

## Department of Architecture

The MIT Department of Architecture is dedicated to a socially responsible, technologically sophisticated, environmentally sensitive, and culturally engaged vision of architecture. It is distinguished for its excellence in design, research, and scholarship. The department includes many disciplines that engender an exceptional and expanded professional education on the built environment at the architectural, urban, territorial, and object scales. It offers advanced degree programs in critical research areas around technology, history, and art. The advanced master's degree programs are associated with six disciplines: Architectural Design and Urbanism; Building Technology; Design and Computation; History, Theory and Criticism; and Art, Culture and Technology. History, Theory and Criticism; Building Technology; and Design and Computation have distinguished doctoral programs and continue to lead their fields in the areas of research and scholarship.

Commonly shared attributes that cut across all programs are design innovation, critical and contextual thinking, social and environmental responsibility, and global and interdisciplinary engagement. The faculty includes architects, landscape architects, urbanists, engineers, building scientists, geographers, artists, and historians of art and architecture. Among the most intellectually and disciplinarily diverse of architecture departments in the world, the strength and identity of the department comes both from the specialized nature of each of the discipline groups and the intense interdisciplinarity that is fostered between and among them.

Graduate degrees offered are master of architecture; master of science in architecture studies; master of science in art, culture and technology; master of science in building technology; and doctor of philosophy with concentrations in building technology; design and computation; or history, theory and criticism of architecture and art. Undergraduates can earn a bachelor of science in architecture or a bachelor of science in architecture studies with concentrations in one of five departmental discipline streams, and can minor in architecture and history of art and architecture.

### Recognition

For the second year in a row, QS World University Rankings named MIT the number one university worldwide for architecture. MIT was ranked number two for art and design, up from number four in 2015.

### Master of Science in Architecture Studies Program

The master of science in architecture studies (SMArchS) program is organized into six areas of study according to the department's discipline groups. After five years of successful leadership, Associate Professor Arindam Dutta stepped down as program director; Professor Terry Knight and Associate Professor Christoph Reinhart were appointed as co-directors. Their main goals are to strengthen the program's visibility outside MIT, foster research across discipline groups, and further increase student funding. While 88% of SMArchS students receive some support from MIT, the majority accumulates significant debt during their time at MIT.

SMArchS students form a tight community and regularly organize department-sponsored dinners, which foster dialogue among discipline areas and provide a platform for exchange with administrators and faculty. The two main events every year are pre-thesis and thesis reviews in December and April during which SMArchS research is presented to critics from within and outside the Institute. This year's spring thesis reviews were particularly well organized and attended, and external reviewers commented on the consistently high-quality, rigor, and depth of the work. The fall open house for prospective applicants was restructured, with SMArchS and master of architecture presentations separated into half-day sessions to give SMArchS its own identity. This approach worked well, with almost two-thirds of attendees applying to the program.

An ongoing area of concern among students is the required fall colloquium for first-year students. In recent years, many students expressed concerns that the course failed to capture their interest. After several debates among SMArchS faculty and discussion with students in a focus group, it was decided to transform the colloquium into a platform to expose students to interdisciplinary research at the School and beyond. Particular tasks for next year are to clarify criteria for choosing end-of-year SMArchS thesis prizes and to formulate a path for dual SMArchS and master of architecture degrees. Underrepresented minority outreach will be a priority issue.

Admissions applications and yields were high: 439 applications (18% increase from 2015), 28 targeted, 39 admitted, 26 enrolled. Diversity statistics show continuing high international student numbers (87% international applications, 67% international enrolled) and approximately equal gender numbers (46% women applications, 54% women enrolled), but continuing low underrepresented minority numbers (10 [ $<1\%$ ] underrepresented minority applications, 1 underrepresented minority enrolled).

### **Master of Architecture Program**

The master of architecture (MArch) program is a professional degree program. It was awarded the full eight-year term of accreditation beginning January 1, 2015, by the National Architectural Accrediting Board. Professor Andrew Scott, who served as MArch program director from 2010–2013 and again in 2015–2016, led the successful accreditation effort.

