

## **Department of Urban Studies and Planning**

### **Highlights**

The admissions yield for the Master in City Planning (MCP) program equaled its record high of 70%. Further, for next year's class, 91% (10 of 11) admitted underrepresented minority applicants accepted our offer of admission. If we include Asian Americans, who continue to be underrepresented in the field of planning, the overall minority yield is 82% (23 of 28). This admissions season marked the largest number of minority applicants, minority admits and minority acceptances we've ever had. We attribute this in part to the ongoing efforts of our minority student recruitment committee and departmental efforts to hold strategically placed open houses and participate in other events targeted at underrepresented minorities.

Our PhD program was somewhat less successful in its admissions yield this year. In contrast to 2004, when only one person turned down admission to our doctoral program, this year four of the top candidates turned us down, due largely to financial reasons. This has prompted a reexamination of our financial aid policies since it now seems we are the only top school offering three years of aid instead of four or five years.

### **Progress on Departmental Priorities**

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

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

Academic year 2005 brought some progress on each of these fronts.

### ***Faculty and Staff Well-being***

Associate professor Eran Ben-Joseph was granted tenure this year. Assistant professor Balakrishnan Rajagopal was promoted to associate professor (without tenure). Professor Diane Davis was appointed associate dean of the School of Architecture and Planning. Professor Xavier de Souza Briggs, whose appointment was announced last year, joined the department in January. We will welcome the distinguished urban sociologist Richard Sennett to our faculty next fall as an adjunct professor, and Christopher Zegras has been appointed as an assistant professor of urban planning and transportation. The challenge for the department is to promote and tenure rising junior faculty as more of our senior

faculty reach retirement age. The next five years will be a crucial test, with more tenure cases anticipated every year.

### ***Community Diversity***

As described above, we have made strides in our efforts to diversify our student body. In addition to a standing committee on minority student diversity, we also have a standing committee on faculty diversity. We are proud of the addition of Professor Briggs to our faculty and continue to work toward even greater faculty diversity.

### ***One Department, Not Four Separate Groups***

As described in more detail below, the very strength of the department's program groups threatens unwelcome levels of division. We have made some progress on department-wide identity by revamping the way we list classes to de-emphasize the sense that particular classes belong to particular students within a program group. We continue to encourage students to link up with more than one program group and to develop thesis topics that cut across program groups. More recently, we have actively encouraged faculty to become part of more than one program group; this system of affiliate members seems like a promising way to enhance cross-fertilization.

We continue to organize cross-cutting symposia on topics intended to be of interest to more than one program area, and are formally reintroducing a department-wide lecture/symposium series in 2005–2006 with this same intent. Moreover, many of our most recent faculty hires have been deliberately and explicitly cross-cutting, and have resulted in faculty who have self-affiliated with more than one program group. This influx of new junior faculty (we now have ten) is slowly changing the culture of the program group structure for the better.

### ***Engagement with Local Communities***

The overriding goal of the MCP core practicum requirement, introduced in 2004, is to provide students with the opportunity to synthesize planning solutions within the constraints of real scenarios. These courses place students and faculty at the leading edge of planning practice by exploring innovative ways to integrate planning disciplines, work with communities, apply reflective practice, and connect theory and practice.

By participating in practicum courses, students gain experience confronting difficult tradeoffs while working on multidisciplinary planning problems in specific settings. Additionally, the practicum courses expand on skills and concepts introduced in the MCP core and serve as the centerpiece for the department's sustained involvement in communities. The core practicum courses are intended to bridge the broad range of interests and expertise among DUSP faculty and students by fostering interdisciplinary learning and cutting across program groups. Students are required to complete at least one practicum subject during the course of their degree program.

These practicum subjects address planning problems in several planning contexts: distressed central city and suburban areas in the US, and international planning

challenges in both developed and developing countries. In AY2005, the department offered practica in four Massachusetts cities (Springfield, Lawrence, Cambridge, and Boston) and the suburban town of Belmont, as well as in the Netherlands, China, and Mozambique.

### **Improved Departmental Communications**

This year, more than a dozen DUSP events were streamed on the MIT World website, allowing thousands of additional people to have virtual access to these presentations. We also have materials from 78 classes posted on the OpenCourseWare site.

The Center for Reflective Community Practice (CRCP) has developed a series of web-based reports on a variety of race relations and community development activities, in partnership with major foundations. DUSP activities have been more regularly reported in MIT-sponsored media, such as *TechTalk*, *Technology Review*, and *Plan*, and featured on the Institute's web page "spotlight." The department has made better use in the last year of MIT's News Office to help feature faculty and student projects and achievements in the media. In AY2005, the department head issued the DUSP Op-Ed Challenge, encouraging faculty members to address their research and policy concerns in the popular press. Many faculty have also increased their visibility through more frequent radio appearances on National Public Radio and other sources. The department also cosponsored an event on human rights during spring 2005 that will be televised by the BBC.

### **Sustainable Computing Environment**

The department's Computer Resource Network has continued to reduce direct costs to the department by leveraging services already provided by the Institute. In addition, we have further developed and refined web-based services for DUSP admissions. Finally, we are making some progress on an initiative to upgrade our department's community web space, Plaza, and expand it to include an online community of members of the larger School of Architecture and Planning, as well as its alumni.

