

**Shireen Kanakri**  
Professor of Interior Design and Graduate Program Director  
Construction Management and Interior Design Department  
College of Architecture and Planning  
Ball State University  
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## **Appointments**

- Professor of Interior Design, Ball State University, Muncie, IN (2025– present).
- Associate Professor of Interior Design, Ball State University, Muncie, IN (2019– 2025).
- Assistant Professor of Interior Design, Ball State University, Muncie, IN (2014– 2019).
- Graduate Program Director, Interior Design Graduate Program, Muncie, IN (2017- present).
- Director of Health Design Environmental Research Lab, Muncie, IN (2017-present).

## **Education:**

- Ph.D., Architecture/ Certificate in Health Systems & Design, Texas A&M University. (2014).
- M.S., Architecture/ Behavioral Studies (Educational Environments), Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan. (2006).
- B.S., Architecture, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Jordan. (2003).

## **Selected Published Papers:**

- Kanakri, S.M., Noil, D., Mohammad, H. (2024). Testing Constraints: Developing Temporary Sustainable Housing Models for American Families. Engineering and Technology, Tier 3.
- Kanakri, S.M. (2024). The Neurological Impact of Room Temperature in Built Environment on Thermoregulate in Children with Autism. Simplified Autism Research.
- Kanakri, S.M. (2024). An Experimental Study of Acoustical Design, Physiological Measurements, and Repetitive Behaviors in Children with Autism. Journal of Acoustical Society of America, Tier 2.
- (2024). Homeward Bound: CHOC Children's Thompson Autism Center. Healthcare Design Magazine.
- Kanakri, S. M. (2023). An experimental study of acoustical design, physiological measurements, and repetitive behaviors in children with autism. Journal of Acoustical Society of America.
- Cole, L., Kanakri, S. M. (2023). The Importance of Perceived Safety in Clinician Workspaces Post-COVID 19. Universal Journal in Public Health.
- Kanakri, S. M., Noil, D., Mohammad, H., (2023). "Testing Constraints Developing Temporary Housing Models for American Families", International Innovation and Technological Advances for Sustainability Conference (ITAS 2023), Doha, Qatar.
- Hughes, L., Kanakri, S. M. (2022). How to Achieving Inclusive Design: Design Considerations for Clients with Low-Vision. Environment and Ecology Research.
- Kanakri, S. M. (2022). Measuring Behavior in Consoling Clinic. Measuring Behavior Proceeding 2022.
- Kanakri, S. M. (2022). Measuring Behavior of low vision populations. Measuring Behavior Proceeding 2022.

- Kanakri, S.M. (2019). Parental Perceptions: Effects of Home Acoustics on Children with Autism. Family Medicine and Primary Care. Students Attitudes and Behavior in the Classroom. Advances in Pediatric Research, Volume 8, No 3 (October 1st, 2019), pp.1-18.
- Kanakri, S. M., Hathron, K. (2018). Art and Autism: Caregiver Input. Advances in Pediatric Research, Volume 5, No 1 (September, 2018), pp.1-14. <https://www.longdom.org/articles/art-and-autism-caregiver-input.pdf>
- Morrow, B.\*, Kanakri, S. M. (2018). The Impact of Fluorescent and LED Lighting on Students Attitudes and Behavior in the Classroom. Advances in Pediatric Research, Volume 8, No 3 (October 1st, 2018), pp.1-18.
- Kanakri, S. M. (2017). Observational study of acoustic design and repetitive behaviors on children with autism. Environmental Design Research Connections Journal, 11 (May 2017), pp.07-09. <https://edra.site-ym.com/page/missionvaluehistory>
- Kanakri, S. M., Shepley, M., Varni, J., Tassinari, L., Mohammad, H.\* (2017). Noise and Autism Spectrum Disorder in Children: An Exploratory Survey. Research in Developmental Disabilities, 63(April 2017), pp. 85-94. <http://authors.elsevier.com/sd/article/S089142221730046X>
- Kanakri, S. M., Shepley, M., Tassinari, L.G., Varni, J.W., Fawaz, H.M.\* (October, 2016). An Observational Study of Classroom Acoustical Design and Repetitive Behaviors in Children with Autism. Environment and Behavior, 49(8), pp. 847-873.
- Kanakri, S. M., Schott, M.\*, Mitchell, A.\*, Mohammad, H.\*, Etters, M.\*, Palmer, N.\* (2016). Wayfinding Systems in Educational Environments. Environment and Ecology Research, 4(5), pp.251 - 256 supporting file supporting file
- Quan, X., Joseph, A., Nanda, U., Moyano-Smith, O., Kanakri, S. M., Ancheta, C., Loveless, E.A. (2016). Improving Pediatric Radiography Patient Stress, Mood, and Parental Satisfaction through Positive Environmental Distractions: A Randomized Control Trial Journal of Pediatric Nursing. Journal of Pediatric Nursing, 31(1), e11-22.

