Through our degree programs, research work, and a deep connection to community, the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape is redefining the future of city building, for Calgary and beyond.
1 NEW WEBSITE

10 PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS

140 CBDLAB EVENTS

13,767 ENGAGED PEOPLE

LAUNCH OF GREEN ALLEY PROJECT AND 9 BLOCK

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONFERENCE AND CROSS-CULTURE SYMPOSIUM HELD AT THE CBDLAB

↑75

↑10607
LAUNCH OF DESIGN MATTERS PODCAST

GRADUATES

98

↑15

3 NEW PROGRAMS

SAPL ALUMNI

2338

↑94

ALBERTA MASONRY COUNCIL DONATES TWO NEW ROBOTS

FACULTY, SESSIONALS, GUEST LECTURERS

86

↑1

CATHERINE HAMEL APPOINTED TO SAPL LEADERSHIP AS ASSOCIATE DEAN, ARCHITECTURE

Year at a Glance 2019/20
Welcome to the second edition of SAPL’s Annual Report. It has been quite a year. In the fall we officially launched the admission process for our new Doctor of Design program, and I look forward to welcoming the first cohort of mid-career architects, landscape architects, and planners into this first-of-its-kind-in-Canada doctoral program. The City Building Design Lab continued to accelerate our connection to community with 140 public events hosting over 7500 attendees and five exhibitions with over 1000 visitors. Highlights on the research side include funding from the Alberta Masonry Association to help purchase two robot arms for a research program in digital masonry, the launch of a collaboration with the Mayor’s office on a pilot project to improve vibrancy and perceptions of safety in the nine blocks around City Hall, and funding from the Calgary Downtown Association for the three-year Green Alleyway Project. Notable accomplishments for our faculty and students include the CMHC President’s Medal for Outstanding Housing Research for Dr. Sasha Tsenkova, and an RAIC National Urban Design Award for Professor Marc Boutin’s firm (MBAC) for their 4th Street S.W Underpass project.

But this was also a year unlike any we’ve experienced. In March, like everyone else in the world, the School pivoted to an online environment in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The winter term became a time of many firsts. Faculty members and students explored together the opportunities and challenges of online learning as our lecture series, final reviews, Year End Show, and graduation ceremonies transferred to digital platforms. I am extremely proud and grateful to the entire SAPL community of students, faculty, and administrative staff who fearlessly embraced these new modalities to complete the academic year on a high note of personal and collective accomplishment.

— Dr. John Brown, PhD, Dean
Students engage with the community virtually

Planning students continue to connect meaningfully with Crossroads community and each other even after social distancing measures implemented.

Year-end show goes online

YES’ online format expanded the reach to many more people beyond a one-night event, giving more exposure to the hard work of each student.

I think dealing with covid has sparked a renewed interest in, and need for, how our domestic space can be stretched to be so many things.

Marc Boutin, Associate Professor
Making masks for the community

Cross-disciplinary group led by UCalgary researchers produce visors for Alberta Health Services for May distribution.

There’s no question that the biggest challenge has been balancing school with our kids, but spending all this time with them has also been a gift.

Shaun Ali, MPlan student
STUDENTS
718

FACULTY
26

TOTAL SCHOLARSHIPS
$824,582

COURSES DELIVERED
141

STUDY ABROAD PARTICIPANTS
61
Doctor of Design
Established a new program with new student cohort admitted for Fall 2020.

Professional Continuing Education program
Piloted courses offering licensed professionals an opportunity to acquire specific knowledge about topics such as mass timber industrial landscapes; the future of architecture and human thriving; justice, representation and equity; municipal planning law; and sustainability and historic preservation.

Undergraduate studios
Introduced two experiential studios about design thinking and city building. A group of students then created a University-wide undergrad club called FDAP (Future Designers of Architecture and Planning).
By engaging contemporary problems, students come to understand the implications of creating environments in the 21st century.

