



Mural Arts \_ Photo Andrea Goulet

H+U+D Initiative at Penn Annual Report | 2022-23

# **Message from Co-Directors**

The 2023-2024 season of H+U+D allowed us to gather as a cohort once again, with full in-person activities and a re-energized sense of academic fellowship. Through the continued prism of our theme of "The Inclusive City: Past, Present, and Future," the Mellon-funded initiative brought together a diverse group of scholars with the shared mission of using humanistic and design strategies for racial justice, gender equality, infrastructure access, and community involvement.

In September 2023, the H+U+D Colloquium welcomed several new Faculty Fellows and two Graduate Fellows from the School of Arts and Sciences (SAS) and the Weitzman School of Design (Design). Along with returning Faculty Fellows, colloquium members expanded the themes undertaken by the previous cohort, with a focus on inclusion and diversity in the city and built environment broadly construed. Some of cross-School synergies that emerged included critical approaches to monument history, planning and international migrant rights, and cross-disciplinary pandemic response.

In AY22-23, H+U+D sponsored two courses: a seminar collaboration with our "Anchor Institution," Mural Arts Philadelphia; and an undergraduate city seminar that allowed students to travel abroad and to learn about the international migrant experience as lived by five migrant communities who have made Palermo Sicily their home. H+U+D also continued its support of student research by awarding twelve grants to undergraduates and graduate students. The awardees presented their work during three colloquium sessions in Spring 2023. Their research ranged from investigating the creation of inclusive spaces for the LGBTQ+ community to exploring innovative ways to design environmentally sustainable cities across the globe. As in previous years, HUD funded two dissertation fellows, one in Design and one in SAS.

AY22-23 was the final year of H+U+D's second 5-year grant cycle, and we are grateful for the Mellon Foundation's approval of a one-year extension to our unused grant funds. This will allow us to continue the faculty colloquium and support student research that furthers our goal to create a stimulating and enriching set of activities that resonates with Penn's wider commitment to civic engagement. The H+U+D interdisciplinary initiative has as its central mission a commitment to building bridges: bridges across the disciplines, across generations of scholars, and between Penn, Philadelphia, and a global network of cities with a vision to greater inclusivity. It is these interdisciplinary collaborations and connections which ensure that our mission to combine the Humanities with Design contributes to imagining, analyzing, and constructing public spaces that are inclusive, sustainable, and diverse.

Franca Trubiano

Associate Professor, Architecture

Graduate Group Chair, PhD Program Architecture

Weitzman School of Design

Andrea Goulet

Professor of French and Francophone Studies Chair, Francophone, Italian, and Germanic Studies

School of Arts and Sciences



Field Trip to Ken Lum's exhibition at Magenta Plains, NYC and tour of Chinatown

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## 1. Introduction

The Penn Humanities, Urbanism, and Design (H+U+D) Initiative, funded by the Andrew Mellon Foundation, bridges the divide between the humanities and design disciplines in its study of cities, both local and global.

In Fall 2022, H+U+D officially welcomed new and returning faculty to the initiative. Former H+U+D co-directors—Penn enn IUR Co-Director Eugénie Birch (City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design) and David Brownlee (History of Art and Architecture, SAS)—continued working with the group as advisors. The program was co-directed by Franca Trubiano (Architecture, Weitzman School of Design) and Andrea Goulet (Francophone, Italian, and Germanic Studies, School of Arts and Sciences), while Stephanie Gibson, PhD Candidate in the History of Art, provided administrative support.

In AY 2022-23, the H+U+D Initiative continued its core Faculty Fellows Colloquium, course sponsorship and support, dissertation fellowships, student research awards, public lectures, and conference support. See Appendix I for a financial statement.

The report below describes each of these supported activities in detail.



