

Department of Urban Studies and Planning

In academic year 2004, the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP) continued to benefit from extraordinarily high yields on graduate admissions (approximately 70 percent) and continued with innovative changes to the core curriculum of the Master in City Planning program, focused on the deployment of community-based and client-linked “practicum” subjects in several cities. The department also sponsored several special semester-long colloquia, dealing with subjects including “e-Planning,” “Cities in Conflict,” and “Cities Against Nationalism.” As part of its efforts to consolidate a new cross-cutting initiative in Urban Information Systems, the department convened an international conference on “Information Technology and Public Participation” in November 2003.

Successful searches for faculty and senior academic staff yielded a new chairperson for the Center for Real Estate (Tony Ciochetti), who was also appointed professor of practice in the department; an associate professor appointment for sociologist/planner Xavier de Souza Briggs; and partial resolution of a search for a transportation planner (with the appointment expected to commence in 2005, pending the completion of dissertation by the chosen candidate). Jointly with Science, Technology, and Society and the Program in Media Arts and Sciences, the department also launched a multiyear visiting professor arrangement with renowned sociologist/theorist Manuel Castells. Most centrally, during the middle of the academic year, the department welcomed the School’s new dean, Adèle Naudé Santos. In addition to her administrative role, she will have a joint faculty appointment in DUSP, where she will significantly augment the Joint Program in City Design and Development.

The department hosted its Visiting Committee (VC) on October 8 and 9, 2003, for a highly productive and supportive set of meetings. The VC noted that “great progress had been made since the last VC meeting two years ago,” and that “most of the key issues identified in the last Visiting Committee report had either been addressed or significant progress had been made.” The VC particularly praised the department’s research productivity (17 faculty books published since the 2001 meeting), leadership efforts in both the department and the Center for Real Estate, as well as “improvements in the tenure outlook for junior faculty, increased support for graduate student aid, and overall improvement in the technology infrastructure within the department.” The VC properly noted that “The key challenge facing the department is the need to stabilize student financial aid” and reiterated a frequently voiced need to improve and expand the space occupied by the department: “Another key challenge for the department is the need to create a cohesive and acceptable physical environment for the DUSP community. Too many of the programs within the department are in disparate physical locations. The department needs to recapture the space that was given to the Institute for use in staging the Institute campus plan. This space is desperately needed to provide adequate space for research and teaching.”

Progress on Departmental Priorities

In September 2002, incoming department head Lawrence Vale set out the following seven priorities for the department over the next several years:

- Faculty and staff well-being
- Community diversity
- One department, not five
- Engagement with local communities
- Improved departmental communications
- Sustainable computing environment
- Progress on space and dollars

Academic year 2004 brought some progress on each of these fronts. Aided by the superb efforts of administrative officer Karen Yegian (who was recognized with one of the Institute's coveted "Excellence" awards in 2003), staff morale and organization markedly improved during the course of the year. More generally, despite the tough Institute budget climate, departmental spirits remained high. As the Visiting Committee put it, "There was a noticeable improvement in the general positive outlook of the DUSP community."

In terms of diversity, following seven consecutive successful faculty searches over the last several years, academic year 2004 began with a department faculty that was 39 percent women, among the highest female representations at the Institute. The year closed with the appointment of Xavier de Souza Briggs, a Latino sociologist/planner who conducts work on community development and race relations. On the student diversity front, extraordinary leadership from current students, alumni, and faculty helped increase the applicant pool of underrepresented minorities and to ensure that those admitted would choose to attend MIT. Seventy-nine percent of our African American and Latino admissions say they are coming for 2004 (11 out of 14); similarly, 75percent of our Asian American admissions say they are coming (9 of 12).

Efforts to build bridges across the department's program groups continued in AY2004. The major challenge has been to implement the Urban Information Systems (UIS) initiative, intended as a way to gather together the department's technology related research in a way that draws from each of the four remaining program groups (City Design and Development; Housing, Community, and Economic Development; Environmental Policy; and International Development and Regional Planning). Progress has remained slow, and UIS has still been excessively dependent on outside visitors, but there is hope for greater consolidation. Other efforts to keep the department from fragmenting into its constituent parts have included an ongoing program of department-wide social events, encouragement for program groups to jointly sponsor lectures, and efforts to have individual faculty affiliate with more than one program group.

DUSP's efforts to engage with local communities took a quantum leap with the introduction of three practicum subjects focused on Boston, Springfield, and Lawrence, Massachusetts. Students in the MCP program are now required to take one of these client-based subjects located in a community targeted for long-term engagement by the department. Additional practica subjects were offered in China, and there are plans to expand practica offerings both internationally and domestically in AY2005. The Department's Center for Reflective Community Practice received funding to launch its Community Innovation Lab; Martin Luther King visiting scholar Mark Lloyd coordinated an initiative on telecommunications policy with the City of Cambridge; the fall urban design studio again engaged the MIT campus interface with Cambridge; five master in city planning (MCP) students won Rappaport public policy fellowships to engage in summer-long public service internships with local government agencies during summer 2004; and numerous other students continued to work with a wide variety of local communities.