### **Progress on Space and Dollars**

In summer 2005, the department expects to obtain additional space on the 4th floor of Building 9. Although this space did not come with full renovation, it has enabled the department to reunite the entire International Development and Regional Planning faculty in the same space, and to link them in close proximity to the Special Program in Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS) and Humphrey Fellows program, greatly facilitating interaction between these mid-career fellows and our students and faculty. The additional space also has improved the department's ability to host the occasional visitor, reduced the amount of doubling-up in offices, and more generally marks an improvement in spatial coherence. As of fall 2005, for the first time, the four major program groups will each have all of their faculty in contiguous offices. However, we are still short of space for funded research and still lack an adequate number of classrooms that can be dedicated for workshops. More rooms that can be dedicated 24/7 workshop spaces are still needed. The department benefited substantially from the renovated Steam Café, on the 4th floor of Building 7, which has quickly become a social hub for the school as a whole, particularly, but not exclusively, at lunchtime.

In terms of student financial aid in AY2005, we have kept the financial aid pool relatively stable. Still, for every student to whom we can offer a great, competitive aid package, there is another who is offered little or nothing and must face the prospect of two years of tuition of more than \$32,000 in an expensive housing market. Despite this, in the last two years, approximately 70% of those offered admission to our MCP program have accepted. In short, despite the possibility of less expensive options elsewhere, most students continue to choose MIT's DUSP. We are not convinced, however, that this pattern of preference can be sustained if we are unable to offer competitive financial aid packages to more of those we admit.

We made a concerted effort to raise substantial funds toward an endowment for loan forgiveness, but have so far fallen well short of goals. Nonetheless, each year we do award two or three modest loan forgiveness grants to recent alums receiving our Excellence in Public Service awards. We continue to seek funding for this effort, and continue to press hard annually for all possible financial aid resources. We have redoubled efforts to increase externally funded research by faculty—this is still our best way to generate substantial funding to support graduate students. We have also expanded efforts to provide students with information about fellowships available externally, and encourage them to apply.

### **Faculty Awards**

Professor Annette Kim received the Barclay Gibbs Jones Best Dissertation in Planning Award and the 2005 William Davidson Institute Research Award. The Fulbright/Brazilian National Science Foundation Fellowship went to Professor Judith Tendler, while Professor Anne Whiston Spirn was named fellow by the American Society of Landscape Architects. Professor Diane Davis received the Best Book in Political Sociology Award from the American Sociological Association. Professor Alice Amsden was appointed as a member to the Committee on Comparative Innovation Policy at the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. The David Ricardo Medal from the American Real Estate Society was awarded to Professor David Geltner. Lecturer Greg Morrow, MCP '03, received the MacKenzie King Traveling Scholarship. And finally, Professor Lawrence Vale received the 2004 John M. Corcoran Award for Community Investment, as well as citations from both the Massachusetts House of Representatives and Senate, for work with a public housing tenant organization. In addition his book, *The Resilient City: How Modern Cities Recover from Disaster*, was recognized as one of the 10 best books for 2005 by Planetizen, the Planning and Development Network.

### **DUSP's Contribution to MIT-Wide Efforts**

In addition to individual faculty achievements, DUSP contributed to the following MIT-wide efforts.

Under the direction of principal research scientist David Laws, the Environmental Technology and Public Policy Program, with support from the Alliance for Global Sustainability and in collaboration with its partners in Japan and Switzerland, continued to explore new kinds of partnerships involving public agencies, private companies, and civil society that are the key to environmental innovation.

Professors Lawrence 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 master of science 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 strategies for reining in air pollution in Mexico City.

Professor Dennis Frenchman led the 8th 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 proposed transit-oriented development along a new rail line connecting to the site of the 2008 Olympics. Results of the Beijing Studio were published in a 28-page cover article in *World Architecture*, the leading design publication in China.

Professor Frenchman also led a cross-campus research effort involving the design of "New Century Cities," which are striving to integrate advanced communications and media into the public environment, resulting in new activities, patterns of work, and urban structure. The DUSP City Design and Development group, the Center for Real Estate (CRE), and the Media Lab jointly sponsored an international conference at MIT in January 2005 to explore the topic of "New Century Cities: Real Estate Value in a Digital World." The conference brought together for the first time real estate firms, media companies, and leaders from US, European, and Asian cities that are engaged in large-scale, innovative developments experimenting with digital technology. Students and faculty from DUSP, Media Lab, Architecture, and CRE also participated in two research projects engaged in applying the principles of New Century Cities to major urban projects, including program and design standards for a new national institute of science and technology and a "technopolis" for 60,000 people in Korea, and design concepts for the Digital Mile advanced technology development in Zaragoza, Spain, both projects led by Professor Frenchman in conjunction with research scientist Michael Joroff.

Professors John de Monchaux (DUSP) and Julian Beinart (Architecture), in concert with faculty and students of the University of Newcastle, England, led a fall urban design studio on designing high-technology, university-based development. The studio continued our series of US-UK exchanges sponsored by the Cambridge-MIT Institute (CMI).

The Program on Human Rights and Justice, sponsored by DUSP and the Center for International Studies, offered a fall and spring lecture series video streamed on MIT World, hosted human rights fellows from around the world, and supported summer human rights internships. An all-day event on forced labor was recorded for broadcast by the BBC.

In AY2005, MIT's Teacher Education Program (TEP), led by Professor Eric Klopfer, again reached a milestone in teacher licensure. Continuing a program that started two years ago, MIT students were provided with a pathway to licensure entirely at MIT. This year,

TEP again increased its number of licensed teachers (to 13), and also hit capacity for its classes. The program was a success, and has attracted great interest from students. Through this program, TEP will continue to contribute to the field of teacher education.

