

OZU FAD NEWSLETTER

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Editorial Board

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Can Bora Sezer



The "Culture & Space Meetings" series, organized by the team of **Prof. Dr. Hülya Turgut, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gülüz Özorhon, Asist. Prof. Dr. Didem Boyacıoğlu, Ekin Girgin, Hülya Yavaş, Eda Kış, and Beril Özelçi**, will take place between April and December 2026 under the theme "Multiple Ecological Perspectives on Palimpsest Cities in the Anthropocene."

You can find the event poster, the call for participation, and more detailed information via the links below.

iapscultureandspace.net
iaps-association.org

Özü IID is reloading...



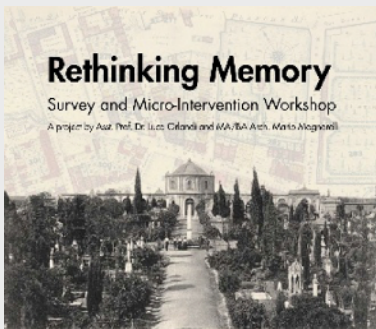
The Istanbul Institute of Design (IID) is entering a new phase as an interdisciplinary platform that brings together design, research, education and collaboration to address complex societal and organizational challenges.

Building on its foundation at Özyeğin University since 2015, the institute is expanding its mission through three complementary pillars, "**LEARN, WORK and EXPLORE**" to strengthen design literacy, foster innovation, and advance interdisciplinary research in partnership with academia, industry and the public sector.

This new chapter has already begun through collaborations such as the recent visit to METU Design Factory, the institute's first strategic workshop, and the development of new executive education programs, research initiatives and collaborative projects that will launch in the upcoming academic year, positioning design as a strategic driver of innovation, institutional transformation and positive societal impact.



On April 10, faculty member, **Assist. Prof. Dr. Luca Orlandi**, led the tour titled "In the Footsteps of Mimar Sinan: Water in Istanbul." Attended by students from various departments across the university, the field trip offered a highly productive and enriching learning experience. We extend our sincere thanks to Dr. Luca Orlandi for his valuable guidance, contribution, and support.



Asist Prof. Dr. Luca Orlandi conducted the workshop titled "**Rethinking Memory**" with the support of the Italian Cultural Center between May 8 and 10.

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ebru Karahan served as the coordinator of the workshop "**Energy Efficiency and Environmental Sustainability of Housing**" at the International Conference ENHR 2026 in Oslo, June 30-July 3.

A Joyful Reunion at Our 2nd Alumni Breakfast Gathering



We were delighted to hold our 2nd Alumni Breakfast Gathering on Saturday, June 27, 2026. Our breakfast event featured live performances by the bands "Karambol" and "Son Feci Kritik". It was a great pleasure to reunite with our alumni. We enjoyed dancing, having fun, and celebrating together with live music throughout the event.

We would like to congratulate and thank everyone who contributed to the organization of this wonderful gathering, as well as all those who joined us and made the day so memorable.

Seed Research Grant Program and Transformative Teaching and Learning Grant Project Presentations



Under the **Seed Research Grant Program**, faculty members **Asist Prof. Dr. Beyza Şat**, **Asist Prof. Dr. Burçin Mızrak Bilen**, **Asist Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Bayraktar**, **Asist Prof. Dr. Melis Taner**, **Asist Prof. Dr. Mine Özoğuz Arbay**, and **Asist Prof. Dr. Zehra Tonbul** successfully presented the outcomes of their research projects.

Under the **Transformative Teaching and Learning Grant Program**, **Prof. Dr. Semra Aydın**, **Assoc. Prof. Dr. Derya Yorgancıoğlu**, and **Zümrüt Şahin**; **Asist Prof. Dr. Zeynep Ceylanlı** and **Armağan Yüksekaya** also successfully completed their project presentations. We congratulate our researchers on their successful presentations.



The Graduate Paper Presentations of the Master's course in Architectural Theory held on the 14th of May at Prof. Dr. Orhan Hacıhasanoğlu Auditorium. The presentations showcasing our students' academic work were truly inspiring and exciting. We would like to thank the organizers, **Prof. Dr. Alper Ünlü and Assist Prof. Dr. Zehra Tonbul**, for their valuable efforts.



Dr. Alp Tuğan and Selçuk Artut from Sabancı University gave a lecture on **producing music and sound using live-coding tools** in Azerbaijan on May 22. The lecture presents live coding as a performative practice and explores how code transforms into artistic expression in real time.