## Selected Proceeding Papers:

- Kanakri, S. M., \*Symmes, M., "12893: Ovarian Cancer Patient Preferences in the Gynecologic Oncology Clinic Waiting Room during the COVID-19 Pandemic", Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Mexico City, Mexico, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (June 20, 2023).
- Kanakri, S. M., "13695: Acoustical Design with Physiological Measurements in Autism Population", Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Mexico City, Mexico, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (June 20, 2023).
- Kanakri, S. M., "13696: The Impact of Furniture on College Students' Performance", Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA), Mexico City, Mexico, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (June 20, 2023).
- Kanakri, S. M., "An Experimental Study of Acoustical Design, Physiological Measurements and Repetitive Behaviors in Children with Autism", Acoustical Society of America (ASA) in Chicago 2023, Chicago, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (May 2023).

- Kanakri, S. M., Noel, D., Mohammad, H., "Testing Constraints Developing Temporary Housing Models for American Families", International Innovation and Technological Advances for Sustainability Conference (ITAS 2023), Doha, Qatar, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (March 1, 2023).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Lighting and Autism", ESMED General Assembly 2022, European Society of Medicine, Spain, peer-reviewed/refereed. (August 4, 2022)
- Kanakri, S. M., "Designing Healthy Sensory Environments for Neurodiversity Children", Engineering and Architecture Department of the University of Trieste (Italy), Italy, peer-reviewed/refereed. (November 29, 2022).
- Kanakri, S.M. (2020). Personality traits for design students and the built environment. International Conference on Design Principles & Practices. Brooklyn, New York
- Kanakri, S.M. (2019). Parents Insights on the Built Environment. Christchurch, New Zealand: UIA-PHG Seminar.
- Kanakri, S.M. (2019). Acoustics and children with Autism. PEDIATRICS AND CLINICAL PEDIATRICS. Edinburgh, Scotland: PEDIATRICS AND CLINICAL PEDIATRICS.
- Yefimchuk, I.\*, Kanakri, S. M. (2018). The Impact of Labor Room Environment and Interior Design Features on the Course of Labor and Early Breastfeeding Initiation (pp. 102). 38th International seminar of the UIA-Public Health Group.
- Kanakri, S. M. (2018). Children and Parental Insights: Designing Autism-Friendly Inclusive Environments. 38th International seminar of the UIA-Public Health Group.
- Hussain, M.\*, Kanakri, S. M. (2018). Lighting and Nurses Performance. 38th International seminar of the UIA- Public Health Group.

### **Selected Published Abstracts:**

- Kanakri, S. M., "Children and Parental Insights: Designing Autism-Friendly Inclusive Environments", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG), Pavilion 7 at the Paris Exhibition Center – Porte de Versailles, Paris, France, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 28, 2018).
- Hussain, M.\*, Kanakri, S. M., "Lighting and Nurses Performance", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG), Pavilion 7 at the Paris Exhibition Center – Porte de Versailles, Paris, France, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 28, 2018).
- Morrow, B.\*, Kanakri, S. M., "Exploratory Study: Perception of Nurses about their Lighting Environment", Environmental Design Research Association, Oklahoma, USA, peer-reviewed/refereed. (June 5, 2018).
- Yefimchuk, I.\*, Kanakri, S. M., "The Impact of Labor Room Environment Features on Breastfeeding Initiation Time in Women", Environmental Design Research Association, Oklahoma, USA, peer-reviewed/refereed. (June 5, 2018).
- Jefferson, N.\*, Kanakri, S. M., "The Effects of Nature and Art on Children with Autism: How Does their Behavior Change when Engaged with Nature and Expressing their Art", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG), Pavilion 7 at the Paris Exhibition Center – Porte de Versailles, Paris, France, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 28, 2018).
- Yefimchuk, I.\*, Kanakri, S. M., "The Impact of Labor Room Environment and Interior Design Features on the Course of Labor and Early Breastfeeding Initiation", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG) peer-reviewed/refereed, National. (July 20, 2017).

