

Peter Di Sabatino

American University of Sharjah
College of Architecture, Art and Design
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Educational Background:

Washington University, School of Architecture, St. Louis, Missouri; 1982-1985.
Master of Architecture Degree, 1985.
Master's Thesis, "From Conflict to Complement: Evolution and Transformation in Architecture."
Co-founder and Student, Summer Studio: Barcelona, Spain; 1983.

Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; 1976-1980.
Bachelor of Arts in Economics, concentration in Fine Arts; 1980.

American College in Paris, France; 1978-1979.
Concentration in Painting, Sculpture and Photography.

Academic Experience:

American University of Sharjah, Dean, College of Architecture, Art and Design; UAE; August 2009 –
Responsibilities included daily administration of the college, including admissions and scholarship reviews, hiring and monitoring of faculty and faculty development. Providing an inclusive vision and leadership for the college and its interface with the rest of the University and the outside world, including alumni, professionals and professional/academic associations, government and industry relations. Monitor and direct change, growth, and development, while retaining and developing excellence in the college. Responsible for academic, facility and personnel planning, coordination and development, budget projection and oversight, outreach, development/operation of special programs and initiatives.

Politecnico di Milano, Facolta del Design, Visiting Professor; Milan, Italy; November 2007 –
Teaching within the Graduate Program of Product, System, Service Design and Advisor for Thesis Students. Plus for a cumulative three-month period during the 2007-2008 academic year with graduate and undergraduate students in interior design, there has been a particular focus towards an interface of design, urbanism and cultural heritage, with funding, in part, granted by the regional government of Lombardy.

International Summer School :Designing Connected Places, part of the Torino World Design Capital 2008 program. Project Leader of the *Multi-Mobility* studio workshop with selected international students from leading design schools and direct collaboration with local research teams/partners; Pollenzo, Italy, July 2008.

National Institute of Design, Visiting Professor and consultant; Ahmedabad, India; April 2007
Taught a studio workshop with graduate students focusing on integrated mobile living and urban/social/technological systems, networks, places and products in the Indian context of Ahmedabad. Consulted on educational direction and program content/curriculum.

Creative-i College, Visiting Professor and consultant; Pune, India; March/April 2007
Taught a studio workshop with students focusing on integrated mobile living and urban/social/technological systems, networks, places and products in the Indian context of Pune. Consulted on educational direction and program content/curriculum.

Art Center College of Design, Department Chair and Professor; 2001 – 2005
disabatino@artcenter.edu
1700 Lida Street, Pasadena, California 91103
Professor, as of September 2004, in transdisciplinary design education, within the departments of Graduate Media Design, Mobility Research and Design, Landscapes, Environments and Design, and special projects including coordinating study abroad opportunities; full time faculty 2004 – 2005, adjunct faculty 2005

Environmental Design Department; 2001 – 2004:
Chair, September 2001 – September 2004
Acting Chair, July 2001 – September 2001
Associate Chair, January 2001 – July 2001
Responsibilities included daily administration of the program, including admissions and scholarship reviews,

student advising, hiring and monitoring of faculty and faculty development. Provided vision and leadership for the department and its interface with the rest of the college and the outside world, including alumni, professionals and professional/academic associations, government and industry relations. Monitored and directed change, growth, and development, while retaining and developing excellence in the department. Responsible for curricular and departmental planning, coordination and development, budget projection and oversight, outreach, development/operation of special programs and initiatives, and teaching of design studios and/or lecture and seminar classes.

Provided educational and creative leadership for the College and Department for “Nyumbani Village” in collaboration with United Nations, governmental agencies and private corporations and institutions. Travel and research in Kenya, along with organizational meetings with other lead team members and site selection excursions. Art Center provided design, educational and outreach leadership in this project that responded to the HIV/AIDS pandemic by designing a village and systems for 400 elderly and 600 orphans due to deaths from HIV/AIDS. Beyond educational and creative leadership, taught transdisciplinary studios in research and design; resultant work presented to key partners and achieved significant recognition and awards, including presentation at the United Nations DPI/NGO annual conference in New York; September 2003.

