

"Seaton Hall From Above" by Professor and Department Head Matthew Knox.

# archinfo

In an effort to keep things fresh, we are starting a new feature starting in this edition of archinfo (which will be coming out every few weeks this summer). Called RIGHT NOW, our new feature will highlight what faculty (and staff) are currently doing in terms of their creative and or scholarly work, teaching preparation or current teaching, interesting service work and even what they are doing for fun. As a kick off, I will start.

## arch\_right now

While not doing my administrative duties preparing for next year, I have been having way too much fun getting ready for my Digital Visual Effects in Architecture seminar and Digital Architecture 2 this fall. I have been working on my drone cinematography skills (still a lot to learn) such as on the Seaton construction update which was posted on our Facebook page and linked above. I have also been improving my Adobe After Effects skills and trying to learn more about color correction.

The real deal however is that I have immersed myself into Virtual Reality. I now have an HTC Vive VR set. HTC Vive is a room space system in which you can walk around in a 10 by 10 area. Wow. There are some amazing programs and games emerging daily, but Tilt Brush is still one of the most mind

blowing. In this space, you paint in 3D. When you make a brush stroke, you can then walk around it. This is going to add to how we sketch as architects in still unimaginable ways. Think about it. Make a sketch of your building and then walk in and around. Too cool.

While that has been fun, the real power will be bringing (even creating) our architectural 3D models into the VR experience. I have been teaching myself Autodesk Stingray. Stingray is a game engine that can link directly with 3ds max. In other words, I can, for example, take a Revit or Rhino model into 3ds max and then send that model directly to Stingray. Hit play and then put on the headset and, boom, you are there. So far I have put the Farnsworth House into VR. I still have a lot to learn about game programming and game modeling, but there is so much potential.

I plan on spending a little time on VR in my seminar this fall but I can see it how it becomes a seminar on its own very soon.

For other recreational fun, I try to play golf without melting and run without getting heat stroke. So far so good, but these last days have been a test. So that briefly, is what I am up to. Stay tuned for what others are doing.

Best,

Matthew Knox AIA Professor and Head

arch\_alumni spotlight



#### June 3 - August 26 | The Box Gallery

Commerce Bank Building | 1000 Walnut Street, Suite 211 | Kansas City, MO Hours\_ Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 8:00 pm

**Art of Architecture** features models of architectural land marks - all using the LEGO brick as a medium. The exhibit is the work of LEGO Certified Professional Adam Reed Tucker, a former architect and K-State alumnus who turned to the LEGO brick for inspiration. The models, built without the use of glue or other adhesive material, include the Willis Tower, the Gateway Arch and the Empire State Building - some using as many as 450,000 LEGO pieces.

This exhibit is a partnership with K-State's College of APDesign.

### arch\_aia ks design awards

Each year AIA Kansas offers, as part of the statewide Excellence in Design Awards Program, a category just for students from Kansas State University and the University of Kansas.

AIA Kansas will host the statewide conference in Manhattan in conjunction with the Central States Region (lowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and Oklahoma) on Thursday 20 October at the Hilton Garden Inn, with the awards celebration to be held that evening at the Wareham. This is a prime opportunity for K-State students to shine! Steve Dumez from Eskew+Dumez+Ripple, AIA 2014 Firm of the Year, will be the jury chair for the design awards.

The student must be an AIAS member to submit. If you are not currently a member you can become one in order to submit a project for the awards program (email Jeremy Migneco, president of AIAS at

<migneco@ksu.edu>). It costs \$50 and the submission deadline is Monday 25 July at 5:00p CDT - NO LATE SUBMISSIONS ACCEPTED.

To enter, follow this link: <a href="https://www.conferenceabstracts.com/cfp2/login.asp?EventKey=XTLAFXFM">https://www.conferenceabstracts.com/cfp2/login.asp?EventKey=XTLAFXFM</a>

Faculty, please encourage your students to submit. Students please enter your studio design projects! Your year in the program doesn't matter. The quality of the work does.

### arch\_dates + events

The Architecture Fall Faculty Retreat is scheduled for August 16th. More details to come soon. Please remove the previous date of August 17th from your calendars.

#### **JULY**

4 University Holiday, offices closed

25 AIA KS Excellence in Design Award submissions due 5:00 pm click here for more information

#### **AUGUST**

**15 Faculty Staff Picnic** (details TBA)

**16 Architecture Faculty Retreat** (details TBA, please remove the previous date for the 17th, as there was a scheduling conflict)

17 ENVD Coordination Meeting 10:00 to 3:00 pm

18 College Faculty Staff Meeting 9:00 am

22 First day of classes

22 All College Photo at 4:00 pm

22 All College Forum at 4:30 pm

30 Faculty meeting 2:30 pm in the Chang Gallery