Over the last year, TEP strengthened its relationship with Cambridge Public Schools through new projects. At the same time, it furthered relationships with other partner schools, including the Boston Public Schools, Brookline Public Schools, Arlington Public Schools, and Belmont Public Schools. TEP started a study this year of using PDA participatory simulations (handheld computer games developed at MIT) in biology classrooms in the Boston metro area (Somerville, Cambridge, Brookline, Tewksbury, and Framingham) that was spotlighted on CBS 4 News. Professor Klopfer is also running a three-year National Science Foundation-funded project to train teachers using new technologies to improve science learning in New Mexico. For more information on TEP see <http://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 (EPG), Housing, Community, and Economic Development (HCED), and International Development and Regional Planning (IDRP). In recognition of the many ways that information technologies now permeate the research and professional interests of faculty and students in all four groups, we have established Urban Information Systems (UIS) as a cross-cutting initiative, rather than a separate program group. The goal is to bring together students and faculty from across the department who are experimenting with new technologies in urban planning and development, and studying the ripple effects of these technologies on planning processes, urban design, governance, and community building.

### **City Design and Development**

CDD continued its aggressive program of urban design studios and workshops in the US and abroad.

Students of professors Terry Szold and Eran Ben-Joseph examined the Trapelo Road corridor in nearby Belmont, MA. Their proposals for land use, development, and transportation improvements were prepared in concert with local stakeholders and received wide press coverage. This DUSP practicum built on the work of Ben-Joseph and Szold on the topic of “regulating place,” which is also the title of their book published by Routledge Press this year.

Boston main streets were the focus of a DUSP practicum offered by lecturers Susan Silberberg and Karl Seidman. Students developed plans for revitalizing main streets in Boston neighborhoods, including economic and design proposals.

The Montreal, Canada, waterfront was redesigned in the spring urban design studio, under the direction of DUSP lecturer Greg Morrow with Architecture professor Michael

Dennis. Students proposed strategic options for mixed-use development and new public spaces on the water.

Students in the Gaoming, China, planning studio, led by Professors Tunney Lee and Ben-Joseph, tackled the issue of sustainable development. The project involved large-scale land use and infrastructure planning in China's rapidly growing Pearl River delta.

Funded research efforts in CDD also continued across a wide spectrum. Professors Frenchman and Mark Schuster continued their long-standing collaboration with colleagues at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, in Barcelona, Spain. This year's project looked at the relationship between urban events and the spaces within which they take place. Results of the research have been published in a book, *Event Places*, released in fall 2004 by the Generalitat de Catalunya, the provincial government. The project was also featured as a cover article in *Places* magazine.

Media technology and the city continues to gain momentum as a research area. The New Century Cities initiative included a special fall research seminar on the topic led by professors Frenchman and David Geltner, with William Mitchell of the Media Lab. In addition, the SENSEable City Laboratory, headed by research scientist Carlo Ratti, engaged in a host of projects involving new ways of understanding and representing the city, tools for design and decision-making, and incorporation of new media into city functions. Work underway this year included the development of programmable glass for use in buildings; charting real-time activity in the city through the use of cell-phone data in cooperation with the largest cell-phone company in Europe; the I-SPOT project, which maps wireless activity and space utilization in real time on the MIT campus; and Venice Unwired, which aims to rescript the visitor experience to Venice by providing tailored navigation, interpretation, and content about the city through cell phones.

Professor Lawrence Vale co-edited *The Resilient City: How Modern Cities Recover from Disaster* (Oxford University Press), which came out the same week as the Asian tsunami struck. This prompted significant coverage for the book, ranging from coverage by National Public Radio to a cover article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education's Chronicle Review*. He also presented talks about this project to the MIT Club of New York and the MIT Club of Northern California.

Students and faculty in CDD continued their support and participation in national competitions. Eight interdisciplinary teams submitted proposals for suburban development in Salt Lake City, UT, as part of the Urban Land Institute's Urban Design Competition. CDD/MIT teams placed as finalists in this competition in spring 2004 and 2005. A CDD/MIT team won the Federal Home Loan Bank Affordable Housing Development Competition in 2005 and another CDD team received an honorable mention.

In April 2005, the school presented the biennial Kevin Lynch Award to Chicago mayor Richard M. Daley in honor of his multifaceted commitment to the "greening" of the city. The event was held before a packed auditorium at the Stata Center, and included a distinguished panel of experts on "green" buildings and "green" development issues.

## Environmental Policy Group

Members of EPG continued their collaboration with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the Bureau of Land Management (in the US Department of the Interior) through the MIT-USGS Science Impact Collaborative (MUSIC). 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 year-long 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, RI. These efforts are presented on a new web page (<http://scienceimpact.mit.edu/>) aimed at helping the public participate more effectively in science-intensive policy disputes. With additional funding from USGS and the US Fish and Wildlife Service, four new Science Impact interns have been admitted to the MCP class of 2007. This year's MUSIC interns made a very well-received series of presentations at USGS headquarters in Washington, DC, and hosted visits at MIT from other USGS partner institutions involved in the Science Impact initiative.

During the Independent Activities Period (IAP), in cooperation with the Rappaport Institute of Greater Boston at Harvard, EPG faculty and students prepared a series of case studies of growth management efforts along the Interstate 495 corridor in Massachusetts. These case studies of community efforts to cope with the effects of rapid development will lead to a capacity-building seminar in fall 2005 aimed at helping cities and towns in Massachusetts plan more effectively.

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 and pursued ongoing efforts in conjunction with the not-for-profit Consensus Building Institute to assist with the mediation of land and development disputes in the southern desert of Israel (the Negev).

The Environmental Technology and Public Policy Program (ETP) has begun a multiyear research project with partners at Erasmus University, Technical University of Delft, and TNO TPD (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 is exploring alternative strategies for involving citizens in addressing complex environmental, urban, and land use problems. ETP is playing a major 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 in these experiments. In 2006, we hope that our book on green technology innovation—prepared with our partners around the world—will go to press.

