Third Year Field Trip  
The landscapes of Tennessee

On the 15th of October, Professor Sawhill’s and Professor Ferguson’s 5th floor design class embarked on the annual field trip en route to Chattanooga, Tennessee’s Copper Basin, and the Joyce Kilmer-Slickrock Wilderness.

Random downpours of heavy rain while driving to Chattanooga, the distance between destinations, and chilly camping weather were the only sour spots to note. When you consider a progressive city in the South, think Chattanooga. From the historic downtown to the Hargreaves-designed river front to the upper reaches of the arts district, the city boasts quality landscape architecture, with hundreds of sculptures scattered in between. The Bluff View Art District literally sits on the edge of colossal rock bluff and overlooks the Tennessee River and contains the River Gallery Sculpture Garden—the focus of our visit.

Our brief stop in Ducktown later that day showed us the two ends of the environmental spectrum. On one side was the realization of how easily man can destroy the natural environment, where only decades ago, the copper industry left an area of over 32,000 acres as a barren wasteland void of plant or animal life. On the other side was the mass reclamation and restoration efforts and the human potential to revert the land to what it once was.

We arrived at the campsite at dusk, though the sun had been hidden by clouds the whole day. The lack of clean, warm, or dry clothes thankfully didn’t spoil the night or the hike in the morning. The class was astounded at seeing century old poplars with girths comparable to the redwoods in California, the vast death of the hemlocks, and one of the last remaining old growth forests.

The steep slopes of the mountains, painted in rust orange maples and golden yellow poplars, arched over the winding road on my drive home, and wisps of low clouds moved from peak to peak. I hadn’t taken a shower, smelled like smoke, and was coffee deprived, yet I couldn’t complain. The splendor of an untouched wilderness set me back in place. Just as nature’s freedom is awe-inspiring, we, as landscape architects, have the opportunity to dream up our own depiction of beauty and in turn affect the lives of everyone around us. I’m sure many of my peers felt the same way I did; Maybe that understanding was Sawhill’s goal for the trip.

— Jordan Brown, Third Year BLA Student

Know Your Pros

Professor Jose Buitrago attended Pennsylvania State University and Harvard’s graduate school of design. He worked for EDSA in Orlando focusing mostly on hotel development, design, planning, and tourism development. Although he was not interested in teaching at first, a colleague referred him for a teaching position at the University of Georgia. Teaching has made him happier than any of his previous professional work.

Being happy is professor Buitrago’s main design philosophy. Designers should design with the heart and have fun throughout the process. Thus, success comes through meaning, not through the amount of money you make. He is passionate about design and teaching and values recognition by peers for his work.

Professor Buitrago warns students to not become addicted to technology. We must be patient. The rising generation should respect and honor the earth because man serves the earth, the earth does not serve man. Living in Puerto Rico has served as a model for living in the world. Just like planet Earth, the island of Puerto Rico has to be entirely self-sufficient. Everything must be recycled and energy must be conserved. We should make the investment in sustainability early because waiting in the long run will raise costs.

Look for professor Buitrago in basic design 1 and 2, and hand and computer graphics classes.

— Robert Evans, Fourth Year BLA Student

The Calendar

**Wed. Nov. 4**
10:00 Wednesday Morning at Walkers (GSLA)
3:45-Jaeger Co. visit/tour
4:30-JBRS visit/tour
Forming Content opens in the Circle Gallery

**Thur. Nov. 5**
3:30- Tour an in-progress, environmentally aware house built by D.O.C. Unlimited in Bogart. RSVP kaustin1@uga.edu (Athens EGB)

**Sat. Nov. 7**
Homecoming! & Tennessee Tech Tailgate in the Founders Garden

**Tues. Nov 10**
5:00-Trevor Paglen lecture- MLC 148

**Wed. Nov. 11**
4-6:00 pm Forming Content Reception Owens Library.

**Thurs. Nov. 12**
6:30 pm- GSLA planning meeting 5th floor Caldwell

**Wed. Nov. 18**
10:00- Wednesday Morning at Walkers (GSLA)
5:00- HGOR Panel- MLC Rm 248

**Firm to know**

With the James Corner lecture on November 2 at Georgia Tech and a lengthy article on the New York Highline in Landscape Architecture Magazine, we wanted to mention the firm behind the hype of the Highline. The firm, james corner field operations, is a New York based firm that often focuses on high profile urban projects. Their designs are highly varied but all carry a bold contemporary look-

[www.fieldoperations.net](http://www.fieldoperations.net)

**CED vs. SED Confusion**

Last time we printed this newsletter as the SED newsletter. We apologize for the confusion. In 2001, the Institute of Ecology merged with the School of Environmental Design to form the College of Environment and Design. The Institute withdrew in 2007 to become the Eugene P. Odum School of Ecology and we were promoted to a college. the CED is the only one like it in the world!

**Say it at CED**

We would love to hear suggestions, opinions, or requests from the students. E-mail us at gslaofficers@gmail.com.