AI in Architecture and Design Series I: Reimagine



The event titled “**AI in Architecture and Design Series I: Reimagine**,” organized by the Faculty of Architecture and Design, took place on April 15 at AB4 G25. The program opened with speeches by **Prof. Dr. Barış Tan**, President of Özyeğin University, and **Prof. Dr. Ashhan Ünlü**, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture and Design, followed by a keynote address by **Serdal Korkut Avcı**.

Bringing together interdisciplinary perspectives on the evolving role of artificial intelligence in architecture and design, the event featured two main sessions. The first session, “**Education: AI in Architecture and Design**,” was chaired by **Bora Sezer**, while the second session, “**Research: AI in Architecture and Design**,” was chaired by **Prof. Dr. Aslı Ağırbaş**.

AI in Architecture and Design Series II: “Rematerialize”



As part of the **HomeART Creativity Academy** University Meetings, Özyeğin University's Faculty of Architecture and Design hosted “**AI in Architecture and Design Series II: Rematerialize**” on May 5, 2026, at AB4 G25–G26. The event opened with a speech by **Prof. Dr. Ashhan Ünlü**, Dean of the Faculty, and included contributions from **Fatma Özel**, **Publishing Director at HomeART**. Moderated by **HomeART Design Editor Benan Kapucu**, the panel brought together **Assist. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Bayraktar**, **Kartal Turhan**, **Bora Sezer**, and **Res. Assist. Ulaş Tigin** to discuss artificial intelligence, interdisciplinary design, immersive technologies, and the future of design education.



Bora Sezer participated in Özyeğin University's **AI Research Day**, held on May 6, 2026, under the **ÖzU AI Platform**, bringing together academics and industry representatives to examine the transformative influence of artificial intelligence across engineering, aviation, business, education, law, ethics, design, and cultural heritage. Following the opening address by Strategic Partnerships **Director Ayşe Nida Bektaş**, the programme featured contributions of Academics from Özyeğin University's different Faculties alongside industry-focused sessions with representatives from **Yıldız Holding, Pegasus, and Eczacıbaşı**. In his presentation, "**Reimagining Anatolia: From Buried Heritage to a New Cultural Economy**," Sezer explored the convergence of artificial intelligence, XR technologies, and cultural heritage.

Additionally, a workshop took place in which students from Architecture, Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, Communication Design, and Industrial Design developed AI-supported concepts using products and materials from Kale, Kalebodur, and İstikbal. **In the workshop, students transformed physical models and conceptual ideas into AI-generated visuals and cinematic narratives.** The programme concluded with student presentations, a **HomeART** certificate ceremony, and a group photo session.

Publications

BOOKS

Ashhan Ünlü, İdil Erdemir Kocagil, Begum Diker, Ferhan Hasmeden, Published by Özyeğin University Press, Istanbul, E-Resilience in Building Design and Technology International Conference Book of Extended Abstracts (2026), ISBN: 978-605-5625-35-1

RESEARCH AND REVIEW PAPERS

Karabulut, H., Üst, S., & Artıkoğlu, P. 2026. An andragogical perspective on co-design: a case of interior architecture Graduation Studio. *CoDesign*, 1–26. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15710882.2026.2680444>

Altıntaş-Kaptan, M., Ashhan Ünlü, 2026. "Reconceptualising technological value in architectural heritage", *Built Heritage* 10:35 <https://doi.org/10.1186/s43238-026-00274-8>

Canakcioglu, N.G., Salgamcioglu, M.E., Unlu, A., Ciftci, I. E., Bas, Beril. 2026. "Exploring the Impact of Spatial Configuration and Task Orientation on Student Navigation in a Virtual Science Center", *Journal of Science Education and Technology*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10956-026-10326-4>

Ozgun, K. 2026. "Automating Keyline Planning for Urban Landscapes: A Computational Workflow for Water-Sensitive Design", *Journal of Digital Landscape Architecture*, 11-2026, pp 564-573, doi:10.14627/537770054. https://gispoint.de/fileadmin/user_upload/paper_gis_open/DLA_2026/537770054.pdf

Asghar F, Ergöz Karahan E, Tekçe I. 2026. "Women managers' experiences in architectural firms: insights from six countries". Journal of Management Development, Vol. ahead-of-print No. ahead-of-print. <https://doi.org/10.1108/JMD-09-2025-0496>

Gocer, Ö.; Gamage, A.; Yildirim, M.; Karahan, E. 2026. "Biophilic Interior Design Assessment Model: Case Study Applications in Open-Plan Offices", Journal of Interior Design

Yıldırım, Y., Cengiz, Ç., Çimen, A.A.Ü. (2026). Playtesting Perspectives: A Tabletop RPG for Multi-stakeholder UX Learning. In: Fang, X. (eds) HCI in Games. HCII 2026. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 16740. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-032-30408-7_8

