

Department of Urban Studies and Planning

Highlights

Students in the [Department of Urban Studies and Planning](#) (DUSP) have been winning national and international prizes at a pace rarely seen before, including fellowships from the National Science Foundation (NSF), the Presidential Management program, and the Rappaport Program in Law and Public Policy and awards from the American Planning Association (APA), the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP), and others. Especially noteworthy is the number of team competitions that the department has won recently, including the Chase Community Development Competition (in which teams participating in DUSP's efforts in New Orleans swept both first and second place) and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston's Affordable Housing Competition (in which teams from DUSP swept first, second, and third place). Students are always the best ambassadors of the program.

In April DUSP participated in APA's National Planning Conference, which was held in Boston. Students and faculty organized sessions and workshops and staffed a poster booth in the exhibitors' hall for the five days of the conference. The department also organized a 300-person reception, held at the new Media Laboratory building the night before the conference, to welcome alumni and members of the planning community to Boston.

DUSP's Contribution to MIT-Wide Efforts

Two graduate students in DUSP, master of city planning (MCP) candidates Christophe Chung and Shoko Takemoto, won the Popular Choice Award in a contest to create new international climate agreement proposals for the world community. They also shared a Judges' Choice Award in the contest with a team of students from MIT's Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change. The contest was sponsored by the Climate CoLab, a project of the MIT Center for Collective Intelligence that uses crowd-sourcing to harness the collective intelligence of people around the world to help find solutions to global climate issues. The winning proposal, "Overcoming the North-South Divide," called for emission reduction efforts to be based not on global or national targets, but rather on reducing emissions in four regional clusters, each of which combines countries from the global north and south.

In April the department presented the 2011 Kevin Lynch Award to landscape architect and sociologist Randolph Hester. The Lynch Award was established in 1988 to honor the memory of Kevin Lynch, an MIT alumnus, urban designer, author, and 30-year faculty member, and is presented biannually for outstanding scholarship and/or practice in urban design, planning, and landscape design. Hester is professor emeritus of landscape architecture and environmental planning and urban design at the University of California, Berkeley, and a founder of the research movement to apply sociology to the design of neighborhoods, cities, and landscapes. His work extends Lynch's legacy by focusing on the role of citizens in community design and ecological planning. Professor Hester is a strong advocate for community participation in the development of what he calls ecological democracies and sacred landscapes—spaces that grow from true understanding of a local community's needs and the potential of its resources.

In conjunction with the interuniversity Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School, the MIT-Harvard Public Disputes Program (headed by professor Lawrence Susskind) organized a series of problem-solving sessions focused on the mediation of human rights and other values-based disputes, the land claims of First Nations, and the use of scenario planning to help cities understand the best ways of adapting to climate change risks.

Student members of the Energy Efficiency Strategy Project (EESP) met regularly this year for topical discussions, targeted meetings, and interviews on aspects of enabling energy efficiency through innovative community-based strategies. Over the past year, 20 MIT graduate students in planning, engineering, and management have conducted research on new program models, leading to several significant papers. In addition to many thesis and research projects concluding this semester, two events were held in April.

On April 28, EESP facilitated a special session with 40 invited guests to help design an information-enabled community program strategy called Smart Energy Now, a utility/community energy pilot program for center-city Charlotte, NC. At the event, hosted in the offices of the MIT Energy Initiative, 10 students led discussions among researchers from other universities and nonprofits, representatives from large firms, and other experts. On April 29, a successful second annual Symposium on Community-based Efficiency Innovations was led by 15 student members of EESP; the symposium was cosponsored by the MIT Energy Club along with the Edison Foundation, NSTAR Electric, Cisco, and Duke Energy.

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, 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.

