

Department of Urban Studies and Planning

Highlights

In November 2009, the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP) hosted the Visiting Committee. Overall, the response was positive, and the committee was appreciative of the time and effort given to this process by DUSP students, faculty, and staff. The committee's report to the MIT Corporation stressed three themes for us to work on in the coming two years: building recognition of the department in the Institute and wider world through better dissemination of the good works and scholarship of the department, building a stronger research profile through the construction of an overarching support capacity for research, and strengthening and expanding the department's undergraduate program with the goal of enhancing the undergraduate experience.

Two members of the DUSP community were recognized with the Institute's Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Award for 2010. Nominated by colleagues and selected by the award planning committee, a subcommittee of the Committee on Race and Diversity, the two winners were Michael George Johnson MCP '97 and Melvin H. King, senior lecturer emeritus.

The department was pleased to host Steward Pickett as a Martin Luther King Jr. Visiting Fellow for the entire academic year. Dr. Pickett was on leave from his position as distinguished senior scientist at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. Throughout the year, Pickett advised students, collaborated with faculty, and presented his work in a number of forums. His research approach was notable for its capacity to cut across the department's program groups, including urban design, environmental studies, and housing and development.

A number of DUSP faculty and students were involved in responding to the devastation in Haiti caused by the massive earthquake that occurred in January 2010, including professor and former department head Larry Vale (editor of *The Resilient City: How Modern Cities Recover from Disaster*), professor Diane Davis, associate professor Phillip Thompson, and lecturer Cherie Abbanat. In an article in the online magazine *The Root*, Davis noted, "It's an opportunity to rethink the city as a whole, how all the pieces go together. The important thing is not just to focus on the physicality of the built environment but [on] Haiti's poverty as well." The title of Thompson's contribution cautioned that "Haiti Should Beware the Well-Intentioned."

The department was saddened by the passing of two greats: professor Bernard J. Frieden and former dean William J. Mitchell. Frieden had been a member of the planning faculty since 1961, and he served as associate dean of the School of Architecture and Planning from 1993 to 2001 and as chairman of the MIT Faculty from 1987 to 1989. During his 30 years of involvement with urban affairs at both the national and local levels, he served on White House advisory committees and worked as a consultant to numerous federal and state agencies. Mitchell, the former dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, pioneered urban designs for networked "smart" cities and helped oversee an ambitious building program that transformed MIT's physical campus. Both will be sorely missed.

DUSP's Contribution to MIT-Wide Efforts

Nearly a third of the 13 new projects recently funded by the MIT Energy Initiative (MITEI) are being led by faculty in the School of Architecture and Planning, with a heavy representation from DUSP. To date, MITEI's seed fund program has supported more than 50 early-stage research proposals in addition to ignition and planning grants, including previous grants to DUSP faculty members Michael Flaxman, Judith Layzer, Christopher Zegras, Harvey Michaels, Karen R. Polenske, and Lawrence Susskind. Included in the new projects were a seed grant to explore allocating energy in buildings" (Neil Gershenfeld, Media Arts and Sciences, with Carlo Ratti and Harvey Michaels) and a planning grant for reducing urban energy consumption (Chris Zegras and Carlo Ratti, with Moshe Ben-Akiva from Civil and Environmental Engineering). Our research efforts are complemented by DUSP's role in the MITEI undergraduate minor program.

Along with representatives from the School and the Institute, several DUSP faculty traveled in January and June to China to attend international conferences and to build research relations with faculty at Tsinghua, Nanjing, and Southeast universities. Projects are in their infancy, but several faculty members are collaborating on a project examining China's planning for the design of new technology regions.

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 are City Design and Development (CDD); Environmental Policy and Planning (EPP); Housing, Community, and Economic Development (HCED); and the International Development Group (IDG). We have also designated Urban Information Systems (UIS), Transportation Policy and Planning (TPP), and Regional Planning as cross-cutting initiatives intended to bring together faculty from across the four main program groups. Going forward, there will be a growing emphasis within the department on fostering cross-cutting initiatives led by faculty. Resources allocated at the department head level are targeted toward facilitation of stronger collaborations. Discussions with foundations including the Ford Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation aim to establish funding streams to support collaborative research and teaching projects across the department.