Curriculum changes include the replacement of three concentration subjects with three open electives, bringing the number of totally open electives up to five. 4.464 Environmental Technologies in Buildings is now taught in the first semester as part of the core, replacing 4.461 Architectural Building Systems, which has been cancelled. MArch students take one History, Theory and Criticism restricted elective, and the list of those choices has increased from three (4.607 Thinking About Architecture: In History and At Present, 4.646 Research Programs in Modern Architecture, and 4.647 Technopolitics, Culture, Invention) to six subjects. 4.175 Case Studies in City Form, taught by Michael Dennis with Anubhav Gupta, was made available on MIT OpenCourseWare, bringing the total OpenCourseWare subjects in architecture to more than 100. The Independent Activities Period class 4.109 Materials and Fabrication for Architecture is no longer required for first-year MArch students because so many entering students now already have basic fabrication skills.

MArch students are admitted at two levels: Year 1 for those with undergraduate degrees in other areas of study and Year 2 for those with undergraduate degrees in architecture who thus receive one year of advanced standing in our 3.5-year graduate program. Admissions applications and yields were high: 576 applications (14% increase from 2015), 26 targeted, 77 admitted, 37 enrolled. Diversity statistics show continuing high international student numbers (75% international applications, 85% international enrolled) and approximately equal gender numbers (49% women applications, 51% women enrolled), with mildly increasing underrepresented minority numbers (50 applications (3.65% underrepresented minority applications), 16 admitted, 9 enrolled). (Note: These figures reflect raw data as of June 2016. Actual enrollment data as reported in the annual Enrollment Statistics report [“Y” Report] to be released in October 2016 can vary slightly.)

The department held two Open Houses in the fall and spring for prospective and admitted MArch and SMArchS candidates, respectively.

### **Undergraduate Degrees**

The Bachelor of Science in Architecture (BSA) program is a broad non-professional degree program that prepares students for either a graduate professional degree program in architecture or a related field in design, building technology, computation, history, or art and technology. Faculty members who served as undergraduate advisors were Assistant Professor Azra Aksamija, Professor John Fernández, Professor Leon Glicksman, Professor Terry Knight, Professor Leslie Keith Norford, Associate Professor William O’Brien Jr., Professor John Ochsendorf, Associate Professor Lawrence Sass, Associate Professor Kristel Smentek, Professor Anne Whiston Spirn, Associate Professor Gediminas Urbonas, and Professor James Wescoat.

The department joined the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP) to participate in the Institute’s Freshman Pre-orientation Program by offering Discover Architecture + Planning, taught by Marlene Kühn (Architecture) and Ezra Haber Glenn (DUSP) for 10 freshmen. The program sponsored monthly social events throughout the year.

The new Design minor developed by the department was approved by the Committee on Curriculum this spring after a year-long process led by Knight and Norford. Three new design studios were introduced to serve as foundational courses for the minor: Information and Visualization, Objects and Interaction, and Exploring Design. Instructors were Marcelo Coelho, Benjamin Fry, Jessica Rosenkrantz, and Lisa Smith (all spring semester).

The department’s continued international exchange programs—with Delf University of Technology in the Netherlands and The University of Hong Kong—brought three students to MIT to participate in the final design studio taken by BSA students, which was led by Assistant Professor Joel Lamere. In spring 2016, six seniors completed theses reflecting a range of concentration areas from art/culture and technology to computation and building technology. Eight sophomores entered the department in AY2015, joining six juniors and 12 seniors, bringing the total number of undergraduate majors to 26.

## Department of Architecture Enrollments

As of October 2015, Course 4 counted a total of 25 undergraduate and 210 graduate students. Graduate students were enrolled as follows: 90 master of architecture; 54 master of science in architecture studies; seven master of science in building technology; 13 master of science in art, culture and technology; 37 resident PhD; and 9 non-resident PhD.

## Leadership

Professor J. Meejin Yoon completed her second year as department head. James Wescoat served as associate department head. Academic program directors were Andrew Scott (master of architecture), John Ochsendorf (undergraduate), Terry Knight and Associate Christoph Reinhart (master of science in architecture studies), and Gediminas Urbonas (master of science in art, culture and technology). Together they met as needed with the department head in an advisory and coordinating capacity. Associate Professor Takehiko Nagakura served as chair of the Committee on Graduate Students.

