

Department of Architecture Book

COA > SHOWCASE

The Publications & Exhibitions Committee (PEC) at the Department of Architecture, Texas A&M University, was tasked with capturing the breadth of the department's excellence in a single book. This project, supported by faculty, staff, and students, offers a comprehensive overview of departmental activities, research, teaching, and service. It highlights key initiatives like study abroad programs, internships, and faculty contributions. Nearly 40 faculty members submitted over 100 entries, supplemented by insights from alumni and internationally renowned scholars.

The book is structured around five focus areas—Design, Energy, Health, Technology/Computation, and History/Theory/Heritage—which are aligned with the university's strategic goals. Faculty contributions are linked to these areas, with metadata used to create visual elements that reflect connections between topics. The cover and chapter divisions utilize this data to represent the department's "landscape" of architecture, formed by intersections, proximities, and gaps within the field.

While the book offers a 600-page cross-section of the department's activities, the metadata-driven visualization extends beyond the physical medium. It creates a "Doppelgänger" of the department, mapping relationships and suggesting future directions for growth. The book ultimately serves as a testament to the department's interdisciplinary, collaborative, and evolving nature, which reflects the broader mission of Texas A&M University.