City Design and Development

The department welcomed a new junior faculty member, Brent Ryan, assistant professor in urban design and public policy. His prior positions include assistant professor at Harvard's Graduate School of Design, assistant professor of urban planning and policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), and codirector of the City Design Center in UIC's College of Architecture and the Arts. Ryan holds a BS in biology from Yale, an MArch from Columbia, and a PhD from our own department (awarded in 2002).

On February 26, 2010, the department welcomed Walter Hood, professor of landscape architecture and environmental planning and urban design at the University of California, Berkeley, to deliver the Ross Silberberg Memorial Lecture. The biannual lectures (and similarly named grants for student research travel) are supported through a fund that honors Silberberg, a 1990 graduate of the School of Architecture and

Planning. Ross was an educator in architecture and urban design who was committed to furthering the understanding of how issues of social justice and personal identity are manifest in and affected by our physical environment.

Environmental Policy and Planning

In the spring of 2010, associate professor JoAnn Carmin was granted tenure in the department.

Over the course of the year, EPP faculty worked with the campus-wide Faculty Environmental Network for Sustainability to develop a design for the proposed undergraduate minor in environment and sustainability. This effort is being integrated into the larger Institute planning for the minor. EPP faculty and graduates have mobilized to help build MIT's focus on renewable energy and energy efficiency and have been central to a range of research and teaching activities particularly focused on wind energy and community-based strategies for encouraging energy efficiency.

The MIT-US Geological Survey (USGS) Science Impact Collaborative (MUSIC) published a new report, *Managing Risk: Helping Cities in Massachusetts Adapt to Climate Change*. The report, prepared by a student team under the supervision of professor Lawrence Susskind, features case studies and recommendations for coastal cities in the Commonwealth to anticipate and respond to the likely impacts of climate change. After five years, the MIT-USGS collaboration reached its natural end. The five-year experiment resulted in more than 20 theses, two doctoral dissertations, 18 different research projects, and collaborations with other federal agency organizations.

In December 2009, associate professor Judy Layzer participated in an MIT panel discussion on the intersection of environmental science and public policy, spurred by the recent "Climate-Gate" controversy. In February 2010, members of the department participated in the 2010 Four Schools/APA Planning Symposium, a collaborative effort of all four accredited planning schools in Massachusetts; this year Tufts hosted the gathering on the topic of "Planning for Climate Change: From the Margins to the Mainstream," with JoAnn Carmin representing MIT as one of the panelists.

Housing, Community, and Economic Development

Associate professor Xavier de Sousa Briggs continues his leave of absence to serve as associate director of the White House Office of Management and Budget. In June, we were delighted to have him back on campus as the keynote speaker for the departmental commencement lunch. Briggs' coauthored book *Moving to Opportunity: The Story of an American Experiment to Fight Ghetto Poverty* (with Susan J. Popkin and John Goering) was published in March 2010. In the words of one reviewer, "*Moving to Opportunity* insightfully reveals how the fight against ghetto poverty is more than just overcoming economic deprivation. It also involves improving safety and feelings of security and therefore increasing freedom from fear."

To replace Briggs and strengthen the department's housing efforts, James Buckley, a lecturer in the Department of City Planning at Berkeley, began a two-year stint as a lecturer in the HCED group. Prior to coming to DUSP, Buckley served as president of

the Citizens Housing Corporation in San Francisco; he also has had previous experience with BRIDGE Housing Corporation, where he developed over 2,000 new rental and ownership homes and 100,000 square feet of neighborhood-serving retail space. He has a BA from Yale University, and a master's degree in city and regional planning and a PhD in architecture from the University of California, Berkeley. During the past year, he taught the classes 11.944 Housing Policy & Planning in the United States and 11.945 High Density/Low Rise: Urban Housing in the American Suburban Metropolis, as well as a housing studio focused on Boston. The studio was cosponsored by the Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation and has laid the foundation for a collaboration between the department and this organization, which may serve as a long-term research and practice lab.

