in completing an optional thesis. Wampler also offered a workshop to advanced undergraduate architects to design and construct a small community children’s center near Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Plans were initiated to update the undergraduate curriculum to include a new stream in Computation that will complement the discipline streams already offered in Building Technology, Visual Arts, and History of Architecture and Art. A new element to be added to each of these streams is a required senior thesis preceded by a thesis preparation class.

In August, the Department participated in the Freshman Pre-Orientation Program (FPOP) by offering “Discover Architecture,” a three-day program of fun exploration for incoming freshmen. The program included a sandcastle competition and clam bake on Crane’s Beach in Ipswich, faculty presentations on current research, a tour of newly constructed buildings in Boston, and a tower building competition using recycling materials. Eight freshmen participated.

Following FPOP, an exhibition highlighting undergraduate design work, “The Process of Designing,” was installed in the Wiesner Student Art Gallery from September through October. The first of its kind, the exhibit was created by Wampler along with lecturer Rebecca Luther, technical instructor Chris Dewart, and recent alumna Victoria Lee. It
included a range of designs from beginning efforts through thesis work. A brochure accompanied the exhibition, outlining the undergraduate architecture design program and introducing the academic program to prospective students.

In the spring, CitiScope was introduced as a new class offering for freshmen to expose them to the complex dynamics of cities in distress and the challenges they pose. The class was jointly taught by John Fernandez, associate professor of building technology in the Department of Architecture, and J. Philip Thompson, associate professor of urban politics in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning. The city chosen this year was New Orleans, and the class involved a trip to the city during which students were exposed to its political and environmental history and its physical, economic, and social characteristics. The course was funded by the d’Arbeloff Fund for Excellence in Education.

A new undergraduate architecture exchange program was contracted with the University of Hong Kong. This, in addition to our already existent exchange program with the Technical University at Delft, will allow three advanced students to study in either Hong Kong or the Netherlands each fall.

The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee decided to discontinue the MArch early admissions process for architecture design students in the BSAD program. The program was established in 1998 for the purpose of retaining our best and most talented designers by offering chosen students the possibility of completing the MArch in four semesters rather than five. After nine years, the program failed to achieve its goal and proved to be problematic for the few who did return to MIT for their graduate work.

Faculty members who served as undergraduate advisors, in addition to Norford and Wampler, were Arindam Dutta, John Fernandez, Leon Glicksman, Bill Hubbard, Wendy Jacob, Terry Knight, Erika Naginski, John Ochsendorf, Larry Sass (on leave), Anne Spirn, and George Stiny. Seventeen sophomores entered the Department in AY2007, joining 21 juniors and 11 seniors to bring the total number of undergraduate majors to 49.

The Department sponsored a number of activities for undergraduates, including an open house for freshmen and prefreshmen, a new-major orientation program, and senior thesis presentations. The student-run, Department-supported undergraduate organization Course 4 Resource Council (4RC) offered a Campus Preview Weekend “Fun with Balsa” event for prefreshmen and an end-of-year senior dinner. Margret Nelson and Diana Nee cochaired 4RC and were undergraduate student representatives to the Architecture Student Council. Jenna Fizel, Caitlin Mueller, and Margret Nelson spent the fall term in Delft as exchange students in the Department-initiated TUD/MIT exchange program.

**Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture**

The Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture (AKPIA) at MIT, established in 1979, is a leading program in the study of architecture in the Islamic world. Its outreach activities include a lecture series, a travel grant program open to all students in the School of Architecture and Planning, and a visiting postdoctoral program. Faculty and staff, listed
in the Department under the History, Theory, and Criticism Program, were associate professor Nasser Rabbat, director of the program, and lecturer Wasma’a Chorbachi (fall). In 2006–2007, the program numbered five PhD and seven SMArch students. Rabbat was promoted to full professor effective July 1, 2007. A search for an open rank position in AKPIA resulted in a finalist, but the appointment review was postponed until fall 2007.

