



TOWN+GOWN:NYC

August 2024 Newsletter

Dear Members of Town+Gown:NYC,

It has been a long time since we sent our last newsletter to the T+G community. Apologies. We were waiting for the ideal time to have completed all the items on our "to do" list and then send our newsletter. Alas and alack, we haven't finished all the things on the list, but we thought it best to let you know we are still here and working away, with our plans for the next academic year.

Experiential Learning Projects. We completed 15 experiential learning projects, many of which were done for our working groups and will be posted on the working group section of our webpage soon:

2023-2024 Experiential Learning Projects		
School	Client(s)	Description
Columbia/DSI	DDC/Project Controls	Analyzing images of cracks for use by agency in construction take ups
Columbia/DSI	DDC/Project Controls CC+D Working Group	Analyzing delay and cost data for predictive purposes
NYU/Tandon-MOT	DDC/Project Controls	Analyzing construction images and conducting available technology research/analysis
Fordham/Gabelli	DDC/Project Controls	Cluster analysis of delay and cost data
Fordham/Gabelli	DSNY	Analyzing residential MSW data and survey results for future policy development
NYU/Wagner	URR WG	Analyzing IBZs to develop proposals (land use) to transform IBZs into local CDW circular economy hubs

NYU/Wagner	MaiiC	Analyzing supply chain issues for agencies
University of Toronto/School of Cities	Utilidor and RP3 WGs	Developing the Disruption Occurrence Indicator methodology from LAMP.3 project
CUNY/CCNY-Spitzer	URR Working WG	Increasing Industrial and Manufacturing Densification in IBZs
NYU/Tandon MOT	DDC Project Controls	Advanced reality capture and digital twin practice in private sector
NYU/Tandon MOT	URR WG	Implementing Spring 2023 CDW data reading project
Fordham/Gabelli	CC+D Working Group	NLP analysis of delay database explanation text
Fordham/Gabelli	CC+D Working Group	Statistical analysis of cost increase and duration increase data
Syracuse/Maxwell	DSNY	Data analysis of material reuse
NYU/Tandon-Immersion for Social Good	Utilidor and URR WGs	Development of GHG savings calculator from utilidor implementation and existing circular economy for roadway project "waste"

Town+Gown has several project ideas for the next cohort of experiential learning students. If you have project ideas, please email matthewte@ddc.nyc.gov.

Symposium Events Update. Town+Gown hosted several Symposium events this year, mostly related to "water in and water out" issues. We hosted a two-day event with NYC and Chicago researchers that kicked off intense multi-megacity (LA, Chicago, NYC, London and Paris) planning for the September "Megacities Alliance for Water and Climate" workshop in London to identify multi-megacity research projects. We also hosted two technical presentations by private consultants doing work with the City, related to green infrastructure in July. The precis documents and presentations will be posted in the Symposium event section of our webpage soon.

Working Groups Update. Much work has been done with our working group themes and they will be the subjects of future Symposium events. We are planning several events for (let's be realistic) winter and spring to provide updates on the working groups' efforts and get this work back into the Town+Gown community. This is a priority for the next year. If you are reading this newsletter, you will get invitations to

these events.

URR WG. Research on city construction agencies' waste management plan specifications that emerged from the URR WG's "Closing Loops City Program Initiative" is supporting implementation of Executive Order 23/2022 with the Mayor's Office of Climate and Environmental Justice. And, we recently completed a summer "in house" research project that can estimate the environmental benefits of an existing circular economy for recovered roadway construction "waste" as a resource.

RP3 WG. We are still in the search for third party funding to support our academic partner's effort to test and validate the RP3 WG's subsurface infrastructure resiliency and cost optimization research design, which also can optimize localized community infrastructural deficiency knowledge.

Utilidor WG. We participated in a formal study of utilidor implementation, which generated a great deal of knowledge on benefits from implementation and the impediments to implementation. We expect this study to be completed in the fall, which will generate future research projects. The recently completed a summer "in house" research project discussed above also can estimate the environmental benefits of utilidor implementation.

CC+D WG. There have been many student-led projects analyzing various DDC datasets, which we plan to coalesce into a city-wide data analysis research project to identify drivers and root causes of construction project cost increases and project duration increases.

WIWO WG. This working group, created to support the multi-megacity research program discussed above, has generated several ideas for symposium events and research project ideas specifically related to NYC.

Town+Gown Master Contracts Update. We did a great deal of administrative work this

year on the Master Contracts. We got all but one of the 14 Master Academic Consortium Contract schools into PassPORT--no mean feat--and we will work to get the last one in. We renewed more than half of the 14 Master Academic Consortium Contracts for an additional 5-year term and will work to renew the remaining contracts as they approach the end of their initial terms. We are also in the process of renewing the IDCNY master contract for innovative design and construction research for an additional two years. Town+Gown will be presenting to all agency ACCOs and CFOs at the September MOCS meeting about our master contracts as an easy way to procure faculty-directed research services.

Master Academic Consortium Contract RFP/Task Order Update. NYC OTI and Mayor's Office of Operations Soils Model Project Task Order, registered earlier this summer, was awarded to Columbia. NYC DOC Logistics Optimization Project Task Order was awarded to Columbia and is headed to registration. NYC DEP Regional Scale Nutrient Assessment project is at the Task Order development stage. And, there are two RFPs that we know of in the wings.

Gown Advisory Council +DEP + DOT Research Exchange Meeting. Using the Pitchfest model from last winter, the GAC schools, DEP and DOT will be piloting a new version of the series of GAC/agency meetings that we did in 2018-2019. This research exchange meeting will be on September 24th at Fordham's Lincoln Center campus. If this works successfully, we will roll out this model for research exchange meetings with other city agencies. The objective of this meeting is for researchers to present what they are working on and for the agencies to present what they are working on, with the goal of finding commonalities for agency and academic researchers to consider approaches gleaned from these quick "Pitchfest" presentations and, during the "network" segment, talk about possible collaborations outside the master contract structure.

The "To Do" List. Town+Gown plans to develop the next comprehensive research agenda document, catch up on the *Building Ideas* backlog, and overhaul the T+G

webpage.

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Link to **Town+Gown: NYC** webpage:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/ddc/about/town-gown.page>