EPG completed a search for a new lecturer in environmental policy and planning to teach about brownfield restoration. We were quite pleased to appoint James Hamilton, an experienced environmental engineering and brownfield development specialist, who will link our teaching and research in this area to the Conservation Law Foundation and organize a new community-based practicum in spring 2006.



## Housing, Community, and Economic Development

HCED continued its focus on the impact of immigration on the nation's cities. The Wednesday luncheon series explored the challenges to community and economic development in "forgotten cities," such as Buffalo, Hartford, Lawrence, and Springfield, which have deep-rooted financial, physical, and economic problems as well as significant immigrant populations. A year-long speaker series incorporating political leaders, practitioners, and scholars deepened DUSP's understanding of the challenges faced by these cities and of successful and innovative strategies for their renewal. A major result was to expand our knowledge to a larger set of cities throughout the Northeast and midwestern US. The audience at the series again cut across the department, attracting people well beyond the HCED community. Two new courses also added to our exploration of planning practice and immigration: *Race, Immigration, and Planning* (taught by Professor J. Phillip Thompson and MLK visiting scholar Alethia Jones) and *Collaborative Problem-Solving and Diverse Communities* (taught by Professor Xavier de Souza Briggs, a new associate professor in the HCED group). Many students also continue to explore issues of immigration, cities, and planning practice in master's theses and PhD dissertations.

Several significant publications were completed by HCED faculty this past year. Professor Briggs edited a book on race and housing choice, entitled *The Geography of Opportunity: Race and Housing Choice in Metropolitan America* (Brookings Institution Press) and authored an article on multicultural cities, "Civilization in Color: The Multicultural City in Three Millennia" for *City & Community* [3(4):311–342]. Professor Lorlene Hoyt continued her research on comparative urban revitalization practice and business improvement districts, authoring articles in *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, and *Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design*. A fourth article on the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) in New Delhi is forthcoming in the *Journal of Urban Technology*. Senior lecturer Karl Seidman's textbook, *Economic Development Finance*, was published by Sage Publications. The Fannie Mae Foundation also published his guide to urban commercial district revitalization practice, *Revitalizing Commerce for American Cities*. Professor Thompson's new book *Double Trouble: Black Mayors, Black Communities, and the Call for a Deep Democracy*, was also completed and is being published by Oxford University Press.

HCED faculty also continued their work with community-based organizations in Boston, Lawrence, and Springfield. Professors Hoyt and Langley Keyes continued to assist Lawrence Community Works on housing and information technology issues and incorporated their experience into the HCED lunch series. Students in Karl Seidman and Susan Silberberg's *Revitalizing Urban Main Streets* course prepared revitalization plans for Roslindale Village and Center Street in Jamaica Plain. Karl Seidman was also invited to join the board of a new foundation established to fund Boston Main Street programs. Professor Ceasar McDowell continued his work with Springfield's North End, proposing a state-funded initiative for neighborhood revitalization following the imposition of state fiscal control over Springfield.

## International Development and Regional Planning

The faculty in the IDRП group are involved in multiyear research and teaching activities, each involving two to seven graduate students and/or SPURS and Humphrey Fellows. One of the Humphrey fellows, for example, worked in collaboration with the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) research, under the direction of Professor Karen R. Polenske, examining the role of water in the development activities in the region. For this research, Professors Polenske and Joseph Ferreira and five students are studying the more than 70 depressed counties in Appalachia.

Many of the research efforts by IDRП 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 10 of the master's and PhD students had papers accepted for presentation at international conferences in Brazil, China, Italy, Korea, Mexico, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and Thailand. Again this year, two of the PhD students have been accepted into the World Bank Young Professionals Program, and a PhD alumnus is now the minister of planning in Guatemala. Another alumna was a vice president at the World Bank, but is now seconded to Nigeria where she is the minister of finance.

Professor Diane Davis began working with a group of IDRП 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 build a taxonomy of cities in conflict that could serve as a basis for assessing the unique planning challenges and priorities facing them.

Professor Davis led the Jerusalem 2050 project, highlighted by a March 2005 invited symposium exploring visions for the future of postconflict Jerusalem from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The Jerusalem Visionaries symposium gathered together leading intellectuals from Israel, Palestine, and elsewhere to consider what entrants to a proposed international design competition would need to know about various aspects of the city. Professors Vale and de Monchaux were on the project steering committee.

Professor Polenske gives numerous talks on the reasons why China is reducing energy intensity (energy use per unit of output) so rapidly. The many US and foreign energy, environmental, and transportation conferences/workshops at which she has given talks include the 2nd China International Coking Technology & Coke Market Congress in summer 2004, attended by more than 500 cokemakers. Her latest talk at the end of June was to the China Development Forum in Beijing, sponsored by the National Development Reform Commission and the Development Research Centre of the State Council. She is also editor of two new books. The first is *The Technology-Energy-Environment-Health (TEEH) Chain in China: A Case Study of Cokemaking*, to be published later this fall as part of the Alliance for Global Sustainability series by Kluwer/Springer. The second is *The Economic Geography of Innovation*, due to be published in 2006 by the

Cambridge University Press under the auspices of CMI. The book is based on a seminar on the geography of innovation that she organized at MIT two years ago.

Professor Gakenheimer is currently preparing a book in collaboration with Professor Harry Dimitriou of University College London on transportation in cities of the developing world. He continues studies of rapid motorization and related systems in developing cities. He is preparing a best practices conference on urban transport in the Andean Region of Latin American with the Inter-American Development Bank.

