OZU FAD NEWSLETTER

Bulletin | Jul - Sept | Vol. 10: No. 3

Editorial Board

Beyza Şat, Ph.D.
Can Bora Sezer

Dr. Begüm Diker, member of our faculty from the architecture department, received an Equivalent Prize in the "Bodrum Değirmenburnu Historic Windmills and Immediate Surroundings Ideas Competition." In the lead by Architect Batu Kepekçioğlu.



The proposal aims to revive the Değirmenburnu windmills, long-standing landmarks of Bodrum's skyline and collective memory, by bringing them back into everyday use rather than reducing them to mere decorative kinetic objects. You can find more details on the link below. We congratulate them all.
https://www.arkitera.com/proje/esdeger-odul-bodrum-degirmenburnu-tarihi-yel-degirmenleri-ve-yakin-cevresi-fikir-projesi-yarismasi/

We welcomed the new semester with enthusiasm and the vibrant energy of our new students.



We wish everyone a successful and productive 2026–2027 academic year! This year, 205 students have newly enrolled in our Faculty. While 132 students will attend the English Preparatory Program, the remaining 73 will begin their professional education in their respective departments.
We wish all our new students a successful and rewarding academic year. During the orientation days, our Dean, Prof. Dr. Aslıhan Ünlü, met with our students, welcomed the new members of our academic community, and shared important academic information to help them begin their university journey.



IAPS Culture & Space Network - Culture and Space Meetings 5, between April and December 2026, are ongoing…The fifth edition of the IAPS-CS Network's Culture and Space Meetings takes place in memory of **Prof. Dr. Orhan Hacıhasanoğlu** under the theme "Multiple Ecological Perspective
on Palimpsest Cities in the Anthropocene." It is organized by the IAPS-CS Network and the Özyeğin University Urban Housing Lab (UHL), and hosted by the Faculty of Architecture and Design.
The program, was conducted between April and December 2026, comprised an interconnected sequence of activities, including an international article selection, national student workshops, a national student idea competition, and a Final Meeting that brings these productions together.

https://www.ozyegin.edu.tr/en/faculty-architecture-and-design/events/iaps-culture-space-network-culture-and-space-meetings-5-4



Faculty Members and Students Receive Honorable Mention in Samsun Urban Design and Architectural Project Competition

Our esteemed faculty members; **Assist Prof. Dr. İlker Fatih Özorhon, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Güliz Özorhon, Assist Prof. Dr. Begüm Diker, Assist Prof. Dr. Mehmet Emin Bayrakatar, Dr. Ömer Karadağ, Assist Prof. Dr. Yağdır Çeliker,** and our students Deren Onur and Berçin Şen received the 3rd Honorable Mention in the "Samsun Metropolitan Municipality Service Building, Cultural Center and Mosque Urban Design and Architectural Project Competition." The project transforms a site that forms a threshold in the city due to its industrial past into a hybrid urban interface that reconnects the city's fragmented layers, through a green corridor linking Doğu Park and the Millet Garden (Nation's Garden) and a linear mass set against the viaduct and broken down to a human scale. We congratulate them all.

Asst. Prof. Dr. Luca Orlandi Leads Digital Heritage Research and International Workshops

Assist Prof. Dr. Luca Orlandi conducted the Özü Summer Research Program between 01-31 July 2026 with the title "Digital Atatürk: Expanding the Canonica Collection through Advanced 3D Documentation and Knowledge Modeling." Also, he conducted two international workshops: 1- Premio Piranesi – Prix de Rome', XXIV International Seminar and Design Competition, in Tivoli, Rome, between August 22 and September 2026; 2- "Rethinking Memory: Survey and Micro-Intervention Workshop" in İstanbul, Feriköy, between July and September 2026.

