CONTENTS

Message from the Directors 4
CSD by the Numbers 8
Expertise Map 10
Staff and Faculty Fellows 12
Current Projects 22
Emerging Projects 52
Events and Outreach 74
Education and Resources 94
MESSAGE FROM
THE DIRECTORS

Each year our annual report provides an opportunity to reflect on what we’ve accomplished as a Center over the past year, and to look forward to our emerging and ongoing projects. Our faculty fellows, researchers, and community partners play a critical role in all that we do. These partnerships, which cut across institutional and disciplinary boundaries, allow the Center for Sustainable Development to continue to achieve its mission of leading the study and practice of sustainable development in Texas, the nation, and the world through complementary programs of research, education, and community outreach. Given the complex social and environmental problems facing humanity, the need for collaborative action that crosses disciplines and academic departments has never been greater.

That is why this year we are especially eager to announce a very exciting development — Dr. Richard Corsi, E. C. H. Bantel Professor for Professional Practice in Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering, will be joining the CSD as co-Director this fall. We see this as an opportunity to crystalize the important partnership between the Cockrell School of Engineering and the School of Architecture, as well as to build a more solid foundation for the interdisciplinary work we see as critical to addressing the complex sustainability challenges facing our society.
Rich has been a valued colleague and CSD Faculty Fellow, working on multiple projects over the past several years, including the Building Material Accountability Project. Rich received his Ph.D. and M.S. from the University of California at Davis in Civil Engineering, and has a B.S. in Environmental Resources Engineering from Humboldt State University. His research is focused on indoor air quality and human exposure to irritating and toxic chemicals in indoor environments. Both Rich’s teaching experience and scholarship are extensive and extremely well respected. He will bring a focus on human health to the CSD and work to integrate experimental sciences and materials testing with “big picture” thinking that reaches designers and decision-makers. Rich’s emphasis on healthy indoor environments will expand the CSD’s universe of stakeholders, leading to new connections, strategic partnerships, and opportunities.

At its core, sustainability requires that problems be addressed through a whole-system approach. Discipline-based research yields narrow solutions with limited applicability. CSD researchers and fellows understand this, and see the interconnected nature of the ‘sustainability challenge’ as central to our work. Through our new partnership with both Rich and with the Cockrell School of Engineering, the CSD strengthens its commitment to significant interdisciplinary research and bolsters its work to remove institutional barriers to cross-cutting sustainability initiatives.

The CSD has always been unique in its successful integration of diverse interests to develop solutions to the physical and social challenges facing the planning, construction, and preservation of our buildings, neighborhoods, and regions. We strive—through our projects, teaching, and working groups—to better understand and improve these connections. Building on the incredible work we’ve already accomplished, and along with our new partners, we will continue to serve as a hub for innovative thinking about the practice of sustainability in the built world.

DR. BARBARA BROWN WILSON & DR. RICHARD CORSI

Co-Directors, Center for Sustainable Development
The University of Texas at Austin
CSD BY THE NUMBERS

$301,222
Amount of funding awarded
(with an additional $1,172,611 pending)

24
Grants Written

21
GRAs Employed

21
Research Projects Conducted

17
Portfolio Students

21
Events Held

2012-2013 Statistics
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGIONAL</th>
<th>RURAL</th>
<th>URBAN</th>
<th>COMMUNITY</th>
<th>BUILDING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carbon Sequestration</td>
<td>Vernacular Landscapes</td>
<td>Sustainability Action Planning</td>
<td>Community Indicator Analysis</td>
<td>Green Building Materials</td>
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<td>Growth Management</td>
<td>Environmental Security</td>
<td>Distributed Infrastructure</td>
<td>Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>Indoor Air Quality</td>
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<td>Informal Settlement Planning</td>
<td>Green Infrastructure</td>
<td>Economic Development</td>
<td>Solar Geometry</td>
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<td>Bioregionalism</td>
<td>Natural Resource Management</td>
<td>Urban Politics</td>
<td>Integrated Learning Environments</td>
<td>Historic Preservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Infrastructure Planning</td>
<td>Land Suitability Analysis</td>
<td>Sociotechnical Systems</td>
<td>Community-Based Planning</td>
<td>Sustainable Renovation</td>
</tr>
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<td>Climate Change Management</td>
<td>Brownfield Redevelopment</td>
<td>Planning Law</td>
<td>Environmental Justice</td>
<td>Building Information Modeling</td>
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<td>Travel Behavior Modeling</td>
<td>Defense Planning</td>
<td>Pollutant Exposure and Health</td>
<td>Affordable Housing</td>
<td>Sustainable Sites</td>
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<td>Ecosystem Services</td>
<td>Historic Resource Management</td>
<td>Civic Environmentalism</td>
<td>Climate Mitigation and Adaptation</td>
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Barbara Brown Wilson
Co-Director

Barbara is an Assistant Professor of Community and Regional Planning and Sustainable Design in the School of Architecture. She has a PhD in Community and Regional Planning and a Masters in Architectural History, and draws from both history and practice for her work at UT. Her book, *Questioning Architectural Judgment: The Problem of Codes in the United States*, co-authored with Steven Moore, was published by Routledge in 2013. She is currently conducting project evaluations for the Texas Rapid Housing Recovery Pilot Project and working with the SEED Network to build an inclusive platform for socially-oriented green building assessment systems. Barbara serves as co-director of the Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project and founder of the Public Interest Design Program. She is also co-founder of the Austin Community Design and Development Center (ACDDC), a nonprofit design center that provides green design and planning services to lower income households.

Richard Corsi
Co-Director

Richard is the ECH Bantel Professor for Professional Practice in the Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering at UT. He received his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Davis. Richard and his students study sources of, and human exposure to, indoor air pollution, indoor chemistry, and innovative low-energy strategies for improving indoor environmental quality. He teaches undergraduate courses in fluid mechanics and indoor air quality, and graduate courses in indoor chemistry and human exposure to indoor air pollution. He has served as major advisor to 19 Ph.D. students, 48 M.S. students, and 47 undergraduate research assistants. Richard is also faculty advisor to the UT Student Chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World.
Meghan Kleon  
**Assistant Director**

Meghan is a PhD candidate in Architecture and the Assistant Director of the CSD. Her research is focused on the intersection of sustainable design and historic preservation. This August, she will conclude her tenure as Assistant Director and complete her dissertation, entitled “Sustainable Preservation: Mapping an Emerging Discipline.” Meghan was recently awarded a Named Graduate School Fellowship for 2013/2014, and was a Mike Hogg Endowment Continuing Graduate Fellow in 2011/12, and a Sustainable Cities Doctoral Initiative Fellow from Fall 2009 to Spring 2011. Meghan has a BA in Architecture from Miami University (Ohio), an MS in Sustainable Design from the University of Texas at Austin, and is a LEED Accredited Professional. She served on the City of Austin Historic Landmark Commission from 2009 to 2012. Prior to her graduate work at UT Austin, Meghan worked as the Architectural Resource Coordinator for the Cleveland Green Building Coalition (now the Northeast Ohio Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council).