City Design and Development

In the spring semester, students from DUSP engaged urban design issues in studio settings in both Baltimore and the Bronx. In Baltimore, students of professor Brent Ryan (DUSP) and professor El Hadi Jazairy (Architecture) explored the concept of “after-city” in the Shrinking Cities Studio. As one in a series of studios on shrinking cities, the studio addressed the question of what planners and designers can learn from the shrinking city phenomenon and how transforming the urban conditions in Baltimore might reveal new urban paradigms. In the Bronx, professor Eran Ben-Joseph worked with 12 students in his 4.255J/11.304J Site and Environmental Systems Planning class to address a range of practical approaches involved in evaluating and planning sites within the context of natural and urban systems. The project explored how a mosaic of industrial and contaminated land uses along an urban river might be revised to create a coherent, ecologically based strategy for connecting a river to its adjacent neighborhoods.

Professors Dennis Frenchman, Chris Zegras, and Tunney Lee continued to build upon the department's 20-plus years of teaching and conducting research on planning and development in China. Over the past year, Frenchman and Zegras worked with colleagues at Beijing's Tsinghua University to investigate the relationship between urban form and energy use, with a special focus on the city of Jinan.

In May 2011, the department participated in the fourth annual "Writing Cities" workshop, a joint venture involving graduate students from MIT, Harvard, and the London School of Economics (LSE). Professor Larry Vale both coordinated and participated in the workshop, which was held at LSE.

Professor Alan Berger's Project for Reclamation Excellence (P-REX) received a \$100,000 grant from the Tiffany and Co. Foundation to aid in the publication of a joint booklet series with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund Group. The initial series, provisionally titled "Waste 2 Place," will consist of two booklets over the next three years along with an accompanying website portal for communities interested in reclamation of orphaned sites from natural resource extraction. Each booklet will document a success story of an individual abandoned metal mine land reclamation project completed through a joint collaboration among EPA, local stakeholders, and P-REX.

Environmental Policy and Planning

Professor JoAnn Carmin received the Abe Fellowship for her work on "Planning for a Changing Climate: A Comparative Assessment of Urban Adaptation Initiatives." She also received a supplemental research award from NSF and convened a meeting of 14 global urban adaptation leaders at the Rockefeller Bellagio Conference and Study Center. In partnership with ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, she completed a global survey of urban adaptation planning that was featured at the ICLEI Resilient Cities Congress held in Bonn, Germany.

In conjunction with NSF's grant to Tufts University to establish a new PhD in water diplomacy, EPP organized the first Water Diplomacy Workshop. Drawing 31 participants from 17 countries, this weeklong train-the-trainer event instructed senior water professionals in negotiation techniques that can be used to resolve cross-boundary water management disputes.

In March Professor Susskind, founder of the Consensus Building Institute, was presented the first Kenneth Cloke Peacemaker Award from Mediators Beyond Borders for outstanding and lasting contributions in international peace building. The Peacemaker Award is presented to someone who has been a living example of dedication, excellence, and commitment, not just to peace in general but to the arduous task of finding ways by which people can agree.

EPP also organized, in conjunction with several visiting scholars, a yearlong seminar on collaborative adaptive management.

Housing, Community, and Economic Development

Senior lecturer Karl Seidman was on sabbatical for part of the year to work on a forthcoming book on post-Katrina planning and economic development in New Orleans, based on his extensive experience working with students and community-based organizations there.

Professor Amy Glasmeier continues to serve as the professional development and program design coordinator for the Pennsylvania Energy Partnership. She served as an external examiner for the geography department at the University of Vancouver and in a continuing capacity as an advisory member of the Ford Foundation Program on Wealth Creation, a \$5M project developing new mechanisms for economic development in poor communities. She was appointed to the program advisory board of the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative John Adams Innovation Institute, and she continues as an elected representative on the Association of American Geographers Executive Council.

Professor Phil Thompson presented his work on “Emerald Cities,” connecting job opportunities and energy efficiency to a team of high-level officials at the White House, including Valerie Jarrett, Shaun Donovan, and Nancy Suttley, as well as six mayors from across the country. He was also invited to present his work on a strategy and demonstration project for community rebuilding in Haiti to the new Haitian president and to former president Bill Clinton.

In October, Professor Vale completed a major report for the MacArthur Foundation assessing the Chicago Housing Authority’s Plan for Transformation.