In terms of departmental communications, the year began with a new department brochure/poster entitled, "Can You Make a Difference in the World?" This was used for student recruitment and also distributed to alumni. The department's innovative intranet, known as "Plaza," continued to grow in use by the DUSP community, including some alumni as well as incoming students even before their arrival. This serves as both an information resource and as a forum for debate on a wide variety of subjects. At the end of the year, the department released its redesigned web site, intended to remedy several shortcomings of the earlier version. The department continued to communicate with its alumni through periodic email updates, with links to this web site. Additional progress on communications could happen with further consolidation of communications and web functions at the school level.

The department's computing infrastructure continued to improve during AY2004, with the Computing Resources Network under the direction of Duncan Kincaid. At the end of the year, the department hired Rhonda Ryznar, a new part-time lecturer with considerable expertise in computing and geographic information systems (GIS), to help coordinate the skill building in these areas across the first-year graduate core curriculum. The department still needs to make further investment in computing support, but this has been constrained by budgetary pressures.

Finally, concerning issues of space and dollars, AY2004 remained a difficult year. The ongoing constraints on sources of revenue plus additional mandated cuts meant that the department had to cut back in many areas during the course of the year and to postpone important investments in equipment and personnel. In absorbing cuts, the department did its best to protect its graduate student financial aid budget but nonetheless could not avoid a reduction in the number of students offered assistance. Fortunately, the provost did not cut back the department's allocation of presidential fellowships, and the dean for graduate students did not cut back the department's allocation of scholarship money too deeply. Among students offered financial aid by DUSP in spring 2004, fully 88 percent said they would attend MIT, indicating both that the department is the program of

choice worldwide and that it is imperative to resume increases in financial aid to graduate students.

Spatial constriction and disconnection remained a key concern throughout AY2004, as the Visiting Committee pointedly noted. As the year closed, the department received the excellent and long-awaited news that new space would open up in Building 9 during AY2005 and that during the interim period the department could move some of its overflow and farflung units into borrowed space on the fifth floor of Building 35. This interim step will help to bring the Special Program in Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS)/Humphrey Program back to the main campus from N51 and should start to provide adequate space to house funded research projects and resident doctoral students. The department is particularly grateful to the incoming dean of architecture and planning and to the provost for their leadership in redressing this important obstacle to departmental excellence.

Faculty Achievements

Three faculty members received promotions: Eran Ben-Joseph and Eric Klopfer were promoted to associate professor (without tenure) and Diane Davis was promoted to full professor. Professor J. Phillip Thompson won a Martin Luther King Leadership Award from MIT. Professor Balakrishnan Rajagopal was selected to hold a Ford international career development chair. He was also elected as a member of the Executive Council of the American Society of International Law, the Asia Advisory Board of Human Rights Watch, and the International Advisory Board of the Robert Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights. Professor Dennis Frenchman continued in his role as external advisor on urban livability to James Wolfenson, president of the World Bank, and was selected to serve as a juror on two important international design competitions in Washington, DC, and Shanghai. He has also been appointed to the international advisory group for Sapiens, an experimental sustainable technology development in Brazil that has been designated at the site for reconvening the World Sustainability (Rio) Conference in 2008.

DUSP's Contribution to MIT-Wide Efforts

In addition to individual faculty achievements, DUSP contributed to the following MIT-wide efforts: Alliance for Global Sustainability (AGS), Environmental Technology and Public Policy, Program on Human Rights and Justice, Integrated Program on Urban, Regional, and Global Air Pollution in Mexico City, the Beijing Urban Design Studio, the Al-Quds/Jerusalem Project, the Cambridge-MIT Institute (CMI), the Teacher Education Program, and more.

As part of sponsored research supported by the Alliance for Global Sustainability, Professor Lawrence Susskind and doctoral student Catherine Ashcraft developed a simulation for the annual AGS directors meeting in November aimed at helping university scientists, industry executives, and nongovernmental organization activists understand the issues surrounding the creation of successful Knowledge Partnerships.

Under the direction of principal research scientist David Laws, the Environmental Technology and Public Policy Program, with support from AGS and in collaboration with its partners in Japan and Switzerland, published a variety of articles and reports demonstrating that the management of new kinds of partnerships involving public agencies, private companies, and civil society is the key to environmental innovation.

Professors Susskind, Diane Davis, and Ralph Gakenheimer and graduate student staff continue to be heavily involved in MIT's Integrated Program on Urban, Regional, and Global Air Pollution in Mexico City. In addition, DUSP hosted two MS candidates in the MIT–Harvard–Mexico Master of Science in Environmental Health Policy and Management program. DUSP faculty are taking the lead in organizing an assessment of sustainable mobility possibilities in Mexico City.

Professor Dennis Frenchman led the eighth Beijing Urban Design Studio with professors Jan Wampler and Paul Lukez from the Department of Architecture and Ken Kruckemeyer from the Center for Transportation and Logistics. The studio brought 19 architecture, planning, real estate, and transportation students from MIT to Beijing for five weeks in the summer of 2004 to work with counterparts at Tsinghua University on a difficult urban design issue facing the city. The group is working on transit-oriented development along new rail lines built through the city to the site of the 2008 Olympics. Professor Frenchman also led research efforts involving students and faculty from DUSP, the Media Lab, Architecture, and Real Estate to design the Seoul, Korea, Digital Media City and Media Street as venues for introducing new communication and media technologies into the public environment. The work was done jointly with a team of planners in Seoul.