Sarah Wu  
**Program Coordinator**

As Program Coordinator for the CSD, Sarah writes and prepares grants for the SOA, coordinates faculty and research teams, and serves as a liaison with various offices at UT. Sarah is also the project manager for the $2.3 million dollar HUD funded Sustainable Places Project, for which she oversees a team of five faculty and graduate students and subcontractors working to develop an innovative analytics tool to identify long-term effects of various development scenarios in Central Texas. Prior to her work at the CSD, Sarah worked as an environmental and transportation planner for a private consulting firm. She has a BS in environmental science from UC Berkeley and an M.S. in Community and Regional Planning from UT.

**Student Researchers**

Steve Bourne  
**Research Associate, Thermal Lab**  
Research: radiant barrier systems; integration of phase-change thermal storage media into building materials and their impact on peak energy demand.  
Projects: Thermal Lab

Conner Bryan  
**Research Associate, Public Interest Design Program**  
Research: new and emerging sustainable technologies in architecture, including smart skins, future building materials, and energy production.  
Projects: Public Interest Design

Catie Carter  
**Research Associate, Battle Lab**  
Research: sustainable consumption and design; sustainable building cultures; pedagogical design; trans-disciplinary research.  
Projects: Battle Lab; Engagement Dashboard Project

Sam Dodd  
**Coordinator, Graduate Portfolio Program in Sustainability**  
Research: history of architecture; building technology; media and representation.  
Projects: Graduate Portfolio Program in in Sustainability; Publications

Scott Eshbaugh  
**Research Associate**  
Research: interface design; visualization; human-computer interaction.  
Projects: 4D Austin, Austin Mobile Community Design Hub

Betsy Frederick-Rothwell  
**Research Associate**  
Research: Historic preservation; building performance; history of climate control.  
Projects: Battle Lab; Development and Grant Writing

Jane Futrell Winslow  
**Research Associate, Alley Regeneration Project**  
Research: environmental planning and design; healing environments; historic preservation; urban ecology; public health and public space.  
Projects: Alley Regeneration Project
Shannon Harris
**Research Associate, Texas City Lab**
Research: auxiliary water resource planning; social responses to sustainable technologies; service learning pedagogy.
Projects: Texas City Lab

Tom Hilde
**Research Associate, Sustainabile Places Project**
Research: integrated planning of land use, affordable housing, and transportation; measuring and understanding sustainability through indicators; water resources planning; hazards mitigation.
Projects: Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, Sustainable Places Project

Frances Kellerman
**Research Associate, Sustainable Cities and Meadows Curriculum Grant Program Coordinator**
Research: environmental and water resources planning; sustainable integrated development.
Projects: Meadows Foundation Curriculum Grant Program

Lydia Kenselaar
**Research Associate**
Research: public green spaces; urban agriculture; green infrastructure.
Projects: Undergraduate Concentration in Sustainability

Jenni Minner
**Research Associate**
Research: Historic preservation and cultural heritage; commercial landscapes; planning and GIS.
Projects: Sustainable Places Project; Development and Grant Writing

Rebecca Rinas
**Research Associate**
Research: The energy-food-water nexus; green design and infrastructure; community development; and principles of place making.
Projects: Dumpster Project; Development and Grant Writing

Andrea Roberts
**Research Associate**
Research: historic preservation, heritage, and community resilience; cultural sustainability.
Projects: Development and Grant Writing; Austin Historical Survey Wiki

James Sherman
**Research Associate, Thermal Lab**
Research: building energy analysis; daylighting; thermal comfort; building systems interaction
Projects: Thermal Lab

Kristine Stiphany
**Research Associate, Design Build Coalition**
Research: relationship between education and housing development for informal settlements in São Paulo, Brazil.
Projects: Design Build Coalition

Rachel Tepper
**Research Associate**
Research: public art planning; public interest design; visual communication; and urban design.
Projects: CSD Film Series; Grants and Administration; Event Planning

Elizabeth Walsh
**Research Associate**
Research: interdisciplinary sustainability pedagogy; low-income home renovation programs; environmental justice and sustainability in gentrifying neighbourhoods.
Projects: Events and outreach; Publications; Battle Lab; Sustainable Cities Initiative

**Faculty Fellows**

Dean Almy
**Associate Professor of Architecture**
**Director, Graduate Program in Urban Design**
Research: urbanization in the Texas Triangle; population growth; sustainable urban strategies.
Projects: Dlab, TUFLab

Ulrich Dangel
**Assistant Professor of Architecture**
Research: developing evaluation tools and strategies, which aid in finding design solutions for building skins as components of sustainable, low-energy concepts.
Projects: Thermal Lab
Sarah Dooling  
**Assistant Professor, Urban Ecology**  
Research: patterns and processes associated with urbanization; vulnerable populations and spaces; social and ecological components of urban systems.

Matt Fajkus  
**Assistant Professor of Architecture**  
Research: daylighting systems; energy-efficient building design.

Projects: Thermal Lab

Fran Gale  
**Director, Architectural Conservation Laboratory**  
Research: deterioration processes affecting building materials; innovative conservation treatments; preservation of historic cemeteries.

Projects: Architectural Conservation Plan for the University of Texas Forty Acres Preservation Plan

Michael Garrison  
**Cass Gilbert Centennial Teaching Fellow in Architecture; Professor of Architecture**  
Research: advanced design; environmental controls; sustainable architecture; passive solar systems, building workshop, visual communication.

Michael Holleran  
**Associate Professor of Community & Regional Planning and Historic Preservation**  
**Director, Graduate Program in Historic Preservation**  
Research: historic preservation; history of urban design and development; vernacular landscapes.

Projects: Austin Historical Wiki Survey

Fernando Lara  
**Assistant Professor of Architecture**  
Research: Latin American architecture and urbanism; dissemination of architectural knowledge; informal settlements.

Projects: Studio Toro

Ming-Chun Lee  
**Assistant Professor of Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: community technology; digital democracy; media policy and public access to information and communication technology (ICT).

Projects: Sustainable Places Project

Katherine Liebernecht  
**Lecturer, Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: land use and water resources planning; equity implications of land conservation; community-based approaches to land conservation and economic development; bioregional planning.

Petra Liedl  
**Assistant Professor**  
**Harrington Faculty Fellow**  
Research: interplay of climate, buildings, comfort, and energy; user-friendly planning tools; interdisciplinary work.

