Renewal and Development: A Million-Dollar Summer

My hat is tipped to all our CAP technical staff Bart, Chris, Kyle, and Roger charged this summer with putting in place almost one million dollars of facilities and technical systems and improvements. Our traditional shop, our Simlab, our DigitalFab side, as well as the entirety of our graduate studios, all received substantial level of change and major upgrades. We are so happy to finally see many of the initiatives the college started several years ago come to fruition. We also owe a great deal of gratitude for the able assistance of the university’s office of Facility and Planning, Mr. Greg Graham (B.Arch 78 ), and Dan Stephenson, as well as the office of finance for helping us specify and acquire our new graduate student's studio custom designed setup. The new studios promote better use of space, expanded storage, all centered around the essential learning tool, the conference table. We also must recognize the continued commitment and support of the BSU Information Technology office, namely Mr. Phil Repp for understanding the importance of maintaining CAP’s digital superiority in support of our expanding knowledge based profession. We also thank all the faculty and students that reviewed and participated in the planning and development of all these initiatives. The AB Building is slowly regenerating into a contemporary environment based on learning though doing, experimentation, prototyping, and dialog. So consequently this issue of CAPLIFE kicks off a new academic year with all the excitement and promise of renewed energy, creativity, and learning.

New systems introduced this summer includes a new Z-corp 3D printer and prototype machine able to generate functional instruments with working parts printed in color; A new set of digital survey units in support of our landscape architecture and architecture engineering courses; an almost completely refurbished analog shop with new saws and a superb planar; new alien ware high end machines in support of our 3D SimLab; new Ted Talk style microphones for our auditorium; and finally of course an amazing 190 new graduate student studio stations custom design especially for CAP. In effect all this new facility changes and technology upgrades signals the importance and evolution that our professions are experiencing and the level of support the university offers to CAP.

CAPLIFE second year of publication also shows our high level commitment to maintaining open and clear channels for the immediate flow of internal news and communication. We hope to feature important stories about our use of facilities, technology, shops, student organizations, outreach and engagement activities. We also hope the newsletter will chronicle the many exciting projects growing out of our very unique and specialized studios. We will continue to publish CAPLIFE twice per semester during the upcoming Fall and Spring.

In closing I have to say, entering the architecture building is always a treat, whether the piano is resonating, or studios are reviewing, or beautiful drawings are exhibited, it’s always a privilege to call AB home. My hope that all of these advances contribute to the success of our wonderful academic community.

- Michel Mounayar
CAP Associate Dean
Technology for design and planning professionals has changed tremendously in the last 30 to 40 years, dictating some changes to furnishings and studio set ups. The College and University acknowledged that it is important for graduate students to have an environment that mimics a professional office environment. There is also the need to maintain the College’s graduate programs’ competitive attractiveness as they maintain national rankings.

CAP is implementing efforts to invest in graduate level education. The University has combined funding from both the University and the College (CAP) to provide the graduate studios with new furniture. Each student station has been custom designed and produced to suit the needs of CAP graduate students.

For three years the CAP community, including the Dean, department chairs, faculty, students, and staff, conducted process meetings where drawings of potential design stations were disseminated to faculty and students for input. These meetings and community feedback led to the production of a prototype, which was displayed for a short time during the Spring 2012 semester in the Architecture Library. The CAP community was invited to comment on the furniture to help the powers that be make final decisions on design and finish, as well as universal needs for the furniture.

Based on community input several modifications were made to the prototype; the final design was then set and cleared for production.

The design was centered on the assumption that each studio would have a conferencing and discussion hub; each studio has been equipped with a five-foot by twelve-foot conference table. Studio enrollment has been capped at 12 students to reduce studio density.

Each student received a large storage cabinet, a desk, and a screen for displaying their projects during class and desk critiques. The desks are adjustable to give the option of having a high-set or a normal-set desktop. Most students opted for a high-set desktop at this time.

Please be sure to thank Bart Amburn and Kyle Underwood. They both worked hard all summer, removing the existing furniture and rearranging the graduate studios. We also owe a debt of gratitude to Dan Stephenson, the Interior Designer who lent his expertise in the decision making process. The new graduate studio furniture replaces 30 and 40 year old pieces.

The old furniture was either dismantled and stored for parts or sent to the University for surplus or reassignment to other programs within Ball State.

The University recently presented CAP with an opportunity to occupy the old print shop building at the corner of McKinley and Petty. The print shop moved to a facility on the north side of campus. Based on a proposal submitted by Associate Dean Mounayar the old print shop building has been assigned to CAP. The structure shall be used as an open workshop for design-build courses.

