



## CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation  
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

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### CIB Endorsed Student Chapters



## New Student Chapter at the Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Architecture "GA Tech PhD Built-Environment Research Chapter"

by Jose L. Fernandez-Solis

*At the recent Meeting of the CIB Programme Committee in Ankara, Turkey the proposal below for a new CIB Endorsed Student Chapter was approved.*

### Introduction

This proposal reflects a joint effort by PhD researchers from the Georgia Institute of Technology College of Architecture with the interdisciplinary Building Construction and City Planning programs to establish a CIB endorsed student Chapter. The GA Tech chapter will be called the "GA Tech PhD Built-Environment Research Chapter". The GA Tech chapter is an initiative particularly organized by and for PhD students and candidates who along with faculty, are typically regarded as staff researchers.

### The Institution

The Georgia Institute of Technology is a research institution of the Educational System of the State of Georgia, located in Atlanta, the capital, in the USA. The program of study leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree is the highest degree offered in the College of Architecture (COA) for students with strong interest in research. The dissertation is expected to advance knowledge in a chosen field of study, be authoritative, both significant in content and methodologically rigorous. The dissertation is meant to demonstrate that the candidate possesses powers of

original thought, talent for research, methodological capabilities to do advanced work and the ability to compose and present the findings.

Students enrolled in the program can take advantage of resources in all programs in the COA and elsewhere in the Institute. The program seeks to graduate people who will become research leaders in their respective fields. Currently, the program includes several fields of study that reflect the academic and research interests of the faculty and students:

- Architectural History, Theory, and Criticism
- Architecture, Culture and Behavior
- Architectural Morphology
- Building Technology
- Design Computing
- City Planning
- Building Construction

More information can be obtained at:

[www.arch.gatech.edu/phd](http://www.arch.gatech.edu/phd)

Email: [phd.program@gatech.edu](mailto:phd.program@gatech.edu)

### Scope and Objectives

The GA Tech PhD Built-Environment Research Chapter aims at the following broad objectives:

1. Encourage and support professional research and development of its members



2. Facilitate and promote individual and organizational joint activities and collaboration of information exchange with the local and global research community and industry to augment human intellect
3. Take the lead in promoting (stimulating and encouraging) the formation of CIB student chapters in North, Central and South America.
4. Establish collaboration with other CIB chapters in the continent and internationally.

### **Work Program and Planned Output**

Initially the following activities are planned:

1. Introduce prospective members to the potential value from a future CIB Membership for themselves and the organization
2. Introduce the GA Tech Chapter to other continent and international chapters through a description of who we are and what are our immediate and long term goals through a newsletter that will be updated in the Fall and Spring Semester of each following year
3. Identify and link out chapter with one continental and one global sister chapter for focused research in the areas of individual interest
4. Identify international workshops, symposiums and other similar activities to participate with presentations or attend with an added goal of getting to know other chapter members personally
5. The lead in promoting CIB postgraduate activities and specifically stimulate and encourage the formation of CIB student chapters in the Americas through our international contacts and faculty, such as Chile, Costa Rica, Panama, and Venezuela
6. Establish a chapter link with CIB commission to identify the international source of research expertise, work task, and similar endeavor that matches our member's area of research interest

### **Membership**

The GA Tech Chapter focuses primarily in researchers (PhD students, candidates and faculty) from the College of Architecture that includes Building Technology, Building Construction, and City Planning among others. PhD students and faculty from related disciplines are also welcomed for membership.

### **Contacts**

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### **Finances**

The GA Tech chapter will in essence be costless, and in principle time spent by its members will be regarded as in kind investment in the chapter. In case additional costs will be made by the organization or its members, additional funds will be sought from the GA Tech Student Government Organization and from other internal and external sources. If funds are available the members will identify and designate areas for valid use of chapter funds, application forms, and amount limits.