Professor Diane Davis served as principal faculty coordinator of the Al-Quds/Jerusalem Project, a joint initiative funded by the Center for International Studies (CIS) and DUSP. Davis developed a weekly public lecture series in both fall (Cities in Conflict) and spring (Cities Against Nationalism), while also convening a working group of faculty and post-doctoral candidates from Palestine, Israel, and the Institute who hammered out the details of a “vision competition” for the city in the year 2050. Work on that project will continue throughout the upcoming academic year.

Davis also spent the year as acting director of the Program on Human Rights and Justice (PHRJ), a CIS-funded program that creates opportunities for student internships and encourages research and teaching around human rights. Under her leadership, PHRJ sought to enhance its visibility as a resource for the entire MIT community by hosting speakers and events that demonstrated the relevance of a human rights framework, not only for law and politics but also for science and technology. For more detailed information on current research, related courses, the quarterly journal and working paper series, as well as the PHRJ visiting fellows program, please visit <http://web.mit.edu/phrj>.

Professor Karen R. Polenske and her multidisciplinary, multicountry team are completing a book on their six years of work with the Alliance for Global Sustainability. The book is under contract with Kluwer publishers for the coke and steelmaking energy-

conservation and pollution-reduction projects in the People's Republic of China (China). The book will cover the combustion of coal to make coke and the use of the coke in making iron for the steelmaking sector. Polenske is supervising a multidisciplinary team of chemical engineers, physicists, and planners from China, Japan, Switzerland, and the United States. On another AGS project—this one concerning the yellow-dust problem in China—the team is investigating the sequence of events that led to the atmospheric transport of the dust from the north and west of China and the economic and health effects this has on society in China, Japan, and Korea.

Professor Jennifer Davis, who is on the UN Millennium Development Task Force on Water and Sanitation, offered a water and sanitation infrastructure planning class to a combined group of about 40 MIT/Cambridge University graduate students in the spring of 2004, under the auspices of the Cambridge–MIT Institute. Professor Karen R. Polenske is in charge of the regional socioeconomic impact assessments being made for the Silent Aircraft KIC project as part of a CMI team. She is working with faculty and students in the MIT Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics and the University of Cambridge on this project.

In AY2004, MIT's Teacher Education Program (TEP), led by Professor Eric Klopfer, again reached a milestone in teacher licensure. Continuing a program that started last year, MIT students were provided with a pathway to licensure entirely at MIT. This year, TEP nearly doubled its number of licensed teachers to 12. The program was a success and has attracted great interest from students, indicating continued interest in the program. TEP will continue to contribute to the field of teacher education.

Over the last year, TEP strengthened its relationship with the Cambridge Public Schools through new projects. At the same time, it furthered relationships with the Boston Public Schools and the Brookline Public Schools while developing new partnerships with Arlington and Belmont schools. Professor Klopfer also recently began a three-year NSF-funded project to train teachers using new technologies to improve science learning. For more information on TEP, see education.mit.edu.

Research and Teaching on Urban Planning

The intellectual life of the department is organized largely around the activities of four program groups and several cross-cutting research initiatives. The program groups include City Design and Development (CDD); Environmental Policy Group (EPG); Housing, Community, and Economic Development (HCED); and International Development and Regional Planning (IDRP). Until mid-2003, the department also treated Planning Support Systems (PSS) as a program group, one focusing on the technological dimensions of planning. However, in recognition of the ways that technology now permeates the research interests of many faculty and students in each of the program groups, we have renamed and recast the PSS group. Beginning in AY2004, we established Urban Information Systems as a cross-cutting initiative rather than a separate program group. The goal is to bring together doctoral students and faculty from across the department who share an interest in information technology and its applications to planning and development.

City Design and Development

Professors John deMonchaux and Lawrence Vale joined with Professor Diane Davis to host a special colloquium and seminar entitled “Cities Against Nationalism,” exploring the challenges of planning for cities in crisis—in particular Jerusalem. The colloquium brought together scholars and practitioners from around the world to set the stage for participation in an international design competition for Jerusalem.

Professors Eran Ben-Joseph and Terry Szold completed their work on *Regulating Place*, to be published by Routledge Press, which presents papers and conclusions of the 2003 City Design and Development Forum. The volume evaluates and assesses the impacts of standards and government regulations on the built and natural environment and the practice of planning.

Professors Mark Schuster, Frenchman, and Ben-Joseph continued their research collaboration with colleagues at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya. Their most recent project, “Event Places,” looks at the relationship between urban events and the spaces within which they take place. Results of the research will be published in a book, *Event Places*, to be published by the City of Barcelona.

Research and teaching on media technology and the city continues to gain momentum. In 2003, the group established the SENSEable City Laboratory, headed by research scientist Carlo Ratti, in cooperation with the Media Lab, with support from DUSP and the dean of architecture and planning. The laboratory is undertaking work in the following three key areas: (1) “Infoscapes,” involving new ways of understanding and representing the city from emerging data; (2) “Tangible media” interfaces to allow professional and lay people to dynamically interact with intelligent physical models of sites and buildings; and (3) “Intelligent city form,” involving the design of new media and communications in public spaces and their impact on the city. Innovative projects include development of a programmable glass for use in buildings and charting real-time activity in the city through the use of cell phone data in cooperation with the largest cell phone company in Europe.

Research scientist Carlo Ratti, Frenchman, and Professor William Mitchell offered the Cannes Reloaded workshop in the fall to explore the application of new media ideas to the development of a new high-technology conference, entertainment, and residential area in Cannes, France. The project was sponsored by the city of Cannes and involved students from DUSP, Architecture, the Media Lab, and Harvard’s Graduate School of Design.

