

Princeton University/ Program in Urban Studies



05/12

2014 Senior Thesis Colloquium
Monday, May 12, 2014
300 Wallace Hall
10am – 2pm

Continental Breakfast

10:00-11:30 **Session I** **Infrastructure: Law, Technology, Structures, Environment**

Moderator **Professor Sigrid Adriaenssens**
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

Alison Mills, Architecture

“Interstate 0: A History and Theory of the Los Angeles River as Cultural and Urban Infrastructure”

Eruz Erman, Civil and Environmental Engineering

“A Methodology for the Preliminary Design Process of a Bulged Diagrid Tall Building”

Sean Chen, Woodrow Wilson School

“The Digital City: Smart Cities, Gigabit Cities and the Future of Urbanism”

Questions and Discussion

Lunch 11:30-12:30

12:30-2:00 **Session II** **Politics, the Public, and Place**

Moderator **Professor Bruno Carvalho**
Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures

Katie Dubbs, Art and Archeology

“Beyond Le Corbusier's Chandigarh: The Lost Voices of a Frozen City”

Cara Michell, Lewis Center for the Arts' Program in Visual Arts

“Panama Canal”

Robert “Trap” Yates, History

“Caged Panther: The Rise, Fall and Redemption of Marion S. Barry Jr.”

Ozlem Cebeci, Anthropology

“From Non-Places to Places: Neoliberalizing Istanbul, Taksim Gezi Protests, and Reflections on the Right to the City”

Cara Eckholm, Woodrow Wilson School

“Monument Wars”

Questions and Discussion

Özlem Cebeci is a senior in the Anthropology Department receiving a certificate in Urban Studies from Istanbul, Turkey. Her academic interests combine architecture history, urban studies, and the lived experience of cities. Her thesis explores the Taksim Gezi Park protests that took place in Istanbul this past summer as an urban development phenomenon, combining first-hand accounts, maps, and politics. Over the summers, she has worked and studied abroad in Munich, Frankfurt, and Rio de Janeiro. Upon graduation, she will be moving to New York City to pursue a career at Bridgewater Associates as a Management Associate. Advisor: Isabelle Clark-Decès

Sean Andrew Chen, a senior and an Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholar, is the Class of 2014 Frederick P. Hitz '61 Scholar in the Nation's Service from Martinsville, NJ. Chen began his Princeton career at the School of Architecture but, after a leave of absence to attend the Bartlett School of Planning at University College London, returned as a Woodrow Wilson School concentrator with certificates in Environmental and Urban Studies. Sean had previously studied music at The Juilliard School before attending Princeton, where he is now a member of the Princeton University Orchestra. In the past, Chen has written for the *Next City*, a national urban affairs magazine. For the summer of 2011, Sean received a Martin A. Dale '53 Summer Award with which he pursued a photojournalism project centered on contemporary American identity. He has interned at the White House Council on Strong Cities, Strong Communities at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Sean will be entering the MPA program at the Woodrow Wilson School this coming fall. Advisor: Esteban Rossi-Hansberg

Katie Dubbs is a senior in the Art & Archaeology Department receiving a certificate in Urban Studies. In her thesis, Katie reconsidered the pervasive narrative of Chandigarh's authorship as the creation of Le Corbusier and examined the city's recent preservation efforts and its cultural buildings as part of a larger understanding of the impact of the city's narrative on the physical city, its symbolic image, and its future. On campus, Dubbs founded and ran Princeton Opera Company, sang in university choirs, music-directed student productions, and performed in two student-written operas. She served as curator of the Butler Art Gallery, tour guide at the Princeton University Art Museum, arts advisor to residential colleges and the undergraduate government. During the summers Katie was the research assistant to architecture critic Paul Goldberger and worked for arts non-profit organizations. She was an undergraduate fellow at the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, allowing her to travel to Chandigarh, India for thesis research, and a recipient of the Peter B. Lewis Awards for her project on opera and homelessness. As the 2014 recipient of the Sachs Global Scholarship, she is spending the next year in Vienna studying late 19th-century classical art song. Advisor: Hal Foster

Cara Eckholm is a Woodrow Wilson School senior with a focus in Arts and Cultural Policy and certificate in Urban Studies. She is originally from New York City, but grew interested in Eastern Europe in high school, when she spent summers in the region for debate programs funded by the Open Society Foundations. Cara spent this past August conducting research in Estonia, Hungary and Poland for her senior thesis on the contentious monument politics that have been churning in those countries throughout the past decade. After graduation, Cara is moving to Copenhagen to work for ReD Associates, a consultancy that specializes in conducting ethnographic fieldwork on behalf of businesses and governments. In the fall, she may head to Cambridge to write a dissertation on the post-conflict architectural development of Sarajevo and Skopje. Advisor: Stan Katz

Erman Eruz is a senior in the Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) department with certificates in Architecture & Engineering and Urban Studies. Erman is particularly interested in the interdisciplinary relation of architecture, engineering and urban planning. His senior thesis in the CEE department is about a new form of structural system called "diagrid" for tall buildings that allows for new architectural forms while providing structural efficiency. After graduation, Erman is going to attend Rice University for a Master's degree in Architecture. Advisor: Sigrid Adriaenssens

Cara Michell is a senior in the Department of Art and Archaeology and the Lewis Center for the Arts' Program with a certificate in Urban Studies. Creating her multi-media thesis exhibition, *Panama Canal*, Cara explored exclusivity and privatization in urban public spaces. Michell's works included sculptures and assemblages, collage and a staged coffee house. Inspired by skateboarders' ability to reappropriate and democratize public spaces, Cara's thesis work responded to two questions: How can the politics of public space be leveraged to address social inequalities? And how can the rest of us reappropriate space to reap the benefits of an activity dominated by young men and boys? The result was a series of post-functional assemblages that aimed to disrupt systems of communication and consumption. Cara will begin a Master's program in Urban Planning at Harvard's Graduate School of Design in the Fall. Advisor: Fia Backström

Alison "Ali" Mills is a senior in the School of Architecture, with certificates in Urban Studies and Environmental Studies. Interested in the intersections of urbanism, planning, sociology, and design, her independent work has been centered around theories of urban revitalization and redevelopment, particularly in her hometown of Los Angeles. After graduating, Ali will be working as an Architectural Designer at the architecture firm Kohn Pedersen Fox in New York City before pursuing a Masters in City Planning. Advisor: Guy Nordenson

Robert "Trap" Yates is a senior in the History Department receiving a certificate in Urban Studies. Although he is fascinated by London's early modern development, Trap's primary interest is in 20th century American urban politics, particularly around questions of race and the policing of various substances. He hails from Sutton, Massachusetts. After graduation, Trap will work for Boston Consulting Group, New Jersey. Eventually, he hopes to either start or join an organization dedicated to supporting social entrepreneurs in American cities. Advisor: Meg Jacobs