Among the TÜBİTAK 1001 projects selected for funding in the first application period of 2026, the project led by our faculty member, Assistant Professor **Dr. Begüm Diker,** has been selected for funding. We congratulate Dr. Diker and her team and wish them continued success. The Research project titled "The Effects of Biophilic Interventions on Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ), Comfort and Creativity in Design Studios: An Experimental Study Using Neurocognitive and Behavioral Measures in a VR Environment"

Project Team: **Asst. Prof. Begüm Diker (Principal Investigator), Assoc. Prof. Ebru Ergöz Karahan (Researcher), Asst. Prof. Ferhan Hasmaden (Researcher), Asst.Prof. Işılay Tekçe (Researcher), Asst. Prof. İdil Erdemir Kocagil (Researcher), Asst. Prof. Mehmet Emin Bayraktar (Researcher), Dr. Özgür Göçer (ÜAK, Assoc. Prof) (Sydney Uni, Researcher), Prof. Aslıhan Ünlü (Scientific Advisor), Asst. Prof. Pınar Senay Özbay (BOUN, Scientific Advisor)**

This project aims to map IEQ conditions in design studios, along with students' comfort perceptions and spatial use patterns; evaluate biophilic design scenarios in immersive virtual reality (IVR) through EEG measurements and creativity tests; and develop



INAR 301 Design Studio Partners with MediaMarkt to Reimagine Consumer Electronics Retail Spaces

Dr. Ezgi Çiçek and Merve Aşçıoğlu Yıldırım developed and planned a university–industry collaboration project with MediaMarkt for the INAR 301 Interior Architecture Design Studio, to be conducted during the Fall 2026 semester. The collaboration focuses on rethinking conventional consumer electronics retail as an experience-oriented and digitally integrated environment.

Özyeğin University Hosts Design Thinking and Human–AI Interaction Workshop for High School Students

The three-day workshop series, “Introduction to Design-Oriented Thinking: Active Learning in Human–AI Interaction,” was conducted within Özyeğin University’s High School Summer Research Program by **Assist Prof. Dr. Selin Üst, Seda Dönmez, and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Derya Yorgancıoğlu.** The workshop series was designed to enable students to develop an experiential understanding of the design process while fostering awareness of their own cognitive tendencies. In alignment with these objectives, the program provided students with opportunities to actively engage in design thinking practices and critically reflect on their learning processes



The 5th National Symposium on Architectural Design Research MITA will be hosted by our Faculty on April 26–28, 2027, under the theme "EŞİKTE – Yapay Zeka Çağında Mimari Tasarım Araştırmaları: Öznellik, Özgünlük, Ekoloji ve Bilginin Dönüşümü / AT THE THRESHOLD – Architectural Design Research in the Age of Artificial Intelligence: Transformations in Subjectivity, Originality, Ecology, and Knowledge." https://www.ozyegin.edu.tr/tr/mimarlik-ve-tasarim-fakultesi/etkinlikler/mimari-tasarim-arastirmalari-ulusal-sempozyumu-v-mita-2027

Assist Prof. Dr. Kaan Özgün, Assist Prof. Dr. Beyza Şat, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Doğa Dinemis Aman and Assist Prof. Dr. Ceren Bilge have attended the workshop on Çekmeköy District Disaster Risk Reduction Plan (İRAP), which was prepared in collaboration with Çekmeköy Municipality, the Çekmeköy District Governor's Office, and Özyeğin University.

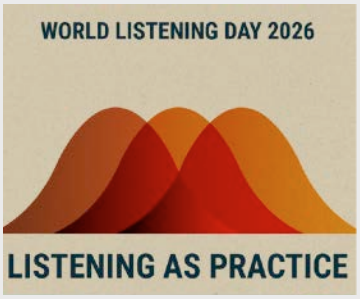


2025–2026 Design Works Exhibition Showcases Interior Architecture Students' Projects

The 2025–2026 Design Works Exhibition, held from 8 July to 30 September 2026 at AB4 G26, presented a selection of projects developed by students in the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design throughout the academic year. The exhibition brought together works from different course levels and highlighted the breadth of approaches, themes, and scales explored within the department's design education. It featured analytical studies, studio projects, furniture designs, material investigations, and integrated design narratives, showcasing the diverse design positions, methods, and modes of production developed throughout the curriculum.