Program Activities
AKPIA admitted one new PhD student and two SMArchS students and graduated one PhD student and four SMArchS students. The program hosted three postdoctoral fellows, who also gave public talks: Nadia Alhasani, Ralph Bodenstein, and Sibel Zandi-Sayek. The lecture series featured Yousuf Saeed, Lorraine Declety, and Carol Bier in the fall and Anuradha Mathur, Esra Akcan, James Wescoat, and Ratish Nanda in the spring. Deeba Haider and Ahmed Kanna made special presentations as part of the seminar 4.617 The Islamic City. AKPIA added two new sites to MIT’s OpenCourseWare website: Civic Islamic Architecture and Islamic Architecture. Rabbat led a study trip to Dubai for students from MIT and Harvard to examine various development projects and interview developers, architects, and administrators as part of the seminar “The Orientalist Dream City.”

Faculty Activities
Rabbat completed two books, *L’art Islamique à la recherché d’une méthode historique* (Institut du Monde Arabe, forthcoming) and *Architecture as Social History: Building, Culture, and Politics in Mamluk Egypt and Syria* (I.B. Tauris, forthcoming). He lectured widely and was interviewed on a number of occasions on Middle East topics. He received a Senior Resident Scholar Fellowship from the American Research Center in Egypt.

Department of Architecture Enrollments
As of October 2006, Course 4 counted a total of 272 students: 49 undergraduates (including 2 4-B students), 101 MArch students, 44 SMArchS students, 4 SMBT students, 9 SMVisS students, 36 resident PhD students, 12 nonresident PhD students, 14 Center for Real Estate students who registered in the Department, and 1 special (nondegree) student.

Across the Department

Visiting Committee
On April 12–13, the Department had a productive meeting with the MIT Corporation Visiting Committee, chaired by Ronald Kurtz.

Lectures
In the fall, the Architecture Lecture Series was organized around the theme “Revolution.” Speakers were Olafur Eliasson, Guy Nordenson, Nicholas Negroponte, Karl Chu, Wewei Ai, Rem Koolhaas, Petra Blaisse, and Sou Fujimoto, with introductions by Sanford Kwinter. In the spring the theme was “Design as Research.” Speakers were François Roche, Peter Eisenman, Richard Meier, Massimo Carmassi, and David Adjaye. Zaha Hadid presented the 19th Arthur H. Schein Memorial Lecture. Glenn Murcutt
presented the 14th Pietro Belluschi Lecture. Cecil Balmond presented the 1st Goldstein Architecture, Engineering, and Science Lecture, made possible by a donation from the Goldstein family. Public lecture series also were sponsored by the BT, Visual Arts, HTC, Computation, and Aga Khan programs.

**Exhibitions**

The Department supported exhibitions on architecture organized by the MIT Museum for the Wolk Gallery by sharing publicity efforts or offering associated lectures, including “The Beijing Urban Design Studio: 20 Years of International Collaboration” (April–September 2007) and “DEVELOP: The Architecture of Yung Ho Chang/Atelier FCJZ” (February–April 2007). Student and faculty work continued to be featured on the School of Architecture and Planning’s PLAZmA screens. The Department launched a digital gallery of student work using four dedicated PLAZmA screens, one of which was interactive to allow viewing of videos and animations. The exhibition will be updated every semester.

**Publications**

*Thresholds*, a journal edited and produced by students, is noted for developing diverse architectural themes in each issue. Current and forthcoming issues include 32: Access, 33: Form(alism), and 34: Portability.

**Website**

Under the coordination of Takehiko Nagakura, the Department undertook a complete redesign of the website to better serve prospective students as well as to function as a more complete resource for the academic community.