In addition to teaching 11.220 Quantitative Reasoning and Statistical Methods, lecturer Ezra Glenn offered training on the use of the new Census American Community Survey (ACS) data to planners at conferences of both the Massachusetts Association of Planning Directors and the Mel King Institute for Community Building. In July he presented a paper at the International Conference on Computers in Urban Planning and Urban Management in Calgary on a new statistical software package he has been developing to help local and neighborhood planners use ACS data.

Professor Xavier de Sousa Briggs extended his leave of absence to serve as associate director of the White House Office of Management and Budget. Lecturer James Buckley continued to fill in for Professor Briggs, teaching subjects in housing, planning history, and community planning, including 11.947 GreenHouse Residential Neighborhood Plan, which brought students into the field to work with community partners in Dorchester.

International Development Group

The department developed a new international development minor, and we are seeking approval for the program from the relevant Institute committees.

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

was also appointed a member of the International Academic Council for the United Nations Least Developed Countries and served as an invited research fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Jerusalem from April to July 2011.

In April DUSP and the wider academic community honored professor Judith Tandler, who retired this year. The occasion was marked with an academic Festschrift exploring and celebrating her work.

Professor Diane Davis continued her research on “Urban Resilience in Situations of Chronic Violence,” which focuses on cities that have faced ongoing political and/or economic violence. Her research focuses primarily on Latin America, but along with other team members she includes case studies from Africa, Asia, and the Middle East. Over the past year she received the Bernard Brodie Award for her article “Non-State Armed Actors, New Imagined Communities, and Shifting Patterns of Sovereignty and Security in the Modern World,” which appeared in *Contemporary Security Policy* in 2009.

Professor Karen Polenske continues her research in comparative analyses of energy use, pollution generation, and industrial-technology options in the People’s Republic of China, Brazil, and India, as well as regional implications of fuel use for food security in the United States. This past year she coauthored a research report (with Patrick Canning, Ainsley Charles, Sonya Huang, and Arnold Waters) for the US Department of Agriculture’s Economic Research Service on “Energy Use in the U.S. Food System.” In August she presented a talk on “Regional Innovation Clusters in China: A Problem or a Solution?” at the Chinese Academy of Social Science Symposium in Changsha, China.

Professor Alice Amsden is currently working on a book titled *A Rational Revolution: Developing From Role Models*.

Annette Kim, along with colleagues, revised the undergraduate curriculum. As part of her research project on “Sidewalks as Public Space: Case Study of Viet Nam,” Dr. Kim took four Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (UROP) students to Vietnam to conduct research.

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.

On April 8, scheduled to coincide with the national APA conference, students and faculty in the department organized a daylong conference on technology and planning. Shortly afterward, on April 12-13, researchers at DUSP’s SENSEable City Laboratory

hosted a forum on “Future Cities,” where leading thinkers from around the world convened to discuss pressing issues of urbanization and a wave of new distributed technologies.

Graduate Degree Program Enrollment and Activities

In the 2010-2011 class, the department’s graduate programs enrolled 73 new MCP students, 4 new dual SMArch/MCP students, 7 new SB/MCP students, 3 new SM students, and 7 new doctoral students. The department granted 64 MCP, 2 SM, and 11 PhD degrees.

The department continues to publish *Projections*, the journal of the MIT Department of Urban Studies and Planning. *Projections 10* (“Designing for Growth and Change”) was issued in the spring of 2011, coinciding with the biannual Kevin Lynch Award ceremony.