**FACULTY**

26

8 professors
8 associate professors
10 assistant professors
40 sessionals

**STAFF**

15

3 CBDLab
12 On Campus

**FULL TIME**

4 Academic/Administrative
4 Workshop
2 Research
1 Events
1 Development
1 Exec. Assistant to the Dean
1 Operations
1 Marketing

**PART TIME**

1 Operations
1 Marketing

58% Architecture
42% Planning & Landscape Architecture

73% Male
27% Female
FACULTY & STAFF

1:12
FACULTY TO STUDENT RATIO
GUEST LECTURERS

HERNAN DIAZ
ALONSO
JEFA
GREENAWAY

KATE
THOMPSON

JEAN
VERVILLE

ALFRED
WAUGH

FELECIA
DAVIS

Jefa Greenaway

20
STUDENTS

718

311 (43%) Graduate Students

407 (57%) Undergraduate Students

98

2019-20 GRADUATION CLASS

MArch 57 ↑13

MPlan 25 ↑5

MArch 167 ↑7%

MEDes 21 ↑2%

MLA 30

PhD 40 ↑1%

MPlan 53 ↑2%

53% Female Male 47%

Research degrees:
Years to completion

PhD avg time in years MEDes avg time in years
5 2.5
In 2019/2020 a group of enthusiastic students founded an undergraduate university-wide student club called FDAP (Future Designers of Architecture and Planning). The group has 87 registered members as of August 2020.

Where do our graduates come from?

Armenia
Brazil
China
Germany
Guyana
Honduras
Hong Kong
India
Iran
Jamaica
Mexico
Netherlands
Philippines
South Korea
USA
Vietnam

What province?
Alberta
British Columbia
Manitoba
Ontario
Quebec
Saskatchewan
Yukon
## RECRUITMENT

### APPLICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Fall 2019 Applicants</th>
<th>Fall 2020 Applicants</th>
<th>Fall 2020 Admits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MArch</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>272</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPlan</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>72</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLA</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARST Minor</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDes</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DDes</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Applications: 521

### ACCEPTANCE RATE

- **29.4%**

- **153 Admits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Acceptance Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MArch</td>
<td>6% (+30)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPlan</td>
<td>3% (+4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MLA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARST Minor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>DDes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHERE ARE OUR APPLICANTS FROM?

Saudi Arabia
Tanzania
Netherlands
Mongolia
Russia

Pakistan
Turkey
Korea
Jordan
Viet Nam

UK
United States
Slovenia
Ghana
Palestinian Territory

Syria
Philippines
Egypt
Bangladesh
Australia
ACADEMIC COURSES

SAPL programs offer a range of experiences

COURSE TYPES

5

LECTURE COURSES

77

BLOCK WEEK COURSES

17

STUDIO COURSES

48

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSES

19

STUDY ABROAD COURSES

3
TOTAL COURSES
162

CORE COURSES
87

ELECTIVES
48

UNDERGRAD
27
STUDENT SUPPORT

STUDENT ASSISTANTSHIPS
$504,733
SCHOLARSHIPS

AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

$990,664

75% (129) 172
STUDY ABROAD

BARCELONA

LOS ANGELES

A TRAVEL LEARNING EXPERIENCE
PARTICIPANTS
62

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
$88,000
↑395% ($42,122)

TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS
44

TOKYO
17
Landscape Architecture Graduate Unveils Heavy Competition Design

Full of soul and poetry, Gordon Skilling’s winning design for the student competition is bold. His design, titled [Re]newal – Profound Cycles, displays a visual of hands sharing a native prairie flower, the pale blue-eyed grass. The student competition was run by Heavy Industries, a premier design-fabrication company based in Calgary that specializes in fabrication, in collaboration with Qualico Communities and Bordeaux Developments.
Student Design Elevates Pedestrian Experience

SAPL students Christopher Green and Rahman Ismail (MArch’20 candidates) were recently named runners-up in a competition sponsored by UNI, Elevate: Bringing urban spaces to life. PROP, Green and Ismail’s entry, considers the discomfort and inconvenience of a regular and constant fixture in cities all around the world: scaffolding.