During the spring term, Phil Thompson was on sabbatical to pursue his interest in political coalitions and policies to link new investments in energy efficiency and renewable energy with employment and wealth creation in low-income communities. He also has been a major contributor to the Institute's efforts in Haiti.

HCED faculty and students were active in addressing local and regional planning issues this past spring. Associate professor Lorlene Hoyt's practicum in Lawrence, MA, part of the multifaceted MIT@Lawrence partnership, developed proposals to help the city address maintenance and development related to the many privately owned canals and alleys in the city. James Buckley's housing studio (mentioned above) created plans for sustainable transit-oriented development along Boston's Fairmount transit line. Senior lecturer Karl Seidman's economic development planning class prepared an economic development strategy for Portland, ME.

After more than five years, the department completed its collaboration with a neighborhood in north Springfield, MA. The opportunity exists to continue working in Springfield with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston.

International Development Group

Professors Bish Sanyal and Larry Vale are leading an effort funded by the Rockefeller Foundation to develop a new curriculum for the proposed Indian Institute of Human Settlements. Associate professor Balakrishnan Rajagopal and others from the department and School have provided assistance on this collaborative project.

Professor Rajagopal was elected to the Board of Editors of *Transnational Legal Theory*. This summer he will also give a keynote speech at the "Asia and the International Order" conference organized by the Meiji University Law School and the Japan Chapter of the Asian Society of International Law in Tokyo, Japan. His work is a focus of an international conference at the University of Paris I Law School (Sorbonne) on July 2-4, 2010, where some of his recent work will be translated into French.

Associate professor Annette Kim won an MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI) Global Seed Fund grant for her project "Seeds of Reform: Analysis of Recent North Korean Civilian Economic Activity and Its Implications for North Korean Integration into the Global Community."

The editors of *Contemporary Security Policy* have announced that DUSP professor Diane Davis is the winner of the first-ever Bernard Brodie Prize, given for the best article of the year for that journal. According to the notice, her article “Non-State Armed Actors, New Imagined Communities, and Shifting Patterns of Sovereignty and Insecurity” highlighted “the enduring spirit of Brodie’s own work, bringing powerful insights from academic perspectives to vital issues for security policy-making.”

Professor Judith Tandler gave a talk on “The Rule of Law, Economic Development and Modernization of the State in Brazil: Lessons from Existing Experience for Policy and Practice” at a special session of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars’ Brazil Institute in Washington, DC. She presented preliminary results of a two-year research project she recently concluded with Brazilian researchers Roberto Pires, Salo Coslovsky, and Mansueto Almeida, with funding and other support from the World Bank, the UK Department for International Development, MIT, and the Institute of Applied Economic Analysis, Brazil.

In July, Dr. Tandler announced that she would undertake a research leave for the 2011 academic year followed by a terminal year prior to retiring in 2012.

Urban Information Systems

UIS research and teaching continues to examine and shape the growing impact 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.

This year DUSP collaborated with the Boston University Department of Geography and Environment, the Harvard University School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and the Northeastern University Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering on the “Ultra-Ex” exploratory research project, funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) under its Urban Long-Term Research Area program. The NSF program supports interdisciplinary research on the dynamic interactions between people and natural ecosystems in urban settings, and the four-university consortium is focusing on understanding carbon exchange aspects of Boston’s “urban metabolism.” Professor Joseph Ferreira leads the MIT effort and is studying how to characterize spatial patterns of land use and transportation that could influence carbon exchange.

DUSP’s SENSEable City Laboratory has received considerable press regarding a new project called “Trash Track,” which uses ICT to get people thinking about what they throw away. Through the development of special electronic tags to track different types of waste on their journey through the disposal systems of New York and Seattle, the project allows researchers (and residents) to monitor the patterns and costs of urban disposal and create awareness of the impact of trash on our environment.

Transportation

A consortium including MIT Portugal Program Transportation Systems collaborators at MIT and IST-Lisbon was awarded a \$3.5 million, five-year grant from the Volvo Research and Education Foundation for a Center of Excellence on Bus Rapid Transit. The consortium is headed by Juan Carlos Muñoz of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, who will spend his sabbatical at MIT next year, hosted by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE). MIT collaborators will be CEE's Nigel Wilson, DUSP's Chris Zegras, and Fred Salvucci, senior lecturer in CEE and DUSP affiliate.