Field Trip and tour of NY Chinatown by Ken Lum

## 1.1 Activities

# 1.1.1. H+U+D Faculty Colloquium

The H+U+D Faculty Fellows Colloquium was a defining element of the initiative; this group of 18 scholars from both design and humanities disciplines met bi-weekly to share research, foster collaboration, and build relationships. Each session had a scheduled roster of presentations from Faculty Fellows, Dissertation Fellows, or students research grants awardees. The community was enriched by the participation of two visiting scholars, Alex Chen and Richard Fadok, who joined the colloquium this year, participating in regular colloquium meetings.

Activities over the academic year included research presentations by H+U+D Colloquium members including David Barnes, Brent Cebul, Nancy Steinhardt, Mia Bay, and Lance Freeman; H+U+D visiting scholars Alex Chen and Richard Fadok; guest speaker Thomas Heise; and H+U+D Dissertation Fellows Boqian Xu and Anna Mueser. The colloquium also took two group field trips over the academic year: to Ken Lum's exhibition at the Magenta Plains Gallery and New York City's Chinatown; and to Mural Arts Philadelphia, to learn more about the practice of short-dumping and its effect on the city's most vulnerable neighborhoods.



Faculty Colloquium Invited Presentation by Thomas Heise on March 31st.

#### FALL SEMESTER 2022

September 9 Introductions of colloquium members; discussion of research interest; sharing of the year's agenda by co-directors.

September 23 David Barnes

October 14 Field Trip to Ken Lum's exhibition at Magenta Plains, NYC and

tour of Chinatown

October 28 Brent Cebul & Nancy Steinhardt

November 11 Sonja Duempelmann & Mia Bay

November 18 Ken Lum & Andrew Saunders

December 2 Christopher Marcinkoski & Domenic Vitiello

## **SPRING SEMESTER 2023**

January 13	Lance Freeman & Boqian Xu
January 27	H+U+D Student Research Awardee Presentations
February 10	H+U+D Student Research Awardee Presentations
February 24	H+U+D Student Research Awardee Presentations
March 17	Stephanie Gibson (H+U+D Admin) & Alex Chen (PhD Fellow)
March 31	Andrea Goulet & Thomas Heise (Invited Guest)
April 14	Richard Fadok (Invited Guest) & Anna Mueser (PhD Fellow)
April 28	Field Trip to Mural Arts, Philadelphia



Presentation (May 2023) at Mural Arts Philadelphia by Jeanne R. Lieberman, PhD Candidate (School of Arts and Sciences) and Shari Hersh (Mural Arts)

## 1.1.2. Course support

In Fall 2022, H+U+D sponsored an undergraduate **International City Seminar** entitled "Palermo: Urban Migration, the Built Environment, and Global Justice" co-taught by H+U+D Colloquium members Franca Trubiano and Domenic Vitiello.

In Spring 2023, H+U+D sponsored an **Anchor Institution Seminar**, "Building Environmental Justice in Philadelphia: Participatory Action Research Seminar with Mural Arts," taught by Penn PhD Candidate in Anthropology Jeanne R. Lieberman (SAS) in partnership with Shari Hersh, Director of Environmental Justice at Mural Arts Philadelphia.

## **International City Seminar**

URBS/ITAL 2950 "Palermo: Urban Migration, the Built Environment, and Global Justice" (Fall 2022)

**Instructors:** Franca Trubiano (Associate Professor, Weitzman) and Domenic Vitiello (Associate Professor, Weitzman and SAS)



Community leaders from the Consulta delle Culture, with Penn undergraduate students at the Consulta's community space, in Palermo Sicily.

The seminar focused on the city of Palermo as a contested place of international migration. Students studied the city's history through its many eras of colonization, imperial rule, and especially the migration and settlement of diverse peoples from Africa and Asia. Traveling to Palermo in October of 2022, students worked with the Consulta delle Culture, the city's elected migrants' council, to meet with and learn from community association leaders in five different migrant communities, including North African, West African Francophone, West African Anglophone, Bengali, and Tamil communities. Five student teams conducted on site reconnaissance of information by visiting living and working environments of their designated migrant communities, and by conducting interviews with community leaders and moderators.





