



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

NCARB GRANT SUPPORTS PROJECTS LED BY EDUCATORS AND PRACTITIONERS

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The NCARB Grant for the Integration of Practice and Education in the Academy has been awarded to three architecture schools to help fund projects that create partnerships with architect practitioners to give students unique integrated experiences.

Three architecture schools now have additional support to turn their ideas into reality:

- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona had an idea to engage their students to work alongside architect practitioners and city and federal authorities to rebuild two public structures destroyed recently by California wildfires.
- The idea at the University of Hawaii at Mānoa was to give students a hands-on introduction to the importance of historic and cultural emphasis in delivering architectural services as both design and research architects.
- With an architectural firm already scheduled to be working on campus, educators at North Carolina State University had the idea to let architectural students shadow practitioners at work.

All three schools have been awarded NCARB Grants totaling \$10,000 to help fund their ideas to integrate education and practice. CalPoly was awarded \$4,000, and the University of Hawaii and NC State each received \$3,000.

The Grant—in its fifth year—supports the development and implementation of projects that merge education and practice, turning good ideas that the schools might not be able to implement on their own into reality. The programs must also exhibit the potential to serve as a model for other schools to adopt or adapt and to have long-term impact on students, faculty, the curriculum, and the profession.

The Grant is awarded annually to schools that have programs accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), or programs being considered for NAAB accreditation. The schools must also be located in NCARB jurisdictions. Since its inception, NCARB has awarded \$62,500 to 12 schools through the Grant.

Members of NCARB's Practice Education Committee served on the jury to select the 2010 Grant recipients. They are Daniel Bennett Jr. (chair), Auburn, AL; Paul Ed-

meades, Bel Air, MD; Jeffrey Huberman, Charlotte, NC; Peter Steffian, Boston, MA; and Kyu-Jung Whang; Ithaca, NY. Cynthia McKim of Montgomery, AL, is a liaison representing the NCARB Board of Directors.

The NCARB Grant program builds upon the NCARB Prize for Creative Integration of Practice and Education in the Academy, now in its tenth and final year. NCARB awards up to \$62,500 through the Prize program—which includes a \$25,000 grand prize—to recognize existing innovative for-credit initiatives that integrate practice and education at schools with NAAB-accredited degree programs and programs that are candidates for NAAB accreditation located in NCARB Member Board jurisdictions.

Even though this is the final year of the NCARB Prize program, NCARB will continue to support programs that integrate practice and education by increasing focus on the NCARB Grant program.

More details about the NCARB Grant—including the forthcoming news of the 2011 Grant program—can be found online at www.ncarb.org/grant.

2010 NCARB GRANT RECIPIENTS

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

CalPoly Pomona's proposal will engage students—under the leadership of both professors and non-faculty architect practitioners—to replace two dwellings destroyed by raging wildfires on public land in San Diego County in 2007. The students will work alongside professors and non-faculty architect practitioners to design, assist in construction planning, and ultimately analyze the performance of two dwellings. Goals for the structures are reduced environmental impact and maintenance costs, greater durability, and fire resistance.

The Grant will support co-lecturer arrangements involving faculty/project directors and non-faculty architect practitioners, as well as paid student internships with the firm HMC Architects of Los Angeles. The city of San Diego and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will also participate. The faculty member and project director is Pablo La Roche, Ph.D., associate professor; and the non-faculty practitioners are Pasqual Gutierrez, AIA, of HMC Architects, and Eric Carbonnier, AIA, LEED AP, NCARB, environmental analyst.

“The Pamo Valley Project will expand students' experiences as they engage both practitioners, local government, and agencies to collaborate and navigate the complexities of health, safety, and welfare of the public with thoughtful design,” said Carbonnier.

The school expects between 45 and 70 students to participate, depending upon course enrollment. The design phase began in early January and will continue through the spring quarter. Over the summer, students will work in the practitioner's office, focusing on construction documentation. Construction begins in the fall, and occupancy will occur by the end of the year.

The web site www.pamovalley.com tracks the project's process from the students' perspective.

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

By engaging an architectural firm already providing services on its campus, the School of Architecture is investigating ways to teach professional practice through an experience called “Studio+.”

“Having students learn about practice from the inside out, versus from the outside in, will be a valuable experience,” said Robin Abrams, Ph.D., AIA, ASLA, professor and head of the School of Architecture. “Due to the economically challenging times, many students have not yet spent any time inside a professional office. Students will be seeing the full range of activities and issues inherent in an active architectural practice, and the practice will gain access to ongoing research in the school.”

The firm—Pearce Brinkley Cease & Lee (PBCL) of Raleigh, NC—is designing the new home for the university's library in collaboration with the firm of Snøhetta with offices in New York City and Oslo, Norway. During the fall 2011 semester, one of the PBCL partners will teach 12 students in an advanced studio focusing on the design of a new building for the College of Design. Additionally, students will meet once a week in the PBCL office, where they will focus on professional practice issues and challenges.

“The best outcome would be for this delivery method to have a lasting, memorable, and meaningful impact on students' understanding of practice-related issues,” said Abrams.

The proposal's non-faculty architect practitioner is Jeffery Lee, FAIA, of PBCL.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

This proposal will give students the opportunity to work alongside architects who specialize in honoring and preserving the rich history and culture of Hawaii. Students will work with practitioners, actual clients, consultants, and community and government officials to provide architectural services with a strong emphasis on sustainability.

“In most cases, architecture students are not asked to look at an existing building and appreciate it for its own character; they are encouraged to seek their own style or come up with a better solution,” said the project's non-faculty architect practitioner, Lorraine Minatoishi-Palumbo, Ph.D., AIA, of Minatoishi Architects, Honolulu, HI. “Allowing students to appreciate what other architects have done before them and the history that it represents is important and allows our creativity to function in a new and respectful way.”

Perhaps the most visible aspect of the multi-project proposal calls for determining the potential for restoring a country store at an abandoned pineapple farm closed in 2008. Fifty years ago, pineapple and sugar cane plantations blanketed much of the central region of the island of Oahu. Now, only one pineapple plantation remains.

Although the building, built in the 1960s, is not historic, students will analyze the existing structure following both the Department of Interior's preservation guidelines and the Hawaii State Historic Preservation Office guidelines. They will use their information to present solutions for future rehabilitation to the structure. They will also develop a master plan for revitalized the farming village with the restored country store at its heart.

The school created the program with one purpose in mind. “Schools should reach outside the box to engage professionals in creative ways to enrich actual practice learning for students,” said Joyce Noe, FAIA, associate professor and project director.

Robert Iopa, AIA, LEED AP, of WCIT Architecture, Honolulu, HI, is the school's second non-faculty architect practitioner on the project. **DC**