

OZU FAD NEWSLETTER

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Editorial Board

Beyza Şat, Ph.D.

Can Bora Sezer

News

ÖzÜ FAD members Dr. Begüm Diker (design team member), Dr. Doğa Dinemis Aman (consultant), and their team, led by Dr. Batu Kepekçioğlu, received an Honorable Mention in the "Kadıköy Municipality Service Building Architectural Project Competition." We are proud of them and congratulate them all. The design of New Kadıköy Municipality Service Building aims to create a structure that does not become a dominant element, but rather retreats to make room for public open spaces and greenery, where people pass through at all hours, take a breath, spend time on and around it, come together, and contribute to the city with the decisions it makes at every scale, with the awareness that the competition area is one of the rare open spaces in Kadıköy. You find more details about the design at the below link.

<https://www.arkitera.com/proje/5-mansiyon-kadikoy-belediyesi-hizmet-binasi-mimari-proje-yarismasi/>

The Faculty of Architecture and Design Held Its 2024–2025 Academic Year Graduation Ceremony



Message from the Dean

On June 28, 2025, we came together for Özyeğin University's Commencement Ceremony, a joyful occasion that brought together approximately 7,400 attendees, including 1,270 graduates and nearly 5,500 guests.

As the Faculty of Architecture and Design, we proudly celebrated the graduation of 278 students from our undergraduate programs in Architecture, Industrial Design, Communication Design, and Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, along with 13 graduates and graduate candidates from our master's and doctoral programs.

We were especially proud of our faculty valedictorian, Tutku Çalış, from the Communication Design Department, who also achieved the third highest ranking across the entire university. We offer her our heartfelt congratulations and wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

Since its establishment, our faculty has upheld an educational vision grounded in design-oriented thinking,



On May 31st, 2025, the Odunpazarı Modern Museum (OMM) in Eskişehir hosted academic and designer Bora Sezer for an expert talk supported by İş Yatırım, focusing on the transformation of art, culture, and museum experiences through virtual reality. Widely recognized for his work in new-generation museology, Sezer highlighted the potential of VR to reshape visitor engagement, curatorial practices, and cultural interaction. He also introduced the Faculty of Architecture and Design at Özyeğin University, spotlighting the Communication Design Department and the pioneering initiatives of the OZÜ VR Lab in exploring the intersection of digital technologies and cultural heritage.

As part of the collaboration protocol signed between Çekmeköy Municipality and our University, the Interior Architectural Design studies for the envisioned "Youth and Innovation Center: Çekmeköy Artificial Intelligence Hub" were undertaken by the second-year students of the Department of Interior Architecture and Environmental Design. Çekmeköy Mayor Orhan Çerkez and Özyeğin University Rector Prof. Dr. Barış Tan attended the exhibition opening held at Crea Center Çekmeköy on Tuesday, May 27.

interdisciplinary collaboration, social responsibility, and creativity. In line with this vision, we remain committed to preparing our graduates to make meaningful contributions in both professional practice and academic life.

Our students graduate not only as competent professionals but also as critical thinkers, socially responsible individuals, and innovative minds. The transformative journey they began at Özyeğin University continues as they step confidently into the next chapter of their lives. As we bid them farewell, we also proudly welcome them as new colleagues in their respective disciplines—an occasion that fills us with deep pride and optimism.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to all academic and administrative staff whose dedication and support have played a vital role in the success of our students.

As the Faculty of Architecture and Design at Özyeğin University, we are confident that our graduates will continue to lead with vision, creativity, and purpose, making lasting contributions to the world of design.

Warm regards,
Prof. Dr. Aslıhan Ünlü
Dean

Publications

Books

Orlandi, L., Pedone, S. (editors). "Pietro Canonica e Mustafa Kemal Atatürk. La presenza italiana nei primi anni della Repubblica di Turchia - Pietro Canonica and Atatürk. Pietro Canonica and Mustafa Kemal Atatürk The Italian presence in the early years of the Republic of Türkiye", Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Istanbul, 2025, pp. 296. ISBN 978-975-7035-13-8, ISBN 978-975-7035-14-5 (ebook).



In the speech delivered by our Rector, Prof. Dr. Barış Tan, to the entire University on June 16, two members of the Department of Communication Design were honored with prestigious awards: Elias Sarantopoulos received the "Teaching and Learning Excellence Award," and Dr. Elif Gökçe Baykal was granted the "Outstanding Research Achievement Award." We congratulate them and take great pride in their accomplishments.