Initiated, executed and taught within the Study Abroad program in Berlin, Germany in September 2003; an exhibition and presentation of student work occurred at ACCD in February 2004.

Initiated, through extensive meetings in 2004 with Bernhardt’s creative director, Jerry Helling, a two-termed sponsored studio (fully funded with all expenses for prototypes, travel, ICFF, marketing and residuals to students equaling at least \$250,000) focusing on the design, prototyping and production of new furniture for the contract market. This collaboration with Art Center and Bernhardt Design resulted in selected work exhibited at ICFF, with numerous awards and publications, and ongoing market sales and distribution.

Responsible, until 2003, for the educational oversight and senior-level management of the Technical Skills Center (“shops”), with the Director of the Center reporting to me; included educational direction, curricular engagement and integration of Rapid-Prototype, CNC, Laser and traditional shop equipment and staff. In 2003, I formed and chaired the educational oversight committee of the Technical Skills Center.

Created, with the faculty of the department, a new departmental curriculum that took effect for incoming students starting in the Spring Term of 2002. Along with retention and modification of existing curricular intentions and components, significant new aspects include three studios entitled:
Community / Experiment + 1:1 (design-build) / Experiment + Experience / Experiment

Initiated and taught in the Summer 2001, a new 7th Term studio entitled “Research and Preliminary Design” which provided additional time for greater depth and development of the students’ Degree Project that is completed in the 8th, and final, Term. The expanded Degree Project continues as part of the new curriculum.

Initiated in the Summer 2001, and developed with faculty members, a new lecture/seminar course entitled “History and Theories of Environmental Design” to serves as a two-term core sequence for the department.

Expanded the spectrum of study in the department to include Landscape and Urban Design via upper-level Topic Studios starting in the Summer 2001.

Initiated and taught, in the Summer 2002, then developed with additional faculty members, a new lecture/seminar course entitled “The Urban Environment” which serves as a core course for the department.

Organized, administered and participated in various national and international exhibitions:

Exhibition of student work for exhibit entitled “The Neoteric Conjunctive: New Architecture and Environmental Design” at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Downtown Los Angeles; 9/25/04 – 10/31/04.

A + D (Architecture and Design) Museum, “Communities Under Construction,” exhibited work from 3 separate studios in a juried exhibit which reviewed a wide range of projects submitted by individuals, professional firms, academic institutions and community groups; March – July 2004.

Curator of “Environmental Design: Emerging”, exhibition at Pasadena City College’s Art Gallery presenting recent work in environmental design; February/March of 2004.

LACMA LAB (Los Angeles County Museum of Art), exhibition of selected Los Angeles colleges in an exhibit focused on the process of making art and design; Spring 2002.

A + D Museum, “2 X 8” exhibition of selected Los Angeles based colleges showing two selected

students' work; June 2002 and April/March 2004.

ICFF (International Contemporary Furniture Fair), selected as one of four schools to exhibit student work in furniture and lighting in New York City; May 2003, 2002 and 2001. In 2001, student work was concurrently exhibited at Ace Gallery in SoHo. This body of work was also exhibited in Los Angeles at Gallery 1D in the artist loft district; June 2001.

Exhibition of student work in furniture and lighting, as the only school representing America, at the United States Design Pavilion in The Contemporary Furniture Fair of Cologne, January 2002. Exhibited within "Future Point" area of the fair in 2003.

Exhibition of student work in furniture and lighting in Milan at Spazio Attivo during the Milan Furniture Fair; April 2002. Exhibited student work at La Pelota in 2003, and in Salone Satellite in 2004.

Selected Committees include: Chair of the search committee for a new Illustration Department Chair, EPTF (Funded/sponsored educational programs and projects), Sustainability, Curriculum, Scholarship (Chair), Admissions, Environmental Health and Safety, Educational Oversight (Technical Skills Center), Intellectual Property, Transition (New Curriculum), Experience Design and *designmatters*.

