

Sue Ann Pemberton receives Edward J. Romieniec Award

The Texas Society of Architects has presented the **Edward J. Romieniec Award for Outstanding Educational Contributions to Sue Ann Pemberton**, Senior Lecturer at the University of Texas at San Antonio College of Architecture. Pemberton received the award nomination from the **San Antonio Chapter of the AIA**. The award was presented to her at the opening of the general session of the **Texas Society of Architects** annual convention in Houston on October 23rd by the 2009 TSA President **Bill Reeves** and **Laurie Limbacher**, Chair of the TSA Awards Committee.

The Romieniec Award is the highest honor granted to an architectural educator in the State of Texas and is awarded to current or former faculty members in any of the eight Texas schools that are accredited and members of the AIA. The award is generally given to tenure-track academics with a lifetime of service in the field. However, Pemberton is an adjunct professor with her own architecture practice, a fact that makes her recognition by TSA even more outstanding.

During the past 25 years of teaching at UTSA, Pemberton's contributions have ranged from courses in technology to historical preservation, from design studios to supervising master's projects, and leading the popular summer design/build program in Norogachi, Chihuahua Mexico.

"Sue Ann Pemberton is a teacher's teacher: leading by example, dedicating hours of preparation and support far beyond her assignments, and joyfully celebrating in the success of her students, encouraging them to reach higher as they enter the profession," said **David Woodcock**, Architecture Professor at Texas A&M.

The impressive range of her contribution is secondary to the effectiveness of her method. Sue Ann's approach is hands on. She provides students with an immediate unfiltered experience of the various aspects of being an architect. It is her ability to bridge the divide between theoretical learning and its practical application to which students respond.

The award's namesake, Edward J. Romieniec, was a professor and Dean of the Architectural faculty of Texas A&M. Pemberton was a student of Romie-

Pemberton with Bill Reeves and Laurie Limbacher



niec while pursuing her Bachelors and Masters in Architecture degrees. Her vivid recollections of Romieniec were of his high and exacting expectations of students, expectations which Pemberton has transferred to innumerable undergraduate and graduate students who have passed through her classes over years. Her students won the first place Charles E. Peterson Prize for historic documentation in 2003 for their drawings of the Old Oakville Jail in Live Oak, Texas, and have placed in that competition several times.

This is the third occasion in which a UTSA faculty member has been a recipient since the award's inception in 1985. **Eugene George, Jr.**, who is a former UTSA College of Architecture faculty member and has endowed the college with a scholarship in his name, received the award in 2001 and **Julius Gribou**, Executive Vice Provost for UTSA and former Dean of the College of architecture, was awarded in 2003. Pemberton is only the fourth woman to receive the award in its 25-year history.

"Sue Ann Pemberton is an ideal example of the practice professor, sharing her professional experience in her academic context. Her attitude, her drive, her imagination, and her passion all spark her outstanding teaching," noted **Elizabeth Corbin Murphy**, FAIA, Principal of Chambers, Corbin, and Burg Restoration Architects, Ltd.