



January 2019 Newsletter

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Fall 2018 MRED Graduation



Front: Catherine Ryckman, Mithila Mattoo, Elizabeth Hawley,
Ebony Stocks and Maria Day-Marshall
Back: Catherine Inniss, Alla Elmahadi, Charles Pitts, Nicholas Finelli,
Alex Chatchai Lohhoh, Toussaint Farwell and Jeffrey McNeil

The Graduate Program of Real Estate Development celebrated graduation day with 10 students receiving a Master in Real Estate Development (MRED) degree and one student, **Alla Elmahadi**, receiving a dual degree of Master in Real Estate Development and Architecture. Not pictured above are Luke Mowbray and William Middleton who received a Certificate in Real Estate Development. On Wednesday, December 15th, friends, families and faculty took part in commencement which featured an inspirational speech by MRED student speaker, **Mithila Mattoo**. A reception was held immediately after at the Arch building. Congratulations to **Toussaint Farwell, Nicholas Finelli, Elizabeth Hawley, Catherine Inniss, Alex Chatchai Lohhoh, Jeffrey McNeil, Charles Pitts, Catherine Ryckman, Mathila Mattoo, Alla Elmahadi, Ebony Stocks, Luke Mowbray and William Middleton**.

Fall 2018 Capstone Competition



Jeffrey McNeil, Ebony Stocks, Elizabeth Hawley, Mithila Mattoo,
Alex Chatchai Lohhoh, Catherine Ryckman, Catherine Inniss,
Toussaint Farwell, Nicholas Finelli and Charles Pitts

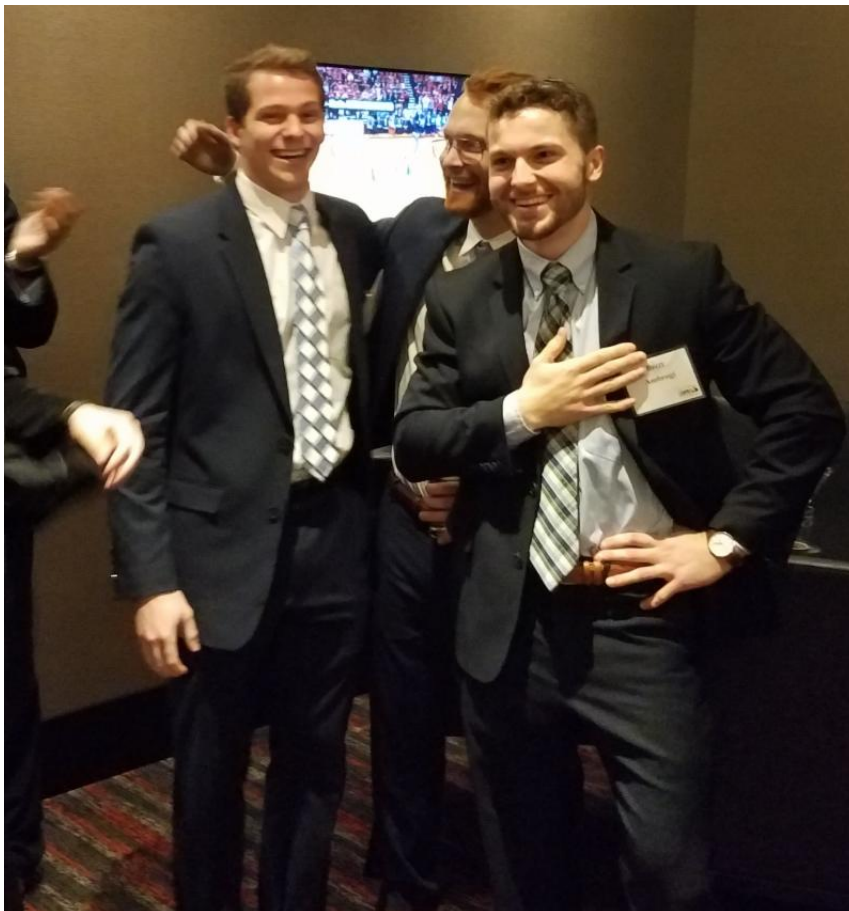
On Saturday, December 15th, the competition kicked off with 11 students presenting. Judges included **Van Anderson**, Revere Bank, Rockville, MD; **John Lin**, CapStar Commercial Realty, Gaithersburg, MD; **Carrie Fischer**, Audubon Enterprises, Washington, DC; **Rameez Munawar**, MRED '14, Columbia Property Trust, Washington, DC; **Christopher Early**, Michaels Development Company, Washington, DC and poster judge, **Katie Sipos**, MRED '18, The Tower Companies.