Associate professor of the practice Carlo Ratti and his team from the SENSEable City Lab developed a new prototype for a bicycle wheel that was demonstrated in Copenhagen in December for the benefit of conference attendees and a gathering of 400 city mayors from around the world. The wheel is capable of storing energy every time the rider puts on the brakes and then gives that power back to provide a boost when going uphill or to add a burst of speed in traffic. Even more interesting, there are also a variety of extra functions hidden within the hub of this new wheel: by using a series of sensors and a Bluetooth connection to the user's iPhone, which can be mounted on the handlebars, the wheel can monitor the bicycle's speed, direction, and distance traveled, as well as collect data on pollution in the air and even the proximity of the rider's friends. The resulting data can help both the individual rider—for example, by providing feedback on fitness goals—and the city (if the user opts to share the information) by building up a database of air quality, popular biking routes, or areas of traffic congestion.

The SENSEable City team, in collaboration with the Personal Robots Group at the MIT Media Laboratory and the Volkswagen Group of America's Electronics Research Lab, is also working to develop an "affective intelligent driving agent," a new in-car personal robot that aims to change the way we interact with our car.

Graduate Degree Program Enrollment and Activities

The department's graduate programs enrolled 59 new MCP students, four new SB/MCP students, two new SM students, and 11 new doctoral students in the 2009–2010 class. The department granted 70 MCP, three SM, and 11 PhD degrees.

For the 2010–2011 admissions cycle, the total number of applications continued to rise. The following chart summarizes the number of students who applied, were admitted, and are expected to enroll next fall in comparison with the previous year.

Graduate Programs

Year of potential enrollment	Applied		Accepted		Enrolled	
	09/10	10/11	09/10	10/11	09/10	10/11
MCP	431	460	91	92	64	71
SM	7	5	4	4	3	4
PhD	136	126	14	15	11	7

The following table provides a breakdown of the diversity of the department's student body at the master's and PhD levels. (Note that these tables reuse data categories from the annual survey of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.)

Graduate Student Composition, 2009–2010

US citizens/permanent residents	Master's students			Doctoral students		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Hispanic, any race	4	7	11	1	1	2
White	21	34	55	8	13	21
African American	1	5	6	3	1	4
Native American/Pacific Islander	2	0	2	0	1	1
Asian American	3	12	15	2	2	4
Mixed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	10	11	21	0	5	5
Non-US citizens/ non-permanent residents	13	15	28	27	15	42
Total	54	84	138	41	38	79

The PhD committee continued its effort to advocate for financial resources and to make sure that admitted students indeed enroll in our program. In fall 2010, the department will enroll seven new doctoral students across the department's program groups and cross-cutting initiatives. The committee continued its support of a regular, once-a-week afternoon social gathering for PhD students and faculty and arranged two town hall meetings to discuss issues and ideas.

The department continues to publish *Projections*, the journal of the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning. *Projections 9* ("Planning for Sustainable Transportation: An International Perspective") was issued in the fall of 2009, and a student editor was selected for the next volume, due out in 2010–2011.

In 2009–2010, the following dissertations were completed:

- "To Be of Use: Creative Practice Across the Front Lines of Economic Self-Sufficiency Programs," Laurie Goldman
- "Financial Entrepreneurs? The Private Equity Industry in Emerging Economies: A Case Study of Egypt," Ayman Ismail
- "Transportation Planning for Mega Events: A Model of Urban Change," Eva Kassens
- "Out of Control? Local Democracy Failure and Fiscal Control Boards," Deborah Kobes
- "Panel Data Analyses of Urban Economics & Housing Markets," Nai Jia Lee
- "Towards Improved Partnerships in the Water Sector in the Middle East: A Case Study of Jordan," Nancy Odeh

