

DESIGN CULTURES
+ CREATIVITY

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DCC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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HONORS COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND,
COLLEGE PARK



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I SURPRISED MYSELF.

WE CAN PRACTICE SHOWING OURSELVES GRACE WHEN OUR OWN BEHAVIOR TAKES US BY SURPRISE.

... and not in a good way.

As some of you already know, after almost three years since the start of the pandemic, COVID reached my household. Mike got sick first, and I knew my turn would come soon. So, immediately, I started preparing—I started cooking meals in case I would be too tired to do so later on; I cleaned up around the house; and I changed plans so that I could remain physically isolated from students and colleagues. I figured that I had the benefit of approximately 48 hours' notice, so I should use those hours well.

Once the illness really took hold, I was already exhausted. But even when my PCR test finally came back positive (I had tested negative on three at-home tests and an antigen test at urgent care), I kept working. I had my laptop on my lap all day on the couch and even though I was claiming to be "resting," my mind was very much actively still at work: teaching online, answering and writing emails, reviewing admissions applications, and holding meetings.

I ended up staying actively sick well after I finally started receiving negative test results. I had to return to urgent care for additional

medication, because COVID triggered bronchitis, as well. Now, thankfully, I'm finally starting to feel better.

And I can't help but think, first, how lucky I was to have the protection of so many rounds of vaccines and boosters—protections that millions of others around the world didn't have when they got COVID. And, second, how disappointed I am in myself that I didn't follow through on the advice I so often bestow upon others: "Take care of yourself."

The truth is that we all live within systems and structures that make it very difficult for us to navigate the world always and completely in alignment with our own values. I know I needed to rest and stop working—and throughout this entire pandemic, I always said I would—but I live in a culture that says I shouldn't or am not allowed to. I wish I could say I did a better job of resisting that pressure, but I didn't. And I put my health at risk.

I can't know for sure whether I've learned my lesson. But, I do know that I will try to respond differently next time.

And I hope you would, too.

DESIGN TOURNEY

We are thrilled to announce **the winner of the fourth annual DCC Design Tourney!** This year's contest featured eight designs, matched in a single-elimination tournament that progressed in a series of three rounds, February 13 to February 24.

The winning design was created by **Caroline Dinh (Mu)** and is currently featured on DCC's Instagram account (@umd_dcc). Caroline will work with Dr. Lu to finalize her design before StuCo launches this year's spring merchandise sale! **Look out for apparel ordering information in our April newsletter.**

Congratulations, Caroline, and to all of this year's designers! Thank you, DCC, for making this another great year!

Spring 2023 Student Hours. Due to a change in Google's appointment schedules systems, the former DCC Appointment Calendar located at <https://ter.ps/bookdcc> will no longer be used. Instead, you can use the **Director's** and **Associate Director's** individual Appointment Schedules to reserve one-on-one Student Hours time. Access for both of these calendars is available at <http://dcc.umd.edu/about/support>

Sound Studio Closure. Please be reminded that, for the time being, the DCC Sound Studio is closed due to a personal matter. We will send an email notification when the space re-opens. Thank you for your understanding and patience!

Fall 2023 Course Offerings. The DCC staff is working with next year's instructors to finalize details for HDCC208 and HDCC201 offerings for next semester. **We expect to be able to announce Fall 2023 course offerings for Nu class students prior to Spring Break.** In the meantime, please be advised that the information currently displayed via Testudo is incorrect; it is automatically re-published from last year. Please wait until Spring Break or after to begin building your schedules.

AROUND CAMPUS

Are you planning to live on campus next year? Thank you to many of our first-year students who attended the Room Selection Meeting with IBH and ResLife on February 15. Please be reminded that all students who wish to live on campus for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year **must complete and submit their Residence Hall and Dining Agreement by this Friday, March 3, at 4:00pm.** Need reminders or additional info? [Please click here to review the Reslife "Stay On" Guide.](#)

Creative Placemaking Launch: You're Invited! A symposium is being held to celebrate the launch of the University of Maryland's new undergraduate minor! The event will be held this **Wednesday, March 1, 2:00-6:00pm, in F2F and online formats.** [Details can be found at the symposium webpage](#) where you can register for the event. You can also learn more about the Creative Placemaking minor [here](#).

Apply Now: Federal, Global and Maryland Fellows Internship Programs. DCC is proud to count many alumni among the esteemed Federal, Global, and Maryland Fellows programs. They're well-suited for students who are interested in professional experience through the federal/state/local government, non-profits, and international organizations. [You can learn more and access the application here.](#) **Applications are due by March 5!**

Apply Now: Langenberg Legacy Fellows. The Langenberg Legacy is a grant program that supports student-led projects dedicated to civic engagement. The existential threats of our time include wealth inequality, the climate crisis, voter suppression, and widespread disinformation campaigns, among others. Students are invited to propose projects that aim to combat these threats on a small scale, promoting justice within their university community.