Represented the department and college as an ex officio member of the Board of Directors, AIA, Los Angeles Chapter; 2001 – 2004.

Woodbury University, School of Architecture and Design; 1989/1990- 2001.

Professor, 1999- 2000.

Associate Professor, 1995-1999.

Assistant Professor, 1994-1995.

Adjunct Faculty, 1989/1990-1994.

Taught architectural design studios (second through fifth year, with concentration at upper level studios), urban design studios, furniture design, site design, drawing, architectural theory, urban theory, and research/preparation seminar for Degree Project (thesis). Nominated "Teacher of the Year," 1995 and 1996. Awarded "Advisor of the Year," 1993. Nominated AIAS (American Institute of Architects, Students) National Educator Honor Award, 1993.

Director, CD+URC (Community Design and Urban Research Center), 1997- 2000. Coordinated the opening and establishment of the facility, policies, and mission statement; conducted the annual urban studios held at the Center. Established the lecture series at the CD+URC entitled "First Thursday" while pursuing grants and projects for the Center. Coordinated the relocation and renaming to the Center for Community Research and Design (CCRD).

Coordinator for Fifth Year Thesis 2000/2001; Coordinator for Third Year Architecture Design Studios, 2000; Coordinator for the Fourth Year Architectural Design Studios, 1996/1997-2000; Coordinator for Fifth Year Thesis, 1998; Coordinator for Second and Fourth Year Architecture Design Studios and Urban Theory, 1994-1996; Led initial curricular revisions, 2000/2001.

Created, coordinated and taught the Study Abroad Urban Theory Class in Paris, France, 1991. Increased Study Abroad Program with an Upper Level Design Studio in Paris, France, 1993, 1994 and 1995. In 1996, expanded the program to include Barcelona, Spain, and attendance at the XIX Congress of the International Union of Architects. Continued to coordinate and teach The "European Program" in Barcelona and Paris again during the summers of 1997 and 1998. The program is ongoing with faculty from the Department.

President (elected), Woodbury University Faculty Association, 1998 – 1999.

Selected Committees include: Executive Committee, Personnel Committee (Chair), Appeals Committee (Chair), Academic Sub-Committee (Board of Trustees), Policy Committee (elected twice for a total of four years), Library Committee, Art Gallery Committee, and the Semester Conversion Task Force.

Faculty Councilor, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture, 1996-1998.

Co-Director, Woodbury University's Art Gallery, 1995/1996.

Initiator and Editor of the Journal of Architecture, Volume 1, Woodbury University, 1993.

Otis, School of Art and Design (formerly Otis/Parsons); 1992-1994.

Adjunct faculty in Furniture Design; assisted in the development of the Certificate Program.

Santa Monica College, Department of Architecture; 1989-1994.
Certified Instructor in the State of California, 1988-
Adjunct faculty in architectural graphics and introduction to architecture.

Washington University, School of Architecture, St. Louis, Missouri; 1984-1985.
Instructor of Design Studios for the Architectural Technology Program.
Teaching Assistant, Summer Studio; Barcelona, Spain; 1984.

Professional Experience:

Licensed Architect in the State of California, 1990 –
American Institute of Architects (AIA), Los Angeles Chapter, 1999 –
AIA/LA Board of Directors, ex officio, 2001 – 2004

Peter A. Di Sabatino, Los Angeles; 2006 -
pdisabatino@earthlink.net

Peter A. Di Sabatino designs environments and experiences with a focus on the integration of architecture, urbanism, landscape, media and design. Beyond teaching and lecturing nationally and internationally, Peter consults on architecture, urbanism, mobility, design and education.