Summer Research Internship and Design Research Programs at Özyeğin University

At the end of the first year, the 10-day research internship and Design Research courses at Özyeğin University Faculty of Architecture and Design were completed during the summer through programs organized individually by each department. We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the coordinators and faculty members for their valuable efforts and contributions. The following activities were carried out as part of the Research Internship and Design Research programs conducted during the summer. Results:



Instructor in the Communication Design Program **Alp Tuğan's** Soundscape Composition "Imbros.tone02" Premiered at World Listening Day 2026 on July 16. The event highlighted recent works that engage listening as a central artistic and cultural practice, treating sonic environments as sites of meaning, memory, and care. Tuğan's composition emphasizes sound not only as aesthetic material but also as a carrier of environmental, social, and ecological knowledge. For more information, click the links below.
https://worldlisteningday.org

Bora Sezer has released Confessions of a Romantic Disaster, a music album created entirely using artificial intelligence, on Spotify. The project introduces Fiona Pixel, an AI-generated musical persona.

Architecture:



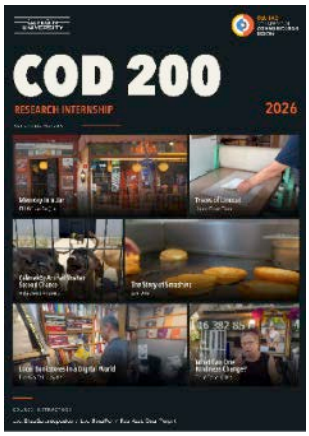
Interior Architecture and Environmental Design:



Industrial Design



Communication Design



.

Publications

BOOKS

Visconti, F. Capozzi, R. Orlandi, L. (eds.), "In - Between Ancient and Contemporary City. Projects for 'Porta Anfiteatro' in Pompeii", Napoli, Clean, 2026, pp. 99, ISBN 979-12-5687-022-6

BOOK CHAPTER

Orlandi, L., 2026. "Project-based Learning in Archaeological Contexts: Experiences in Italy and Turkey (2012–2025)", in Visconti, F. Capozzi, R. Orlandi, L. (eds.), "In - Between Ancient and Contemporary City. Projects for 'Porta Anfiteatro' in Pompeii", Napoli, Clean, pp. 22-25, ISBN 979-12-5687-022-6.

RESEARCH AND REVIEW PAPERS

Ceylanlı, Z., Özoğuz Arbay, M., & Ust, S. 2026. "University–Industry Collaborations in Interior Architecture Education". The International Journal of Design Management and Professional Practice. https://doi.org/10.18848/2325-162x/cgp/a176

Iradukunda, A., & Özgün, A. K. 2026. „GIS and Machine Learning Framework for Landslide Susceptibility Mapping: A Raster-Based Approach",
Turkish Journal of Remote Sensing and GIS, 7(2), 304–316. https://dergipark.org.tr/en/pub/rsgis/article/1864203

PROCEEDINGS

Tijjani, A. H.; Mızrak Bilen, B. 2026. "Designing for disorientation: A review of evidence-based interventions and behavioral responses in Alzheimer homes". DAKAM – Architecture, Urban Design and Humanities Conferences proceedings, August, Istanbul, Türkiye. ISBN: 978-625-7034-54-8 (pp. 33–45).

Aktaş Yanaş, E.; Leman Figen, G. 2026. „Beyond Trait Empathy: The Impact of Dynamic Empathic Engagement on Architectural Design Outcomes", Design Computing and Cognition '26 (DCC'26), July, 8-10, Paris, France.

Kırdar, G., & Aktaş Yanaş, E. 2026. "Empathy-driven digital practices in a computational design studio: The Feeling-AS framework". eCAADe 2026: Informed creativity in architecture and engineering, September 7-11, Lübeck, Germany.

Orlandi, L.; Ekiz, Z. S., 2026. “Atatürk Cultural Centre: The Production of Absence in Taksim Square”, Cities in Transition, 11th International Conference - CIRICE, June 11-13, Napoli, Italy.