This place will be transformed into an experimental space, housing shop and steel-working equipment. Welding as well as plasma cutters will be part of the shop’s capabilities.

Access to the facility will be limited to students that are enrolled in courses that are contracting design-build projects. All of the equipment was supplied by the College equipment fund.

Roger Whitted has been assigned to manage the new space. Mr. Whitted will also assist with the use of the two heavy duty construction storage units the College acquired in support of CAP design-build activities.

The new building will provide:
1. One large open space to accommodate full-scale construction models
2. A new metals workshop
3. A 15 person meeting room
4. Offices
### New FAB LAB Equipment!

The CAP Shop received new equipment over the summer. In addition to the new advanced 3-D printer, the shop updated to a new type of table saw, a heavy-duty band saw, a regular band saw, drill presses, a new scroll saw, and a new planar saw.

The new SawStop table saw is a new kind of table saw. It senses electromagnetic impulses. It operates much like the technology on your smart phone or on a touch screen, and actually senses human flesh! Once it senses an electromagnetic impulse, the saw stops rotating within 1/1000 of a second. The Fab Lab is one of the first university facilities nationwide to use this technology in their table saw.

The new heavy-duty band saw is capable of resawing. Not a cross-cut or a rip, resawing enables the saw’s user to cut wood into two, lengthwise, parallel to the wide face of the wood.

The new planar saw has a 24” throat width, which is bigger than the old planar saw that only had an 18” throat width. The saw also has a helical cutterhead. The spiral technology on the cutterhead makes for easier and cleaner use.

### $300 IT Expenses

Each full-time faculty member within CAP will receive $300 for IT support this year. Faculty members are allowed to contribute personal funds to the $300 however the purchase cost must be under $500 total.

The purchases made by the faculty members will be owned by Ball State University. Should a faculty member decide to leave the University, the purchased items must be returned as any other Ball State University property.

As Ball State University is a not-for-profit entity, the College will not reimburse sales tax. Reimbursements must be submitted to Melanie in the Dean’s office no later than April 19, 2013. Ipads and any mobile phone devices or technology will not be supported by these funds.

Examples of allowable expenses include: digital cameras, flash drives, remote controls, etc.

*The University is moving away from ink jet printers - ink jet printers will not be reimbursed with these funds.

### SIM Lab Upgrade

The CAP SIM Lab is getting an upgrade! For the 2012/2013 academic year, the upgrade will consist of high-end alienware boxes. The SimLab also offers the following equipment and software:

- 50” plasma monitor
- Custom Shuttle Athlon 64 workstation
- Adobe Creative Suite Premium
- Alias Maya 6
- Apple Final Cut Pro HD
- Corel Painter 8

This upgrade is a substantial investment in increasing the visual capabilities of the SIM Lab. The boxes should be installed and operational before the end of the Fall 2012 semester. The Alienware boxes will allow for high throughput, and speed up rendering and visualization time.

Access to the lab will remain through permission for specific digital projects or digital visualization classes.

Technology available in the SIM Lab includes:

- 3-D stereoscopic projection
- Helmet Virtual reality environment
- 3-D laser scanning

The Graduate Assistant for the SIM lab this year is Lucas Holwerda. Please contact him if you have any questions.

If you are interested in, or have knowledge of digital visualization, please see Michel Mounayar. The Associate Dean is forming a CAP student network of upper class persons who have digital visualization talents or who are looking to improve their skills and help others in doing so. The group will ideally act as a mentoring body and support for the CAP community, as well as promote the College’s creative work in digital visualization.

If you’re interested or knowledgeable in - 3-D max, Rhino, Miyo, SketchUp, 3-D Scanning, Virtual Reality Helmet Environment, Stereoscopic 3-D projection - email Michel at mmounayar@bsu.edu.
On Exhibit: Edward Pierre in the CAP Gallery

CAP/Ball State University Libraries’ Drawings and Documents Archive and Blackline Architecture Studios have partnered to present the exhibit:

**Edward Pierre: Civic Pride Begins in Your Backyard.**

Curated by Carol Street, BSU archivist for architectural records, and Vessel von Ruhtenberg, architectural historian, the exhibit highlights Pierre’s Modernist work throughout Indianapolis with large photographs and renderings from the Drawings and Documents Archive’s collection. The exhibit was produced with help from CAP graduate assistants Julie Edwards, Seth Elder, and Chris Allen.

Architect Edward Dienhart Pierre, FAIA, could be called the man who built Indianapolis due to his lifelong career shaping Indiana’s built environment and overwhelming dedication to make the city shine as brightly as possible. Much in the vein of today’s extraordinary Cultural Trail and the projects to beautify the city’s near east side, Pierre felt good design should engage the public and he pursued this through a wide array of buildings and civic events that we continue to enjoy today.