Professor Balakrishnan Rajagopal has been 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, has initially been supported by the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights. During the coming year students will participate in fieldwork which may also be offered by DUSP as a practicum option in its curriculum. He has also been working with faculty members from DUSP and University of Washington on a research and advocacy project on human rights and development involving leading nongovernmental organizations (NGOs). He is currently working on his next book on the place of economic, social, and cultural rights in comparative law and politics and co-editing a special volume of the journal *Third World Quarterly* on the topic of international law. He published *International Law from Below: Development, Social Movements and Third World Resistance* (Cambridge University Press, 2003). A Spanish translation of this book was published in 2005. He was a visiting professor at the UN University for Peace in Costa Rica in January 2005, a lecturer at the UNITAR summer institute on international law at the UN headquarters in New York in June 2005, and has been invited to advise the new Iraqi government's constitution drafting committee.

A new book edited by Professor Bish Sanyal, *Comparative Planning Cultures*, was released by Routledge Press in June 2005, and contains a global overview of the cultural underpinnings of attitudes towards city and regional planning under different political, economic, and social conditions.

Professor Judith Tandler won a joint Fulbright/Brazilian National Science Foundation Fellowship to spend a month at the Brazilian School of Public Administration at the Getúlio Vargas Foundation (EBGAPE/FGV) in Rio de Janeiro. She co-organized a workshop of researchers on findings with respect to those clusters that had adhered to better labor and environmental standards, including the lessons of these cases for policy. Five current or past DUSP/IDRP or SPURS PhDs presented their research findings at the meeting. Professor Tandler also advised graduate theses on the subject of the workshop and others, ran three research seminars, and presented two public lectures at EBGAPE and the Institute for Research in Social Sciences at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro on successful models of performance in the public sector, their misinterpretation, and the missed lessons for policymakers. Her book chapter, "Why Social Policy Is Condemned to a Residual Category of Safety Nets, and What to Do About It," was published this year in *Social Policy in a Development Context*, edited by Thandika Mkandawire (Palgrave). She also gave 10 lectures on her research in England,

Morocco, Guatemala, Brazil, Washington, DC, and at the United Nations, and she is an advisor to a three-year research project funded by the National Science Foundation, *Remaking the Apartheid City*, on the comparative impacts in three South African cities of desegregation on economic and social integration among the races.

### **Urban Information Systems**

UIS research and teaching continues 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.

Some UIS-related research has already been described above under the various program groups and centers. These include the HCED and CRCP work on community information systems and the SENSEable City Lab work on New Century Cities and the use of cell-phone data to study space usage and workflow patterns. In addition, UIS-affiliated faculty have been researching collaborative information infrastructures for community and metropolitan planning; new models of urban spatial structure and land use and transportation interactions; improved methods for participatory planning, and a series of experiments on ICT impacts on community building and social networks. Most of these projects have involved master's and Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program students as well as PhD students, and several have provided the real world context and partners for class projects, workshops, and seminars.

Professor Ferreira has led a group of faculty and students working on a new project to develop intelligent middleware for understanding neighborhood markets. The project is experimenting with new technologies for improved data sharing and neighborhood analyses. The effort involves collaboration with Boston's Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Parsons Brinckerhoff, the Open Geospatial Consortium, Boston's Department of Neighborhood Development, the Boston Foundation, and local NGOs. It is supported through the Brookings Institution and several Living Cities foundations, and is part of national effort to improve the infrastructure for community statistics.

Professor Ferreira is also working with Boston's MetroFuture efforts and with other MIT Center for Transportation and Logistics faculty on studies of metropolitan growth, and of land use and transportation interaction. One study, with Professors Gakenheimer, Moshe Ben-Akiva, and PhD students, examines journey-to-work patterns over several decades in order to understand the relationship between job-housing balance and commuting patterns. Another, with Professor Nigel Wilson and PhD students, examines the transit demand and path choice behavior associated with transit line improvements

and transit-oriented development. In both cases, the research required the development and use of new, spatially detailed datasets and improved GIS technologies.

Professor Keith Hampton has continued his work on the impact of internet and computer use on community and family life. His I-Neighbors project examines the size and composition of people's social networks and explores the potential for new information and communication technologies to expand social capital and community involvement at the neighborhood level. His Network Awareness project is designing and testing the impact of location-aware cell-phone and WiFi services on community participation, serendipity, and the structure of users' social network. At the end of AY2005, however, Professor Hampton decided to leave MIT to accept a faculty position at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication.

### **Graduate Degree Program Enrollment and Activities**

Our graduate programs enrolled 206 students this year. Of the total, 57% were women, 12% of US domestic students were underrepresented minorities, and 31% were international students. The department granted 71 MCP, 5 SM, and 16 PhD degrees.

The Master in City Planning (MCP) Committee continued managing and improving elements of the new core curriculum, graduating the first class to complete all aspects of the new program in spring 2005. The fall term saw the implementation of new thesis prep requirements, including the introduction of a new preparatory subject in the International Development and Regional Planning area. The number and variety of core practicum subjects continue to expand, involving students with the practice of city planning in field venues. Subjects this year included work on sustainable development in Rotterdam, Netherlands, and Gaoming, China; transit-oriented development in Beijing, China; planning for water resources in Mozambique; Main main street revitalization in Boston; community growth and land-use planning in Belmont, MA; and applying high technology to community development in Lawrence, MA. The subjects are jointly taught by faculty from different program groups to encourage crosscutting approaches and innovation. Other elements of the core continue to evolve in response to experience and student feedback.

During the past year, the PhD Committee achieved faculty passage of a revised structure for PhD general examinations. General exams will now be given on fixed dates in May and early September, and students will be expected to pass their general exams before the beginning of their third year. This replaces the current system in which each student wrote an individual general exam proposal, typically midway through their third year. The committee also has begun a program to better inform students of fellowship opportunities, including meeting with Institute representatives and establishing a frequently updated fellowship website. Starting in fall 2005, this website will also be made available to students who apply to the DUSP PhD program to increase their chances of obtaining financial aid. Finally, the committee has begun to assist advanced DUSP PhD students in their job search, an effort that included the creation of a website, linked to the main DUSP website, that describes each DUSP PhD candidate who is on the job market.

