June 2023

Dear Friends,

I’m writing with greetings from the Spitzer School as we complete our spring
semester by honoring our newly minted graduates at Commencement exercises across campus. During this exciting time, it is a true privilege to reflect on the dedication and talent displayed throughout the school year. I’d like to thank you for being part of our extraordinary and engaging Spitzer community.

In recent weeks, we have witnessed an immeasurable amount of creativity centered around the potential of architecture and the built environment. The final projects and presentations of our students were equal parts thought-provoking and invigorating.

A heartfelt nod to the extraordinary B. Arch Advanced Studio students whose projects were presented at the recent Kingsbridge Armory Award Ceremony. Bronx Borough President Hon. Vanessa Gibson and U.S. Representative Adriano Espaillat were among the venerable attendees.

We are delighted to announce Professor Zihao Zhang will serve as interim director of the Master of Landscape Architecture program for the upcoming year, and we wish Professor Catherine Seavitt Nordenson well in her new role as a tenured professor and chair of the Department of Landscape Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania.

Please kindly help spread the word about our introductory Architecture Summer Career Lab starting in July.

Wishing you a restorative and productive summer. Thank you for being part of the Spitzer School,

Marta Gutman
Dean and Professor of Architecture

PS - Please continue to send us your stories, news, and achievements, and follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

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Student Highlights
Reproductive Justice Advanced Design Studio Work Published
Student work from the Fall 2022 Advanced Studio entitled “National Care: Abortion Access, Reproductive Justice on Federal Land” was recently featured by Architect’s Newspaper in an article by Marianela D’Aprile. The studio was instructed by Professor Lindsay Harkema.

Scenes from Spring 2023 Final Reviews on @whatsonatssa
Check out photos from the Spring 2023 Final Reviews on the official Spitzer School of Architecture Instagram account @whatsonatssa. The photographs are by Sirin Samman.

Faculty and Staff Highlights

New Senior Academic Advisor
We are thrilled to introduce Tony G. Bowles! Tony’s studies and work in criminal justice, counseling, and higher education give him a fresh and unique perspective for his work with the students at Spitzer. Welcome, Tony!

Prof. Nandini Bagchee and East New York CLT on CUNY TV
Professor Nandini Bagchee’s work with the East New York Community Land Trust was featured on a recent episode of DiverseCITY on CUNY TV. The segment features a brief history of CLTs in New York by Prof. Bagchee, as well as an
Prof. Jerome Haferd, Member of Dark Matter U., Receives #BlackVisionaries Grant
Professor Jerome Haferd, through his affiliation with Dark Matter U. (DMU) as a member of their leadership team, received a #BlackVisionaries $100,000 grant to be used for the group. DMU is a democratic network of design professionals and academics that considers and centers multiple subjectivities and co-creates new forms of knowledge production, BIPOC mentorship, and spatial imagination to serve broader, often overlooked constituencies.

Prof. Zihao Zhang Awarded CUNY Career Success Fellowship
Professor Zihao Zhang was among the 49 faculty members named as 2023 CUNY Career Success Fellows from 21 schools in the City University of New York system. The program’s goal is to bridge classroom learning and careers.

Giving and Growth

The Michael Sorkin Visiting Distinguished Lecturer Endowment
A fundraising campaign has been launched to endow the Michael Sorkin Visiting Distinguished Lecturer at the Spitzer School. The lectureship is in keeping with Sorkin’s vision of CCNY and cities and will allow a distinguished senior designer or
Sorkin Reading Room Featured in Urban Omnibus and the Architect's Newspaper

Unpacking His Library by Mariana Mogilevich in Urban Omnibus and Sorkin’s Stacks by Stephen Zacks in The Architect’s Newspaper showcase the Spitzer School of Architecture’s new Sorkin Reading Room.

Events

Spitzer Hosts First Exhibition since 2018, "Mass Support"

Making its U.S. debut, the exhibition “Mass Support: Flexibility and Resident Agency in Housing” co-curated by Distinguished Lecturer Cassim Shepard opened on March 21 and ran until May 8. Jointly presented by the Spitzer School, The Architectural League of New York, and the Curatorial Research Collective of the TU/e, with support from the Consulate-General of the Netherlands, New York, it drew visitors from near and far and was the subject of a symposium.
NY Times Reporter Emily Badger Delivers 2023 Lewis Mumford Lecture

Emily Badger, the New York Times urban policy writer, delivered this year’s Lewis Mumford Lecture to a full auditorium on April 27. Her talk, "Pressing Change in the Increasing Inflexible City," focused on how cities must change as the nation emerges from the pandemic. In case you missed it, check out the video archive.

Speakers Explore the Pacific Rim

Our Spring Sciame Lecture Series, "Across the Pacific Rim: Architecture and Landscape in Translation," brought together designers, scholars, practitioners, and activists who are situated along the Pacific Rim. Missed a lecture? Check out the video archive.

Career Fair

The school's annual Career Fair took place in person on February 23, led by CCNY's CPDI. A wonderful turnout of 41 employers attended and met with hundreds of talented and eager students and alumni! We are thrilled that many new jobs and other initiatives with the school have resulted.

Where Are They Now?
Alum Deborah Berke and Dean Marta Gutman Discuss Architectural Education

In “Architectural Education for the Future: A Conversation with Deborah Berke and Marta Gutman,” Platform editor Kishwar Rizvi speaks with Deans Deborah Berke MUP ’84 (Yale School of Architecture) and Marta Gutman (Spitzer School) about new directions in architectural education today.

Course Proposal Wins Inter-university Climate Challenge Award

Adjunct Lecturer Pedro Cruz Cruz M Arch ’22 and Professor Nandini Bagchee have won a course development prize from Columbia University’s Temple Hoyne Buell Center for the Study of American Architecture and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. The course titled Archipelagic Estates of Puerto Rico will debut in the fall.

For more news please visit our website and tune in to our social media channels linked below.

If you have any feedback or suggestions, please contact us via our Instagram or LinkedIn PMs.