arch_weekly note

Greetings from New York. I had a good run through the windy streets of a very big city. Finishing in Central Park was amazing. Stopped by ENNEAD this morning for a tour and I am happy to report they have a very sharp team working hard on the project. I got a glimpse of some promising changes. I look forward to next week's meeting.

Good things are happening in the department so read below for just a few of them.

Have a great week.

Matthew Knox AIA
Professor and Department Head

arch_design studio

Nate Petty’s third year studio

Think Tank: A Non-Partisan Environmental Research Institute + Community Education Center

Our second studio project is a vibrant, purpose-built institute and education center for a consortium composed of the Aspen Institute, Kansas State University, private foundations and industry leaders from global bioscience and agriculture firms. At its inception, the Institute was founded in 1950 as a forum to ‘reflect on the ideals...that define a good society.’ This unique facility will serve as a non-partisan place of engagement specifically for issues involving the environment on a global scale. The project demands a productive and stimulating collection of exchange places for visitors and in-residence scholars to interact with other thought leaders while also contributing to the long-term development of a coherent set of values across public and private
sectors. Despite the advancement of digital technologies for long distance collaboration, the necessity for real, face-to-face interaction is as important as ever. The Institute has expanded their Fellowship and outreach objectives to bring like-minded individuals together in a residential community to address the 'complexity and severity of food insecurity and the geopolitical, humanitarian, market, and environmental challenges it poses.' As an intellectual hub, it will bring together a large array of stakeholders throughout the year as a new physical hub in the Institute's network. Its core constituents will be a diverse group of Visiting Fellows chosen from a variety of allied fields. They will live and work on-site for the duration of their fellowships with the Institute's Director. The Institute will also welcome community members who are seeking to learn more about issues to which they would not normally have access.

An open site in north campus has been designated as the best site due to its location alongside other 'security' oriented programs such as the Grain Science and Industry, NBAF/Pat Roberts Hall and Veterinary Medicine. As a threshold in this northern territory, the designs are expected to provide a new public destination for visitors and a 'gateway' presence in response to master plan efforts.

We started off the semester with a sequence of three research projects starting with a programmatic analysis of the Institute and its global reach and affiliations. Next, to better understand food security from a unique perspective, we engaged in a close analysis of the world's most common and exotic foods and their relative values/availability/costs to society. Each studio member extracted a set of principles, or rules, from their research in order to construct a working Spatial Concept Model to inform their design work moving forward. Our most recent contextual analysis exercise is informing each student's established parti concept. The studio's site model is now in production. Please feel free to drop into our studio and check out the work!

Arch_vote!
Vote each day for Wonder Workshop studio to win $7,000

Associate Professor Dragoslav Simic and Associate Professor Nathan Howe's Wonder Workshop + Parametric Design Studio consist of 14 fifth-year architecture students. This semester, they are currently constructing and improving the Adventure Garden at Manhattan's Wonder Workshop Children's Museum, which is a designated outdoor learning space for children. The elements include a climbing structure and water feature inspired from the Archimedes' Truncated Octahedron. They are currently one of four
finalists in Toro's "Green Spaces Make Great Places" grant initiative, which is a national video competition. Public voting will last between October 31 - November 21st and votes can be submitted every day. Click here to vote!

The project with the most votes will receive a $7,000 grant to fund their project, so please vote and support the Wonder Workshop and their efforts!

arch_people

Name: Nate Petty AIA  
Assistant Professor of Architecture

Where did you grow up?: I grew up outside of Nashville, TN and during middle school moved to Charlottesville, VA (just south of Washington, D.C.). I happily claim Virginia as my home state.

Where did you go to school?: I received my undergraduate degree in Architecture at the University of Virginia and then my Master of Architecture degree at Princeton University.

How long have you been teaching?: I have taught in various capacities at UVA, Princeton, Tulane and K-State across multiple academic years.

