



For the first time in the four-year history of the NCARB Grant program, each recipient will be able to completely fund individual proposals that incorporate architecture practice and education.

## GIVING BACK TO EDUCATION

### THREE SCHOOLS RECEIVE A TOTAL OF \$25,000 IN NCARB GRANTS

This year NCARB reaffirmed its commitment to the education of future architects by increasing the annual amount awarded through the NCARB Grant for the Integration of Practice and Education in the Academy from \$10,000 to \$25,000. This year's increase in grants will allow Iowa State University, Kansas State University, and the University of Southern California to completely fund proposals that incorporate architecture practice and education.

The NCARB Grant program is intended to help architecture programs initiate academic activities that will have a long-term, ongoing impact on the integration of practice and

education and may be more risk-taking than a program may be able to initially afford on its own. The NCARB Grant program is distinct from the NCARB Prize program because it provides seed funding for the development of an idea that has not yet been implemented.

"This year, the Practice Education Committee made a meaningful decision to award the grants to projects that will not only integrate practice and education, but also provide opportunities to significantly revolutionize the architectural curriculum," said Joseph L. Bynum, AIA, LEED AP, NCARB Practice Education Committee Chair.

"These unique and innovative proposals dealt with real challenges that are being faced by both the profession and architectural curriculum," said Bynum. "These projects have the potential to be catalysts for improving the integration of practice and education, and also respond to the knowledge/skills identified in NCARB's 2007 *Practice Analysis of Architecture* that should be addressed at the educational stage of an architect's development."

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE  
COLLEGE OF DESIGN  
“PRACTICING STRUCTURES”**

Iowa State University's Department of Architecture was awarded \$11,850 for its proposal to develop beginning and intermediate structure courses in the undergraduate curriculum that will provide students with the knowledge to integrate basic structural principals. Courses will combine case studies, hands-on experiments and demonstrations, and design projects with a compact lecture program.

“Our goal is for students to take what they learned from the chalkboard and apply it to the drawing board,” said Associate Professor Thomas Leslie, AIA, who along with Lecturer Rob Whitehead, AIA will develop the coursework to incorporate into the undergraduate curriculum. “It is one thing to memorize formulas, it is another to take that knowledge and integrate it into real world projects.”

Licensed architects and engineers will participate in all aspects of the courses and form mentoring relationships with the students.

“We want to give students the opportunity to work with people who do this all the time,” said Leslie. “Linking what students learn in the classroom to practice is important because they will use it later.”

**KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING &  
DESIGN  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE  
“WRITING PRACTICE”**

Kansas State University's Department of Architecture was awarded \$4,950 for its non-traditional proposal to identify, develop, and incorporate architectural writing assignments and evaluative templates into the second year of their Master of Architecture program.

“This will be the beginning of an effort to create an apparatus for teaching writing that is grounded in architectural practice,” said Richard Hoag, Professor of Architecture.

Hoag and English Professor David Smit will work with architectural firms to define architectural writing genres and create instructional materials and strategies for teaching architectural writing to students.

“Writing the genres of practice is the scaffolding for effective negotiation, mediation, and collaboration in the design process,” said Hoag. “Students will gradually learn to express their design-decision-making process in terms that will be clear to their fellow professionals and clients.”

The strategies and templates will eventually be incorporated into the entire curriculum to teach writing skills that are grounded in architectural practice so students will be able to effectively communicate with their fellow professionals and clients.

**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE  
“A COLLABORATION OF PRACTICE AND THE  
ACADEMY: IP/LAB”**

University of Southern California's School of Architecture was awarded \$8,200 for its proposal to create a laboratory for notable practitioners to present Integrated Project Delivery (IPD) and Building Information Technology (BIM) case studies, tutorials, and conduct one-on-one reviews with students.

“The lab will be a forum for students, faculty, and outside practitioners to interact and give students more direct contact with practitioners,” said John Enright, AIA, Assistant Professor and Project Director.

The lab will be used to expose students to the relevant challenges related to IPD and BIM, show them real-world projects using these methods, and bridge the gap between the profession and education through collaboration.

“The gap between education and the profession is best narrowed by teaming leaders in the field with educators that are dedicated to exploring new avenues of education that use collaboration as the key tool to develop learning within the academy,” said Enright.

The grant money will be used to buy hardware for the lab and for honoraria for local firms to come in and work with students. “We would like to take advantage of and expose students to state-of-the-art practices in southern California,” said Enright.

Schools with programs that are accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) or programs that are candidates for NAAB accreditation are eligible to submit proposals for a 2010 NCARB Grant. Proposals may be submitted no earlier than Tuesday, September 21, 2010 and no later than Tuesday, October 19, 2010, 5:00 p.m. EDT. For detailed information on the 2010 NCARB Grant program including eligibility requirements and proposal submission requirements, go to [www.ncarb.org/grant](http://www.ncarb.org/grant). 2010 NCARB Grant information will be available soon. **DC**