

greetings from the department of interior architecture at uncg!



Let them eat cake...and they did. Students from all levels in the program wished Novem well at a retirement celebration in May 2008. Photograph courtesy of Adrian Boggs.

Here are a few things that happened over our summer "break"...

...**Novem Mason** moved out of his office – and that was no small feat! – with several decades of accumulated paperwork, student projects, and books, books, books. Novem graciously donated a career's worth of books to the IARc library. As for the rest of the material, he made good use of several recycling carts and gave fellow faculty members valuable documents, some of which made us nostalgic for the days of ditto masters. Novem retired in May 2008 from IARC amidst a big student celebration, complete with an autographed drawing bench and delicious cake. **Dean Laura Sims** recognized Novem with a special award on the occasion of his retirement. A former department chair, Novem has been involved in all aspects of the IARc program and will be greatly missed for his wit and charm, not to mention his skill for making students think on their feet.

...a record number of twenty-three fifth year students successfully pursued and completed their senior thesis projects under the direction of **Suzanne Cabrera**, **Robert Michel Charest**, and **Patrick Lee Lucas**. Projects spanned the breadth of design opportunities, including office retrofits, conference center, art galleries, student housing, retail spaces, churches, restaurants, an interactive playground space, a mobile food preparation station, and the redesign of the Weatherspoon Art Museum shop. The students demonstrated that good design can be everywhere, even under the pressure of an eight week summer session.

...historic preservation masters students celebrated a significant birthday – for the **Koerner's Folly privy**. Following the smell of piquant barbecue, more than fifty former students and friends to the privy headed to Kernersville for a down-home gathering to honor the efforts of many in stabilizing and re-roofing this important slice of North Carolina history. **Jo Ramsay Leimenstoll**, leading the revitalization efforts, has placed the privy as a memorable aspect to each summer field school (IAR/HIS555) since 2001.



22 people, 1 baby, 1 privy: the gathering at Koerner's Folly, June 2008. Photograph courtesy of Jake Tucci.

And after our busy summer "hiatus," we move full speed ahead with several exciting initiatives...

...the **IARc Library** is now an affiliate to the UNCG library system – and it opens Tuesday, 2 September 2008! Working over the summer, library staff member **Mary Jane Conger**, and several assistants catalogued books and organized the space. The books in

the collection including 600 new titles may only be used by students and library patrons in the building. Along with the books, students have ready access to samples of building materials with an emphasis on sustainable products. Eventually, these materials will be catalogued and thus searchable online. Project coordinator, **Anna Marshall-Baker**, envisions a library with current materials accompanied by protocol sheets to inform users about the properties and specifications of each product. As the department works directly with manufacturers, we are no longer in the position of accepting material sample donations. Students in the systems course, IAR333, as well as graduate students on assistantship and a work-study student will staff the facility 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. IARc extends tremendous thanks to the **Walter Clinton Jackson Library** – and the many hands of all who helped – for all of their efforts in making our library a success.

...**urban studio** moves forward with \$505,000 in grants for my sisters' house. After an exploration studio (iar 302) in the spring semester 2008, **Robert Michel Charest** worked with a cadre of students over the summer to formalize drawings and specs. As of this [i]news, permits, licenses and design approvals are underway. As planned, the design-build will take place over the next three semesters in partnership with **Guilford Technical Community College** and several departments in the **UNCG School of Human Environmental Sciences**. With the goal of a "double-fast-track" build, part of the construction will take place on site and part in an off-site shop. A ceremonial ground breaking is scheduled for mid-September and **my sisters' house** should be ready for occupation in late 2009. Watch the [i]news for further developments.

...the 2008-2009 **IARc Speaker Series** commences with speakers from UNCG and beyond to address the topic of sustainability from the perspectives of ecology, equity, and economy. Students and faculty will join visitors from across campus and in the Triad area in this free offering on **Wednesdays, 12 to 1 pm, in 225 Curry Building** (Spring Garden Street at College Avenue). Dial on our website for a full schedule of speakers and topics.

IARc people news

Not forgetting their roles as conscientious designers, **Amanda Wilson** (fifth year), **Caitlin Cunningham** (fifth year), **Debbie Nestvogel** (fourth year), and **Janel Graupensperger** (fourth year) took the LEED certification exam this past summer and are now all LEED Accredited Professionals. **Holly Hampton Christian** (class of 1997) received the 2008 Young Alumna Award from the School of Human Environmental Sciences, an honor that recognizes alumnae for their outstanding achievements to service and for improving the quality of life in our society. She will speak as the honored at the HES Scholar Donor Luncheon in September. **Patrick Lee Lucas** received news of his promotion to Associate Professor with tenure effective 1 August 2008. Congratulations all around!

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alumni reunion in Spring 2010! more details to follow.