Projects: ClimateDesign, Energy (Ex)Change Conference

Talia McCray  
**Assistant Professor of Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: urban transportation issues; youth transportation and employment.

Steven Moore  
**Director, Graduate Program in Sustainable Design**  
**Bartlett Cocke Regents Professor in Architecture**  
Research: sociotechnical systems; sustainable architecture and urbanism; codes and the built environment.

Projects: Alley Regeneration Project, NSF Workshop

Elizabeth Mueller  
**Associate Professor of Community & Regional Planning, and of Social Work**  
Research: affordable housing policy; urban politics; equity and sustainability.

Projects: Sustainable Places Project

Atila Novoselac  
**Associate Professor of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering**  
Research: ventilation and indoor air quality; modeling of built environment; building energy analysis; high rise buildings.

Projects: Thermal Lab

Michael Oden  
**Associate Professor of Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: economic development planning; regional theory; applied planning methods; housing policy.

Projects: ARC Telecommunications Analysis Update, Sustainable Places Project
Robert Paterson  
**Ph.D. Program Coordinator for Community & Regional Planning, Associate Professor of Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: sustainable communities; brownfield redevelopment; environmental impact assessment; environmental dispute resolution.  
Projects: Envision Central Texas Implementation Toolbox, Lincoln Institute for Land Policy, Smart Growth project, Hogg Foundation, Sustainable Brownfield Development, Sustainable Places Project

Rachael Rawlins  
**Lecturer, Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: environmental impact assessment law and policy; planning and public health law and policy, including regulatory solutions to toxics in consumer products; environmental planning and legislative initiatives to reduce green house gas emissions.  
Projects: Envision Central Texas Toolbox

Mark Simmons  
**Lecturer of Landscape Architecture**  
**Ecologist, Landscape Restoration Program, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center**  
Research: using urban greenspace to sequester carbon; using native plants to address design problems; native plants on green roofs; native polycultural turfgrass  
Projects: Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, Mueller Airport Redevelopment, San Antonio River Mission Reach Restoration

Bjørn Sletto  
**Associate Professor of Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: indigenous territoriality and politics of representation in Latin America; micro-politics of participatory planning processes.

Frederick Steiner  
**Dean, School of Architecture**  
**Henry M. Rockwell Chair in Architecture**  
Research: environmental planning; urban and landscape ecology; land suitability analysis  
Projects: Envision Central Texas, Sustainable Sites Initiative, Texas Triangle

Patricia Wilson  
**Professor of Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: civic engagement and dialogue; participatory planning; international development; community development; sustainable social development.  
Projects: Participatory neighborhood recovery planning in New Orleans and women’s empowerment for collaborative leadership in rural India

Ming Zhang  
**Graduate Advisor for Community & Regional Planning, Associate Professor**  
Research: urban transportation planning; urban form and travel behavior; GIS applications in planning; international planning.  
Projects: CAMPO Transit Oriented Development Study, Transit Oriented Development in Latin America, TOD and Regional Transportation Planning, Sustainable Places Project

Robert Young  
**Assistant Professor of Community & Regional Planning**  
Research: urban and regional planning; sustainable economic development; green infrastructure; urban ecology, specifically advancing the transition to sustainable urban regions and economies.
CURRENT PROJECTS

Alley Regeneration 24
Battle Lab 28
Building Material Accountability Project 32
Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project 36
Public Interest Design 40
Sustainable Places Project 44
Thermal Lab 48
Overview

Building on the success of the Alley Flat Initiative, which fosters the sustainable design and development of detached secondary residential units found in Austin’s extensive network of underutilized alleys, the Alley Regeneration project envisions Austin’s alleys as an integrated sustainable system of inhabited infrastructure. In 2011, following five years of design studies conducted by students and faculty affiliated with the CSD in collaboration with several community partners, the City of Austin committed funds to an alley demonstration project. This project seeks to integrate Alley Flat infill housing with alley greening interventions redesigned and reconstructed by the city to sequester and treat storm water, increase public safety, and provide new venues for public art and urban agriculture.

Why the Research Is Important

Historically, Austin’s alleys were conceived as single purpose infrastructure conduits designed for consumer consumption— to serve storm-water evacuation, electrical distribution, solid waste collection, and private access. Over time, the City gradually abandoned maintenance of these public spaces and most have become places of social and environmental degradation.
The goal of this research is two-fold. First, these spatial assets are being re-conceptualized to support new housing as units of production rather than only consumption. New alley flats provide multi-purpose affordable homes that produce energy, sequester storm water, and increase block density to contribute to the efficacy of existing infrastructure systems. The alleyways serve not only as vehicular access, but also function as community recreation space and green infrastructure that filters storm water through rain gardens. Secondly, this project successfully demonstrates the increased capacity of university – community partnerships to engage residents to reach effective solutions for livable neighborhoods with effective strategies that can be employed citywide.

Next Steps

- City of Austin Public Works Department is working on the final design documents for the alley project demonstration, with construction to begin in late 2013.
- A booklet "Green Alley Demonstration Project: Regenerating Urban Infrastructure in Austin, Texas" is currently in review by the City of Austin, and will be completed in the fall of 2013.
- CSD is continuing its work with the City of Austin Office of Sustainability on applied sustainability projects within the urban core, and working with the city to address regulatory code challenges with permitting of alley flats.

For more information, please contact Barbara Brown Wilson at bbwilson@austin.utexas.edu.
Overview

Designed in 1909 by Cass Gilbert, Battle Hall is the only academic building on the UT Austin campus listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It is home of the Architecture and Planning Library, the Alexander Architectural Archive, and the Center for American Architecture and Design. The West Mall Office Building, constructed in 1961, contains the School of Architecture’s Center for Sustainable Development, Materials Lab, and Preservation Lab.

Both buildings are currently slated for major renovation. The Owner’s Project Requirements, which define the objectives for the project, call for the renovation to exemplify best practices in combining historic preservation with sustainable design. They also call for making the finished project, as well as the development process, an opportunity for both research and teaching.

The CSD is working with campus faculty, students, and staff to identify innovative and cutting-edge ideas for teaching and research projects that could be tied into the renovation project. To reflect the open, exploratory, and iterative nature of this initiative, the CSD has named the initiative BattleLab.
Why the Research is Important

This project advances the larger goal of leveraging the Battle Hall-West Mall Building complex to enhance curriculum and advance research at the School of Architecture and across campus. It also supports the goal of making the buildings into a nationally recognized model for green preservation practice. Similar green building ‘living labs’ have successfully promoted university research agendas, enhanced program prestige, attracted top faculty and students, and enriched the education of students.

