Welcome to the new year here at the CED

David Spooner | Associate Dean

Congratulations to the graduate students and BLA students who just graduated this past December; we will miss you and hope you’ll stay in touch. And to our students, undergraduate and graduate, who are entering their final semester here: Good luck in the final stretch. The world awaits your talents.

This semester will be a busy one—we have a state of the college presentation by Dean Dan Nadenicek in the chapel on Thursday, Jan. 12th, coinciding with the year’s first Circle Gallery opening and reception. There are five lectures scheduled throughout the semester, including one by alumnus Thomas Rainer whose book, Planting in a Post-Wild World, was released this past year and has won many accolades. In addition to classes, charrettes and juried critiques are also part of the line-up.

We hope you have a good new year and a productive semester.
Thomas Rainer
February 2, 2017; JSB 123

Planting in a Post-Wild World
Thomas Rainer, CED alumnus and ASLA member, recently co-authored the book *Planting in a Post-Wild World: Designing Plant Communities for Resilient Landscapes* with Claudia West. Mr. Rainer is a principal with the firm Rhodeside & Harwell in the Washington, D.C. area and has led many of the firm’s public space, campus, green infrastructure, and streetscape projects.

Jenny Roe
February 16, 2017; JSB 123

Cities, nature and health: how can biophilic design build human well-being?
Jenny Roe is Professor of Design and Health, and the Director of the Center of Design and Health at the School of Architecture, University of Virginia. An environmental psychologist and former landscape architect, she has expertise in how the design of the built environment can maximize human flourishing. Her research has pioneered methods for quantifying the health benefits of good urban design, using physiological indicators such as cortisol – the stress hormone – and mobile electroencephalography (EEG) to explore emotional activity on the move in cities. Much of her research explores health inequities in economically disadvantaged communities, including racial/ethnic minorities, children and teenagers, the elderly, and people with chronic health conditions.

Rich Panico
March 23, 2017; JSB 123

Landscape, Remembrance, and Healing
Rich Panico has a deep and multi-faceted understanding of the human condition. His current interest in art and medicine addresses our propensity to turn the inevitable human experiences of pain and loss into suffering, which, if not understood and engaged in wisely, leads to the acquisition of co-morbid (the simultaneous presence of two chronic diseases or conditions in a patient) psychiatric syndromes and complex encounters with our challenging medical system. The lecture coincides with an exhibit of Dr. Panico’s paintings in the Circle Gallery. (See next page)
Circle Gallery Exhibit
January 12-February 28
Opening reception Jan.12 @ 4:30 p.m.

Places for the Spirit: Traditional African American Gardens. Photographs by Vaughn Sills
Places for the Spirit is a traveling exhibit of African American gardens photographed by Vaughn Sills and made into a book in 2010 (Trinity University Press). Sills is a graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design (MFA) and taught photography at Simmons College in Boston from 1987-2013.

In my photography, I explore our link to the natural world—how we live and develop cultures within the natural world, and how we influence that world. I look at how the environment, both the natural and the built, helps to create the individual experience of reality, as well as the ways in which family and culture affect the individual. I am particularly interested in creating images that suggest how our physical and social environment influences our inner experience, including our spiritual experience—or at least my own.

–Vaughn Sills

EVENTS at a Glance

January 10, 2017
SHPO Lecture by Richard Becherer; 5 p.m., JSB Room 123

January 12, 2017
State of the College, 3 p.m., UGA Chapel & Circle Gallery Opening

January 19, 2017
Laurence Cotton will present a film about Frederick Law Olmsted: “Designing America” 4:30 p.m., JSB Room 123

February 2, 2017
Lecture by Thomas Rainer, 5 p.m., JSB Room 123

February 8-9, 2017
L.A. Short Course, Holiday Inn; Career Fair and faculty lunch on Feb. 9th in JSB crit space

February 16, 2017
Vincent Eleonor Ferguson lecture by Jenny Roe, JSB room 123, 5 p.m.