Çeliker, E.Y.; Özkar, M. 2026. "Rule-based 3D digital modelling of construction processes in historical curved masonry structures", Digital Applications in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage, 41. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.daach.2026.e00544>

PROCEEDINGS

Bas, B., Çanakçıoğlu, N.G., Bayraktar, M.E. 2026. "Wayfinding in Hospital Buildings: A Socio-Spatial Analysis through Space Syntax", 15th Space Syntax Symposium, June 8-12, Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

Çanakçıoğlu, N.G., Korkmaz, U., Baş, B. 2026. "From Hesitation Points to Signage Strategies: Evidence from a University Campus Case Study", 15th Space Syntax Symposium, June 8-12, Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

Çanakçıoğlu, N.G., Şalgamcıoğlu, M.E., Ünlü, A., Edgü, E., Çiftçi, İ.E., Baş, B. 2026. "Exploring Gender Differences in Spatial Navigation: A Space Syntax Study in a Virtual Science Center", 15th Space Syntax Symposium, June 8-12, Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

Korkmaz, U., Çanakçıoğlu, N.G. 2026. "Reducing Orientation Stress Through Spatial Navigation: Insights from Cognitive Mapping and Space Syntax", 15th Space Syntax Symposium, June 8-12, Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

Wibowo, F., Çanakçıoğlu, N.G. 2026. "Linking Spatial Configuration and Children's Cognitive Maps: A Comparative Study of a Public and a Private School in Istanbul", 15th Space Syntax Symposium, June 8-12, Johor Bahru, Malaysia.

Balmer, J., Mutman Uluengin, D., Wong, P., Uluengin, M.B., 2026. "Migrants, Materials, Metamorphosis: Urban Upcycling in Unkapanı Istanbul", MIMEC (Migration, Mobilities and Environments) Conference, May 10-13, Rome, Italy.

Ergöz Karahan, E. 2026 "Between Dormitory and Family Home, Social Networks and Energy Behaviour Among University Students in Istanbul", ENHR Oslo 2026 Homeownership,

Prosperity, and Inequality in the 21st Century Social, Spatial, and Historical Patterns, June 30 – July 3, Oslo, Norway.

Demirkol, A., Arbay, M. 2026. “Interior Textile Finishes and Sustainability”, Current Issues in Interiors (CII 2026) Conference, 15–17 April 2026, Yaşar University, Ankara.

Demirkol, A., Arbay, M. 2026. “A Critical Review on Textile Waste as Construction Panels and Bricks”, Twentieth International Conference on Design Principles and Practices, 25-27 February 2026, Sapienza Università di Roma.

Dinçel, B., Arbay, M. 2026. “Biophilic Design of Design Studios”, Twentieth International Conference on Design Principles and Practices, 25-27 February 2026, Sapienza Università di Roma.

Özkaya, M. N., & Baykal, G. E. 2026. "Sustainable School Setting Futures: WorldBuilding and Mandala to Co-Speculate on Student Motivation in 2035", in Proceedings of the 25th Annual ACM Interaction Design and Children Conference (pp. 896-901), June 22-25, Brighton, United Kingdom. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3773077.3812164>

Leylekoğlu, A., & Baykal, G. E. 2026. "Understanding Amateur Actors' VR Rehearsal Needs: Priorities and Rationales", in Proceedings of the Extended Abstracts of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Article no: 699, (pp. 1-5), April 13-17, Barcelona, Spain. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3772363.379932>

Akverdi, C., & Baykal, G. E. 2026. "Design Student Typologies: Beyond Perception of Generative AI", in Proceedings of the Extended Abstracts of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, Article no:205, (pp. 1-5), April 13-17, Barcelona, Spain. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3772363.3799285>

Aktaş Yanaş, E, Gül, F.G. 2026. “Rethinking Empathy in Architectural Design: From Perception to Creation”, Design [Re]Thinking: Design Thinking Research Symposium 15, June 17–19, Faculty of Fine Arts of the University of Lisbon, Lisbon, Portugal.

Yavaş, H. 2026. “Rethinking Architectural Latitudes through Minor Subjectivities: The Dissolution of Space-Time through Dementia”, EURAU26: LATITUDES Symposium, “Situated Reflections on Architectural Research”, June 10-13, Umeå School of Architecture, Umeå, Sweden; published in LATITUDES. Situated Reflections on Architectural Research, ed. M. L. Nobile, pp. 40-45, Umeå University. ISBN 978-91-6850-075-1.