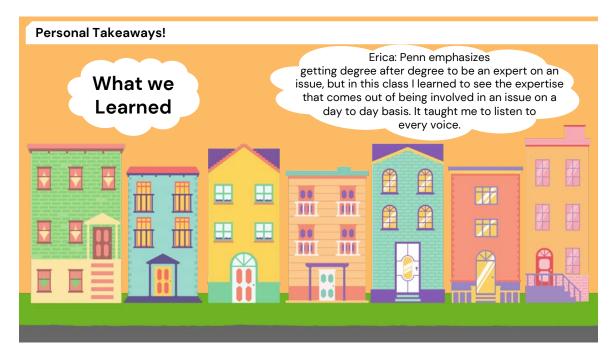
(left) Students visit the Tamil Community and Language center. (right) View of Ballaro, in Palermo.

#### **Anchor Institution Seminar**

ANTH/FNAR/URBS 3593 "Building Environmental Justice in Philadelphia: Participatory Action Research Seminar with Mural Arts" (Spring 2023)

**Instructors:** Jeanne R. Lieberman, PhD Candidate (School of Arts and Sciences) and Shari Hersh (Mural Arts)

Using the making of art as a point of entry into environmental justice. Penn undergraduate students in this seminar contributed to a citywide (Philadelphia) campaign to end short-dumping, the illegal dumping of construction waste in under-resourced communities. With guidance from instructors Jeanne Lieberman (Penn PhD student in Anthropology) and Shari Hersh (Director of Environmental Justice programs at Mural Arts Philadelphia), students learned about and participated in arts activism and participatory action research, as well as the central theories and methods put forward by the U.S. environmental justice movement. In coordination with the larger mission of Mural Arts' Trash Academy (https://www.muralarts.org/artworks/trash-academy/) students worked in dialogue with community members from the neighborhoods most impacted by dumping, including Kensington and Fairhill, students researched its impact on communities within Philadelphia. Final projects communicating this research contributed to the overall goals of the anti-dumping campaign, coordinated by the Mural Arts' Environmental Justice Department. Mural Arts in Philadelphia, see https://www.muralarts.org



Community engagement graphic produced by class member final presentation by Chloe Mouzakitis

## 1.1.3. Student Research Awards

In 2022-23, the Colloquium awarded research support to eleven graduate students and one undergraduate student. The awardees presented their research at the H+U+D faculty Colloquium in the Spring on topics ranging from city planning for disability in India, to the trans+ community in Philadelphia's gayborhood, to the introduction of play spaces for children in post war European cities. The list of student awardees is as follows:

Qiran Shang 商琪然 Ph.D. Candidate in History and Theory of Architecture (Design) Presentation Title: The Lailai Ballroom: Queering Postsocialist Dance Spaces in Shanghai, 1987-2018

**Alejandra Romo** PhD candidate in Architecture (Design)
Presentation Title: The Production and Construction of Social Infrastructure for underserved communities in Mexico, 2017-2022

**Charles Starks** Ph.D. candidate in City and Regional Planning (Design)
Presentation title: Encountering Chinatown Heritage in Model Cities Singapore and Vancouver

Vy Trinh Sculptor and M.F.A candidate (Design)

Presentation Title: One Take/ Take One

M.C. Overholt PhD candidate in Architecture History (Design)

Presentation Title: Promising Subjects: N. Phyllis Birkby and the Writing of Queer Architectural History

Wadha Almutawa Phd candidate in Architecture (Design)

Presentation Title: 'Collaboration' in the works of Lady Allen of Hurtwood

Jane Robbins Mize PhD candidate in English (SAS)

Presentation Title: Swamp Stories: In Florida with Zora Neale Hurston.