Congratulations to first place winner **Catherine Ryckman** for her project, "Vivus", Bladensburg, MD! Mithila Mattoo was awarded second place for The Leaf & The Nest, Washington, DC. **Nick Finelli** took third place with his project, Liberty Center and honorable mention went to **Charles Pitts** for The Station at Georgia Avenue, Washington, DC.

The professionals who give their time enjoy seeing the budding real estate talent coming from Maryland, and the students get a real taste of what it would be like to "pitch" their project to investors for funding. Thank you to our mentors **Seydina Fall**, Adanson Hotels and Resorts; **Jessica Jones**, Community Preservation and Development Corporation; **Margaret McFarland**, Emeritus Professor, UMD and **Adrian Washington**, Neighborhood Development Company. Additionally, thank you to the architects for designing the posters and project images including: **Adam Beauregard**, **Harold Webb**, **Kyle Huck**, **Anthony Pins**, **Nicole Hinkle**, **Emily Broxmeyer**, **Jack DeVilbiss**, **Sam Englehart**, **Pedro Carmago** and **Juhi Goel**.

**Photo credit: Gerard Boulin*

Penn State University Takes Top Prize!



Brett Ambrogi, Jake Scott and Adam Raggi

Colvin Institute of Real Estate Development awarded a group of undergraduate students in real estate development from Penn State University the top prize in the third annual Colvin Case Study Challenge. The team beat out an initial 20 entries from 13 universities and four semi-finalists from university programs across the nation in a juried live competition on December 8th at the UMD. This is the first time an undergraduate team has landed in the top four and, ultimately, taken top prize. Second place was awarded to the team from the University of St. Thomas in Minneapolis, MN., with third place going to University of Buffalo, SUNY and an honorable mention to Cornell University.

Colvin Case Study Challenge 2018 Winners:

First Place: **Brett Ambrogi, Adam Raggi, Jake Scott**

Project: The Fraser Center

Penn State University; Faculty Advisor: **Steve Bisbee**

Industry Mentor: **Gary Brandeis**, Real Estate Capital Management LLC

Second Place: **Ivan Alvarado, Will Henke**

Project: T3: Timber, Transit & Technology

University of St. Thomas; Faculty Advisor: **Herb Tousley**

Third Place: **Austin Casselberry, Peter DiBiase**

Project: Conventus

SUNY University of Buffalo; Faculty Advisor: **Mark Foerster**

Industry Mentor: **David Stebbins**, Buffalo Urban Development Corporation

Honorable Mention: **Zach Decker, Sara Trigoboff, Ethan Wissler**

Project: The House at Cornell Tech

Cornell University; Faculty Advisor: **Dustin Jones**

The Colvin Case Study Challenge is a national intercollegiate retrospective written case study competition that challenges teams to document a recent innovative real estate project within its own metropolitan region. Projects are judged on the depth of understanding of markets, project valuation, finance, urban design, entitlement processes and operational issues by leading real estate professionals. The first-place team received \$10,000, with the second, third and fourth place winners receiving \$2500 each.

Maria Day-Marshall, noted, *"We were ecstatic to have hosted the Colvin Case Study Challenge for the third time. We found the quality of the students and their presentations to be outstanding, and believe that we have identified the nation's future leaders in the real estate development industry."*

This year's competition was judged by **Elinor Bacon**, President, E.R. Bacon Development, Washington, D.C., **Karen McGrath**, Assistant Professor, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pa., **Brian McLaughlin**, Founding CEO, Lantian Development, Bethesda, Md., and **Danté Thomas**, Vice President, Berkadia Commercial Mortgage, Chevy Chase, Md.