## Faculty Promotion and Appointments

Sheila Kennedy was appointed as full professor and Kristel Smentek was promoted to associate professor with tenure, both effective July 1, 2016. Faculty searches resulted in two appointments also effective July 1, 2016: Brandon Clifford as assistant professor of Architectural Design and Skylar Tibbits as assistant professor of design research (his appointment will be joint between the Architectural Design and the Design and Computation discipline groups).

## Transitions

Professor of architecture and history emeritus, and former department head Stanford Anderson passed away on January 5, 2016. A memorial service in the MIT Chapel celebrated his many contributions to a generation of scholars and colleagues and to the field of history, theory, and criticism, including co-founding the History, Theory and Criticism program at MIT, the first of its kind in a school of architecture. Professor of architecture emeritus, and former department head John R. Myer passed away on February 17, 2016. In addition to his academic career, Myer was founder of the design firm Arrowstreet. Professor of architecture and urbanism Michael Dennis retired, effective January 1, 2016.

## Online Education

A committee comprised of Professor Mark Jarzombek, Christoph Reinhart, and Professor Anton Garcia-Abril was charged with developing a proposal for online courses and possible micro-masters to be offered by the department.

## Executive Education

The department offered its first summer executive education class, Modeling Urban Sustainability: Energy, Daylight and Walkability, a one-week course for design professionals led by Reinhart. We anticipate adding more classes in the future.

## Externships

The second year of the externship program, in collaboration with the MIT Alumni Association, saw an increase in both alumni participation and in the overall number of interested firms; in fact, there were more opportunities than there were students available for placement: 46 national and international firms offered 68 placements for our undergraduate and graduate architecture students.

## Lectures

In fall 2015 the department lecture series hosted Michael Maltzan, Anna Neimark and Andrew Atwood, Anne Holtrop, and Julien de Smedt. In the spring 2016 semester, the department hosted Juan Carlos Sancho and Sol Madrdejos, Eduardo Cadaval and Clara Solà-Morales, and Billie Tsien and Tod Williams.

Angelo Bucci presented the 27th Arthur H. Schein Memorial Lecture, Mark West presented the Edward and Mary Allen Lecture in Structural Design, Jeanne Gang presented the 21st Pietro Belluschi Lecture, and Jane Wernick presented the 9th Goldstein Lecture in Architecture, Engineering, and Science.

Steven Holl and Guy Nordenson presented as part of the 2nd Ahmad Tehrani Mini-Symposium. The department collaborated with the Center for Art, Science and Technology on three lectures with McDermott Award Winner David Adjaye on the future of the library, campus, and museum.

## Publications and Exhibitions

In the Keller Gallery, opened in 2011, manager of publications and exhibitions Irina Chernyakova oversaw five exhibitions: *Neck of the Moon* by Design Earth (November-December 2015), *Landlines* by student Lucy Liu and alumnus Carl Lostritto (January-February 2016), *Coding the Third Condition* by lecturer Fadi Masoud and Department of Urban Studies student David Eli-Vega Barachowitz (March 2016), *The Contingent Space of Work* curated by students Nisa Ari and Christianna Bonin (April-May 2016), and the *ACT Thesis Exhibition* (May-July 2016).

Department publications under Chernyakova's purview were the department handbooks for undergraduate and graduate program open houses and thesis books for final reviews for each of the programs. Chernyakova is working on *Building Discourse: Proposition & Proof Vol. 2* for the SMArchS program to be released in fall 2016. Also in spring, Nisa Ari and Christianna Bonin edited and released *Thresholds 44: Workspace*.

## Architectural Design and Urbanism

### Personnel

For clarity, personnel in architectural design were grouped into Architectural Design and Urbanism. Architectural Design personnel were professors Anton Garcia-Abril, Andrew Scott, and J. Meejin Yoon; associate professor with tenure Mark Goulthorpe; associate professors without tenure Ana Miljacki and William O'Brien Jr.; assistant professor Joel Lamere (on leave spring); professors of the practice Yung Ho Chang

(on leave), Philip Freelon (fall) and Sheila Kennedy (fall); research scientist Skylar Tibbits; Belluschi Lecturer Brandon Clifford; visiting professors Angelo Bucci (spring), Aran Chadwick (fall), Clara Sola-Morales (spring), and Neil Thomas (fall); lecturers Alex Anmahian (fall), Lorena Bello Gomez (fall), Julien de Smedt (fall), Oscar Grauer (spring), Marlene Kuhn (spring), Ryan Murphy, and Cristina Parreño Alonso; technical instructors Christopher Dewart and Justin Lavallee; and teaching fellows Gabriel Kozlowski Maia and Jongwan Kwon (effective April 2016).