**Architecture Student Council**

The Architecture Student Council (ASC) served as a vehicle for student activity in both academic and social areas. ASC was instrumental in the publication of a new Course 4 book, *Certain Agendas in Architecture*, featuring student research and offered support for open houses by providing tours and holding student panel discussions. Each term ASC organizes architecture town hall meetings, this year having one private discussion of student concerns and one public discussion with the Department head. With recent changes in curriculum and faculty searches, ASC actively participated on behalf of students to collect and communicate opinions and propose the students’ vision for the department. As a method to collect student voices, ASC set up a confidential email list to compile and relay student concerns to the Department head. ASC also organizes a student mentor program each year for incoming students. ASC organized a number of social events ranging from happy hours to this year’s Arch Prom, the Department’s digital gallery opening, and a student design competition for new Department T-shirts.

ASC officers for 2006–2007 were Casey Renner, president; Ian Kaminski-Coughlin, vice president; Margaret Hwang, treasurer; and Erica Weiss, secretary. Representatives were Elizabeth Krasner and Diana Nee (BSAD); Ian Kaminski-Coughlin and Erica Weiss (MArch I); Adele Phillips and Zachary Lamb (MArch II); Peter De Pasquale, Margaret
Hwang, and Casey Renner (MArch III); Rebecca Edson and Brenda Galvez Moretti (MArch Thesis); Arjun Bhat (SMArchS I); Carey Clouse (SMArchS II); and Katherine James (SMVisS).

Student Awards and Fellowships

The Department of Architecture honored the accomplishments of the following graduate and undergraduate students.

- Alpha Rho Chi Medal for a graduating student for service, leadership, and promise of professional merit: Jeffrey Anderson
- American Institute of Architects (AIA) Certificate of Merit: Sandra Baron
- AIA Medal for top-ranking graduating MArch student: Rebecca Edson
- Tucker-Voss Award in recognition of promise for the future in the general field of building construction: Nicholas Gayeski
- Marjorie Pierce/Dean William Emerson Fellowship Award for outstanding academic and design achievement by a Level II woman: Andrea Brennan
- William Everett Chamberlain Prize for achievement in design: Diana Nee
- Outstanding Undergraduate Prize for academic and design excellence: Caitlin Mueller
- Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Service to the Undergraduate Program: Margret Nelson
- Francis Ward Chandler Prize for achievement in architectural design: Saud Sharaf
- SMArchS Prize for Thesis: Neeraj Bhatia, Daniel Cardoso, Deniz Turker
- Undergraduate Faculty Design Award: Harini Rajaraman
- Sidney B. Karofsky ’37 Prize for the outstanding MArch student with one further year of study: James Graham
- Rosemary D. Grimshaw Award: Meghan Green
- Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Service to the Department: James Shen
- Imre Halasz Thesis Prize: Axel Paredes, Tracy Wharton

Institute and other awards recognized the following students.

- Phi Beta Kappa: Caitlin Mueller
- AKPIA Travel Grants: Razan Francis, Omar Rabie, Sadia Shirazi
- Horowitz Award: Philippe Block, Kenfield Griffith, Neri Oxman
- Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts: Hope Ginsburg (first), Neri Oxman and Katherine James (tied for second), Stephanie Hsu (honorable mention)
• Twelve-month Chester Dale Doctoral Fellowship (Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts), Charlotte Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship for Ethics and Religion (Woodrow Wilson Foundation), and Andrew W. Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship (declined): Lucia Allais

• Krupp Foundation Fellowship and MIT-France Internship: Jennifer Ferng

• Barakat Foundation Dissertation Fellowship (deferred to 2008): Pamela Karimi

• Andrew W. Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Krupp Foundation Fellowship: Deborah Kully

• Mellon Dissertation Fellowship in the Humanities in Original Sources, Carmargo Foundation Residency Fellowship, and Center for European Studies–Harvard University Research Travel Grant: Fabiola Lopez-Duran

• Centre Canadien d’Architecture (CCA) Summer Fellowship and MIT-Germany travel funding: Stephanie Tuerk

• Eleanor Tufts Predoctoral Fellowship (Southern Methodist University): Sarah Rogers

• Social Science Research Council Predissertation Fellowship for International Collaboration: Winnie Won Yin Wong

• Best Paper Award of the Sixth China Urban Housing Conference: Non Arkaraprasertkul

• Fontainebleau Architecture Summer Program Alumni Scholarship: Rebecca Rahmlow

• La Caixa Fellowship (Spain): Remei Capdevila Werning

Yung Ho Chang
Department Head
Professor of Architecture

More information about the Department of Architecture can be found at http://architecture.mit.edu/.