If you’ve ever seen Monument Circle lit up at Christmas, shopped in the Sears and Roebuck building on Mass. Avenue, eaten at Yats on College, visited the State Library, experienced a game at Bush Stadium, or driven around Meridian Kessler, Meridian Hills, or Butler Tarkington, you’ve experienced the benefits of having an architect like Edward Pierre in Indianapolis. He also designed, along with architect George Caleb Wright from 1925-1944, and in his own practice from 1945-1960s, the Old Trails Building, Oxford Gables Apartments, numerous schools (including IPS School 78, which is currently being repurposed into a IPD building), fire stations, and many jewel-like modest houses as well as expansive mansions throughout the city.

For more information contact Malcolm Cairns, Exhibits Coordinator. mcairns@bsu.edu

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**Fall 2012 Alumni Symposium**

The annual CAP Alumni Symposium is quickly approaching. Mark October 26 on your calendars. The full event schedule is available online at www.bsu.edu/CAP under News and Events.

**CAP Calendar Update!**

Lori Pence and Brad Beaubien created a new interactive online calendar for CAP this summer. You can find the CAP Calendar at www.bsu.edu - then go to Current Faculty and Students. You’ll find the Calendar under the CAP Calendar icon in the top left corner.

The calendar is a real-time, web-based, 24/7, get-your-event-on-at-CAP calendar! The calendar is one year out, and includes both CAP and University events - student and faculty deadlines, breaks, semester dates, professional conferences, competitions and many other events. Click on an event to see the details - when, where and a description. The web links within the calendar are not active however you can copy the link and paste it into your web browser. You can also add an event to your outlook calendar by clicking on the event.

If you’re a student, faculty member, professor, instructor, organization or anyone involved in CAP or the University and you’d like to schedule an event, email Lori Pence at lpence@bsu.edu and she’ll place your event on the calendar! Be sure to check to see if the date is open on the calendar before you email her your request.
Per an initiative of CAP Associate Dean Michel Mounayar and ITS (Information Technology Services), one section of CAPFY (College of Architecture and Planning First Year) will be beta-testing the Samsung Galaxy Note using a travel ‘app’ developed by Kyle Parker, senior software engineer for developing technologies at Ball State’s ITS. Approximately eighteen students are scheduled to participate in the tablet testing.

The ‘app’ that Kyle has developed features integration of tablet captured photos, video, tablet drawn sketches, and GPS tracking into a package that allows the user to organize information and media in efficient and travel friendly interface. Kyle will join CAPFY on the Chicago field trip to lead and observe the testing of the tablet and application.

CAPFY students traveling to Chicago and remaining in Muncie will use the tablets during field trip week to gather sketches and other media into a complete “Visual Notes” package, seeking to enhance spatial awareness, visual acuity, documentation in sketching and diagraming, and gain knowledge from precedents. Exposure to great public spaces, streets, neighborhoods, buildings, and landscapes in the Chicago region will fuel the study. Lohren Deeg, an Assistant Professor of Urban Planning and CAPFY Coordinator, has been testing the sketching software available on the Samsung tablet in the past few weeks and will lead the students on their travel to the Chicago region containing several sketching opportunities and exercises within.

Summer Studio, now titled, DesignWorks, was held in June. Organized by Joe Blalock with assistance from Vera Adams and Janice Shimizu this two week studio for rising high school sophomores and juniors provides a glimpse into the CAP common first year program. Many first year applicants go on to apply and enroll at CAP. In 2011, 35 attended and 17 are current students going through the first year program.

Offering everything from projects, field trip, portfolio development, problem solving, fun, and comradely, the experiences students gain are invaluable. The National Endowment for the Arts believes so too as they provided a $10,000 grant which helps students to attend, and assists with the costs of planning and implementing this unique studio experience. The next DesignWorks will be held from July 7-19, 2013. If you meet or know high school students who may like to attend, have them contact Melanie Smith at msmith@bsu.edu or go to www.bsu.edu/cap/designworks.

The CAP First-Year Peer Mentors program is an organization conceived and implemented entirely by students. The term “CAP Family” is often said around the college to refer the sense of community that is embodied in the relationship between students and professors of all disciplines. In 2008, second and third year students from architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning started the CAP First-Year Peer Mentors program as a way to help ease new students into college life and, more importantly, studio life.