Professor Frenchman, in conjunction with research scientist Michael Joroff, has initiated a research project with the CERTI Foundation to design Sapiens, an experimental high-technology, education, entertainment, and research park on the island of Florianopolis, Brazil. The project will be the site of the World Sustainability Conference in 2008.

Environmental Policy Group

Members of the Environmental Policy Group spent much of this year working with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM, under the US Department of the Interior) to create a new Science Impact Collaborative. Dr. Herman Karl, West Coast senior scientist for USGS, spent the year at MIT (and will be spending next year at MIT as well, as codirector of the MIT-USGS Science Impact Collaborative). As part of a yearlong research seminar entitled "The Uses of Joint Fact Finding in Science: Intensive Policy Disputes," Dr. Karl helped to bring together the parties currently involved in the controversy surrounding a proposed wind farm off the coast of Nantucket. With funding from USGS and BLM for the next several years, four new Science Impact interns have been admitted to the MCP class of 2006.

The past year was also spent exploring the possibility of creating a new MIT Center on Middle East Development based in the School of Architecture and Planning. With support from more than two dozen individual donors, Professor Susskind and Professor Frank Fisher (Department of Economics) organized a campuswide dialogue. The outcome was a proposal to the MIT administration to create a new center that would focus on sustainable resource management and city development in the Middle East. At the end of the year, the School decided not to host this as a center, although individual faculty will continue projects based in their home departments.

EPG, in conjunction with the MIT-Harvard Public Disputes Program at Harvard Law School, continued its efforts to document the difficulties faced by "environmental justice activists" seeking to minimize and remediate the risks facing poor communities of color experiencing the impacts of industrial accidents. Along similar lines, action research projects in the Boston area, undertaken in partnership with New Ecology, Inc., gave EPG students an opportunity to catalyze sustainable brownfield development. Although our colleague William Shutkin will be leaving MIT to assume the post of president of the Orton Family Foundation, we expect to continue our brownfields work in the Boston metropolitan area.

Professor JoAnn Carmin hosted faculty and students from the University of Economics, Prague, as part of an ongoing Czech-US collaborative project examining how government agencies and nongovernmental organizations learn from disaster. Over the course of two weeks, EPG faculty gave a series of lectures and organized training sessions on qualitative analysis. The Czech guests also gave presentations as well as participated in a roundtable discussion on European Union enlargement and the environment that was open to the MIT community. The visit was a continuation of a program that Professor Carmin initiated last spring when she took EPG students to Prague to learn about the Czech floods of 2002, train in field research methods, and assist with data collection. The project, which is funded by the National Science Foundation, continued this spring when one PhD student and two MCP students from DUSP traveled to the Czech Republic to receive training in international fieldwork and participate in supervised data collection and analysis activities.

The Environmental Technology and Public Policy Program (ETP) will begin a multiyear research project with partners at Erasmus University, the Technical University of Delft, and TNO, one of the largest research and technology organizations in Europe. The project is financed by the government of the Netherlands through an organization called Habiforum. It will explore alternative strategies for involving citizens in addressing complex environmental, urban, and land use problems. ETP will play a role in the design of practice experiments that address traffic, health, and natural resource management and in the research program that will document and analyze experience from these experiments.

Professor Judy Layzer is investigating whether and how collaborative, ecosystem-scale planning and management yields environmentally protective outcomes. She is looking at five major efforts around the US, including the Chesapeake Bay Program, the Everglades restoration, and the California Bay–Delta program.

A group of MIT graduate students has developed and coordinated a speaker series focused on the practice of sustainability in design, engineering, planning, and development. This series, entitled “Practicing the Elusive: Integrating Sustainability into the Built Environment,” engaged pioneers in this field, asking them to describe particular projects and the challenges that they faced in completing them. Organized by students from the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, the Department of Architecture, the Center for Real Estate, and the Technology and Public Policy Program, this series also helped build connections between different departments and schools within MIT and spurred the formation of a new student group, the Sustainable Urban Development Society, that plans to organize similar talks in coming years. The speakers provided an image of the practice of sustainability in the built environment, framing how the design, engineering, development, and planning professions can shift to transform how our buildings and communities function.

Housing Community and Economic Development

This year’s HCED agenda built on that of the previous year: exploration of “new immigrant neighborhoods” in the nation’s cities. The Wednesday luncheon series again reflected this theme as a variety of speakers—both practitioners and researchers—presented their experience and findings on issues ranging from the challenge of immigration after 9/11 to the role of emerging immigrant unions. The audience at the series was again one that cut across the department well beyond the HCED community.

What came to be known as the “Bemis Seminar” provided an opportunity for those engaged in practica in Boston, Lawrence, and Springfield, Massachusetts, to come together once a week to discuss their experience in those cities. This was the year that the long-discussed practica became a requirement that obligated MCP students to work “on the ground” in a community. The Bemis Seminar (which derived its name from the School’s Bemis Fund) provided a context in the fall of 2003 to discuss planning efforts for the spring when the classes would actually be held. The group included the faculty leaders of the practica—senior lecturer Karl Seidman, professors Langley Keyes, Caesar McDowell, and Lorlene Hoyt—as well as professors Martin Rein, J. Phillip Thompson,

and Xavier Briggs. Students who were serving as TAs or instructors were also engaged in the discussion, which ranged from substantive discussions of the nature of commercial and economic development in immigrant neighborhoods to the logistics of working with government in cities such as Springfield and Lawrence, where the technical and financial capacity was limited and the gap profound between the culture of “the Hall” and the immigrant neighborhoods.