Özyeğin University Faculty of Architecture and Design has organized a special Alumni Breakfast on Saturday, June 21, 2025. Many Özü Fad members came together and strengthened the connections with our esteemed graduates

Alp Tuğan, member of Communication Design Department, has been selected from a competitive pool of 42 applicants to participate in an artistic research program held in Gökçeada (İmroz), Çanakkale, from June 12-29. You can find more details at the link below.

<https://gocarastirmalaridernegi.org/en>

Book Chapters

Özgün, K. 2025. "Hydro Patterns", In E. F. I. Gilabert, M. Luzárraga, & A. Muiño (Eds.), 100 Words for Water: A Projective Ecosocial Vocabulary (pp. 113). Lars Muller Publishers. <https://books.google.com.tr/books?id=bPRG0QEACAAJ>

Orlandi, L. 2025. "I viaggi di Pietro Canonica in Turchia ed alcune osservazioni sulle opere scultoree celebrative di Atatürk e della Repubblica Turca - Some observations on Pietro Canonica's travels to Türkiye and her monumental sculptures on Atatürk and the Republic of Türkiye", in "Pietro Canonica and Mustafa Kemal Atatürk Italian presence in the early years of the Turkish Republic", Istituto Italiano di Cultura, Istanbul, pp. 97-127. ISBN 978-975-7035-13-8, ISBN 978-975-7035-14-5 (ebook)

Research and Review Papers

Karadağ, Ö., Başaran Bundur, Z., Çakır, Ö., & Bilir, T. 2025. Evaluation of strength and electrical resistivity in cement mortars incorporating different biomass ashes. Discover Sustainability, 6(1), 1-20. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s43621-025-01393-5>

Ünlü, Alper. 2025. "What Makes a Space Relatively Memorable? A Study on the Recollection of Spaces through Space Syntax and Imageability Theories" ICONARP

International Journal of Architecture and Planning, Volume 13, Issue 1, <https://doi.org/10.15320/ICONARP.2024.310>

Alhashemi, F.; Saner, M. 2025. "The effects of western housing practices on Turkey's social housing experience", Journal of Design for Resilience in Architecture and Planning, Volume: 6, Issue: 1, 143-162. <https://doi.org/10.47818/DRArch.2025.v6i1161>

Eriksson, E.; Baykal, G.E.; Olof, T. 2025. "Design-based research in human-computer interaction: a



Interior Architecture Design Studios 301 & 302 courses, Co-Light Research Lab in collaboration with Ergün Architecture organized Students' competition with the title "Refunctioning Scenarios in Interior Architecture: From Sales Office to Restaurant and Retail Design". Mine Özoğuz, Başak Çal Karabeyoğlu, and Elif Aktaş Yanaş were the supervisors. Projects were reviewed by a professional jury and discussed in a closing award ceremony hosted at Ergün Architecture's office. Students Benan Yavuz and Duru Bal came first at this competition. We congratulate them and extend our gratitude to Ergün Architecture for their meaningful support and mentorship.

Co-Light Research Lab and Open Fab organized the Bio Design Lab Experience Workshop the workshop brought together the interdisciplinary tools and creative thinking to explore the potential of living systems in design. Students worked with natural substances and microbial cultures to develop sustainable, biodegradable, and non-toxic materials.

Dr Luca Orlandi conducted a workshop in collaboration with University of Naples titled 'Learning from Pompeii', between the dates March 28- April 4, 2025.

scoping review." Interacting with Computers: iwaf030.
<https://doi.org/10.1093/iwc/iwaf030>

Baykal, G.E.; Ünlütürk, B. 2025. "Intrinsic motivation in child-computer interaction: A scoping review." Studies in Psychology 45, (1), pp:14-37.
<https://sp.istanbul.edu.tr/>

Proceedings

Diker, B. 2025. "Binaların Enerji Performans Değerlendirmesinde Kullanılan Yapay Zeka Yaklaşımları Üzerine Bir Araştırma - A Research on Artificial Intelligence Approaches in Building Energy Performance Assessment", 16. Ulusal Tesisat Mühendisliği Kongresi, April 16-19, İzmir, Türkiye. 582-601. : <https://mmoteskon.org/images/dosya/teskon-2025-bildiriler-kitabi.pdf>

Ünlü, Alper. 2025. "Tasarımda Bilgi Teorisi Eleştirisi", The 20th International Conference on Persuasive Technology, May 5, Cyprus International University, Nicosia, North Cyprus.

Umar, A. D., Canakcioglu, N. G., Ganic Saglam, N., Boyacioglu D. 2025. "Exploring the social affordances of physical setting in public open space of higher institutions: Case study of Ozyegin University Quad," 4th International Civil Engineering & Architecture Conference, May 17-19, Trabzon, Türkiye.