Projects must: take place on campus or within the campus community; be action-oriented (e.g. event, lecture, panel, volunteering, etc.) and supported by research; involve a faculty or staff sponsor; and, be completed in the summer of 2023 or fall of 2023.

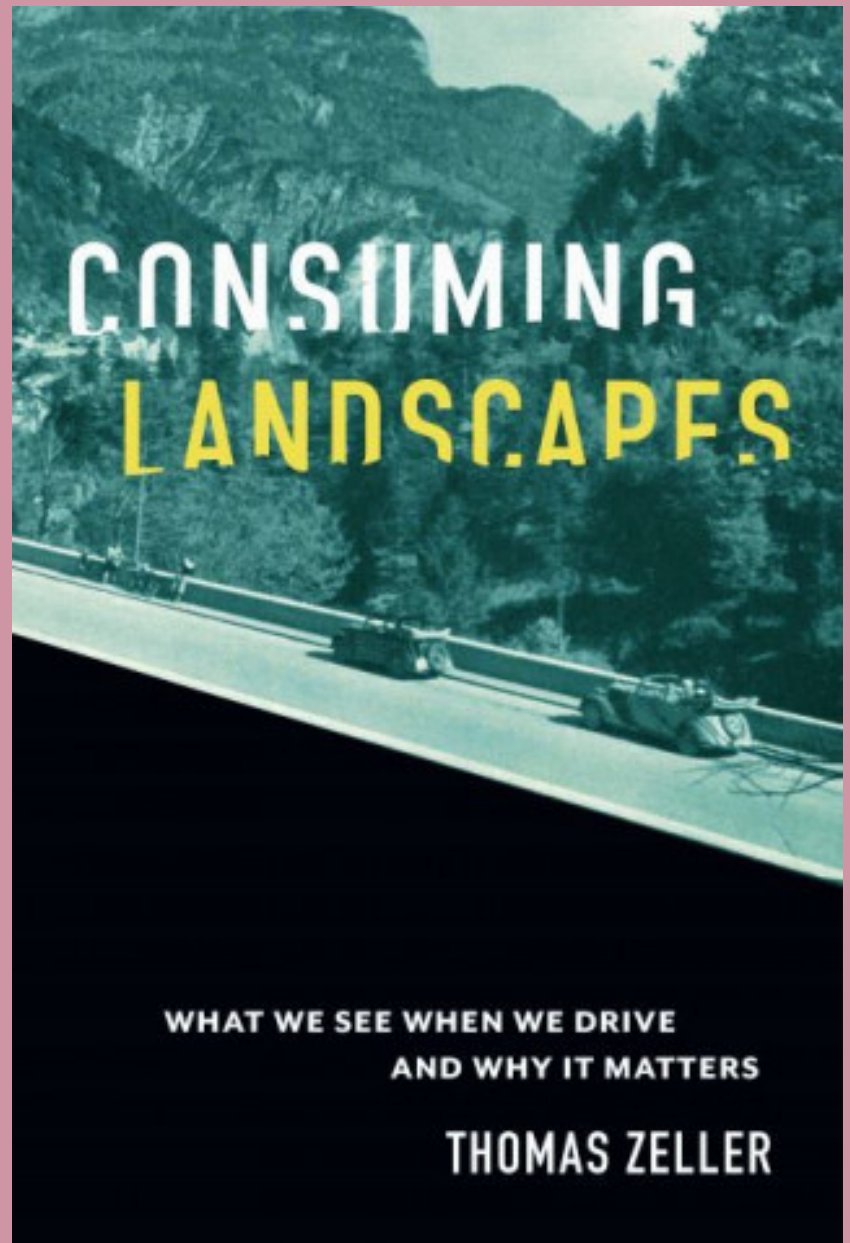
Selected fellows will receive: a \$1,000 stipend at the beginning of the project; \$500 following completion of all program requirements; and an invitation to participate in community building activities hosted by the USM during the coming year.

This is a tremendous and competitive opportunity. If you're interested, please act quickly. **Applications, including a letter of support from your faculty sponsor, are due by March 10.** [Click here to access the full application.](#)

Book Talk

"Consuming Landscapes: What We See When We Drive and Why It Matters," by Thomas Zeller

Associate Professor of History **Thomas Zeller** has cordially invited the DCC community to a talk to celebrate the release of his book, "Consuming Landscapes," which specifically confronts issues related to design and race. [You can learn more about the book here.](#)



You can also review and open access copy of the book [here](#).