In the course of the spring, the group spent considerable time focused on Professor Hoyt’s idea of “Forgotten Cities” – third-tier places such as Buffalo, Hartford, and of course Lawrence and Springfield – which have deep-rooted financial, physical, and economic problems as well as significant immigrant populations. The experience in Lawrence and Springfield provides a vivid illustration of the challenge of making progress in these cities, which often disappear into the shadow of the larger and more publicized urban areas.

The HCED group benefited again from a strong applicant pool that had a number of highly qualified candidates, a very high percentage of whom accepted our admissions offer. Again there is a group of them who are bilingual, an increasingly important talent as work goes forward in neighborhoods of new immigrants.

International Development and Regional Planning

The faculty in the International Development and Regional Planning group are involved in multiyear research and teaching activities, each involving two to seven graduate students and/or SPURS fellows. Many of the research efforts by the IDRP faculty focus on comparative studies between industrialized and developing countries. Overall, the faculty and students are working or planning to work on all continents. At least seven of the master’s and PhD students had papers accepted for presentation at international conferences in China, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, and Sweden. Two of the PhD students have been accepted into the World Bank Young Professional Program.

Professor Diane Davis began working with a group of IDRP students and SPURS fellows who are interested in cities in conflict, owing to war and other political upheavals that fundamentally alter conditions and structures of urban governance. This project builds on her prior research on violence and public insecurity in cities in countries undergoing political and economic transition. At present, she is developing a project with Professor Jo Beall, director of the Development Studies Department of the London School of Economics, to develop a taxonomy of cities in conflict that could serve as a basis for assessing the unique planning challenges and priorities faced by these cities.

Ralph Gakenheimer is working with the World Bank on a policy study for urban transportation in China. He is developing a project for exchange of experiences in mobility and air quality among four cities – Mexico City, Santiago, Bogota, and São Paulo. He is also supporting the academic development of a new graduate program in transportation and logistics at the Malaysia University of Science and Technology.

Professor Balakrishnan Rajagopal is currently developing a research project on the human rights of *dalits* (so-called untouchables) in India to water, health, and sanitation with Professor Susan Murcott from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. This project, with the participation of students from both departments, will be supported by the Robert Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights initially and will run for the next two years. He is also currently working on his next book on the place of economic, social, and cultural rights in comparative law and politics. He published *International Law from Below: Development, Social Movements and Third World Resistance* (Cambridge University Press, 2003). A Spanish translation of this book is forthcoming in 2005. He was a visiting fellow at the Center for the Study of Law and Governance at Jawaharlal Nehru University and the Madras Institute for Development Studies in India during spring 2004 when he was on leave.

Urban Information Systems

Research and teaching related to Urban Information Systems (UIS) continued to examine and shape the growing impacts of information and communications technologies (ICT) on urban planning, metropolitan governance, and our sense of community. ICT has greatly facilitated the capacity to study neighborhood-scale planning interventions and to understand and model the key factors that influence urban spatial structure and use patterns. Advances in information technologies have also enabled the location and spatial interaction of people, buildings, and events to be tracked, modeled, visualized, and manipulated as never before. The result has been a rapid growth of new opportunities—and risks—ranging from e-government, community empowerment, environmental monitoring, and urban modeling to increased concerns about privacy, security, “big brother,” redlining, and a digital divide.

New and expanded initiatives with significant UIS elements included the following: a Brookings Institute–funded project on intelligent middleware for understanding urban markets; US Department of Transportation–funded projects on urban spatial structure, job-housing balance, and commuting patterns; foundation-supported work on community building, social networking, and participatory planning; industry and nonprofit support for studies of urban mobility and mobile learning; collaborative work with local and regional agencies on MetroFuture planning and on a regional data repository; an e-planning seminar series exploring the state of the art; and an international conference on public participation and information technology.

Graduate Degree Program Enrollment and Activities

Our graduate programs enrolled 199 students this year. Of the total, 57 percent were women, 15 percent of US students were underrepresented minorities, and 33 percent were international students. The department granted 58 MCP, 13 SM, and 6 PhD degrees.

The Master’s in City Planning (MCP) Committee devoted much energy this year to the implementation of remaining elements of the new core curriculum approved in 2002. The fall term saw the implementation of the core practicum requirement with the

unveiling of six subjects, including three new subjects that will directly engage MCP students in the practice of city planning in the field. The subjects involve different venues and types of practice and included community development initiatives in Lawrence, Boston, and Springfield, two workshops in China involving waterfront planning and urban design, and practica focusing on the application of technology and sustainable development. The subjects are jointly taught by faculty from different program groups to encourage cross-cutting approaches and innovation. The committee also implemented new standards and procedures for thesis preparation, including a new spring Thesis Prep subject for students who wish to begin their research over the summer. Other elements of the core, implemented last year, continue to evolve in response to experience and student feedback.