February 17-18, 2017
UGA Alumni Association presentation: Sense of Place, featuring Lucy Lawliss at the Georgia Center

March 16, 2017 – Rich Panico Circle Gallery Opening & Reception, 4:30 p.m.

March 23, 2017
Panico Lecture, 5 p.m., JSB 123

April 21, 2017 – CED Honors Day; Critique Day (LAND 4900 Capstone projects); Neel Reid lecture by Allan Armitage

May 5, 2017 – CED Graduation, Fine Arts Auditorium, 1:30 p.m., Speaker: Steven Nygren of the Serenbe planned community in Fulton County

June 2017 – LARE review TBA
MEPD

Umit Yilmaz will take the reins from Jack Crowley to direct the MEPD program beginning in January 2017. Crowley helped institute the program and oversaw the effort to get it professionally accredited, which we are proud to announce happened this past November. He will continue to serve as faculty in the program.

Crowley says the establishment of the MEPD Program has been in the works for years. “In 2002 a small group of faculty in the College of Environment and Design and its dean determined that there was a need for professionals in planning who were educated in the physical planning and design of cities and the built environment in general.”

The Planning Accreditation Board accredits university programs based on standards recommended by the American Planning Association and other professional planning groups after a rigorous evaluation process, which occurred at the UGA College of Environment and Design last spring.

MHP

A dozen MHP students attended the annual conference of the National Trust for Historic Preservation in November, which was in Houston, Texas. Reports are that our students were especially articulate and engaged at conference proceedings. On a more local note, we are happy to announce that second year MHP student Mary Scales English received a Willson Center Graduate Award to support her thesis research. English is studying the Lake Winfield Scott Recreation Area in the Chattahoochee National Forest, Union County, GA.

Our MHP curriculum recently evolved to include opportunities for our students to make them competitive technologically. Now, most of our students are exposed to CAD, Adobe Creative Suite, and GIS, in addition to hand graphics and traditional historic scholarship.

MLA

The MLA program now has a 1-1/2 year track (41 credits) for UGA BLA graduates. This is also available for BLA graduates from other programs, if they have five years of work experience in the profession.

We are excited by the many immersive experiences our MLA students have participated in recently. One of the most challenging projects is the inland port in Rossville, Ga. (See p.13)

For an in-depth look at the career of the “father” of landscape architecture, be sure to join us for Olmsted Movie night, Thursday, January 19th at 4:30 p.m. in JSB 123.
Each year we see more students who transfer into the BLA from other UGA majors, particularly during their first or second year. This spring we welcome 12 of these students. In addition, this March, we will host nearly 400 Clarke County tenth graders in an immersion of design, planning and historic preservation as part of Experience UGA. Faculty and students will showcase the work of the CED, our research and professional pathways, and help Clarke county tenth graders shape their own higher education goals. In the next six months, we will be preparing for accreditation by the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) for fall of 2017. This visit happens every seven years and is critical to our national standing as a program.

The CCDP continues to have a large impact on the economy, planning and design of Georgia’s communities. Two charrettes are on schedule for spring 2017; one in nearby Winterville, the other in Ellijay. In Winterville, we will address how to keep the town’s rural personality while promoting economic growth. Just six miles from downtown Athens and a part of Clarke County, Winterville wants to improve the appearance of its governmental property, promote pedestrian and bicycle connectivity, and encourage new development that will follow design construction guidelines in an effort to maintain its unique character. In Ellijay, we will explore possibilities for a new public park in town and across the river from the main downtown district. While walking trails exist, the community is considering public restrooms, a dog park, and a community garden, among other things.

Students interested in participating in these charrettes for class credit should contact Jennifer Lewis at jmlewis@uga.edu

The environmental ethics certificate program is in its 36th year at UGA. Dorinda Dallmeyer continues to bring inspiring practitioners from the field, including Dr. Gary Paul Nabhan (the importance of biodiversity in threatened landscapes) and Drew Lanham (African American relationships with nature in the South). Numerous lectures and discussions will continue throughout the spring semester.