Cornell Theme Park Design Competition

Ross Ricupero, Charlene Karl and Michelle Bootsma (all MArch’20) produced the winning design for the Cornell Theme Park Design Competition. ‘Aqualab’ includes a custom picture access for all guests made from recycled sea waste. It features immersive themed habitats, a thrilling family ride and countless experiences that engage guests of all ages. Constructed partially over the Fraser River, it evokes the flow of the water while making a direct connection with the aquatic habitat. The concept was lauded for its use of cutting-edge technology.
FACILITIES

MAIN CAMPUS
75,000 sq.ft
Design Studios (20,000 sq.ft)
Robotics Fabrication Workshops (13,000 sq.ft)
Digital Simulation Labs
Stantec Gallery
Student lounge
Student kitchen

CBDLAB
24,000 sq.ft
Public Gallery
Event Hall
Digital Fabrication Lab
Robots
3D printers
Studios
EXHIBITIONS

Winter Show
Sep 5
36 student exhibits
80 attendees

Inaugural Alumni
Exhibition & Prof.
R. Douglas Gillmor
Celebration
Sep 6
60 exhibitors
100 attendees

Design Matters w/
Chip Sullivan &
Elizabeth Boult
Sep 12
150 attendees

Kate Thompson
Oct 2
167 registrations
134 attendees

Stantec opening
Oct 3
60 registrations
40 attendees

Jean Verville
Oct 23
115 registrations
103 attendees

Housing Panel
Oct 30
212 registrations
158 attendees
Co-Create: Cross-Culture Symposium

**Agenda**

- 8:00am: Doors
- 8:30am: Keynote
- 10:30am: Cross-Culture Discussions: Design Co-Creation Education
- 11:30am: Cross-Culture Panel
- 12:00pm: End

Afternoon session is by invitation and runs from 2pm–4:30pm.

**Keynote**

Jefa Greenaway, Architect, Melbourne, Australia

Jefa Greenaway is an Indigenous architect, academic at Melbourne University, design advocate and part of the team that launched the International Indigenous Design Charter. He is co-curating the Australian pavilion for the 2020 Venice Architecture Biennale.

Thanks to the support of [RSVP BY NOVEMBER 26](GO.UCALGARY.CA/CROSS-CULTURE)

---

**Walker McKinley**
Nov 6
124 registered
92 attendees

**On the Boards**
Nov 7
47 registered
33 attendees

**Russell Acton**
Nov 27
111 registered
78 attendees

**Cross-Culture**
Nov 28
55 registered
80 attendees

---

**Just City**
Jan 15
176 registered
200+ attendees

**Objects in Architecture**
Jan 28
59 registered
85 attendees

---

**Hernan Diaz Alonso**
Feb 5
55 registered
83 attendees

**Olon Dotson**
Mar 10
111 registered
69 attendees

**CafeWest**
Mar 12
126 registered
63 attendees

**Chris Cornelius**
Mar 12
94 registered
78 attendees
The Stantec Gallery is a space for learning and exploration. Emerging design ideas across scales, materials and cultures contribute to a dialogue housed by the gallery. This gallery is made possible due to the generous support of Stantec.

The City Building Gallery features exhibitions from SAPL researchers, community partners and alumni — and delves into broad explorations and discussions about city building.
University of Calgary Research Grant
Age in Place Research Project

MITACS Accelerate
Energy Optimization Design Tool for Data-driven Building Massing

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Partnership Engage Grant
A design thinking approach to permitting challenges for mixed use development that integrates aging-in-place supportive living.

University of Calgary Taylor Institute Teaching and Learning Grants
Redesigning the Architectural History Sequence
4 GRANTS

GRANTS’ VALUE

$240,307
9 Block Media Event
from L to R: Mayor Naheed Nenshi, Councillor Druh Farrell, Dean John Brown, President Ed McCauley, Thom Mahler

Affordable Housing Conference Attendees
GREEN ALLEY PROJECT
A three-year research partnership with the Calgary Downtown Association was announced in Fall 2019. The pilot project demonstrates how to transform Calgary’s downtown alleyways from forgotten and gritty into places of connectivity, productivity and value. The goal of the project is to show how alleyways could enrich the downtown experience by becoming part of the city’s green infrastructure while being a dynamic people-centered place for gathering year-round. Tawab Hlimi is the research lead for the Green Alley Project, with urban activations led by Kris Fox, Gord Skilling, Mauricio Soto Rubio and a team of graduate students.

