

# curriculum vitae

lawson spencer

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## introduction:

occupation(s)

biography

**research associate** - Cornell Robotic Construction Lab

**project lead** - HANNAH Office

Lawson Spencer is a researcher at the Robotic Construction Lab (RCL) at Cornell University and project lead at HANNAH Office. Lawson's research broadly investigates computational methods to fabricate and structurally simulate innovative applications of biodegradable materials such as timber and dirt with focus on robotics and timber.

## education:

Cornell University

aug 2017 - dec 2021

Master of Architecture

Texas Tech University

aug 2013 - dec 2016

Bachelor of Science in Architecture

## professional experience:

UN Studio

feb 2020 - aug 2020 {amsterdam, nl}

**architectural intern** 3 Projects [50 hrs./week] - helped with design and presentation booklet for three competitions - *Penang South Islands* [competition] - worked on site diagrams, area calculations, and the general building massing (using grasshopper, excel, and rhino) - *OIC Headquarters* [competition] - worked on conceptual diagrams, building sections, environmental analysis and conference building facade, atrium, and program

Morphosis

aug 2019 - feb 2020 {new york, ny}

**architectural intern** 4 Projects [50 hrs./week] - helped with diagramming and rendering of two projects - *Honors College at USF* [DD & CD phases] - worked on interior elevations, plan and section details, interior renderings and atrium design (using revit, rhino, grasshopper and dynamo) - *Alexandria Bay Port of Entry* [CA phase] developed and photographed physical section model

Jakob + Macfarlane

summer 2019 {paris, fr}

**architectural intern** 2 Projects [41 hrs./week] - worked on the design development documents and material calculations for a médiathèque - *FA + U Mons Architecture School* [ASD & DD phases] - worked on material finish plans, wall details, site massing, and facade elevations and details (using revit, rhino, grasshopper and dynamo)

Dat[a] - Rob Mothershed

summer 2018 {los angeles, ca}

**architectural intern** 5 Projects [43 hrs./week] - worked on the construction documents (plans, sections, equipment specifications) for marijuana cultivation, retail and extraction facilities

Gensler

jan 2017 - aug 2017 {dallas, tx}

**architectural intern** 9 Projects [45 hrs./week] - worked in the urban planning studio on presentation documents, perspectives, site plans, and construction documents (wall sections, plans, and section details)

G. W. Mitchell Construction

summer 2015 {san antonio, tx}

**project engineer intern + field laborer** 4 Projects [48 hrs./week] - drafted RFI's, reviewed submittals, reviewed "As-Built" drawings, installed windows, did job site clean up and did light gauge metal framing.

Dovetail Construction

summer 2012 & 2013 {san antonio, tx}

**field laborer** 6 Projects [40 hrs./week] - worked on painting, job site clean-up, demolition, and wood and light gauge metal framing on two condominiums and four houses.

## academic experience:

Andrea Lee Simitch

aug 2021 - dec 2021 {ithaca, ny}

**teaching assistant** [12 hrs./week] - coordinated between 6 studio professors, put together tutorials and helped prepare course content for *B. Arch Studio 3*

Sasa Zivkovic

june 2021 - dec 2021 {ithaca, ny}

**research assistant** [10 hrs./week] - led and coordinated research on robotically fabricated timber products at the *Cornell Robotic Construction Lab (RCL)*

Leslie Lok & Martin Miller  
jan 2021 - may 2021 {ithaca, ny}

Sarosh Anklesaria  
jan 2019 - mar 2020 {online}

Alexandr Mergold  
mar 2018 - jun 2018 {ithaca, ny}

Clifton Ellis  
jan 2016 - dec 2016 {ithaca, ny}

Mari Michael Glassell  
aug 2015 - dec 2016 {lubbock, tx}

**teaching assistant** [10 hrs./week] - put together tutorials and taught on grasshopper for *M. Arch Studio 2*

**research assistant** [7 hrs./week] - gathered documentation to digitally model Government Museum in Chandigarh

**research assistant** [8 hrs./week] - worked on the design, drawings, and construction of an installation for the American Spolia Exhibit

**student assistant** [5 hrs./week] - graded student exams and essays for *Architecture History 1 & 2*

**research assistant** [12 hrs./week] - researched and gathered information to develop an urban information system module to find program space adjacencies

### publications:

fall 2022

Lok, Leslie, Sasa Zivkovic, and Lawson Spencer. Forthcoming. "UNLOG: A Deployable, Lightweight, and Bending-Active Timber Construction Method." *Technology/Architecture + Design* 7 (1).

fall 2021

Spencer, Lawson. 2021. "Dirt Scales: Towards a Decomposable, Machined Rammed Earth." Advisors: David Costanza, Marta. H. Wisniewska. M. Arch Thesis, Ithaca, NY: Cornell University.

fall 2021

Lok, Leslie, Asbiel Samaniego, and Lawson Spencer. 2021. "Timber De-Standardized: A Mixed-Reality Framework for the Assembly of Irregular Tree Log Structures." In *Proceedings of the 40th Annual Conference of the Association for Computer Aided Design in Architecture (ACADIA)*, edited by B. Farahi, B. Bogosian, J. Scott, J. L. García del Castillo y López, K. Dörfler, J. A. Grant, S. Parasho, and V. A. A. Noel, 222–31. ACADIA.

spring 2021

Jiang, Jennifer, Lawson Spencer, and Liss C. Werner. 2021. "Public Gratification Palace: A Framework for Increased Civic Engagement." In *Media Architecture Biennale 20*, 131–40. MAB20. New York, NY, USA: Association for Computing Machinery. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3469410.3469423>.

spring 2016

Spencer, Lawson. 2016. An Architectural Process Ideology. In *Proceedings of the Undergraduate Research Conference*. URC16. Lubbock, Texas: Texas Tech University.

### recognition & honors:

spring 2019

model photo exhibited in *Plate 2.0* by the Cornell AAP

fall 2018

Mellon Practice Seminar "Spatial Tensions" Scholarship - recipient

fall 2018

model photo exhibited in *Plate 1.0* by the Cornell AAP

spring 2018

The Mary Miller Lyons Graduate Fellowship in Architecture - recipient

fall 2017

Director's Award - recipient

spring 2017

two drawings and project exhibited in *Crop 07* by the TTU\_CoA

spring 2016

**Dean's Cup** - Runner-Up in Dean's Cup Competition 2016 (with *Geoffrey Ford + Dianze Wu*). Proceedings exhibited in TTU\_CoA's *Crop 07*

spring 2016

Chapman Harvey Architecture Scholarship - recipient

spring 2016

Study Abroad Design Scholarship - recipient

### involvement:

fall 2020

*First-Year Undergraduate* Mid-Review Critic at New York Institute of Technology

spring 2020

*Undergraduate Thesis* Final-Review Critic at New York Institute of Technology

fall 2019

*Undergraduate Thesis* Mid-Review Critic at New York Institute of Technology

fall 2018

Student Thesis Assistant - Jamie Canbolat

fall 2017

Student Thesis Assistant - Ethan Davis

fall 2016

**Student Grade Appeals Committee** - reviewed and voted on grade disputes between students and professors

fall 2015 - fall 2018

**AIAS** - American Institute of Architecture Students [member]

fall 2013 - spring 2014

**Global Art Brigades** - [member]

### proficiencies:

rhino 3D | grasshopper | karamba | kangaroo | robot studio | revit | dynamo | photoshop | illustrator | inDesign | vray | lumion | enscape