Next Steps

After participating in the US Green Building Council’s Research to Practice Program in Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 with a focus on the Battle Hall-West Mall Building renovation, the CSD has continued to explore possibilities for research and curriculum related to the renovation project. The project team met with over fifty faculty, students, and staff from across campus, identifying research and curriculum interests and working groups. Now that the team has documented many ideas and research groups, next steps for the project include:

- Identifying external funding opportunities to support continued project coordination, pre-renovation baseline data collection, pilot project research, and curriculum development.
- Collecting all existing building information and making it accessible for student and faculty research.
- Encouraging and supporting faculty and student research on the existing conditions and renovation possibilities.

Engagement Dashboard

In support of BattleLab, the CSD initiated another project called the Engagement Dashboard. In the course of BattleLab interviews with UT faculty, the team noted that many faculty discussed new ways to communicate place-based historical and ecological information to UT visitors, students, and prospective students. Through the University’s Green Fee program, the CSD received funding for a pilot visualization project, or building “dashboard,” for Battle Hall and West Mall buildings and sites. The Engagement Dashboard project will commence in the Fall 2013 and will engage University classes, staff, and industry partners in the collection and display of energy, ecological, and historical data. This project continues to seek funding for expansion of the dashboard to integrate campus-wide energy and water data and to create more innovative and interactive elements within the larger dashboard framework.

For more information on BattleLab, visit http://soa.utexas.edu/csd/research/battlelab
Overview

The Building Material Accountability Project (BMAP) is a collaborative effort between the CSD and the Cockrell School of Engineering’s Building Energy and Environments program (BEE). The primary mission of the Building MAP will be to identify material and material systems most suited for long-term performance of healthy and productive buildings, including climate adaption and resiliency. The CSD worked with the UTSOA Materials Lab to develop the Sustainable Material Evaluation Tool, a graphic interface that integrates sustainability data into the existing materials database. With this project, we will provide access to information on life cycle costs, encourage and promote materials appropriate to building cause, and assist with the mature adoption of building materials that are not just suitable, but also high-performing in terms of their interactions with the entire building system, inclusive of occupants.
Why the Research Is Important

Interior and exterior building materials play central roles in the health and sustainability of buildings. They can influence indoor air quality, energy transport, moisture buffering, capital and recurring costs, and human psychology, performance and health.

In order to design and build healthy, regenerative buildings, practitioners must be armed with more data on how to accurately specify material attributes. But the development and deployment of new building materials is far outpacing even rudimentary scientific analysis of those materials. It is critical that this gap be closed through a robust new paradigm for material evaluation that includes (1) testing across a spectrum of conditions that materials encounter during their lifetime, (2) longitudinal field-tracking of material performance in actual buildings, (3) a systems-based approach to assessing the interactions of building materials with other building components and occupants, and (4) assessment of the true life cycle costs of building materials.

Next Steps

- Establish a state-of-the-art materials testing protocol with proof of concept testing on several high-volume building materials and a testing plan for future material assessments,
- Develop software tools to assist with selection of building materials given building-specific needs and conditions, as well as the materials true life cycle costs,
- Design webinars, short courses, and workshops to educate architects and building professionals on healthy and high performance building materials and their relationships to other building system components.

For more information, please contact Richard Corsi at corsi@mail.utexas.edu.
Overview

The Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project promotes sustainability by providing data and analysis on the interdependent nature of social equity, environmental health, economic balance, and civic engagement in the Central Texas region. Since the project’s launch in 1999, data reports have been released on a roughly biennial basis, providing updated information on the region’s quality of life in the form of community indicators. The indicators are based on trend data and provide a comprehensive view of the region, and represent the following themes: public safety, education and children, social equity, engagement, economy, environment, health, and land use/mobility.

The content from the 2012 Data Report, the eighth and most recent edition of the printed volume, is the first to be available online at the new Indicators Project website (indicatorsproject.com), which provides easy access to all 40 indicators and nearly 200 measures of regional sustainability.

Why the Research Is Important

The Indicators Project is intended to increase regional awareness and commitment to sustainability. The project hopes to foster an ongoing public discussion that:
• defines Central Texas residents’ vision of sustainability;
• creates quality of life indicators that allow the region to track its progress;
• and acts as a catalyst for increasing the effectiveness of community engagement.
Indicators Project data and analysis provide a comprehensive view of our region and indicate where leaders need to focus our efforts toward a sustainable future, as well as where action is needed to reverse a declining trend or preserve success.

**Next Steps**

The Indicators Project is continuing its efforts to make its data and analysis accessible and useful as possible in today’s digital world. The next step for the Indicators Project website is the inclusion of an interactive mapping tool that will offer users a more dynamic way to explore the information contained in the data reports. In addition, the project is collaborating with other regional partners to develop a comprehensive data warehouse for regional spatial and trend information that is up-to-date and maintained for use in various planning and educational applications.

To explore the 2012 data, visit the Indicators Project website: www.indicatorsproject.com
Overview

The Public Interest Design (PID) Program, now in its third year, connects an interdisciplinary team of advanced students from across the world interested in the built environment and public service with leading practitioners in public design. Students are empowered to become leaders in the field—using public service as a lens to expand the purview of the design professions and using their skills to develop innovative solutions to complex social and environmental problems.

The work of the PID Program has already won awards from several different professional organizations and has led to larger demonstration projects with the City of Austin. In 2012, the PID program completed two community-oriented projects: a mobile gardening shed project for the Holly Neighborhood and a water storage cistern project for West Austin Park.

In 2013, the ten-week PID program included a service-oriented design/build practicum, a research-oriented seminar, and an externship opportunity in Austin with the San Francisco-based non-profit Public Architecture. The design/build students developed a series of park pavilions in the Boggy Creek greenbelt. Designed as an integrative planning, architecture, and landscape studio, the practicum provided a social and technical platform for community engagement.
Why the Research Is Important

There is a critical link between design and the future of our planet. It is clear that design can contribute to resolving the environmental challenges of sustainability, but such challenges are inextricably linked to social challenges that the profession is just beginning to explore. PID helps students and community partners understand how design can positively impact the social and economic well-being of our communities.

Next Steps

Along with national partners, the UTSoA and CSD will continue to serve as a hub for innovative thinking about the nature, ethics, and boundaries of public design through research partnerships with Public Architecture, the offering of place-based interdisciplinary design courses, and lectures and community service projects.