**Lenin Lozano** PhD candidate in Hispanic Studies (SAS)

Presentation Title: Daniel Ferreira's *Rebelión de los oficios inútiles* and the urban imagination in rural Colombia

**Sean Gower** PhD candidate in Music History (SAS)

Presentation Title: Intimate Announcements: Music Salons and the Culture of the Home in Mexico City, 1864-1911

Ran Yan PhD candidate in East Asian Languages and Civilizations (SAS) Presentation Title: The "Super-system" of Urban Settlements in Qing Mongolia (1691-1921): Tibetan-Buddhist Center, Qing Outpost, and Fenced Market

Chrislyn Laurie Laurore PhD candidate in Anthropology (SAS)

Presentation Title: Back-to-Africa Heritage & Archaeology

# **Stephanie Gibson** PhD candidate in History of Art (SAS) Presentation Title: *La Maison des Esclaves*: Memory and Nation building in Postcolonial Dakar, Sénégal.



Presentation by Wadha Almutawa Phd candidate in Architecture (Design) on 'Collaboration' in the works of Lady Allen of Hurtwood

# 1.1.4. Andrew W. Mellon Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships

In 2022-23, the Colloquium awarded two Andrew W. Mellon Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships. As part of the renewed grant, this was the fourth year that we offered dissertation fellowships for two Penn ABD doctoral candidates, one representing design and the other the humanities.

This year's fellows, **Boqian Xu** (PhD Candidate, City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design) and **Anna Lehr Mueser** (PhD Candidate, History and Sociology of Science, School of Arts and Sciences), participated in H+U+D Colloquium sessions and greatly enhanced the bi-weekly discussions with their thoughtful contributions. They spent the academic year advancing their dissertation projects and both presented their work at a H+U+D Colloquium meeting in the Spring.

Boqian's doctoral dissertation studies China's new towns and Eco-cities, focusing on how planners can integrate ecological thinking into practice. Boqian's primary research field is ecological planning, including topics of Eco-city theory, ecological performance, land change, and ecological modeling. Boqian is also a licensed Professional Landscape Architect who has worked for several landscape architectural firms in China and the United States. He holds a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Pennsylvania and a

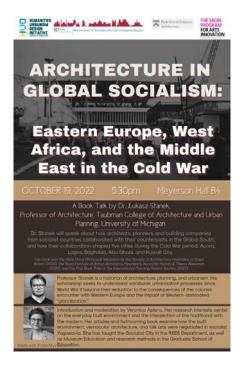
Bachelor of Landscape Gardening degree from Beijing Forestry University. Boqian successfully defended his dissertation and graduated this past spring.

Anna's dissertation, "Land After Technology: Collective Memory and the New York City Water Supply" examines how collective memories and knowledge practices in the Catskill Mountains of New York have addressed, resisted, and incorporated the history of New York City's rural watershed development in the twentieth century. Anna is also a book and paper artist, working in letterpress, book arts, cut paper, and watercolor to engage with place knowledge and narrative practices.

## 1.1.5 Public Lectures and Conference Support

This year, H+U+D organizers invited Professor Thomas Heise (Penn State Abington) to speak at the bi-weekly Faculty Fellows Colloquium. His talk entitled "New York City Gentrification and the Postindustrial Crime Novel", presented on March 31, was open to the wider university community.

During the Fall Semester, H+U+D co-sponsored Professor Lukasz Stanek's book talk on October 19, 2022. *Architecture in Global Socialism: Eastern Europe, West Africa, and the Middle East in the Cold War* (Princeton University Press, 2020) shows how architects, planners, and building companies from socialist countries collaborated with their counterparts in the Global South, and how their collaboration shaped five cities during the Cold War period: Accra, Lagos, Baghdad, Abu Dhabi and Kuwait City. The book won the Alice Davis Hitchcock Medallion by the Society of Architectural Historians of Great Britain (2020), the Royal Institute of British Architects President's Award for History & Theory Research (2020), and the First Book Prize of the International Planning History Society (2022).



