

# 2020 UW MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE/MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE CAPSTONE FINAL PRESENTATIONS

DRAFT

TUESDAY AM | 6.2.2020

**9:00 - 9:50**

**Niccolo Piacentini**  
**LIBERATING RIVERS**

There is a global need to reconcile river ecology with human development, this is especially pressing as climate change threatens the global food supply and the ecological systems that support it. Giving rivers the room to meander and flood is essential to their ecological functioning, but the way we are growing food in river valleys is in direct opposition to these processes. To liberate the dynamic processes which give rivers life it is essential to reconcile the relationship between agriculture and river ecology. This thesis explores the strategies we can adopt to weave an ecologically conscious agricultural landscape in river valleys across the Pacific Northwest.

Ken Yocom (co-chair) + Gundula Proksch (co-chair)

reviewers:

**Jake Woland**  
**Derek Holmer**  
**Christine Abbott**

**10:00 - 10:50**

**Jim Ditto**  
**THE 8TH KINGDOM: Biomimicry and the Biological Basis for the Built Environment**

What if we start with an assumption that a building is a living thing? They consume, expels waste, take up space, might move or be stationary like a cow or a tree. They reproduce through us, as does corn. They provide microclimates which are hospitable to life at various scales. What do such creatures look like when they are freed from the life support systems of a centralized energy grid and sewers? This thesis approaches a site and building program through a model of biological organs, using permaculture and myciculture to build soils and manage wastes, taps into renewable energy streams, and emphasizes local indigenous knowledge of place and species to mitigate the effects of occupation on the land.

Julie Johnson (co-chair) + Gundula Proksch (co-chair)

reviewers:

**Jake Woland**  
**Derek Holmer**  
**Christine Abbott**

**11:00 - 11:50**

**Raphael Montoya**  
**ACEQUIAS: Building Social Resilience in a Time of Change in Española New Mexico**

How can traditional, local systems be the catalyst for social change? Facing decades of debilitating social issues and a changing climate, this thesis explores the role of acequia systems in Española, New Mexico to re-imagine the future of the city. Española currently experiences poverty and lack of economic opportunity caused by years of urbanization unfit for its unique culture. This proposal utilizes the city's existing acequia infrastructure to create a network, connecting nodes that focus on food, water, and energy to establish a sustainable community and create economic opportunity. As a guiding framework, the design of the city's plaza explores permaculture to reinterpret traditional agricultural methods as a hub to provide inter-generational knowledge through environmental stewardship and support Española's community.

Ken Yocom (co-chair) + Rob Pena (co-chair)

reviewers:

**Jake Woland**  
**Derek Holmer**  
**Christine Abbott**

# 2020 UW MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE/MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE CAPSTONE FINAL PRESENTATIONS

## TUESDAY PM | 6.2.2020

### 1:00 - 1:50

**Jennifer Kriegel**

#### **BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE SEA:**

**Experiencing Identity in a Changing Landscape**

This thesis considers the challenges rural communities face to their traditional ways of life and identities, investigates methods other, global communities use to react to these changes, and finally, offers a possible solution for a community in Puget Sound's Stillaguamish Estuary. Central to this thesis is the question: how can a community take on demographic and climate based challenges without losing its existing self-identity in the process? The methods used to answer this include a deep site analysis, with an especial focus on local history, and my own personal experiences and attachment to the place, as the chosen site is my own home town.

Julie Johnson (co-chair) + Ken Oshima (co-chair)

reviewers:

**Bill Estes**

**Sneha Easwaran**

**Kris Snider**

**Judy Blanco**

### 2:00 - 2:50

**Brian Deck**

**CONTEMPLATING SANCTUARY: Contemplative design strategies to frame sensory experience of silence, stillness, and solitude within an ecological water treatment sanctuary**

This design thesis explores "contemplative design" that engenders spiritual communion through a sensuous experience of the temporality of water. Based on design principles of contemplative spaces and case studies of Japanese and the Puget Sound traditional and contemporary contemplative spaces, this research speculates on the relationship of ecological design to facilitate sacred space. Designers can frame and shape perception of meditative phenomena that can assist in emotional, psychological, and spiritual renewal. Gardens and their architecture frame experiences that offer space and time for solitude, silence, and stillness. This ecological water treatment park becomes a wetland urban pilgrimage in SoDo district Seattle. Water, soundscapes, and earthworks sculpt a sanctuary landscape for listening, observation, and storytelling over time.

Daniel Winterbottom (co-chair)  
+ Bob Mugerauer (co-chair)

reviewers:

**Bill Estes**

**Sneha Easwaran**

**Kris Snider**

### 3:00 - 3:50

**Bennet Song**

**FIRST, LET US LOOK TOGETHER:  
through forests, trees, wood, and building**

Wood construction has grown out of the relationship between people and the landscapes they inhabit. Small diameter timber is a material that was once a key component of vernacular building around the world but is now problematized as a low-value by product of forest management. This thesis studies the material's prevalence in Korean and Coast Salish architecture as a dimension of their respective forms of Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK). To reflect upon how TEK can expand our contemporary relationship to materials, I imagine Swan Creek Park in Tacoma, WA as a productive forest landscape shaped over time through cultivation, management, and exploratory building.

Daniel Winterbottom (co-chair) + Kimo Griggs (co-chair)

reviewers:

**Bill Estes**

**Sneha Easwaran**

**Kris Snider**