For more information, please visit http://soa.utexas.edu/csd/PID/.
Overview

Through a grant from U.S. Department of Housing and Development (HUD), the Sustainable Places Project team is developing a software tool to help policy leaders examine growth scenarios for activity centers across Central Texas. The innovative suite of sustainability analytics tools and indicators will allow users to identify the long-term effects of the various development scenarios on municipal budgets and community health. The tool is being piloted in demonstration sites in Austin, Dripping Springs, Elgin, Hutto, and Lockhart. Civic leaders will use this analysis to develop plans that take advantage of alignments in housing, jobs, and transportation options in ways that complement existing community values. In addition to allowing new types of analysis, the tool will include pop-up windows developed by UT faculty and graduate research assistants that explain the theory and underlying research behind each indicator, how the measures are connected to livability concerns, as well as design solutions via hyperlink text to online sources.

Why the Research Is Important

The analytic tool will measure the impact of different development scenarios, including the impact on municipal budgets, as well as a myriad of important social and environmental sustainability indicators. Scenario-based planning provides an immediate feedback loop to participants on “what if” land use scenarios so that inappropriate or incompatible development can be avoided or minimized. The new software program also suggests alternative design and planning solutions for civic leaders when adverse effects of a proposed project arise in its indicator report system.
Next Steps

UT faculty and graduate research assistants are working with the Texas Advanced Computing Center to create an online public engagement software system where products from charrettes can be easily imported to a web template for online public participation. Great strides are also being made toward engaging ESRI City Engine modeling system after analysis in Envision Tomorrow, to enable high quality 3D visualizations.

Working with Fregonese Associates, the University of Utah Metropolitan Research Center, the UT Texas Advanced Computing Center, the Texas Capital Area Council of Governments, and the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, the CSD will continue growing the software system well beyond the end of the HUD grant period in 2013, evolving eventually into the open source GIS environment.

Consortium members plan to seek out additional funds to refine and continually improve the software system so that it may be a long-term resource for the Central Texas region.

For more information, please visit the project website: www.sustainableplacesproject.com.
Overview

The Thermal Lab is a pair of identical laboratories that facilitate advanced research on energy-related building technologies. Research capabilities include: glazing, shading, and daylighting systems; advanced environment conditioning systems and controllers; local thermal energy storage solutions; and other energy related building technologies and associated effects on indoor chemistry and air-quality.

Why the Research Is Important

Reducing building energy use will assist us in our ongoing efforts to reduce emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases, as well as reduce our dependence on the fossil fuels responsible for their emissions. These are among our most challenging tasks for the 21st century.

Next Steps

Researchers will use the Thermal Lab to conduct experiments on various materials and designs in an effort to test the capabilities of many emerging technologies, including integrated energy and daylighting controller models; active shading and glazing systems; and thermal energy storage systems and controllers.

The Thermal Lab will also continue to build robust industry partnerships to promote the development and dissemination of knowledge made possible through this indispensable research tool.

For more information, please contact Petra Liedl at pliedl@utexas.edu.
Research Project: INTERFACE

This study seeks to investigate the influence that an intelligent, interactive interface between a building’s envelope and its inhabitants may have on the user’s occupation of space. Using the Thermal Lab, a team of students and faculty from within the School of Architecture and School of Engineering will evaluate this relationship by exploring how the deployment of a motion control framework into one lab chamber affects both the phenomenal inhabitation of space and the level of user engagement with the interface. These variables will be compared with those measured in an identical test chamber with more traditional control methods.

Users will interact with the interface through an array of commercially available tracking sensors, which will pass proximity and gestural motion information to a software program. This program will send control signals to different types of building systems (e.g., HVAC, electrochromic or “smart” glazing). By developing a simple, intuitive language of gestures with which users can seamlessly interact with an envelope system, the project demonstrates the potential for buildings of the future to create truly personal interior environments that are directly and immediately responsive to the demands of their occupants.
EMERGING PROJECTS

4D Austin

Austin Mobile Community Design Hub

The Dumpster Project

Dynamic Change Initiative

Green Wall Project

Texas City Lab
Overview

The 4D Austin project uses the latest advancements in digital design and mapping technology to provide an interactive and dynamic four-dimensional (4D) visualization of Austin’s physical infrastructure and spatially related data. The project will visualize the flow of resources through the city; highlight historic and sustainable building sites; and allow users to visualize the effects of future development approaches on the city’s natural and built environments. 4D Austin will be available online and via mobile devices, including an advanced version that will be available at the Austin Mobile Community Design Hub.

Why the Research Is Important

Residents and visitors recognize the rapid physical changes that have taken place in Austin over the last ten years. With emerging visualization technologies, highly complex information demonstrating the impact of this growth can be presented to the people of Austin. This outreach project breaks down the walls of the ivory tower and connects citizens to the ongoing work of researchers interested in issues of sustainability, urban form and ecology, and cultural and natural resource management.

Next Steps

The project schedule is aligned with that of the Austin Community Design Hub. The CSD is:
• collecting existing digital 3D maps of Austin sites, buildings, and projects;
• coordinating team meetings and tech-savvy research assistants;
• planning a beta-testing workshop on the first prototype for summer 2014.

For more information, please contact Barbara Brown Wilson at bbwilson@austin.utexas.edu.
Overview

The National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) awarded the CSD an Art Works grant to build the Austin Mobile Community Design Hub, which will act as a traveling ‘storefront’ for community engagement. It will be used by the UT School of Architecture for community-based design and planning projects, and by the City of Austin’s Office of Sustainability to educate and engage the public about issues of sustainability. The Hub will have a sustainability “genius bar” manned by a student or city employee and a stand-alone interactive informational kiosk based in the City of Austin Office of Sustainability when not otherwise engaged. The project will connect community members with an array of tools intended to help them understand the impact of different planning choices, to enhance educational presentations with multimedia storytelling, and to energize our region about issues of public architecture and design.
The project will connect community members with an array of tools intended to help them understand the impact of different planning choices, to enhance educational presentations with multimedia storytelling, and to energize our region about issues of public architecture and design.

Why the Research Is Important

The Austin Mobile Community Design Hub will facilitate outreach and dialogue about community-based sustainable design in Austin, serving as a mobile sustainable technology demonstration and educational tool. As Austin is faced with issues like traffic, gentrification, urban sprawl, and drought, it is important to preserve the city’s livability, community, natural environment, economy, and cultural heritage. This project seeks to help citizens understand these problems and how sustainable development addresses them. On the 817 grant recipients, NEA acting Chairman Joan Shigekawa said, “The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support these exciting and diverse arts projects that will take place throughout the United States. Whether it is through a focus on education, engagement, or innovation, these projects all contribute to vibrant communities and memorable opportunities for the public to engage with the arts.”

Next Steps

The success of the interactive tool relies on the data driving the visualizations and the interface between the kiosk and the person. The CSD is currently working to:

• create a user experience that is informative and delightful;
• construct a 3D map of the city of Austin;
• begin prototyping the interface.