### 1.1.6 Publications

Since its foundation in 2013, the Humanities, Urbanism, and Design (H+U+D) Faculty have produced more than twenty books as well as numerous book chapters, and refereed journal articles with Mellon support. During 2022-23, the following books were published:

**David Barnes**, Lazaretto: How Philadelphia Used an Unpopular Quarantine Based on Disputed Science to Accommodate Immigrants and Prevent Epidemics (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2023)



**Sonja Duempelmann**, Landscapes for Sport: Histories of Physical Exercise, Sport, and Health (Harvard University Press, 2022) (Winner of the 2023 North American Society Sport History Anthologies Book Award)

Nancy Steinhardt, *The Borders of Chinese Architecture* (Harvard University Press, 2022)

**Franca Trubiano,** *Building Theories: Architecture as the Art of Building* (Routledge, 2021)



**Domenic Vitiello**, The Sanctuary City: Immigrant, Refugee, and Receiving Communities in Postindustrial Philadelphia (Cornell University Press, 2022)

## 1.1.7 Exhibitions

H+U+D Faculty have created and contributed to more than a dozen exhibitions in the United States and abroad since the H+U+D Initiative's founding in 2013. In Fall 2022, **Ken Lum** (Fine Arts, Weitzman School of Design) presented to the Faculty Fellow Colloquium his exhibition at The Magenta Plains Gallery in New York City: *Time. And Again*. The project's engagement with themes of American immigrant identity resonated with the guided tour of Chinatown memorial sites that followed.



Ken Lum Exhibit in New York City



**HUD Faculty visit with Ken Lum at his Exhibit in New York City** 

# 2. Looking Forward

This H+U+D Initiative, sponsored by the Mellon Foundation, has provided an important space for collaborative learning, thinking, and teaching for Penn students and faculty in partnership with urban communities in Philadelphia and across the globe. H+U+D has funded courses and research projects that grapple with some of the most pressing issues that face society today such as building inclusive environments for the LGBTQ+ community, designing sustainable buildings to combat climate change, and reckoning with the history of Black and immigrant experiences in America. Over the next academic year, working with funds that were not spent due to the Covid years, and under the Co-direction of Franca Trubiano (Design) and David Barnes (History and Sociology of Science, SAS), we look forward to continuing this important work as we bring together scholars who challenge us to move towards a more inclusive and diverse urban environment.

# 2.1 Appendices

#### APPENDIX I: Financial Statement

The table below reports expenditures in the major programming categories discussed above. The *H+U+D Colloquium* line includes both the research funds for faculty participants and the cost of its meetings and events. *Course support* includes the costs of both domestic and international city seminars as well as allocations from the course development fund. *Public lectures and conferences* contains the expenses of guest speakers, co-sponsored events and the sponsorship of round tables at scholarly conferences. Finally, *project management* includes the costs of course replacement allocations and support staff.

	FY 2018- 19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
H+U+D Colloquium	\$53,717	\$71,672	\$54,030	\$70,500	\$60,264
Jr Fellows	N/A	N/A	\$117,065	\$136,590	\$0
Doctoral Fellows	N/A	\$64,340	\$60,600	\$65,125	\$67,747
Course Support	\$60,177	\$45,124	\$29,453	\$0	\$67,844
Student Research Awards	\$14,562	\$9,576	\$18,815	\$18,681	\$28,000
Public Lectures and Conference	\$0	\$0	\$1,200	\$135	\$917
Project Management	\$21,617	\$21,977	\$19,848	\$13,750	\$22,866
Total	\$150,073	\$212,689	\$301,011	\$304,781	\$247,638

# APPENDIX II: Colloquium 2022-2023 Members and their Research Projects

#### **Faculty Participants**

**David Barnes**, Associate Professor, History and Sociology of Science, School of Arts and Sciences. Research Project: "Immigration and Health in U.S. Cities, Past and Present."

**Mia Bay**, Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Chair in American History, School of Arts and Sciences. Research Project: "Traveling Black: A Story of Race and Resistance."

**Odette Casamayor-Cisneros**, Associate Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, School of Arts and Sciences. Research Project: "On Being Blacks: Self-Identification Processes and Counter-Hegemonic Knowledge in Contemporary Cuban Cultural Production."