Students interested in participating in the Spring 2017 charrettes for class credit should contact Jennifer Lewis at jmlewis@uga.edu
Dean Daniel Nadenicek to Step Down and Return to Research and Teaching

Dean Dan Nadenicek has just announced that he will be stepping down as Dean of the College of Environment and Design after nine years at the helm.

His decision to return to research, writing, and teaching allows him to concentrate on his intellectual and educational passions, rather than administration. “I want to end my career in the way I began it—doing research, writing, and teaching. It’s what I enjoy the most,” he said recently. He will finish out the fiscal year as our dean, then step back and concentrate on completing the three books he has under contract. “After that, I’ll teach whatever the college needs me to teach.”

We are glad he will continue to be part of the CED. His tenure here has helped us weather the challenges of the worst economic recession since the Great Depression and a dramatic reduction in the number of professional jobs for our graduates, which is now on a slow but steady upswing.

(Eighty-five per cent of our BLAs currently are employed upon graduation.)

At this juncture, we thought this might be a good time to reflect some on the dean’s career and his impact on the disciplines our college represents, as well as some of the impending changes to our profession.

First, it is important to understand that Dean Dan has considered himself above all a public servant, not a career administrator. “When you become a dean, you are not just ‘fitting in’ to a college or department; you are taking a leadership role that is grounded in the mission of educating future generations.” He was able to bring his experience of directing the Penn State Center for Studies in Landscape History and later serving as chair of the landscape architecture...
department at Clemson to UGA in 2008. His interest in history and cultural landscapes led to the establishment of the Cultural Landscape Lab, which has had tremendous impact on such sites as Wormsloe Plantation in Savannah, Stratford Hall in Virginia, and Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island in Washington State.

In his role as administrator he assisted in overseeing the $9.5 million renovation of the Jackson Street Building and the migration of the MLA and BLA programs to the iconic modernist building. In terms of expanding our courses of study, he helped initiate and supported new programs, including the MEPD and the PhD in Environmental Design and Planning, of which he serves as coordinator. He has reached out to numerous other departments and colleges on the UGA campus and Georgia Tech in Atlanta to seek shared interests and interdisciplinary efforts. He has also created academic relationships with universities in China and Turkey.

“What I value most in my time as an administrator here, however, is seeing the CED be recognized as the center for design and design thinking on the University of Georgia campus. Other colleges and programs are discovering what we have known for decades— that real education resides in engagement and immersion and solving problems holistically,” he says.

Throughout his tenure as professor and dean, Dean Dan has maintained his scholarly output. Most recently, he served as co-editor of Landscape Journal with David Pitt, and he is currently President of the Board of Directors of the Library of American Landscape History. The three books he has under contract include a history of American land planning as seen through the eyes of Frederick Billings, 1823–1890, and a book on Horace Cleveland. He also is co-editing a book on cultural landscapes with Cari Goetcheus. He has published numerous articles and, based on his long career in education and research, and expertise in the dissemination of knowledge, was made a Fellow of the ASLA in November, 2016.

Dean Dan dreams of teaching a class he calls (Re)Constructing the American Landscape, which proposes to cover the settlement then building of the North American continent, including the impacts of dramatic changes brought on by the railroads, dam projects, and agricultural practices that so profoundly shaped our environment.

As the College of Environment and Design enters a new era, Dean Dan would like to see us codify who we are and what we do so that the new administration will be able to build on the strengths we have gained in our ninety-year history and face a challenging environmental future by being ahead of the curve in technology and applied research. He sees our mission as a two-way street with the professions of design, planning, and preservation: “We do the scholarship that informs these disciplines and we train our young people in diverse and meaningful ways so that they can be creative yet evidence-based in their design careers.”

