

Dear alumni and friends,

We hope this note finds you and those close to you healthy and well. As with everyone, the last few months in our department have been a time of anxiety and change. However, I am grateful to report that as of today our community of students, staff and faculty are generally well and accommodating to these circumstances.

During this time, we have transitioned to a distance learning and remote operations model for teaching and administering the department. It has been a huge lift to get this accomplished. We have successfully worked to anticipate immediate needs, ensuring that everyone in our community is in a safe environment, that all have access to the necessary tools and technologies, and that we were able to shift the majority of our courses online for the spring term.

While we recognize that our diligence and collective hard work have brought us to where we are today, there are still many challenges and a great degree of uncertainty ahead. Yet, we are confident in our capacity to meet these needs due the willingness of faculty, staff and students to engage in the community-based, collaborative approaches we teach in the hopes of advancing a collective good for ourselves and our broader community.

With gratitude,

Ken Yocom, Ph.D.

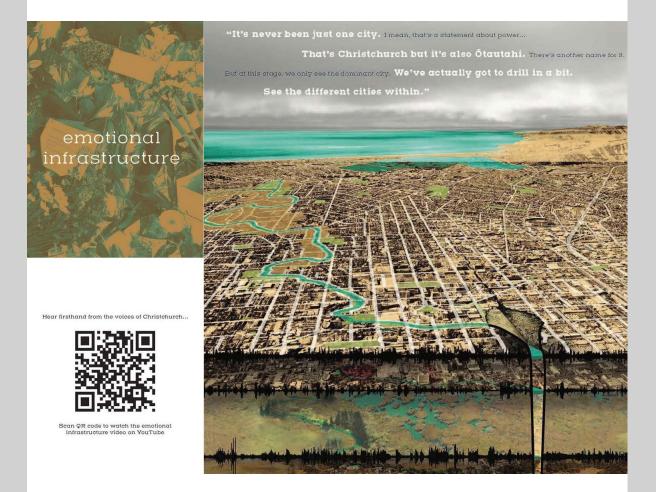
Chair, Department of Landscape Architecture



## ÒAlways a gifted teacher and mentorÓ Ñ Iain Robertson Retires

After 38 years at the University of Washington, Iain Robertson retired on March 9, 2020. During his tenure as a faculty member in the Department of Landscape Architecture, Iain was an active mentor, supportive leader and dedicated educator. As Department Chair for eight years he oversaw the hire and promotion of many of the senior members of our current faculty, and as teacher continuously sought opportunities for students to expand their potential for design thinking and creative action.

Our faculty unanimously approved a proposal for his recognition as Associate Professor Emeritus. This position is in recognition of lainÕs long-standing commitment to our community, for dedicating his professional life to education, and for opening everyone's eyes to the potential of creativity as a pedagogical tool.



#### Laura Durgerian D CELA 2020 Student Thesis Award

As climate change fuels the unsettling forces of disturbance and displacement, designers and planners face the urgent task of re-imagining our approaches to city (re)making. 2019 MLA graduate Laura DurgerianÕs CELA Award-winning thesis project "Emotional Infrastructure" fills a gap in design processes by centering place attachments and meanings, and including multiple place narratives to foster belonging and stability through upheaval and change. Check out the corresponding video: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3hU5RciEKs&feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x3hU5RciEKs&feature=youtu.be</a> Congratulations to Laura Durgerian for this CELA Award-winning thesis project!

## Tha•sa Way Đ CELA 2020 Outstanding Educator

Tha·sa Way received the 2020 Outstanding Educator Award for from Council of

Educators in Landscape Architecture. The award honors "truly outstanding, innovative and noteworthy work as an educator whose career is recognized as having made a significant contribution to the landscape architecture discipline."



### **Ecocultutral Regeneration and Climate Change Resilience - New Zealand Study Abroad**

This Winter 2020, fourteen of our graduate landscape architecture students toured urban design and landscape architecture projects in three distinctly different New Zealand citiesÑAuckland, Wellington and ChristchurchÑprior to undertaking a project in and for post-earthquake Christchurch. A booklet, Ōtākaro Avon Landings, Tiaki Over Time: Ecocultural Regeneration and Climate Change Resilience for the Ōtākaro Avon Green Spine, documents the groupÕs design explorations and can be accessed at a new website, <a href="https://www.uwtiakiovertime.wordpress.com">www.uwtiakiovertime.wordpress.com</a>.

### Pandemic Teaching - Jeff Hou in Places Journal

"Crisis presents opportunities. With the norms of living, working, learning, and teaching all upended in the COVID-19 pandemic, now is the time to rethink our habits and assumptions..."

Read more in <u>Field Notes on Pandemic Teaching</u> with contributing author <u>Jeff Hou</u>.

# CBEÕs COVID-19 Response

The current crisis presents many challenges for many in the College of Built Environments, but this is also a time when our College resources and skills can be mobilized to help others in our communities. Jeff Hou is working with a group of students, faculty and staff to coordinate efforts in the College in support of our local communities. Contact Jeff at urbancommons@uw.edu to learn more or get involved.

#### Winterbottom Sketches

A window into Seattle this spring through the eyes + pen of Daniel Winterbottom. Many more at @maddogwinterbottom

https://www.facebook.com/uwlarch/posts/2838688339517764