9 BLOCK
The area around Calgary’s City Hall — the heart of where decisions about Calgary happen — doesn’t feel safe or vibrant. The City of Calgary, SAPL and other community partners are piloting quick solutions in the nine blocks that surround City Hall, aimed at improving safety, supporting neighbourhood businesses, and finding low-cost, impactful solutions through partnerships.

The partnership was announced in March 2020 with a proposal for an experimental build outside the CBDLab, transformative design schemes from a senior landscape studio, and undergraduate studio proposals of possible short-term interventions.

ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY
Dr. Noel Keough, with SAPL students, researched ways to transform older neighbourhoods into walkable communities. Using Calgary’s community of Manchester as a case study, the research explores how to better integrate access to housing, transportation and food in city policy-making.

CITIES, POLICIES AND PLANNING LAB LAUNCHES EVALUATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING MODELS
The Lab, led by Dr. Sasha Tsenkova hosted The Future of Affordable Housing, a three-day initiative offering a glimpse into what affordable housing in Canada might look like, how to plan
cities and developments to meet housing demand, while being financially smart through partnerships and delivering on quality and performance targets.

CROSS-CULTURE SYMPOSIUM
Dr. Fabian Neuhaus and Next Calgary led a day-long symposium with invited guest speaker Jefa Greenaway, which included workshops and an art installation by Keegan Starlight. The symposium is the second in the Co-Create series, building momentum off the 2019 edition with Julian Petrin.

TEKNION-MCCRUM’S SENIOR RESEARCH STUDIO
Teknion partnered with SAPL on a five-year project which allows students to take part in hands-on learning with industry experts and community leaders. In the 2020 inaugural year, the Integrated Design Studio focused on the development of three projects. Midway through the term, issues related to COVID-19 were addressed by some of the students in projects for wearable social distancing devices, residential spaces for recovery and isolation of those infected and urban space designed to accommodate public use of shared infrastructure in physically distanced ways.

NEXUS PROJECT
Thanks to university funding from an anonymous donor, Dr. Noel Keough worked with Sustainable Calgary to identify urban policies that would support more affordable living through the Housing Transportation Food (HTF) Nexus Project. Through community engagement, they identified two areas in Calgary (Deerfoot Divide and Manchester industrial Area) that would benefit from initiatives to help transform inner city neighbourhoods and industrial lands for the purpose of promoting a sustainable economy.

CO-BOTS AND MASONRY INNOVATION
Alberta Masonry Council’s sponsorship funded the purchase of two Universal robots and a massive 3D printer so large it requires a double-storey ceiling. This new equipment adds to SAPL’s growing digital fabrication lab, which includes two other robots, CNC machines and a roster of 3D printers.
Dean John Brown tests the Green Alleyway anamorphic artwork

Beltline Urban Mural Project enlivens GAP alleyway

Next Calgary exhibition in the CBDLab Event Hall
Publication

Canadian Modern Architecture, 1967 to the Present


Dr. Livesey at book signing
Project

Calgary underpass design brightens pedestrian experience

Calgary created its CP Railway underpasses so pedestrians could move safely between the Beltline and downtown along its busiest streets. But over the years, these passageways have felt dark and at times threatening, becoming spaces to be endured rather than experienced.

The Marc Boutin Architectural Collaborative (MBAC) reimagined the underpass on 4th Street S.W. as a space enhanced by lighting and interactive art that is a pleasure to navigate. MBAC is led by Marc Boutin, a University of Calgary alumnus and associate professor in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, and includes several alumni among its partners.

MBAC recently received a National Urban Design Award from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada for its work on the 4th Street S.W. Underpass.
Award

UCalgary professor receives CMHC President’s Medal for Outstanding Housing Research

Dr. Sasha Tsenkova, Professor of Urban Planning in the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) received the CMHC President’s Medal for Outstanding Housing Research on December 5. The $20,000 cash prize recognized research excellence in the area of Network Solutions for Housing Affordability.