–mct
Spotlight on alumnus Chad Horton
Chad Horton (BLA ’05)

After moving to Florida, and working at a few landscape architecture firms in the area, Chad Horton decided to start his own practice, Horton Land Works, in 2011. His practice serves the greater Emerald Coast area and specializes in land planning, landscape architecture and architectural illustration. Originally from Atlanta, Horton wanted to move to Florida to be near the water. He works with a variety of clients, including private developers, public officials, architects, civil engineers, and residential clients. Horton explains that his diverse portfolio is great for him and his business.

“It’s important to keep yourself diversified and have experience in all areas,” said Horton. “We learned a lot through the recession on how we should structure our office and experience to provide us the best opportunity through down periods.”

Thankfully, the Florida landscape offers plenty of challenges and inspiration for Horton’s work.

“Florida does not have the topography that many other places have and the opportunity to manipulate changes in elevation can really create unique and creative design solutions,” said Horton. “The result is that we have to create more vertical elements and transitions to evoke drama within the built environment.”

While the Florida environment and topography provide plenty of inspiration for his work, Horton felt more than prepared for the landscape architect industry due to the skills he learned at CED.

“To effectively communicate my design vision and approach to the client and in-house associates, I utilize hand drawn sketches every day...”

“To effectively communicate my design vision and approach to the client and in-house associates, I utilize hand drawn sketches every day,” said Horton. “The CED was great in teaching these hand drawn skills and design theory. We were consistently pushed and encouraged to think and design outside the box.” Horton feels the skills he learned at the CED allow him to develop a more progressive design approach to projects. Specifically, he believes that the construction documentation course is, “vital in taking out-of-the-box design ideas and helping the student explore the constructability of the design.”
What projects are you working on currently?
I am working on a variety of projects in Washington, D.C. and New York state, including several green roofs with amenity spaces for new urban residential towers; streetscape designs for Pennsylvania Avenue, DC; a combination of historic preservation and ecological restoration for Jones Beach State Park; and a variety of urban plaza and garden projects.

What led you to write this book?
The book evolved out of a desire to understand how to create more resilient, biodiverse, but beautiful horticultural plantings in urban and suburban landscapes. Traditional horticulture has, for the most part, failed to provide the kind of ecosystem services we need in cities. Treating plants as individual objects swimming in a sea of mulch results in plantings that are forever dependent on more mulch, herbicides, and human input. We wanted to find an alternative.

How did the CED prepare you for the work you do now?
Visiting wild plant communities with Darrel Morrison and drawing those patterns was an eye-opening experience for me. To understand plants, you really have to see them in the wild. That combined with a broad design education helped me combine art and ecology in the work I do.
Thank you
Charlie Godfrey!

The CED proudly announces the creation of the Godfrey–Koesjan Family Graduate Fellowship.

Established by Charles Godfrey (BLA ’57 MLA ’71), and his sisters Barbara Lee Koesjan and Betty Jane Godfrey, the fund was created to honor their parents, families, and friends who have helped them advance their careers through higher education. Charlie remains a loyal and dedicated alumnus, often visiting campus for alumni events and critiques, and to oversee the implementation of the Bob Hill scholarship. Charlie and Bob were great friends here at UGA and like-minded landscape architects whose loyalty to the college is an inspiration to us all. Along with his sisters, Charlie remains one of CED’s most steadfast friends. Charlie Godfrey has practiced landscape architecture for over thirty years in his native South Carolina, creating designs that he says “start with the client.” His firm’s portfolio includes residential as well as commercial design and public spaces. Elegance, serenity, and a touch of humor are hallmarks of his designs. Based in Spartanburg, Charlie is also registered in Georgia and North Carolina. He is a lifelong member of ASLA.

Message from Jennifer Messer

We appreciate our alumni and enjoy hearing what you are doing, especially with regard to the training you received here at CED. Please stay in touch and be on the lookout for fun annual events like our fall visit to Perkins+Will in Atlanta.

On a development note, the CED is proud to be part of the University of Georgia’s $1.2 Billion Capital Campaign. With less than 4 years remaining in the campaign, the College’s goal is to raise over $8 million in private gifts. These funds will be used for scholarships, graduate support, travel, research, and technology.