Akhgar, B.; Unlu; Aslıhan; Ugurlu, B. 2025. "Wind vibrations to wattage: The potential of piezoelectric facades in energy-conscious building", 4th International Civil Engineering & Architecture Conference, May 17-19, Trabzon, Türkiye.

Kocazeybek, E. F.; Yorgancıoğlu, D. 2025. "The effects of the actions of construction and deconstruction on the collective memory of Istanbul as a palimpsest city", International Conference on Urban Studies, Planning and Development, March 27-28, Hamburg, Germany.

Aden, F. H.; Saner, M. 2025. "The Evolution of

Selin Genç, an undergraduate student in the Interior Architecture and Environmental Design Program, and Oğuzhan Elma, an undergraduate student in the Hotel Management Program, have won first place in the "Hotel Room Design Competition" organized as part of the strategic partnership between Özyeğin University and Accor, one of the world's leading hospitality groups. The award ceremony took place on June 28, 2025, at Swissôtel The Bosphorus, Istanbul.



ÖZÜ FAD in collaboration with Università degli Studi "Gabriele d'Annunzio" Chieti – Pescara (UNICH) and the University of North Carolina Charlotte (UNC Charlotte) have organized an 8 day workshop at Kadıköy TAK between the dates April 9-17, 2025 titled "Revisiting Istanbul's Haydarpasha Railway Station, Archaeological Site and the Waterfront – Heritage and Renewal International Design Workshop". Dr. Demet Mutman was one of the workshop conducters. We congratulate them and thank for their efforts.

Urban Morphology in Mombasa, Kenya in Relation to the Influences of Cultural Changes", XIVth International Sinan Symposium, April 17-18, Trakya University Faculty of Architecture, Edirne, Türkiye.

İlbay, E.; Boga, M.; Baykal, G.E. 2025. "Exploring the Role of Cross-stitch Craft in Development of Children's Computational Thinking: An Unplugged Approach", 24th Interaction Design and Children (IDC '25). Association for Computing Machinery, June 23, New York, USA.

Orlandi, L. 2025. "The Palazzo del Podestà: A forgotten Genoese heritage between preservation and speculation", International online conference The Heaven of Firdevs: Architecture and Topography of Byzantine, Genoese and Ottoman Galata, Koç University Sevgi Gönül Center for Byzantine Studies GABAM, June 20-21, Istanbul, Türkiye.

Orlandi, L. 2025. "Between National Identity and Regional Expression: Sedat Hakkı Eldem, Nezh Eldem, and the Formation of Architectural Regionalism in Republican Turkey", International Conference Questions of The History of World Architecture, Moscow State University of Civil Engineering (MGSU), May 28-30, Moscow, Russia.

Orlandi, L.; Malara, C. E. 2025. "Constantinople Seen and Reviewed through the Eyes of a 19th Century Diplomat and Journalist: Antonio Baratta", Third international Seminar on Travellers in Ottoman Lands (TIOL): Places forgotten, Places remembered, Sabancı University, April 09-12, İstanbul, Türkiye.

Orlandi, L.; Giannantonio, R. 2025. "Il ponte di Galata: la 'Monna Lisa dei ponti'", RE-Build Leonardo. International Study Conference, Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, April 03-05, Napoli, Italy.

Coşkun, G.; Baykal, G.E. 2025. "Integrating Design Practices and Digital Fabrication Tools into Culinary Education: Bridging Design and Professional Development in Gastronomy." In Adjunct Proceedings of the 4th Annual Symposium on Human-Computer Interaction for Work, June 23-25, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Leylekoğlu, A.; Baykal, G.E. 2025. "Towards the Design of a VR-Based Rehearsal Tool: Exploring Amateur Actors' Individual and Collective Needs." In Adjunct Proceedings of the 4th Annual Symposium on Human-Computer Interaction for Work, June 23-25, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Taranu, M.; Baykal, G.E.; Olof T.; Eva E. 2025. "Technology-Mediated Collaboration among Children with Special Educational Needs: Definitions and Measurements." In Proceedings of the 24th Interaction Design and Children, June 23-26, Reykjavik, Iceland.

Özkaya, M. N.; Baykal, G.E. 2025. "Investigating the Motivational Game Elements in Game-based Interventions in School Context: A Literature Review." In Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, April 26- May 1, Yokohoma, Japan.

Balkaya, M.; Baykal, G.E. 2025. "Exploring the Nexus of Technology and Food Practices in Young Adults: A Value-Sensitive Design Perspective towards Human-Food Interaction." In Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, April 26- May 1, Yokohoma, Japan.