The book talk will be held on **Thursday, March 9, at noon**, in McKeldin Library, Room 6137. [For additional details and to register to attend, please click here.](#)

IDEA WORKSHOPS

Every first-year student is required to RSVP for and attend at least one Capstone Ideas workshop this semester. Attendance will be monitored. If a student does not attend a workshop, they will be barred from continuing with HDCC201 and HDCC208 in Fall 2023.

First-year students should choose one of the remaining workshops listed below and click the link to reserve a spot via DCC's [Event Calendar](#). Spots are first-reserved, first-served.

- Tuesday, [March 14](#), 6-7pm with Dr. Skye in PFR 0111
- Monday, [April 3](#), 6-7pm with Danielle in PFR 0111
- Wednesday, [May 3](#), 7-8pm with Jonathan (location TBD)

DCC Community Yoga. The next yoga practice will be held from 10-11am via Zoom on **March 3**. Our First-Friday practices will be held again on **April 7** and **May 5**. All yoga practices are free and open to all past, present, and prospective DCC students, their families, and friends. Access the DCC Yoga Zoom Room [here](#).

StuCo-Sponsored: Jeopardy! Are you ready to take on your friends and DCC peers in this classic showdown? Hosted by StuCo representatives **Mateo R.** and **Brian W.**, this Jeopardy event will take place **Saturday, March 4, from 4-6pm** in the Prince Frederick MPR #1105. All current DCC students are invited to participate; **you can either sign up ahead a time as a team of 5, or arrive on your own and join an open team.** Keep an eye on our email this week for more details from StuCo. And, of course, **prizes will be up for grabs, as well as 50 Family Points for each member of the winning team!** Let's play!

RA-Sponsored: Midterm De-Stress. Take a break from studying during this midterm season and fill in a coloring book or make a bracelet. Your PFR RAs are sponsoring a fun evening for relaxing and hanging out with friends. Word on the street says even Teddy the Terp, UMPD's comfort dog, will be in attendance! Hope to see you there—at the PFR 3rd Floor social lounge on **Tuesday, March 14 @ 6PM.**

StuCo-Sponsored: Clover Hunt!

In their second March event, StuCo is challenging you to get in the springtime spirit by hunting for clovers around Prince Frederick Hall! StuCo will hide 3 green four-leaf clovers and 1 gold four-leaf clover for you to find **between Sunday, March 12 and Friday, March 17.** Find a green clover to win a CareBear™ plushie, a microfleece blanket, or a waterbottle; or, find the coveted gold clover to win a duck night light! **Once you've found a clover, take a photo and send it to dccstudentcouncil@gmail.com.** **Winners will also receive DCC Family Points.** Get out there and find those clovers, DCC!

RA-Sponsored: Bonfire! Your RAs are already looking ahead to the second half of the semester. Let's come back strong from break and kick off the last half of spring with a fun bonfire and s'mores hangout. Marshmallows, chocolate, graham crackers, and a good time will all be provided on Friday, March 31, at 7:30PM on the Prince Frederick Lawn. There will also be a raffle for a custom laser engraving as well as some potential surprise guests. Be there or be a square (graham cracker)!

Spring Break DCC Office

Closure. Please be reminded that DCC staff and faculty observe Spring Break, as well. Please note that DCC will not be operating any offices or makerspaces between Saturday, March 18 and Sunday, March 26. Email correspondence will also be severely delayed or postponed during break. Thank you for your patience!

Looking ahead? Visit <http://dcc.umd.edu/event> for the updated semester calendar!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

LET YOUR COMMUNITY CELEBRATE YOU! HAVE SOMETHING EXCITING TO SHARE? SUBMIT TO DCC-HONORS@UMD.EDU BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH.

MARCH

- 04 — Dhruv S., Mu
- 07 — Rita B., Mu
- 08 — Jess G., Mu
- 11 — Nida E., Nu
- 17 — Mary S., Mu
- 21 — Brielle T., Nu
- 23 — Young-A K., Mu

DID YOU KNOW: that Bryant R. C. (Mu) had a video testimonial shared by Bernie Sanders during a town hall event focused on teacher pay? Or, that Roshida H. (Nu) and Nandini R. (Nu) were accepted to the 2023 Design Nation Conference in NYC? Congrats, DCC fam!

DCC FIRST FAMILY CONTEST

CURRENT RANKINGS

1. Family 10
2. Family 3
3. Family 4
4. Family 9
5. Family 2
6. Family 7
7. Family 1
8. Family 6
9. Family 8
10. Family 5