- Kanakri, S. M., "Links between Art Pictures in Classroom and Repetitive Behaviors in Children with Autism: An Observational Study", European Healthcare Design 2017, Royal College of Physicians, 53 Albany Street, London, UK, NW1 4EB, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (June 11, 2017).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Acoustic Design and Repetitive Behavior in Children with Autism", International Society for Autism Research, Marriott Marquis, San Francisco, California, USA, peer-reviewed/refereed, National. (May 12, 2017).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Links Between Classroom Acoustics and Repetitive Behaviors in Preschool Children with Autism: An Observational Study", The International Network of Health Promoting Hospitals & Health Services (HPH), University of Vienna Universitätsring 1 1010 Vienna, Austria, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (April 10, 2017).

## **Selected Presentations:**

- Kanakri, S. M., "Healthcare certificate in Ball State University", Architecture + Health Educators Summit, Architecture + Health Educators Summit, Chicago, Illinois, USA, peer-reviewed/refereed, National. (July 26, 2019).
- Kanakri, S.M. (2019). Parents Insights on the Built Environment. Christchurch, New Zealand: UIA-PHG Seminar.
- Kanakri, S.M. (2019). Acoustics and children with Autism. Pediatrics and Clinical Pediatrics. Edinburgh, Scotland.
- Kanakri, S. M., "Healthcare certificate in Ball State University", Architecture + Health Educators Summit, Architecture + Health Educators Summit, Chicago, Illinois, USA, peer-reviewed/refereed, National. (July 26, 2018).
- Morrow, B.\*, Kanakri, S. M., "Exploratory Study: Perception of Nurses about their Lighting Environment", Environmental Design Research Association, Oklahoma, USA, peer-reviewed/refereed. (June 5, 2018).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Children and Parental Insights: Designing Autism-Friendly Inclusive Environments", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG), Pavilion 7 at the Paris Exhibition Center – Porte de Versailles, Paris, France, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 28, 2018).
- Hussain, M.\*, Kanakri, S. M., "Lighting and Nurses Performance", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG), Pavilion 7 at the Paris Exhibition Center – Porte de Versailles, Paris, France, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 28, 2018).
- Jefferson, N. \*, Kanakri, S. M., "The Effects of Nature and Art on Children with Autism: How Does their Behavior Change when Engaged with Nature and Expressing their Art", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG), Pavilion 7 at the Paris Exhibition Center – Porte de Versailles, Paris, France, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 28, 2018).
- Yefimchuk, I. \*, Kanakri, S. M., "The Impact of Labor Room Environment and Interior Design Features on the Course of Labor and Early Breastfeeding Initiation", 38th annual international seminar of the UIA Public Health Group (PHG), Pavilion 7 at the Paris Exhibition Center – Porte de Versailles, Paris, France, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 28, 2018).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Healthcare certificate in Ball State University", Architecture + Health Educators Summit, Architecture + Health Educators Summit, Chicago, Illinois, USA, peer-reviewed/refereed, National. (July 20, 2017).

- Kanakri, S. M., "Links between Art Pictures in Classroom and Repetitive Behaviors in Children with Autism: An Observational Study", European Healthcare Design 2017, Royal College of Physicians, 53 Albany Street, London, UK, NW1 4EB, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (June 11, 2017).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Links Between Classroom Acoustics and Repetitive Behaviors in Preschool Children with Autism: An Observational Study", The International Network of Health Promoting Hospitals & Health Services (HPH), University of Vienna Universitätsring 1 1010 Vienna, Austria, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (April 10, 2017).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Use of Noldus Observer XT for Measuring Environmental Impacts on Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders", Measuring Behavior 2016, Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (May 23, 2016).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Creating Spaces for Children with Special Needs Specific for those with Autism", 2015 UIA- PHG Seminar & GUPHA Meeting Program, Dalian, China, peer-reviewed/refereed. (May 20, 2015).
- Kanakri, S. M., "Healthy Architectural Environments for Children with Autism", (International Union of Architects) UIA Durban 2014, UIA Durban 2014, South Africa, peer-reviewed/refereed, International. (August 1, 2014).

## **Selected Grants:**

National Science Foundation (NSF) 2025 – 2028 Grant:  
Amount: \$300,000

Provost Immersive Grant:  
Amount: \$30,000

TherAplay Children Foundation, Health Environmental Design Research Lab  
Amount: \$25,000.00

Children's TherAplay Foundation, Redesign the Current Building Using the Evidence Based Research from HEDR Lab  
Amount: \$5,000.00

American Institute of Architects, 30th Annual AIA AAH STERIS Student Design Charrette  
Amount: \$6,500.00

Children's TheraPlay Foundation, Redesign TherAplay Children's Foundation Center  
Amount: \$10,025.00

Family Hope Foundation, Parental Insights: Autism and Environment,  
Amount: \$9,870.00