For more information, please contact Barbara Brown Wilson at bbwilson@austin.utexas.edu.
Overview

The Dumpster Project is an educational project that aims to raise awareness of sustainable living practices while facilitating transformative reflection on pressing environmental and social issues of our time. Targeting K-12 students, the conceptual framework of the Dumpster Project is intended to provoke students’ thinking about ways to approach the integral challenges facing their generation in a fun and intriguing manner. The project is structured around the development of cutting edge sustainability curricula that, while promoting the message of ‘less is more’, engages students in design challenges related to constructing a healthy living space that minimizes consumption and waste. In order to provide an entertaining context for the experiment, an environmental science professor – Jeff Wilson – will take up residence in a dumpster, relying on students to transform his unconventional living space into a sustainable house over the course of a year. All curricula will be aligned to state and national standards and be available free of charge online.
Why the Research Is Important

Students of the present and future generations face unprecedented environmental and social questions. Responding to these issues in the future will require not only innovative solutions, but also a shift in ideology relative to lifestyle and consumption. Especially within the context of the United States, where the average household size is 2,480 square feet, the need for students to re-evaluate and understand the impacts of the way in which they live is at a critical stage.

Next Steps

The Dumpster Project is in the curriculum development phase. Next steps include:
- the promotion of the curricula;
- facilitation of basic training for teachers relative to how this material can be easily incorporated into standard STEM programs.

For more information, please visit http://dumpsterproject.org/
Overview

The Dynamic Change Initiative proposes a new certificate program to address issues of sea level rise and increased storm frequency and intensity. It will explore dynamic change through the lenses of architecture, biology, planning, ecology, marine science, landscape architecture, and horticulture, with a strong human component to ensure that design models and benefits are equally accessible across social and economic classes. The project will secure the access of coastal communities to up-to-date information and professionals who can assist in envisioning and implementing means of adapting physical communities to a future of prolonged high-impact events.

Why the Research Is Important

The Environmental Protection Agency, Geological Survey, and Department of Transportation have identified Texas as one of the top four US states vulnerable to coastal climatic impact. In response to the imminent threats surrounding this region, the Dynamic Change Initiative will develop innovative strategies and design responses for adapting Gulf Coast communities to a changing coastal environment. This network of data and professionals will be a model that is replicable nationwide.

Next Steps

Outcomes will include:
- a set of design and development guidelines for coastal communities based on local conditions and international best practices;
- a series of demonstrations illustrating successful adaptation strategies;
- annual publications on research findings;
- interactive exhibitions featuring design models and climate-related topics.

For more information, please contact Coleman Coker at ccoker@austin.utexas.edu.
Overview

The “Green Wall” research and demonstration project examines both the appearance, performance, and associated costs of several green wall systems suitable for the UT campus and Austin region. A green wall comprising plants supported on a trellis structure (‘green façade’), rooted in growing media, or attached to the wall itself (‘living wall’), has environmental benefit potential for buildings and structural partition walls. This project researches the challenges of designing extensive green walls in a hot, dry climate like Austin. The team looks at suites of plant species that are tolerant of high root temperatures and limited water availability appropriate for this application.

Why the Research Is Important

Interest in technologies that incorporate living systems into building design, such as green roofs and green walls, are growing in popularity. Green walls can be both beautiful and functional. The wall is a natural air filter, removing particulate matter, O3, VOCs and CO2 from the air as it passes through or across the wall. Similarly a green wall can cool building surfaces and interior spaces, and even reduce ambient air temperature around the building. Other benefits include storm water mitigation (through transpiration and soil infiltration) and habitat for beneficial fauna, including pollinators (hummingbirds, butterflies), songbirds, and raptors (owls, hawks).

The project team includes: Mark Simmons (Director, Ecosystem Design Group, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center), Danelle Briscoe (Assistant Professor, UTSOA), Barbara Brown Wilson (CSD), and Frederick Steiner (Dean, UTSOA).

For more information, please contact Barbara Brown Wilson at bbwilson@austin.utexas.edu.
Overview

The Texas City Lab is an educational strategy intended to combine the sustainability challenges facing Texas cities with the growing interest and capacity available at the University of Texas at Austin. The Lab, patterned after a similar program at the University of Oregon, will create partnerships between Texas cities and existing University undergraduate and graduate courses. Focusing on one city each year, the Lab will invite faculty to redesign their courses around the study and resolution of critical challenges facing central Texas cities, such as growing water scarcity, declining air and water quality, and social infrastructure requirements for population and economic growth.

Why the Research Is Important

UT has a growing network of faculty and students studying different aspects of sustainability and the development of new ways of teaching about these complex evolving challenges. Students participating in the Lab courses will become a cross-disciplinary cohort of Texas City Lab Fellows, meeting periodically to present their work, exchange stories from the field, and find synergies among their course projects.

Next Steps

- To reach and recruit UT faculty who regularly teach service-learning classes that tie into the project;
- Identify the inaugural city.

For more information, please contact Shannon Harris at shannon.harris@utexas.edu.
EVENTS AND OUTREACH

CSD Film Series
Downtown Alley Activations
Energy (Ex)Change Conference
Regional Livability Symposium
NSF Workshop
PID Student Leadership Forum
UTSOA Workshops
Overview

The CSD shows sustainability-related movies, documentaries, and short films with student-led discussions after each film. The Film Series began as an educational effort in the fall of 2009, and since then, over 45 full-length sustainability-related films have been shown as well as a handful of student-produced short films. In the Fall of 2012, the film series collaborated with the Campus Environmental Center and the Community and Regional Planning Student Organization (CRPSO) to bring a wider audience to the events. The films shown included Climate Refugees, Queen of the Sun, Flow, Detropia, and The Unforseen.

Why the Outreach is Important

The intention of the film series is to connect sustainability themes to experiences in students’ own lives, provide a forum for students to network with outside professionals, and to foster multi-disciplinary discussions that lead to interdisciplinary action. The film series also makes an effort to bring in local speakers and activists from the community to inform students about ways they can get involved.

Next Steps

In 2013-14, the film series events will continue to provide a venue for students to expand their understanding of a wide breadth of sustainability issues. Potential areas of thematic focus will be the growing movement and increasing need for material repurposing; success stories and steps that can be taken at the community-level to reduce fossil fuel reliance; and the link between public health and sustainable food systems.

For more information, please visit www.soa.utexas.edu/csd/education/film-series
Overview

The CSD assisted the City of Austin in organizing the 20ft Wide project, which transformed a downtown Austin alley into a vibrant public open space. The project included a mix of installations and family oriented programming that connected Austinites with the history and future potential of their city’s urban alley system. 20ft Wide derives its name from the standard width for Austin’s downtown alleys as noted on the 1839 city map by Edwin Waller.

