

APPLIED

RESEARCH THROUGH FABRICATION



BRIEF

Within the field of architecture, exploration involving parametric modeling and digital fabrication – *what we will call computational fabrication* – is both wide and varied. There is no standard of how the technology is developed or no singular focus on how it will impact the design process or the construction of buildings. And yet there is growing evidence the application is quickly evolving in a variety of unique directions. From novel geometries and innovative structures to improved material and environmental performance it is clear there is a focused agenda towards a more rigorous implementation of the digital toolset.

The impetus for this development is coming simultaneously from three positions that collectively provide a critical nexus in the field of computational fabrication: First, the professional demands for buildings to have greater performance capacity, stylistic coherence, and economic efficiency; second the academic realm where experimentation, research, and theory, continue to push technological exploration forward; and third, industry where innovative development is both an economic imperative and a generative vehicle for technical application and testing. From each of these positions, applied research is gaining traction as a critical and vital part of connecting the design process into a deeper knowledge base of information that is raising the intelligence and thus efficacy of architectural design. Whether following traditional models of research or pioneering new forms of hybridized working models between these three categories, those working within this field are now able to activate a broader and more fully coordinated spectrum of information about the design decision making process.

We seek research proposals that actively connect academia, the profession and the fabrication industry. As a center of gravity the proposals must illustrate work of designers who are forming an integrated relationship between disciplines in the area they practice and build. As this is a “design to fabricate” competition, TEX-FAB will match our network of fabricators and consultants with the projects that best manifest research through computational fabrication and apply it toward more intelligent integers of materiality and construction. Through a panel of experts we propose to identify projects that warrant a higher degree of realization and exhibit them to foster a discussion that engages an audience in our region and beyond. From this selection a final project will be selected and optimized with a team of experts for the purpose of full-scale production.

CRITERIA

You are encouraged to submit in either of two categories: ***Continuing Research*** or ***Speculative Proposals***.

Continuing Research is a category that seeks to enable a more specific and regimented design research project already underway. Encompassing all works that are at a significant stage within their development that warrant a substantial shift in the scale and or material usage to further the research. This includes any and all previously funded work at any stage of development.

Speculative Proposals is a broad based category with the intent to kick-start a design research project. It is an open category and freely interpretable. New ideas, or concepts are welcome and present the entrant an opportunity to further develop their ‘flash of genius’. No previously funded research work may be submitted.

CONTEXT

APPLIED is a two-stage international design competition established to foster the deeper developments within the field of *computational fabrication*. We are soliciting design proposals that further existing research, by enabling prototyping at a larger scale or full scale, and proposals to jumpstart new research and design concepts.

WINNER

APPLIED is a two-stage competition. In the first stage a total of 4 selections that will be awarded a **1000 USD** stipend to further develop their project in a scale model (2 selections from the Continuing Research category and 2 from Speculative Proposals category). For the second stage, the models with revised boards will be exhibited October 18-21 at San Francisco at ACADIA 2012, (a shipping fee stipend of **250 USD** will be provided), during which the second round jury will announce a winner made public during the conference.

The final winning entry will be built, exhibited in Dallas, Texas for the 4th annual TEX-FAB event. No additional design fee will be paid, however a **1,500 USD** stipend will be awarded for travel to partake in the installation of their work and to present the design on the day of the exhibition opening.

TIMELINE

Registration + Submission

October 8, 2011	Online registration and competition parameters made available
April 20, 2012	Questions due to TEX-FAB via email
May 4, 2012	Questions available online
June 2, 2012	Submissions due (Midnight) 23:59 PM CST

1st Round Jury Review

June 4, 2012	Jury reviews begin
June 16, 2012	Jury Finalists Announcement
June 18, 2012	Online Exhibition opens

2nd Round Jury Review

October 18, 2012	Jury review and Announcement of Winner
October 21, 2012	Exhibition closes

Final Exhibition

TBD, 2013	Installation and Opening Reception for Exhibition
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MATERIALS AND FABRICATION

There is no specific material or fabrication requirements for the submissions, as we are encouraging you to develop this competition to further your research or propose a speculative project. You are encouraged to develop and propose a specific fabrication method based on your research, thus you must specify techniques and materials used in the proposal for the competition entry.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

This is a digital competition; hard copy proposals will not be accepted. All entries are to be submitted via email on/or before midnight June 2, 2012 Central Standard Time (23:59 CST).

Board size is set at 24" x 36". Only one board per proposal/ entry, no more than one board will be accepted per project. Board resolution must be 150 dpi, RGB color mode in JPEG format. Entry identification code (which was generated during registration) must be positioned in the upper right corner with required dimensions of 1" tall x 4" wide. No other form of identification permitted. Disqualification of entries may occur if the guidelines are not met.

The language of the competition is English. Entries are encouraged to include all necessary information to clearly explain the proposal. The choice of the graphic representation is completely open to the entry team.

ELIGIBILITY

APPLIED is open to all architects, artists, designers whether student or professional without limit to country or nationality. Team collaboration is permitted and encouraged. If you so choose participants may enter more than once as either individuals or in a team.

COPYRIGHT

All information contained on the submission is required to be the work of the registrant and the registrant solely. By submitting as part of a team the participants warrant that all information on the board is the work of the registrant. No submission may contain any copyrighted materials that the registrant doesn't have express authority to use. Any and all submissions that violate copyright laws will be disqualified.

TEX-FAB does not claim copyrights on the submissions. The registrant holds the copyright for a submission. The registrant may exercise their rights to publish and distribute their design only after the competition has been awarded. However, by participating in the competition, all registrants authorize TEX-FAB to publish and exhibit the design proposals at the TEX-FAB exhibition and/or use them in any publication that the organizers may deem suitable. Additionally, by accepting the prize, the competition winner authorizes TEX-FAB to publish and exhibit any work generated in the production of the fabricated piece including the fabricated piece and/or use them in any publication that the organizers may deem suitable.