The culture inside the College of Architecture and Planning is unique in that it is augmented by vertical relationships between the studios (meaning students from 2nd year studios can glean inspiration from 4th year students and vice versa). The CAP Peer Mentors program is intended to be both an introduction into this new culture as well as a vehicle to strengthen relationships between ages and disciplines in the college.

-Brennan Maher, First Year Peer Mentor
Developed in the second summer session, CAP Americano Sur Program 2012 introduced the students to the unique urban and social history and culture of three South American countries – Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay, through a study of the architecture, art, and built environment.

Ten students and the program director, associate professor Ana de Brea traveled to selected cities [Santiago, Isla Negra, Viña del Mar, Valparaíso, Montevideo, Atlantida, Colonia, Buenos Aires, and La Plata] to compare, research, and learn about the art, culture, and architecture in the different countries and the Latin American culture – certainly more than just having the Spanish language as a common idiom. Interdisciplinary collaboration, cultural exchange, and the unique experience of traveling, living, and interacting in different cultures during the field study helped students place their university education within a global and cross-cultural perspective.

Argentina, Uruguay, and Chile are three countries located in the southernmost tip of the South American continent. Although these countries share common borders, the choice of these three countries for the trip allowed students to discern the unique and distinct cultural, social, topographical, and urban conditions of the three neighboring nations by using a comparative perspective.

Le Corbusier in South America, the innovative structures by the Uruguayan Eladio Dieste, and the houses [today museums] designed and built by Literature Nobel Prize 1971 Pablo Neruda in collaboration with different Chilean architects, as well as “tango music” influencing the rhythm and identity of a city are part of the topics discussed with the students while on the trip.

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The trip, which was led by Associate Professors Kevin Klinger and Timothy Gray, began in the southern tip of Sicily in the town of Siracusa where the students collaborated with a group of students at the Consorzio Universitario Archimede, before moving northward along the Amalfi Coast. The students continued working their way north for stops in Rome, Florence, the Cinque Terre coast, Verona, Venice, Milan and surrounding areas. The group continued on to Paris after a spectacular stop in Chamonoix in the heart of the French Alps.

The next CAPItalia tour is scheduled for the Summer of 2014.
Summer 2012 Colorado Field Study

In May 2012, six Ball State students joined me for visits to old Colorado mining towns, loosely called the “ghost town tour.” Students on the trip were Annie Jeurer, Jiong Zhi Lee, Naif Alsharif, Saeed Bahaydar, Mohammed Bahaydar, Sarah Essbai. As Annie pointed out, it was a bit of a misnomer – a few towns are still partly occupied, two (Leadville and Cripple Creek) are still fully functioning, in part as tourist destinations, and the rest are mostly foundations and mine tailings. We saw some abandoned buildings but found no ghosts. We studied the related railroad and mining development of Central Colorado and witnessed the long-term scars on the environment from helter-skelter mining on the fragile mountainsides in an arid climate. We experienced snow, rain and sleet – but mostly sunshine, as expected. Russ Maytag talked with us about his sustainable development of the Maytag Ranch; Mel Porth gave a great presentation on railroad history at All Aboard Westcliffe; and we celebrated the end of a great trip with a half-day of whitewater rafting on the Arkansas River with Vessels for Honor near Texas Creek (between Salida and Canon City if your map does not show this “place”). For more information and lots of pictures, see our Facebook Page “Ball State Urban Planning in Ghost Towns.”

-Eric Damian Kelly


MUDS Class of 2012

The third class of CAP’s Master of Urban Design program graduated from the Indianapolis Center after spending a year exploring the proposed South Madison Avenue rapid transit corridor. The one-year interdisciplinary program meshes students and faculty with architecture, landscape architecture, and urban planning backgrounds to explore design policy and leadership, transportation and open space systems, sustainable urbanism, and the design and development of neighborhoods and districts. Associate Professor Bruce Race is organizing a session with MUD graduates for the CAP Alumni Symposium this fall on their experience finding a job in today’s economy. Capstone projects are available for viewing at www.nd20.org.

The graduates of 2012 have all been placed in positions since graduation. Five were placed within Indianapolis, one was placed in Pittsburgh, and one found employment in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

-Bruce Beaubien

Core Faculty:
Brad Beaubien, CAP
Joe Blalock, Landscape Architecture
Harry Eggink, Architecture
Michel Mounayar, Program Chair
Francis Parker, Urban Planning
Bruce Race, CAP

Master of Urban Design Class of 2012

Left to right: Mark O’Neall, Guillermo Vasquez de Velasco, Harry Eggink, Brad Beaubien, Trevor Traphagen, Craig Rowe, Bruce Race, Jeremy Brown, Abdullah Alkenaidari, Tyler Clark, Brian Staresnick, Michel Mounayar.
CAP:IC Director Brad Beaubien attended and presented at the 2012 Association for Community Design conference in Salt Lake City in June. He also testified before the Indianapolis City-County Council’s Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Commission on the importance of TIF as a redevelopment tool, but more importantly, the importance of investing in long-term planning that can ensure effective use of TIF as a policy. Brad presented his thoughts in on the value of the public realm at the We Are City Summit in September at the Harrison Center for the Arts in Indianapolis. He will also present his ideas at the It Takes a City: Toward a Diverse and Humane Community Symposium at IUPUI in February.

