

Ricardo Legorreta visits CoA

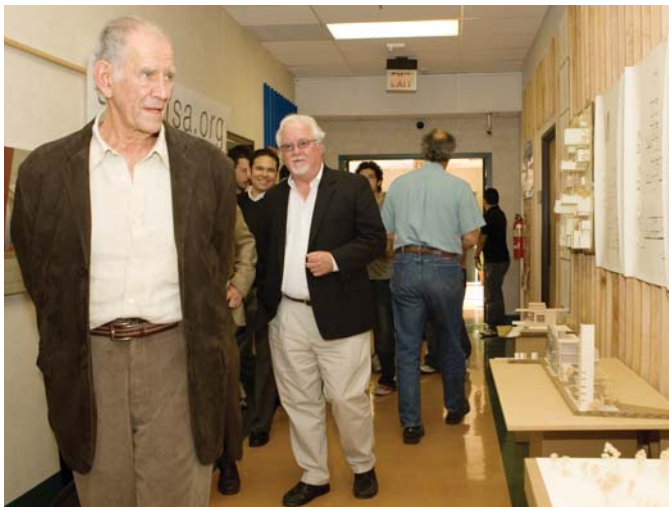


Mexico's best known architect, **Ricardo Legorreta**, whose **San Antonio Central Library** enlivens downtown San Antonio, visited the College on February 29, 2008. Legorreta's visit was in conjunction with an exhibit of his work at the **Blue-star Contemporary Art Center**. The exhibit, curated by **Bill FitzGibbons**, the center's executive director, brought together photography of Legorreta's built work with pencil sketches that revealed aspects of the architect's conceptual agenda, working methodology, and design process.

Legorreta's visit to UTSA was preceded by a luncheon hosted by the CoA and attended by a number of faculty, several students, local architects, members of the press, and a number of



dignitaries from San Antonio and UTSA including President **Ricardo Romo** and Judge and Mrs. **Nelson W. Wolff**. During his visit to the College, Legorreta visited the undergraduate studios, coordinated by Professors **John Webb** and **Craig Blount**, where he reviewed a number of student design projects and offered both insight and encouragement. He then visited the graduate studio for an informal discussion where he answered students' questions and discussed his work. The discussion covered a broad range of topics including passion for one's work, hard work, global practice, the realities of big projects, his experience of working in San Antonio, lessons learned from vernacular architecture in Mexico, and the challenges and opportunities of technology in contemporary architecture. Professor **Ed Burian**, who teaches a course "Modern Architecture of Mexico," coordinated the event.



Later that evening Legorreta delivered a lecture on his work at the **Instituto Cultural de México** to a standing room only audience. Legorreta's visit provided a memorable experience for the students and faculty at the school, and we look forward to his next visit.

Legorreta with Bill FitzGibbons (center) All photos by Justin Parr