Welcome back!

I trust everyone had a safe, restive and fruitful Spring respite!

With seven weeks until final reviews and eight weeks left until commencement, there is no time for procrastination! In addition to the demands of your normative studies, the remainder of the semester is full of activities including CELA, Open House, departmental and college advisory group meetings, additional lectures...the list goes on. As you are all aware, handled well, the demands of classes, studio and all of our other enrichment activities should underpin rather than undermine the quality of your work. This is the time of year where we all expect APDesign students to show their mettle and eclipse expectations others might have of design and planning students in other programs.

As you are 'busting it' on your academic endeavors, I am 'shaking it' (re: Cool Hand Luke) at the State Capitol, working to procure the legislation needed to move our project forward. The KSU Administration is working on our behalf to move this project forward. My priorities are as follows: Funding, Swing Space, Transition to swing space and an operations during construction.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH
Mar. 23 to Mar. 28
LA/CELA Exhibit
Catalyst for Excellence: 50 Years of Landscape Architecture at Kansas State University

24
CELA2015 - David Abram "Climate, Culture, and the Commonwealth of Breath"
7PM - 9pm
K-State Alumni Center

25
CELA2015 - Lauren Bon "The Intermountain West and Beyond"
9AM - 11AM
K-State Alumni Center
FUNDING UPDATE
Fortunately, in fact somewhat miraculously considering the overall financial woes of the State, we are making headway on legislative support for bonding authority and annual funds to allow us to continue our transformation of Seaton Hall to be in line with and support our national prominence.

On Tuesday March 17, State Representative Mark Hutton of Wichita successfully amended House Bill 2370 to include $60 million in bonding authority for Seaton Hall renovations and expansion.

Representative Hutton's amendment also included $3.7 million dollars for annual bond payments. The source of funds is the Kansas Educational Building Fund (EBF). This amendment was adopted by the House Appropriations Committee and sent to the full Kansas House of Representatives.

The full Kansas House of Representatives will debate the bill on Tuesday-Wednesday, March 24-25. This will be a crucial by the House as approval sends the issue to a joint House Senate Conference Committee which has to be approved before the bill can go the Governor and become law.

As students and faculty, you are free to contact Kansas House members as individuals to ask them to support the Hutton amendment for Seaton Hall in House Bill 2370. You can find their contact information at

http://www.kslegislature.org/li/b2015_16/chamber/house/roster/

As students you can highlight your commitment to our future through the APDesign technology Fee which amounts to nearly $750,000.00 annually! The commitment of our students to our future through the increased Technology Fee is one of the most poignant messages I have been able to carry forward has been. There is no doubt that your commitment has provided us leverage with the Legislature and Governor, as well as with our alumni. You should know that your commitment to the future of APDesign is taken seriously, as is the message that no additional Technology Fee increases will be considered until the State of Kansas commits to fully supporting the Seaton Hall project.

Over the past three years we have made the case for this project though tours, information sheets, legislative advocacy by K-State and APDesign administration and friends to the Capitol, and by pointing to the ever-increasing dedication of private philanthropy, now totaling over $6.3 million towards our project from our alumni and friends. Including project and programmatic support, we are on track to average over $4 million per year for the last three years by the end of this June.

SWING SPACE
I am fully aware of the angst associated with our current state of limbo in regards to whether we will indeed be out of Seaton this coming summer. I get more questions about this than I do the
funding. Please be aware that I too have plenty of heartburn from this issue. On the positive side, K-State received permission to purchase the former Sykes Call Center at 5970 Executive Court near the Manhattan Airport for use by our College to meet a significant majority of our swing space needs. Additionally, we have met with the Flint Hills Area Transportation Agency (ATA) regarding shuttle services and are in the process of negotiating services to meet our needs. You should know that the ATA administration and staff is superb and is working diligently to help us work out the best scheduling, services and routes for our students, faculty, and staff. We have also met with security, custodial, and snow removal personnel. Additionally, we have floated queries regarding food and beverage services all the while beginning to craft special events for all College get-togethers. While there is much yet to be determined and given that we are not free to begin encumbering monies towards the move until our funding is secure, we will be poised to move forward at the first indication of a project 'GO'!