"We have another incredibly talented and knowledgeable group of teams this year, and these students are poised to make their mark as professionals in the industry." said **Don Linebaugh**, Interim Dean.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Real Estate Awards

The 5th Annual Innovation & Entrepreneurship in Real Estate Awards Gala will take place on March 5, 2019 with a special presentation from

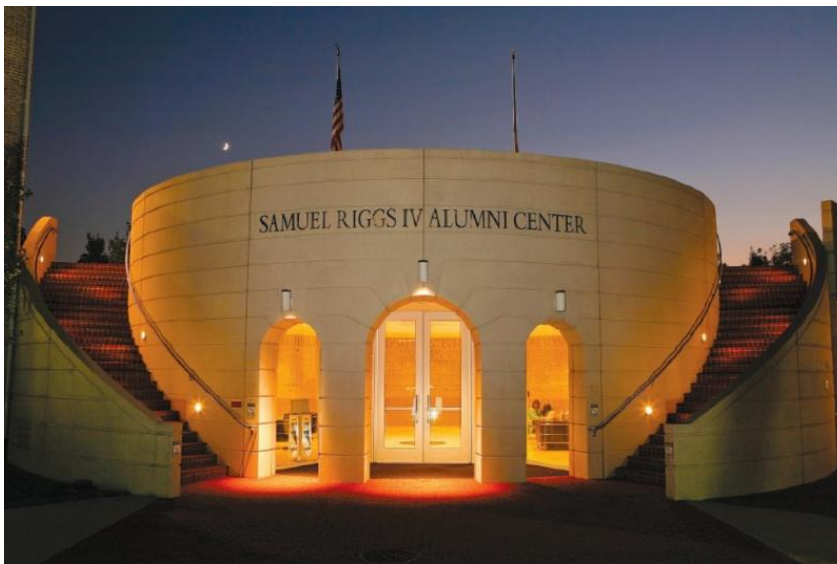
Matt Slep, *Leading Voices in Real Estate* and **Cedric Bobo**, Co-founder of Project Destined.

Please join **Interim Dean Donald Linebaugh**, Architecture, Planning & Preservation, **Dean Alexander Triantis**, Smith School of Business, and **Dean Darryll Pines**, Clark School of Engineering, as we recognize the contributions of our honorees towards innovation and entrepreneurship in Real Estate Development.

The 2019 Honorees are:

- **Robert Rauch**, Principal, Rauch Inc., Former Director of Public Works, and Talbot County Engineer
- **Raymond Skinner**, Former President of East Baltimore Development, Inc. and Former Maryland Secretary of Housing
- **W. Christopher Smith**, Chairman and CEO, WC Smith
- **Somerset Development**, Somerset Development Company, LLC

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Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center

MRED Student Profile: Akiel Pyant



Akiel Pyant graduated from the University of Maryland, College Park in May 2017 majoring in Criminology and Criminal Justice with a minor in Law in Society. He is now a graduate student at UMD, pursuing a Master's in Real Estate Development. Akiel is expected to graduate in 2019. Akiel currently works as a Development Associate at The Menkiti Group, a real estate agency that manages residential and commercial properties in the Washington metropolitan area. Here, he works with the Director of

Finance and Acquisitions to identify properties that could serve as potential investments in the company's portfolio. Additional responsibilities include assisting with the preparation of development pitches and RFPs, building strong relationships with tenants and other professionals in the DC market, developing packages for lenders, securing debt financing to meet the company's needs, and working with portfolio and accounting teams to analyze the performance of the investment portfolio.

During the summer of 2018, Akiel attended the St. Petersburg State University of Architecture and Civil Engineering. He worked in an Urban Redevelopment Studio with a team of Russian and American students on a 530,000 square meter site. Akiel helped create a redevelopment plan, conducted a market analysis among the corridors of St. Petersburg, and

created a financial pro forma. Akiel is a member of UMD's Society of Real Estate Development (SoRED).

Akiel says, "My future goals involve making sure that more people become competent in their financial literacy abilities. Money lays a foundation for real estate. The ability to be financially literate can help one's professional and personal journey tremendously. This program has already taught me how to understand finances through my classes, and guidance from the professors. My hopes are that I can help the next generation of leaders with finance, especially so they can perform well within the real estate industry."



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