

July 20, 2004

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**Contact:** Lisa Westerfield  
Administrative Director  
SOM Foundation  
312.427.4202  
somfoundation@som.com

**THE SKIDMORE, OWINGS & MERRILL FOUNDATION AWARDS TWO TRAVELING  
FELLOWSHIPS IN ARCHITECTURE**

CHICAGO, IL -- The Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) Foundation announced today its 2004 Architecture Traveling Fellows: Greg Williams from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Andrew Saunders from Harvard University. The SOM Foundation awarded these fellowships to allow these students to complete self-determined travel itineraries specifically designed to complement their college studies and professional interests.

**Architecture Bachelor Degree Traveling Fellowship**

**Greg Williams, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute**

The jury was impressed by the quality and diversity of the submissions received from the undergraduate programs and found the interview process in selecting the winner highly informative. Following the interview process, the jury chose Greg Williams from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute as the recipient of the \$15,000 Bachelor Degree Fellowship. The selection was based on the strength and clarity demonstrated in his processes leading from program to project. His interest in early 20<sup>th</sup> century housing and residential prototypes, evident in his portfolio, should benefit from his proposed travel agenda to explore early modernist and contemporary residential typologies in Austria.

**Architecture Master Degree Traveling Fellowship**

**Andrew Saunders, Harvard University**

The jury noted the overall high quality of the Master Degree candidate submissions and the strength of design skills and sensibilities demonstrated by the finalists. Following the interview process the jury chose to award the Master of Architecture SOM Traveling Fellowship to Andrew Saunders from Harvard University. The decision was based on the depth of his research, and his abilities to conceptualize and synthesize his ideas into highly original and well documented projects. His travel agenda focusing on research in early modernist concrete shell structures and its potential impact for new developments in contemporary architecture was also seen as a natural and positive progression of his previous interests.

The 2004 Architecture Traveling Fellowship jury included Clifford Pearson (Editor, *Architecture Magazine*), Jesse Reiser (Principal, Reiser + Umemoto RUR Architecture PC) and Mustafa K. Abadan (Partner, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP, and Jury Chair).

### **SOM Foundation**

The mission of the SOM Foundation Traveling Fellowship program is to assist young architects, engineers and urban planners in expanding their professional education through the observations of culture, history, building, and design that can only be achieved through travel. Prior Fellows have traveled to Vietnam, China, India, Japan, the Philippines, Russia, Scandinavia, North Africa and the Mediterranean as well as throughout Europe and the United States.

The SOM Foundation has awarded more than \$1,000,000 in educational prizes to students, faculty and young professional engineers. The programs of the SOM Foundation are funded through an endowment established by the Partners of the architectural firm Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM). Established in 1936, SOM is the first two-time recipient of the prestigious American Institute of Architects Architecture Firm Award. Some of SOM's design projects include the Sears Tower and John Hancock Center in Chicago, Lever House and the new AOL Times Warner project in New York, the San Francisco International Airport, the Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre Extension and the Jin Mao Tower in Shanghai. The Foundation's activities are wholly separate from those of the firm.

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