In 2010–2011, the following dissertations were completed:

“Adaptive Governance of Contested Rivers: A Political Journey into the Uncertain”: Catherine Ashcraft

“Creative Construction: the Capacity for Environmental Innovation in Real Estate Development Firms”: William Bradshaw

“The effect of Imports on Export Development: A Network Analytical View of International Trade in Music”: Jesse Chu-Shore

“Sustainable Metropolitan Growth Strategies: Exploring the Role of the Built Environment”: Mi Diao

“Planning Tremé: The Community Development Field in a Post-Katrina World”: Leigh Graham

“Brownfields in China: How Cities Recycle Industrial Land”: Xin Li

“The Political Economy of Rural-Urban Conflict: Lessons from West Africa and India”: Topher McDougal

“Bottoms, Hollows, and Flats: Making and Remaking the Lower Section of the American City”: Steven Moga

“Foreign Direct Investment, Intra-organizational Proximity, and Technological Capability: The Case of China’s Automobile Industry”: Kyung-Min Nam

“New York Talk Exchange: Transnational Telecommunications and Migration in a Global City”: Francisca Rojas

“Path and Place: A Study of Urban Geometry and Retail Activity in Cambridge and Somerville, MA”: Andres Sevtsuk

Undergraduate Program Activities

During 2010–2011, the Undergraduate Committee continued to work on raising the visibility of DUSP among MIT’s undergraduates, under the new leadership of assistant professor Annette Kim. Seven undergraduates declared an urban studies and planning major this year (down from a high of 11 in the previous year but still part of an overall upward trend), and 17 SB degrees were granted in the DUSP major.

In August 2010, the department participated in MIT's Freshman Pre-Orientation Program, offering 20 new freshmen a two-day "Discovering Urban Studies and Planning" session. A similar but expanded orientation program is being planned for summer 2011 in partnership with the Department of Architecture.

Awards

For the third consecutive time, MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning has been ranked number one in Planetizen's "Guide to Graduate Urban Planning Programs." The [rankings](#) were based on "a combination of statistical data collected from the programs themselves and opinion data gathered from planning educators." DUSP has been consistently ranked number one since the guide was first published in 2006.

Departmental Awards

Student Departmental Service Award: Kate Dineen

Outstanding Contribution to the Intellectual Life of the Department: Rob Goodspeed

American Institute of Certified Planners Outstanding Student: Julie Chan

Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis: Kristen Watkins ("The Role of Government in the Information and Communication Technology Sector")

Outstanding MCP Thesis: Kevin Feeney ("To Cities, With Nothing: Prisoner Resettlement in Newark, NJ"); honorable mentions: Alyssa Bryson and Chandan Deuskar

Outstanding PhD Dissertation: Kyung-min Nam ("Foreign Direct Investment, Intra-organizational Proximity, and Technological Capability: The Case of China's Automobile Industry")

PhD Teaching Assistant: Lauren Lambie-Hanson; honorable mentions: Atul Pokharel and Annis Whitlow Sengupta

O. Robert Simha Prize: Anne Bowman

Flora Crockett Stephenson Writing Prize: Holly Durso

Rolf R. Engler Award for Outstanding Service by Support or Administrative Staff: Kirsten Greco

Excellence in Public Service: Cyndy Wu, Bryant Tan, and Nathan Lemphers

Urban Design Certificate: Tamika Gauvin, Eirini Kasioumi, Cristina Ungureanu, Timothy Bates, Anne Bowman, Daniel Daou Ornelas, Ryan Maliszewski, Erik Scanlon, and Sarah Spicer

Environmental Planning Certificate: Linda Ciesielski, Deborah Lightman, Stephen Lloyd, Amanda Martin, Vanessa Ng, and Tyler Corson-Rikert

William Emerson Travel Award: Alyssa Bryson, Elijah Hutchinson, Elisha Goodman, Eric Chu, Hector Salazar, Ian Gray, Jessica Fain, Jota Samper, Kira Intrator, Laura Manville, Rebecca Economos, Shoko Takemoto, Anne Bowman, Daniel Broid, Julie Chan, Maricarmen Esquivel, Onesimo Flores, Yonah Freemark, Lillian Knorr, Mattijs Van Maasackers, Ryan Maliszewski, Campbell Mayer, Elizabeth Ramaccia, Miriam Solis, and Graham Willis

Lloyd and Nadine Rodwin Travel Award: Ben Hyman and Yuan Xiao

Ross Silberberg (1990) Memorial Travel Grants: Allison N. Albericci and Jonah Stern

