

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



DIANA PAU

EMILY DAINGERFELD

Senior Illustration Major,
Pratt Exchange Student (Japan)

Where did you study and for how long?

I left for Japan on the fourth of July to study at International Christian University (ICU) in Mitaka for about six weeks, then went on to Musashino Art University (MAU) in Kodaira until mid-December. Both schools are right outside of Tokyo.

What was your impression of Tokyo?

If you've ever seen the movie *Lost in Translation*, that would be a good starting point. It was very colorful and crowded, and at the same time there was a sense of order. The streets were very clean and well kept. There were people standing outside of department stores and restaurants yelling over-enthusiastically about free samples or great deals. There was definitely a sense of grandness and homogenization; either you were Japanese or you were a *gaijin* (foreigner).

What were the highlights of your trip?

I loved climbing Mount Fuji and exhibiting work in Harajuku! One of the biggest highlights, though, was visiting shrines and temples with my mother and father who came to visit me, and impressing them with my ability to get around using what little Japanese I knew. Also, eating the freshest sushi in the world from the top of the Mori Tower on my birthday with my father and friends ranks way up there. To this day my dad still talks about the "cake-ee" that we had for dessert. It consisted of gelatin powdered with green tea and bean paste. Delicious!

Tell me about your exhibition.

Exhibiting my artwork in Harajuku at the Mogra Gallery was amazing! I exhibited with fellow MAU exchange students John Lui from Pratt and others from Finland, France, and Japan. Our theme was "Through the Eyes of a Mosquito" or a foreigner's perspective of Japan. I exhibited a piece, titled "International Relations," about the close political alliance between the U.S.'s President Bush and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

PRATT STUDENTS WORK TO ENHANCE NISSAN CUBES



DIANA PAU

Studio participants will design elements for the Nissan Cube. A model is shown here.

Eight Pratt industrial and fashion design students will collaborate with Nissan North America in a project designed to introduce the Nissan Cube, already a "must-have" car in Japan, to the American market and to offer students an opportunity to create effective solutions to real-world problems.

Students are working with Martin Skalski, professor, Industrial Design, to create provocative designs for the stylish cars as part of the project "Cube-ism: Automobile Meets Art." Final works will be featured at the 2008 New York Internat-

ional Auto Show at the Jacob Javits Center in April.

The studio received two Nissan Cubes for inspiration and students were charged with enhancing the vehicles by changing exterior colors, graphics, seat materials, and wheel treatments and by integrating eco-friendly elements into the designs. This past December, participants met with Francois Farion, color and trim manager for Nissan Design America, for an overview of the project. Later in the spring, Nissan representatives will choose two final designs for presentation at the Auto Show.

eBIKE PROJECT PRESENTS DESIGN CONCEPTS TO SUNSTAR EXECS



DIANA PAU

Student Young Ming, left, presents his design for the eBike to Sunstar executive Kazuki Nakajima.

The eBike Project, an industrial design studio sponsored by the Sunstar Corporation of Japan, concluded on December 4 with seven student finalists presenting their design concepts to company representatives—designer and alumna Rieko Ito (B.F.A., '99) and manager Kazuki Nakajima of Sunstar Engineering—in the Juliana Curran Terian Design Center.

Sunstar, a global corporation that has been manufacturing and selling rubber glue for bicycles since 1941, has already developed an electric motor that attaches to a bike, but approached the Institute to gain assistance in designing an eco-

friendly, hybrid battery-operated bike targeting the American market. After an open call, Pratt and Sunstar selected 20 students to go into the research phase of the project over the summer. During the fall semester, seven remaining finalists were asked to create small-scale dummies and sketches of eBike designs.

The studio course was co-taught by Jonathan Thayer, assistant professor, Industrial Design, and Noah King, visiting instructor, Industrial Design. Sunstar will consider whether any of the designs will go into prototype production.

IN MEMORIAM

KEITH GRATKOWSKI, a third-year architecture student from Scranton, Pa., died on November 27, 2007 after sustaining brain injuries resulting from an accidental fall on November 24. He was on the Dean's List at Pratt and was a member of the American Institute

of Architecture Students. Before attending Pratt, Gratkowski had received an associate degree with honors from Johnson College in Scranton, Pa., and had studied at the University of Pittsburgh. A memorial service will be held on January 24 at 11 AM in Pratt's Brooklyn Chapel.

GATEWAY

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
AND COMMUNICATIONS
DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENT
PRATT INSTITUTE

Patricia Pelehach **VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT**

Mara McGinnis **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Elizabeth Randolph **GATEWAY EDITOR** erandolp@pratt.edu / North Hall, Room 219 / 718-399-4515

Jess Mophew **SENIOR DESIGNER**

Sung-Hee Son **PRODUCTION MANAGER**

Adrienne Gyongy **WRITER/COPY EDITOR**

Diana Pau **PHOTO MANAGER AND LAYOUT**

View *Gateway* online at <http://www.pratt.edu/pr-comm#>

To submit information for *Gateway*, please contact Elizabeth Randolph.