THE CUT, THE BEACH & BEYOND

Design-Build Installations for your Campus

STEVE LEE

“But if you consider the present to be merely an instant between the past and the future, just a passing moment, then to neglect the past and future for the present is bad quality indeed.”

Robert Pirsig, Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance

Eduard Sekler defined the tectonic as “…a certain expressivity arising from the statical resistance of constructional form in such a way that the resultant form could not be accounted for in terms of structure and construction alone.”

The SoA has a long and complex history of design-build as an important component of the pedagogy for our 1st professional degree programs.

The previous M. Arch program (1990’s) relied on a year long introduction to the 3-year curriculum through the lens of design-build, with completed projects in Pittsburgh, western Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Steve Lee lead the Solar Decathlon teams in 2002 (with Lisa Cruzei, 2005 & 2007 that also included the Schools of Art and Design, U.Pitt Engineering and the Art Institute of Pittsburgh.

John Folan created and lead the Urban Design/ Build Studio (2008) and Project Re; (2014) and Lisa Cruze and Steve Lee lead design-build studios from F19 through S21 in Willenburg, Uptown, Hazelwood and Eden Hall.

Steve Lee is introducing an F21 design elective, followed by a build ASOS for S22 in collaboration with the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Background

The C.B & B will be a semester, design elective (9 or 12 units) in two minis, with an optional following S22 semester build ASOS. We will be working with Campus Design & Facility Development, the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and campus constituents to improve the quality of life through design intervention(s) on campus.

During the fall, we will develop a catalog of design proposals, review and select proposals with clients and develop design development drawing packages.

In the spring ASOS we will on-board Jon Holmes (SoA Shop Director), Brian Bellovich (CEE Shop Director), Sarah Christian (CEE Professor) and CEE students to complete construction documents, develop project management plans, build full scale prototypes, procure materials and construct/install the object(s) on their site(s). The project is fully funded and the expectation is that the objects will be turned over to the campus by the last day of classes in the spring semester.

Fall ELECTIVE Scope:

• Meet regularly with Campus Design & Facility Development and constituent campus entities.
• Competition, yes or competition, no?? We have been invited to participate in Timber Fever 2021 on 23-26 September 2021 (https://www.timberfever.com/). The studio will openly debate the merits of participation.
• Working individually, develop a catalog of design proposals following a design process of Design – Evaluate – Iterate
• Present and refine design proposals with clients.
• Select design(s) to be built
• Create design teams by project and system
• Construct quarter-size prototypes on campus e.g. column-beam connections, eave details, rainwater system details, railing and stair details
• Critically analyze aesthetics and constructability of prototypes
• Develop design development drawing packages based on lessons learned from prototype analysis
• Present project proposals to the prospective engineering student collaborators at Pre-Final and Final fall semester review.
• Prepare for the spring build component.

This page Community Forge projects, 2019
Top: The Red Ribbon: Yashharma Reddy (M.Arch), Jacob Moskowitz + Alyssa Mayorga (B.Arch)
Middle: Woodhenge: Kyle Bancroft (M.Arch), Jordan Takumi Davis (B.Arch)
Left: Component drawing, Gulwung Porch