Urbanism personnel were professors Michael Dennis (fall), Adèle Naudé Santos, Hashim Sarkis, and Anne Spirn (joint appointment with the Department of Urban Studies and Planning); associate professor with tenure Alexander D’Hooghe; associate professor without tenure Rafael (Rafi) Segal; assistant professors Rania Ghosn and Miho Mazereeuw; and principal research associate Reinhard Goethert. Scott was director of the Architectural Design group and the MArch program. Dennis was director of the Urbanism group in the fall; Wescoat was director in the spring.

### Faculty Activities, Notes

Garcia-Abril’s firm Ensamble and his MIT POPLab completed the Cyclopean House in Brookline, MA, and the Tippet Rise Art Centre in Montana. His project Suprastructures Versus Structures of Landscape was part of this year’s Venice Biennale, as was the Cyclopean House.

D’Hooghe’s firm Organization for Permanent Modernity exhibited plans for a mixed-use market building in Brussels, designed to serve a diverse community for this year’s Venice Biennale.

Kennedy was elected to a fellowship in the American Institute of Architects this year and won the 2015 Rupp Prize for her body of design work. Her firm’s Tozzer Anthropology Building at Harvard University won the 2015 Hobson Design Excellence Award, among others, and the firm’s design project for solar streetlights in India won the Lemelson Foundation Innovation Award.

Goulthorpe’s firm dECOI Architects won the 2016 Platinum A’ Design Award in Architecture, Building and Structure Design.

Miljacki focused on her exhibits and publications including: *Un/Fair Use* exhibition at The Center for Architecture in New York City; *Terms of Appropriation* (with Amanda Reeser Lawrence) to be published by Routledge in fall 2016; “The Optimum Imperative: Czech Architecture for Socialist Lifestyle, 1938–1968” accepted for publication by Routledge in January 2017; and paper presentations in Dublin and Pasadena. She moderated the McDermott Award symposium on Future of the Library.

O’Brien’s design firm WOJR published *Rooms for Artifacts*, a book of its work with essays from external contributors. The firm’s work was featured in an exhibition in Zurich. O’Brien is a member of the collaborative practice CLOK whose competition-winning project Heart of Hearts was exhibited in New York’s Times Square. O’Brien curated BUST, an exhibition in Los Angeles, and was the Victor C. Mahler Lecturer at Dartmouth.

Scott worked with the Richi Childhood Cancer Foundation on the early stages of research, design, and briefing for a community center to support Boston's childhood cancer community.

Lamere was named a Design Biennial Boston Emerging Designer and received an R+D citation for his work Grove at Biennial Boston.

Mazereeuw's PrepHUB, an off-grid emergency hub designed to meet short-term needs for energy, communication, and supplies, was installed on campus as a prototype to be integrated into existing campus safety programs. She won several significant funding awards to support her research on urban resilience and risk preparedness in several sites around the world, including Japan, Nepal, and India.

Ghosn's collaborative practice Design Earth participated in the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale, joining the dialogue on After Oil. The practice received a 2016 Architecture League of New York Prize for its work on the geographies of infrastructural systems.

Clifford exhibited *Gothicness* at MIT Wolk Gallery (April–August 2016); his project The Buoy Stone was part of MIT's Moving Day celebration on the Charles River. Clifford also received a Whiting Foundation grant for upcoming work Megalithic Moai.

Tibbits' work was exhibited at the Chicago Architecture Biennale (with Gramazio Kohler Research), the Boston Society of Architects, and Storefront for Art and Architecture (with Lucy McRae). He was named editor-in-chief of *3D Printing and Additive Manufacturing* and received *R&D Magazine's* Innovator of the Year Award. His research sponsors include SunCorp, Converse, Google, and Steelcase, among others.