WET Design, Director of Design, April 2005 – June 2006
10817 Sherman Way, Sun Valley, California 91352

Overseeing all aspects of design at WET Design, and providing the vision, direction and public face of design. Leading a comprehensive, inter-disciplinary group of designers from the fields of architecture, landscape design, environmental design, product design, graphic and media design, illustration and fine arts. Hiring, monitoring and mentoring of the designers and their development. National and international travel for meetings and presentations with clients, architects, landscape architects and communities. Responsible for the review, approval and direction of all design work at WET Design, and the leadership in the representation of design in marketing and business development nationally and internationally.

Di Sabatino/Lem Architects, Los Angeles; 1995 – 2004.
disabatinolem@earthlink.net

DLA explored the built environment with focus on the integration of architecture, landscape and design.
Schechter Residence, Los Angeles, 2004; architecture and landscape design.
Yoshihara Residence, Los Angeles, 2004; architecture and landscape design.
Woodbury University, Burbank, 2000; various institutional projects in architecture and landscape design.
Roper Residence, 2000-2001; landscape design.
Rios Condominiums, Santa Monica, 1999; landscape design. Awarded a “Home of the Year Architecture Award” in *Architecture*; Di Sabatino/Lem Architects listed as the landscape designers, November 2003.
Jackson Residence, Los Angeles, 1997; residential/office-in-the-home addition.
Collins Residence, Los Angeles, 1997; residential remodel, with landscape.
Di Sabatino Residence, Los Angeles, 1995-1997; residential remodel and addition, with landscape.
Digitcom Offices, Los Angeles and Las Vegas, 1995-1996; new offices.

Peter A. Di Sabatino, Architect, Los Angeles; 1990-1994; 2005 – 2009.

Hirsh Residence, Los Angeles, 2006 – 2008; new residence
Rose Residence, Los Angeles, 1990-1994; Phased residential remodel and addition; published as “The Best Little House, #25” in *Home* magazine, November 1996.
Crescent Place Residence, Venice, 1991; residential remodel and addition.

William Adams, Architects, Santa Monica; 1989.

Kurt Meyer Partners (presently Meyer and Allen), Los Angeles; 1988-1989.

Eric Owen Moss, Culver City; 1986 and 1987-1988.

Glenwood L. Garvey and Associates, Santa Monica; 1986-1987.

Albert and Wurzburger (presently The Albert Group), Los Angeles; 1985-1986.

Chemical Bank, Institutional/Investment Banking, New York City; 1983-1985.

Di Sabatino and Ranieri Construction Company, Delaware; part-time, 1974-1982.

*Publications, Presentations,
Activities and Exhibitions:*

Created, presented and moderated the panel discussions entitled *Mobility and Urban Systems*.
The session discussed and illustrated a diverse, integrated, social and systemic approach towards mobility and the city, within the conference “Mobius LA,” organized by the AIA / Los Angeles Chapter; October 2008.

Participated in the presentation entitled *Gardens on Mars: Green Design Through a Red Lens* within the 2008 APGA (American Public Gardens Association) Annual Conference. The session shared studio work and processes from a collaboration with JPL (Jet Propulsion Laboratory), Huntington Gardens and Art Center College of Design; Pasadena, California; June 2008.

BrainGain, National Policies... and India – article written for Form magazine; March issue, 2008.

Complexity, Integration and Innovation: Transdisciplinary Education and Practice – lecture presentation (and studio visits with Graduate Design and Fine Art students) at California College of the Arts (CCA), San Francisco; February 2008; + additional graduate level studio visits during September 2008.

Co-creator and Moderator for the panel discussions entitled *Experiential, Experimental and Expansive: Experience Design, Architecture and Environments*; October 2007. As a part of “Mobius LA,” organized by the AIA / Los Angeles Chapter - the session discussed and illustrated an array of processes and manifestations of Experience Design in the built environment; an ongoing series of forums will continue to explore diverse work and approaches across disciplines and professions.

Livable ▪ Memorable ▪ Remarkable lecture presentation for the Northern Nevada American Planners Association (APA) in Reno, Nevada, closing their 2007 lecture series on Livable Cities; May 2007.