CAP Associate Professor of Professional Practice Bruce Race continues to author a monthly urban design opinion column for the Indianapolis Business Journal. Recent columns have explored the importance of mixed-use corridors to neighborhood revitalization, the challenges of repairing decaying, post-War sprawl, and the challenges of design review highlighted by a recent controversial parking garage approval. Bruce also continues his PhD work on climate action planning research in conjunction with the American Planning Association and the Welsh School of Architecture.

We Can Help with Indy-Based Projects

Working on a studio or thesis project in Indianapolis? We can help provide GIS data, high-res aerial photography, connections to community stakeholders and initiatives, mentoring, and other support. If you’re looking for ideas, there are plenty of opportunities to plug into a high-profile initiative we’re supporting called Reconnecting to Our Waterways (ourwaterways.org). The initiative seeks to explore how neighborhoods can reorient and redevelop around our urban streams and rivers once the $3 billion effort to eliminate combined sewer overflows is complete. Trail and pedestrian systems, recreational and multi-use corridor master plans, brownfield and vacant site redevelopment, neighborhood planning, site-specific art and installations, and ecological restorations are just a few of the types of project opportunities offered to students wishing to have their academic work have real-world value. Contact Brad Beaubien at brad@bsu.edu to learn more.

-Brad Beaubien

ecoREHAB Happenings

ecoREHAB design-build studio has started rehabilitation work on its third project house in Muncie’s Old West End neighborhood.

The ecoREHAB initiative was established in 2009 working collaboratively with Ball State University, the City of Muncie’s Department of Community Development and the local non-profit agency ecoREHAB of Muncie, Inc. This outreach program’s aim is to provide leadership in the ecologically sound, green and sustainable rehabilitation of existing and abandoned housing. CAP students began this project in the Spring semester evaluating the house and developing a design direction. The house, once on the City’s demolition list, will be renovated to a 3 bedroom, 2 bath house available for purchase by a qualified family upon completion. This project is one of several projects in a 3 block corridor being developed as part of the HUD’s Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

-Jonathan Spodek
In June of 2012, CAP was invited to Dekalb County and Auburn, Indiana to complete a two day charrette. This exercise was a $15,000 study to assess how to better connect Dekalb County’s hospital, Dekalb Health, to the County in which it is located.

The faculty team included:
Michel A. Mounayar
Harry Eggink
Bruce Race
Simon Bussiere
Vera Adams

The Ball State student team included:
Nick Hoch
Abdullah Alkenaidari
Brian Staresnick
Craig A Rowe
Jeremy Brown
Mark O’Neall
Tervor Traphaven
Tyler Clark
One high school student participated in the charrette, Kayla Davis.

**STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS**

**NOMAS**
NOMAS meets every Wednesday at 5 p.m. in AB 310. All those interested in learning more about the National Organization of Minority Architecture Students are welcome. We are anticipating a very exciting year!

**AIAS**
Information about member meetings and special events can be found on our facebook page at www.facebook.com/AIASBallState. Please join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, October 17 at 5 p.m. in the CAP atrium.

**ASHP**
The Associated Students for Historic Preservation are holding a photography contest again this year. Bring your photos to the 3rd floor atrium October 29th and 30th from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. Photos must be 8x10. Submit photos in the following categories:
- Landscape
- Architecture
- Interior
- Animal
- People
- Candid Studio Moment

For more information, contact Sarah Robinson at sarah.robinson@bsugmail.net.

Submit your entries on October 29th 12-2 & 30th 12-2 in CAP 3rd floor atrium
Open to all CAP faculty, staff, and students...

Submit your favorite photographs for the following categories:
- Landscape
- Architecture
- Interior
- Animal
- People
- Candid Studio Moment

Entries will be $1 per photograph. All photo submitted must be your own work and 8x10 in size.

Winners will be notified by 5th of November. Photographs will be on display at the College of Architecture and Planning December 2012 1-3 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Associated Students for Historic Preservation (ASHP). For more information contact Sarah Robinson at sarah.robinson@bsugmail.net