## Undergraduate Program Activities

During AY2005, the Undergraduate Committee worked with DUSP undergraduate majors to expand contact among DUSP faculty and undergraduates and to enhance the program's visibility among undergraduates. Among the new initiatives underway are an effort to introduce an international development track among undergraduate urban studies majors, minors, and concentrators; a commitment to expanding the number of undergraduate course offerings; and a plan to introduce greater flexibility in the selection of concentration streams. In addition to scheduling seminars for undergraduates with new DUSP faculty, the committee hosted several social occasions to foster faculty-student dialogue.

The department offers an annual study trip to an international city where students can visit diverse neighborhoods, institutions, and organizations, and meet with local planners, architects, and engineers who show them how the city has been planned and built.

During IAP 2005, Cherie Abbanat and Paula Anzer, lecturers in the department, led a study trip to Paris with eight of our undergraduate majors. Students traveled to Paris in order to begin their research on policy and planning issues. Students were sent to discover the city using a number of strategies, including:

- *A scavenger hunt.* Students were put into groups of three to explore Paris by following one of three scavenger hunts that were designed based on the topics of interest that students chose. The themes included Parks of Paris, The African-American Influence in Paris in the 1920s, and Art and Architecture in Paris.
- *Meetings with alumni.* Students met with two alumni planners in Paris, an advisor to the minister of planning and transportation, and a landscape architect. Students prepared questions on their topics for each of these planners.
- *Individual time.* Students were allotted two days of individual research time. Students visited libraries, museums, housing complexes, sculptures, or just rode the subway as they studied their individual topics. When they returned to MIT, they wrote papers and presented their research findings.

## 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

Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture  
2005–2006 Travel Grant

Jigar Bhatt of Hopelawn, NJ;  
Daniel Berry of Caracas, Venezuela

Burchard Scholar

Jonathan Harris of Chicago, IL

Carroll L. Wilson Award

Hania Nabil Maraqa of Jordan; Dhakshike  
Wickrema of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Center for International Studies—Energy, Technology and International Affairs Summer Research Grant	Genevieve Connors of New York, NY; Anjali Mahendra of New Delhi, India; Apiwat Ratanawaraha of Chiangmai, Thailand; Sunil Tankha of Calcutta, India; Georgeta Vidican of Romania; Xiaodong Wang of Shandong, China
Center for International Studies/Starr Student Travel Fellowship	Masahiro Matsuura of Tosu, Japan
Council for the Arts Grant for documentary film (summer 2005)	Nadya Nilina of New York, NY
Harold Horowitz (1951) Student Research Fund Award	Ryan Allen of Winston-Salem, NC; Daniel Berry of Caracas, Venezuela
IDEAS Competition (2005)	Jigar Bhatt of Hopelawn, NJ; Anna Brown of Freeport, ME; Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner of Oberlin, OH; Ella Lazarte of Palo Alto, CA; Brian Robinson of Atlanta, GA; Monica Romis of Napoli, Italy; Basilia Yao of New York, NY; Valentina Zuin of Milan, Italy; Professor Jennifer Davis
Kelly/Douglas Traveling Fellowship	Michael Brown of West Orange, NJ
Louis Seigle Fellowship	Amy Deora of San Antonio, TX
Martin Family Society of Graduate Fellows in Sustainability	Salo Coslovsky of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Zhan Guo of Heze City, China
Mellon-MIT Inter-University Program on Nongovernmental Organizations and Forced Migrations Program Grant Award	Hiba Bou Akar of Beirut, Lebanon; Hania Nabil Maraqa of Jordan; Xiaodong Wang of Shandong, China; Hongliang Zhang of Wuhan, China
MISTI China Program Research and Travel Grant	Erik Nielsen of Toronto, Canada
MISTI Germany Program Research and Travel Grant	Nadya Nilina of New York, NY
Program on Human Rights and Justice Summer Internship	Gabrielle Kruks-Wisner of Oberlin, OH; Nancy Odeh of Ottawa, Canada; Seth Pipkin of San Diego, CA; Basilia Yao of New York, NY
Public Service Center Fellowship	Kim Alleyne, Shiben Banerji, Anna Brown, Ifeoma Ebo, Bill Massaquoi, Michael Sable
Ralph Adams Cram Award for outstanding multidisciplinary work in the School of Architecture and Planning	Lecturer Greg Morrow, MCP '03
Wallenberg Fellowship in Environment and Sustainability (2005)	Anjali Mahendra of New Delhi, India