Yoon received the New Generation Leader Award from *Architectural Record's* Women in Architecture Awards and the 2016 ACADIA Teaching Award of Excellence. Her design for MIT's Sean Collier Memorial received a BSA Award for Design Excellence. Her firm exhibited in the *Sharing Models: Manhattanisms* show at the Storefront for Art and Architecture and completed a 5-million-square-foot master plan for Audi AG in Ingolstadt, Germany. Her firm was a winner in the Northern Avenue Bridge Ideas Competition sponsored by the City of Boston.

## Building Technology

### Personnel

Personnel in Building Technology were professors John Fernandez (on leave from the department to serve as director of the MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative), Leslie Norford, and John Ochsendorf (dual appointment with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering); Christoph Reinhart; assistant professor Caitlin Mueller (joint appointment with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering); professor without tenure (retired) Leon Glicksman; visiting professor Mark West; and lecturers Andrea Love (fall) and Benjamin Markham (spring). Norford served as group director.

Fernandez stepped down as co-director of the MIT-SUTD International Design Center to become director of the MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative, effective October 1, 2015. He also serves the Institute as head of Baker House, an undergraduate dormitory.

### Faculty Activities, Notes

Glicksman and Ochsendorf continued working in India on new concepts for passively cooled slum replacement housing sponsored by the Tata Center. Currently, four houses in Gujarat are under construction using innovative roof systems developed during the project. The new academic text, *Modeling and Approximation in Heat Transfer*, developed by Glicksman and John Lienhard (MIT Department of Mechanical Engineering) for subject 2.52/4.424 Modeling and Approximation of Thermal Processes, will be published by Cambridge University Press this summer.

Mueller's Digital Structures research group continued research on creative computation for conceptual design across architecture and structural engineering, as well as innovative fabrication methods for high-performance structures. Projects included a new structurally informed robotic 3D-printing technique, which produces high-precision lattice structures that are optimized for strength and stiffness, and a project funded by the US Department of Energy focusing on new structural systems for parabolic trough solar collectors. Her PhD student, Nathan Brown, was awarded the \$20K SOM Structural Engineering Travel Fellowship to visit buildings around the world that synthesize cross-disciplinary design goals. Mueller was named to the Ford International Career Development Chair (2016–2019).

Norford concluded nine years of service as associate head of the department and replaced Fernandez as director of the Building Technology program. He and Terry Knight completed their duties as co-chairs of a departmental committee that developed a new MIT departmental minor in design, which has been approved by the Institute and is now attracting students. As a long-term member of the Institute's Committee for Transportation and Parking, Norford helped develop a system that substantially lowers the costs for employees to use public transportation and is intended to reduce road congestion, vehicle-sourced air pollution, and demand for construction of new on-campus parking facilities.

Ochsendorf received the 2016 Gordon Y. Billard Award for Service at the MIT Awards Convocation in May. The consulting firm Ochsendorf DeJong and Block, formed with Building Technology PhD alumni Matthew DeJong ('09) and Philippe Block ('09), won the Grand Conceptor Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Massachusetts for its work on MIT's Sean Collier Memorial. The team also participated in the 2016 Venice Architecture Biennale with two major installations featuring vaulted masonry structures.

Reinhart's Sustainable Design Lab continued its work on urban building energy modeling. In a high-profile symposium with government and industry representatives in Kuwait City, a set of energy efficiency measures were presented to reduce the city's annual electricity use by 85%. The lab's new citywide urban building energy model of Boston was combined with resident income and ownership rates to develop energy-

saving incentive programs with wider demographic appeal. Behnisch Architekten is supporting a new PhD thesis in the lab with a three-year fellowship of more than \$105,000.

## Design and Computation

### Personnel

Personnel in Design and Computation were professors Terry Knight and George Stiny; associate professors with tenure Takehiko Nagakura (on leave fall) and Lawrence Sass; and associate professor of the practice Dennis Shelden (fall). Skylar Tibbits was appointed assistant professor of design research effective July 1, 2016; his appointment is joint with the Architectural Design discipline group. Nagakura served as group director.

### Faculty Activities, Notes

The ongoing goal of the group is to explore collaborations with industry and academia to extend the boundary of research in computation and spatial design.

The group's lecture series, curated by Knight and PhD candidate Theodora Vardouli, featured talks by Andrew Pickering, Natasha Schüll, Lauren McCarthy, Fred Turner, Orit Halpern, and Shona Kitchen.

