Greetings alumni and friends of architect

The 2017-18 academic year was very busy. The architecture faculty had the added task of organizing our National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) team visit in April. The Master of Architecture is our NAAB Accredited degree, and we had a very successful visit from the NAAB team. We believe we are likely to receive an eight year term after the NAAB board votes in July.

After several decades of being a ‘program’ at the university, we have recently been changed back to the Department of Architecture. The implications of the change are subtle, but the nomenclature has always caused confusion within UNM. As a department again, the confusion will disappear. In addition, my title has changed from Director to Chair, which was used in the early years of architectural education at UNM. Karen King’s title also changes from Associate Director to Associate Chair.

We recently hired a new Architectural Historian, Dr. Aaron Cayer, who was selected out of a national / international search. We look forward to welcoming him in August to the faculty. Dr. Cayer, received his PhD from UCLA, and one of his areas of research is architectural practice. As for the rest of the faculty, it was busy year as well. In addition to everyone coming together to prepare for accreditation, we continue to have a number of faculty members that publish books and articles, and win or place in important design competitions (above).

Theresa Lopez, the department’s Administrative Assistant, was recently selected for the 2018 UNM Outstanding Staff Award. Efficient, funny and gracious, our faculty are very pleased she was selected.

Please stay in touch with the Architecture Department and the school, and consider becoming a member of the Alumni Association and the school’s Alumni Chapter – more information is found at: saap.unm.edu/about/alumni-supporters.html Note that we also have UNM Architecture Alumni pages on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Architecture alumni that work in architecture firms are encouraged to take the Design Intelligence survey that assesses architecture degrees. This survey is a bit flawed because it asks professionals to rate professional programs, such as our Master of Architecture degree. Larger and more well-funded private universities often have an advantage, and do well in the survey. We believe we fall just below the Top 20 accredited degrees that are usually published, but with your support, we could break into the next level. Hopefully you are willing to include your opinions on the survey. The survey is found at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018_Architecture_Professionals

THE DEADLINE IS JUNE 8th, 2018!

John Quale, Chair and Professor of Architecture, quale@unm.edu

LEFT: Assistant Professor Ane González Lara collaborated with Katya Crawford and Kathy Kambic of the Landscape Architecture Department on a design competition organized by ReThinking Competitions. They won 1st Place for their project sited in Paris.

RIGHT: The work of recent graduate Farrokh Rostami Kia, Master of Architecture '18, appears on the cover of the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) magazine, CRIT. The project was developed in a ARCH 602 studio taught by Associate Chair and Principal Lecturer Karen King.

The winners of awards at the Spring 2018 Graduation included:

Master of Architecture (MArch) students:
- AIA Henry Adams Medal: Sneha Murali
- Excellence in Design Award: Cameron Townsend
- Alpha Rho Chi Medal: Matthew Cooper and Farrokh Rostami Kia

Master of Science in Architecture (MSArch) student:
- ARCC King Research Medal: Nicole Zolner

Bachelor of Arts in Architecture (BAA) students:
- Excellence in Academics Award: Samuel Albert
- Excellence in Design Award: Claire Schali
- Excellence in Leadership Award: Arjun Bhakta

ABOVE: Professor Emeritus Edith (Edie) Cherry was honored with the Tau Sigma Delta Honor Society’s Silver Medal for Distinction in New Mexico. Tau Sigma Delta Chapter President, Evan Berger, MArch’19, is at left.