Excellence in Teaching: Frank Levy

Excellence in Advising: James Buckley

Contribution to Student Life: Kirsten Greco

Hebbert Award for Student Contribution to DUSP: Kate Dineen

MIT Awards

Laya and Jerome Wiesner Student Art Award, 2011: Dorian Dargan

Africa Innovate Competition/Sloan Business School: Elisha Goodman (third place)

Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture Travel Grant: Stephen Kennedy and Alice Shay

Carroll L. Wilson Award: Ben Hyman and Dietman Offenhuber

Center for International Studies Summer Study Grant: Yuan Xiao and Jose Jaime Samper Escobar

DUSP-Public Service Center Summer Internship: Ksenia Mokrushina

Legatum Fellowship for Development and Entrepreneurship: Ben Hyman and Campbell Mayer

Martin Family Society of Fellows for Sustainability: Lily Song, Madhu C. Dutta-Koehler, and Alexis Schulman

MISTI Brazil Internship: Julia Tierney

MIT Climate CoLab Competition: Shoko Takemoto and Christophe Chung (judges' choice and popular vote)

Program on Environmental Governance and Sustainability Fellowship: Julia Tierney

Public Service Center Fellowship: Ben Hyman

Ralph Adams Cram Award: Alex Keating

School of Architecture and Planning Harold Horowitz Student Research Fund Award: Allison N. Albericci and Lauren Lambie-Hanson

External Awards

ACSP Barclay Gibbs Jones Award for Best Dissertation in Planning: Jinhua Zhao

ACSP Marsha Ritzdorf Award for the Best Student Work on Diversity, Social Justice and the Role of Women in Planning: Mia White

C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship, Lincoln Institute: Lauren Lambie-Hanson

Chase Community Development Competition: Mai Dang, Kevin Feeney, Laura Manville, Ryan Maliszewski, Erik Scanlon, and Brian Valle (first place; advisor: Karl Seidman); Timothy Bates, Anne Bowman, Caroline Edwards, Anne Emig, Amanda Martin, Sagarika Suri, Ann Woods, and Aspasia Xypolia (second place; advisor: Karl Seidman)

Global Network for Economics of Learning, Innovation, and Competence Building System Conference, Student Paper Prize: Kyung Min Nam (third place)

Industry Studies Association Dissertation Award: Liz Reynolds

J. Robert Beyster Fellow (Rutgers): Lily Song

Marie Curie Fellowship: Isabelle Anguelovski

American Planning Association (Massachusetts Chapter) Outstanding Student Project Award, Best Neighborhood Project: Karin Brandt, Leanne Farrell, Gates Gooding, Hankyul Kim, Sarah Madden, Christina Markel, Sarah Nusser, Kristal Peters, Shiva Prakash, Anthony Rizos, Sari Rothrock, and Angelica Weiner (faculty advisors: Terry S. Szold and Eran Ben-Joseph)

National Science Foundation International Science and Engineering Visualization Challenge: SENSEable City Lab/Trash Track

Presidential Management Fellows finalists: Kathryn Dineen and Tyler Corson-Rikert

Rappaport Summer Fellowship: Eric Schultheis

Rappaport-Radcliffe Doctoral Public Policy Fellowship: Eric Schultheis

Soros Fellowship for New Americans: Zahir Dossa

Social Science Research Council Latin American Security, Drugs and Democracy Fellowship: Graham Denyer Willis

University Transportation Center Outstanding Student of the Year: Lisa Michelle Rayle

Urban Land Institute/Gerald D. Hines Urban Design Competition: Francas C. Ritchie, Elizabeth Ramaccia, Alex Magliozzi, Allison Hu, and Allison Albericci (honorable mention; faculty advisor: Andres Sevstuk)

Visiting Doctoral Research Fellowship, Energy, Climate and Innovation Program, Fletcher School, Tufts University: Kathy Araujo

Hugh Hampton Young Memorial Fellowship: Roberto Guerrero Compean

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.