The intention of the project was two-fold. First, to call attention to the features of the alley, to elevate its presence, and expose its utilitarian beauty. Second, to transform the experience of the space by creating a multifaceted work of installation art, musical performances, audio-scapes, “pop-up” landscapes, and performances.

Why the Outreach is Important

Investigating the potential of Austin’s alleys to serve as active public spaces is a critical task given the lack of park space in the downtown area and the ever mounting pressure to create super-block developments. Austin was originally platted with four full blocks to serve as “public parks”. However, only one (Republic Square) has been developed to fully serve this function. (One park no longer exists, and two others are slowly turning around from decades of neglect.) Such scant open space resources cannot fully serve the needs of the quickly densifying downtown area.
What made the 20ft Wide installation unique was the fact that it created a multi-faceted piece of art in order to test policy. The team started with the desire to understand what it would take to activate an Austin alley – which regulations would be supportive? – which would stand in the way? – how difficult would it be to gather private support? – how could the intentions best be communicated to adjacent property owners? – and many other questions. The team decided that there would be no better way to find answers to these questions than to jump in and try making something happen.

**Next Steps**

Now that the project is complete, the next step will be to write up the results and communicate the findings to Austin elected officials and policy makers. For the team, the question now isn’t, "Can we make this happen?" – but rather – "How can we make this happen again, and again, and again?"

**Project Team Members**

Creative partners: Art Alliance Austin, Creative Action and TBG. Installation: Dan Cheetham (Fyoog) and Michelle Tarsney. Project partners: City of Austin Downtown Commission, Cultural Arts Division of the Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office and Public Works Department, Downtown Austin Alliance, Shane Kistner of City of Austin Street & Bridge Department, and UT Center for Sustainable Development. With additional support from: Mayor Pro Tem Sheryl Cole, Council Member Kathie Tovo, Council Member Chris Riley, city staff and the property owners.

For more information and photos, please visit http://www.artallianceaustin.org/20ft-wide
Overview

Munich and Austin have both been widely recognized as regional centers of sustainable energy innovation for many years. The City of Munich was awarded the UN-World Decade “Education for sustainable development” in 2012 - its municipality, initiatives, and NGOs are networked to create robust structures and perspectives for both education and sustainability. Innovative and significant building energy research has also been conducted at various institutions in and around the city including at the Technische Universität München.

Austin established the Austin Energy Green Building program in 1990, the first U.S. rating system for sustainable buildings and the roadmap for LEED®. For decades, faculty and researchers at the University of Texas have investigated issues associated with building energy through the CSD, Center for International Energy and Environmental Policy, and the UT Energy Institute.

The Energy (Ex)Change Conference brought together internationally recognized leaders from both cities in a two-day exchange of ideas, centered on mechanisms for implementing energy innovation at a regional level. Assuming an interdisciplinary approach, the conference centered around seven thematic panels that facilitated meaningful discourse on the future of sustainable urban regions. Topics included: city initiatives, buildings, light, city infrastructure, envelope materials and technology, and standards and regulations.
Why the Research Is Important

The Energy (Ex)Change Conference brought together leading researchers and practitioners to participate in the identification, discussion, and dissemination of cutting-edge practices in energy and the built environment. Drawing together these two regional centers of sustainable innovation marks a unique opportunity for interdisciplinary discourse that could serve as a catalyst for leaders of other cities/regions looking to kick-start innovative energy practices, expand existing initiatives to a regional scale, or draw together multiple institutions for collaborative efforts.

Next Steps

The 2-day Conference took place between October 1-2, 2013, and was supplemented by several additional activities: an excursion, a design studio exhibition, and a publication. The excursion involved a tour of several innovative projects in the Austin area that approach the issue of energy from multiple perspectives. The design studio exhibition presented the results of trans-disciplinary work produced by teams of students from the University of Texas at Austin and Technische Universität München. The publication will be released bilingually by Beuth Verlag (Berlin), and will include a statement from each lecturer, richly illustrated with charts and photos. The final section of the book will be dedicated to the work produced in the student design studios.

The Energy (Ex)Change Conference was supported by the UT Harrington Faculty Fellow program.

For more information, please contact Program Organizer: Petra Liedl (Harrington Faculty Fellow 2012/13) and visit www.energy-ex-change.com

By what processes have both Munich and Austin come to be recognized as regional centers of energy innovation? What is each doing to enhance energy performance in the built environment, and what could be improved? How can this knowledge be optimized and translated to other regions? The Energy (Ex)Change Conference seeks to answer these questions.
Overview

In February 2013, the CSD assisted in organizing the Envision Central Texas Regional Livability symposium at The University of Texas at Austin. The inaugural symposium, themed "Water: Key to Our Future," brought in 30 speakers from multiple disciplines to engage with participants from throughout the Central Texas region. Sessions addressed a full range of water-related topics including Designing Sites for Water, Water Reuse, Social Equity and Water, Economics, Innovative Conservation and Education, Infrastructure, Water Policy, Strategies for Dealing with Drought, and Sustainability Metrics.

Envision Central Texas plans to host the Regional Livability Symposium as an annual event. Each symposium in this series will facilitate a multidisciplinary dialog about a pressing growth-related issue in our region. These conversations will foster a systems-based approach to meeting the challenges and leveraging the opportunities of growth in Central Texas.

For more information, please visit http://www.envisioncentraltexas.org
Overview

The National Science Foundation Workshop, “Changing the Climate: Innovation in the Built Environment for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation,” convened over 15 international experts from diverse fields to craft a research agenda around technologies and behaviors that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support healthy ecosystems. Steven Moore (UTSOA) and David Adelman (School of Law) organized the event, which was held on September 28-29, 2012 at The University of Texas at Austin.

To focus the conversation, workshop organizers presented all participants with a set of three white papers that questioned three related barriers and opportunities to the adoption of beneficial architectural technologies: information, demand, and knowledge systems. The white papers explored these abstract concepts through practical case studies. The first three workshop panels focused on different themes at different scales: building components, district heat and power networks, and design for climate adaptation at the city region scale. The fourth panel focused on lessons learned from successful and failed cases of technology behavior and practice change.
According to the U.S. Department of Energy, the construction and operation of buildings accounted for 38% of CO2 emissions and 41% of North America’s annual energy consumption in 2006. This amount is twice that contributed by the transportation sector, which the public generally identifies as the primary cause of climate change. Also by DOE’s estimate, those percentages will increase to 50.1% and 43% respectively by 2030 (EERE 2006). By reframing our understanding of architecture as a fine art to architecture as an eco-social-technical system, the conference set up an opportunity to consider how the development of new architectural technologies and behaviors might contribute to reducing these alarming statistics.

