

College of Architecture, Planning and Design



New Seaton Complex



[About](#)

[Academics](#)

[Future Students](#)

[Current Students](#)

[Alumni](#)

[Research](#)

[Message from the Dean](#)

[Seaton Complex Revitalization and Expansion](#)

[Faculty & Staff](#)

[Departments](#)

[Mission](#)

[Accreditation](#)

[Facilities](#)

[Weigel Library](#)

[Design Expo 2015](#)

[Chang Gallery](#)

[Lectures](#)

[2014 Research Symposium](#)

[Philanthropy](#)

[Publications](#)

[Weekly E-Newsletter](#)

[Arch](#)
[IAPD](#)
[LARCP](#)

[Bi-Monthly Alumni E-Newsletter](#)

[APDesign Magazine](#)

[OZ Journal](#)

[Employment](#)

May Alumni E-Newsletter

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DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE



Small Town Studio Awarded K-State Engagement Honor

The College of Architecture, Planning & Design's Small Town Studio Eureka Project has been selected to receive the K-State Excellence in Engagement award. A review committee composed of both on and off campus stakeholders was very impressed with the Studio's close two-year collaboration with stakeholders and citizens of Eureka, Kansas. The Studio was praised for the range and immediacy of issues addressed, the development of strong partnerships, and the intensive level of student involvement in the community.

The Small Town Studio of the Department of Architecture was formed in 2012 by Associate Professor Todd Gabbard to engage rural communities across Kansas with student-generated visualization services. Small towns are generally underserved by architects, planners, and designers, said Gabbard, which makes student involvement in these communities an excellent opportunity for towns and students alike. "The work with Eureka and other Kansas communities is an invaluable learning experience for our fifth-year architecture students," said Gabbard. "The students' engagement in the background work necessary to make an architectural project viable, such as communicating with clients and stakeholders, building community consensus, and addressing project implementation, will be of tremendous help as they move towards the professional world."

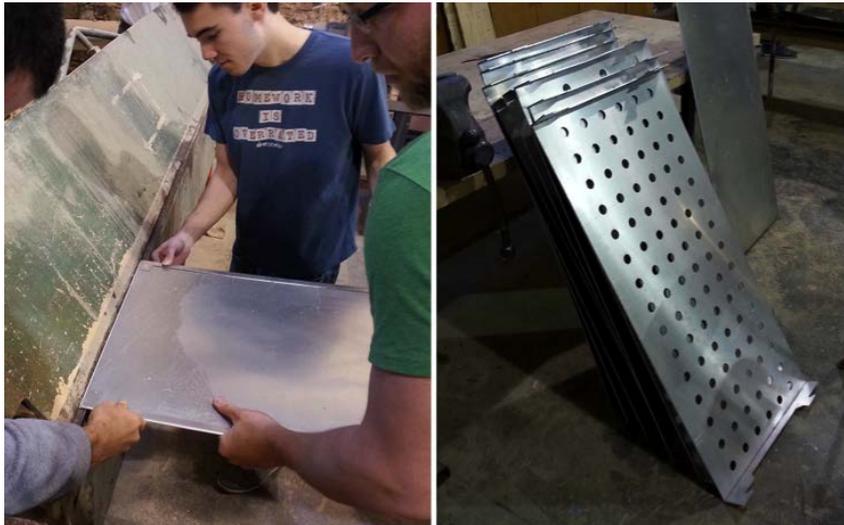
In addition to the Excellence in Engagement Award, the Center of Engagement and Community Development urged Professor Gabbard to apply for the APLU's C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award. This national award was established to identify colleges and universities that have redesigned their learning, discovery and engagement functions to become even more involved with their communities. "Professor Gabbard has been instrumental in our departmental efforts to work with communities and groups needing design assistance. By working with these groups our students are able to demonstrate the value of design and open the door for design professionals to have a community wide impact. " said Matt Knox, Head of the Department of Architecture.

The Small Town Studio has provided services to six Kansas communities, including Cuba, Pittsburg, Colby, Jamestown and Blue Rapids. The Studio's most prominent partnership has been with the city of Eureka, with more than a

dozen projects completed or ongoing. "Eurekans were very open to the idea of an architecture design studio taking on the development of projects in town," Gabbard said, "and the collaboration is bearing fruit." The town, Gabbard notes, has begun to mobilize by setting up a new non-profit, the Eureka Studio, that will help to pursue student-generated projects after the end of the semester. "Two local architects, Lester Limon of PKHLS Architecture and Waylon Arndt of ReEnvision, are working directly with students to help bring their designs to the level of constructability and will be key agents in making those projects manifest." "This is the kind of public/private collaboration that can make significant impact," said Dean Tim de Noble.

The community-based partnership has been beneficial for everyone involved. Small towns are often eager to receive new ideas, and architecture students value the opportunity to gain experience while testing design concepts. A few projects have already been implemented – the headquarters of the Eureka Studio on Main Street and Gallery M, an art exhibition space on Third Street, with several others moving towards implementation. "There is something inherently optimistic about new construction," said Gabbard. "Even small projects can change attitudes and build momentum."

Gibson's fifth year architectural design studio developing Cool Skin prototypes for testing



Ted and Sue Knapp Delineation Competition Awards Eight APDesign Students



MANHATTAN — Work by students from Kansas State University's [College of Architecture, Planning & Design](#), or APDesign, for the annual Ted and Sue Knapp Delineation Competition.