Knight and Vardouli co-edited a special issue of the *Design Studies* journal focusing on Computational Making (November 2015). Knight helped organize the workshop, *Advances in Shape Grammars: Implemented Shape Grammars*, at the June 2016 Design Computing and Cognition' conference in Evanston, IL.

Nagakura joined the MIT-SUTD International Design Center research program as a principal investigator (2016–2019). In addition, he delivered several lectures, including a keynote speech at the Idea-Tops Award Ceremony and Forum in Shenzhen, China, where he was also on the award jury. Nagakura participated in an exhibition at the Ba-Tsu Art Gallery in Tokyo, presented several papers in Vienna and Istanbul, and taught two workshops—one at the Kyoto Institute of Technology—as part of MIT's 4.550/4.570 Digital Heritage.

Sass, with SUTD colleague Chen, received a \$150K SMART Innovation Grant for the planar structure design software project, *Planar Structure Designer: A Design Tool for the Maritime Industry* (January 2016–June 2017). Sass participated in an exhibition, *Designing Affordability*, at the American Institute of Architects' Center for Architecture in New York (October 2015–January 2016).

Shelden resigned from his position as Associate Professor of the Practice of Architecture in Design and Computation at MIT to accept a tenured faculty position at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Stiny's research continued to explore the relationships between design/innovation and art (painting and poetry) and, with the University of Leeds Department of Mechanical

Engineering, on design shape and structure. His essay, "The Critic as Artist: Oscar Wilde's Prolegomena to Shape Grammars," was published in *The Nexus Network* journal, vol. 17.

## History, Theory and Criticism and Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture

### Personnel

Personnel in History, Theory and Criticism (HTC), including the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture (AKPIA), were professors Mark Jarzombek (on leave fall), Caroline Jones, Nasser Rabbat (on leave; AKPIA director), and James Wescoat (joint appointment with the Department of Urban Studies and Planning; AKPIA acting director); associate professor with tenure Arindam Dutta (on leave); associate professors without tenure Timothy Hyde and Kristel Smentek; assistant professor Lauren Jacobi (on leave); visiting associate professors David Gissen and Felicity Scott (fall); and lecturers Sibel Bozdogan and Christian Hedrick (fall). Jones served as group director. Smentek was promoted to associate professor with tenure effective July 1, 2016.

### Faculty Activities, Notes

Curriculum development included implementation of new restricted electives for the department's MArch degree program, the coding of doctoral hurdles with subject numbers to facilitate monitoring, and the final approval of the HTC subject-forming part of the forthcoming Design Minor.

Rebecca Uchill, Mellon-CAST postdoctoral researcher with HTC, was awarded funding from the MIT Council for the Arts and The Alumni Class Funds for new subject 4.S67 Special Subject: Study in Modern Art. This landscape experience seminar will be taught with Jones in fall 2016 and entail an extensive student field trip to land art in the American southwest during the summer of 2016.

Finally, HTC helped implement shifts to admitted student registration to allow incoming MArch students to take Jarzombek's MOOC (massive open online course), "Global History of Architecture," as a prerequisite to the required architectural history subject.

HTC hosted several visiting scholars ranging from a researcher investigating Turkish diasporal female architects (Meral Ekincioglu), to a Heidegger specialist who generously co-chaired a reading group with Jones (Jacob Wamberg), to a historian of modern Chinese architecture (Kai Wang). Emerging scholars Itohan Osayimwese and Inge Hinterwaldner were also present, engaging in reading groups or giving workshops on their research.

HTC Forum speakers were featured in the department's main lecture series: Felicity Scott and George Baird (fall); and Lucia Allais and Leon Wainwright (spring).

The students received for their scholarship: Getty Library Research grants (2), a Fulbright student research award, a Harold Horowitz (1951) Student Research Fund award, a Palestinian American Research Center fellowship, and a Canadian Centre for Architecture research fellowship. Citizenship awards include a Karl Taylor Compton

Prize, a Graduate Student Life Grant, a Queen's Young Leaders Award, and a profile in *Forbes* magazine's "30 Under 30" Asia: Social Entrepreneurs."

HTC was able to consolidate its offices into a single, renovated suite in August 2015, greatly facilitating discussion and exchange among most of the faculty (colleagues in AKPIA remained down the hall).