## National and International Awards

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)— Student Awards, Honorable Mention (2005)	Claremont-McCarthy project team members Diana Bernal, Glendale, CA; Whitney Foutz, Blacksburg, VA; Ray Hodges, MCP '04; Leslie Mullins, Cleveland, OH
American Planning Association (APA)—Charles Abrams Scholarship	Karen Hu of New York, NY
Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA)—Emerging Scholars Award	Laurie Goldman of Cambridge, MA
Center for Real Estate—Heather Smith Memorial Foundation Fellowship	Karen Hu of New York, NY
City New York Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD)—HPD Housing and Community Development Graduate Fellowship	Anna Frantz of Newton, MA
College Women's Association of Japan—Study Abroad Program Scholarship 2004–2005	May Tsubouchi of Tokyo, Japan
EDAW Summer Internship in Alexandria, VA	Ritesh Warade of Bombay, India
Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)—Conference Travel Grant	Lianne Fisman of London, Canada
Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston and Citizen's Housing and Planning Association—Affordable Housing Development Competition Winners (2005)	First Place: "Chinatown Community Fulcrum" team members Caitlin Gallagher of Fair Haven, NJ; Carrie Grassi of Arlington, VA; Jake Wegmann, of Edmonton, Canada  Second Place: "Moody Street Common" team member Shannon Christmas of Baltimore, MD  Honorable Mention: "Codman Crossing" team members Ifeoma Ebo of Brooklyn, NY; Brittanya Murillo of National City, CA; Kiara Nagel of Saratoga Springs, NY
Foundation for Encouragement of Social Contribution (FESCO)—21st Century Youth Award 2004	May Tsubouchi of Tokyo, Japan
Government of Canada, Social Science and Humanities Research Council—Doctoral Fellowship	Nancy Odeh of Ottawa, Canada
International Council for Caring Communities/ UN Human Settlements Programme—2004 Global Student Design Competition "Integrated Communities: A Society for All Ages" finalist	Nadya Nilina of New York, NY



International Organization for Migration Research Grant	Moshahida Sultana of Dhaka, Bangladesh
IT-SIGUS Tsunami Challenge Competition, 2005—Second Place	Anubhav Gupta of New Delhi, India
Marsha Ritzdorf Award for the Best Student Work on Diversity, Social Justice and the Role of Women in Planning	Tara Kumar, MCP '04
Matsushita International Foundation—Research Grant	Masahiro Matsuura of Tosu, Japan
Microsoft Bangalore, India, R & D Center Fellowship	Rajendra Kumar of Chennai, India
National Chinese Overseas Student Scholarship	Zhan Guo of Heze City, China
National Science Foundation—Graduate Research Fellowship	Deborah Kobes of Bethesda, MD
Prafulla C. Mukerji Foundation—Graduate Studies Scholarship 2004–2005	Pankaj Kumar of Hyderabad, India
Prafulla C. Mukerji Foundation—Scholarship, 2004–2005	Anubhav Gupta of New Delhi, India
Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School—Next Generation Research Grant	Erik Nielsen of Toronto, Canada
Rappaport Institute for Greater Boston—Summer Fellowships	Stephanie Groll of San Francisco, CA, Kai-Yan Lee of Guangzhou, China, and California; Tina Rosan of Brooklyn, NY; Kristen Wang of Palo Alto, CA
Tarakanth Das Foundation, Columbia University—South Asia Studies Scholarship 2004–2005,	Pankaj Kumar of Hyderabad, India
Urban Land Institute/Gerald D. Hines Urban Design Competition (2004)	Second Place: “Seeden” team member Ommeed Sathe of Princeton, NJ  Honorable Mention: “New Magna” team members Jeffrey Fugate of Bowling Green, KY; Jeremy Shaw, of San Diego, CA; Ritesh Warade of Bombay, India; Jake Wegmann of Edmonton, Canada
US Department of Housing and Urban Development—Doctoral Dissertation Grant	Criseida Navarro-Diaz, of Bayamón, Puerto Rico
Women’s Transportation Seminar (WTS)—Claire Barrett Memorial Scholarship	Holly Krambeck of Alexandria, VA

## Departmental Awards

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)— Outstanding Student Award	Valentina Zuin
Flora Crockett Stephenson Writing Prize	Alexandra Reitman
Lloyd and Nadine Rodwin Travel Award	Michael Brown of West Orange, NJ; Holly Krambeck of Alexandria, VA; Hania Nabil Maraqa of Jordan; Georgeta Vidican of Romania; Dhakshike Wickrema of Colombo, Sri Lanka
O. Robert Simha Prize	Jonathan Leifer
Outstanding Contribution to the Intellectual Life of the Department	Kim Alleyne, Ariel Bierbaum, La Tonya Green, Diana Sherman
Outstanding MCP Thesis	Claudia Canepa  Honorable Mention: Brian Robinson, Hirotoshi Otsubo, Jinhua Zhao
Outstanding PhD Dissertation	Eungkyoon Lee  Honorable Mention: Fabio Carrera
Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis/Project	Atif Qadir
Student Departmental Service Award	Brian Cheigh
Urban Design Certificate	Anubhav Gupta of New Delhi, India; Lily Baum Pollans of Dorchester, MA; Danielle M. McCarthy of Winchester, MA; Roger Malubag Torino, Jr of Bakersfield, CA; and Sarah Elizabeth Williams of Washington, DC
William Emerson Travel Award	Ryan Allen of Winston-Salem, NC; Salo Coslovsky of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Anne Herbst of Roslindale, MA; Nancy Odeh, of Ottawa, Canada; Dhakshike Wickrema of Colombo, Sri Lanka; Valentina Zuin, of Milan, Italy

## 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 employed recent graduates. Alumni also participated on a key orientation discussion panel for incoming students in August 2004. They played a role in launching the new practicum requirement, a significant element in the revised MCP core curriculum.

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

In October 2004, alumni again assisted in DUSP student recruitment efforts by joining faculty and current students in open houses in Los Angeles and New York City. Both events were well attended and successful.

The DUSP Career Resources website continues to serve 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 is initiating two new efforts to employ web-based strategies to strengthen and enhance our alumni community. The first is aimed at organizing domestic alumni on a regional basis. The second is aimed at facilitating communication on specific topics of shared professional interest among alumni across the globe.

Alumni associated with the DUSP Students of Color Committee recently gathered in Cambridge to attend a reception hosted by the department. They were joined the following day at a brunch by Boston-area recent alumni (1997–2004).

The department proudly presented the fourth annual Excellence in Public Service Awards to Jason Schupbach (MCP 2003) of Boston, MA, April Veneracion (MCP 2000) of San Francisco, CA, and T. Luke Young (MCP 2000) of Worcester, MA.

