An Entrepreneurial University is fundamentally affiliated to a community of Entrepreneurial Learners, namely, students, faculty, staff, alumni, and administrators, including their leaders. An Entrepreneurial Learner is someone who is proactive in the process of taking control of his or her own learning process.

In the College of Architecture and Planning, that someone is everyone.

The Design Thinking allows the Entrepreneurial Learner to transform what many consider the problem of learning into an opportunity to learn, and the opportunity of learning into the process of becoming a practitioner.

We have been exposed to, and the repetition of solutions that turn a blind eye to the opportunity for where after learning something we do not come back to question what we have already learned. As cultural silos tend to do the same and call for the need to open our cultural framework beyond the one namely; students, faculty, staff, alumni, and administrators, including their leaders. An Entrepreneurial

A charrette is a very intense and fundamentally unscripted design session. In such a session, participants will constantly infer ideas that are quickly prototyped through the use of a wide variety of technologies and media. The advantage of charrettes is that they allow for the rapid creation of design ideas that can be used to inform the development of more detailed ideas.

The Design Thinking Mindset: The Studio and the Charrette

The Entrepreneurial Learner is connected to the broader world. That means that as the workplace moves away from rigid and top-down structures in favor of more flexible and collaborative methods, the professional agenda must be able to engage present day multicultural collaboration as a means of enriching our understanding of the problem space, transform problems into opportunities, and opportunities into projects.

At CAP we are proactive in the promotion of multidisciplinary and multicultural collaboration as a means of understanding the complex problem space, transform problems into opportunities, and opportunities into projects.

The Design Thinking Mindset: Communication, simulation, and prototyping

In the Design Thinking framework we make use of all forms of thinking in order to move from understanding the problem to solving the problem. Some of us have a natural tendency towards divergent thinking, while others have more convergent thinking. The key is for all the people to come together and need to be fully present at the point of the interaction, while others feel the need to know everything before they can adequately question what we have already learned. As a consequence our learning becomes a limitation in our ability to address change. Our accumulative experience gets in the way of our ability to question our interpretation of problems and in consequence their potential solution. Under that condition we tend to rely almost exclusively on the processes we have been exposed to, and the repetition of solutions that turn a blind eye to the opportunity for innovation.

The traditional structure of academic education is a deep but narrow-minded learning enterprise that needs to be broadened beyond the academic silos of today. In this process of bringing together learners from different branches of the given educational ecosystem to bring together learners of different cultural backgrounds. International and multicultural collaboration also enriches our problem space and provides original interpretation of the problems we are trying to define.

The Design Thinking Methods: The Studio and the Charrette

The Entrepreneurial Learner is connected to the broader world. That means that as the workplace moves away from rigid and top-down structures in favor of more flexible and collaborative methods, the professional agenda must be able to engage present day multicultural collaboration as a means of enriching our understanding of the problem space, transform problems into opportunities, and opportunities into projects.

At CAP we take pride in our long-term commitment to make all forms of communication. Sometimes textual and verbal communication can serve as conceptual prototyping environments. In other instances graphics may provide the necessary vehicle for establishing “proof of concept.” In this case, either graphic or digital modeling may deliver the multi-parametric depth of information necessary for the simulation of a project solution.

Alumni champions multidisciplinary collaborations

Larry Roan, ’77, weaves through clusters of landscape architecture students, reviewing cover letters as he stresses the importance of following your passion and realize how to achieve those professional goals. It’s an honor to be invited back to campus with such personal ways,” says Roan, vice president for business development for Browning Day大量

Through his work with students, the president of CAP’s Alumni Council identified an opportunity for increased collaboration between the landscape architecture department and the construction management program within the College of Applied Sciences and Technology. In 2015, Roan—also treasurer of the Ball State University Alumni Council—endowed distinguished professorships in construction management and in landscape architecture. He also directed funds toward enriching and diversifying the curricula of the colleges.

“My varied roles in the construction industry, paired with work as a developer and designer, provided me with priceless perspective and knowledge. Working on this project, I fully understand the constraints and roles of others around the table,” says Roan, who is the past president of Ball State’s construction management program’s industry advisory board. “My gift aims to inspire collaborations among the programs, providing students in both colleges with the opportunity to grasp concepts and ideas behind the singular focus.”

Roan’s generosity is perfectly aligned with our institutional commitment to provide our students with a learning experience that is consistent with their future professional lives. Our students are highly productive their first day in the office or on the construction site because they know how to collaborate, and thanks to Larry’s vision and support our design and construction students will certainly acquire that valuable skill,” says Guillermo Vasquez de Velasco, dean of the College of Architecture and Planning.

