



## Chair's Note

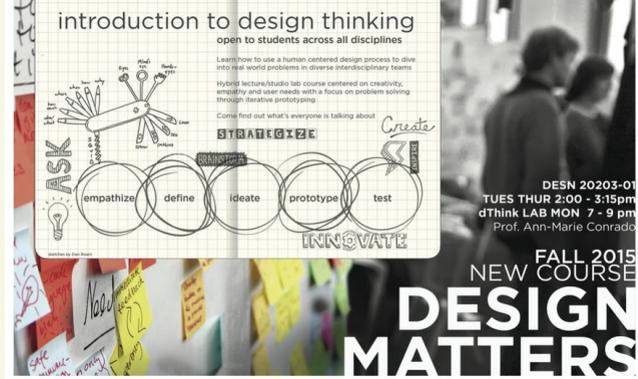
Greetings alumni, parents and friends of the department. In January this year, AAHD launched the first issue of Thinking and Making. The newsletter has been a tremendous success and offers us a great way to stay in touch with you about department happenings. We recently updated our email list, so this may be the first issue you are receiving. Past issues are available on our website. Please feel free to send us your feedback and suggestions, including news for the alumni stories column. Next issue, winter 2016.

— Richard Gray

## DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS

### AAHD Launches New Collaborative Innovation Program, Fall 2015

A new program in Collaborative Innovation, housed in the department of Art, Art History & Design, will establish a dynamic catalyst for process-based, cross-disciplinary collaboration between various academic departments in Arts & Letters and wider interests across the university. Utilizing a methodology arising from design's natural heritage, design thinking brings together divergent stakeholders in a dynamic, iterative and deeply human process that accelerates innovative thinking and making.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

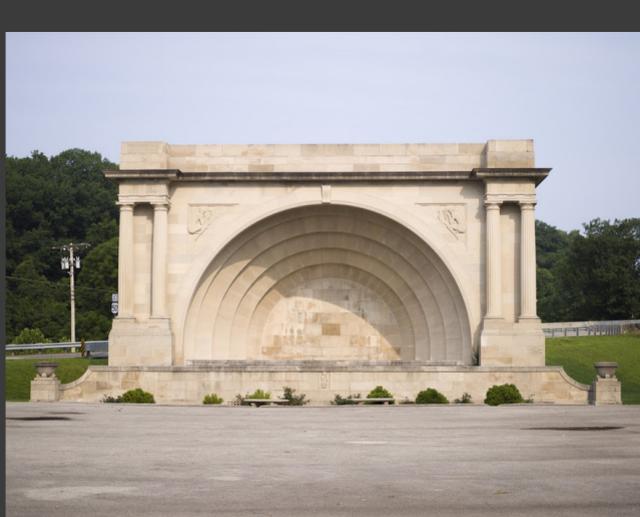


### Design undergrads launch ND chapter of Design for America

This fall, three Notre Dame students launched a chapter of Design For America - Industrial Design students John Wetzel '16 and Brian Donlin '15, along with Mechanical Engineering student William Picoli '17. As a nation-wide network, DFA includes over 9000 people and 800 core

team members from over 150 different college majors. It has twenty-nine student-led studios across college campuses nationwide whose mission it is to affect local and social change.

"After seeing the success of Design for America at other universities, I worked with a group of students at Notre Dame to start a studio to serve our community. Design for America is a nationwide network of interdisciplinary student teams and community members using human centered design to create local and social impact. Projects from Design for America provide positive inspiration for the potential of student projects to become social enterprises. DFA studios are annually faced with the challenge of transitioning projects & prototypes into impactful products." - John Wetzel



### Graduate student Chris Dant commissioned by South Bend Museum of Art for Indiana Bicentennial

With the Indiana bicentennial approaching, third year MFA photography student Chris Dant has been commissioned by the South Bend Museum of Art to document still-existing Works Progress Administration projects across the state. During the summer of 2015, Dant researched the history of the WPA and traveled throughout the state making photographs of the remaining sites. Ranging from a camping shelter located deep in a Hoosier National Forest to a Naval armory on the shores of Lake Michigan, the photographs shed light

on lesser known histories of the "Crossroads of America." Selected images from the project will be printed and exhibited alongside historic prints. *WPA Prints: The Amity Arts Foundation Collection*, will be on view at the South Bend Museum of Art (SBMA), October 17, 2015–January 10, 2016.

