A New School of Architecture & Environment

This studio will explore the potential for a revitalized School of Architecture and Environment on the UO campus. Work in the studio will be based on real needs of the school and the vision of those who have collaborated to make it an extraordinary place to learn, to teach, and to research. Studio work will be informed by the UO Campus Plan and the 2017 UO Campus Physical Framework Vision Project – a set of recommendations for locating new campus buildings.

The studio will evaluate the suitability of two campus sites – one recommended by the Framework Vision Project, the other a result of recent campus dormitory development.

The program of approximately 75,000 sf will include all instructional, research, and administrative activities of the School.

Current facilities in Lawrence Hall, built in phases over more than 100 years – a 4-story building with 13 levels – are outdated, inefficient, and lack the flexibility necessary to respond to rapidly shifting cultural, educational, and environmental contexts. Studio format will include discussions to develop principles for addressing these and other current salient issues.

The studio will work with stakeholders to explore the form this vision might take. All proposals will be expected to follow an environmentally responsible approach in concert with the goals of the School and the University and to showcase the leadership the Departments of Architecture, Interior Architecture, and Landscape Architecture have demonstrated as harbingers of design thinking for the 21st century.

**ISSUES**

This will be an intensive studio with emphasis on site planning, contextual design, environmental responsibility, the elegant use of materials, and the creation of beautiful human-scale spaces. Opportunities to develop designs to a detailed level and to explore the unconventional use of materials will be exploited. A variety of media with an emphasis on models will be employed to explore design alternatives. The work will lead to a schematic design at midterm and culminate with the presentation of a holistic scheme at final review. Schemes will be expected to be developed with some critical area(s) refined to a high level of detail. The entire studio experience will be highly interactive, collaborative, and intensive.

**PRIMARY REFERENCES**

Campus Physical Framework Vision Project
University of Oregon Campus Plan
Suggested readings, including those solicited from students, will be updated via e-mail.