Roan earned a bachelor of landscape architecture and a bachelor of science in environmental design. He received a CAP Alumni Award of Outstanding Achievement in 2010 and is a member of Sigma Lambda Chi, the construction honors fraternity.

Art by Kate H. Elliott, photo by Chris Helms

For information on how your donation can impact the students contact Louise Jackson, Director of Development at (260) 705-3783 or ljackson@bsu.edu.

The CAP welcomes Jenne Gang, award-winning architect and MacArthur Fellow, as Guest Speaker and Principal of Ennead Architects, an award-winning architecture and urban design practice based in Chicago and New York. Interviewed for this piece, she recognizes for its innovative use of materials and environmental sensitivity approach, Jenne explores the role of design in establishing social equity through transformative uses of space from community anchors and cultural institutions to tall mixed-use buildings and urban planning, as well as engage pressing contemporary issues and their impact on human experience. Employing this approach, she has produced some of today’s most compelling architecture, including the Arcos Center for Social Justice in New York, the VMFA Richmond at Clark Park, the Nature Biosphere at Lincoln Park Zoo, and Aqua Tower. Join us at 4:30 on April 11, 2016 for an engaging conversation at Pops Hall. This event is free and open to the public. Reception to follow in the CAP building.

Images of the Aqua building: Steve Hall © Hedrich Blessing. Portrait of Jeanne Gang © Kevin Miyazaki
She will instruct classes in architecture history.
September 29 from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. in the Visual Resources Collection (AB117).

She has taught digital media and emergent technologies at Pratt Institute, Chicago and at Westwood College. She has done preservation work in both Chicago and Oregon. She holds a bachelor of architecture and bachelor of science in building science from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Her dissertation was "Rule of Choice: Economic Theory, Technology and Politics in Three Communities. Guided by our commitment to serve Indiana and that is why DESIGN THINKING is a collaborative enterprise that calls for active engagement, creativity, critical thinking, systems thinking, convergent thinking, etc., all find a place in a creative environment where literature, mathematics,

Hema Pandya joins the department of urban planning as a contract faculty member teaching primarily first-year CAP courses. Her specialties include urban management, architectural design, and historic preservation. She comes to us from Chicago where she taught at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago and at Westwood College. She has done preservation work in both Chicago and Oregon. She holds a master of science in historic preservation and a preservation project specialist on the Mississippi Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina.

Eric Melkonian is the 2015 Outstanding Achievement Award. He holds a PhD in architectural history and theory from Princeton University and a master in environmental design from Yale School of Architecture. Before writing about design and design, Enrique worked on Capitol Hill and in Hollywood to make the world a better place. He joins us from the University of Pennsylvania where he teaches writing-based courses in the history of architecture, urbanism, and landscape. He will teach history in the department of architecture beginning in August.

John West, PhD, has joined the department of urban planning as a ten-year track faculty member. He received his PhD in planning and urban studies from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His dissertation was "Rule of Choice: Economic Theory, Technology and Politics in Three Policy Innovations in New York City – Restaurant Grading, School Choice; and Competition Pricing." He holds a master of philosophy from Columbia and a master of urban planning and policy from University of Illinois at Chicago. He holds a master of science in architectural history from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

She instructs classes in architecture history.

Cindy Turner, visual resources curator at CAP will retire on October 1, 2015. Cindy has been at CAP for over 20 years and was one of the first employees of the CAP facility. She is looking forward to having time to create watercolor paintings, travel, write, spend time with her family, and being on her own schedule. A reception for Cindy will be held on Tuesday, September 29 from 3:30 to 5:00 in the Visual Resources Collection (ARB117).

Andrew John Wit was appointed as the director of the Center for Sustainability and Design. Since its inception 50 years ago, our College of Architecture and Planning has provided Ball State University with valuable sources of differentiation. For many years, CAP has had significant leadership in our institutional commitment to serve Indiana communities. Guided by our understanding that "design is a social act," our faculty and students have worked on more than 300 community projects and impacted thousands of lives.

Design THINKING brings together many ways of thinking into a creative framework that is instrumented by all forms of communication. Critical thinking, systems thinking, convergent thinking, divergent thinking, etc., all find a place in a creative environment where literature, mathematics, design thinking, science, etc., are tools that help us to understand and solve problems.

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DESIGN THINKING is a differentiating factor in the branding of our university. For many years, CAP has largely exceeded the aspirations of making an Immersive Learning experience available to every student. Our faculty and students are constantly engaged in experiential learning processes, and provide leadership in the further propagation of service learning opportunities.

Today, as we envision the vision of an ENTREPRENEURIAL UNIVERSITY, and its aspiration to transform entrepreneurial curricula into employable skills, CAP is moving in a significant way by making DESIGN THINKING a strategic source of differentiation.

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