What is the best part of your job?: My favorite part of this job is having the opportunity to think about the ideas and representational techniques at the forefront of architecture while trying to push the limits of the profession on a daily basis.

As a child you dreamed of being what?: As a builder/tradesman, my father first influenced me to become an architect. Even though I had concentrated in art in high school for multiple years, I seriously considered trajectories into medicine. I even went as far as interning in my orthodontist's office during high school. After my first year of college, I transferred into A-School after seeing the studio culture first hand.

Who is your favorite Architect?: Toyo Ito. His work represents the clear integration of form, program and tectonic assembly into a concise language of design.

Can you tell us about your personal life?: My wife (Sheena Garcia) and I recently moved here from Greenpoint, Brooklyn, NYC with our miniature schnauzer and two orange tabby cats after around 7 years on the east coast working in design firms in Manhattan.

What do you do for fun?: I often watch documentaries, cooking shows and series programs (House of Cards, Game of Thrones, Homeland and Walking Dead) when I am not advancing my teaching endeavors and working on independent design work. I try to pick up the guitar when the opportunity presents itself but there really isn't enough time.

What is one strange fact about you?: I spent multiple years as the bassist in a couple of metal bands writing music, playing shows and even recording an album.

arch_department announcements

Congratulations to Associate Professor Michael McGlynn for being awarded the
Professional Advisory Board Faculty Development Award!

Eat froyo and support K-State Architecture! Visit Orange Leaf on Wednesday, November 12th, from 5 to 10 pm to support the fifth year Small Town Studio taught by Associate Professor Todd Gabbard and their project in Eureka, Kansas.

Third year students interested in serving on the APDesign Design Expo Committee for the spring semester, please email Kari Lindeen at klindeen@ksu.edu. The committee will meet once in December and twice later in the spring to coordinate Design Expo in March.

Registration is still open to attend the Institute for Student Learning Assessment on Friday, November 14th, hosted by the Office of Assessment. The event will begin at 11:30 am with a keynote addressing technology-based assessment tools for online or blended classrooms. It will be followed by hands-on workshop at 1:45 pm using technology tools. There will also be break-out sessions focusing on practical classroom assessment techniques, assessment to promote first-year retention, online assessment strategies and facilitating assessment of program outcomes. To register click here.

The Graduate Student Council is now accepting abstracts for the annual K-State Research Forum, which will be Tuesday, March 31, 2015, in the K-State Student Union. Participation is open to K-State graduate students from all disciplines. Students may give either a poster or an oral presentation. K-State faculty members will serve as judges and will select the top presenters in a variety of categories to receive awards. The abstract submission deadline is Friday, Dec. 19. Visit the research forums website for registration, abstract submission instructions and materials here.

The Green Action Fund is accepting proposals from student groups. Projects focused on growing sustainability practices on-campus will be reviewed for sponsorship. Read the proposal format guidelines then submit a Green Action Fund proposal in hard copy and electronic form. Paper forms should be submitted to the Office of Student Activities and Services in Room 809 of the K-State Student Union and electronic files toksu.greenactfndfund@gmail.com.

arch_upcoming events

NOVEMBER

5 Beaux Arts Ball hosted by AIAS at 9 pm at Kathouse Lounge, tickets $5
11 Faculty meeting at 2:30 pm in Seaton 208
11 Tenured faculty meeting at 3:00 pm in Seaton 208
12 David Kaneda ARCH + ARCHE lecture at 4:00 pm in the Little Theatre
13-14 APDesign Research Symposium
20 Tenured faculty meeting at 2:30 pm in Seaton 208
20 Third year options meeting at 6:00 pm in Seaton 63
24-28 Thanksgiving break
27 Thanksgiving holiday

DECEMBER

3-5 Alumni Honoree events
12 Manko Design Competition at 1:30 pm in the Pierce
15-19 Finals week

18 APDesign faculty/staff Holiday Party at 7 pm at KatHouse Lounge