During the past year, the PhD Committee formulated a preliminary plan to restructure the program with a goal of moving students more quickly through their general examinations and into their dissertation. The central element of the plan will be fixed-format general exams at the end of the second year, a replacement for the current system in which each student writes an individual exam proposal sometime in their second or third year. A second element of the plan is a schedule of discussions for first-year PhD students on topics including finding fellowship aid and how to write a journal article. A third element is a weekly seminar for advanced PhD students to give job market candidates a chance to present their job talks and earlier-stage PhD students a chance to present their preliminary thesis work. The plan will be presented to the faculty for their approval in the early fall.

Undergraduate Program Activities

During AY2004, the Undergraduate Committee (UG) worked with DUSP undergraduate majors to expand contact among DUSP faculty and undergraduates and to enhance the visibility of the program among undergraduates. Among the new initiatives underway is an effort to introduce an international development track among undergraduate urban studies majors and minors. In addition to scheduling seminars for undergraduates with new DUSP faculty, the UG Committee hosted several social occasions to foster faculty-student dialogue.

The department offers an annual study trip to a foreign city. During IAP 2004, Dr. Pedro Ferraz de Abreu, a lecturer in the department, led a study trip to Lisbon, Portugal in which eight majors participated. The students visited diverse neighborhoods, institutions, and organizations and met with local planners, architects, and engineers who showed them how the city has been planned and built.

Student Awards

Our students received an unusually large number of awards this year from the Institute, national and international organizations, and the department.

MIT Awards

MIT 2004 Summer Public Service Fellowship	Evan Freund of Washington, DC
MIT Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture 2004-05 Travel Grant	Amanda Ikert of Jakarta, Indonesia
MIT Carroll Wilson Award	Shahid Nanavati of Oakville, Ontario, Canada; Claudia Canepa of Arequipa, Peru
MIT China Program International Science and Technology Initiatives Scholarship	Erik Nielsen of Toronto, Ontario, Canada
MIT Department of Architecture William Everett Chamberlin Prize for Achievement in Design	Sarah Shin of Seoul, Korea
MIT Energy, Technology and International Affairs Summer Fellowship	Nora Libertun of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Zhan Guo of Shandong Province, China; Apiwat Ratanawaraha of Chiangmai, Thailand; Sunil Tankha of Calcutta, India
MIT Harold Horowitz (1951) Student Research Fund Award	Salo Coslovsky of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Lianne Fisman of London, Ontario, Canada; M. Dhakshike Wickrema of Colombo, Sri Lanka; Susana M. Williams of Lima, Peru
MIT Ida Green Fellowship	Lynn Pyun of Seoul, Korea
MIT Industrial Performance Center Doctoral Fellowship	Apiwat Ratanawaraha of Chiangmai, Thailand
MIT Kelly Douglas Fund Award	Evan Freund of Washington, DC; Susana M. Williams of Lima, Peru; Erik Nielsen of Toronto, Ontario, Canada
MIT Martin Family Graduate Fellowships for Sustainability	Pia Marili Kohler of Coppet, Switzerland; Anjali Mahendra of New Delhi, India; Christina Davis Rosan of Brooklyn, NY/Cambridge, MA; Michael Sable of Brooklyn, NY; Raja Shankar of Pune, India; Li Yu of China
MIT Presidential Graduate Fellowship	Catherine Ashcraft of New York, NY; Salo Coslovsky of Sao Paulo, Brazil; William Bradshaw of Webster, TX; LaTonya Green of El Paso, Texas; Rajendra Kumar of Chennai, India; Nora Libertun of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Shannon McKay of Henrico County, VA; Erik Nielsen of Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Georgeta Vidican of Salonta, Romania; Jinhua Zhao of Qingdao, Shandong, China
MIT Program on Human Rights and Justice Summer Internships	Claudia Canepa of Arequipa, Peru; Ella Lazarte of California; Pankaj Kumar of Hyderabad, India; Susana M. Williams of Lima, Peru; Valentina Zuin of Milan, Italy
MIT Provost Fellowship	Kim Alleyne of London, UK

MIT Public Service Center Grant	Susana M. Williams of Lima, Peru
MIT Student Activities Office "Best Planned Event"	Fair Trade Week by Students for Labor Justice: Elizabeth Bast of Chapel Hill, NC; Sarah Connolly of Bethesda, MD; Tam Doan of Los Angeles, CA; Ian Finlayson of Matlock, UK; Robin Macgregor of Washington, DC; Monica Romis of Naples, Italy; Tracy Sayegh of New York, NY; Jean Walsh of Lakewood, CO; Valentina Zuin of Milan, Italy

National/International Awards

2004 Boston-Area Affordable Housing Development Competition First Place	Diana Bernal of Glendale, CA; Whitney Foutz of Blacksburg, VA; Leslie Mullins of Cleveland, OH; Ray Hodges of Hancock, MI; Second Place: Helen Donaldson of Ellsworth, ME; Will Carry of New York, NY; Diana Sherman of Austin, TX
2004 Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Dissertation Fellowship	P. Christopher Zegras of Cambridge, MA
2004 Urban Land Institute Gerald D. Hines Student Urban Design Competition finalists	Sarah Roszler of Montreal, Canada; Sean Sacks of Boston, MA
Alfonso Reyes Chair in Mexican Studies, University of Sorbonne Paris III	Alfonso Valenzuela, SPURS Fellow from Mexico
American Planning Association Charles Abrams Scholarship	Annis Whitlow of Haddonfield, NJ
American Planning Association Massachusetts Chapter 2003 Student Project Award	James Alexander of Atlanta, GA; Martha Bonilla-Penalosa of Boxborough, MA; Ray Hodges of Hancock, MI; Meghan Fennelly of Hopkinton, MA; Erin Neel of Butler, PA; Tracy Sayegh of New York, NY; Mee Heh Risdon MCP '03; Lieza Vincent of Willimantic, CT
EDAW Summer Internship Program	Adam Tell Metzger of Cambridge, MA
Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship in Science, Technology and Globalization	Smita Srinivas of Bangalore, India/Brookline, MA
Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, Research Fellowship	Criseida Navarro-Diaz of San Juan, Puerto Rico
Harvard Yenching Institute Doctoral Fellowship	Apiwat Ratanawaraha of Chiangmai, Thailand
Institute of Transportation Engineers 2003 Coordinating Council Award	Jumana Nabti of Palo Alto, CA

