Division of Architecture Receives High Ranking

Elizabeth Lechleitner

Andrews University

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In a world where connectivity and convenience increasingly influence where people choose to live, the architectural philosophy of New Urbanism is rapidly gaining supporters. This is due to its commitment to facilitate communities where all necessary amenities are within a five- to ten-minute walk of any given residence, and convenient living is thus not dependent upon vehicle ownership.

And it’s that dedication to pedestrian-friendly design that has earned Andrews University’s Division of Architecture high ranking in New Urban News, a professional newsletter targeting architects and public officials who promote and practice New Urbanism.

An article, “New Urbanism Makes Inroads: Still Out of Academic Mainstream,” in the Feb. 2006 issue of New Urban News commends Andrews University for being “one of the few architecture departments in the U.S. that directly incorporates New Urbanist principles and practices into the curriculum.” In the same issue, Andrews University is tied for sixth place with the University of Pennsylvania under the category “Best Schools: Which Institutions Do a Good Job of Training New Urbanist Practitioners?” Andrews also joins the University of Michigan in fourth place for “Recent Hires at New Urbanist Firms: From What Schools?” Other local top ranking institutions include Miami, Notre Dame, Maryland, and California—Berkeley universities.

Cary C. Carscallen, Director of the Division of Architecture at Andrews University, is excited by the national recognition—especially its buttressing affect on the confidence of current architecture students. “The holistic way we teach architecture by promoting conservation and a healthy balance in the built environment ... gives our students the skills they need to succeed.” And perhaps more crucially, assures them that “what they are learning is of high value.”

Nursing Faculty Present at Biennial Nursing Society Conference

For the past 20 years, the Andrews University Department of Nursing has maintained the only chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) Nursing Honor Society in southwestern Michigan. The scholarship arm of the nursing profession, the STTI parent organization held its 38th biennial conference in Indianapolis, Ind., where four Andrews nursing faculty had the opportunity to share their research.

For this conference, all poster and podium presentations were selected through a refereed process. Four faculty members submitted abstracts for blind review, and the department was pleasantly surprised when all four were accepted. Assistant professors Arlene Saliba and Nancy Carter held a poster presentation on “Promoting Critical Thinking Through Concept Map Care Planning”; assistant professor Diane Ford presented a poster on “Use of Story Writing and Telling for Teaching Pathophysiology to Nursing Students”; and Karen Allen presented a paper entitled “Finding Missing Persons: Increasing Diversity in Nursing Students.”

In attendance at the conference were the Andrews University’s Eta Zeta chapter president and secretary, Helen Pelleschi and Lisa Girr. Based on feedback they received, Pelleschi and Girr reported that all presentations were well received by nursing scholars in attendance. However, attendees were particularly interested in Arlene Saliba and Nancy Carter’s poster session detailing the methods used at Andrews for teaching patient care to nursing students, which was viewed as having the potential to replace current care plan systems used in health care.