Next Steps

Three transdisciplinary proposals for future research emerged from the workshop:

• Long-term Urban Field Stations: Reframing the Concept and Operation of Infrastructure through Intervention in the Supply Chain of Sustainable Building Technologies
• Establishing an Online Learning Network to Support Regenerative Design of the Built Environment: A Collaborative, Interdisciplinary Approach
• Evaluating the Diffusion and Efficacy of Sustainable Technology Policy for the Built World.

The white papers and list of attendees is available online: http://soa.utexas.edu/files/csd/Changing_the_Climate_Whitepapers_Final.pdf

Overview

The inaugural Design Futures Public Interest Design (PID) Student Leadership Forum was held at The University of Texas at Austin from May 28 to June 1, 2013. Participants included 43 students from 12 different colleges around the country and 27 speakers with backgrounds in academia, the non-profit sector, and the for-profit sector. The forum explored the emergence of PID in history, its epistemological and ontological roots, and contemporary challenges around its ongoing practice. In order to gain specific training in the core skill sets required for effective PID practice, students produced nine design proposals to address real community challenges generated by the Public Interest Design Forum Challenge.

A driving motivation behind all the efforts of the UTPID program is to build and nurture the connections between students, movement thinkers, leading practitioners, and the larger academic community. We aim to support the work of partner organizations and collaborate with those conducting similarly-structured programs across the country, in hopes of building a supportive network on multiple levels and learning from a rich exchange of best (and worst) practices.
Next Steps

Tulane University will host the PID Student Leadership Forum next year, with continued support from the CSD.

Responding to feedback from the pilot program, the CSD is working to:

- facilitate an online network, or community, for PID student and faculty leaders; and
- continue developing a PID leadership curriculum based on the study of design success and failures.

For more information on the forum, please visit http://www.soa.utexas.edu/csd/PID/forum/index.php
Overview

The CSD organized workshops on grant-writing and academic publishing in order to promote professional development skills within the university. The first workshop, held on October 12, 2012, introduced UT graduate students to information on the grant writing process, including how to refine their project, identify funding sources, write the proposal, prepare a budget, and find additional funding sources. Participants included students from the School of Architecture, College of Communication, College of Education, Cockrell School of Engineering, College of Liberal Arts, and Jackson School of Geosciences.

At the second workshop, held on February 22, 2013, UTSOA faculty presented procedures for writing, editing, and submitting manuscripts for publication. Nearly thirty participants, including architecture faculty and graduate students, discussed maintaining momentum during the writing and revision stages, deciding where to publish, working with editors, and overcoming publication anxiety. Particular attention was paid to the current tenure-track and job-market expectations for publishing.

These events were part of the CSD’s mission to facilitate a culture of research and collaboration between advanced faculty, junior faculty, and graduate students within the UTSOA and the university at large.

For more information on funding for students, visit http://soa.utexas.edu/csd/resources/student-funding
EDUCATION AND RESOURCES

Graduate Portfolio Program in Sustainability 96
Grants and Funding 98
CSD Partners 100
Invest in the CSD 102
The Graduate Portfolio Program in Sustainability provides UT master and doctoral students with a trans-disciplinary framework to study and research issues related to sustainability. The portfolio program is similar to a minor area of study or a certificate program at other institutions. The requirements for the program include coursework, a scholarly paper, and a presentation. Additionally, a minimum GPA of 3.0 must be maintained.

Over the last academic year, the program hosted a series of campus-wide events, including three luncheon lectures, two workshops, and the annual Sustainability Symposium in March.

The portfolio program is one of the CSD’s core education initiatives. It provides students with a cohesive plan of study in sustainability, prepares them for leadership roles in academic and professional practice, and assists them in publishing research on sustainability topics. The program also fosters collaboration between graduate students and faculty members. The steering committee is made up of eleven faculty members from programs in architecture, planning, geography, public policy, engineering, health, and the natural sciences.

The student body is equally diverse. Last year, the program admitted seven graduate students, bringing the current student body to seventeen. Students come from programs in architecture, planning, historic preservation, landscape architecture, communications, public affairs, engineering, and the humanities.

More more information, please visit http://soa.utexas.edu/csd/education/portfolio
Overview

The CSD offers faculty at the School of Architecture support in finding funding and preparing grants. Our staff has experience administering successful grants for a variety of different project types, as well as backgrounds in various research areas. We also provide assistance with graphic development of research concepts for the purposes of persuading funders, as well as the publication of research results. In 2012-13, the CSD helped to write and submit 24 grants, and secured $301,222 in funding (with another $1,172,611 currently pending).

Why this Resource Is Important

Though faculty may never be at a loss for ideas, it can be difficult to find and acquire the funding necessary to research these ideas and provide for release time, travel, expenses, and student assistants. Proposal writing can be a time-consuming effort, and the web of university regulations can feel like an onerous addition to the task of preparing a proposal. CSD staff work with faculty to identify funding, develop a proposal, successfully navigate the application process, and administer their project funding. This assistance supports the productivity of our faculty and their ability to attract funded research.

Next Steps

In addition to offering one-on-one assistance year-round, the CSD offers several resources for faculty and students seeking funding:

- an annual Graduate Student Grant Workshop;
- the CSD newsletter, published bimonthly, which includes calls for proposals and abstracts related to sustainability issues;
- a faculty grants newsletter, published each semester, featuring the latest funding opportunities and requests for proposals in sustainability, planning, architecture, historic preservation, and architectural history.
PARTNERS

- American Institute of Architects
- American Society of Landscape Architects
- AREA Real Estate
- Austin Community Design and Development Center
- Austin Energy
- BNIM
- Capital Area Council of Government (CAPCOG)
- Center for Maximum Potential Building Systems
- City of Austin
- Dell Social Innovation Challenge
- Design Corps
- Enterprise Community Partners
- Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation
- International Interior Design Association (IIDA) TX OK Chapter
- Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center
- Lake|Flato Architects
- L. M. Scofield Company
- People Organized in Defense of the Earth and her Resources
- Public Architecture
- Technische Universität München
- Texas Advanced Computing Center
- Texas Environmental Defense Fund
- Texas Low Income Housing Information Service
- Texas Society of Architects
- Tulane City Center
- The University of British Columbia
- The University of Utah
- U.S. Green Building Council
- UT Office of Sustainability
- Zachry Construction Corporation
INVEST IN THE CSD

Your financial support of the CSD helps us to fulfill our mission of designing, constructing, and conserving a more sustainable built world through our many cutting-edge research initiatives, outreach projects, and interdisciplinary teaching endeavors. A gift to the CSD is an investment in developing sustainable solutions to the ecological, social, economic, and policy issues facing our built environment.


For more information on how to invest in the CSD, please contact Sarah Wu at sarahwu@austin.utexas.edu.