Chris Dant's graduate research focuses on youth portraiture. He is currently photographing a group of teenage skateboarders in the South Bend area, whom he has met through a youth organization where he serves as a volunteer. His work contains themes such as public and private, empathy, and a connection with "the other." These young men are in the transitional period between boyhood and manhood, and Dant's work investigates their day-to-day experience.

## FACULTY NEWS

### Professors Heather Hyde Minor and Michael Schreffler join the AAHD faculty

Associate Professor Heather Hyde Minor's research is focused on the history of European art and architecture from 1600 to 1800. Her scholarly interests include the city of Rome, the intellectual history of art history, and prints and print culture. Her new book, *Piranesi's Lost Words*, will be published by Pennsylvania State University Press in 2015. Professor Hyde Minor came to Notre Dame from the University of Illinois.



Associate Professor Michael Schreffler's research centers on the art and architecture of Spain and Latin America in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. He is the author of *The Art of Allegiance: Visual Culture and Imperial Power in Baroque New Spain* (Penn State Press, 2007). This book is a study of the ways in which paintings and architecture were involved in the Spanish Crown's governance of the viceroyalty of New Spain from its capital, Mexico City. Professor Schreffler came to Notre Dame from Virginia Commonwealth University.

### Industrial Design Professor Paul Down retires

Industrial Design Professor Paul Down retired from the University last May, after 32 years of teaching in the Department of Art, Art History and Design. Down taught both graduate and undergraduate students in design. His industrial design research encompassed the design of innovative consumer products, marine products, transportation and related accessories.

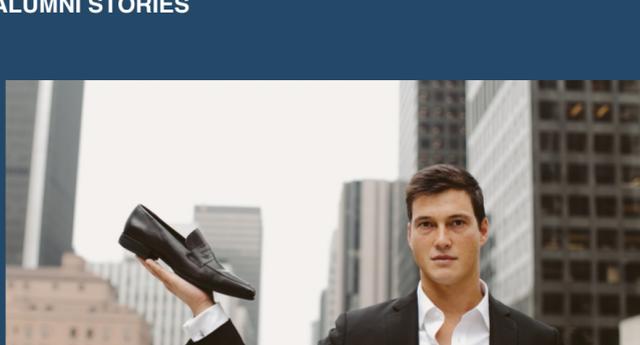


### In Memorium: Professor Robert Sedlack

It is with great sadness we share the news that Robert Sedlack, professor of visual communication design, died May 30, 2015. A native of Greencastle, Ind., and a 1989 Notre Dame alumnus, Sedlack earned a master of fine arts degree from Indiana University in 1993 and worked in design firms in Chicago before joining the Notre Dame faculty in 1998. Our university community has lost a great leader, mentor, and friend.



## ALUMNI STORIES



### Justin Schneider - Founder of Wolf & Shepherd

Justin Schneider, Industrial Design '11, was awarded the grand prize at this year's McCloskey Business Plan Competition, hosted by the Mendoza College of Business. His company, Wolf & Shepherd, creates high-end footwear with high-performance comfort. Justin also won the Irish Angels award, giving Wolf & Shepherd the opportunity to pitch its plan to the Irish Angel investors at a later date.

**Thinking and Making** is published by the department of Art, Art History & Design. Send comments to the Department at [Art@ND.edu](mailto:Art@ND.edu). For more information about the department, visit our web site at [artdept.nd.edu](http://artdept.nd.edu).

