NOW AT THE MACKINTOSH SCHOOL, Tom Maver has been at the forefront of information technologies applied to building design since 1979. When the technology was in its infancy, he founded ABACUS (Architecture and Building Aids Computer Unit, Strathclyde) a research group within the University of Strathclyde. Under his Directorship, over the next 32 years, ABACUS built an international reputation in CAAD, Multimedia, Virtual Reality, Urban Models and Energy Efficient Design. This reputation was recognised in the top rating of 5* (international excellence) by the UK Higher Education Funding Council and in several international lifetime achievement awards. He has also been awarded the RPME Bronze Medal and the Gold Medal of the Royal Society.
CAAD: A Five Decade Paradigm Shift

The 1960s – how we input/output the description of buildings

2016 – what we can do now

"... a science of design, a body of intellectually tough analytical, partly formalisable, partly empirical, teachable doctrine about the design process."
Herbert Simon, The Sciences of the Artificial, 1968

"... this paradigm shift in architectural design, the first in 400 years, is in its infancy. Should we wish to realize its potential, we MUST allow our students to realize their ambition."
Tom Mason, Research Professor, Mackinseth School of Architecture, 2016

"CAAD ... a great opportunity for architects to become master builders again."
Frank Gehry in his RIBA Gold Medal acceptance speech, 2003

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