- “Flexible Bureaucracies: Discretion, Creativity, and Accountability in Labor Market Regulation and Public Sector Management,” Roberto Pires
- “Transportation Planning with Preference Shaping: The Impacts of Car Pride and Environmental Attitude on Travel Behavior,” Jinhua Zhao
- “Institutions, Public Policy and the Product Life Cycle: The Globalization of Biomanufacturing & Implications for Massachusetts,” Elizabeth Reynolds
- “The Role of Biotechnology Training Partnerships in Expanding Employment • Opportunities for Community College Graduates in California,” Aziza Agia
- “Addressing Agricultural Salinity in the American West: Harnessing Behavioral Diversity to Institutional Design,” Beaudry Kock

Undergraduate Program Activities

During 2009–2010, the Undergraduate Committee continued to work on raising the visibility of DUSP among MIT’s undergraduates. Ten freshmen declared an urban studies and planning major this year.

In August 2009, the department participated in the Freshman Pre-Orientation Program, offering 15 new freshmen a two-day “Discovering Urban Studies and Planning” session. A similar orientation program is being planned for summer 2010.

Awards

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

Departmental Awards

- Student Departmental Service Award: John Sklarsky and Barika Williams
- Outstanding Contribution to the Intellectual Life of the Department: Queers in Urban Studies and Planning (John Arroyo, Leila Bozorg, Sloan Dawson, Ryan Maliszewski, Sarah Nusser, Sandra Padilla, and Juliana Sassaman); honorable mention: Bernadette Baird-Zars
- American Institute of Certified Planners Outstanding Student: Julie Stein
- Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis: Thomas Goff (“The Community Impacts of Greenways: A Longitudinal, Quasi-Experimental Study of Denver’s Greenways”)
- Outstanding MCP Thesis: John Arroyo (“Culture in Concrete: Art and the Re-imagination of the Los Angeles River as Civic Space”)
- Outstanding PhD Dissertation: Jinhua Zhao (“Preference Accommodating and Preference Shaping: Incorporating Traveler Preferences into Transportation Planning”) and Roberto Pires (“Flexible Bureaucracies: Discretion, Creativity, and Accountability in Labor Market Regulation and Public Sector Management”)
- PhD Teaching Assistant: Steve Moga and Alexis Shulman

- O. Robert Simha Prize: Eric Minikel; honorable mentions: Laura Delgado and Thomas Goff
- Flora Crockett Stephenson Writing Prize: Eric Minikel (“Evaluating Whether Curb Parking Is the Highest and Best Use of Land in an Urban Commercial District: A Case Study of Harvard Square”)
- Rolf R. Engler Award for Outstanding Service by Support or Administrative Staff: Sandra Elliott
- Excellence in Public Service: Janelle Chan and Nakeischea Loi Smith
- Urban Design Certificate: John C. Arroyo, Leila Bozorg, Haley R. Heard, Christina Paige Buist Markel, Candace Soledad Mendez, Julie Iris Stein, and Sara Y. Zewde
- Environmental Planning Certificate: Eric Mackres, Patrick Lynch, Sarah Madden, Kim Foltz, Ingrid Heilke, and Sarah Hammitt
- William Emerson Travel Award: Leila Bozorg, Kim Foltz, Jason Jackson, Melissa Haeffner, Hankyul Kim, Sarah Madden, Sole Mendez, Ning Wu, Lulu Xue, Jiyang Zhang, Christopher Chung, Chris Horne, Benjamin Hyman, Bjorn Jensen, YeSeul Kim, Sarah Nusser, Daniel Simon, Jasmine Tillu, and Aspasia Xypolia
- Lloyd and Nadine Rodwin Travel Award: Diane Jue, Krystal Peters, Shomon Shamsuddin, and Ning Wu
- Ross Silberberg (1990) Memorial Travel Grants: Annis Sengupta and Sarah Zewde
- Excellence in Teaching: Dennis Frenchman
- Excellence in Advising: Lorlene Hoyt
- Contribution to Student Life: Duncan Kincaid
- Hebbert Award for Student Contribution to DUSP: Sarah Zewde