International Council on Monument and Sites Fellowship/Internship	Caitlin O'Connor of Andover, MA
National Science Foundation Science and Technology Studies Dissertation Grant	Kath Phelan of Melbourne, Australia
National Security and Education Program Boren Fellowship	Melody Tulier of Brooklyn, New York
Palestinian-American Research Center (PARC) Award	Yusef Jabareen, SPURS Fellow from Israel
Presidential Management Fellowship	Chris Hodges of East Grand Rapids, MI; Todd Kohr of Columbus, OH
Public Policy and International Affairs Fellows	Diana Bernal of Glendale, CA; Leslie Mullins of Cleveland, OH; Sung-Min (Thomas) Suh of Seoul, Korea
Rappaport Public Policy Fellowships	Ariel Bierbaum of Berkeley Heights, NJ; Shoma Haque of Chittagong, Bangladesh; Anne Herbst of Roslindale, MA; Carli Paine of Oakland, CA; Arah Schuur of New York, NY
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada Doctoral Fellowship; Harvard University Center for the Environment China Project Travel Award	Erik Nielsen of Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Thomas F. Saarinen 2004 Outstanding Student Paper Award, American Association of Geographers	Lianne Fisman of London, Ontario, Canada
Urban China Research Network Grant	Hongliang Zhang of Wuhan, Hubei, China
World Bank Young Professionals	Yan Zhang of Beijing, China; Uri Raich of Mexico City, Mexico

Departmental Awards

American Institute of Certified Planners Outstanding Student Award	Annis Whitlow of Haddonfield, NJ
Bernard J. Frieden Fellowship	Diana Bernal of Glendale, CA
Outstanding Contribution to Intellectual Life of the Department	Myoung-Gu Kang of Seoul, Korea
Outstanding Contribution, Honorable Mention	Gan Golan of El Cerrito, CA
Student Departmental Service Award	James Alexander of Atlanta, Georgia
Outstanding MCP Thesis	Tracy Sayegh of New York, NY; Mark Shorett of Seattle, WA

Outstanding MCP Thesis, Honorable Mention	Chris Hodges of Columbus, OH; Jenifer Kaminsky of Jamaica Plain, MA; Harini Venkatesh of Mumba, India
Outstanding PhD Dissertation	Peilei Fan of Nanjing, China
O. Robert Simha Prize	Ray Hodges of Hancock, MI; Todd Kohr of Columbus, OH
Flora Crockett Stephenson Writing Prize	Jenifer Kaminsky of Jamaica Plain, MA
Lloyd and Nadine Rodwin Travel Grants	Nora Libertun of Buenos Aires, Argentina; Salo Coslovsky of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Adam Tell Metzger of Cambridge, MA; Moshahida Sultana of Dhaka, Bangladesh
Rubinstein Foundation Travel Fellowships	Kim Alleyne of London, UK; Hiba Bon Akar of Al-Shouf, Lebanon; Erin Camarena of San Francisco, CA; Justin Pauly of Taipei, Taiwan; Whitney Foutz of Blacksburg, VA
Urban Design Certificates	David Masentan of Anaheim, CA; Alexandra Reitman of Montreal, Canada; Mark Shorett of Seattle, WA

Staff Awards

Rolf R. Engler Award for Outstanding Service by Support or Administrative Staff	Daniela Trammell
Rolf R. Engler Award, Honorable Mention	Mike Enos

Outreach to Alumni

Local alumni continued to play an active role in sponsoring internships for students, providing career advice at the alumni career forums organized by each of the program groups, and participating as guest lecturers in numerous classes. Alumni across the country offered summer positions for current students and served as employers for recent graduates. Alumni also participated on a key discussion panel during orientation for incoming students in August 2003. They played a role in launching the new practicum requirement, a key element in the revised MCP core curriculum.

DUSP continues to maintain connections with alumni across the country. "The Alumni/ae Connection," a monthly electronic newsletter reaching more than 80 percent of our alumni, has been well received and has prompted numerous updates from alumni on their personal and professional lives.

In October 2003, alumni again assisted in DUSP student recruitment efforts by joining Chancellor Clay, faculty, and current students in open houses in Los Angeles and New York City. Both events were well attended and considered to be quite successful.

In spring 2004, DUSP also launched a Career Resources Website aimed at serving alumni as well as current students in terms of continued professional development, as well as meeting their needs as potential employers of DUSP students and graduates.

Departmental receptions held at the annual conferences of the American Planning Association and Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning provided venues to catch up with alumni from across the country.

