

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

2017 EDRA AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

St. Paul, Minn. (June 23, 2017) -- At their recent annual conference, the Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) recognized the following 2017 award winners and Certificate of Research Excellence (CORE) Recipients.

EDRA AWARDS

The 2017 EDRA Career Award was presented to Henry Sanoff, AIA. The Career Award is a prestigious award that is provided "in recognition of a career of sustained and significant contributions to environment design research, practice, or teaching." Professor Sanoff's research and lecturing activities have contributed tremendously to the establishment and growth of the field of environmental design research. In many countries of the world, the fields of environmental design research, participatory design, and programming are closely associated with his name and his publications.

The 2017 EDRA Service Award was presented to Tasoulla Hadjiyanni, PhD. The Service Award is a prestigious honor that is provided "in recognition of specific contributions of service to the field or the organization that advances the field of environmental design research by an EDRA member above and beyond exemplary service to the organization either in the form of specific significant service contribution to the organization or field or in sustained service to the field and organization as members and volunteers over a period of time." Dr. Hadjiyanni has worked tirelessly to promote EDRA's mission and vision throughout her career and demonstrated her full commitment and dedication for the growth and excellence of the organization.

MICHAEL BRILL AWARD

The 2017 Michael Brill Award was presented to Dr. Georgia Lindsay, PhD for her proposed research on "Communicating Sustainability in the Green Science Museum."

This award is named in honor of Michael Brill, architect and long-time EDRA member, for his leadership in workplace environments and communication. This award has a cash prize of \$2,500 and is sponsored by the [Urban Communication Foundation](#) and administered in conjunction with EDRA.

GREAT PLACES AWARDS

Each year, EDRA assembles a jury with diverse backgrounds in design, research, and practice. This year's jury included Mark Gillem, Jutta Mason, Brian Orland, David Rubin, and Randa Tuka. The jury evaluates how each submitted project, no matter the discipline, addresses the human experience of well-designed places. Special attention is paid to the transferability of research on this topic into design and planning practice. The jury selects exceptional submissions from four categories: design, planning, research, and book. The 2017 winners include:

Book Category – *Designing for Autism Spectrum Disorders* by Kristi Gaines, Angela Bourne, Michelle Pearson, and Mesha Kleibrink

Design Category – *Mariahilfer Strasse, Vienna* by Bureau B+B urbanism and landscape architecture and orso.pitro architects

Planning Category – *Making Our Own Space (MOOS)* by David Jurca

Research Category – *The Renewable Energy Landscape* by editors and contributing authors Dean Apostol, James Palmer, Martin Pasqualetti, Richard Smardon, and Robert Sullivan; in conjunction with additional contributing authors including, Simon Bell, Ian Bishop, Louise Kling, John McCarty and Robert Ribe

CERTIFICATE OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (CORE)

EDRA's Certificate of Research Excellence (CORE) program is devoted to recognizing and celebrating exceptional environmental design research as applied in practice. Under this program, CORE certificates are issued to rigorous and impactful practice-based design research that sparks innovation and promotes best practice in environmental design. The following projects met the high standards required to be recognized in 2017 as an EDRA CORE recipient.

Campus Capital Framework: Mapping Meaning to Inform the Michigan Union Renovation by Workshop Architects, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, School of Architecture & Urban Planning; Study Team – Brian Schermer, Jan van den Kieboom, Peter van den Kieboom, Nick Robinson and Sweta Meier
Evaluating High-Performance Design Strategies to Improve Educational Performance and Occupant Well-Being: A Comparative Pre- and Post-Occupancy Evaluation of a School in Cambridge, Massachusetts by Perkins Eastman; Study Team – Emily Chmielewski, Katie Herber, Heather Jauregui, Sean O'Donnell, and Jana Silsby

Neural Correlates of Nature Stimuli: an fMRI Study by Sky Factory, Inc., Texas Tech University; Study Team – Debajyoti Pati, Michael O'Boyle, William Witherspoon, Cherif Amor, David Navarrete, Jiancheng (Richie) Hou, Shabboo Valipoor, and Dan Fang

On-Stage/Off-Stage Clinic Design: Implications for Operational Efficiencies, Staff Collaboration and Privacy by HGA Architects and Engineers; Study Team – Dennis Vonasek, Len Kaiser, Kara Freihoefer, and Sara Bayramzadeh

Revitalizing Underutilized Social-Study Areas in a Student Residence Hall by TreanorHL; Study Team – Malia Bucher, Kent Spreckelmeyer, Nadia Zhiri, Joellen Tipton, and Sharmin Kader

EDRA CONFERENCE AWARDS

Each year, at EDRA's annual conference, awards are given to the Best Paper, Best Student Paper, and Best Poster.

EDRA awards the Best Paper Awards to full length papers judged on the basis of the submissions' quality of research, quality of writing, and alignment of the project to EDRA's mission.

The 2017 Best Paper Award, First Place, was awarded to Sharmin Kader for her paper, "Environmental Characteristics that Enable Dying Patients to Exercise Choice and Personal Preference."

The 2017 Best Paper Award, Second Place, was awarded to Hope Rising for her paper, “Mitigating Stress-Inducing Effects of Viewing Urban Hardscapes with Water Sounds.”

The 2017 Best Student Paper, First Place, was award to Yeji Yi and David Boeck for their paper, “Comparison of Aging in Place in Japan, South Korea, and China.”

The Best Poster Award winner is distinguished by their recognition of environmental design that respond to human factors in the conception of the full range of environmental scales through the infusion of research findings and users’ input on the needs of humans in the built world.

The 2017 Best Poster was awarded to Claudia Bernasconi, Nicole Fricke, and Rachel Pisano for their project, “Teaching and Learning in the City: Assessing Outcomes of a Design Service-Learning Course in Detroit.”

Please join the EDRA Board of Directors in recognizing all of these award winners and certificate recipients for their outstanding work and their commitment to advancing EDRA’s mission, which is to provide a collaborative, multidisciplinary community to connect theory, research, teaching, and practice to recognize, create, and advocate for environments that are responsive to diverse human needs.

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About EDRA

The Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA) is an international, interdisciplinary organization founded in 1968 by design professionals, social scientists, students, educators, and facility managers.