If you are interested in learning more about how to make a gift, e-mail Jennifer at jlmesser@uga.edu or call 706/614-7156.

Our alumni make the world a better Place!

Congratulations to MEPD graduate Elizabeth Beak (’16), who will be working with Mario Cambardello (’12) in Atlanta on the city’s urban agriculture effort and to Brig George (MLA ’14) whose team recently won the “Off the Rails Design Competition” in Fort Collins, CO, sponsored by Urban Lab. Brig is living in Seattle and reports that Rikerrious Geter (BLA ’16) is fitting in nicely into his new west coast life and working for Gustafson Guthrie Nichol.

To make a donation online go to http://t.uga.edu/2T1 or visit ced.uga.edu and click on “giving”
Kiley Aguar and Zachary Harris win Daylighting the UGA Watershed competition

Kiley Aguar’s grandfather, Charlie Aguar, would be especially proud of a recent project Kiley and his friend Zachary Harris created for the Watershed UGA competition. The duo won the $1000 first prize for their design for the Daylighting the Watershed of Lily Branch on UGA’s south campus. Charlie Aguar was an early proponent of ecologically based environmental design and planning. One of his best loved works here in town is the Athens Greenway, which he was instrumental in conceiving. So it must be in Kiley’s DNA that he cares so deeply for the waters that flow into the Oconee.

Kiley Aguar is working on degrees in both landscape architecture (MLA) and environmental planning and design (MEPD). He and Zach entered the competition that was part of the celebration of sustainability at UGA in December. (Zach is a student in the Lamar Dodd School of Art.) Over 150 people from across campus participated in the summit, sharing research and ideas addressing issues concerning water and watershed protection. The Sustainability Summit was sponsored by the UGA Office of Sustainability, which is directed by Kevin Kirsche, who holds both a BLA and a MLA from our college.

Sean Dunlap and Brad Davis Explore Options for Piedmont Prairie plants

Working with a grant from UGA’s Office of Sustainability, Brad Davis, professor and program director for the BLA, and MEPD student Sean Dunlap are exploring the function and aesthetics of southeastern piedmont prairies in landscape design. Using experimental plots at the UGarden on Milledge Extension, their study is a trial in species selection and a management regime. They are also trying to determine visitor perception and wildlife benefits, as well as manage the plantings in such a way as to reduce the need for fossil fuels and decrease water usage.
A Georgia Inland Port gets Design Insight from Pardue’s Urban Design Studio

Third year MLA students and fifth year BLA students in Doug Pardue’s urban design studio class this past fall grappled with the challenges of designing an “inland port” that will support the dissemination of goods to the coastal port in Savannah. Set in Murray County, in Northwest Georgia, this transportation hub could have tremendous impact on the county’s 40,000 residents. The Appalachian Regional Port, as it is called, is a joint effort of Governor Nathan Deal’s office and the State of Georgia, Murray County, CSX, and the Georgia Ports Authority. Danny Bivins, senior public service associate of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government, served as a liaison between the class and the community. The students created a booklet that will explore options that will, hopefully, balance the “forces of change with the desire for stability” in this area of Georgia. A sample graphic produced by students is below.

CONNECTING COHUTTA: RAIL CORRIDOR

**Problem:** Development along rail can be detrimental to rail heritage, human health and well-being, regional identity and public transportation options.

**Goal:** Uphold regional identity and pride while strengthening and growing the connection between existing infrastructure, nature and local culture using the rail system and right of way.

**Solutions:**
- **Policy**
  - Industry and trail cooperation
- **Policy**
  - Transportation ring: encourage public transportation that optimizes use of existing rail line
- **Physical Design**
  - Rail and trail network that connects to and highlights natural, cultural and economic areas
- **Program**
  - Maps and wayfinding
- **Program**
  - Arts and cultural activities on the trail
- **Program: Activities and events**
  - Ephemeral economic and social opportunities. Productive landscape, social nodes and connection points along rail network.
CED continues work on Georgia’s coast

Professors Jon Calabria, Rosanna Rivero, and Alison Smith continue to work on projects along the Georgia coast.