HTC admitted 8 PhD applicants out of a pool of 78 with a target of 4; 4 enrolled. The program admitted 2 SMArchS applicants out of a pool of 10 with a target of 2; 1 enrolled.

HTC faculty maintained a strong profile through research awards, publications, and conferences. Dutta (on leave) received a grant from the Samuel Tak Lee Lab Faculty Seed Fund program for the project, New Entrepreneurship and SMEs within Urban Cores: Barriers to Entry?

Hyde and Jarzombek contributed to Institute-wide arts discussions, participating in McDermott Award winner David Adjaye's collateral events on the future of the museum and the campus.

Jacobi was on leave for the year as a Rome Prize recipient.

Jones was named Director of Arts Initiatives for SA+P. In that capacity, she organized networking events for those active in the arts, and coordinated nominations from the School for the MIT Distinguished Visiting Artist award.

Smentek received tenure and was awarded a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies.

### **Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture**

The Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT is a leading program in the study of architecture in the Islamic world. Its outreach activities include a lecture series, a travel grant program, and a postdoctoral fellowships program. The AKPIA lecture series hosted Carolyn Christov-Bakargiev and Soumyen Bandyopadhyay. Visiting postdoctoral fellows Jan Haenraets and Filippo De Dominicis also lectured. An AKPIA-sponsored symposium, *New Frontiers in Gulf Urbanism*, included presentations by Hashim Sarkis, Sharon Smith, Soumyen Bandyopadhyay, Samia Kirchner, Stephen Ramos, Attilio Petruccioli, and James Wescoat. In spring 2015, the program admitted one PhD and three SMArchS candidates.

Rabbat was on leave for the academic year, having received fellowships at the Paris Institute for Advanced Study (spring 2016) and at Annemarie Schimmel Kolleg, University of Bonn (2015–16). His journal publications, book chapters, and conference presentations addressed issues of architecture, Islamic cultural heritage, and identity. He published *Al-Naqd Iltizaman: Nazarat fi-l Tarikh wal 'Ururba wal Thawra (Criticism as Commitment: Viewpoints on History, Arabism, and Revolution)* (Beirut: Riad Al-Rayyes, 2015.)

Wescoat completed a collaborative international study on “blue-green urban infrastructure. Funded by the Ramboll Liveable Cities Lab, the project” included MIT case studies of Boston and Mumbai. He published journal articles and chapters on landscape research and water resources, including drinking water and sanitation, that led to a collaboration with the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation in India. In January 2016, he contributed to the formation of the Centre for Water Informatics and Technology at the Lahore University of Management Sciences in Pakistan, where he chairs the Centre’s advisory group.

## **MIT Program in Art, Culture and Technology**

### **Personnel, Faculty Activities, Notes**

Personnel in Art, Culture and Technology (ACT) were professor Renée Green; associate professor with tenure Gediminas Urbonas; assistant professor Azra Aksamija; and lecturers Lara Baladi, Rosa Barba (spring), Liesbeth Bik (spring), Claudia Joskowicz, Kelly Nipper, Tobias Putrih, Jan Werner (spring), and Johannes Van der Pol (spring). Urbonas has been ACT director since January 2015. Aksamija was promoted to associate professor without tenure effective July 1, 2016. For additional program notes and faculty activities, refer to the separate entry for ACT in the School of Architecture and Planning’s “Reports to the President.”

### **Architecture Student Council**

The Architecture Student Council hosts student events and serves as liaison with department administration. Leadership during 2016 included co-presidents Olivia Huang and Rob Panossian, along with Akshita Sivakumar, Anne Graziano, Anran Li, Daniel Garcia, Elizabeth Yarina, Nicole Ashurian, Joseph Swerdlin, and 2015 co-presidents Kristina Eldrenkamp and Jessica Jorge. The council held weekly happy hours, orientation, end-of-year barbecues, a fall lawn games day, a spring shirt design competition, and a movie event. Council members also provided snacks during finals period. The council coordinated theses help and a mentor program, and hosted town hall meetings with the department head to discuss student issues. The council was actively involved in Open House and suggestions for lectures, visiting faculty, and curriculum development.

**J. Meejin Yoon**

**Department Head**

**Professor of Architecture**