Visual Arts Program

Specific Program Goals

Growth

The Visual Arts Program continues to support the increase in the number of graduate students in the SMVisS program, with support from the Office of the Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning. In addition, the program is focused on increasing the number of undergraduate students majoring (BSAD) and concentrating in the Visual Studies discipline stream.
Facilities
Three additional graduate studios must be built before fall 2008. In addition, upgrades will be necessary for the Interform Editing Lab (undergraduate) and the Graduate Computer Lab, as well as the Photo Lab. The program seeks to identify sources for faculty studio space.

Admissions
Under the dean’s direction, the Visual Arts Program increased its graduate admissions from three to six students during the past year. In addition, the program more aggressively sought applications for admissions, which resulted in a 60 percent increase in applicants over the previous year. The program will continue to actively pursue a plentiful, diverse, and talented applicant pool in order to admit students of the highest caliber.

Curriculum
The program undertook a review of its undergraduate discipline stream and will seek changes to the BSAD degree to better accommodate visual studies majors. In addition, a collaborative bachelor of arts degree with the Comparative Media Studies Program was debated, and discussion about a PhD program in visual studies was initiated.

Administrative Initiatives
New Equipment
The program purchased two new video editing stations for the graduate student lab, installed new projection equipment in the N51-348 classroom, and initiated the development of a basic sound lab to serve graduate and undergraduate students.

Finance and Funding
The Visual Arts Program has initiated relationships designed to help with outside fundraising. These resources will be necessary to provide more competitive funding opportunities for graduate students, to allow timely upgrades for equipment and labs, and to support travel opportunities for students.

A new alumni fund was established specifically for the Visual Arts Program. The program has been working more closely with the Office of the Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, the Industrial Liaison Program, the Office of Foundation Relations, and a number of alumni in regard to fundraising and development initiatives. The dean’s office continues to support the growth and development of the Visual Arts Program with financial support.

Program Accomplishments
Lectures
The Visual Arts Program launched its successful lecture series in the fall of 2006. Lecturers included:
• Guenther Selichar, “Who’s Afraid of Blue, Red and Green?”
• Regina Maria Moeller, “Who Is Speaking?”
• Krzysztof Wodiczko, “Projections and Instrumentations”
• Gustavo Artigas, “Game, Risk, Disaster”
• Victoria Powers and Chris Sequeira, “Pugwash”
• Chris Csikszentmihályi, “Politechnics”
• Doris Sommer and Carmen Oquendo-Villar, “Pre-Emptive Acts: Theater and the Law”
• Lina Dzuverovic, “Sonic Interventions”
• Coco Fusco, “What You Don’t Know Can Kill You”
• Robert Atkins, “Visibility/Invisibility”
• Antoni Muntadas, “Spaces of Memory”
• Diane Davis, Leila Farsakh, and Tali Hatuka, “Visual, Spatial, Political—Exploring Multiple Vantage Points in the Search for a Just Jerusalem”
• Wendy Jacob, “In-Between Spaces”

In addition, there was a film screening of *La Société du Spectacle* by Guy Debord.

**Exhibitions**

In May 2007, Visual Arts Program graduate students presented their work in an MIT public exhibition, “LAUNCH: New Work in a New Space, Introducing Work from the MIT Visual Arts Program in the New VAP Project Space.” Also in May, the program’s undergraduate students installed their final projects in a public exhibition at the Center for Advanced Visual Studies (CAVS).

**Personnel**

**Faculty Search**

A search continues for an associate professor of visual arts, with or without tenure. The search committee will finalize the short list of candidates in the fall and intends to make a hiring decision soon thereafter.

