KAREN WONG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE NEW MUSEUM, NEW YORK

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 2018
10 - 11 AM

Karen Wong is the Deputy Director of the New Museum, a mid-size museum renowned for its entrepreneurial platforms and mission: new art and new ideas. She co-founded the initiatives IDEAS CITY (2010), a residency and conference exploring the future of cities with the belief that art and culture are essential to our metropolises, and NEW INC (2014), the first museum-led incubator for art, technology and design. Both initiatives are models for the intersection of cultural and civic engagement.

As managing director of Adjaye Associates from 2000-2006 she helped build the foundation for an international architectural practice. She supports emerging architects in her role as a board member of Plus Pool (a self-cleaning floating public pool proposed for the East River) and a former board member of Storefront for Art and Architecture.

She sits on the boards of Rhizome, a platform for emergent artistic practices that engage technology and Apex for Youth, a mentoring and education program for under-served Asians. She also serves on the advisory council of National Sawdust, a nonprofit performance venue focused on new music. She graduated magna cum laude at Brown University with dual BA in Art History and Art Practice.

Recent museum conference keynotes took place in Toronto, Istanbul, Copenhagen, Athens, Paris, and she developed a design talk series for Google NYC. She is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Columbia GSAPP where she teaches a seminar on culture production.
Dr. Laura Sicola is a professional speaker, leadership communication coach and the founder of Vocal Impact Productions in Philadelphia, PA. Her mission is to help people confidently and authentically master the 3Cs of "Vocal Executive Presence": to command the room, connect with the audience, and close the deal in any context.

She has presented to audiences in the US, Egypt, Japan, Spain, China and Germany, and provides 1:1 coaching for clients across the US and around the world.

Laura has spent over 20 years coaching, speaking, training, researching, teaching and publishing on language, cognition, culture, the voice and related effects on learning.

She has delivered keynotes, workshops, presentations, and training programs on topics ranging from leadership communication in diversity, persuasive speaking, conflict management, media training, intercultural business communication and presentation skills, to "managing up," vocal empowerment for women, and delivering the business pitch.

Laura was also faculty in multiple programs at the University of Pennsylvania from 2001-2013, from which she also earned her PhD in educational linguistics.
ANDREW WIT

Andrew John Wit holds a master’s degree from MIT and is an Assistant Professor at Temple University where he leads research, courses and workshops focused around novel building systems generated through light-weight composites, digital production tools and robotic systems. He is also a Co-Founder of the interdisciplinary research group WITO* Laboratory for Intelligent Environments, resides on the ACADIA board of directors where he is a technical co-chair for the 2018 conference in Mexico City and serves on the editorial board for the International Journal of Architectural Computing.

Wit’s research and projects have been highly disseminated and recognized: UTenSAils (2007 AIA Best of Practice Award), the Advanced Fabrics Exhibition (2007 IFAI Outstanding Achievement Award), along with the widely-published tensegrity structure the Underwood Pavilion, the woven carbon fiber installations entitled rolyPOLY and carbon fiber kites of cloudMAGNET. Wit’s work has been featured at numerous galleries, international conferences and refereed publications.
Tina Delia is the Founder and Principal Interior Designer of Delia Designs. For the past eight years, Tina has grown her design studio from the ground up and continues to develop herself personally and professionally. She is dedicated to excellence and insistence on forward thinking design. At the forefront of her designs is the idea that our spaces have the ability to transform our lives. She is looking to move us, inspire us to see, think and create freely. After all, it's not only about creating beautiful spaces.
Elizabeth Mahon is the Managing Principal of HDR’s Philadelphia office. HDR is a global architectural and engineering firm with 40 architectural offices worldwide and 1,800 employees in the architecture group. The Philadelphia office has just celebrated its one year anniversary and is focused on healthcare, academic and civic projects. The firm’s current projects include the new Patient Pavilion for Penn Medicine and a new Library and Learning Commons for the Community College of Philadelphia.

Elizabeth’s professional career has focused on institutional and academic projects, included working for IM Pei and Partners in Paris, William Rawn Associates in Boston, and Ballinger in Philadelphia. Elizabeth attended the University of Pennsylvania, where she received a BA in Design of the Environment and a BS from the Wharton School, and Yale University, where she received a Master of Architecture.
Sophia Lee is a legal historian whose scholarship synthesizes constitutional and administrative law. She has written about administrative agencies’ role in shaping constitutional law; civil rights and labor advocates’ challenges to workplace discrimination during the early Cold War; and conservative legal movements in the post-New Deal era. Her book, The Workplace Constitution from the New Deal to the New Right, was published in 2014 by Cambridge University Press. Her articles can be found in the Yale Law Journal, the Virginia Law Review, and Law & History Review. She earned her J.D. and Ph.D. in history from Yale. Prior to joining the Penn Law faculty, she clerked for the Honorable Kimba M. Wood of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.
Dr. Joseph Barber is an Associate Director at Career Services serving graduate students and postdocs. He has a Ph.D. in animal behaviour from University of Oxford (UK), has previously worked as a Research Fellow at Disney’s Animal Kingdom, and currently also teaches graduate students as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Hunter College (CUNY). Joseph enjoys thinking creatively to help people find and explore different career paths, and is always interested in hearing students and postdocs talk enthusiastically about their research.
Marianne joined the Career Services team in fall 2015 providing career and internship guidance to undergraduate students in the College of Arts and Sciences. She now advises graduate students and postdocs. She has worked at Penn since 2004, starting at the Wharton School where she was an academic advisor to undergraduate students and more recently, in their alumni relations office. Marianne is delighted to be back in the advising realm. She graduated from Bowdoin College with a double major in Romance Languages and History, and earned her master's degree in Higher Education Management from the Graduate School of Education at Penn.
Franca Trubiano is Associate Professor in the Architecture Department at PENN Design and a Registered Architect with l’Ordre des Architectes du Quebec. She teaches in theories of building, environmental design, construction technology, emerging materials, integrated design, and high-performance buildings. In 2015, Franca was President of the Building Technology Educators Society (BTES) during which time she co-founded TAD (Journal of Technology, Architecture and Design), and acted as its Executive Editor until 2016. From 2014 - 2016 she was a Member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Architectural Education. She is presently completing a manuscript for Routledge which challenges the field of architectural theory to reclaim its origins in the art of building. Building Theories, a new Ethics for Architecture (Routledge), proposes an alternative definition of theory, one that valorizes the as yet untapped potential of ‘thinking through building’. Her edited book Design and Construction of High Performance Homes: Building Envelopes, Renewable Energies and Integrated Practice (Routledge Press 2012), was translated into Korean in 2014, by the Korean Research Institute of Environmental Architecture. And Franca’s essays have appeared in edited books Architecture and Energy (eds. Braham and Willis, Routledge Press, 2013) and Architecture and Uncertainty (ed. Benjamin Flowers, Ashgate Press, 2014).