Cain _ Corbs _ Kabobs, lecture at the National Institute of Design (NID); Ahmedabad, India; April 2007.

Co-creator and participant in Roundtable discussions on *Design and Education* at the National Institute of Design (NID); Ahmedabad, India; April 2007.

Co-creator and participant in Roundtable debates on *Sustainability, Design and Education* and on *Culture, Design and Education* during the Pune Design Conference at Creative-I College; Pune, India; March 2007.

Guest Critic for the Final Reviews at the School of Architecture, University of Texas at Austin; Austin, Texas; and for Annie Chu's graduate studios in the School of Architecture at Arizona State University; Phoenix, Arizona; December 2006 and at University of Southern California's School of Architecture; Los Angeles, California, June 2007.

Digital Media Advisory Committee, Visual Arts and Media Studies Division of Pasadena City College; Pasadena, California, 2006 –

Professional Council member, advisory committee for the Graduate Design Department at California College for the Arts (CCA); San Francisco, California, 2006 –

Cain _ Corbs _ Kabobs, lecture presentation for the John Gaw Meem Lecture Series in the School of Architecture and Planning at the University of New Mexico; Albuquerque, New Mexico; October 2006.

Aspen Design Summit (formerly the International Design Conference at Aspen); invited to participate in a design team to improve the design/decision making process for IDE/Myanmar; Aspen, Colorado; June 2006.

Interview / article in EP (Emaar Properties magazine, Autumn 2005) entitled *Aqua Sculpture* by Andy Round focusing on the work of WET Design with particular attention to recent work in Dubai and the Middle East.

Cityscape conference and exposition, Dubai, UAE; attended September 2005.

TED (Technology, Entertainment and Design) conference, Monterey CA; attended 2005, 2004 and 2003.

Moderator for the “Sustainable Design 2005” session at the Pasadena Museum of California Art; July 2005.

“Aspen Design Summit” (invited): one of 50 people selected to design the direction, content and global integration of the International Design Conference at Aspen; Aspen, Colorado; June 2005.

Juror for “CA Design 05” – the California Design Biennial exhibition at the Pasadena Museum of California Art; March/April 2005.

Guest Observer and Summary Critic for “Modules” studios within the Department of Landscape Architecture at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; Pomona, California; April 2005.

Collaboration and Combination: A Trajectory for Design Education, paper presentation and publication (juried) at “Design Education: Tradition and Modernity (DETM 2005)” conference at the National Institute of Design (NID); Ahmedabad, India; March 2005.

+ Chair (invited) of the conference session entitled “Envisioning the Future”

+ Committee Member for the drafting of the Ahmedabad Declaration on Design Education

Adobe Design Achievement Award 2004 for Nyumbani Village Concept Cards, second place in Print Collaboration. Design of the village and its systems, including design and production of the folio and video, were done in a transdisciplinary studio at Art Center that I co-taught with Annie Chu. Additional awards/publication from Print, How and ID Magazines; exhibitions with AIGA and Adobe.

Presentation (invited) at the Metropolis Magazine Conference entitled *Design Entrepreneurs: The Next Generation II*, focusing on the relationships surrounding technology, design process, representation and production through rapid prototyping and other advanced systems; part of the International Contemporary Furniture Fair (ICFF) 2004, Javits Convention Center, New York; May 2004.

Juror for “West Edge Competition” at NeoCon West held at the LA Mart in March 2004.

Consulted and coordinated a juried exhibition with the Santa Monica Design District for “Seating of Some Sort” held in March 2004.

Curator for an exhibition at Pasadena City College’s Art Gallery entitled “Environmental Design: Emerging” in February and March of 2004.

Panelist (invited) at the 2003 Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA) Administrators Conference discussing design and architectural education / institutions; Hawaii; November 2003.

Juror for the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Los Angeles Chapter for “Next LA” 2003 awards program; October 2003.