Community Islamic Center in Fishers, Indiana,  
Amount: \$4,000.00

Energy Focus Company. Effect of Lighting on Children with Autism (compare LED with Fluorescent)  
Amount: \$2,000.00

Open Door Health clinic. Open Door Space Planning and Interior Design,  
Amount: \$3,000.00

Oakwood Resort. Space Planning and Interior Design: Oakwood Resort Restaurant, Syracuse, IN  
Key layers  
Amount: \$2,000.00

American Institute of Architects. 2015 AIA AAH STERIS Student Design Charrette  
Amount: \$7,500.00

Graduate School at Ball State University. GEM Recruitment Grant Program  
Amount: \$5,500

“Space Matters”. Center for Middletown Studies & Digital Scholarship Lab  
Amount: \$1,000.00

Provost Office in Ball State University Acoustical Environment Design for  
Children with Autism Amount: \$41,321.00

ASPIRE a new faculty starts- up grant. The Effect of Lighting on Children with Autism.  
Amount: \$3,000.00

## **Selected Master's theses and creative projects**

### **Completed:**

- Lauralee Wikkerink, Master's Thesis Committee Chair/Advisor, Construction Management and Interior Design (CMID). Fall 2019.
- Ashley Hughes, Iryna Yefimchuk, Master's Thesis Committee Chair/Advisor, Construction Management and Interior Design (CMID). Fall 2019
- Iryna Yefimchuk, Master's Thesis Committee Chair/Advisor, Construction Management and Interior Design (CMID). Summer 2019
- Melina Garza. Master's committee chair/advisor, Master's in Interior Design. Spring 2019.
- Marica Paljakka-cargo, Master's committee chair/advisor, Master's in Interior Design. Spring 2019
- Pripnan Tantiprasertchai, Master's Thesis Chair/Advisor, Master's in Interior Design. Spring 2019.
- Morrow, Brenda, Master's committee chair/advisor, Construction Management and Interior Design (CMID). Fall 2017 – August, 2018.
- Jordan H. Rhudy, Master's committee chair/advisor, Family and Consumer Science. Fall 2016 – August, 2017.

## **New course development:**

### **Fall 2019**

IDES 601 Research Methods for Designers

### **Fall 2017**

Graduate Certificate in Planning Design of Healthcare Environments that includes 4 courses that I developed:

FCID 610 Evidence-Based Design in Healthcare Settings

FCID 612 Legal, Ethical, and Safety Issues in the Healthcare Industry

FCID 614 Healthy Environments for Patient Populations  
FCID 616 Understanding & Practicing Research in Healthcare Design

## **Selected Honors and Awards:**

### **Scholarship**

Best Paper in Pediatrics and Clinical Pediatrics. Edinburgh, Scotland. Paper titled: Acoustics and children with Autism, (June 2019).

Kanakri, S. M. (2018). Kanakri Seeks Ways to Help Autism Community with Research. *Ball State University*. <https://www.bsu.edu/academics/collegesanddepartments/construction-management-interior-design/stories/student-stories/kanakri>

Kanakri, S. M. (2018). CAP Lab Tests Impact of Room Design on Children With Autism. *About Ball State Magazine*. <https://magazine.bsu.edu/2018/03/22/cap-lab-shows-how-room-designs-impact-children-with-autism/>

Ball State Federal Credit Union Difference Maker, Ball State Federal Credit Union, Regional. (June 21, 2018)

Diversity Research Award, The Office of Institutional Diversity Presents, Ball State University. (April 10, 2018)

Kanakri, S. M. (2017). The Impact of Sounds on Autistic Children's Behaviors. *Nolduse Observer XT*. <http://www.noldus.com/blog/impact-sounds-autistic-childrens-behaviors>

Diversity Research Award, The Office of Institutional Diversity Presents. (April, 2017).

ARCC King Student Medal for Excellence in Architecture & Environmental Design Research from the Architectural Research Centers Consortium in Texas A&M University. (August 20, 2014).

Official representative for Jordan in the Global Health Care Group" International Union of Architects' Public Health Group UIA/PHG, Public Health Group UIA/PHG. (May, 2013 - Present).

## **Selected Professional Service:**

Graduate Interior Design Advisor/Coordinator (Construction Management & Interior Design Department). Responsibilities are handling admissions, advising, curriculum, and scheduling for all of the ID graduate coursework and programs. (March 2018 - Present).

Committee Member, Salary committee (Construction Management & Interior Design Department). (August 2017 - Present).

Committee Member, Scholarship Committee (Construction Management & Interior Design department). (August 2017 - Present).

Committee Chair, Portfolio Review, Ad-hoc committee (Interior Design Program). (September 2016 – Present).