**Faculty Leave**

Professor Krzysztof Wodiczko was on leave during the fall 2006 term to work on several international commissions. Professor Joan Jonas was on leave during fall 2006 and spring 2007 to work on a number of international performances and installations.

**Faculty Awards and Honors**

Professor Wodiczko received an honorary doctorate from the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznan, Poland.
Professor Joan Jonas received an honorary doctorate from the San Francisco Art Institute in recognition of her outstanding contributions to contemporary art, culture, and thought.

Professor Wendy Jacob, along with lecturer Andrea Frank, received a $15,000 award from the d’Arbeloff Fund for Excellence in Education and alumni funds from the classes of 1951, 1955, 1972, and 1999 for the proposed introductory studio subject “Art Work-Out: Visual Arts in the Gym.”

Visiting lecturer Joe Zane received the Best Show of an Emerging Artist–Boston Area award from the Boston chapter of the International Association Art Critics.

**Faculty Professional Activities, Publications, and Projects**

In October 2006, Joan Jonas presented an encore performance of “The Shape, the Scent, the Feel of Things” at the Dia:Beacon, Beacon, New York with a month of sold-out shows.

Krzysztof Wodiczko received a number of commissions this year: a public art commission for the Public Safety and Emergency Communication Center building in Cambridge, a commission for a public art project from the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, and a commission for a public art project from the Museum of Modern Art in Bologna, Italy.

In addition, Wodiczko exhibited at the Eyebeam Art and Technology Center in New York and lectured and participated in symposia at “Interface” (University of Ulster, Belfast, Northern Ireland), Artspace (Dublin), the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, Cooper Union (New York), the School of Visual Arts (New York), the Institute of Fine Arts in New York, New York University, and Cornell University (Ithaca, NY).

Among many other public appearances, program director Ute Meta Bauer lectured and participated in panels at the Art Institute of Chicago, the Center for Contemporary Art Kitakyushu (Japan), the Museum of Modern Art (New York), the University of Baeza (Spain), Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson (New York), and the Gwangju Biennale 2006 (South Korea). Her work was included in a number of international publications, and she contributed to a number of exhibitions including “KISS KISS BANG BANG—40 Years of Art and Feminism,” curated by Xabier Arakistain of the Bilbao Fine Arts Museum (Spain). In addition, she contributed to “The Situational Drive: Complexities of Public Sphere Engagement,” a partnership between inSite San Diego/Tijuana and Creative Time in collaboration with the Cooper Union School of Art. Also speaking at this event were Visual Arts Program faculty members Krzysztof Wodiczko and Antoni Muntadas, along with former faculty member Dennis Adams and alumnus Michael Rakowitz.

Bauer continues with a number of international committee and board memberships, among them the Scientific Advisory Board of the Stiftung Bauhaus Dessau (Germany), the advisory board of the Center for Contemporary Art in Afghanistan, the International Committee of the 3rd Yokohama Triennale 2008 (Japan), and the Jury of the Office
for Contemporary International Charity Trust (United Kingdom). She is also the chairwoman of the art advisory board committee of the Goethe-Institut (Germany). In addition, Bauer serves on the committee of the Just Jerusalem Jury of MIT’s Jerusalem 2050 project and as a juror for the “Percent for Art Project” (Cambridge Arts Council) and the 6th Gwangju Biennale Award (2006 Gwangju Biennale, Gwangju, South Korea).

Wendy Jacob exhibited at, among other venues, the Stadtische Galerie Ravensburg (Ravensburg, Germany) and the Asian/Pacific/American Institute at New York University. Her public lectures included appearances at the Art Institute of Boston, Cornell University, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, and Columbia University.