Smith’s class focused on Tybee Island; Rivero and Calabria combined classes of the Regional Planning Studio (LAND 6520) and Landscape Ecology.

Students visited several sites along the coast (from Brunswick to Savannah), including Altama, a property recently acquired by The Nature Conservancy, as well a wetland restoration park, the Cay Creek Wetland Interpretation center. Students met with a variety of people, including representatives of The Nature Conservancy, GA DNR, the Coastal Regional Commission of Ga, and Coastal Landscapes. The classes are working on a regional strategy for the area focused on recreational and sustainable tourism. Part of the assessment conducted will assist Altama managers in deciding the best uses for their property.

Calabria’s class focused on landscape ecology and even participated in planting understory to enhance a longleaf pine conversion planting at Wormsloe Plantation on the Isle of Hope.

East Georgia State College is inspired by gopher tortoises and longleaf pines…

How many college campuses do you know that are designing for the gopher tortoise?

This year, fall and spring semester landscape architecture students will be devising a master plan for East Georgia State College, a four-year college of about 1,300 students located in Swainsboro, Georgia. The plan, which will be developed through summer 2017, involves approximately 30 CED students and professors Alfie Vick, Danny Sniff, and Georgia Harrison.

This past fall, Alfie Vick’s Sustainability and Design studio dedicated their efforts to a green infrastructure master plan for the campus, essentially laying out the priorities for development that address conservation areas, open spaces, and green infrastructure for stormwater management. The class projects will be entered in the EPA campus rain works challenge (design competition).

Danny Sniff’s and Georgia Harrison’s classes this spring will tackle the detail design portion of the plan, deciding on where new buildings and other amenities will go.

Set in Georgia’s Coastal Plain, East Georgia State College happens to be settled amidst a gopher tortoise habitat. (The gopher tortoise is Georgia’s official state reptile and is threatened by loss of habitat and invasive predators.) As a result, the college has taken measures, such as prescribed burning of their forested area, to ensure that the tortoise’s habitat is intact. This sense of environmental responsibility has earned much praise from those working on the project, including Vick.

“We were inspired by the efforts that East Georgia is taking to manage their forested areas intentionally for gopher tortoise habitat.” said Vick.

Set among longleaf and other Georgia pines, East Georgia is considered an “Access” institution—a college for people who might not otherwise attend school after high school but use this experience as a stepping stone to higher education. Many of the students are commuters; approximately 400 live on campus. The main campus hub sits on about 80 acres but is surrounding by about 500 acres, giving it a unique rural character.

News Studio
James Reap nominated by Obama White House as new member of Cultural Property Advisory Committee

This past fall, Professor James Reap was appointed by President Barack Obama as a new member of the Department of State’s Cultural Property Advisory Committee. The Cultural Property Advisory Committee, which was established in 1983, advises the President on “appropriate U.S. action in response to requests from State Parties for assistance in protecting their cultural heritage.”

The members of the Cultural Property Advisory Committee serve renewable, three-year terms. Reap is one of four new members appointed in 2016. The committee’s members are broken up into certain profiles, such as anthropology, international sale of cultural property, or general public interest. Congratulations James Reap!

Katherine Bennett

This past October, Katherine Bennett, a visiting assistant professor who teaches 2000-level studios and graphics, traveled to Alnarp, Sweden to present her forthcoming paper, “Hypernatures of the Urban Real,” during the conference, Beyond Ism: The Landscape of Landscape Urbanism. The conference, which took place at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, aimed “to contribute new and alternative formulations of the relationship between landscape and urbanism by reassessing landscape urbanism.” Bennett’s paper examined “hypernature” as a design strategy and designed form in contemporary landscape architecture and art projects engaging urban environments.