I also realize that many are concerned that this move will impact the quality of our programs. I do not share this concern. While I know that the temporary sacrifice in convenience and proximity to campus is weighty, I also have faith that our faculty, staff, and students will use their inventive capacities, as they have always done through the years given Seaton's shortcomings, to wrench the greatest experience and outcomes from this dislocation.

TRANSITION
We wait, regardless of when we hear, we will marshal the necessary forces and personnel to effect the most orderly and appropriate transition possible. At this point it is decided that First Year ENVD Studios will be held on the third floor of west Seaton, while all other year levels will be relocated to the Swing Space facility. We are still ciphering the best accommodation for faculty, PhD and MS students given the limited amount of space in Seaton and on Campus.

DESIGN
The design team of Ennead/BNIM/Confluence/Eldorado has completed the Design Development phase of the project and has the go ahead to continue into Construction Documents. At this point, the program is largely set with the next steps being to ensure the project as built will reflect the material, systemic, and programmatic integrity expected of a home to APDesign. I am pleased to welcome JE Dunn to the team as our Construction Manager. Stay tuned on some of the ways we hope to avail all of you of opportunities to see the Design/CM process at work.

So, as you can see, we are making progress and moving forward on our plans for the project. Wringing hands are unproductive hands so my advice is to sally forth in your endeavors to make your best mark on the college and leave the worries to me and our capable staff!

Most appreciatively,
**COMPETITIONS**

*Images from the 2014 competition*

**TED AND SUE KNAPP**  
**STUDENT DELINEATION COMPETITION**

Student entries are due by **5 p.m. Friday, April 10** to the Communications Office (Seaton 214). Entries must be in one of four categories: freehand black & white, freehand color, computer or mixed media. All entries must include a hanging device (NOT tape), a CD/thumb drive or an email to tjackson@k-state.edu containing a digital scan/copy of the entry must accompany the form. This year’s first place prize is $2,000 so let the competition begin!

*Work will be exhibited in the Chang Gallery from April 13 - May 1*  
[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE ENTRY FORM](#)

**Photo Lab Training Monday, March 30**

A Photo Lab training session will be held Monday, March 30 at 8:30 am in the photo lab. Please respond to apdav@ksu.edu if you plan to attend, have any questions, or if another date and time might work better for you.

**COMMENCEMENT NOTICES**

The K-State Campus Store is now accepting orders for rented academic apparel for Ph.D. students and Faculty.

You can place your order in person, by phone, fax or campus mail. We will need your name, height, weight, degree, name and location of the university from which you're graduating, as well as your phone number and email address. Payment can be made by check, credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express) or departmental charge. If you order by fax or email, we will verify receipt of your order. Please call to confirm your order when you place by fax or email if you do not get a reply.

We encourage you to order your rental apparel early. Rental orders received after 5 p.m. Saturday, April 4, 2015 will be charged a $20.00 late fee. We cannot guarantee colors or sizing of gowns after this date. We will be unable to accept orders for rental regalia after 5 p.m. Saturday, April 25, 2015. There is a $8.00 charge for steaming make sure you let the campus store know if you would like your regalia steamed.  

Faculty and Student Ph.D. rental pricing (without tax):
Master's Faculty
Cap, Gown, Hood and Tassel $59.00
Cap, Gown, and Tassel $30.00
Hood only $29.00

Ph.D. Faculty and Students
Cap, Gown, Hood and Tassel $66.00
Cap, Gown, and Tassel $33.00
Hood only $33.

Sales tax is charged in addition to the above pricing.

Orders for purchased fine quality faculty apparel are taken year round at the K-State Campus Store. Please allow eight weeks for manufacturing and delivery of purchased apparel. Please contact Rhonda Darrow for information on fine quality apparel.

Master's degree students can purchase their apparel online at www.k-statecampusstore.com. Be sure you know your correct college and major before purchasing online. Orders may be shipped to your home or purchased at the Campus Store. There is no deadline for these orders.