Aaron Bisch graduated in May 2015 from K-State with a Master’s in IAPD. After graduation he moved to Dallas to begin his job with Corgan where he is an Interior Design Intern and member of the Interiors Studio. His job allows him to experience all facets of design from creating visioning presentations for clients to interfacing with contractors and building engineers.

Being in the workforce Aaron has learned that communicating with individuals who are not in the design profession is actually a large component to design. “As a design professional you must be able to present your ideas in a compelling, yet tangible way. I would challenge students to get out and practice their communication skills wherever they can.”

In Aaron’s opinion the furniture and product design components of IAPD were the most beneficial in honing his design thinking and craft and is really what sets K-State apart from other programs around the country. “I will never forget learning the art of sketching from Alan Hastings, or the method of problem solving from David Richter-O’Connell. I also will be forever proud of the skills and designs I produced in the IAPD shop.”

The course that Aaron felt prepared him most for the profession was Commercial Interiors Studio. The fourth-year studio challenged students to design 60,000 square feet of office space for a law firm which proved to be an extremely realistic space planning exercise. Another course that runs a close runner-up was the Production Furniture for the Contract Market class. “The ability to interface with amazing guest critiques and engage in the entire design and manufacturing process was amazing! I am continuing to utilize connections made in that class today.”

As an IAPD student Aaron loved studying abroad in Italy but he was also fortunate to have traveled to Nicaragua to do research and analysis for his final project. Vibha Jani helped him receive a small research grant and he was able to visit the community and site of his proposed “Model School” in Chinandega, Nicaragua which was an experience he won’t soon forget.

“Aaron’s Advice for Current IAPD Students:

“I was told over and over again to ‘have fun’ during my time at K-State. This would be the advice I would forward on to current students. HAVE FUN! There is something contagious about a positive attitude in the design profession and in life that will prove invaluable. The ability to communicate with others and gain trust and respect will be the greatest asset to you and your firm. The incubator that is college cannot be reproduced. Do the things now you won’t have a chance to do again. Stay up all night. Make things. And create bonds with the people around you that will last long after graduation.”