Antoni Muntadas was featured in a number of solo exhibitions, including at the Galeria Filomena Soares (Lisbon) and the Fundación Telefónica/Centro Cultural Recoleta (Buenos Aires), as well as a number of group exhibitions at the Museu da Cidade (Lisbon), the Museo Nacional Reina Sofia (Madrid), the Museum of Modern Art (New York), and the Centre Pompidou (Paris), among many others. His work was published in a number of international journals and catalogs, and he participated in juries in Havana, São Paulo, Milan, and Cologne (Germany). He taught and lectured at the University of São Paulo, the University of Buenos Aires, and the Ecole des Beaux-Arts de Bordeaux.

Andrea Frank participated in a number of professional exhibitions, including a solo exhibition at the Edward Thorp Gallery (New York), and a number of international group exhibitions and catalogs with galleries in Germany, Italy, Poland, and Denmark.

Work by Joe Gibbons was featured at the grand opening of the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, the 2006 Whitney Biennial, and the Museum of Modern Art. His work was also included in a number of group shows and international film festivals and was featured in Aspect (Spring 2007) and ArtForum (May 2007).

Visiting lecturer Joe Zane participated in a number of group shows and had a solo exhibition at the Allston Skirt Gallery. The show was reviewed in Art in America, Tema Celeste, the Boston Globe, and Big Red and Shiny. The Boston Globe included the exhibition in its report on the best gallery shows of 2006.

Student Achievements

Hope Ginsburg (SMVisS 2007) received the 2007 Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Award and the 2007 Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts. She was named an assistant professor of art foundation at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA.

Katherine James (SMVisS 2008) was awarded a 2007 Harold and Arlene Schnitzer Prize in the Visual Arts (second prize).

Ben Wood (SMVisS 2007) was recognized (with Luciana Pereira, a visiting student in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning) for the Best History Documentary at the 2006 CampusMovieFest, the world’s largest student film festival, for Ashdown House: The Home Where Science and Technology Live.
Teaching and Curriculum

Curriculum Changes

The program revised its graduate curriculum by changing the sequence of subjects and adding a thesis tutorial in order to strengthen thesis preparation.

Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Elective (HASS-E) subjects were increased as a result of higher student demand. In addition, a capstone subject was added as the final concentration requirement, providing students with the opportunity to develop a unique body of work over the course of the term and culminating in a public exhibition of their work.

Wendy Jacob (with Andrea Frank) submitted a proposal for a new undergraduate subject. Building on the recommendations of the Task Force on Undergraduate Education, the proposed subject, “Downtown Crossings,” is a thematic, introductory-level visual arts studio that has a particular location, system, phenomenon, or condition as its thematic base. One of the aims of this pilot subject is to place transdisciplinary work at the very core of the undergraduate learning experience. Its first iteration is “Art Work-Out: Visual Arts in the Gym,” which will be taught in collaboration with the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation (DAPER) during the spring 2008 term.

Classroom-based Collaborations

Lecturer Joe Zane led his 4.301 Introduction to Visual Arts class through a collaboration with CAVS. With puppetry used as a theme to explore ideas behind contemporary art practice, classroom projects tied in well to the public CAVS event “Let’s Put on a (Puppet) Show,” during which puppets created by 4.301 students were on display. The event received coverage in the Boston Globe, in The Tech, and on the MIT home page, and the students later produced a puppet show for their finals that was hosted by CAVS.

Graduate and undergraduate subjects in photography and related media (4.341 and 4.343), taught by lecturer Andrea Frank, formed collaborations with the Broad Institute and the Department of Nuclear Science and Engineering to conduct site-specific research throughout the term. Final exhibitions were installed in the respective departments—with financial support from the directors of the departments—and many became permanent installations.

Professor Krzysztof Wodiczko introduced 4.370 Interrogative Design Workshop: The War Veteran Vehicle (spring 2007), a new artistic- and research-based course offered in conjunction with MIT’s Design Lab and the research project of the CAVS Interrogative Design Group. The project received a grant from the MIT Council for the Arts.

Ute Meta Bauer
Director
Associate Professor

More information about the Visual Arts Program can be found at http://web.mit.edu/vap/.