Dr. Tsenkova’s team focused on innovative multi-sectoral partnerships for affordable housing in mixed income, mixed tenure projects in large Canadian cities. Through support from SSHRC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council) and other community partners, they created a platform for housing practitioners and researchers implementing innovative solutions. The initiative has provided important new directions through identification of policy instruments, best practices, international experiences and effective dissemination of scientific knowledge using a web-based platform.
Life Cycle Assessment for Green Buildings

Getachew Assefa, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Athabasca University
Faculty of Business and Economics
University of Calgary
jassefa@ucalgary.ca
FACULTY RESEARCH
EXHIBITION VISITORS

5628
4500 ONLINE
638 IN PERSON

SOCIAL FOLLOWERS
7024
↑124% (1343)

WEBSITE VISITORS
67,518
↑157% (25,512)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES
5
SKETCHCRAWL, DOORSOPENYYC, INNOVATION FAIR, PARK(ING) DAY, SHELF LIFE PARTNERSHIP

PEOPLE REACHED
1,055,666
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
EVENTS

CBDLAB TOTAL EVENTS
140

INFO SESSION REGISTRANTS
606

DESIGN MATTERS ATTENDEES
1181

EVENT HOURS
840
7769
↑ 3661 (189%)
EVENT ATTENDEES
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Sketchcrawl

Parking Day

Doors Open YYC

Innovation Fair

Shelflife Partnership
YEAR-END SHOW 2020

YEAR-END SHOW 2020

YEAR-END SHOW 2020

YEAR-END SHOW 2020
YES 2020 marked a shift to an online celebration due to the pandemic. While not intended to replace the Year-End-Show, the exhibition recognized the hard work of all students through a rolling multi-month Instagram Show, studio work from the Winter term, and a dedicated saplgradshow.ca for the Class of 2020.

Over 4500 people around the world viewed the student work displayed in the Year-End Show. This includes continued steady viewership by 3300 individuals who read the studio booklets, and 1200 people who viewed the Grad Show at saplgradshow.ca. Thank you to all the visitors across the continents!

YES also marked the public release of ULTRA vol. 4, an annual student-curated publication.
A new look for University of Calgary’s SAPL website

To continue developing SAPL’s brand touchpoints and create a cohesive experience, a new Drupal 8 responsive website launched in Fall 2019.
John Baziuk (MArch’21) and Emily Kaing (MLA’21) hosted two seasons of conversations about popular topics and bold new ideas with design leaders in the built environment. Launched in Fall 2019, the episodes are aired on CJSW-FM, a campus radio station broadcasting at 90.9 MHz FM, from the University of Calgary, and available on Apple Podcasts. Special thanks to the CJSW team for mentorship and use of the station facilities, Vita Leung for inspiring the initiative and Jes Alder for ongoing support.

podcasts.apple.com/ca/podcast/design-matters/
MONEY RAISED
$1,166,055
↑246% ($691,862)

NO. OF DONORS
51
DEVELOPMENT & ALUMNI

ENGAGED ALUMNI
325 ↑43

ALUMNI
2338 ↑94

CONTACTED ALUMNI
1825 ↑724

FIRST ALUMNI EXHIBITION TITLED "CURRENT" AND CELEBRATION OF DOUG GILLMOR'S LEGACY
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to all SAPL students, especially those who contributed their time and enthusiasm by volunteering for events, marketing, and exhibitions:

Alex Vainshtein
Alexander Mayhew
Andrew Burnyeat
Azadeh Rasouli
Carol-Ann Beswick
Cindy Nachareun
Dana Caraballo
Daniela Oliversa
Daphne Tsang
Diane Lee
Edward Park
Emily Kaing
Gianmarco Visconti
Gris Gonggraikij
Ian Hernandez
Jason Ip
Jesse Siegel
Ji Sun
John Baziuk
Joy Olagoke
Lili Wang
Lilit Houlder
Lucia Blanco
Mojdeh Kamali
Nicolas Alexandre Hamel
Reza Bacchus
Rica Migrino
Shelby Christensen
Urooj Fatima
Vikram Johal
Vincent Yong
Yi Zhu
Zachary Ward