SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING  
Department of Architecture

Pilwon Han, associate professor of architecture at Hannam University in Taejon, Korea, and visiting scholar at UB for the academic year 2003-2004, recently received recognition for the design of a small house, a project entitled “Puppy and Star.” The intention of this project was to design an apartment house to specifically accommodate the human residents as well as their pets comfortably. Han, a registered architect in Korea with his own firm, ATA, is a scholar of East Asian Architecture and has done substantial research on traditional settlements in Korea, China, and Japan. He came to Buffalo to translate a book by UB Professor Lynda H. Schneekloth. The book, Ordering Space: Types in Architecture and Design, coauthored with Karen Franck, is used in university architecture programs in Korea as a leading text in typology, and Han believes a Korean edition will be welcome. In addition to his work on translation, Han has participated in design juries and lectured in the department.

Bonnie Ott, Gary Day, and Shahin Vassigh, all associate professors, along with UB alumnus Apsit Thanavuthiphon (M.Arch. 2004), were selected as a finalist in the Chichi Earthquake Memorial Competition. The competition will establish a memorial to the events of September 21, 1999, the date of an enormously destructive earthquake in Taiwan that destroyed 50,000 homes, killed more than 2,400 people and injured 8,700 others. The UB team's proposal is to construct a fault-like tear in the project site. Visitors to the memorial would walk down, into, and through the earth-walled fault.

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

The department welcomed two new international students to its Master’s in Urban Planning program in Spring 2004, one from Japan and one from Lebanon. These students join a dozen other international scholars in the program from Jordan, India, China, South Korea, England, Chile and the Philippines. The department offers among other areas of concentration a specialization in Economic and International Development Planning. Faculty members in the program co-lead two summer abroad programs. Henry Louis Taylor Jr., associate professor, guides students through study of the socialist city during a four-week long program in Havana, Cuba. Robert Shibley, professor, along with colleagues from the Department of Architecture, Lynda Schneekloth, professor, and Gary Day, professor, conduct a summer program including studios and coursework on Sustainable Development at the Monteverde Institute in Costa Rica.

Sam Cole, professor, completed the second half of a split sabbatical in Aruba. The purpose of the leave was to advance Cole’s research agenda in Caribbean and international development and to become acquainted with tourism planning and policy issues sufficient to teach Master of Planning courses in this area and to publish tourism-related research, and begin a tourism specialization at UB. Aruba is one of the major tourist destinations in the Caribbean. In 1983 Cole prepared a macro-economic plan for the independence of the island from the Netherlands Antilles and during a previous sabbatical in 1991 worked with the Calamity Preparedness Office in Aruba with support from the Multidisciplinary Earthquake Engineering Research Center. The first year of the present sabbatical was organized around researching and understanding the short-run (static) economic effects of tourism. The second year was organized around understanding the long-run (dynamic) process of tourism development. The research was self-financed. Cole was invited back to Aruba as the introductory keynote speaker at the Aruba First National Tourism Conference in July 2002. Following the conference, the National Tourism Council was established to prepare a new Master Plan for Tourism for the Island, and Cole was co-opted as advisor to the Minister of Tourism and the Council during the 2003 sabbatical. Subsequently, Cole and Victoria Razak were invited to develop a strategic framework for this plan. Razak is an anthropologist in the Center for the Americas and previously had written the definitive book on Carnival in Aruba. Their proposed framework presented at the Aruba Second National Tourism Conference received widespread attention in the press in Aruba and considerable support from external review consultants from Canada, the U.S., and Commonwealth Caribbean. Nonetheless, there are many aspects of the proposal to be refined and the project is expected to continue in summer 2004, including the setting up of the Tourism Policy Institute on the island as recommended in the framework. During the sabbatical Cole and Razak made presentations at the University of Aruba. A formal request was made by the new rector of the university to cooperate with UB in the area of policy studies.

In March 2004, Kathryn A. Foster, associate professor and chair, presented a paper updating her work on special-purpose governments at an international conference on “Governance and Performance: Organizational Status, Management Capacity, and Public Service Performance,” sponsored by the School of Public Policy at the University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. Foster continues her research on models of governance in the private, nonprofit, and academic sectors to explore their insights and lessons for U.S. metropolitan regions. The project began with analysis of the origins, structure, institutions, and selected policies of the European Union.

Together with the UB Institute for Local Governance and Regional Growth, the department is co-hosting in spring semester 2004 Mehmam Karimov, a Contemporary Issues Visiting Fellow sponsored by the U.S. Department of State. Karimov is currently Program Manager for Community Development at Save the Children in his hometown of Mingachevir, Azerbaijan. While at UB, Karimov will be studying “The Role of Local Government and Community-Based Organizations in Development.”

G. William Page, professor, recently completed his sabbatical year research on environmental resource management in developing nations. In fall 2003, Page was a Fulbright Fellow at the Vietnam National University in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, where he researched the use of water resources in Vietnam and taught environmental planning and policy at the university.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
Department of American Studies

Lisa Hayes, doctoral student, performed her one-woman show of “Nurse!” at an international theater conference titled “Directing and Authorship in Western Drama” at Nova Scotia’s Acadia University last October. The show, which debuted off-Broadway last year, revolves around a nursing strike and is based on oral histories Hayes did with nurses. She has been invited to perform the show at the International Oral History Association conference in Rome in June and the Australia and New Zealand American Studies Conference in July, for which she is currently seeking sponsorship.

Department of Anthropology


Department of Biological Sciences

Christopher A. Loretz, associate professor, and Catherine Pollina, instructional support technician, attended the Fifth Congress of the Asia and Oceania Society for Comparative Endocrinology (AOSEC), in Nara, Japan, March 26-30, 2004. They reported on the molecular physiology of the extracellular calcium-sensing receptor of fishes, a