Moderator (invited) for the “Experience Design” session at the 59th Annual Meeting of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD); Los Angeles, California; October 2003.

Presentation at the United Nations DPI/NGO annual conference in New York; September 2003.

Presentation at the Vitra Design Museum Berlin during “DesignMai” on the roles and benefits of collaborations with industry via funded educational projects in Berlin; May 2003.

Environmental Design: No Boundaries, No Limits, lecture (invited); LA Mart, Los Angeles, CA; May 2003.

Industry and the Academy, paper presentation and publication (juried) for “Techné: Design Wisdom” at the 5th European Academy of Design Conference in Barcelona, Spain; April 2003.

The New Curriculum: Transdisciplinary Education, paper presentation and publication (juried) at “Designing Designers” conference in Milan, Italy; April 2002.

Lecture on creativity and design processes, RTKL’s “Design Conference 2001”, Dallas, TX; November 2001.

Presentation on the current situation and future of Environmental Design at NeoCon West for Organization of Black Designers/ Los Angeles Chapter at the L A Convention Center; 2001.

Sponsored Studios / Reciprocal Relations: Art Center College of Design and the Professional Community, paper presentation and publication (juried) at “Designing Designers” conference in Milan, Italy; May 2001.

Modernism, Urbanism, and Modern Urbanism, paper presentation and publication (juried) for the international conference entitled “Chandigarh: 50 Years of the Idea” in Chandigarh, India; January 1999.

Reviewer, by invitation of John Wiley & Sons and the author, of the book proposed for publication entitled Designing With Models by Criss Mills; June 1998.

Interview/article in Volume 5, an on-line architectural journal and resource, focusing on the Department of

Architecture at Woodbury University; Spring 1998.

Tradition and the Individual City, paper presentation (juried) at the ACSA Northeast Regional Conference on "Heritage and Modernity" at Newport, Rhode Island; October 1997.

"Urban Interventions", public exhibition, discussion and publication of student work from my urban studio exhibited at California Plaza, Los Angeles, California; March 1997.

Co-Chair of the Western Regional Conference for the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture held in Los Angeles in 1997; Reader for urbanism papers, and Moderator for the final "overview" panel session.

Article in Downtown News (Los Angeles) entitled, *Not-So-Modest Proposals* by Morris Newman, covering studio work of my Fourth Year Urban Studio focusing on South Park Los Angeles; December 1996.

Rose Residence published as "The Best Little House, #25" in Home magazine; November 1996.

Transformation in Architecture: The Architect as Alchemist, paper presentation (juried) at the National Conference on Liberal Arts and the Education of Artists, New York, NY; October 1994.

The Dominican Monastery of La Tourette: Synthesis and Maturity for Le Corbusier, paper referenced in Le Corbusier: Ideas and Forms by William J. R. Curtis; Rizzoli, New York; 1986.

Community Involvement:

Professional Council member, advisory committee for the Graduate Design Department at California College for the Arts (CCA); San Francisco, California; 2006 –
Digital Media Advisory Committee, Visual Arts and Media Studies Division of Pasadena City College; Pasadena, California; 2006 –
Advisory Council, NeoCon West, 2003 – 2006.
Board of Directors, *ex-officio*, American Institute of Architects, Los Angeles, 2001 – 2004.
Presidential Certificate of Appreciation, American Institute of Architects, Los Angeles Chapter, 2001+ 02.
CITYWORKSLosangeles, founding member, 2002 – 2003.
Board of Directors, ARTScorpsLA, Los Angeles, 2000 – 2003.
Board of Directors, Friends of the Junior Arts Center, Los Angeles, 1991 – 2000.
Board of Overseers, Barnsdall Art Park, 1993 – 1996.
Member of Montecito Heights Improvement Association, 1995 –
Advisory Board, Design Professionals' Coalition, Los Angeles, 1995-1996.
Certificate of Appreciation, City of Los Angeles, Cultural Affairs Department for "All Day Art Day," 1992.