“My paper responds to the conference’s invitation for critique of Landscape Urbanism as a dominant paradigm in Landscape Architecture discourse and practice today,” said Bennett. “The paper builds on my previous essay on “hypernature” (“Beautiful Landscapes in Drag,” Journal of Landscape Architecture, 2014), which discusses this design idiom as a way to expand representations of environmentalism in landscape design projects.”

Bennett explains that she is trying to show that landscape architecture is much more than a diagram because it comprises different bodies, species, and material things, which contribute to designing and making landscapes. In addition to presenting at the conference, Bennett feels the conference has re-invigorated her passion for the field, giving her what she calls a “mental espresso shot.”

Recently published:

Professor Brian Orland recently published an article in the Journal of Digital Landscape Architecture (1-2016): “GeoDesign to Tame Wicked Problems” in which he engaged CED undergraduates in an innovative approach to protect the Rock and Shoals Outcrop Natural Area in Athens amidst adjacent development. Weebly, Google Docs, ESRI GeoPlanner, and Story Maps were among the tools used to wrestle with the “wicked” problem of simultaneously protecting and developing the area.

Katherine Melcher is one of the editors of a new book from Routledge: Community-Built: Art, Construction, Preservation, and Place. In this collection of essays, scholars and practitioners explore community-built practices with examples from the disciplines of urban design, historic preservation, and community art.

Upcoming HP Project in the UGA Special Collections Library

This spring Assistant Professor Scott Nesbit and Historic Preservation students will be compiling an exhibit of contributions that African American enslaved people made to the development of the UGA campus. The exhibition will include documentation, old photographs, and printed materials that help tell the story of the slave experience in Athens and the university community.
Maureen O’Brien, the Founders Memorial Garden, and Garden Club support

Never underestimate the power of your local garden clubs!

Since the 1920s, when Hubert Owens first set off on a path to create a college of landscape architecture, the concerned women (and later, men) of local garden clubs were vital to his endeavor. This was a two-way street: he offered garden design information and education to the women in the community who had time, resources and interest in beautification projects, and in return their energy and funds helped support a nascent program of study. Another result of this partnership was the creation of the Founders Memorial Garden in 1939, a teaching garden on north campus overseen by the School of Environment and Design (now CED).

The garden club movement has spread to over 400,000 members, with almost 11,000 thousand members in Georgia alone. High heels, white gloves, and extravagant hats of previous garden club days have been replaced by active gardeners in boots and ball caps dedicated to sharing ecological principles, knowledge of plants and planting, and information about environmental concerns.

Maureen O’Brien, curator of the Founders Memorial Garden and part-time faculty of the CED, holds a bachelor’s degree in horticulture and a master’s degree of landscape architecture from UGA. She maintains the garden’s collections, trains undergraduate landscape architects as work/study students, interacts with professors across UGA disciplines who bring students to the garden, conducts tours, greets visitors, and coordinates events held in the historic structures that are centerpiece to the site. Continuing in the tradition of Dean Hubert Owens by nurturing the relationship between garden clubs and the College, she is a member of the Ladies Garden Club and regularly interacts with garden clubs from across the state and country who visit to enjoy the beautiful and important place created between this collaboration of donors and designers.

Cortona Experience – Landscapes and Villas of Tuscany

Aimed at all artists, gardeners, and those with a passion for historic architecture and city planning, this special itinerary was designed specifically for friends of the College of Environment and Design and the Studies Abroad Program in Cortona who have shared a rich history and partnership since the program’s inception. This trip will enable you to gain an intimate understanding of the exceptional educational opportunities afforded to our students fortunate enough to be part of our Cortona program.

Mark your calendars for July 5-14, 2017 and plan to be a part of this special experience. In addition, we urge you to share this opportunity with family and friends who might also have an interest in exploring and seeing Italy in an entirely new way.

Maureen O’Brien can be contacted at mcbrien@uga.edu to set up a visit or tour.