DUSP maintains 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. The department also held alumni reunion events in both New York and New Orleans.

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.

The department proudly presented the ninth annual Excellence in Public Service Awards to Cindy Wu MCP '07, Bryant Tan MCP '08, and Nathan Lemphers MCP '09.

International Connections

In 2010–2011, the Special Program for Urban and Regional Studies (SPURS) hosted 18 SPURS and Humphrey Fellows from Afghanistan, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, and the Slovak Republic. Thirteen fellows were sponsored by the Institute of International Education, which is administered by the Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program. The fellows were selected based on their potential for leadership and commitment to public service.

This year, one Humphrey Fellow, Sopheap Phim from Cambodia, led a group of interdisciplinary MIT students to Cambodia during Independent Activities Period (IAP) to investigate locally appropriate technologies for school renovation. Phim connected the MIT group, composed of undergraduate students, graduates, and professors, to local institutions and communities in the area. SPURS also started a joint collaboration with Roxbury Community College (RCC) to build long-lasting links between RCC students and SPURS Fellows. This collaboration will expose our fellows to the community development process in the United States and at the same time establish a pathway for RCC students to access both the diverse experiences of the Humphrey Fellows and the institutional strength of MIT.

The SPURS/Humphrey Fellows Program continues to serve as an important link between MIT and the international community, fostering a mutual exchange of knowledge and understanding about issues of common concern in the United States and other countries around the world.

Additional international efforts, especially in relation to the work of DUSP's 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 and across the country.

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 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.

DUSP's ongoing partnership with the city of Lawrence, Massachusetts, known as MIT@Lawrence, won the 2011 Community Partnership Award from the Massachusetts Campus Compact. The partnership, initiated in 1998 by four DUSP alumni, has evolved to include thousands of people from both the city and the university.

Over the past year, Professor Glasmeier has worked with two graduate student research assistants to develop an effort to introduce minority and inner-city high school students to the planning profession, in the hopes of eventually developing a "feeder program" similar to those found in the Office of Engineering Outreach Programs. This spring, the department will begin a relationship with the greater Boston Citizen Schools program.

DUSP has also recommitted itself to work in New Orleans, a city where the department has already made significant investments of faculty and student work. Lecturer Cherie Abbanat transformed her undergraduate 11.027 City to City class from an international travel seminar to a laboratory for urban innovation centered on New Orleans. The revision spawned a proposal to the Institute for multiyear funding to support development of a "living laboratory."

Research Funding

In the first half of the current fiscal year, DUSP faculty and research staff submitted nearly \$15M in research proposals to outside funding agencies, including federal and state agencies, foundations, industry firms, and international organizations. Awards made during the first half of the year totaled \$4 million.

To coordinate research activity in DUSP, a research committee was established as the new standing committee of the faculty. In particular, this committee was charged with seeking more opportunities for collaborative research that will pull faculty together across program groups, as well as with advising the department head on ways to use existing departmental resources (such as research assistant time, staff resources, and teaching reductions) to encourage this sort of collaboration.

Eric Klopfer and the Scheller Teacher Education Program (STEP) received a \$2.1M grant from the National Science Foundation for a four-year collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania to improve the teaching of biology at the high school level.

Diane Davis received a \$385,000 research grant from the Division of Conflict Mitigation and Management at the US Agency for International Development to conduct case study research on urban resilience in situations of chronic violence.

Faculty in HCED recently collaborated on a response to a \$1.5M call for proposals from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Faculty members in the department have applied to be members of the MIT-Tsinghua-Cambridge Consortium on Low Carbon Cities. A major grant was rewarded to two faculty members.

Promotion and Tenure

The tenure case for JoAnn Carmin was recently approved. Eran Ben-Joseph was promoted from associate professor to full professor.

Moving forward, DUSP is committed to more aggressive mentorship for junior faculty. The department is also increasingly aware of the opportunities presented by new openings: together with current and anticipated retirements, they represent an unprecedented opportunity to reshape the faculty as the leadership deems fit to address the challenges of the 21st-century city.

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