Urban Ecological Design

"The coolest green infrastructure you are likely to see."
The Atlantic Cities; winner of 2012 Seattle AIA What Makes it Green Honorable Mention Award

Department of Landscape Architecture
College of Built Environments
University of Washington

“Urban Ecological Design” has been our motto at the Department of Landscape Architecture-University of Washington for over a decade. During the biennium of 2011-2013, our focus has begun to bear fruit. In 2012, the Green Futures Lab completed the installation of a Biodiversity Green Wall and Edible Green Screen in the Southeastern corner of Gould Hall, supported by the Campus Sustainability Fund. Incorporating rainwater harvesting and solar panels, the project won praise in The Atlantic Cities, as “the coolest green infrastructure you are likely to see.” Focusing on urban challenges in the Global South, Assistant Professor Ben Spencer led students in developing sustainable solutions for residents in informal settlements in Lima, Peru. Working with local stakeholders, student teams created fog collection devices for water harvesting, as well as classrooms and green schoolyards using traditional techniques. The project received three major awards in 2012, including the SEED Award, EDRA Great Places Design Award, and ASLA Student Honor Award in Community Service. The recognition for these and many other projects completed by students and faculty marks a milestone for a journey that has deepened our commitment to the cause, and sharpened our focus toward human and environmental health, ecological literacy, sustainable infrastructure, place-based design, and environmental and social justice.

Escuela Ecologica Saludable Initiative: Parque Primaria Pitagoras
Winner of 2012 EDRA Great Places Design Award, 2012 SEED Award, and 2012 ASLA Student Honor Award in Community Service
PhD in Built Environment
Ken Yocom and Jeff Hou join a cross-disciplinary group of faculty in the College of Architecture and Community Planning at the University of Washington. The city has chosen to transform low-density residential areas with social, economic, and environmental challenges into vibrant neighborhoods with opportunities for community revitalization, growth, rehabilitation, and renewal. Instructors: Peruvian architect and urban designer Karla Obregon, and Bianca Hermansen from Gehl Architects.

Jenny Kempson, MLA 2011. [Landscape Architecture (Feb 12 2013)]

Brian Gerich, Assistant Professor, and Matteo M. Piazza, Assistant to the Chair (2011–13).

Brian Gerich

Diana Recknor, MLA 2011. [Landscape Architecture (Feb 12 2013)]

Thaisa Way

Jeff Hou partnered with Studio 5 in Seattle to pursue a project on the development of a neighborhood design that would improve site conditions, and a possible streetcar line that has been identified for Ballard. Students conducted a neighborhood analysis and studied relevant design themes and precedents. Six studio teams were formed to work on the project, and the final studio work was documented in a report, Public Space Public Realm.

Scan|Design Master Studio: Central Waterfront

Out/in/Front Exhibition of Professional Work

The studio was organized around the theme of the changing conditions of the urban waterfront. The project was supported by the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) and the UW Office of Global Affairs.

Brian Gerich

Lindsey W. Hatfield, Assistant Professor. [Landscape Architecture (Feb 12 2013)]

Ken Yocom, with Nancy Gries, 2012.

Ken Yocom

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