**Brent Cebul**, Assistant Professor, Department of History, School of Arts and Sciences.

**Sonja Dümpelmann,** Professor, Landscape Architecture, Weitzman School of Design. Research Project: "Power, Architecture, and Landscape Transformation."

**Lance Freeman**, James W. Effron Professor, City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design.

**Andrea Goulet**, Professor of French and Francophone Studies, FIGS, School of Arts and Sciences. Research Project: "Mysteries of Paris: Crime Fiction and Urbanism in Modern France."

**Ken Lum,** Marilyn Jordan Taylor Presidential Professor and Chair, Fine Arts, Weitzman School of Design. Research Project: Screenplay "The Cook."

**Nancy Steinhardt**, Professor, East Asian Language and Civilization, School of Arts and Sciences. Research Project: "Jurchen to Jin."

**Andrew Saunders**, Associate Professor, Architecture, Weitzman School of Design Research Project: "Using parametric modeling as an analysis tool of 17<sup>th</sup> century Italian Baroque architecture."

**Jorge Téllez**, Assistant Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, School of Arts and Sciences. Research Project: "Colonial Collections: Value, Objects, and Narratives of the Past in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Mexico"

**Franca Trubiano**, Associate Professor, Architecture, Weitzman School of Design. Research Project: "Building at Risk, Architecture, Forced Labor and Human Migration."

#### **Visiting Scholar**

Alex Chen, MD/PhD Candidate, University of Pennsylvania

#### **Doctoral Fellows**

**Anna Mueser**, PhD Candidate, History and Sociology of Science, School of Arts and Sciences

**Boqian Xu**, PhD Candidate, City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design

#### **Honorary Fellows**

**Eugenie L. Birch**, FAICP, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research, co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research, City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design

**David Brownlee**, FSAH, Frances Shapiro-Weitzenhoffer Professor Emeritus of 19<sup>th</sup> Century European Art, History of Art, School of Arts and Sciences

#### **Initiative Co-Directors**

**Andrea Goulet**, Professor of French and Francophone Studies, FIGS, School of Arts and Sciences

Franca Trubiano, Associate Professor, Architecture, Weitzman School of Design

#### **Project Manager**

Stephanie Gibson, PhD Candidate, History of Art, School of Arts and Sciences

# **APPENDIX III: Steering Committee**

**Frederick Steiner**, Co-Chair, Dean and Paley Professor, Weitzman School of Design

**Jeffrey Kallberg**, Co-Chair, Associate Dean for Arts and Letters and William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Music, School of Arts and Sciences

**David Brownlee**, Frances Shapiro-Weitzenhoffer Professor Emeritus of 19th Century European Art, School of Arts and Sciences

**Eugenie Birch**, Co-Principal Investigator, Lawrence C. Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research, Weitzman School of Design

**David S. Barnes**, Associate Professor of History and Sociology of Science, School of Arts and Sciences

**Mia Bay**, Roy F. and Jeannette P. Nichols Chair in American History, School of Arts and Sciences

**Herman Beavers**, Julie Platt and Marc E. Platt President's Distinguished Professor of English and Africana Studies, School of Arts and Sciences

**Andrea Goulet**, Co-Principal Investigator, Professor of French and Francophone Studies, School of Arts and Sciences

**Ken Lum**, Marilyn Jordan Taylor Presidential Professor and Chair of Fine Arts, Weitzman School of Design

**Randy Mason**, Professor of Historic Preservation and City and Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design

**Gwendolyn DuBois Shaw**, Class of 1940 Bicentennial Term Associate Professor of History of Art, School of Arts and Sciences

Franca Trubiano, Associate Professor, Architecture, Weitzman School of Design

**Domenic Vitiello**, Associate Professor of City Planning Regional Planning, Weitzman School of Design; and Urban Studies, School of Arts and Sciences

**Lance Freeman,** Penn Integrates Knowledge Professor of City and Regional Planning and Sociology, School of Arts and Sciences