The department proudly presented the third annual Excellence in Public Service Awards to Noah Maslan (MCP 2001) of Cambridge, MA, and Michael Mendez (MCP 2003) of Sacramento, CA.

International Connection

The Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies in Developing Areas hosted 15 fellows this year, 5 of whom participated as part of the Hubert H. Humphrey Program. These fellows represented the following 13 countries: China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Germany, Haiti, India, Israel, Korea, Liberia, Mexico, Moldova, Serbia and Montenegro, and Venezuela. In keeping with SPURS' interdisciplinary emphasis, the fellows brought professional expertise from a broad range of fields. Their research interests covered a variety of areas, including transferability of American urban development policies to Eastern Europe; evolution of public spaces, democratization, and criminality in Mexico City; conflict resolution and local development in Addis Ababa; and the role of peace-keeping nongovernmental organizations in Liberia.

SPURS launched two seminar series this year as a means of creating a broad discussion forum for planning issues. The seminar series in the fall of 2003, "Cities, Planning, and Spatial Patterns," featured an interdisciplinary set of academics and practitioners examining the relationships among space, policy, and urban settings in a variety of contexts.

The second series was held in the spring of 2004 and was entitled, "Planning in Transition Economies for Growth and Equity." The seminars in this series revolved around the transformation process of Eastern European and Asian countries away from centrally planned economies and toward more market-based orientation.

The SPURS fellows also organized their own symposium, "Risks, Trust, and Plans," during the Independent Activities Period of 2004. This symposium allowed the fellows to formally present their research in light of these three themes, followed by commentator-led discussions. A wide range of students and faculty from both MIT and surrounding educational institutions attended. These seminars continued the SPURS tradition of creating a space for dialogue among scholars, practitioners, fellows, the MIT community, and beyond.

This year was also unique in terms of awards. For the first time in SPURS history, the following awards were granted to fellows: MIT Carroll Wilson Award; Palestinian-American Award; and Alfonso Reyes Chair in Mexican Studies.

After eight years as director of the SPURS/Humphrey Program, John de Monchaux will be passing this responsibility over to Bish Sanyal at the beginning of July.

Community Partnerships

The Center for Reflective Community Practice continued its strong partnership with community-based organizations. Entering its fourth year, the collaboration with the North End neighborhood of Springfield, Massachusetts, included a community practicum course to design a community campus, technology planning, and digital storytelling. A new community practitioner fellowship was created for community outreach workers to advance their craft. The Community GIS (geographic information system) Project extended its exciting work to develop new tools for mapping and spatial data management as a primary enabling technology for information management and analysis around place-based issues. Other important new projects launched at the center this year were the Community Innovation Lab, a catalyst for technology innovation in the community building field; the Boston Community Learning Project, illuminating the critical role of organizing in community development; and the Community Learning Products, a new line of social action tools disseminating community knowledge in the critical areas of race, culture, and organizing.

Research Funding

Faculty and staff raised \$1,166,734 in new funds in FY2004 for the following projects:

Principal research scientist Thomas Piper was awarded \$225,000 over three years by the American College of Cardiology, the first member of the proposed MIT Laboratory for Mobile Learning Consortium, for a project entitled "Scientific Session of the Future."

Professor Eric Klopfer, director of the Teacher Education Program, was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) subcontract through the Santa Fe Institute in the amount of \$136,993 for a project entitled "New Mexico Adventures in Modeling: Integrating IT into the Curriculum through Computer Modeling Approaches."

Professor Karen R. Polenske received funding from the Alliance for Global Sustainability through the Lab for Energy and the Environment in the amount of \$81,500 for the project "Improving Sustainability in Heavy Polluting Sectors in China."

Principal research scientist David Laws is working on a project entitled "Monitoring Policy Design and Implementation," for which he has received a grant of \$48,600 from the State of Wisconsin. This project will monitor and advise on a program of regulatory reform that changes the way the state interacts with stakeholders around environmental regulation.

Professor JoAnn Carmin received NSF funding of \$44,483 for her project, “International Cooperative Research on Environmental Policy Learning and Capacity Development in the Czech Republic.”

Professor Judith Layzer was granted \$5,858 by the Smith Richardson Foundation to complete her research (begun at Middlebury College) entitled, “Science, Citizen Involvement, and Collaborative Environmental Policymaking,” an in-depth examination of five cases of collaborative, ecosystem-scale planning and management.

Professor Keith Hampton was awarded a \$5,000 grant from Microsoft Corporation, an unrestricted gift in support of his work on neighborhood community networks.

The Center for Reflective Community Practice, under the directorship of Ceasar McDowell, was awarded three research grants in FY2004. The Waitt Family Foundation granted \$300,000 for the center’s “Community Innovation Lab.” The Waitt Family Foundation also awarded an additional \$144,300 for the GIS/Community Mapping Project (begun last year with a grant of \$130,000), through which three community organizations receive training and technical support to use GIS mapping for grassroots community organizing. The Annie E. Casey Foundation has granted \$175,000 for the Boston Community Learning Project, an initiative to gather, via grassroots organizations, the knowledge accumulated over the last 20 years of community organizing in Boston and analyze its effectiveness.

Lawrence J. Vale
Department Head
Professor of Urban Studies and Planning
MacVicar Faculty Fellow

More information about the Department of Urban Studies and Planning can be found on the web at <http://dusp.mit.edu/>.