"Architectural Pedagogy and Psychological Testing in Great Britain, 1958-1968"

Friday, April 11th 12:30 - 2:00 Room 3-133

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Abstract:

Pedagogy might have low status in the hierarchy of 1960s design history – way below Ray and Charles Eames? chairs, Paul Rand?s corporate logos or Archigram. Yet in 1960s Great Britain, attempts to overhaul architectural pedagogy became the locus of significant technical, economic and institutional coalitions. This talk examines these coalitions within a cultural context relative to the simultaneous mental testing of architectural students.

Bio

Alise Upitis is a PhD candidate in Architecture: Computation at MIT. Her dissertation, Natural Normative: The Design Methods Movement,1952-1967, examines how, following WWII in the US and UK, computer-related technological discourse intertwined with psychological and psychoanalytic concerns to reconfigured the politics of culture, norms, and nature in design education and practice.