MIT Awards

- Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant: Deepak Lamba-Nieves
- DUSP-Public Service Center Summer Internship: Ben Hyman, Christopher Chung, Alyssa Bryson, and Daniel Tien Simon
- Program on Human Rights and Justice Summer Internship Grants: Robert J. Crauderueff, Andrea A. Betancourt, Anahita Maghami, Christophe Chung, and Hector Salazar-Salame
- MISTI-Brazil Dissertation Travel Grant: Graham Denyer Willis
- Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture Travel Grant: Huma Gupta
- Horowitz Student Research Fund Award: Isabelle Anguelovski, Deepak Lamba-Nieves, Atul Pokharel, Jose Jaime (Jota) Samper Escobar, and Graham Denyer Willis

- Legatum Fellowship for Development and Entrepreneurship: Ben Hyman
- Albert G. Hill Prize: Polina Bakhteyrov
- John S.W. Kellett '47 Award: Queers in Urban Studies and Planning (John Arroyo; Leila Bozorg; Sloan Dawson, treasurer; Ryan Maliszewski; Sarah Nusser, president; Sandra Padilla; and Juliana Sassaman)
- MIT Graduate Women of Excellence 2010: Ingrid Heilke, Sarah Nusser, Kristal Peters, and Elizabeth Ramaicca

External Awards

Three different student teams from DUSP and the Center for Real Estate were awarded prizes in the Federal Home Loan Bank's 2010 Affordable Housing Development Competition. First place was awarded to the Shawknit Mill proposal of the Coalition for a Better Acre (Lowell) (MIT: Julie Chan, Joseph Martinez, Alexis Taylor, Jasmine Tillu, and Yan-Ping Wang; Harvard: Jorge Colon, Julie Leadbetter, and Terra Rogers; advisor: Leland Cott, Harvard Graduate School of Design). Second place went to the Brookline Housing Authority's Village at Walnut (MIT: Mai Dang, Kevin Feeney, Laura Manville, Erik Scanlon, and Heshuang Zeng; Harvard: Jeffrey Goodman and Aaron Wasserman; advisor: Larry Vale, MIT). Third place was awarded to the Somerville Community Corporation's Union Center (MIT: Anne Bowman; Harvard: Nicholas Bonard, Dennis Cabrera, Daniel Hadley, Garima Jain, Jayant Kairam, Braham Boyce Ketcham, and Adam Wodka; advisor: Brian Blaesser, Harvard).

In addition, several other awards were bestowed on DUSP students:

- American Planning Association (APA) Student Project Award: 2009 New Orleans Main Street Practicum (Andrew Amey, John Arroyo, Leila Bozorg, Liz Chimientil, Gayle Christiansen, Laura Delgado, Tamika Gauvin, Sarah Hammitt, Gerald Hunter, Uyen Le, Marianna Leavy-Sperounis, Sandra Padilla, Lakshmi Sridaran, and Julie Stein; Karl Seidman and Susan Silberberg-Robinson, advisors; Annis Whitlow Sengupta, teaching assistant)
- APA Housing and Community Development Division Research Award Program: Julie Stein
- APA Transportation Division, Best Paper Award: Andrew Amey (second place)
- APA Charles Abrams Scholarship: Chris Horne
- Presidential Management Fellows Finalists: Leila Bozorg, Elizabeth Chimienti, Leanne Farrell, Sunaree Marshall, Amit Sarin, and Julie Stein
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship: Nick Marantz and Zahir Dossa
- Rappaport Public Policy Fellows: Rob Goodspeed, Kevin Feeney, and Lauren Lambie-Hanson
- Luis Francisco Verges Award: Roberto Guerrero Compean
- Switzer Environmental Fellowship: Stephanie Stern

- Hal Rothman Research Fellowship (American Society for Environmental History): Steve Moga
- Carter Manny Trustees Merit Citation: Steve Moga (“Bottoms, Hollows, and Flats: Making and Remaking the ‘Lower Section’ of the American City”)
- Martin Family Society of Fellows for Sustainability: Tijs van Maasakkers, Madhu Dutta-Koehler, Kathleen M. Araujo, and Roberto Guerrero Compean
- Paul & Daisy Soros Fellowships for New Americans: Zahir Dossa
- International Holcim Forum on Sustainable Development High Commendation: Haley Heard
- Jeffrey L. Pressman Award: William Chin
- Grand Challenge Stories Award: Christine Outram, Xiaoji Chen, Jennifer Dunnam, and Ari Kardasis (with Carlo Ratti and the SENSEable City Lab)
- Best of Seattle 2009 Award for “Trash Track”: Dietmar Offenhuber and David Lee (with Carlo Ratti and the SENSEable City Lab)
- BP Energy Society Fellow: Roberto Guerrero Compean
- APA National Judith McManus Price Scholarship for Minority Planners: John Arroyo
- US/International Council for Monuments and Sites International Exchange Program Award: John Arroyo