### **International Connection**

SPURS hosted 14 fellows this year, nine of whom participated as part of the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program. SPURS is the host site of the Humphrey fellows program, which is administered by the International Institute of Education on behalf of the US State Department. This year's SPURS/Humphrey fellows represented 13 countries: Bangladesh, Cameroon, China, Columbia, Ecuador, Israel, Italy, Korea, Liberia, Madagascar, Panama, Poland, and Venezuela. Their research interests covered a variety of areas, including innovation in development, public-private alliances and public policy, sustainable planning, global trade and investment, information technology, agricultural development, governance, and environmental policy.

SPURS launched a new lecture series this year, titled Myths About America, which was intended to encourage debates within MIT regarding the way international students and fellows view the US society, polity, and economy. The purpose of this series was to subject to scrutiny conventional and popular understanding of non-US citizens regarding social, economic, and political trends that influence US engagement with other

nations. The invited speakers were Howard Zinn, Alan Wolfe, Eric Foner, Leo Marx, and James Champy. This series will continue in fall 2005.

Another seminar, which started in the spring term, is the Fellows' Evening Seminar Series. SPURS/Humphrey fellows met weekly and made a final presentation to invited DUSP students, faculty, and outside guests. The topics of the final presentation were economic development, technology transfer, urban transportation, environmental protection, governance, and society.

These seminars continued the SPURS tradition of creating a space for dialogue among scholars, practitioners, fellows, the MIT community, and beyond.

### **Community Partnerships**

The Center for Reflective Community Practice continued its strong partnership with community-based organizations. Entering its fifth year, the collaboration with the North End neighborhood of Springfield, MA, continued to thrive. Community outreach workers there used the second year of their MIT fellowship to design a training manual to share knowledge from their practice with new practitioners.

The center launched *Vital Difference: The Role of Race in Community Building*, its first report and multimedia website showcasing the knowledge collected from the five community organizations that participated in the Race and Democracy Reflection Project, and hosted a discussion on race relations at MIT to mark the occasion. The multimedia primary source materials from the Race and Democracy Reflection Project also comprise the first collection to be uploaded into CRCP's digital community in MIT's D-Space repository.

The Boston Community Learning Project, a new initiative geared toward illuminating the critical role of organizing in community development, appointed an interim steering committee with diverse representation from Boston neighborhoods, and selected eight community fellows who are active in local community building. The fellows have begun training in facilitation using reflective learning tools in preparation for organizing and leading a series of learning circles in four neighborhoods.

Working with the CARE's Latin America and Caribbean office, CRCP is helping the NGO to develop a system for using local knowledge in rural and urban communities to alleviate poverty.

In addition to the above activities, CRCP supported four individual community fellows whose work aligns with its mission and principles, and provided research experience and work/study opportunities for one PhD candidate, three master in city planning candidates, and five undergraduates.

## Research Funding

Faculty and staff raised \$1,165,020 in new funds for research and other projects in fiscal year 2005.

Professor Karen R. Polenske was awarded four grants during FY2005. The Appalachia Regional Commission awarded \$100,000 in support of the project Sources of Regional Growth in Appalachia's Non-Metro Counties. The US Department of Agriculture awarded \$80,000 in support of the project Economic Geography of Food Distribution in the United States. Professor Polenske was awarded \$30,000 by the US Department of Transportation/Federal Aviation Agency for the project Measurement, Metrics and Health Effects of Emissions: Adapt Mobile Emitters, which is administered through MIT's Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics. The Center for Energy and Environmental Policy Research at MIT awarded \$60,000 to support the project Energy Consumption and Carbon Emission in China: A Study of Energy Prices and Energy Intensity.

Professor Frank Levy received two grants from the Sloan Foundation: \$175,000 supporting the project entitled The Diagnostic Radiologist: The Potential Effects of Offshoring and Computer Substitution, and \$44,000 for a project administered by the MIT Industrial Performance Center, Working Group on Issues that Hamper Research on Offshoring.

Professor Joseph Ferreira was awarded \$115,850 by the Brookings Institution for a project entitled Intelligent Middleware for Understanding Neighborhood Markets, and along with co-primary investigator Nigel Wilson of the Center for Transportation and Logistics, \$25,000 from the University Transportation Center of the US Department of Transportation for a project entitled Improving the Understanding of Transfer Behavior in Urban Public Transportation Networks.

Professor Dennis Frenchman and senior lecturer Michael Joroff were awarded \$163,790 by the Korean Science and Technology Policy Institute for the project Success Criteria for 21st Century Research and Development Centers.

Professor Lawrence Susskind, in collaboration with Dr. Herman Karl, visiting lecturer from USGS, raised \$124,000 from USGS in support of the MIT-USGS Science Impact Collaborative.

Principal research scientist Christie Baxter, working through CMI, was awarded \$99,880 for the project Regional Partnerships and Intermediaries.

Research scientist Carlo Ratti received a \$25,000 grant from the US Army Research Office for Tangible GIS for Real-Time Human Interaction with Landscape Models.

## **Other Funding**

Professor Tunney Lee raised \$60,000 from Esquel Enterprises, Ltd., in support of a graduate studio course in Gaoming, China.

Professor Langley Keyes was granted \$35,000 by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to support students working on projects directed at improving the lives of low and moderate-income people in Boston's South End neighborhood.

Professor Eric Klopfer was awarded \$27,500 by the Intel Foundation to fund a project entitled Teach to the Future, a professional development workshop for teaching professionals.

**Lawrence J. Vale**  
**Department Head**  
**Professor of Urban Studies and Planning**

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