Outreach to Alumni

Local alumni continue 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 continue to play a role in the implementation of the practicum requirement, a significant element in the revised MCP core curriculum. Additionally, a group of alumni active in restoration and planning efforts in Louisiana and Mississippi visited the campus to present their work and provide career advice to students.

In fall 2009, alumni again assisted in DUSP student recruitment efforts by organizing an open house in Los Angeles and participating in other graduate school recruitment events around the country. Departmental receptions held at the annual conferences of the American Planning Association and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning provided venues to catch up with alumni from across the country.

In early 2010, a group of alumni in New York City organized a recruitment event and reception for DUSP’s new department head, Amy Glasmeier, that drew a huge crowd despite blizzard conditions.

DUSP continues to maintain connections with alumni across the country. The reformatted monthly electronic newsletter, SA+P DUSP News, reaches more than 80 percent of our alumni, is well received, and has prompted numerous updates from alumni on their personal and professional lives. Professor Glasmeier traveled to Los Angeles for an alumni event.

Alumni once again participated as panelists in each of the four annual alumni career forums associated with the department's four program groups; they also served on a new panel for alumni in transportation planning. The DUSP career resources website and the DUSP career development director continue to serve alumni and current students seeking continued professional development. They also meet the needs of potential employers of DUSP students and graduates.

This past year the department significantly expanded the options for alumni to stay connected with each other and the department by promoting a number of online DUSP communities including LinkedIn, Facebook, and the "Great DUSP Meet Up." The department also provided outreach for alumni organizing events.

The department proudly presented the eighth annual Excellence in Public Service Awards to Janelle Chan MCP '07 and Nakeischea Loi Smith MCP '07.

International Connections

In 2009–2010, the Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS) hosted 13 Humphrey fellows and 4 SPURS fellows from Brazil, Bhutan, China, Ecuador, Bangladesh, Mozambique, Namibia, Mexico, Lebanon, Niger, Iraq, Korea, Turkey, Guinea, and Ghana. Their backgrounds were in urban planning, transportation, urban design, information technology, road infrastructure, housing, and economics. Our fellows continue to build strong connections with MIT undergraduates, particularly through our relationships with the International House and Simmons Hall. SPURS also continues to collaborate with the midcareer Loeb fellows of Harvard at the Graduate School of Design. The relationship between the two groups of midcareer fellows provides an opportunity for shared learning and comparison between domestic and international approaches to urban planning.

Details on other international efforts, especially in relation to the work of the International Development Group, have been described above.

Community Partnerships

Along with the Community Innovators Lab (CoLab) and the department's Practicum Committee, students and faculty worked on client-based projects for communities around Massachusetts (Lawrence, Springfield, Boston, New Orleans, Lowell).

As described above, three different student teams from DUSP and the Center for Real Estate were awarded first, second, and third prizes in the Federal Home Loan Bank's 2010 Affordable Housing Development Competition, which partners students with community groups around the Greater Boston area. Winners are judged on the design, finance, and innovation of their proposals, which involve real sites and developer partners.

Research Funding

Faculty and staff raised more than \$3.5 million in new sponsored funds for research and other projects in FY2010. We are placing serious emphasis on research fundraising by providing support for proposal writing, travel to funders, and information dissemination of funding opportunities. We have reconfigured our financial aid for graduate support to build up the research program.

Future Goals

In the next year, the department head's goals are to recast the department's image in the Institute and in the wider world, increase research funding by supporting faculty who are willing and able to write research proposals that with full indirect cost recovery, and build the undergraduate program by offering a set of new courses that appeal to students' capabilities and interests.

Amy K. Glasmeier
Department Head
Professor of Urban Studies and Planning

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